

RACE WEEK HANDBOOK

RACE WEEK
JULY 16-22, 2023

HANDBOOK AS OF: MAY 4, 2023

#SOAPBOXDERBY2023
RACEWEEK.SOAPBOXDERBY.ORG

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3 - Welcome and Contact Information

4 - Virtual Meetings and Car Delivery

5 - Important Addresses

6 - Sunday, July 16

7 - Monday, July 17

8 - Tuesday, July 18

9 - Wednesday, July 19

10 - Thursday, July 20

11 - Friday, July 21

12 - Saturday, July 22

13 - Sunday, July 23

14 - General Information

15 - General Information Continued

16 - Staff Favorites

17 - Map of the Grounds



WELCOME TO DERBY DOWNS!

The Soap Box Derby® staff and volunteers would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 85th FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby World Championship being held July 16-22, 2023, in Akron, Ohio. We hope that your experience during this event is truly both a rewarding and memorable one. Please remember that Soap Box Derby staff and volunteers are available to assist at any time before and during the event. Enclosed are event schedules and suggestions for first-time (as well as returning) Champions to assist with activities during Race Week.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Location:** Soap Box Derby Headquarters will be located in the Office Tent at Topside behind the Blue Hall of Fame and Museum Building.
- **Phone:** 330-733-8723
- **Email:** raceprograms@soapboxderby.org
- **Topside Address:** 1000 George Washington Blvd, Akron, OH 44312
- **Office Hours:** Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday
7 am - 4 pm
- **Race Week website:** raceweek.soapboxderby.org
- **Parts Orders & Pick-Up:** Orders can be placed during Race Week at the White Building east entrance or placed online and picked up at the White Building east entrance. *Orders will not be taken at the office tent



[/soapboxderby.org/](https://www.facebook.com/soapboxderby.org/)



[/aasbdorg](https://twitter.com/aasbdorg)



[/user/aasbdorg](https://www.youtube.com/user/aasbdorg)



[/SoapBoxDerbyHQ/](https://www.instagram.com/SoapBoxDerbyHQ/)



Perfect Instagram Shot

One of four "destination worthy" sculptures created by Jeremy Jenkins and John Comunale for the @PLAY project in 2018.



#SoapBoxDerby2023

SUGGESTIONS? PLEASE VISIT [SUGGESTIONBOX.SOAPBOXDERBY.ORG](https://suggestionbox.soapboxderby.org)

VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Virtual State of the Derby

June 29, 2022 - 6:30 pm EST

RSVP at raceweek.soapboxderby.org to receive your link to join.

Virtual Race Week Overview and Orientation

July 6, 2022 - 6:30 pm EST

First-time parents are encouraged to attend but all are welcome. Soap Box Derby staff and volunteers will be on hand to answer any questions.

RSVP at raceweek.soapboxderby.org to receive your link to join.

CAR DELIVERY SCHEDULE

The dates and times listed below are when cars must be dropped off for inspections:

- Cars being shipped in by crate - July 3 - 7, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.*
- Dropped off in person - July 9 - 15, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.**

* All cars being shipped need to be delivered to 1000 George Washington Blvd., Akron, OH 44312

**All cars being dropped off in person will be delivered to 789 Derby Downs Drive, Akron, OH 44306

Please note that all cars must arrive at Derby Downs with only four (4) screws attaching the body to the floorboard. The remaining body mounting screws are to be in a baggie taped to the car's floorboard.

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

Topside - July 16 & 18-21, 2023:

1000 George Washington Blvd., Akron, OH 44312

Open House & FEAASBD World Championship Race Day Parking -
July 22, 2023:

789 Derby Downs Drive, Akron, OH 44306 Located in gravel and grass
lots off of Derby Downs Drive.

Canal Park - July - 17, 2023:

300 Main St, Akron, OH 443208

Cascade Plaza - July - 17, 2023

1 W. Mill St., Akron, OH 44308

University of Akron Recreation Center - July - 17, 2023:

382 Carroll Street, Akron, OH 44325

Akron Civic Theatre - July 22, 2023:

182 South Main Street, Akron, OH 44308

SUNDAY, JULY 16

Daily Schedule

Check-In*, Shell Re-Attachment, Kingpin Drop, Triangulation, Photo Shoot, & Trial Run

8 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Derby Downs, Topside

*Check-In times assigned during online registration. Contact raceprograms@soapboxderby.org to find your check-in time.

