

Official Cub Scout Pinewood Derby Rules

Washington DC Derby Race - 2026

The following rules are included in every Scouting America Pinewood Derby kit.

CAR SPECIFICATIONS:

- Width Maximum— 2 3/4"
- Length — 7"
- Weight — Not over 5 ounces
- Width between wheels — 1 3/4"
- Bottom clearance between car and track — 3/8"

DERBY CAR RULES:

- 1) Wheel bearings, washers and bushings are prohibited.
- 2) The car shall not ride on springs.
- 3) Only official Cub Scout Grand Prix Pinewood Derby wheels and axles are permitted.
- 4) Only dry lubricant is permitted.
- 5) Details, such as steering wheel and driver are permissible as long as these details do not exceed the maximum length, width and weight specifications.
- 6) The care must be free-wheeling, with no starting devices.
- 7) Each car must pass inspection, the owner will be informed of the reason for failure, and will be given time within the official weigh-in time period to make the adjustment.
- 8) After final approval, cars will not be reinspected unless the car is damaged in handling or in a race.

IN ADDITION:

- 9) Cars must be built by the Cub/Family--- Not bought on internet or in a store;
- 10) There is NO height limit for derby cars;
- 11) The body of the car MUST be wood;
- 12) The Front of the car my NOT protrude beyond the Race Start Gate;
- 13) Wheelbases may be adjusted;
- 14) Derby Car wheels CANNOT be shaved, shaped or narrowed;
- 15) Derby Kit Axels are required--- but may be polished/filed;