

TUSSAHAW DISTRICT PINEWOOD DERBY  
OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS  
REVISED January 27, 2022

## GROUND RULES

1. For the purpose of the Tussahaw District Pinewood Derby, these rules shall supersede all others, regardless of source.
2. ALL SCOUTS, no matter what level/rank may participate in the Tussahaw District Pinewood Derby Race.
  - a. First, Second, and Third place winners from individual Cub Scout Pack races within the rank categories of Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos I, and Webelos II (Arrow of Light) shall be eligible for district race awards. The total number of Cub Scouts participating from each Pack is NOT LIMITED, however there shall be no more than 18 [(3) Lions, (3) Tigers, (3) Wolves, (3) Bears, (3) Webelos I, and (3) Webelos II (Arrow of Light)] eligible for awards from each Pack.
  - b. Scouts BSA racers, adults, and siblings may enter a car in either the LEGAL or OUTLAW race category. There is no limit on the number of participants within a Troop at the Scouts BSA Level. Winners within these races are for “bragging rights only” and are not eligible for District Awards (subject to change).
    - i. LEGAL Car Races - meets all traditional car regulations as outlined below for Cub Scout races.
    - ii. OUTLAW Car Races - not required to meet the further described car specifications (can be overweight for example) EXCEPT: (1) no propulsion methods allowed (gravity driven only), (2) graphite lubrication only (no liquid), and (3) any regulation designed for track/equipment safety (bottom clearance) and/or interfering with other racers (car width). Race officials have the right to deny participation of a car if it is determined the car may potentially cause damage to the track or other cars.
3. Cars shall be new for the Council year in which they compete. To the extent possible, Scouts shall design and build their own cars with minimal adult assistance.
4. Cars shall pass inspection by the Official Inspection team before being allowed to compete. Cars that do not meet these specifications shall be disqualified from competition. Owners of disqualified cars shall be informed of violations and given an opportunity to correct them if there is sufficient time. Derby heats shall not be delayed for car alterations.
5. Only Derby Officials (subject to change due to COVID protocols) shall be allowed in the designated track area.
6. Late arrivals may run their car down the track after all other races have been completed. Late arrivals shall be defined as anyone arriving after the Derby participants have been registered and the race has started. Late arrivals shall not be allowed to race out of their rank category.
7. Cub Scouts must be present to race their own car. Substitutes such as another Scout or an adult cannot race the car for the absent Scout. Participants should be in BSA uniform. Exceptions to the in-person attendance rule may be granted under specific circumstances (medical reasons, etc.), but must be approved by the race committee in advance by contacting [BSATroop2020GA@gmail.com](mailto:BSATroop2020GA@gmail.com). All efforts to attend the race in-person should be made.

## DISPUTES

8. Any participant (or his/her parent/guardian) may petition the Derby Committee for an interpretation of these rules. The Derby Committee, by majority vote, shall be the final judge of these rules. In case of a tie vote, the decision of the Committee Chairman shall be final.
9. Un-sportsman-like conduct on the part of any participant or member of the audience shall be grounds for disqualification and expulsion from the Derby arena.

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### **CAR SPECIFICATIONS**

10. Cars shall be made from the Official Cub Scout Grand Prix Pinewood Derby kits. Only Official BSA bodies shall be allowed. Details, such as steering wheel, driver, spoiler, windshield, fenders, flares, decals, stickers, et cetera, from other sources shall be allowed, provided that these details do not exceed the maximum length, width, and weight specifications.
11. Maximum overall width shall be 2 ¾". Maximum overall length shall be 7". Minimum ground clearance is 3/8".
12. Maximum weight shall not exceed 5 ounces. Readings of the Official scales shall be final. Cars may be hollowed out and built-up to maximum weight by the addition of filler, provided that it is securely built into the body, or firmly affixed to it.
13. Loose or liquid fillers of any kind (including mercury) shall not be allowed.

### **WHEELS AND AXLES**

14. Only the Official Cub Scout Grand Prix wheels and axles shall be used.
15. Wheels shall not be shaped in any manner, except that they may be polished and trued. Wheels shall have smooth, square profiles; they shall not have grooves or ridges.
16. Bearings, bushings, washers, or springs may not be used in any manner.
17. Wheel cavities shall not be filled with any type of putty.
18. Cars shall be freewheeling, with no means of propulsion except gravity.
19. Axle mounting holes may be drilled, but the distance between axles (wheelbase) shall not exceed the stock dimensions (approximately 4.375").
20. Axles may be smoothed and/or polished.
21. Covering of wheels in a manner that blocks wheel inspection shall not be allowed; wheel hubs must be open for inspection.
22. All 4 wheels must touch the track.