CHECK-IN

Race Week check-in will take place at Topside beside the Blue Hall of Fame and Museum Building. Champs will receive their welcome bag at this time.

Check-in will ONLY take place on Sunday, July 16

Champs must check in at their assigned time that was chosen during registration.

VIP & REPAIRS

All VIP and repair lists will be posted on raceweek.soapboxderby.org on the evening of July 15.

If you have a question about a repair please wait until check-in on July 16 and look for a racing commission member in the repair tent with a maroon polo.

STATIONS

All stations are mandatory on check-in day including photo and trial run.

VENDORS

- Food vendor on site from 10 am - 5 pm
 - Enduro Photo
 - Custom Apparel
-

85TH MURAL

Collaborative Mural with ART x LOVE

To celebrate the 85th running of the All-American Soap Box Derby, contribute to our collaborative community art project and become a part of Soap Box Derby history! Mac and Allyse Love will be here to help us create a beautiful mural for Derby Downs. Grab a brush, pick a color, and leave your mark on this energizing and creative celebration!

MONDAY, JULY 17

Parade, *NEW LOCATION* Opening Ceremonies, Rock the Rec and Badge Trading

Daily Schedule

Welcoming Ceremonies

12 p.m. - Parade - Opening Ceremony immediately follows

Rock the Rec & Badge Trading

6 - 9 p.m. - (Champs Only)

PARADE & WELCOMING CEREMONIES

Parade Staging – 11:15 am

Canal Park, 300 Main St., Akron, OH 44308

Parade - 12 pm

Main Street - Canal Park to Cascade Plaza

Welcoming Ceremonies - Immediately Following Parade

Cascade Plaza - 1 W. Mill St., Akron, OH 44308

Each Champ will have the chance to be introduced and walk across the stage at the ceremony. Champs will also be able to toss items into the crowd. The following items cannot be thrown off the stage. All Champs bags will be checked before going on stage. **Cannot be tossed:** Pins, buttons, pens, candy, sharp objects, and water balloons. The ISBD staff is able to not allow other items not listed above as bags are being checked.

Vendors: Custom Apparel, Endro Photo, food vendors, inflatables, and more

ROCK THE REC

University of Akron Student Recreation and Wellness Center

382 Carroll Street, Akron, OH 44325

Only Champs will have exclusive use of the Recreation Center. Champs can participate in swimming, basketball, soccer, volleyball, rock climbing wall, kickball, and other fun games. Pizza and chips are provided to Champs.

All Champs must have waiver forms signed before entering the facility. There is a separate waiver for the rock wall.

Check-in will begin at 5:50 p.m. Doors will open at 6 p.m. A parent room is available for parents who prefer to stay at the facility.

EXPERIENCE GREATER AKRON

EAT, SHOP, LEARN, PLAY.....ENJOY!

Take this time to experience Greater Akron! In your Champ Bag that you received at check-in, there are a variety of pamphlets and coupons to several different places to explore and discover the Greater Akron area.

Visit the Experience Greater Akron table in the Office Tent for more ideas and destinations! Check out page 16 of the handbook for staff favorites!

TUESDAY, JULY 18

AAA Local Challenge Races

Daily Schedule

7:30 am - Local Masters

9:30 am - Local Super Stock

12:30 pm - Local Stock

AAA LOCAL CHALLENGE

All racers should report to the Topside entrance at their posted time.

Only Champs and car handlers are permitted in Topside. Unless purchasing parts at the White Building.

No tools are permitted at this time.

The Challenge races will be a single elimination three-car lane and wheel swap. Each race will be run until a Champion is declared.

Photos will be at the finish line immediately following each race.

The top three finishers in each division will receive their awards at the awards ceremony Saturday at the Akron Civic Theatre.

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

AUI Rally Challenge Races

Daily Schedule

7:30 am - Rally Masters

9:30 am - Rally Super Stock

12 pm - Rally Stock

AUI RALLY CHALLENGE

All racers should report to the Topside entrance at their posted time.

Only Champs and car handlers are permitted in Topside. Unless purchasing parts at the White Building.

No tools are permitted at this time.

The Challenge races will be a single elimination three-car lane and wheel swap. Each race will be run until a Champion is declared.

