



GOLDEN EMPIRE COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

El Dorado District

Official Pinewood Derby Rules

Only BSA Issued Pinewood Derby Kit & components are legal.

Cars that do not meet ALL of the rules listed below are disqualified to compete in this event.

All Cars must be built this season, no previous year cars, wheels or axles can be used.

Car Specifications

- Maximum Width: 2 ¾ Inches
- Minimum Width: 1 ¾ Inches (Inner distance between wheels)
- Maximum Height: 4 Inches (Distance from track to top of car)
- Minimum Clearance: 3/8 Inches (Distance between track and bottom of car)
- Maximum Length: 7 Inches
- Maximum Weight: 5.00 Ounces (Based on District scales at check-in)

Components

- All components must come from the current year's BSA issued Pinewood Derby Kit
- No aftermarket wheels, axles, or body are permitted and will be disqualified

Wheels

- Wheels may only be worked by the scout
- Wheels may be sanded only on the outside to remove mold seam. Sanding is not allowed on the inside of the wheel
- Wheels must show the original tread pattern around the entire wheel circumference. Lathing/machining the wheels is prohibited
- Again, no replacement wheels allowed.

Axles

- Axles may only be worked by the scout
- Axles must be affixed in the stock axle slot location
- It must be obvious the stock axle is being used "beveled point"
- Only the current year's BSA Issued Pinewood Derby Kit axles are allowed
- Lathing/Machining the axles is prohibited

Lubricant

- Only Dry Lubricant is permitted (Graphite, Ws2, Teflon)
- It is legal to cover the wheel's running surface in dry lubricant (aka soaking the wheels in graphite)
- No Oil/Grease/Wax, Liquids or semi solid petroleum base products, coatings are allowed
- Dry Lubricant must be applied prior to submitting car to impound area



Assembly

- Car must be made substantially by the scout
- Loose weights or accessories of any kind are not allowed
- No moving parts or elements of any kind are allowed (except for the wheels)
- No wheel enclosures, packing or hub caps allowed
- Springs, washers, bushings or bearings intended to improve wheel movement are not allowed
- Car must be freewheeling, only powered by gravity
- Starting devices of any kind are not allowed
- Adhering to the launch pin in any manner is not allowed

Qualifications

To be eligible for the El Dorado District Championship you must:

- Have placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd at the pack level race this year
- Have placed 1st at the pack level in best craftsmanship as graded by scouts this year

No substitutes are permitted - Packs are not authorized to back fill open spots.

ALL cars must pass the El Dorado District Championship inspection process.

Racing

- All Scouts and Guests must maintain the highest level of sportsmanship and respect at the event
- In the event of Race-Related issue(s), the District Championship Committee will determine actions required to resolve, whereby all decisions are final
- The entire car shall stage behind the starting pin location in the center of each track lane. It is not permissible for any part of the car to protrude forward of the starting pin.
- In the event a car does not complete a run on all 4 lanes or requires to run again, regardless of the reason, the car will run independently AFTER the normal heat races to establish the required 4 heat race times.

Winning Criteria

- Each car will be race in 4 heat with 3 other random cars (running order is computer generated).
- The finishing time of each race will be recorded for each car.
- The lowest actual cumulative time for all 4 races will determine the winners 1st through 5th.
- In the event of a tie (exact time for 4 races shared by 2 or more of the top 5 cars) a simple side by side 1 heat race will be held to determine the tie breaker.
- The overall Champion will have his name engraved on a plate to be placed on the perpetual trophy.

Craftsmanship Award

- During the designated voting time, the Best Craftsman Cars will be place in a venue that allows both viewing and voting.
- Each Racer will have a voting token to cast a vote of best Craftsmanship.
- The car with the most tokens will win the best craftsmanship award.



Frequently Asked Questions

- A small volume of cars came in with colored (other than black) wheels: red, yellow, and blue – these are not allowed.
- A small volume of cars came in with Machined/Lathed wheels – these are not allowed.
- A car came in with aftermarket Machine Grooved axles – these are not allowed.
- A small volume of cars came from the Revell Kit: purchased at a hobby/craft shop – these are not allowed.
- A car came in with a weight that could actually move (not much but it could move) – these are not allowed.
- A car came in with LESS than 3/8 inches ground clearance – these are not allowed. They will bottom out on the race surface.
- Bikes, skateboards, scooters, and rollerblades are not allowed on site during the event.
- ONLY District Committee Members will be allowed near the race car impound – No exceptions.
- The Race Car Impound Area will be off limits to all but the District Championship Committee Members.