

Taughannock District Pinewood Derby Rules

The District PWD Committee of the Taughannock District has reviewed this event. The committee believes that the aims of Cub Scouting are best served if all Cubs, regardless of resources, can build a competitive car. It therefore directs that the specifications of cars entered by Cub Scouts be such that a Cub could build a car by working alone or aided by an adult with minimal mechanical skills and requiring no specialized or power tools.

In the interest of consistency, all packs are strongly encouraged to follow the District regulations when conducting their pack pinewood derby races. Race procedures and awards are at the discretion of the pack committee at the pack level. All packs and their derby committees are responsible for reviewing and understanding these regulations. These regulations will be strictly enforced at all District level races. If there are any questions, please contact the District Executive or District Commissioner.

Length, width & clearance

- A. Maximum overall width (including wheels and axles) shall not exceed $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches.
- B. Minimum width between wheels shall be $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches so the car will clear the center guide strip.
- C. Cars shall be constructed with sufficient to underside clearance to clear the center guide strip of the District track A $\frac{3}{8}$ " minimum is recommended and will clear all track types.
- D. Maximum length shall not exceed 7 inches.
- E. The wheelbase may not be changed from the original kit distance. Slots may be recut so long as the slots are the original $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches apart.
- F. The height of the car must clear the track timing equipment. A Maximum height of 2 inches will clear most commercially available timers.
- G. No part of the car may protrude beyond the starting pin. The front edge of the car must not be more than 1 inch above the wheel lane of the track and be at least $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide at the center of the car.

Weight and appearance

- A. Weight shall not exceed 5 ounces or 141.7 grams.
- B. The readings of the Official Race Scale will be considered final, The scale will be calibrated before inspections.
- C. The car may be hollowed out and built up to the maximum weight by the addition of wood or metal only, provided it is securely built into the body or firmly affixed to it. No loose materials of any kind are permitted on or in the car.
- D. Mercury shall not be used for adding weight. It is a potential health hazard. Weights are available for purchase from several hobby shops and the Scout Shop.

- E. Details such as a steering wheel, driver, spoiler, decals, painting, interior details are permissible as long as these details do not exceed the maximum length, width and weight specifications.
- F. Cars with wet paint will not be accepted.

Wheels and axles

- A. Only official Scout Grand Prix wheels and axles can be used.
- B. Axles may be polished.
- C. Axle points must be visible in the slots at registration time.
- D. Wheels may be lightly sanded to remove the mold projection on the tread. This light sanding is the only wheel modification allowed.
- E. Beveling, tapering, thin sanding, or wafering of wheels is prohibited. See diagram.
- F. Wheel bearings, washers, or bushings are prohibited.
- G. The car shall not ride on any type of springs.
- H. The car must be free-wheeling with no starting device or other propulsion.
- I. Hubcaps are strictly forbidden.

Lubrication

- A. Only dry powdered lubricants, such as graphite, may be used. Regular oils and silicone sprays may soften the plastic wheels and are not permitted. Official Scouting lubricants are available for sale.
- B. Cars may be lubricated before inspection. No further lubrication will be permitted after registration.

Ground Rules

- A. The race is open to all chartered packs, to include Cub Scouts - Tiger, Wolf, Bear and Webelos - registered with dues paid in the Taughannock District. Entries for the race shall be determined by each Pack. Three entries per den level will be allowed. (Tiger, Wolf, Bear and Webelos)
- B. Cars must be made for this race season. Cars made for a previous derby season are not permitted, Cub Scouts may enter only one car per racing season.
- C. The purchasing of completed cars is not permitted.
- D. The race committee will determine, before the start of race, which method of timing will be used throughout the race (ie: double/triple elimination, highest speed/fastest time)
- E. If the car jumps off the track before the finish line, the heat will be run again. If the same car jumps off the track a second time, it will be eliminated from the competition.
- F. If the car leaves its lane and interferes with another car, the heat will be run again. If the same car leaves its lane a second time and interferes with another car, the heat will be run again without the interfering car. The interfering car will be eliminated from the competition.

- G. If the car suffers a mechanical problem, loses an axle, breaks a wheel, et, and a repair can be accomplished in a 5 minute period of time, the heat will be run again. If the repair cannot be completed in 5 minutes, the car will automatically lose the race. The car must be inspected and weighed after the repair is completed,
- H. All participating boys must be present and in uniform.
- I. All participating boys and their cars must be present for the duration of the race.
- J. There will be a mechanical or light device at the finish line if available. Winner will be determined by this device. If this device is not available or it is malfunctioning, there will be three judges to visually determine the winner.
- K. Only race officials and authorized participants will be permitted into the registration and track area. This rule will be strictly enforced.
- L. The Race Committee may charge an entrance fee.

Inspection and disputes

- A. Inspection Team will consist of a pre-determined number of individuals who will weigh, register, and start the race. The Race Committee will determine the number of individuals on the Inspection Team and will provide them with training.
- B. Each car must pass inspection by the Official Inspection team before it may compete. The Inspection Team has the right to disqualify those cars which do not meet these rules. Before the race, if a car is found to not meet the specifications for racing, car owners will be informed of the violations and given an opportunity to modify the car to these specifications, All modifications must be completed prior to the start of the race. If a car is found to not meet the specifications for racing during the race, it will be eliminated from the race. If a car is found to have not meet the specifications for racing after the race has been conducted, that car will be disqualified and will forfeit any placement and any prizes awarded for that replacement and all racers who place below the disqualified racer will move up in placement and prize. In all such cases, car owners will be informed of the violations.
- C. All winning cars may be photographed and may, at the discretion of the judges, be subject to post race inspection including but not limited to pulling of wheels.
- D. Any participant (including the guardian of the participant) has the right to appeal to the Dispute Resolution Team for an interpretation of these rules. This Team, by majority vote, will be the final judge of these rules.
- E. Unsportsmanlike conduct by any participant or member of the audience will be grounds for expulsion from the competition and/or the race area.
- F. A copy of these rules will be available at the race and are available at the Taughannock District website and by your Pack leadership team.