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THURSDAY, JULY 20

All-Star Races, Legacy Race & Open House

Daily Schedule

8 am - All-Star Alignment
9:30 am - All-Star Races
1 pm - Legacy Race
4 pm - 7 pm - Open House

SEE NEW PARKING
PROCEDURE FOR
THURSDAY & FRIDAY
ON PAGE 15 IN
RACE WEEK
HANDBOOK

ALL-STAR RACES

All Champs should report to Topside entrance at their posted time.

18 All-Star drivers per division will race in a special invitational race.

Photos will be at the finish line immediately following each race.

The top three finishers in each division will receive their awards at the awards ceremony Saturday at the Akron Civic Theatre.

LEGACY RACE

All Champs should report to Topside entrance at their posted time.

Legacy puts the STEM principles of aerodynamics and chassis design into practice and accommodates larger, more experienced drivers. This is an open-invitation, double-elimination, and lane-and-wheel swap.

Photos will be at the finish line immediately following each race.

The top three finishers will receive their awards at the awards ceremony Saturday at the Akron Civic Theatre.

OPEN HOUSE

New Location West Lawn - 789 Derby Downs Drive

Enjoy the Open House for car viewing, Soap Box Derby mini-car races, inflatables, interactive games, and a variety of vendors.

Take some time earlier in the week to decorate your mini car that was located in the Champ welcome bag on Sunday. Bring your decorated mini car for a chance to race and win!

***New* Bus Shuttle to Topside to View Cars - No Parking Topside**

NEW This year we are introducing the People's Choice award for the best-decorated cars. Make sure to stop by both buildings and view the cars to find your favorite car design from each division. Winners will be posted on social media and can pick up their awards Friday at the office tent. Volunteers, staff, racers, and families are allowed to vote. Voting will only take place during the Open House. **Check page 19 for an event map.**

FRIDAY, JULY 21

Alignment, Wheel Selection, Weigh-In

Daily Schedule

8 am - Local Masters
8 am - Rally Masters
9:30 am - Local Super Stock
9:30 am - Rally Super Stock
11:15 am - Rally Stock
12 pm - Local Stock

**SEE NEW PARKING
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THURSDAY & FRIDAY
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All Champs are to report to the Topside entrance at their posted starting times listed above.

AKRON RUBBERDUCKS

2022 Soap Box Derby Hall of Fame inductees will be throwing out the first pitch at the Akron RubberDucks game. Come to show your support and enjoy the affordable family fun of Canal Park.

Visit <https://www.milb.com/akron> to order tickets.

EXPERIENCE GREATER AKRON

EAT, SHOP, LEARN, PLAY.....ENJOY!

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SATURDAY, JULY 22

FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby World Championship Race Day

Daily Schedule

Gates Open

6:30 am - Derby Downs Lower Lot

Champ/ Car Handler Check-In

7 am - Local Champs - Whitey Wahl Starting Line Pavilion

7:20 am - Rally Champs - Whitey Wahl Starting Line Pavilion

Opening Ceremonies

8 am - Track

First Heat of the 85th FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby

8:30 am - Track

Parts Store

1 pm - 10 pm

Car Pick-Up

Opens after the final heat of the day is complete until 10 pm. Photo ID required.

Awards Ceremony

7 pm - Akron Civic Theatre

SUNDAY, JULY 23

Car Pick-Up & Crating

Daily Schedule

Topside Open

8 am - 12 pm

- Car-Pick-Up - Photo ID required
- Car Crating
- Parts Store
- Vendors - Enduro Photo & Custom Apparel

GENERAL INFORMATION

T-SHIRTS

All Champions **MUST** wear their provided All-American Champion T-shirts each day they are participating in an All-American activity. Please keep in mind that the shirts may **NOT** be altered.

TRACKSIDE TENTS & CANOPIES

Do not place or set up tents/canopies on Derby Downs grounds before 7:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 16. Violations will result in the **removal** of the tents/canopies and placed closed up near the fence. When setting up, please avoid the zoned-off areas. The ISBD is not responsible for tents/canopies placed on the grounds or for items left in them.

FEASBD RACE DAY TICKETS

Tickets can be purchased online at raceweek.soapboxderby.org or at the parts store during race week. Tickets can also be purchased at the entry gate on race day. The Champ and one car handler will be admitted free on race day. Each virtual ticket purchased will receive a souvenir ticket. Souvenir tickets will be given at the race day gate only. One per ticket purchased. Champs and Car Handlers will receive their souvenir ticket in their check-in pack on Sunday, July 16.

