

Sam Houston Area Council - David Crockett District

Official Pinewood Derby Race Rules & Regulations - 2012

I. GROUND RULES

- a. The race is open to all registered Cub Scouts. Race categories are: Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos I, Webelos II,
- b. The Open Division & Outlaw Division races are open to all adults and other non-scouts.
- c. A car may be entered in only one category.
- d. The car has to be constructed during the current Scout Year by the scout with adult supervision or by the adult/non scout entering the car.
- e. The winners of each category (with the exception of the Open Division & Outlaw Division) will compete against each other for an overall speed award.
- f. If a car (or part of a car) leaves its lane and interferes with another car, no places are stored for any car, and the heat will be re-run. If the same car causes interference again, the heat will be run again but without the offending car. The offending car will receive an automatic 3rd place for that heat. A heat is considered to be one trip down the track.
- g. If the car left its lane, didn't interfere with another car and manages to cross the finish line in its intended lane, the heat is valid for all cars. If the car left its lane, didn't interfere with another car but doesn't cross the finish line in its own lane, the places for the other cars are stored and the offending car receives an automatic 3rd place for that heat.
- h. If a car suffers mechanical problems during a heat but crosses the finish line in its own lane, the places received for that lane are valid as long as it didn't cause interference with another car. If the car doesn't cross the finish line, an automatic 3rd place (3 points) is given.
- i. The owner of a car suffering mechanical problems will be given 5 minutes to repair the car. Repaired cars will be re-inspected per Section II by the Race Committee.
- j. Proper positioning of the cars will be limited to correct direction of the car and reasonable alignment of car to track.
- k. Winning positions are determined by a process of elimination based on points. Cars placing in the 1st position of a heat score 1 point, 2nd place scores 2 points, 3rd place scores 3 points. Cars receiving 9 points will be eliminated from future heats. Each car will race at least once in each of the three lanes.
- l. All the rules governing the dimensions and construction of cars for the Cub Scout categories are also applicable to the Open Division and Outlaw Division unless otherwise noted.

II. CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

a. Length, Width, Height and Clearance

1. Maximum overall width (including wheels and axles) shall not exceed $2 \frac{3}{4}$ ".
2. Minimum width between wheels shall be $1 \frac{3}{4}$ " so car will clear center guide strip.
3. Minimum distance between bottom of car and track shall be $\frac{3}{8}$ " so car will clear the center guide strip. This distance also applies to any protrusion from the bottom of the car such as weights.
4. Maximum length shall not exceed 7", this includes accessories.
5. The wheel base (distance between front and rear axles) may be changed.
6. Maximum overall height shall not exceed 3", this includes accessories.

b. Weight and Appearance

1. Weight shall not exceed 5.0 ounces. The reading of the Official Race Scale will be considered final. The car may be hollowed out and built up to the maximum weight by the addition of other materials provided they are securely built into the body or firmly affixed to it. No loose materials of any kind are permitted in or on the car.

2. Use only B.S.A. Official Pinewood Derby Kits.
3. Mercury shall not be used. It is a health hazard.
4. Details such as steering wheel, driver, spoiler, decals, painting, interior and exterior detail are permissible as long as the car satisfies length, width, height, clearance and weight specifications.
5. Cars with wet paint or wet glue will not be accepted.
6. A car number will be attached to each car using a small adhesive-backed label by the Official Race Team. The location for this number will be on the upper rear portion of the car so that the Official Pinewood Derby Starter can easily identify the correct car and its proper direction of travel.

c. **Wheels and Axles**

1. The only wheels and axles allowed are from the B.S.A. Official Pinewood Derby Kits. The colored wheels available from B.S.A. are allowed.
2. Wheel bearings, spacers, washers, or bushings are prohibited.
3. The car shall not ride on any type of springs.
4. The car must be free-wheeling with no starting device or other propulsion.
5. Only the tread surface and width may be altered. The tread surface of the wheel may be altered only to a flat surface that is parallel to the axle. The wheels may not be drilled, beveled, or rounded. The tread width may be altered only from the side facing body of car. The tread width may not be less than .275". The wheel diameter may not be less than 1.175" or greater than 1.200". Lightly sanding and/or polishing the tread of the wheel to remove burs is allowed as long as it does not reduce the diameter below the allowable level. (Note: this rule does not apply to the Outlaw Division.)
6. Materials may not be removed or added to the wheels except as stated above.
7. Under side of the axle head may be ground or filed to remove burs. Axle shaft diameter may not be less than .087". Simple polishing of the axle will not reduce the diameter below the allowable level.
8. No wheel covers (hubcaps) are permitted.
9. All four wheels must touch the track. (Note: this rule does not apply to the Outlaw Division.)

d. **Lubrication**

1. Only dry powdered lubricants, such as graphite, may be used. Regular oils and silicone sprays may soften the plastic wheels.
2. Excessive lubrication is prohibited as it may damage track equipment and/or floors.

III. INSPECTION AND DISPUTES

- a. Each car must pass inspection by the Official Inspection Team before it can compete. The Inspection Team has the right to disqualify those cars which do not meet these rules. Car owners will be informed of the violations and given an opportunity to modify the car to meet these rules. If the car cannot be modified to meet the rules prior to race time, it will not be allowed to race.
- b. Any participant or their parent has the right to appeal to the Race Committee for an interpretation of these rules. The Race Committee, by majority vote, will be the final judge of these rules. In case of a tie vote, the decision of the Race Committee Chairperson will be final.
- c. Ungentlemanly or unsportsmanlike conduct by any participant or member of the audience will be grounds for expulsion from the competition and/or race area.
- d. Any protest of a car's compliance with the rules must be filed with the Race Chairperson prior to competition. Any protest of a car's classification can be filed at any time.