### **LUBRICATION**

23. Liquid or paste-type lubricants shall not be allowed. Only dry powdered lubricants, such as graphite, talc, chalk, et cetera, shall be allowed.
24. Cars shall be lubricated before inspection and weigh-in. No further lubrication shall be allowed after check-in. Cars may not be lubricated between heats.

### **RACING RULES (\*\*MODIFIED FOR COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS, PLEASE READ\*\* THIS SECTION SUBJECT TO CHANGE PER CURRENT RACE DAY CDC/BSA RECOMMENDATIONS/REGULATIONS)**

25. General safety guidelines:
  - a. Face masks/shields are highly recommended of all participants, parents, spectators, and race officials/volunteers.

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- b. Social distancing should be attempted/maintained by all participants/guests.
  - c. Race officials will be wearing gloves for handling of cars.
  - d. Race officials WILL NOT be sanitizing individual cars due to the risk of damage. Please note that we accept no responsibility for the effect of accidental exposure of hand sanitizer/cleaner on a car's paint job/performance, but will do our best to take proper care of each individual car.
26. Official race pre-registration must be completed on the Flint River Council website. Scout name, Pack/Troop number, den membership (Lion, Tiger, Wolf, etc.), email address, and a phone number are required for each participant/parent. See your Pack/Troop representative to determine if registration will be completed for individual Scouts or if a single registration will be submitted for your entire Pack. Phone numbers and email addresses are required for each participant to allow for communication in case of a race time alteration (weather delay, etc.). Races MAY be held outdoors pending COVID guidelines on race day, weather permitting. Races will take place at Wesley Way UMC, 150 John Wesley Way, McDonough, GA 30252.
27. Race Day Schedule (\*\*NOTE Schedule is subject to change based on registration numbers and current CDC/BSA/GA COVID guidelines):
- a. 8:30 -9:45 AM – Race Check-In & Car Inspection
    - i. 10:00 AM – Race Run (Racing Order (see descriptions above, 2b): Cub Scouts, Legal, Outlaw)
  - b. 11:00 AM (approximately) – Awards Ceremony
28. When arriving at the race area, cars will be subject to inspection as noted above. After passing inspection and being registered, cars shall be placed in the impound box by the Inspector or designee. After being impounded, there shall be no further contact with the car until the race begins.
29. During the race, only the owner or a designated Derby Official (restriction-dependent) shall deliver the car to the Starter and retrieve the car from the finish line. Extenuating circumstances bearing on this requirement should be discussed with Derby Officials prior to registration (BSATroop2020GA@gmail.com or on-site), at which allowances shall be made and recorded.
30. The Official Starter shall release the starting gate only after receiving an “All Ready” signal from Finish Line Judges. The Derby shall be run as a timed race. The track finish line will display the time between the start gate and the finish line of the track, which will be recorded. Each car will be run in all four lanes of the track. The slowest of the four times is dropped to account for any “slow lane” issues. The remaining three times are added together to determine a total time for each car. These machine-calculated times shall be used to determine Derby winners/placement.
31. If a car is damaged or jumps the track before a run is finished, the race shall be run again. If the car is damaged or jumps the track a second time, it shall lose the heat. Repairs of cars damaged while racing shall be made in the Official Pit, under the supervision of a Derby Official. Parents may assist their Scout in making repairs. Repair time shall not exceed 10 minutes. No re-lubrication of repaired cars shall be allowed, and cars shall be re-inspected by a Derby Official before returning to the race.
32. In the case CDC/BSA guidance requires lower numbers of Scouts participating at a single time, races will be conducted with the following plan. Your Scout will “choose their opponent(s)” from a race car stock maintained by Troop 2020 (or a Scout friend/sibling). \*\*Note: Stock cars will be labeled with their speed/time, and race officials can assist in choosing an appropriate opponent after a “test run” of your Scout’s car. The goal will be to make the races fun and competitive for all Scouts. Note that none of the stock cars will be competing in the official Tussahaw races and only the times for your Scout’s car will be recorded for the competition.
33. The 2022 Tussahaw District Pinewood Derby Races are being held as a service and fundraiser for Scouts BSA Troop 2020 of McDonough. Please support Troop 2020 by being prepared to purchase concessions the morning of the event. Any questions related to this event should be directed to [BSATroop2020GA@gmail.com](mailto:BSATroop2020GA@gmail.com). Thank you so much for your support of Troop 2020 and Scouts BSA!!