ALIGNMENT BADGES

Each Champ is provided one additional badge for alignment days. The badge will be included in the Champ bag and can only be used to get into Topside during scheduled alignment days. Scheduled alignment days are Sunday, Thursday (All-Star only) and Friday.

BANNERS

Families are encouraged to bring banners to support their champs. Banners should be no taller than 3' and no longer than 6'. Banners covering sponsor banners will be removed. ISBD is not responsible for banners that are left behind after Sunday, July 23, and will not pay to ship forgotten banners.

CHAMP CAR MESSAGES

Want to write and give a message to a Champ wishing him/her "good luck" in Saturday's race? You can now submit messages virtually! visit raceweek.soapboxderby.org to fill out a Champ car message. These messages will be placed in the Champs' cars for them to read on Saturday morning before the race. All messages are due by Thursday at 7 pm.

SHUTTLES

A shuttle route will be available for all Derby Downs guests during Race Week. Shuttle maps and hours will be available at the office tent.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ATMS

There are no ATMs located at Derby Downs. There are a number of local and national ATMs that are just a short drive from the grounds.

STREAMING

The 85th FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby Championship Race Day will be available to stream live on YouTube and Facebook.



[/aasbdorg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaasbdorg)



[/soapboxderby.org/](https://www.facebook.com/soapboxderby.org/)

WATER STATIONS

There will be water stations located throughout Derby Downs for your convenience. The stations will be located at Champ Check-in, Office Tent, within Topside (more than one station), at the Starting Line and in Run Out.

FIRST AID

First aid kits are available to guests located at the Office Tent, Blue Hall of Fame and Museum Building, White Building, Starting Line, Finish Line Bridge, and Run Out. AED units are located at the Office HQ Building, Starting Line, and White Building. For medical emergencies, an ambulance will be located in run out during all racing events. In case of a medical emergency dial 9-1-1 and the ambulance will be dispatched from run out.

Soap Box Derby staff contact (to report an incident): Heather Morrow 330-733-8723 x 20

NEW PARKING PROCEDURE FOR THURSDAY & FRIDAY

George Washington Blvd. will not be closed to traffic. For the safety of volunteers, racers, families, and staff we will require all to park in the general events lot on Derby Downs Drive on Thursday and Friday. You will not be able to park in the median or grass along George Washington Blvd. on those 2 days.

There will be shuttle buses running all day to make sure that everyone makes it to Topside safely from the general events parking lot.

There will be shuttle signs and volunteers to help with designated areas, questions, loading and unloading.

Thanks for helping keep everyone safe with these changes.

STAFF FAVORITES

EAT, SHOP, LEARN, PLAY.....ENJOY!

Take time during Race Week to experience Greater Akron! The Soap Box Derby staff calls this area home and wants to share their favorites with you!

HEATHER

Eat - Pav's Creamery

High Quality, Homemade Ice Cream.
2162 Front St, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

Explore - The Workz on the Riverfront

Historic downtown theatre renovated to features a full restaurant, arcade floor, duckpin bowling lanes - 2220 Front St., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

BRAD

Eat - Swenson's

Drive-in for a meal and a memory. Serving delicious burgers, savory sides, and hearty milkshakes. Multiple Locations

Explore - Summit Metro Park

Experience the beauty of Summit County along with the celebration of the parks centennial year.

SHAWN

Eat - El Patron Cuisine

Akron/Cleveland's Premiere Mexican Cuisine
54 E Mill St, Akron, OH 44308

Explore - Akron RubberDucks Game

Minor League Baseball team, Double-A affiliate of the Cleveland Guardians
300 S Main St, Akron, OH 44308

EMMA

Eat - Uncle Tito's Mexican Grill

Affordable family dinners.
2215 E Waterloo Rd, Akron, OH 44312

Explore - Akron Zoo

Coming nose-to-nose with more than 1000 animals from around the world.
500 Edgewood Ave, Akron, OH 44307

LINDA

Eat - Luigi's Restaurant

Down-home institution offering hearty pies & other classic Italian eats
105 N Main St, Akron, OH 44308

Explore - Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Explore the only National Park in Ohio. There are trails for all experience levels.

