

Official Rules for Lakelands District Pinewood Derby
(Updated 2025)

Pinewood Derby car construction rules

- **Material:** Race cars shall be constructed for this event from the parts contained in the Official Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Kit (referred to below as the kit) as sold by the Scout Service Center. Materials from the kit may be supplemented but not replaced (examples include: other BSA wheels sold separately, pinewood with better grain alignment, Grad prix axels sold separately).
- **Weight:** Race cars may weigh no more than five (5) ounces (total weight) as determined on the official scales during the pre-race check-in.
- **Wheels and Axles:** The car shall roll on the wheels from the kit. The wheels shall turn about the axle nails from the kit. The axle nails shall be firmly affixed to the wood of the car body. It must be obvious to the judges that the wheels and the nails from the kit are being used.
- All wheels must appear to touch the track.
- **Size:** Race cars may be no longer than 7 inches, nor wider than 2-3/4 (2.75) inches. Maximum height: 3 1/8 inches. Minimum wheel spacing: 1 3/4 inches at the axles. Minimum ground clearance: 3/8 inch. Wheelbase: 4 3/8 inches, the pre-cut slots are correctly spaced, but need not be used. Adequate clearance is the responsibility of the race car builder.
- **Weights and Attachment:** Weight may be added to the car and will be considered part of the car for purposes of all measurements. "Weight" is considered to be any material on the car that is not provided in the kit. All weight must be securely fastened to the car, e.g. by permanent glue, nails or screws, but not by "sticky substances", e.g. tape, or tack spray. Weights shall be passive, i.e. non-movable, non-magnetic, non-electric, non-sticky, etc.
- **Wheel Treatment:** Official BSA wheels must be used. The wheels may not be cut, drilled, beveled or rounded. You may remove the seams and imperfections from the wheels.

- **Unacceptable Construction:** The following may NOT be used in conjunction with the wheels or axles: hubcaps, washers, inserts, sleeves, bearings.
- **Gravity Powered:** The race car may not be constructed or treated in such a way that the track's starting mechanism imparts momentum to the car. (For instance, this provision disqualifies cars with sticky substances on the front of the car and protrusions which may catch on the starting pin.)
- **Lubricants:** Only graphite or Teflon tape will be allowed for lubricating the wheels. Lubricants must not foul the track.

Event rules

- Each car must pass inspection by their unit before it will be allowed to compete.
- Once a car passes inspection it is to be collected by the Cubmaster and stored until the day of the race.
- The Unit Leaders have the responsibility to disqualify those cars that do not meet these rules.
- The youth need only submit a car to compete. If the youth made a car then they did their best to be present.
- All cars competing in the official race are eligible to receive the event patch and the prize corresponding to their place.
- If the car loses a wheel, or is otherwise damaged, the racer shall have 5 minutes to make repairs. Otherwise, scouts will not be permitted to touch their cars during the official race.
- **The Race Official must be an adult that does not have a youth competing.**
- **The Race Official has final say on all race results. Arguing with the race results will result in immediate disqualification.**

Lakelands Pinewood Derby Open Event:

- The open event will take place on a 2 lane track.
- The youth will use this track to run head to head by their choice
- This track will be run by the youth with adult supervision
- Let them have fun, just make sure they don't break the track
- All that participate in the open event will receive the event patch