



**What's a Pumpkin Car Roll?** A fun-spirited event like no other! The highlight of the Pumpkin Roll is a unique, side-by-side race featuring handcrafted, decorated Pumpkin Racers in a funky, hilarious, suspenseful, and dramatic display of American ingenuity. Excitement builds as Pumpkin Racer contestants battle head-to-head for the coveted Pumpkin Roll Championship Trophy. We also award a prize for Best Decoration and Design.

**What's a Pumpkin Racer?** Pumpkin Racers are made to conform (more or less) to the Stafford Oktoberfest Pumpkin Car Roll Rules. The Official Rules state in part that a Pumpkin Racer must be made from one pumpkin with independent axles and wheels attached. Pumpkin Racers come in all different shapes, sizes and speeds. Some are elaborately decorated and ready to race. Others appear as if they can't make it down the racetrack at all. A well-crafted Pumpkin Racer can easily cross the finish line first, or it can catch an unfortunate break and come up short. One never knows. There are always a few mighty Pumpkin Racer underdogs who somehow manage to come up with a victory over a seemingly superior opponent. Despite their different appearances, all Pumpkin Racers (except Cheaters!) are given an equal opportunity to participate and advance toward victory.

**Does Anyone Ever Cheat?** In two words – OH YEAH! However, our vigilant Race Officials make sure everyone plays by the rules – fair and square. If a Race Official determines that a Pumpkin Racer is in violation of the Pumpkin Car Roll Rules, it is immediately declared a cheater! The penalty for entering a Cheater Pumpkin Racer is destruction by a large wooden mallet administered by the Head Race Official. It is important to note that several race entrants routinely enter “cheater” pumpkins with full knowledge that their Pumpkin Racer will be smashed to bits for all to see and cheer. The Head Race Official will not smash a person's Pumpkin Racer without their permission. All Cheater Pumpkin Racers will be put off to the side and will participate in a Cheater Race before facing destruction.

**Who, What, When?** The Pumpkin Car Roll is for youth and adults. Pumpkin cars may be built by individuals or groups – a family, a club, a troop, a class etc. Children under 12 should be assisted by an adult. The roll will be held in the stage area during Stafford Oktoberfest. **Races starting at 1:30 p.m.** on Saturday, October 5th. Contestants should **Check-in between 9 am-**

**11 am at the Oktoberfest Information Table.** Pumpkin Roll cars must be fully assembled and ready to race at check-in. **REGISTRATION:** Registration forms available online at the Oktoberfest Website ([www.oktoberfeststaffordks.com](http://www.oktoberfeststaffordks.com)) or on Race Day at the Oktoberfest Information Table— **FREE**. Be sure to give your Pumpkin Racer a creative Title/Name.

**DECORATION & DESIGN JUDGING:** Pumpkin Racers will compete for the Best Decoration and Design category by being displayed prior to the race from **11am to 1 pm to be judged based on design, detail, creativity, and originality.**

## **PUMPKIN ROLL RULES**

These Official Pumpkin Roll 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 Roll is fun and fair for everyone.

1. Craft your pumpkin racer using **A SINGLE PUMPKIN**. That is that. Do not cleverly glue two together and claim they are conjoined pumpkins twins that should be allowed to race.
2. Every pumpkin must have **TWO INDEPENDENT AXLES** inserted **THROUGH** the Pumpkin. Other than that, you are free to express your creative flair in your pumpkin design and decorations.
3. Pumpkins may **NOT** contain additional weights/concrete/rocks inside or attached onto any pre-fabricated chassis of any kind (example: skateboard, stroller, tonka truck, etc.)
4. **NO PROPELLANTS OF ANY KIND**. No motors, rocket engines, or pyrotechnics, etc.
5. **NO PUSHING OR "HELPING"** your pumpkin racer. **GRAVITY** is the only propellant allowed.
6. **NO CHEATER PUMPKINS!** Any pumpkin violating the above rules runs the risk of being pummeled to pumpkin pulp by our race officials. **YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!**
  - a. Amendment to Rule #6-You will be allowed to race in an exhibition run but can't compete. Then your pumpkin will be destroyed.

## **PUMPKIN ROLL REGULATIONS**

1. Every pumpkin will race. Races will be in heats working the way to the finals.
2. **NO PENALTY** for pumpkins bumping into one another.
3. Pumpkins will be released from the top of the ramp by a race official.
4. Race officials will determine the winner by distance.

## **PUMPKIN ROLL RACER CONSTRUCTION 101**

- Start with a single Pumpkin (Doesn't matter what kind)
- You can hollow out your pumpkin or leave it whole. Remember starting too soon will cause your pumpkin to rot.
- Select your wheels and axle type. (**REMEMBER THE BRICKS**)
- 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 Roll is all the creativity on display, so go for it. There will be a Crowd favorite award.
- Attach the wheels and make sure that they spin freely. And that it goes straight. (**AGAIN.... BRICKS**)

## **TIPS FROM THE PUMPKIN RACE PROS**

- Build a **LEGAL** pumpkin car.
- Don't be afraid to think outside the box for parts.
- If you can't win, lose with style!
- Check out YouTube for building tutorials and ideas.