

2009 LONG CANE DISTRICT PINWOOD DERBY
RULES AND SPECIFICATIONS

Long Cane District, Blue Ridge Council, Boy Scouts of America
2009 PINWOOD DERBY
OFFICIAL RULES

GENERAL

1.
 - a. The race is open to all Cub Scouts currently registered in the Long Cane District, of the Blue Ridge Council.
 - b. There will be a \$5 registration fee to participate in the 2009 Long Cane District Pinewood Derby.
 - c. The Cub Scout must be “in uniform” to compete in the 2009 Long Cane District Pinewood Derby. A Cub Scout is considered “in uniform” if he is wearing at least the official BLUE Cub Scout shirt (not “activity” shirt) –OR- a TAN Webelos Cub Scout shirt with blue shoulder loops –and- either shirt with the Blue Ridge Council Shoulder Patch and Pack Numerals.
2. Pinewood derby racecars will be built from OFFICIAL BSA Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Kits. These kits includes the pinewood block, axles, and wheels necessary to build the car. The purchase of machined wheels and polished axles from other (non BSA-approved) suppliers is specifically prohibited.
3.
 - a. Use of a racecar that has raced in a different BSA District’s Pinewood Derby is not permitted.
 - b. The same racecar that races in the Cub Scout’s Pack Pinewood Derby (if one is conducted for this year) shall be the same racecar that races in the Long Cane District Pinewood Derby.
 - c. Racecars that have participated in a either a District or Pack Pinewood Derby prior to December 1, 2008 will be considered ineligible to race in this year’s Long Cane District Pinewood Derby.
4. Decorative items such as steering wheels, colored wheels, drivers, spoilers, decals and interior details are permissible as long as the finished car meets the Long Cane District Pinewood Derby rules and specifications. Racers are encouraged not to promote the use of alcoholic beverages or tobacco products by the use of decals advertising these products when decorating their racecars.
5. Any racer has the right to appeal to the race officials for an interpretation of these rules. The race officials, by majority vote, will be the final interpreters of these rules. All rulings by the Race Officials at the District competition will be considered final.
6. Any Cub Scout registered in the Blue Ridge Council and officially residing in the Long Cane District is eligible to compete in the Long Cane District

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Pinewood Derby as the racer. If a racer cannot attend the District Pinewood Derby, another racer cannot race his car at the event. Adults will not be allowed to race a car in the event that the youth cannot attend the event. This provision however, shall not prevent the racer from seeking assistance from another Cub Scout or Adult; because of physical or intellectual limitations.

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS

7. Dimensions

- a. The minimum width between wheels shall be 1-3/4 inches.
- b. The maximum overall width of the car, including wheels and axles, must not exceed 2-3/4 inches.
- c. Minimum clearance between the bottom of the car and the bottom of the wheels (between the wheels) shall be 3/8 inch.
- d. The maximum length of the car shall not exceed 7.00 inches.
- e. The maximum height of the car shall not exceed 4-3/4 inches from the bottom of the wheels.
- f. The use of the pre-cut axles locations in the official pinewood car block is highly recommended. However, wheels (or the wheelbase) must NOT extend beyond the maximum length of the car, which is 7.00 inches.

8. Weight

- a. The car may be hollowed out and built up to the maximum weight of 5.00 oz. by the addition of wood or metal only, provided it is securely built into the body or firmly affixed to it.
- b. No loose materials of any kind, such as lead shot, are permitted in or on the car.
- c. If tape (masking, scotch, etc.) is used to hold weights on the car, it must be tightly attached to the car. Using tape to secure weight is not recommended. It is recommended that weights on the bottom of the car be inset so they are flush with the bottom of the wood block.

9. Wheels and Axles

- a. Only Official Cub Scout Pinewood Derby wheels, with the official B.S.A. stamp on the inside of the wheel, and Official Cub Scout Pinewood Derby axles shall be used.
- b. Axles may be polished only.
- c. Solid axles are strictly prohibited.
- d. Wheel bearings, washers, or bushings are prohibited.
- e. The car shall not ride on any type of springs.
- f. The entire portion of the wheel must remain flat except for the outermost edge that comes rounded from the factory casting.

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- g. The portion of the wheel hub that rubs against the car body may only be polished to remove castings. No other modifications to the hub are allowable.

The portion of the hub that rubs against the car body may not be rolled or beveled in any way and shall remain flat. If in the act of polishing, the hub becomes rolled or beveled, the hub will be deemed non-conforming and the wheel will need to be replaced with a conforming wheel.

