



2024

Leader's Guide





Official 2024 Suwannee River Area Council Pinewood Derby Race & Show Car Judging Information Packet.

To all Cub Masters, Pack Committee Chairs and Pack Derby Coordinators you will find the Official Rules and Procedures for the Suwannee River Area Council Pinewood Derby in this packet.

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Guidelines / Procedures

The attached rules will be the **ONLY** guidelines used for the Council Derby. The 2024 Suwannee River Area Council Pinewood Derby will be held on **Saturday, May 4, 2024**, in the Governor's Square Mall (Dillard's wing). Please ensure that all Cub Scout families receive copies of these rules and procedures, as part of your Pinewood Derby program. Also attached are some procedures that will be followed on race day, by the participants.

Please review these procedures with all participants sent to the Council race.

As in past years, this year's racers will have staggered check-in and start times for each rank/level. The check-in and race times will be as shown on the attached Race Day Schedule. **Continued this year, will be a Champions Race; racers that finish 1st place in their rank are automatically entered to race for the Champion's Cup (See Champions Cup Information).** All races will be conducted appropriately, according to rank/age level, with all awards presented following each race. Our goal is that the longest time any individual Cub Scout will be required to be at the races will be an hour and a half or less, from the beginning of his check-in period until the end of the awards period for that race. The only exception will be the Design/Show car entries, which will be on display for 3 hours. However, unlike the racers, those Cub Scouts entering show cars may enter their cars and return later for the awards ceremony.

Please return the enclosed entry form and all applicable fees to the Council Office, no later than **May 1, 2024**, so that we may know your Pack's intention to participate and the entrants that you are sending to the race. All entry fees must be paid prior to race day, along with the entry form. Once the data entry person has collected the registration forms from the Council Office there will be no late entries. We will not be equipped to take in money on race day any entrant not paid prior to race day will not be allowed to enter the race. We are not be able to make exceptions to this payment policy. **Boys may only enter to race or as a show car at the Council Derby but not both. Scouts are required to wear their Class A uniforms to participate.** All racers, parents and leaders are reminded that the races will be held in a public area and that no negative attitudes or comments will be permitted. Any person displaying such attitude or making such comments will be asked to leave the race area. Let's remind all of our scouts, leaders and parents of the values of good sportsmanship.

Also, as you will note from the enclosed race day information sheet, there will be no "garage" or other car repair facility setup at the race area. Any repairs/adjustments needing to be made prior to final entry of the cars will need to be made outside of the race area.

If you have any questions related to car design, specifications or need clarification of anything within these rules/procedures, you may email Tony Wesley at tony.wesley@scouting.org. Also, please see the Council's website at <http://www.suwanneeriver.net> for these documents, online registration, and other information.

Champion's Cup Information

Suwannee River Area Council Pinewood Derby Committee is proud to announce the Champion's Cup Race. This race will allow the 1st place finishers in their rank a chance to race for the Champion's Cup.

Who is eligible to race?

- The originating racer that finished 1st place at the Council race for Lions, Tigers, Wolves, Bears, Webelos I and Webelos II.

Do I need to check-in?

- YES, all Champion Cup Racers will be required to check-in, see Race Day Schedule. Racers that do not check-in on time will forfeit the ability to race their car.

Does my scout have to be present to race?

- YES, your scout must be present to race his/her car. No proxy/alternate racers will be permitted.

Can I take my car to do work on it?

- NO, If a scout finishes 1st place in their rank they will be asked if they would like to participate in the Champion's Cup. If they agree to race, their car will be impounded and placed back on the holding racks until the Champions Race begins.

Does my Scout have to stay the entire time?

- NO, Scouts eligible to race will be asked to leave their cars in the pit. At which time the Scout may leave. NOTE: It is important that they are back in time for check-in or they will forfeit their ability to race.



