

TUSSAHAW DISTRICT PINEWOOD DERBY
OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS
REVISED November 14, 2022

1. For the Tussahaw District Pinewood Derby, these rules shall supersede all others, regardless of source.
2. Official race pre-registration must be completed on the Flint River Council website. Scout name, Pack/Troop number, den membership (Lion, Tiger, Wolf, etc.), email address, and a phone number are required for each participant (or their parent/guardian). See your Pack/Troop representative to determine if registration will be completed for individual Scouts or if a single registration will be submitted for your entire Pack/Troop. Races will take place at Wesley Way UMC, 150 John Wesley Way, McDonough, GA 30252.
3. ALL SCOUTS, no matter what level/rank may participate in the Tussahaw District Pinewood Derby Race.
 - a. First, Second, and Third place winners from individual Cub Scout Pack races within the rank categories of Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos I, and Webelos II (Arrow of Light) shall be eligible for district race awards. The total number of Cub Scouts participating from each Pack is NOT LIMITED, however there shall be no more than 18 [(3) Lions, (3) Tigers, (3) Wolves, (3) Bears, (3) Webelos I, and (3) Webelos II (Arrow of Light)] eligible for awards from each Pack.
 - b. Additional Cub Scout racers, Scouts BSA racers, adults, and siblings may enter a car in either the LEGAL or OUTLAW race category. There is no limit on the number of participants within a Troop at the Scouts BSA Level. Winners within these races are for “bragging rights only” and are not eligible for District Awards (subject to change).
 - i. LEGAL Car Races - meets all traditional car regulations as outlined below for Cub Scout races.
 - ii. OUTLAW Car Races - not required to meet the further described car specifications (can be overweight for example) EXCEPT: (1) no propulsion methods allowed (gravity driven only), (2) dry powdered lubrication only (no liquid), and (3) any regulation designed for track/equipment safety (bottom clearance) and/or interfering with other racers (car width). Race officials have the right to deny participation of a car if it is determined the car may potentially cause damage to the track or other cars.

GROUND RULES

4. Cars shall be new for the Council year in which they compete. To the extent possible, Scouts shall design and build their own cars with minimal adult assistance.
5. Cars shall pass inspection by the Official Inspection team before being allowed to compete. Cars that do not meet these specifications shall be disqualified from competition. Owners of disqualified cars shall be informed of violations and given an opportunity to correct them if there is sufficient time. Derby heats shall not be delayed for car alterations.
6. Only Derby Officials shall be allowed in the designated track area.
7. Late arrivals may run their car down the track after all other races have been completed. Late arrivals shall be defined as anyone arriving after the Derby participants have been registered and the race has started.
8. Cub Scouts must be present to race their own car. Substitutes such as another Scout or an adult cannot race the car for the absent Scout. Participants should be in BSA uniform. Exceptions to the in-person attendance rule may be granted under specific circumstances (medical reasons, etc.), but must be approved by the race committee in advance by contacting BSATroop2020GA@gmail.com. All efforts to attend the race in-person should be made.

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DISPUTES

9. Any participant (or his/her parent/guardian) may petition the Derby Committee for an interpretation of these rules. The Derby Committee, by majority vote, shall be the final judge of these rules. In case of a tie vote, the decision of the Committee Chairman shall be final.
10. Un-sportsman-like conduct on the part of any participant or member of the audience shall be grounds for disqualification and expulsion from the Derby arena.

CAR SPECIFICATIONS

11. Cars shall be made from the Official Cub Scout Grand Prix Pinewood Derby kits. Only Official BSA bodies shall be allowed. Details, such as steering wheel, driver, spoiler, windshield, fenders, flares, decals, stickers, et cetera, from other sources shall be allowed, provided that these details do not exceed the maximum length, width, and weight specifications.
12. Maximum overall width shall be 2 ¾". Maximum overall length shall be 7". Minimum ground clearance is 3/8".
13. Maximum weight shall not exceed 5 ounces. Readings of the Official scales shall be final. Cars may be hollowed out and built-up to maximum weight by the addition of filler, provided that it is securely built into the body, or firmly affixed to it.
14. Loose or liquid fillers of any kind (including mercury) shall not be allowed.

WHEELS AND AXLES

15. Only the Official Cub Scout Grand Prix wheels and axles shall be used.
16. Wheels shall not be shaped in any manner, except that they may be polished and trued. Wheels shall have smooth, square profiles; they shall not have grooves or ridges.
17. Wheel cavities shall not be filled with any type of putty. Covering of wheels in a manner that blocks wheel inspection shall not be allowed; wheel hubs must be open for inspection.
18. Cars shall be freewheeling, with no means of propulsion except gravity.
19. Bearings, bushings, washers, or springs may not be used in any manner.
20. Axle mounting holes may be drilled, but the distance between axles (wheelbase) shall not exceed the stock dimensions (approximately 4.375").
21. Axles may be smoothed and/or polished.
22. All 4 wheels must touch the track.

LUBRICATION

23. Liquid or paste-type lubricants shall not be allowed. Only dry powdered lubricants, such as graphite, talc, chalk, et cetera, shall be allowed.
24. Cars shall be lubricated before inspection and weigh-in. No further lubrication shall be allowed after check-in. Cars may not be lubricated between heats.

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RACE DAY PROCEDURES (Subject to change based on registration numbers and current COVID guidelines)

25. Race Day Schedule:
 - a. 8:30 -10:00 AM – Race Check-In & Car Inspection
 - b. 10:30 AM – Race Begins
 - c. 11:30 AM (approximately) – Awards Ceremony

26. When arriving at the race area, cars will be subject to inspection as noted above. After passing inspection and being registered, cars shall be placed in the impound box by the Inspector or designee. After being impounded, there shall be no further contact with the car until the race begins.

27. During the race, only designated Derby Officials (subject to change) shall deliver the car to the Starter and retrieve the car from the Finish Line.

28. The Official Starter shall release the starting gate only after receiving an “All Ready” signal from the race administrator. The Derby shall be run as a timed race. The track finish line will display the time between the start gate and the finish line of the track, which will be recorded. Each car will be run in all four lanes of the track. The slowest of the four times is dropped. The remaining three times are added together to determine a total time for each car. These machine-calculated times shall be used to determine Derby winners/placement.

29. If a car is damaged or jumps the track before a run is finished, the race heat shall be run again. If the car is damaged or jumps the track a second time, it shall lose the heat. Repairs of cars damaged while racing shall be made in the Official Pit, under the supervision of a Derby Official. Parents may assist their Scout in making repairs. Repair time shall not exceed 10 minutes. No re-lubrication of repaired cars shall be allowed, and cars shall be re-inspected by a Derby Official before returning to the race.

The Tussahaw District Pinewood Derby Races are being held as a service and fundraiser for Scouts BSA Troop 2020 of McDonough. Please support Troop 2020 by purchasing concessions the morning of the event. Any questions related to this event should be directed to BSATroop2020GA@gmail.com. Thank you so much for your support of Troop 2020, Cub Scouts, and Scouts BSA!!