DUANE

Eat - Iron Grill

Providing fresh, locally sourced, comfort food
2215 E Waterloo Rd #408, Akron, OH 44312

Explore - Portage Lakes

The Portage Lakes are a series of 8 lakes connected together by channels used now for a variety of activities such as wild life rehabilitation, fishing, boating and swimming

JODI

Eat - Gio's Italian Restaurant

Traditional Italian recipes, pizza & a vast salad bar are offered in an old-school dining room
1186 Canton Rd, Akron, OH 44312

Explore - Wingfoot Lake State Park

Scenic lakeside park offering fishing, boating, nature trails, a dog park & picnic areas
993 Goodyear Park Blvd, Mogadore, OH 44260

KATHI

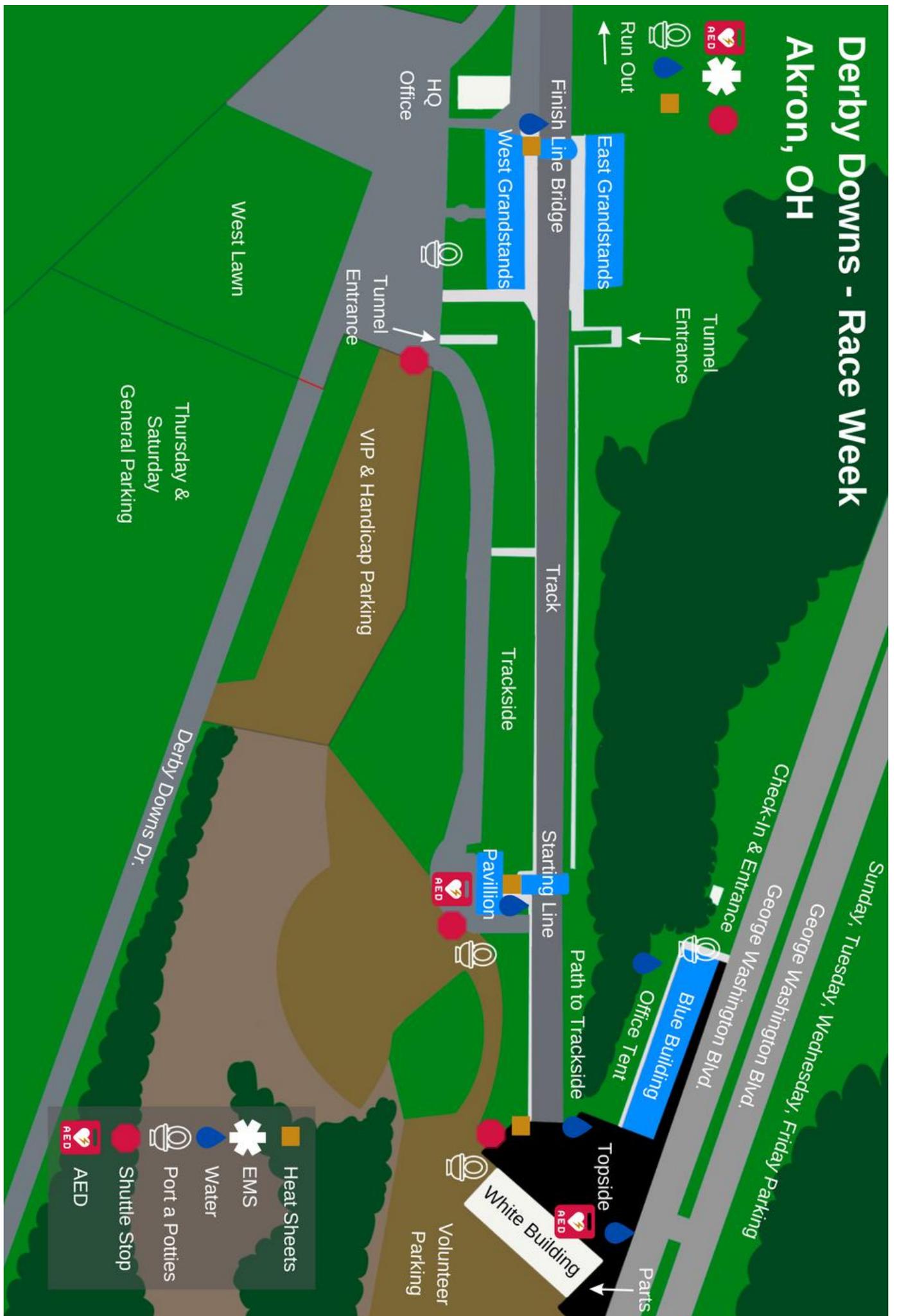
Eat - Dilly's Drive-In

Known for our Double Dilly Burger- served with our 2 homemade sauces, pickles, and cheese.
1921 Triplett Blvd, Akron, OH 44312

