



BLACK HILLS AREA COUNCIL

OFFICIAL PINWOOD DERBY GUIDELINES 2012

Updated November 2011

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to make sure that the participants in the Black Hills Area Council's annual Cub Scout Pinewood Derby have as much fun as possible by understanding the guidelines of the event, as well as, learning a few tips along the way.

The Black Hills Area Councils' Cub Scout Pinewood Derby is a parent/guardian and son event and is recommended as such by the National Boy Scouts of America. The Pinewood Derby Committee **STRONGLY SUGGESTS** that each parent emphasize this idea with your son.

Two things the Pinewood Derby requires each participant to learn are:

1. The craft skills necessary to build a car, and
2. The rules that must be followed. Even more important, though, is how we act and behave while participating in the Pinewood Derby or any other group activity.

Sportsmanship

The first thing to remember about sportsmanship is that everyone's skills are a little different.

You may be good at something like singing or drawing, but not as good at something else like basketball or computers. Parents have different skill levels, too. This doesn't mean that you are a good person one time and not good another time. You can always be a good person, whether or not you have good car-building skills. Remember, you and your friends are individuals first and racers second. This idea is often called having respect for others.

The second thing to remember is to follow the rules.

Without rules, there would be no Pinewood Derby. You will never know if you are really good at doing something unless you follow the rules. This is often called being honest.

The third thing to remember about good sportsmanship is that there are winners and losers in every competition.

You accept this when you choose to compete. There may be times when you win and feel happy, and times when you lose and feel unhappy. Being a winner is easy, and losing is sometimes hard. If you win, you must not brag or gloat. If you lose, you must not feel jealous or bitter.

To be a good sportsman, you must be able to say "*I did my best*" and be satisfied with the results. You must also be able to appreciate and feel happy for someone else when they run a good race or build a neat car. Remember, the main "Purpose" of this event is to have FUN! If you have fun and help others to have fun, then we are all winners!

Pinewood Derby Rules

1. All cars must pass an inspection by the official inspection committee before it may compete. The official inspectors have the right to disqualify Pinewood Derby cars which do not meet the rules and specifications, even though the car passed the inspection at the Pack level. If, at registration, a car does not pass inspection, the owner will be informed of the reason for failure, and will be given time within the official weigh-in time period to make the adjustment. CARS CAN BE RE-INSPECTED AT ANY TIME FOR COMPLIANCE. All decisions of the race officials are final.
2. The car must have been made during the current scouting year.
3. Only one car per Cub Scout may be registered in the Cub Scout Race.
4. All cars must be inspected before the official Cub Scout Race. The inspection points are:
 - a. Maximum Overall Width of the car shall not exceed 2.75 inches.
 - b. Maximum Length of the car shall not exceed 7.00 inches.
 - c. Maximum Wheelbase of the car shall not exceed 4 3/8 inches (plus or minus 1/8 inch). The distance from center of the front axle slot (front axle hole) to the center of the rear axle slot (rear axle hole) cannot be altered from that of the official BSA kit.
 - d. Maximum Weight of the car shall not exceed 5.00 ounces (141.75 grams). The official Pinewood Derby Race scale shall be considered final.
 - e. Maximum Height of the car shall not exceed 3.00 inches.
 - f. Minimum Track Clearance of 3/8 inches (0.375). This is the measurement between the bottom of the car and top of the track.
 - g. Only official Cub Scout Pinewood Derby wheels are permitted. Wheels may be lightly sanded for roundness and to remove the seam from the wheels. Wheel treatment (hub and tread smoothing and polishing) may not result in substantial removal of mass or in reducing the wheel width from the original BSA kit. Some of the original "tread marks" knurled edge wheels must not be beveled, cut, drilled, perforated, rounded, tapered, turned or thinned or any other significant altering of the shape of the wheels or wheel hubs is prohibited.
 - h. Only Official Cub Scout Pinewood Derby axles are permitted. Axles shall be as provided in the official BSA kit. Wheel bearings, washers, and bushings are prohibited. The car shall not ride on any kind or type of springs.
 - i. Details such as steering wheel, driver, decals, painting and interior details are permissible as long as these details do not exceed the maximum length, width, weight and height specifications.
 - j. The car must be freewheeling, with no starting devices.
 - k. No loose materials of any kind are allowed in or on the car. Adjustments to the weight of the car must be accomplished prior to registration. Any lead, coins or washers added for weight must be securely fastened to the car.
 - l. The front of the car must not protrude over the starting post.

- m. Any other “design detail” that, in the sole determination of the Pinewood Derby Committee and Chairperson, provides an unfair starting advantage will not be allowed.

Unit Qualifier Races

Each Pack may send **FOUR** registered BHAC Cub Scouts to represent their unit at the Pinewood Derby Race; one Tiger, one Wolf, one Bear and one Webelos Scout.

Each Cubmaster must submit the names of their qualifying Cub Scouts to the Council Office (bhac@midconetwork.com) and Bobbi Jean Jarvinen (bobbijean@rap.midco.net) no later than March 12th. Include the Cub Scout’s name, his unit number, and his rank (Tiger, Wolf, Bear or Webelos).

A **single leader** from each Pack must collect the cars prior to the race, and then register the four cars together for the Pack; individual submissions will not be accepted. **Plan ahead.**

All cars must be registered, inspected and checked in prior to the start of the Celebrity Race. All cars will be on display and stay in the race area until individual class (Tiger, Wolf, Bear and Webelos) races are over. The first Tiger Cub Scout heat will take place following the Celebrity Race (approximately 10:30 am), the Championship Races will begin after all races are completed (approximately 2:30 pm).

Trophies will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in each class (Tiger, Wolf, Bear and Webelos) and for the top four finalists in the Championship Race. The Championship Race will be held for the top finalists from each class.

Celebrity Race

A Celebrity Pinewood Derby Race will be held at 10:00 am to officially start the Black Hills Area Council Pinewood Derby. This race is by invitation only. A trophy will be presented to the winning Celebrity, which remains on permanent display at the Scout Service Center.

All cars must be inspected before the official start of the Celebrity Race. The inspection points are:

1. Maximum Overall Width of the car shall not exceed 2.75 inches.
2. Maximum Length of the car shall not exceed 7.00 inches.
3. Maximum Wheelbase of the car shall not exceed 4 3/8 inches (plus or minus 1/8 inch). The distance from center of the front axle slot (front axle hole) to the center of the rear axle slot (rear axle hole) cannot be altered from that of the official BSA kit.
4. Maximum Weight of the car shall not exceed 5.00 ounces (141.75 grams). The official Pinewood Derby Race scale shall be considered final.
5. Maximum Height of the car shall not exceed 3.00 inches.
6. Minimum Track Clearance of 3/8 inches (0.375). This is the measurement between the bottom of the car and top of the track.

Open Class Race

Any one may design, build, enter a car and participate in the open class race of the Pinewood Derby. All registered Cub Scouts that did not represent their unit may participate in this race, as may your brothers, dads, sisters, grandpas, etc. So build a car and put your skills to the test.

Open Class Races will run until the start of the Awards Ceremony, we will do our best to ensure everyone races, but this may not be guaranteed based on the number of participants.

Note: Race times are subject to change. Please refer to the current Scout-O-Rama schedule.

GOOD LUCK AND GOOD SCOUTING



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