



2025 District Cub Scout Pinewood Derby Rules

April 5, 2025

Check-in begins at 12:00 pm

Race starts promptly at 1:30 pm

RACE INFORMATION – The race will be held at the SIU Student Center Ballroom B in Carbondale, IL. Be sure to arrive no later than 1:00 pm so that you can check your car in as the race will start promptly at 1:30 pm. Please be sure to read these rules, ***cars that are not in compliance will not be allowed to race.***

CARS – Scouts must use the official BSA pinewood derby kit. No precut hobby shop cars or “Kit” cars will be allowed. Cars are to be built new for 2025, please do not bring cars from years past.

INSPECTION – Cars must pass inspection on the day of the race to compete. Race officials may disqualify cars at any time if found to be in violation of these rules or otherwise illegal.

WIDTH – Overall width must not exceed 2.75 inches. The width between the wheels must remain at 1.75 inches.

LENGTH – Overall length must not exceed 7.00 inches. The shape of the body cannot allow the car to extend beyond the starting pin on the race track.

WEIGHT – Cars shall not exceed 5.00 ounces. You may hollow out the body to insert weights or build the body up by adding wood, metal, etc. **Be careful when placing weights under the car, cars need a minimum of 3/8” between the wheels and the bottom of the car to clear the track center guide.** All cars will be weighed using the official scales on the day of the race. If your car exceeds the weight limit, you may use your own tools to decrease the weight.

WHEELS – Only official BSA wheels will be allowed. Wheels may NOT be altered in any way. Sanding (even a little bit) or otherwise modifying the wheels is absolutely prohibited. Wheels shall be installed so that the entire surface of all four (4) wheels is in contact with the race track. You must use the wheels provided in your kit. Applying graphite or other lubricant to the wheel surface (tread) is not allowed and will be required to be removed prior to weigh-in.

AXLES – The nails provided in the official kit must be used for the axles. The nails may NOT be turned down by machine. They may be smoothed lightly with sandpaper and the burr on the nail head may be filed down. No bearings, bushings, washers, tubes, or springs will be allowed. No one-piece axles will be allowed.

AXLE SLOTS – You are required to use the axle slots that are provided in the wood block, **axle slots may NOT be moved or otherwise drilled or modified**. The distance between axles will be measured at the weigh-in for compliance. Please be sure the axles should be positioned to give the car at least 3/8-inch ground clearance.

LUBRICATION – Only dry graphite lubricant is allowed; no type of liquid or other lubricant is permitted. Once the car has passed inspection, it may NOT be retrieved for lubrication; re-lubrication during the race is not allowed.

REPAIRS – If a car malfunctions during a race, the race will NOT be restarted unless the car interferes with another racer’s car. If the car crosses the finish line in its lane, the results will stand and race officials will determine if the participant will be allowed to make a repair before the vehicle's next race. After the car has passed inspection, any approved repairs must be made under a race official's supervision and within a five-minute time limit. Upon completion of the repair, the car weight will be rechecked for compliance.

UNIFORMS – On race day, Scouts are encouraged to wear their Field or Activity uniforms.

GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP – **It is required!** Any Scout, parent, or member of the audience being disruptive or displaying poor sportsmanship will be asked to leave; this should be a great day for everyone so let’s have fun!

--- DECISIONS BY RACE OFFICIALS ON RACE DAY ARE FINAL AND CAN NOT BE APPEALED ---



2025 District Pinewood Derby Community Invitational Rules

April 5, 2025

Check-in begins at 12:30 pm

Race starts promptly at 3:00 pm

Following the conclusion of the Cub Scout Race

COST: *An entry fee of \$5.00 per participant is required to participate in the Invitational.*

*Cub Scout participants can enter **both car classes for a single entry fee**. All proceeds go directly to district programs for scouts and District Friends of Scouting.*

RACE INFORMATION – The race will be held at the SIU Student Center Ballroom B in Carbondale, IL. Be sure to **arrive no later than 1:00 pm** so that you can check your car in before the 1:30 Cub Scout Race. Please be sure to read these rules, ***cars that are not in compliance will not be allowed to race.***

CARS – can be hobby kits, 3D printed, or built from a block or wood as long as all conditions below are met.

INSPECTION – Cars must pass inspection on the day of the race to compete. Race officials may disqualify cars at any time if found to be in violation of these rules or otherwise illegal.

WIDTH – Overall width must **not exceed 2.75 inches**. Width between the wheels must remain at 1.75 inches.

LENGTH – Overall length must **not exceed 7.00 inches**. The shape of the body cannot allow the car to extend beyond the starting pin on the race track.

WEIGHT – Cars shall **not exceed 5.00 ounces**. You may hollow out the body to insert weights or build the body up by adding wood, metal, etc. **Be careful when placing weights under the car, cars need a minimum of 3/8" between the wheels and the bottom of the car to clear the track center guide.** All cars will be weighed using the official scales on the day of the race. If your car exceeds the weight limit, you may use your own tools to decrease the weight.

WHEELS – Official BSA wheels **are not required** as long as the wheels are installed so as the entire surface of all four (4) wheels is in contact with the race track. Applying graphite or other lubricant to the wheel surface (tread) is not allowed and will be required to be removed prior to weigh-in.

AXLES – Nails or solid axles may be used.

AXLE SLOTS – Please be sure the axles should be positioned to give the car **at least 3/8-inch ground clearance**.

LUBRICATION – *Only dry graphite lubricant is allowed*; no type of liquid or other lubricant is permitted. Once the car has passed inspection, it may NOT be retrieved for lubrication; re-lubrication during the race is not allowed.

REPAIRS – If a car malfunctions during a race, the race will NOT be restarted unless the car interferes with another racers car. If the car crosses the finish line in its lane, the results will stand and race officials will determine if the participant will be allowed to make a repair before the vehicle's next race. After the car has passed inspection, any approved repairs must be made under a race official's supervision and within a five-minute time limit. Upon completion of the repair, car weight will be checked again for compliance.

CLASSIC CAR RACE

Cars must meet all criteria listed above.

Car Age – To enter the classic car race, the pinewood derby car must have been built before April 2005 (20 years).

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