

# HARVEST DISTRICT PINWOOD DERBY RULES



*The purpose of this document is to provide a reasonable and level playing field for all contestants. Please read and heed the information and the rules!*

*If you have concerns about what is allowed, please contact the Harvest District Executive.*

**Please read these rules carefully, as they have been updated from last year's rules.**

## **Eligibility of Contestants and Cars**

The Harvest District Pinewood Derby and Best Car Design competitions are open Cub Scouts and Scouts that graduated to a Boy Scout Troop (this year) that are registered members in the Harvest District. The Scout must have competed in his pack's pinewood derby in the 2009-2010 and finished in first, second or third place in either the Pinewood Derby or Best Car Design competition. The Cub Scouts may enter either the district's Pinewood Derby or Best Car Design competition, but may not enter both competitions.

It is important to emphasize that an invitation to the Harvest District Pinewood Finals is extended to the scouts themselves for their accomplishments at the Pack level and "not" an invitation to his car. Cub Scouts must attend to compete. Cars will not be accepted as "drop off" entries.

Cars in this competition must have been made for this race season by the scout and his adult partner (September 2009 to April 2010). Cars or parts of cars such as wheels or axles, from previous years may not be used. Contestants may modify the car they used in their pack derby to conform to the Harvest District Rules or optimize it for the aluminum track used at the Harvest District finals.

## Harvest District Pinewood Derby Construction Regulations

1. Cars shall be constructed from the Official Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Kit. The axles and wheels provided with that kit are the ONLY ones authorized for use.
2. Cars shall not exceed a maximum of 7 inches in length, including accessories such as tail pipes, bumpers, etc. that may be added for ornamentation.
3. Overall width of car from outside of wheel to outside of wheel shall not exceed 2 3/4 inches.
4. Cars may be weighted not to exceed 5 oz.
5. Cars must have a minimum of 3/8-inch ground clearance.
6. If cars are weighted on bottom, they should be drilled or slotted so weight can be inserted so as to leave a flush surface that is relatively flat and smooth. It is suggested that lead be used to fill slots or grooves.
7. Only the wheels and axles supplied in the Official Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Kit are authorized. No other wheels or axles are authorized, even if they were included with a hobby kit or other Pinewood Derby kit. No single axles are permitted.
8. The small burrs on the axle may be filed or sanded off.
9. The wheel mold seam may be sanded, filed or turned off, leaving a relatively flat, smooth tread surface. In no way, shape or form may the wheel treads be shaved to a point, rounded, sloped, peaked, wafered, tapered, "H'ed OR "Ved".
10. Absolutely no springs, spacers, washers, bushings, bearings, etc. shall be attached to, mounted on or used in any way, shape, or form on the wheels, axles or axle slots.
11. Axles may be lubricated with any dry lubricant such as graphite. **Once the car is placed on the competition table it may not be lubricated again.**
12. Car may be shaped in any manner you desire, but when designing keep in mind to make it sturdy, especially around the axle slots.
13. Cars may be painted and decorated to your own choice of design.
14. If any additional decorative items are used on the car they must be securely attached. No loose items will be permitted on the cars.
15. All cars must be built during the current school year by the scout and his adult partner. Cars from previous school years may not be raced.
16. Axles cannot be moved forward, backwards or further apart, but original slots can be trued. Axle positions will be measured at weigh-in.

These rules and regulations are to be adhered to with no exceptions permitted. All cars will have to pass an inspection test during registration.

**Any car found in violation of the above rules WILL NOT be permitted to race in the Pinewood Derby due to the effect it would have on the scoring of other contestants in the random race brackets.**

**Once the car has been placed on the competition table, it cannot be removed for any reason until it has been eliminated from further competition in the Pinewood Derby.**

## **Derby Racing Rules**

1. Once a car has been accepted for racing by the inspection team, only race officials will handle the car. It cannot be removed for any reason until it has been eliminated from competition. The same rule applies to Best Car Design participants.
2. Only officials from the Harvest District Pinewood Derby Committee are permitted in the track area. All other spectators must remain in the spectator area while the races are conducted. Violation of this rule will result in being asked to return to the spectator area, disqualification for the event, or removal from the grounds as seen fit by the Harvest District Racing Committee officials.
3. The race committee will stage the cars at the start of each race.
4. If during a heat, a car inadvertently leaves the track, the heat will be run again. If the same car leaves the track again, it will automatically lose the heat and receive the last place score for the heat.
5. If a car inadvertently leaves the track and interferes with another car, the heat will be run again. If the same car interferes with another car again, the interfering car will automatically lose the heat and receive the last place score for the heat. If this action continues in any later heat, the car will be disqualified from racing.
6. If a car inadvertently leaves the track and suffers damage, the Cub Scout whose car it is will be given 5 minutes to fix the car. If the Scout and his parent are unable to correct the fault, the car may be disqualified as seen fit by the Harvest District Racing Committee.

### **Derby Scoring**

1. The cars will be given point values for each heat in which they compete.
2. The point value will be as follows;
  - 3 points for first place
  - 2 points for second place
  - 1 point for third place
  - 0 points for fourth place
3. Points will accumulate with each heat raced.
4. The top 2 racers from each pool will move to the finals.
  - The Scout and car will be entered into random pools, with the number of pools and entrants in each pool to be determined by the number of registrants.

### **Best Car Design**

1. Cars must be constructed from the official Grand Prix Pinewood Derby kit.
2. Dimension and weight restrictions apply just the same as with the derby competition.
3. Car construction must be performed by **the Cub Scout (with help from a parent or guardian entering)**.
4. All materials on or in the car must be secured with either glue or nails.
5. Only Cub Scouts in official uniform (class A), whether competing or as a spectator, will be allowed to vote for Best Car Design. This is a Scouting event and we wish to promote uniform wearing by the Scouts.
6. Votes for Best Car Design will be counted by the Harvest District Racing committee. In the event of a tie, the racing committee or selected designated people will vote to break the tie.
7. The official decision is final and shall not be disputed.

### **Dress Code**

1. Competing Cub Scouts are required to be in the official Cub Scout uniform (class A).
2. Scouts who are attending as spectators are highly encouraged to wear their official uniforms (class A).
3. Scout Leaders are highly encouraged to be in their official B.S.A. uniform.

4. Jackets, coats, sweaters or sweatshirts may not be worn in the racing area or the voting to prevent any accidental mishaps with the loose clothing.

### **Inspection and Judging**

1. Each car must pass inspection by the Official Inspection Team before it may compete. The Inspection Team has the right to disqualify those cars that do not meet the rules. The car's owners will be informed of the violations and will have the option to modify the car to meet these rules. All cars must be accepted by the Race Inspection Team before the scheduled start of the racing competition.
2. Any participant not in attendance will be disqualified.
3. See rules above for Derby Construction Regulations.

### **Disputes**

Any participant, including parents of participants, may appeal to the Harvest District Pinewood Committee for an interpretation of these rules. By a majority vote the Derby Committee will be the final judge of these rules. In the case of a tie vote, the decision of the Committee Chairperson or the designated representative shall be final.

Non scout-like conduct by any participant or member of the audience will be grounds for expulsion from the competition and/or race area.