

It's The Great Pumpkin Derby. El Marino

Create your own Pumpkin Derby Racer to compete in the **3rd Annual Pumpkin Derby** at this year's Halloween Carnival! Wheel Kits sell for **\$20** and will be available starting **Friday, 10/19th** at the ticket pre sales table. Limited sets are available so hurry in to buy your kit! There is no fee to enter the race and winners will take home trophies.

If you miss this opportunity to purchase the hardware, no problem! Just decorate a pumpkin and add some wheels (try breaking down old toys). You can also check out local thrift and hardware stores or The Home Depot for parts.

Pumpkin Racer Construction 101

- Start with a single pumpkin (*Cucurbita pepo*).
- You can hollow out your pumpkin just like a Jack-o-lantern, BUT do not cut or drill holes in your pumpkin TOO soon as it will rot! The closer to the Derby you start, the better.
- Select your wheel and axle type.
- Drill holes through the pumpkin to insert your axles. Properly align them as much as possible and ensure they are low enough on your pumpkin to allow adequate ground clearance for any bumps and dips once the wheels are on.
- Decorate at will! One of the best parts of the Pumpkin Derby is all the creativity on display, so go for it! The crowd favorites are often not the fastest ones but the most fun and creative ones. If you can't win, LOSE WITH STYLE!
- Attach the wheels and give it a test run to make sure they spin freely... and that it goes STRAIGHT when they do!

Pumpkin Derby Rules and Regulations

These Official Pumpkin Race Rules have been established to promote fair play and inspire ingenious creativity. All contestants must design and race their Pumpkins according to these few important rules to ensure that this year's Pumpkin Derby is fun and fair for everyone:

- **RULE #1** - Craft your Pumpkin Racer using A SINGLE PUMPKIN. That is that. Do not cleverly glue two together and claim they are Conjoined Pumpkin Twins that should be allowed to race. Also round-ish objects painted to look like a pumpkin won't fool anybody. One or two of our judges are NO FOOLS! Silly Goose.
- **RULE #2** - Every entry must have TWO INDEPENDENT AXLES inserted THROUGH the pumpkin, with wheels attached to the axles. Other than that, you are free to express your creative flair in your pumpkin design and decorations.
- **RULE #3** - Pumpkins may NOT contain additional weights / concrete / rocks inside OR be attached onto any pre-fabricated chassis of any kind (skateboard, stroller, Tonka truck, Ford F150, Jet Ski, etc., etc...)
- **RULE #4** - No propellants of ANY KIND. NO MOTORS, ROCKET ENGINES, or PYROTECHNICS. Leave that to the Bands playing at the Carnival.
- **RULE #5** – The ONLY permitted propellant? Gravity. Oh, and no pushing or "helping" your Pumpkin Racer at the starting line with a last minute shove, hidden thumb flick, false start, remote control chassis, etc. etc. Our judges have been meticulously trained at the prestigious Indianapolis Pumpkin Racing Academy to look for that sort of thing.
- **RULE #6** - NO CHEATER PUMPKINS! Cheaters are **Rat Finks** (and often smell like rotting eggs) so please compete honorably, respecting the spirit of these rules. Any pumpkin blatantly violating the above rules runs the risk of being Pummeled to Pumpkin Pulp by our Race Officials. You Have Been Warned.
 - **AMMENDMENT TO RULE #6** – But what if you work your heart out making the coolest, most creative Pumpkin Derby Racer EVER only to discover you've inadvertently violated any of these rules? *Hakuna Matata*. While you are not qualified to compete in the Main Race heats, we are making allowances for EXHIBITION MATCHES to be run on the side. We want to make sure that EVERYONE'S PUMPKIN RUNS!