

PINEWOOD DERBY RULES

Strong River District

The rules below are aimed at giving each boy a fair chance to win. Let us not forget that two of the main goals of the race are to have **FUN** and to provide a project a boy and his parent can work on together.

The District Pinewood Derby is governed by two sets of rules: car building rules and competition rules.

Car Building Rules:

The Kit: The car shall be built in the current racing year from the block of wood in the official BSA Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Kit. Unofficial kits purchased from other sources are not allowed.

The Car Body: This is a Pinewood Derby race for wooden cars. Molded metal bodies over wooden frames are beyond most parent/son teams, and are, therefore, not acceptable. This rule does not prevent adding metal to the car to increase its weight. Only what comes in the kit is allowed, except paint, decoration, and additional weights.

Wheels: *Only official BSA Grand Prix Pinewood Derby wheels are acceptable.* The wheels must have "BSA" stamped on the outside of wheel. Cars with modified wheels will be disqualified. Modifying the wheels could allow the car to interfere with cars in adjacent lanes. Wheels cannot be sanded or shaved to remove surface imperfections or weight and the treads must be left flat.

Axles and Axle Supports: The official kits provide a nail axle. Wheel bearings, washers, and bushings are prohibited. Substitution of over-sized nails, screws, or non-wooden axle supports is prohibited. Original axle slots must be used. No modification of the wheelbase is allowed (extending the wheelbase). A "light" polishing of the axles is allowed.

Physical Dimensions: Overall dimensions must not exceed the specification for the kit: 2-3/4" wide x 7" long x 7" height. If the front of the car is designed to gain an unfair advantage at the start or interferes with a fair start, the car will be disqualified (no cut slots at front to allow car extension past the starting post).

Weight: The car weight shall not exceed 5 ounces (141.75 grams). No loose materials of any kind are permitted in/on the car. The car may be hollowed out and built up to the maximum weight by additions of material such as wood or metal, provided it is securely attached or built into the body or chassis. The weights must not be taped on.

Springing: The car shall not ride on any type springs. The car must be free-wheeling with no starting devices.

Lubrication: The wheels and axles may be lubricated with powdered graphite or other dry lubricants only. No lubrications will be allowed following the completion of the registration process.

Track Clearance: - Track clearance is specified as 3/8" even though the lane strips are only 1/4". The extra clearance is to allow the car to go from the sloped portion of the track to the flat portion without dragging. Please add weights either in hollowed out spaces or on top of the car. Keep the bottom of the car flat for clearance.

Inspection: - Each car must pass inspection by the official inspection committee before it may compete. The inspectors have the right to disqualify those cars which do not meet these specifications. Once weighed, cars may only be touched by race officials to place on track. If damaged during a race, the boy/parent may repair the damage (after approval by race official), reattach wheels, etc., but no other adjustments can be made.

Competition Rules:

*All Cub Scouts of the Strong River District and their siblings are eligible to race in the Strong River District Pinewood Derby. You do not have to qualify for this Derby by finishing in a certain place in your unit's Pinewood Derby.

*There will be a race division for each of the four ranks (Tiger, Wolf, Bear, & Webelos/AOL) and a division for siblings. The sibling race is to make this fun for the entire family even those not in cub scouts. However, siblings must also be registered as a participant and adhere to the same car building rules.

*All cars will be run together, but the winners will be determined for each rank and the sibling category.

*In all individual heat races, the decision of the judges will be final. If the judges cannot agree, that heat will run again.

*Scales at the District weigh-in will be used. Because the car passed the weight or dimension limit at the Pack level, does not mean it will automatically pass at District level. Come early and be prepared to possibly have to remove weight from the car.

*Trophies will be awarded for First – Third Place in each rank (Tigers, Wolves, Bears, & Webelos/AOL) and in the sibling category.

*Each Participant is responsible for the online registration (\$10) for each car wanting to compete in the District race.

Things to know about the Strong River District Pinewood Derby

1. The location of the race is **Brandon First United Methodist Church gym.**
2. The date of the race is **Saturday, March 5, 2016 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.**
3. Early check-in begins **Friday, March 4, 2016 from 6:00 pm. – 9:00 pm.** Please check your car in early if you can as it will help speed the events of race day.
4. Check-in resumes **Saturday, March 5, 2016 from 7:30 am – 8:30 am.**
5. The registration and entry fee of \$10 should be completed online via the AJC website no later than **Thursday, March 3, 2016.** There will be no “day of” registration.
6. Each car should be made according to the rules in the official Cub Scout Pinewood Derby kit, No.17006 and adhere to the car building rules mentioned in this document.
7. Each boy will have his Pinewood Derby car weighed, measured, and assigned a number for the races.
8. Their car will then be placed on a table with cars of others in the order of check-in.
9. If a boy needs to make any changes or alterations to his car (such as graphite to the car wheels), this must be done prior to weigh-in.
10. When the races begin, the cars will race all together with the computer automatically separating the cars in five groups:
 - a. Tigers
 - b. Wolves
 - c. Bears
 - d. Webelos
 - e. Siblings
11. Each car will race four times per round, once in each lane. Slowest time is “thrown out”.
12. If, during a race, a car does not make it down the track to the finish line, it will automatically be named 4th place finisher of that race.
13. If, during a race, a car jumps the track, the race will be rerun once; however, a second time will be an automatic fourth place.
14. A concession stand will be in place provided by the hosting Pack. All profits of the concession stand will go to the hosting Pack.
15. Door prizes may/may not be utilized.

***All decisions of the judges are final.

***This is a scout activity for the boys and as such will be conducted in a manner that is fair and fun for all participants while upholding the scout oath and scout law. Please remember that the emphasis of this event is for the boys and their families to have fun and make memories of building and racing their derby cars that go far beyond prizes and trophies.

Thanks for your help!

Bill Adams
Council Activities / Pinewood Derby
601.953.7909