



APPALACHIAN TRAIL DISTRICT

2012 CUB SCOUT PINEWOOD DERBY RACING SPECIFICATIONS / CAR BUILDING RULES

The Appalachian Trail District Pinewood Derby Committee has elected to exercise its option of adding to the National B.S.A. Cub Scout Pinewood Derby Rules that are included with the Official Pinewood Derby Kit. The sole purpose of these additions is to clarify the National Rules and to minimize special advantage and to maximize equal opportunity for all.

1. The Pinewood Derby is a competition for cars having no more or no less than 4 wheels, functioning in such a manner that the lane guide strip is maintained in a position under the car body and between each side pair of such wheels. Cars are to be newly constructed for the current year. The Pinewood Derby is a parent/son activity; therefore parents are encouraged to help their cubs in the construction of their derby car, but are requested not to build the cars for them.
2. Each car must pass inspection by the official inspection committee before it can compete. If a car does not pass inspection, the Cub and his parent/adult partner will be informed of the reason for failure, and will be given time within the official weigh-in time period to make adjustment. The inspectors have the right to disqualify those cars that do not meet specifications. Disqualified cars may, at the discretion of the Pinewood Derby Committee, be allowed to participate in the race without being eligible to win any race awards or have their times recorded.

Cars will be inspected on the following inspection points:

- **Width.** The overall width of the car shall not exceed 2 3/4 inches including any modifications. The width of the block of wood at the wheels shall not be modified. It must be the width of the original B.S.A. Pinewood Derby Kit to clear the center strip.
 - **Length.** The overall length of the car shall not exceed 7 inches including wheels and accessories.
 - **Weight.** The weight of the car shall not exceed 5 (Avoirdupois) ounces. The car may be hollowed out and built up to the maximum weight by addition of wood or metal, provided it is securely attached to or built into the body. The readings of the Official Race Scale will be considered final.
 - **Height.** The overall height of the car shall not exceed 5 1/2 inches.
 - **Clearance.** Minimum clearance between the bottom of the car and the bottom of the wheels shall be 3/8" so the car will clear the center guide strip. Note: bottom mounted weights can sometimes cause clearance problems, so pay extra attention when using bottom mounted weights.
 - **Attachments.** The car shall not ride on any type of springs. The car must be freewheeling and gravity powered, with no starting or propulsion devices. Wheel bearings, washers, spacers, and bushings are prohibited. No loose materials of any kind are permitted in the car.
 - **Wheels.** Only official B.S.A. Pinewood Derby wheels are permitted. Wheels can have the bore of the hub (hole in center) cleaned of any obstructions and the contact surface (around the circumference) smoothed but can not have the cross section reshaped in any way. Beveling or tapering of the wheels is prohibited. This rule is interpreted to mean that not only the outer portion of the wheel, but also the inner hub of the wheel is not to be reshaped. Basically all this means that wheels can not be sharpened, rounded, beveled, or reshaped in such a way that the basic design or shape of the wheel is changed. All decisions concerning wheels made by the inspection committee shall be final.
 - **Axels.** Axles must be official B.S.A. Pinewood Derby axels (in other words, the nails that came in the kit or with the wheels). Axels may be cleaned of excess material left over from the manufacturing process, but may not have grooves or other modifications.
 - **Hub Caps.** Hub caps or any other device covering the wheel or head of the axel may not be used.
 - **Lubricant.** Use of liquid lubricants of any kind is prohibited. Only dry powder lubricants, such as graphite or white powder Pinewood Derby Lubricant, may be used. Once the car has passed inspection and been accepted by the race officials, no further lubrication shall be allowed.
 - **Details/Accessories.** Details and accessories such as steering wheel, driver, decals, painting, and interior detail are permissible as long as these details do not exceed the maximum length, width, height and weight specifications. Cars with wet paint will not be inspected and will be disqualified.
 - **Wheelbase** (distance from center of front wheel/axle to center of rear wheel/axle on same side of car). The wheelbase may not be changed from the distance of the original body kit distance (approximately 4 3/8 inches center-to-center). The front wheels must remain totally behind the nose of the car.
 - **Forward Edge.** The forward most edge of a car is to rest against the rear of the starting gate pin in the center of its lane (sharp pointed cars tend to have trouble lining up properly). Under no circumstances is any portion of the car to extend past the starting gate pin.
3. There will be an official pit area for last minute adjustments and repairs. There will be an unofficial scale in this area for preliminary weighing. This scale will be calibrated to the same 5 ounce weight as the Official Race Scale. The unofficial scale is for the convenience of the participants and is not to be considered as the official weight of the car.
 4. The Official Race Scale of the Appalachian Trail District Pinewood Derby will be a scale that is calibrated to 5 ounces.
 5. Once a Cub Scout has reached the inspection table, only the Cub Scout should handle his car. The only exceptions being race officials while performing their official duties and a parent/guardian helping the Cub Scout make repairs to the car as authorized under these rules.
 6. There will be no repair of cars once the car has passed inspection and been accepted by the race officials (with the exception for cars damaged as a result of track or other car interference).
 7. The official car number for the race will be assigned at sign-in on race day. The Cub Scout may decorate his car with any number of his choosing, but the official car number will in all probability be a different number.
 8. Cars entered in the *Cool Car* category are to adhere to the car building rules and specifications of the Appalachian Trail District Pinewood Derby. The Inspection Committee may, at its discretion, waive the technical inspection and weigh-in for *Cool Car* entries and perform a visual inspection.
 9. Rules relating to race procedures may be modified as needed, but the inspection points listed in Rule 2 above will not change during the specified Derby year.
 10. All interpretations of these rules and judgments related to these rules are the sole prerogative of the Appalachian Trail District Pinewood Derby Committee and shall be final.