

Norcross Service Unit 2011 Pinewood Derby Official Rules

(Based upon the Button Gwinnett District 2008
Cub Scout Pinewood Derby Rules)

1. Lubrication

- a) **No lubricants of any kind** may be applied to the axles or wheels, in the spirit of fairness.
- b) Do not use any powdered graphite, Teflon, oils, grease, liquid or spray lubricants of any kind.
- c) Cars may be disqualified at any time during check-in or racing if lubricants are detected.

2. Car Dimensions

- a) The maximum overall width (including wheels and axles) shall not exceed 2-3/4 inches.
- b) The minimum width between the inside of the wheels shall be 1-3/4 inches so the car will clear the center guide strip on the track.
- c) The minimum clearance between the bottom of the car and the track surface shall be 3/8 inch so the car will clear the center guide strip on the track.
- d) The maximum overall length shall not exceed 7 inches.**
- e) The wheels should not extend out past the ends of the car (for protection from impact damage).

3. Car Weight

- a) The total weight of the car shall not exceed 5.0 ounces.**
- b) The reading of the official scale will be considered final.
- c) The car may be hollowed out and built up to the maximum weight by the addition of wood or metal, provided the material is securely built into the body or firmly affixed to it.
- d) No liquids or loose materials of any kind are permitted in or on the car.

4. Car Shape and Appearance

- a) Add-on details such as steering wheel, driver, spoiler, scoop, exhaust pipes, etc., are permissible as long as these details do not exceed the maximum length, width, or weight specifications.
- b) You may use other blocks of wood, including the wood from other pre-cut or pre-shaped car kits, but not the axles or wheels. Absolutely no other axles or wheels are allowed, except the ones that came with the Official Pinewood Derby® Car Kit (Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Kit #17006).
- c) Decals are allowed.
- d) No pointed noses are allowed**, as they will not match up properly with the dowel pins at the starting gate.
- e) The nose of the car must be shaped such that no part of the car extends out past the dowel pin when at the starting gate. This means it **cannot have a concave shape** such as a V or a U, where the dowel pin would sit inside the cavity, and allow part of the car to sit out beyond it.

5. Wheels and Axles

- a) No lubrication, graphite or Teflon may be used on the axles. See Rule 1.
- b) The axles and wheels used shall be only those provided in the Official Pinewood Derby® Car Kit (Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Kit #17006)
- c) Wheels may be lightly sanded to smooth out molding imperfections on the tread area. This light sanding is the only modification allowed. The wheel profile may not be altered in any way. Beveling, tapering, thin sanding, or wafering of the wheels is strictly prohibited.
- d) The axles may not be altered in any way except for polishing and de-burring.
- e) Wheel bearings, washers, bushings, and hubcaps are prohibited.
- f) The car shall not ride on any type of suspension or springs.
- g) The car must be freewheeling, with no starting device or other type of propulsion.
- h) No sliding weights or any other movable parts are allowed. The only moving parts on the car should be the spinning of the wheels.

6. Inspection and Registration

- a) Each car must pass a technical inspection before it may compete. This will occur during the official car registration, and will include vehicle weight check, vehicle dimension check, and wheel lubrication inspection.
- b) If a car fails any part of the inspection, the Scout and her parent or leader will be given the opportunity to make adjustments to the car. Race officials will re-inspect the car after adjustments until the car passes inspection or until 5 minutes prior to the scheduled race starting time.
- c) Once a car passes the inspection and weigh-in, it will be impounded along with all the others until the race is completed.

7. Ground Rules and Competition

- a) Race officials will establish and announce the time, schedule, and location of the Norcross Service Unit Girl Scout Pinewood Derby.
- b) Registrations will be accepted up to the capacity limit. No walk-ins permitted.
- c) Each Girl Scout may enter only one car.
- d) **The car must have been built during the current school year.** Cars that have competed in a previous year's Derby (Cub Scout, Girl Scout, or otherwise) are not permitted.
- e) The Girl Scout race entrant must be present at the event to have their car raced. A car may not be raced by a parent or other "stand-in."
- f) Only race officials will be allowed to enter the track area. All other persons must remain outside of the barricades.
- g) If a car is damaged during the race, the Girl Scout and parent or leader will be allowed 5 minutes to repair the car. Race officials will re-inspect the car after repairs, before it is allowed to continue racing.
- h) Depending on the type of track used, winners will be determined by either the "lowest total race time" or by "total number of race wins." The race officials will determine and announce the winning criteria prior to the beginning of the race. Race official judges will also sit at the finish line and will have final determination on each race.
- i) The race officials may re-run selected race heats if one or both cars crash or leave the track prior to the finish line for a maximum of one re-run per race heat. If a car crashes twice in a race heat, it will receive the maximum race heat time set by the race officials.
- j) In the spirit of fun, competitions and awards may occur on race day. These may include awards for design, craftsmanship or others.

8. Construction Help

- a) Girl Scouts may design and build the car with help from an adult or sibling. Adult help is encouraged to make this a joint experience between girl and parent.
- b) The use of power tools, such as jig saws and band saws, by children is strongly discouraged and should **only** be done by a qualified adult.
- c) Girls must wear safety goggles in the presence of power tools, even when not operating the machinery.
- d) Girls are strongly encouraged to do their own car design, sanding, and painting.

Please keep the Girl Scout Law in mind and HAVE FUN!