

2026 PINWOOD DERBY

OHIO RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT

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7 RANGES ENTERTAINMENT * NAPA

Date: Saturday February 7, 2026

Location: Fort Steuben Mall, Steubenville, Ohio (Center Court of the Mall)

For: All Cub Scouts (Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, 1st & 2nd year Webelos)

Entry Fee: **\$10.00** per Cub Scout by Pack Pinewood Derby Chairman if received at the registration site with Black Pug on the Council Calendar Page prior to Wednesday Feb. 4th.

Pack Pinewood Chairman must email Joe Kovalski a list of racers prior to that time also so that individual race times can be issued. josephkovalski@sbcglobal.net

No individual registrations will be taken unless a Pack is not participating in the Derby.

Starting times for drivers will be emailed back to the Pack Pinewood Chairman shortly after registration ends.

* Drivers must be in the pit area at least 20 minutes before their scheduled race times.

* ***YOU MUST BE IN YOUR UNIFORM IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RACE!!!***

* ***SHIRT MUST BE TUCKED INTO PANTS - Sweatpants are not part of a uniform!***

* **CARS WILL BE INSPECTED!!** After inspection, cars may not be modified or adjusted unless they have been sent to the Repair Table by the inspection team. Graphite will be permitted to be applied as described in Rule #9. Only Cub Scouts will handle transporting the cars from inspection to and from the winners table for each of the race heats.

* Trophies will be awarded to the final six winners.

* Last year's winners were:

1st	Mark Betlem	Pack 151	4th	EJ Toole	Pack 151
2nd	Mason Holmes	Pack 151	5th	Hudson Russel	Pack 20
3rd	Colton Click	Pack 41	6th	Jace Cooper	Pack 20
Best Show Car				Caiden Horvath	Pack 146

* **Derby Patches are given to every racer. Race Ribbons are awarded to the heat winners.**

* Final race winning cars will be held for one year after the race. They may be picked up from the derby chairman at the end of the current year's race.

ALL CUB SCOUTS MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT PINWOOD DERBY EVEN IF THEY DID NOT WIN IN THEIR PACK RACES.

If 2nd Year Webelos have crossed over by this time, they will still be eligible to race!

2026 PINEWOOD DERBY RULES

1. Each Cub Scout is to build a completely new car each year. No car, or parts thereof, used in any previous year, or in Friday's family race, may be used by the participant. **Build does not mean from a precut kit from a hobby shop, etc., or the internet. Build only from BSA Derby Kits #17006, Wedge #614417, Wheels #17553(any Color) – all available at the Scout Shop.**
2. **Width:** Overall width shall not exceed 2 3/4 inches. (No fins, etc., sticking out past the wheels).
- **Front of car** should be at least **3/8 inch wide** to make sure finish line sensor is triggered correctly.
3. **Length:** Maximum overall length shall not exceed 7 inches. No protrusions from front of car and no part of the car is permitted to extend beyond the starting line
4. **Clearance:** The car must have a minimum clearance of 3/8 inch under the body and 1 3/4 inches between the inside of the wheels and **No Weights Sticking Out From Underneath The Car.**
5. **Attachments:** The car must be freewheeling, with no starting device or motor of any kind.
6. **Weight:** Weight of the car must not exceed 5 ounces (U.S. Measure). No loose materials of any kind are permitted in or on the car. The car body may be hollowed out and built up to the maximum weight by solid metal only, provided that it is securely built into the car body. **Weights and weight plates that are added to the bottom of the car are not permitted to stick out past the bottom of the wood. They must be recessed.** Weights secured by tape anywhere on the car are not permitted.
7. **Materials:** The car shall be made up of materials from the **Official BSA Pinewood Derby Kits as listed in Rule #1 only**. This includes body, wheels, and round head nails furnished in the kits. Decorations can be added as long as length and width requirements are not exceeded. Nail shafts may be polished only and cannot be turned down (reduced in diameter) or modified in any other way. Nail heads cannot be modified in any way other than removal of the stamping burr. If any axle nails appear to have been modified, the inspection team has the right to have the axles pulled out of the car for further inspection. **The nail heads cannot be less than .190 inches in diameter.**
8. **Wheels:** Wheels are not to be shaved or reduced in diameter or width. Sandpaper may be used to sand the wheels to remove the molding burrs, but the contour of the wheels cannot be changed. **The surface of the wheel where it meets the track must be FLAT, No tilting of wheels to ride on the edge of the wheel**, and the decorative bead running around the outer edge of the tire must be completely intact. Wheel bearings, washers, and bushings are prohibited. Inner or outer wheel axle hubs cannot be modified in any way, other than cleanup of the burr. Speed axles of any type (bought or made) are strictly prohibited and will cause you to be completely disqualified (SEE RULE #7). Yes, this means **YOU will NOT be permitted to race!** The axles must be in the slots provided in the block of wood. ***The slots that the axles are in cannot be filled in or covered with any material covering the axles whatsoever. NO AXLE GUARDS. The entire axle nail must be visible in the car body for each wheel. Clear Superglue may be used to hold the axle in the slot. The nail head must also be visible –NO HUBCAPS.***
9. **Lubrication:** Graphite lubrication for the current race event will be permitted to be done only in the graphite table area after the car has passed through the inspection station. This minimizes graphite being spread around on the mall carpeting. No lubrication shall be permitted on the running surface of the wheels. Lubricate only in the immediate area of the axle only. **Powdered Graphite** is the official lubricant and will be the only lubricant permitted to be used.
10. **Inspection:** Each car must pass inspection by the official inspection committee before it may compete. Inspectors will have the right to disqualify and send to the repair area, those cars which do not meet the specifications at any time during inspection or during the duration of the race.
11. **Registration:** Pinewood derby participants must be registered for the race prior to Wednesday February 4th. One person from each pack should handle the registration, scheduling and fees.
12. **Entering:** To enter the race, the boy must be a registered Cub Scout (Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, 1st & 2nd year Webelos) with the **OHIO RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT** of the Council.
13. **Decisions:** The decisions of the Pinewood Derby Staff Judging Team shall be final !

2026 FAMILY PINEWOOD DERBY RACE

DATE: Friday, February 6, 2026

LOCATION: Fort Steuben Mall, Steubenville, Ohio

TIME: Beginning at 6:00 PM

AGES: 11 years and older **registered** Boy Scout, Explorer, Adult Scouter, or a Family member of a Scout in the Two Trails District of the Ohio River Valley Council.

ENTRY FEE: \$5.00 per participant at the council registration site or you may register on the night of the race as in previous years. Participants are encouraged to register early on the Council site.

The Family Race Stock Class will consist of cars built following **ALL** of the regular Cub Scout rules.

ALL cars may be kept until after the preliminary heats are finished on Saturday.

Final Winners will be kept until after next year's races.

Trophies for the final six winners.

Last year's Family Race Stock Class winners were:

1 st	Riley Heldreth	Troop 22	4 th	James Cooper	Pack 415
2 nd	Ed Schultz	Pack 151	5 th	Connor Cooper	Troop 3
3 rd	Matt Keller	Pack 20	6 th	Buck Heldreth	Pack 20

Pinewood Derby Chairman

Joe Kovalski - cell @ 740-632-7500

email: josephkovalski@sbcglobal.net

Specify Family Race when you register on the Council Site

Registrations should be done for the Family Race on the council site **if** possible, but you can still come, sign up, and race on Friday night the same as in previous years.

Please pay attention to the deadlines for the race fees

This Year's Patch