



# The 2020 District Pinewood Derby Championship

Saturday, March 28, 2020  
Please give this your attention

1. District Pinewood Derby Race will take place **Saturday, March 28, 2020**. This is an earlier date from previous years to avoid conflicts with spring sports.
2. Cub Packs are asked to hold their Pinewood Derby prior to this date.
3. We are asking all Packs to adopt the District Pinewood Derby Guidelines in running your Pack Race. This will standardize all packs on the same guidelines and allow for easy entry in the District Championship.
4. Each Pack can send the following winners to the District Championship:
  - Lions top winners up to 3
  - Tigers top winners up to 3
  - Wolf top winners up to 3
  - Bear top winners up to 3
  - Webelos top winners up to 3
  - AOL Webelos winners up to 3
  - Each pack can enter up to 18 entries.
5. The District Pinewood Derby Championship will take place at Stepping Stones Museum for Children, Matthew Park, 303 West Ave., Norwalk with family fun programs and discounted prices.

Top Winner in each division can advance to race in the **New York City World Championship Pinewood Derby Race**.  
2020 Date to be announced but usually the last weekend in June held in Times Square.

## Basic Guidelines (turn over for complete guidelines)

- To race in the District Pinewood Derby Championship Race entries must be approved by the Pack Leadership.
- The same car raced at the Pack Pinewood Derby must be used at the District Championship Race. No substitutes permitted.
- The current "BSA Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Kit" is the official kit for the District Championships.
- Only the axles, wheels, and wood provided in this kit are permitted.
- Maximum width, including wheels, of completed car is 2-3/4 inches.
- Axle grooves cannot be relocated or altered in any way. Axles may be glued into place, however axle grooves cannot be filled or covered and the ends of the nails (points) must be visible.
- Maximum overall length of completed car - 7 inches.
- No part of the car may protrude beyond the track start gate starting pin. The front edge of the car must not be more than 1 inch above the track surface and be at least 1/2 inch wide at the center of the car.
- Cars must clear the center rail of the track, which is 1 5/8 inches wide by 1/4 inch tall along the entire length of the car. Minimum clearance between the entire bottom of the car and the bottom of the

wheels shall be 3/8 of an inch.

- Maximum weight - 5 ounces.

## Examples of Prohibited Items which CANNOT be used:

- Any type of magnets, springs, washers, bearings, bushings, nylon shims, axle guards, wheel weights, wheel well weights, inner wheel air dams, inner or outer wheel covers – clear or otherwise, or any item internal or external to a factory BSA wheel, moving weights, liquid lubricants actively wet or dried, or suspension systems of any type.
- Any item not included in an official BSA Pinewood Derby Car Kit or not purchased through an authorized BSA retailer, except cosmetic items or fenders.
- Starting devices, finish line devices, propellants, or propulsion systems.
- Wet paint, sticky substances, glass, excessively fragile parts, electronic or lighting devices (lights on the car are not permitted).
- Bearings or solid one-piece rod style axles or after-market purchased axles.
- Axles and wheels attached to any device that mechanically alters rotation or spin.
- Loose objects on or in the car. All weight must be securely fastened or embedded in or on the car.

## Powahay District Official Derby Car Rules and Specifications

Each scout in your pack should be provided with a copy of this specification sheet, the District Derby staff does not want to turn away a qualifier because his car does not meet specifications.

### ALL SPECIFICATIONS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED

Each car will be inspected prior to the race. It must pass inspection by the official inspector(s) and be in compliance with the rules before it will be allowed to compete. The inspector(s) have the right to disqualify any and all cars that do not meet the District's specifications. If a car fails to pass initial inspection, the scout will be given a reasonable amount of time to "legalize" the car. A reasonable amount of time will be determined by the event judges. When the car passes inspection, it will be impounded and no further alterations or adjustments are permitted. Additionally, the District will not provide any tools.

All gauges and templates used at the District Championship are the official specification standards of the event. Furthermore, the scale used at the District Championships is the 'official' scale of the event. The decisions of the inspectors and/or judges will be final. Additionally, the District Executive, District Activities Chair or their appointed representatives may disqualify any car that in their determination is not in compliance with the spirit of the race. Decisions of these officials on race day will be final.