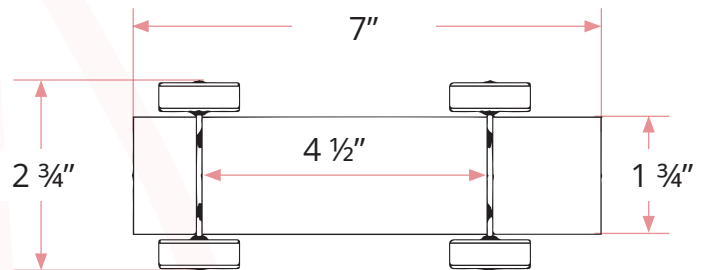
Official Rules and Car Specifications

The SRAC Pinewood Derby Committee will be utilizing the BSA Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Rules that are included inside your official BSA Grad Prix Pinewood Derby kit as well as the "standard wheelbase" requirement as indicated in the car specifications below.

CAR SPECIFICATIONS:

- Maximum width: $2\frac{3}{4}$ "
- Maximum length: 7"
- Maximum Height: $3\frac{1}{2}$ "
- Maximum weight: 5 oz
- Minimum width between wheels: $1\frac{3}{4}$ "
- Minimum bottom clearance between car and track: $\frac{3}{8}$ "
- Maximum wheelbase: $4\frac{1}{2}$ "

(The Wheelbase is the distance from the center of the front wheel/axle to the center of the rear wheel/axle on the same side of the car) Show cars ONLY may have a Maximum height of 7"



RULES:

Scouts may enter their car as a Show Car or Race Car but NOT both.

- Wheel bearings, washers, and bushings are prohibited.
- The car shall not ride on springs.
- Only official Cub Scout Grand Prix Pinewood Derby wheels and axles are permitted.
- Only dry lubricant is permitted.
- Details, such as steering wheel and driver are permissible as long as these details do not exceed the maximum length, width and weight specifications. The car must be free-wheeling, with no starting devices.
- Each car (both racers and design/show competitors) must pass inspection by the official inspection committee before it may compete.
- If a car does not pass inspection, the owner will be informed of the reason for failure, and given time within the official check-in time to make any adjustments. A car not able to meet specifications will be disqualified.
- After final approval, cars will not be re-inspected unless the car is damaged in handling or in a race.
- The scale used on race day will be a digital scale with an exact 5 oz weight and is the only official scale.



- Any lubricant which remains wet after application may not be used on any part of the car. Nor shall any powdered lubricant be allowed to “spill out” of the car during check-in or racing, as to mess up the track.
- Axle shafts must be from the current BSA Pinewood Derby Kit and must not have any material added to them, other than appropriate lubrication. Axle shafts may be sanded to remove burs from the metal, but may not be altered in any other manner (including grooves, etc.).
- Axle slots or drilling holes permissible – As long as all required dimensions and clearances are maintained.
- Wheels **must** be from the current BSA Pinewood Derby Kit and can have the bore of the hub (hole in center) cleaned of any obstructions and the contact surface (around the circumference) smoothed but cannot have the cross section or tread reshaped in anyway. Wheels will not be checked for contact with the track.
- The forward most edge of the car must be wide and low enough to rest against the rear of the starting gate pin (in center of its lane) or it will be disqualified from racing.
- The objective of the Pinewood Derby is to allow a Cub Scout (advised and assisted by an adult partner) to **design and build a wood car from one of the Official BSA Pinewood Derby Kits**. The Pinewood Derby is not intended to be a contest of expensive and exotically built cars.

Race officials are provided pictures of all the commonly available pre-cut kit cars. Any kit car/s found will be immediately disqualified.

- **All rules interpretations and judgments related to these rules and the race are the sole prerogative of the SRAC Derby Committee Chairman and his/her ruling(s) shall be final.**

Race Day - Car Owners Instructions

- All cars entered must be the same cars that were raced during the Pack's 2024 races and should be cars made after last year's Council Pinewood Derby races.
- If a registered owner is unable to attend the Council's Pinewood Derby or is not physically able to race his car, he may designate another Cub Scout or Leader to act in his place. This person will be called a handler. All car owners or handlers are required to be in an official BSA uniform shirt (not a T-shirt) to participate in the Derby (we want all eligible scouts to participate – exceptional circumstances considered)
- While we will make every effort to allow every eligible scout to participate, Car owners or handlers must present their car for check-in and inspection during the announced time on race day or risk not being able to participate.
- No entrant for any race period will be accepted, after that race period has begun.