- h. All four wheels must sit flat on the track. Wheel covers and hubcap type wheel covers will be permitted, as long as the covers are solely decorative in nature and do not hinder the operation of the racecar. Racers may be asked to remove the wheel covers (or hubcap type wheel covers) for inspection.

10. Lubrication

- a. Only dry lubricant may be used. Regular oils and silicon sprays soften the plastic wheels.
- b. Cars are to be lubricated before inspection/registration. No other lubrication will be permitted.

11. Miscellaneous

- a. Cars must be freewheeling with no starting device or other propulsion.
- b. No part of the racecar may protrude past the starting post.

INSPECTION

- 12. Each car must pass inspection by the District Inspection Team before it may compete. Each Inspection Team has the right to disqualify any car that does not meet the rules and specifications. Racers will be informed of any violations and will be given an opportunity to fix the specified violations.
- 13. The District Inspection Team will weigh all cars at registration. The readings of the Official Race Scale at the event will be considered final. Racers must be prepared to adjust weight to meet the readings of the Official Race Scale at the Long Cane District Pinewood Derby competition.
- 14. Cars can be re-inspected at any time. If the car does not meet the rules and specifications, it must be brought into compliance before its next race or it will be disqualified. If a car is found to not meet the rules and specifications after the last race is run, the car will be disqualified. All disqualified cars' scores will be removed from the record. A minimum of

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- five minutes will be allowed for a driver to bring his car into compliance if a problem is found during a race.
15. Once cars have been registered, weighed, and inspected, they will remain in the custody of the District Race Officials until the end of the competition. No person, other than District Race Officials may handle the racecar for any reason once the racecar has passed inspection.
 16. Pinewood Derby Cars with wet paint or glue will not be accepted for inspection.

RACE TRACK

17. Only racers racing in or staging for a race, race officials, or members of the Track Team will be permitted in the track area. Other people may be allowed in the track area when specifically approved by the race officials.
18. Each racer shall handle only his own car (except where permitted by these rules). A racer may be disqualified if he touches or handles another racer's car. The only other provision is where a Cub Scout who has "special needs" may utilize the assistance of another Cub Scout or Adult, under Rule #6.
19. Each race will be announced and racers will be called to the track area.
20. Racers will be assigned lanes by a random choice method.
21. Racers will report to the starting line when the Starter directs them to and will place their cars on the appropriate lane. Scouts will be allowed time to align their car on the track.
22. The Starter will ensure all cars are on the track lanes properly. Cars may be readjusted for proper placement at the direction of the Starter. Cars may not protrude beyond the starting post.
23. If a car leaves the track, runs out of its lane, interferes with another car, loses an axle, etc., the race will be rerun. If the same car gets into trouble on the second run, the car automatically loses the race. The Race Officials at each level of competition will decide, by majority vote, if a car can continue to race after it has these types of problems in two consecutive runs.
24. If a car suffers a mechanical problem during a race (loses an axle, breaks a wheel, etc.), the racer will have up to five minutes to fix the car. The

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racer will then be allowed to race his car. If repairs cannot be made in this time frame, the car will be disqualified.

25. If a car suffers a mechanical problem after a race, the racer will have five minutes or until the next race to fix the car (which ever is longer). If repairs cannot be made in this time frame, the car will be disqualified.

RACE MANAGEMENT

26. The Long Cane District Pinewood Derby shall be ran according to the Double Elimination Method of Race Management. Following this method, the following aspects hold true:
- a. Each car will race at least 2 races.
 - b. Each car will race against cars according to each scout's rank.
 - c. Each car will race in randomly chosen lanes.
 - d. Cars shall be awarded placement according to the **BEST AVERAGE** time of the race finish.
 - e. After a pre-determined number of rounds, the final round will be determined by each cars' placement in their ranks' round and the top 3 **BEST AVERAGE** times of race completion for each rank.
 - f. Upon completion of the final race round, the final standings will be calculated according to the cars' **BEST AVERAGE** race completion time in the **FINAL ROUND**.

NOTE

For each round including the final round, the car with the best **AVERAGE** time will be awarded the first place for that round. The car with the second best **AVERAGE** time will be awarded second place and so on.

27. The results of a race (i.e. first, second or third place) will normally be determined by an official electronic finish line. This will be supervised by at least one member of the Track Team. In the event of a failure or the absence of an electronic finish line, the Long Cane District Race Officials will prescribe the method for determining the results of a race.