**The car must be built within the current event year.** The Scout must build the car, but parental supervision in the construction of the car is encouraged. Scouts who have crossed-over to Boy Scouts in 2019 are eligible to run in the District Pinewood Derby Race if they raced in their Pack's 2018-2019 school year Pinewood Derby. The same car raced at the Pack Pinewood Derby must be used at the District Championship Race. No substitutes permitted. Participants should wear their uniforms to the race.

The current "BSA Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Kit" is the official kit of the District Championships. Older and/or previous versions of this kit will not be allowed – this is to standardize all cars racing. Only the axles, wheels, and wood provided in this kit are permitted. The body of the car must be made from the block of wood provided in the current official B.S.A. PD Kit. The "Pine Car" kit will not be allowed. Failure to meet specifications will result in disqualification of the car. The decisions of the inspectors or judges will be final.

Maximum width, including wheels, of completed car is 2-3/4 inches. Maximum overall length of completed car - 7 inches. In order for cars to run smoothly down the track - Wood block must remain 1 3/4" wide at axle locations. Minimum Bottom (track) clearance – 3/8 inch. Maximum weight - 5 ounces.

Wheels may not be designed to ride upon the guide strip of the track. Loose pieces that fall off during a race are not permitted. If the front of the car is designed to gain an unfair advantage at the start or interferes with a fair start, the car will be disqualified. The wooden block resting on the pin. **NO ADDED ACCESSORIES WILL BE ALLOWED TO TOUCH THE STARTING PIN.** Sharply pointed cars may need to be staged backwards, designs of that type should have a blunt point to prevent this.

The axles of the car must be from the current official B.S.A. PD Kit or a current official BSA PD wheel replacement kit. Axles must be firmly attached to the car. The use of a flexible suspension system of any type is prohibited.

The wheels of the car must be from the current official B.S.A. PD Kit or an official PD wheel replacement kit. Wheels may not be altered in any way. Axle coatings, wheel tapering, wafering, and other similar wheel shaving methods are prohibited. The addition of hubcaps or any accessory covering the wheel hubs is not permitted.

Mold projection defects on wheel treads may be lightly sanded on the flat area only to remove burrs and surface imperfections, but cannot be altered in any other way on the inside or outside. The simulated tire tread (small ridges on outer edge) must remain. Wheels may not be sanded to enhance performance. The decorative dots on the wheel treads may not be removed. If wheel sanding is detected the car will be disqualified. The wheels must be attached to the car with the pins provided in the kit. No cars will be accepted in the District PD where bearings, washers, or spacers have been used as part of the wheel assembly. The official wheel width is 0.34".

**DO NOT MOVE THE AXLES** – Axle grooves cannot be relocated or altered in any way. The axle nails shall be firmly affixed to the wood of the car body, and must be placed in the original 'axle grooves' in the wooden block supplied in the kit. It must be obvious to the judges that the grooves, wheels, and the nails from the kit are being used. Solid axles are not permitted. Axles may be glued into place with wood glue or model cement, but the axle grooves cannot be filled or covered, the axles must be visible to the inspector. The ends of the nails (points) must be visible.

The car must be freewheeling, with no starting devices. The motion of the car may not be mechanically aided (motor, springs, rubber bands, etc. are prohibited). Wheel bearings, bushings, washers, springs and starting devices of any kind are also prohibited.

Accessories and details such as steering wheel, driver, fenders, airfoils, etc. are permitted provided they do not exceed maximum weight, length, and width specifications. Such accessories must not interfere with another car's ability to move down the track. No loose materials of any kind are permitted in or on the car. Any weight or accessory added must be securely attached to the body with screws or glue. Weights or accessories held on by tape will not be permitted.

No oil, grease or silicone may be used on the cars. Only dry graphite powder or the new B.S.A. white tube T102/polytetra fluoroethylene may be used to lubricate wheels. (Warning - other lubricants may damage the plastic wheels and keep them from turning freely). The District will NOT provide graphite or other lubricants. Once the car is impounded, it may NOT be re-lubricated. Graphite must be applied outside of the race location. No graphite may be applied anywhere inside the building.

All participants, parents, and spectators are expected to adhere to the highest standards of sportsmanship and fair play. Race officials may disqualify &/or eject anyone not on their best behavior. Cooperation at the pack level will assure your racers a great day to remember.

**Finally, above all "DO YOUR BEST!"  
Sportsmanship - The Big Win!**

Volunteers needed to serve on our Race Committee, please contact [info@powahay.com](mailto:info@powahay.com). We are looking for one pack representative from each of our packs.