

DWC Historic District Official Pinewood Derby Rules 2025

Inspection: Cars will be inspected during race day registration for compliance with the specifications set forth below. Each car must pass inspection by the official inspection committee before it may compete. If, at registration, a car does not 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 adjustments. Cars that fail to meet specifications will not be permitted to race. After final approval, cars will not be re-inspected unless a car is damaged in handling or in a race. **All cars must have been made during the current program year in which the Pinewood Derby is held (July 2024 – April 2025).**

Impoundment: All cars will be impounded when registered and passed for inspection. Cars will not be returned until the end of the race. After being impounded, repairs will be limited to only replacing axles/wheels that are broken or lost during the race. Only race day judges will be allowed inside the racing circle. All spectators must remain outside the racing circle. Once impounded, all cars will be handled by racing officials only. All cars will be on display inside the barrier until released by racing officials.

CAR SPECIFICATIONS:

Only official BSA Pinewood Derby kits/parts may be used. Look for the official seal on packaging:



Body: The body in the official BSA Pinewood Derby Kit **must** be used. Bodies of other materials will be disqualified. The body may be shaped, hollowed out, or built up from the original block as long as it meets all other specifications. Any additions to the original body (drivers, decals, paint, weights, etc.) must be firmly attached. **No precut kits will be allowed to compete in the racing or the judging.**

Dimensions: The car width at the wheels may not be modified. It must be the same as the original kit (2 3/4"). Overall length may not exceed 7 inches. Overall height may not exceed 2 3/8". Bottom clearance between the car and track must be a minimum of 3/8". The width between the wheels must be 1 3/4".

Wheels: Only official BSA Pinewood Derby wheels and axles may be used. **Third party and pre-finished wheels and/or axles are not allowed.** No washers, bushings, bearings, rubber tubing, springs, or starting devices are allowed. The surface of the wheel that touches the track must not be tapered, grooved, rounded, or ridged. Smoothing of the existing wheel is permitted. The original axle grooves on the car may not be altered or moved except to re-square the grooves. You may use the official Pinewood Derby axle guards if they meet specifications above.

Weight: The weight of the race-ready car must not exceed 5.0 ounces. Weight will be measured using the official scales when the car is registered.

Lubricant: **Dry lubricant is the only approved lubricant!** No lubricants may be applied once the cars are registered and impounded.

Car Numbers: Cars will be assigned numbers at the time of registration using a non-permanent sticker placed on the top of the car. Assigned numbers must be clearly visible (they cannot be on the bottom only). Other numbers may appear on the car, but the assigned number must be visible.

Other: Cars must freewheel with no stored energy, springs, or movable weights. There is no designated front or back to the supplied body: either end may be the front. However the nose of the front must allow the car to be placed in the starting area of the inclined track. No part of the car may extend beyond the nose of the car that rests against the starting mechanism. All cars must have the Scouts name and Pack number on the car (the bottom is okay).

Sportsmanship: **Scouting encourages good sportsmanship.** Cars will be disqualified if the Scout or his parents display unsportsmanlike conduct on the race site.

Please remember the purpose of the Pinewood Derby is to have each Scout enjoy the process of designing, making and racing their own car with the help and assistance of parent/guardian.