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From Skateboarding to Street Luging

How did street luging develop? What other sports influenced street luging? What is the Signal Hill Speed Run? How is street luging different from ice luging?

Street luging developed in the 1970s. It developed in Southern California. Skateboarders raced down steep hills. But they wanted to go even faster. They lay down on their skateboard. This was called buttboarding.

The Signal Hill Speed Run started in 1975. It was the world's first downhill skateboard race. In 1976, Sam Puccio Jr. rode on his back. He won. Some people were upset. They thought he should be standing. But the rules let riders choose their position. In 1977, street luging became its own

category in the Signal Hill Speed Run. There were many crashes. There were many injuries. By 1978, the race stopped.

Pilots kept promoting the sport. They hosted races. They improved the boards. Bob Pereyra is one of the fastest street luge pilots. He started the Road Racers Association for International Luge (RAIL). He said, "Everything I have goes directly into this sport."

