

2026 Three Harbors Council Tri-District Pinewood Derby



Please read through all of the information provided. It should answer all of your questions. If you have any questions that are not answered in the information packet, please contact Sandra Martens @ 262-902-6569 or by email: sandyowl1@gmail.com or Gina Hannemann at the Scout Office.

GENERAL INFORMATION

District Race Day: Saturday, May 2, 2026

Location: Raymond Elementary School

Car Check - In: 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm

Race Begins: Approximately 1:00 pm

Registration Deadline: Thursday, April 30th, 2026 at 5 pm

Cost: \$10.00 fee is non-refundable, but can be transferred to a different racer

REGISTRATION

1. All Packs are eligible to send the top 5 racers from their pack derby to the Tri-District Race. If any of the top five are unable to attend, another Scout is allowed so each pack has 5 racers. If your pack does not have a derby, the leadership can choose 5 Scouts to build cars and race.
2. One Pack leader or representative will need to complete a single registration for all Pack qualifying entries for the Tri-District Pinewood Derby.
3. Only Scouts who are pre-registered online by the deadline will be allowed to compete. Walk-in registrations will not be accepted.

4. Scouts must be present to race their cars; there will be NO exceptions to this regardless of schedule conflict. (This event is about the Scout, not the car.) If a Scout is unable to attend, the pack may appoint a substitute racer no later than Thursday, April 30, 2026. The substitute will race their own car.

5. Arrow of Light Scouts are eligible to compete. By April 30, 2026, it is most likely that an Arrow of Light Scout is in 5th grade and has crossed over into a Scouts BSA Troop. If the Scout was a member of an Arrow of Light Den at the time their pack race was held in the 2025-2026 school year, that Scout will be allowed to participate.

6. Registration fees must be paid at the time of registration. Fee is \$10.00 per entry.

7. Registration closes on Thursday, April 30th, 2026 at 5 PM.

INFORMATION ABOUT RACE DAY

1. Scouts will need to check their cars in between noon and 1:00 pm. Car check-in and inspections will close promptly at 1:00 pm. Late submissions will not be accepted. Arriving at the beginning of the check-in hour will allow you time to make any necessary modifications if it does not pass inspection the first time. Please understand that there may be a line at check in as it does take time for the judges to inspect each of the cars.

2. Once cars have been checked in, they will be impounded and will not be able to be altered or adjusted in any way.

3. The race will be conducted on a track that uses electronic timers. Each car will race one time on each lane.

4. The cars will race in four heats. Remember, the “place” your car finishes in individual heats does not matter, only the length of time it took to go down the track will factor into the final results.

5. If a car fails to successfully complete a run down the track for any reason and does not interfere with another car, that car will be allowed one quick repair and will be rerun one time in the same lane. If it fails to run successfully a second time, it will be eliminated. If it strikes another car causing damage, the car will be automatically disqualified pending the review from the judges.

6. All disputes will be handled by the official judges who have the final decision. Anyone choosing to not act in the best traditions of the Scout Oath & Law, that causes disruption and argument will be disqualified and asked to leave immediately.

OFFICIAL RULES FOR TRI-DISTRICT PINEWOOD DERBY

CAR SPECIFICATIONS

WIDTH: Maximum width (including wheels and axles) shall not exceed 2.75" or (69.85mm) Minimum width between wheels shall be no less than 1.75 inches (44.45mm)

LENGTH: Overall length shall not exceed 7 inches (177.80 mm), including wheels and any decorations

WHEELBASE: The wheelbase, or distance between axles, may not be extended, modified or shortened. It must be 4 3/8 inches from axle to axle.

WEIGHT: Weight of car shall not exceed 5.000 ounces (141.75 grams)

CLEARANCE: There must be at least 3/8 inch (9.52 mm) ground clearance from the underside of the car to prevent interference with the guide strip on the track.

WHEELS: Only the wheels and axles contained in the "Official Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Kit" or official BSA Grand Prix Pinewood Derby colored Wheels may be used. No other kits are legal.

Wheels may not be sanded, shaped or modified in any way. Removal of wheel flash is permissible. Wheel covers or hubcaps will not be allowed. Solid axles are not allowed. Axles from the kit are the only allowable axles.

The car MUST have four wheels mounted to the car; they do not all have to be in contact with the track simultaneously, though judges will not be responsible if this causes instability during racing.

DIAMETER: Wheel diameter must be no less than 1.16 inches, tread must be no less than 7.5 mm

ADD ONS: Wheel bearings, washers and bushings are not allowed.

SPRINGING: The car shall not ride on springs of any kind.

MOVING PARTS: All weights and accessories must be secured to the car. No loose or liquid moving weights are permitted, other than the four official wheels mounted to the car.

ATTACHMENTS: The car must be freewheeling with no starting devices.

LUBRICATION: Only dry powdered lubricant may be used. No solvent-based lubricants may be applied. Once the car is impounded no additional lubricant may be applied.