



# Northwest Hills - OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS 2018

## 1. General

- A. The District Pinewood Derby will be hosted annually by the NWH District
- B. The Pinewood Derby will be designated as a Cub Scout activity function only
- C. Entrance fee for this event will be posted on the Council website <http://ctrivers.org/>. The fee covers facility usage, awards, etc.
- D. The District Program Chairman will approve the Derby Committee and Race Chairman
- E. The District Program Chairman and Race Chairman will determine the date, time and location of the race.
- F. The Derby Committee will use an approved BSA Pinewood Derby track as specified in the National BSA track guidelines.
- G. District race rules will be distributed at least one month prior to the race
- H. The owner of the car, in these guidelines, is defined as a Cub Scout that built and is entering the Pinewood Derby racecar in this race
- I. The number of race participants each Pack will be allowed to send to the District Race will be determined each year by the Derby Committee. However, each Pack will be allowed at least one representative from each Division. Historically, the District has allowed each pack to invite the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners from each of the six Cub Scout den levels (Lions, Tigers, Wolves, Bears, Webelos and Arrow of Light) to participate in this event.
- J. All cars must be constructed this Scout year. No cars that raced last year will be permitted to run in this year's race
- K. The car that was used in the Cub Scout's pack race must be the same one used in the District Race. No modifications are allowed.

- L. These are the official NWH District Rules. These rules may supersede the National Rules for racing and car construction. It is strongly recommended that all packs use these rules for their own pack Pinewood Derby races. Pinewood Derby racecars that do not meet the requirements outlined in these rules will not be eligible to race in the District Pinewood Derby Race regardless of whether or not they meet the requirements of their Pack Pinewood Derby Rules.

## 2. Divisions

- A. The NWH District Pinewood Derby will be run six divisions. The divisions will be based on den levels as follows: Lion Division, Tiger Division, Wolf Division, Bear Division, Webelos Division and Arrow of Light Division
- B. Scouts from each den level will run within their own division
- C. Each Pinewood Derby racecar will be run and timed in each of the lanes of the racetrack. This will prevent any unfair advantages due to particular lane conditions. For example, if the track has four lanes then each car will run in four races (one in each lane). If the track has six lanes then each car will run in six races, etc.
- D. The cars will be ranked in order of Total Cumulative Time (i.e. the total combined time of each run in each lane).
  - 1. Winners for each division race will be the cars that scored in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest total cumulative times.
- E. Top three finishers from each division will receive a trophy.
- F. All Scouts participating in the Derby will receive a memento.
- G. The top three cars in each division will race in a final race for the District Championship. Winner of this race will receive a trophy.

## 3. Construction Guidelines

All participants must use the materials provide in the official BSA Pinewood Derby kit. No substitutions of the wooden block, nails or wheels to non-“BSA Official” parts is allowed except where noted below. **The District Program Chairman and the Race Chairman in consultation with the Derby Committee reserves the right to restrict or disqualify any race car that appears to have been built primarily by an adult.**

- A. *Width*- The overall width of the car shall not exceed 2¼ inches.
- B. *Length*- The overall length of the car shall not exceed 7 inches.
- C. *Track Clearance*-There shall be 3/8 inches of clearance between the bottom of the car and the track.
- D. *Weight*- The weight of the car shall not exceed 5 ounces. The scale used at the *Race Day Inspection* weigh-in is the official scale. Scales vary slightly, so be prepared to make adjustments.
- E. *Height* - For the District there is no height requirement. The height of car may be limited to the track’s finish line height. Be prepared to adjust or modify the height of your car as necessary to fit the track.

- F. The car shall not ride on any springs or other such devices.
- G. The car shall be free-wheeling; no starting devices shall be added.
- H. Four wheels, two on each side of the car, will be placed so they straddle the track's lane guides.

### **AXLES (NAILS):**

- A. Axles that come with Pinewood Derby model car kit must be used.
- B. If desired, any burr or seam on any surface of axles may be lightly skimmed off with a fine abrasive.
- C. The original diameter of axle must be maintained.
- D. The axles may not be built up with any material and then turned down with a lathe.
- E. The use of bearings, washers, bushings, tubes or spacers with axles are prohibited. The wheels are designed to be and will be wobbly on the axles.
- F. Dry lubricant only, such as graphite. No liquid lubricant is allowed.

### **WHEELS:**

- A. Wheels of the Pinewood Derby model car kit must be used (official BSA multi-color wheels may be substituted for the standard black wheels that are provided in the kit.)
- B. If desired, the burr and seam on the contact surface (the tread area) of wheels maybe lightly skimmed off to remove molding imperfections. However, if the burr and seam are removed from the contact surface of wheels, the contact surface must be flat and square to the side of the wheels.
- C. The original width and thickness of contact surface must be maintained (The wheels may not be rounded, have a "V" shaped surface, or have grooves cut into the tread surface and cannot be narrowed).
- D. Wheels must not be altered or replaced with any other wheels except as noted in *Rule A*.
- E. The raised lettering on the outside of the wheels must not be removed.
- F. The ribs that appear on the outer perimeter and give a look of tread must not be removed.
- G. No holes may be drilled through wheels to remove material and no material can be removed from inside of wheels, except burrs.
- H. No weight may be added to wheels.
- I. No hubcaps may be added to the wheels.
- J. Wheels are designed to be, and will be wobbly on the axles. No alterations to wheels and/or axles that result in a reduction of this wobbliness are allowed.
- K. All four wheels must touch the track.

## **WHEELBASE (DISTANCE BETWEEN AXLES):**

- A. Extended wheel bases are not allowed.
- B. The wheels may not extend beyond the front or rear of the car.
- C. You may put your own axle grooves or holes in the body of the car.
- D. The wheel axles must be inserted in the cars body, not added underneath the car.
- E. The car must maintain an underneath track clearance of 3/8".