- Only the racers listed on the Pack's official entry form will be allowed to enter the race.
- The alternate racer(s) will only be allowed to enter the race if one of the top 3 entrants does not arrive to enter. Any alternate will have their car inspected and placed in a temporary impound area until such time as the check-in period ends. Any alternate who is left in the temporary impound area will then be entered into the race.
- Car owners or handlers will be the only persons touching the cars, under supervision, once they are impounded and only at the time(s) that they are called to lineup for a race. Car owners and handlers must stay alert for the call of their name during the race.
- All lubrication or other service must be completed prior to presenting the car for technical inspection because all cars will immediately be impounded for the duration of its eligibility to race.
- Under no circumstances will any lubrication be applied to any axles or wheels once the car is impounded, including a car that has lost an axle or wheel during the race and has to have the axle or wheel replaced.
- There will be no onsite facility for pre-race repair/adjustments to cars. Any adjustments or repairs that require removal of wood, drilling, hammering or application of powdered lubricants must be made outside.
- It is strongly suggested that all Cub Scout Adult Leaders as well as car owners and their parents read all rules and procedures.
- Anyone touching or attempting to touch another racer's car, without express permission from the car owner/handler and under the supervision of the race official, will be asked to leave the race area and if a racer, will have his own car disqualified.
- Any car owner or handler bumping or stepping on or across the Pinewood track as well as anyone causing such action will be subject to disqualification.
- Any person displaying poor behavior can be asked to leave the race area.
- All racers, parents and leaders are reminded that the races will be held in a public area and that no negative attitudes or comments will be permitted. Any person displaying such attitude or making such comments will be asked to leave the race area.
- Please remind your scouts of the qualities of good sportsmanship.
- The Council Pinewood Derby Committee recommends that car owners should be given the responsibility to hold their own cars from after the Pack Pinewood Derby until presentation at the Council Race. Please see the Council's website at <http://www.suwanneeriver.net> for these documents and other information.



Judging Information for Show Cars

Design/Show Car Category Explanations

Most Patriotic – a car that shows American colors (Red, White & Blue), Flags, etc.

Most Creative – a car that show imagination, futuristic, or past history.

Best Sports theme – a car in the sports arena – football, soccer, basketball, etc. favorite team colors or mascots.

Best Scout theme – a car that shows Scout values, colors (Cub or Boy Scout), Scout emblems, event reenactment, etc.

Judges' choice – a car that doesn't seem to fit in any of the above categories but has high qualities in other areas. A car in a class of its own.

Also, if there are too many entrees in one category, the Judges reserve the right to place any car in a different category with fewer entrants giving more boys the opportunity to win.

Explanation of Show Car Judging Criteria (Scoring) 1–10 points (10 being the best).

Original idea – an idea unique and unusual.

Detail – careful thought taken in planning, design & building of the car – attention to detail

"Boy" made – a car that has the signs the boy made the car with little or no help from an adult

Creative – a car that took time to create and design

Overall Appearance - careful workmanship and planning to create the overall appearance

The Judges will know the rank of the Scout (Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, AOL) who enters - this will be taken into account when awarding the points for a car. Each car will receive points ranging from 1 to 10 from each judge and will be judged by 3 – 5 judges (No judge will judge his or her own pack's car). The Head Judge will judge the car of any one who can't judge a car in a certain category.

When the tally sheets have been turned into the Head Judge, the scores of each car will be tallied. (In case of a tie – the Judges will be called back and given the opportunity to vote on the top cars.) The cars with the highest points in each category will receive the Medals for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. The 3 cars with the Highest scores overall will receive a Trophy for Best of Show. No car may receive an award in more than one design category. The head Judge will make any final judgments necessary.



