

PACK 689 PINWOOD DERBY !

1. Race day is at St. James. Start time TBA.
2. Scouts should come in uniform.
3. Once cars have been registered, weighed, and certified, they will remain in the hands of race committee until the end of the competition. Please do all modifications (graphite, weights, etc.) before final check-in.
4. Because of possible damage to the cars and track, there will be no running, pushing, yelling, etc. in the building..
5. Food and drinks will be available during the race (Hot dogs, snacks and soda).
6. Each heat will be announced. Please listen for your car's number.
7. Scouts and all other spectators must remain behind the tape. Seats will be set up to allow adults to see the race. Scouts traditionally sit on the floor.
8. The starter will make sure the cars are on the track properly and then will start the race.
9. Results will be recorded at the finish line.
10. If a car leaves the track, runs out of its lane, interferes with another car, loses an axle, etc., the heat will be rerun.
11. Cars constructed for previous Pinewood Derbies are not eligible to compete.

Pinewood Derby Car Specifications

All racers must comply with the following racing specifications which are excerpted from the official Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Kit Instructions:

1. Width: Overall width shall not exceed 2-3/4".
2. Length: Overall length shall not exceed 7".
3. Weight: Finished car can not weigh more than 5 ounces. The weight shown on the Official Race Scale is final. All car parts and materials must be firmly attached. To increase the car's weight, add wood or metal only.
4. Wheels & Axles: Use only Official Scout Grand Prix wheels and axles. You can polish the axles. You may lightly sand the wheels to remove the molding seam on the tread. No other wheel changes are allowed. Washers and bushings are prohibited.
5. Lubrication: Use dry powdered graphite ONLY. You may not use any other lubricant, especially oils and silicone sprays. No graphite may be applied after car inspection.
6. Springing: The car shall not ride on any type springs.
7. Details: Details such as steering wheel, driver, decals, painting, or interior detail are permissible as long as these details do not exceed the maximum length, width, and height specifications.
8. Attachments: The car must be freewheeling with no starting devices.
9. Inspection: Each Car must pass inspection by the Committee before it may compete. Inspection will take place the day of the race. The Inspectors have the right to disqualify those cars which do not meet specifications by race time.

It's Pinewood Derby Time!!!!

Design Tips

1. Have your son draw a design on paper then cut it out and use it as a template. I use the paper with the little squares on it to make it easier for him. Draw a side and top view on the paper by tracing around the block of wood.
2. Keep the car a full seven inches. It has to do with the physics of velocity and length of travel of the weights.
3. Use the full 2 3/4 inches (outside wheel to outside wheel) that the rules give you. This will allow the wheels to travel farther before hitting the center strip.
4. Leave a lot of wood in the back to put in the weights.
5. Use the groove closest to the end of the block of wood as the rear axle. Trust me, it helps. If you are interested in discussing the physics, please e-mail me.
6. Do not make the front of the car pointed. It is hard to set up against the starting dowels.
7. Be aware of how sensitive your electronic timers are. You want the car to set them off at the end of the race and not before.
8. Use your imagination. Be creative. Shape has the least to do with winning. A beaver driving a log or even a pickup truck is more interesting than a wedge and will be just as fast. The aerodynamics of a small block of wood doesn't mean much in thirty feet.

Hot Dog

Police Car

Banana

Pencil

Shark

Tow Truck

Watermelon Wedge

Coffin Ridden by a Skeleton

Dragster Rocket Car

Giant Lego Car

Swiss Cheese Wedge with a Mouse Driver

Fire Truck

Ice Cream Bar

Train Engine

Batmobile

Ambulance with Lights

Carrot Ridden by a Rabbit

Just "Google" Pinewood Derby for LOTS more info!