



## OFFICIAL COUNCIL PINWOOD DERBY RULES 2009

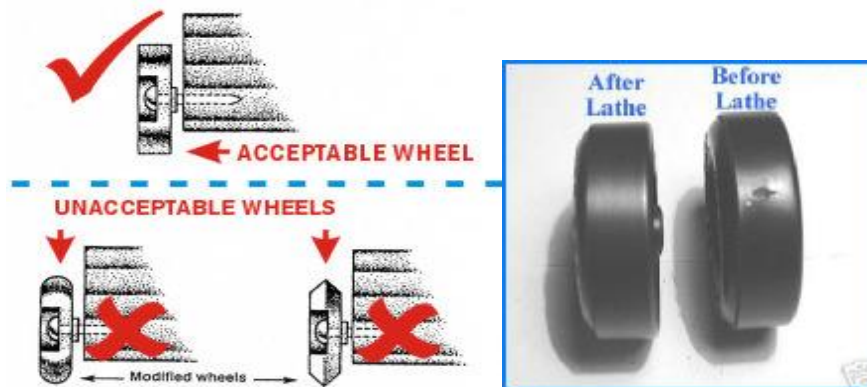
### ***ALL CARS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING RULES AND SPECIFICATIONS***

- Each participant may enter one (1) car. The car should be built for the current year of competition and not raced in previous years. The Cub Scout needs to be present and in uniform for the car to compete.
- The race will be a timed event. The best accumulative time will determine the winner.
- After registration, inspection and weigh-in the car will be impounded. You will not be allowed access to your car until the end of the event. A car losing a wheel or any part that prevents running cannot be repaired after weigh-in.  
**EXCEPTION:** Race officials may authorize repairs when damage is caused by collision with another vehicle or object. Repairs must be completed within a limited time allowed by the Race Officials.
- If a car leaves the track in two (2) consecutive races, it is disqualified.  
**EXCEPTION:** When a car is caused to leave the track because of a collision with another car.
- The cars will rest against a starting pin; therefore it is advisable that they do not come to a sharp point in front. Due to a short starting pin, the front end **should not be any higher than 1/4" above the axle line.**
- **ONLY** the official Cub Scout Grand Prix Pinewood Derby kit **should** be used.
- **Width** - overall width will not exceed 2-3/4".
- **Length** – over all length will not exceed 7". Wheels will not extend past the front or rear of the car body.
- **Width** – between wheels – will not be less than 1-3/4".
- **Bottom Clearance** – clearance between car and track will not be less than 1/4".  
**NOTE:** Some tracks may require a 3/8" clearance.
- **Weight** – will not exceed 5 ounces.
- **Height** – will not exceed 4" so that it will clear most tracks.
- **Only official current Cub Scout Grand Prix Pinewood Derby wheels and axles are permitted. (See Detail Pictures and Notes)** You may not change the wheel dimensions. Wheels may not be rounded, pointed, concaved, shaved or otherwise modified. You may, however, sand the tread or tire contact area of the wheel to smooth out the rough spots. Wheel bearings, washers, and bushings are prohibited. The car will not ride on springs of any type. Wheel covers or hub caps are prohibited, the head of the nail must be viewable for inspection. The axels (nails) maybe polished and stamping imperfections removed but the shape and size of the head may not be altered. The recommended wheel and axle lubricant is dry, powdered graphite.
- **Other Items** - Details such as steering wheel, a driver, and decals are permissible as long as these details do not exceed the width, length, height, clearance and weight specifications. All details must be securely attached to the car.
- **All cars will be free wheeling with no starting devices.** Magnets and slip weights are prohibited. All weights must be securely attached to the car.
- **Inspection:** Each car must pass an inspection by the official Inspection Committee before it may complete. The inspectors have the right to disqualify those cars which do not meet the rules and specifications outlined above, even though your car passed the inspection at the Pack or District level. If a car does not pass inspection, the owner will be informed of the reason for failure and will be given a time within the official registration period to make adjustments.

### **ALL DECISIONS BY THE RACE OFFICIALS ARE FINAL**

For questions and further information contact:  
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## PICTURES & NOTES



Wheels may be sanded or lathed to remove imperfections and flattened but may not be reshaped or shaved.



Wheels will be inspected for lettering; raised lettering may not be sanded off.



Axle imperfections can be removed and axles may be polished.



## To Parents of Pinewood Derby Participants:

### Council Rule Clarifications

Packs and districts are allowed to develop their own rules but it is suggested that the Council Rules or a version of the Council Rules be used. This will ensure that all derby cars advancing to the Council Championship will have followed similar rules during previous races. I would like to address a few of the most commonly asked questions regarding the rules.

1. **EXTENDED WHEEL BASE/ CAR BODY:**

The axel grooves provided in the block of wood do not have to be used. The wheel base may be extended but the wheels may not extend past the front or rear of the car body. Depending upon the track, the front of the car may rest against a short starting pin. We therefore require that the front of the car which rests on the pin is no higher than  $\frac{1}{4}$ " above the axle line.

2. **LUBRICANT:**

Dry powdered graphite is the suggested lubricant to use but not required. Many other lubricants have been used over time however graphite has been proven to work best. Liquid lubricants may not be compatible with the plastic wheels and actually damage them. Our concern with lubricants is that anything other than dry graphite does not drop on the track affecting the operation of other derby cars.

3. **WEIGHT:**

Maximum allowable weight is 5 ounces. The scale used the day of the race and weight recorded will be considered "OFFICIAL". Even though a car may have weighed at or under 5 ounces using the same scale at a previous race we are concerned with the weight on the current race day. Once a car meets weight it will be impounded, weight is not allowed to be added. If the car is over-weight you will be allowed a limited number of opportunities to remove the excess weight and re-weigh the car.

4. **WHEELS / AXELS:**

New in 2008, all wheels were required to have the raised BSA – PINWOOD DERBY letters on the outside surface of the wheel. The wheel surface may not be rounded, beveled or shaved. **NO AFTER MARKET WHEELS ARE ALLOWED!** Cars with after market wheels will be asked to change wheels or they will not be allowed to race. This will continue in 2009, with **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

5. **GENERAL:**

Each year the Cub Scout should construct a new car and we hope that cars are not used from previously years. The scout should play an active role in the design and construction of the car. It is understandable that a younger scout will need more assistance from an adult and we encourage this along with explanations for the reason the wheels are sanded, axles are polished, etc.