2024 Pinewood Derby Registration Form

Registration deadline: May 1, 2024

Entry fee: \$10.00 / per car (makes payable to BSA) **Fees must be paid with entry form!**

Return to: Suwannee River Area Council - 2032 Thomasville Rd. - Tallahassee, FL 32308

Pack#: _____ Cub Master's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Pinewood Derby Chairperson's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Scouts may enter their car as a Show Car or Race Car but **NOT both**

Show Car Registrants: Scout's Name Rank Category

- | | | |
|----------|-------|-------------------|
| 1. _____ | _____ | Most Patriotic |
| 2. _____ | _____ | Most Creative |
| 3. _____ | _____ | Best Sports Theme |
| 4. _____ | _____ | Best Scout Theme |
| 5. _____ | _____ | Judges' Choice |

Race Cars:

Lions:	Tigers:	Wolves:
1. _____	1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____	2. _____
3. _____	3. _____	3. _____
ALT: _____	ALT: _____	ALT: _____
Bears:	Webelos I:	Webelos II:
1. _____	1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____	2. _____
3. _____	3. _____	3. _____
ALT: _____	ALT: _____	ALT: _____

Any registrations received after 6:00PM on May 1, 2024 a \$10.00 late fee will be assessed.

Race Day Schedule - Saturday, May 4, 2024

Webelos II Check-in 10:00 am - 10:25 am
Computer Input 10:25 am
Webelos II Races 10:30 am
Webelos II Awards 11:00 am

Show Car Check-in (ALL RANKS) 10:00 am - 10:25 am
Design/Show Car Judging 11:00 am
Design/Show Car Awards 1:00 pm

Tiger Check-in 10:30 am - 10:55 am
Computer Input 10:55 am
Tiger Races 11:15 am
Tiger Awards 11:45 am

Break 12:00 noon - 12:30pm

Lions Check-in 12:30 pm - 12:55 pm
Computer Input 12:55 pm
Lions Race 1:00 pm
Lions Awards 1:30 pm

Webelos I Check-in 1:00 pm - 1:25 pm
Computer Input 1:25 pm
Webelos I Races 1:45 pm
Webelos I Awards 2:15 pm

Wolf Check-in 1:45 pm - 2:10 pm
Wolf Computer Input 2:10 pm
Wolf Race 2:30 pm
Wolf Awards 3:00 pm

Bear Check-in 2:30 pm - 2:55 pm
Bear Computer Input 2:55 pm
Bear Race 3:15 pm
Bear Awards 3:45 pm

Champions Check-in 4:00 pm - 4:15 pm
Champions Computer Input 4:15 pm
Champions Race 4:30 pm
Champions Awards 5:00 pm



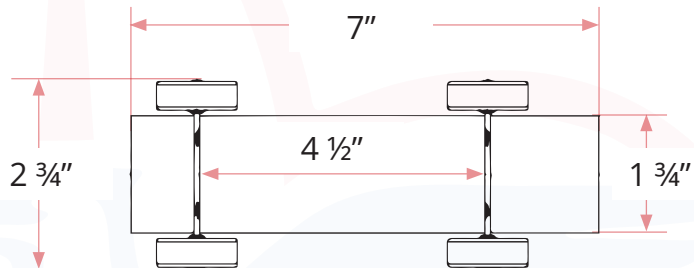
Basic Rules

1. Buy your kit from the Scout shop
2. Use the equipment in the box
3. DO NOT exceed the maximum allowed wheelbase

**Two BSA approved vendor kits are sold at the Scout Shop: the Original and the Wedge.
Any non-BSA kit cars will be immediately disqualified**

CAR SPECIFICATIONS:

- Maximum width: $2\frac{3}{4}$ "
- Maximum length: 7"
- Maximum height: $3\frac{1}{2}$ "
- Maximum weight: 5 oz
- Minimum width between wheels: $1\frac{3}{4}$ "
- Maximum wheelbase: $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches
(The Wheelbase is the distance from the center of the front wheel/axle to the center of the rear wheel/axle on the same side of the car)
- Minimum bottom clearance between Car & track: $\frac{3}{8}$ "
- **Showcars ONLY may have a Maximum height of 7"**



Be careful of websites/books that tell you how to win a race – some techniques are not allowed by Council rules! Contact the Council office if you have any questions

Please do not let your child's car be disqualified because you did not read the rules!!!