## **4 PRE-RACE INSPECTION:**

All cars must pass a pre-race inspection by the Derby Committee prior to being accepted for the District Pinewood Derby.

- A. The car must meet the weight requirement, not to exceed 5 ounces.
- B. The car will be placed in a set of measurement jigs that will gauge length, width, and track clearance.
- C. The car will be given an identification number and placed in a starting position according to division and inspection time.
- D. All inspections are done on the day of the race.
- E. The car will be impounded immediately after it passes pre-race inspection
- F. No additional work can be done to the car once it has been impounded.
- G. Please mark "front" of car if the design of the car so warrants, to eliminate confusion and aid the *Starter* in the placement of the car on the starting line. The extreme front of car must touch the starting pin. If the design of the car does not allow the extreme front of the car to touch the starting pin, the *Starter* will place the car backwards on the starting line. The *Starter's* decision is final.
- H. All Extras/Accessories as defined in Rule 8A, must be attached to the car securely. Any loose items will be removed before the car is impounded..
- I. If for any reason a car does not pass pre-race inspection, the owner of the car will be informed of the violation(s) and will have until the start of the first race in his division to make the necessary adjustments and present the car for inspection.

## **5 INPOUNDING:**

Once the car is impounded, only Race Officials will be allowed to handle it (see: *Exception Rule 5-D*).

- A. The car shall be placed in an official Pit Area on a designated space according to the car's designated identification number (see: *Rule 4C*).
- B. Race officials will deliver the car to the starting line for the start of each race.

- C. Once the car runs the race it will be returned to the Pit Area by a race official.
  - 1. Exception: The Race Committee may determine that the owner of the car may stand by the finish line and return his own car to the Pit Area once the race is run. This must be determined before the start of the Derby and must continue for the entire Derby
- D. Once the car has been eliminated from the Derby only the owner can remove it from the Pit Area
- E. Any owner taking his car out of the Pit Area, for any reason, once the car has been impounded for racing, and before it has been eliminated from the Derby, will voluntarily eliminate and disqualify his car from the Derby

## **6 THE RACE:**

- A. The racers and lane assignments are randomly chosen via computer software.
- B. All cars will run in all lanes of the track. For example, if the track has four lanes then each car will run in four races (one in each lane). If the track has six lanes then each car will run in six races, etc.
- C. The cars will be placed in the designated starting lanes with the front of the car touching the starting pin (see rule 4G)
- D. The race winner will be determined by the car whose nose is first across the finish line as recorded by the track timer. Race Judge(s) will observe the finish. Any discrepancies between the track timer's determinations and the Race Judges observations will require the heat to be run again.
- E. At the completion of each divisional race 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers will be determined and announced before the next division's race is started

## **7 ACCIDENTS AND REPAIRING:**

- A. An accident will be defined as any car that while racing leaves it's designated lane or loses a wheel and/or axle.
- B. If during the course of a race a car becomes involved in an accident, the owner(s) of the car and one parent/guardian will be allowed into the Pit Area to fix or make repairs to the car
- C. All accident repairs will be made in the Pit Area only. No car(s) will leave the Pit Area once the car(s) have been impounded for repairs (see Impounding Rule 5) Owners will leave their car(s) in the Pit Area once repairs have been completed. Race officials will deliver the car to the starting line for the start of the re-race and all subsequent races
- D. If a car leaves its designated lane and interferes with any other car or if a wheel axle or other component becomes disconnected from a car and interferes with any other car, the race will be re-run automatically
  - 1. The same cars will re-run the race in the same lane designations

2. Race Officials will grant a reasonable amount of time for owners to make repairs to the car(s) before the race is re-run
  3. The race must be re-run before the start of the next division
- E. If a car leaves its designated lane and does not interfere with any other car, the race will stand
  - F. If an Extra/Accessory (see Rule 8A) falls off a car and interferes with another car or is the cause of another car leaving its designated lane, the race will be re-run automatically
    1. The Extra Accessory causing the violation will be removed for the remainder of the Derby
  - G. Any Car that causes two (2) or more accidents will automatically be disqualified from the Derby
  - H. All repairs will be done under the supervision of a race official
  - I. No race official is allowed to work on cars

## **8 Extra/Accessories**

Owners may place Extra/Accessories on the car such as but not limited to a fake steering wheel, a driver, a seat, windshield, air scoop, rear fins, side pipes, fenders, etc.

- A. An Extra/Accessory is defined as anything added to a car that did not come with the Official BSA Pinewood Derby Car Kit
- B. Lead weights are considered an Extra/Accessory
- C. Owners must conform to the general rules regarding the length, width and weight guidelines when adding these Extra/Accessories (See Construction Guidelines Rule 3)
- D. Owners will be permitted into the Pit Area only to remove an Extra/Accessory that becomes loose, unattached or broken during a race. Owners cannot work to repair or reinstall an Extra Accessory once the car is impounded for racing
- E. If during the course of any race the Extra/Accessory becomes dislodged, unattached or falls off and does not interfere with another car, this is not considered an accident and the race will stand
- F. If during the course of any race the Extra Accessory becomes dislodged, unattached or falls off and does interfere with another car, this is considered an accident and the race will be re-run (See Rule 7F)

## **9 Miscellaneous**

Ultimately, the decisions of the District Program Chairman, the Derby Committee and/or Race Chairman on any of the above rules are final. Un-sportsmanlike or un-scout like behavior by either parent(s) or scout(s) sets a bad example and is grounds for disqualification and immediate removal from the event

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