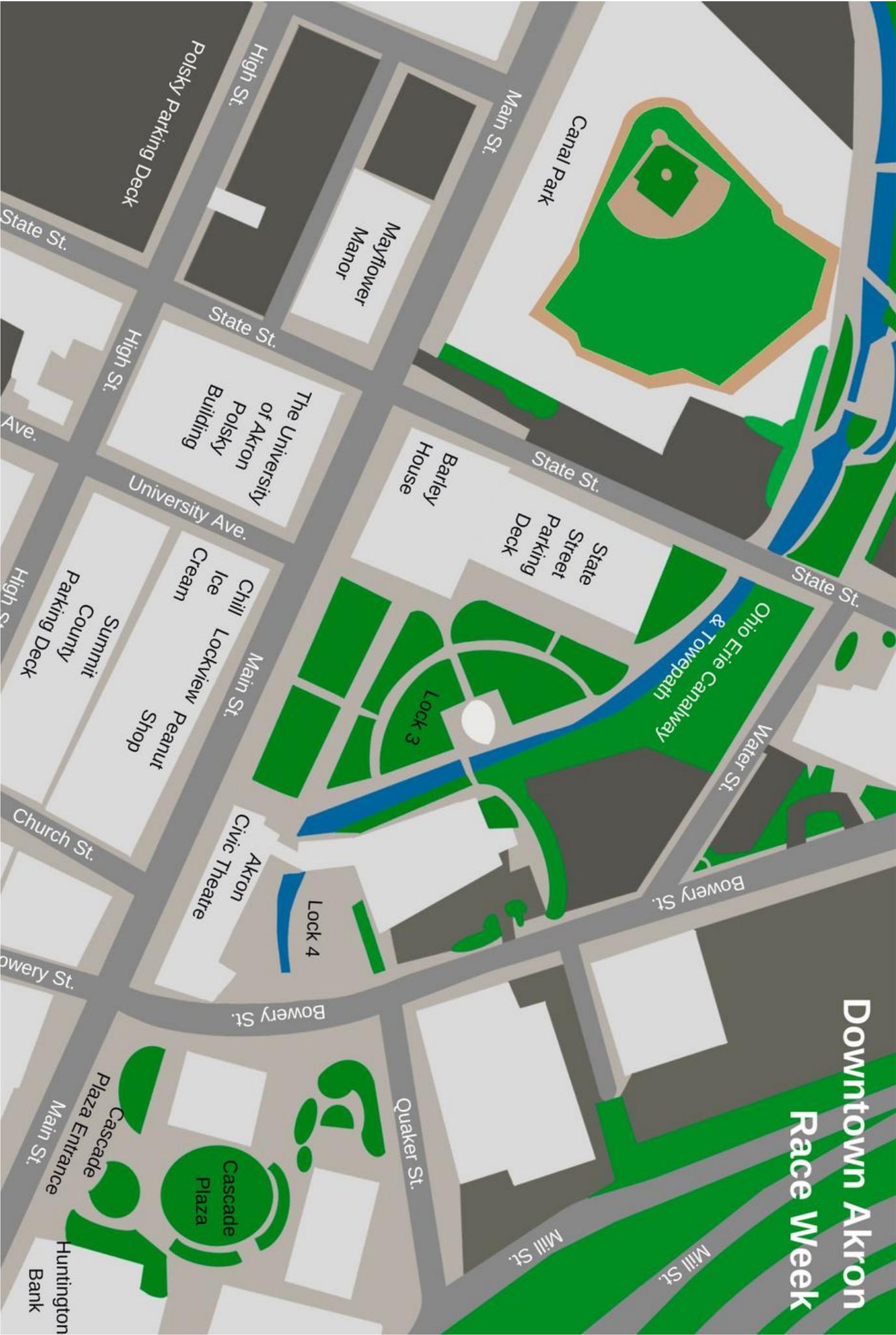
Explore - Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens

National Historic Landmark, home of F. A. Seiberling, co-founder of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company - 714 N Portage Path, Akron, OH 44303

Derby Downs - Race Week Akron, OH



-  Heat Sheets
-  EMS
-  Water
-  Port a Potties
-  Shuttle Stop
-  AED



**Downtown Akron
Race Week**