

Suwannee River Area Council  
Pinewood Derby Council Race & Show Car Judging - 2015

To: All Cub Masters, Pack Committee Chairs and Pack Derby Coordinators  
From: Joe Elebash, 2015 SRAC Pinewood Derby Committee Chairman

**Official Rules and Procedures for the  
2015 Suwannee River Area Council Pinewood Derby Races.**

The attached rules will be the only guidelines used for the Council Derby. The 2015 Suwannee River Area Council Pinewood Derby will be held on **May 9, 2015**, in the Governor's Square Mall (In front of Dillard's). Please ensure that all Cub Scout families receive copies of these rules and procedures, as part of your Pinewood Derby program. Also attached are some procedures that will be followed on race day, by the participants.

**Please review these procedures with all participants sent to the Council race.**

As in past years, this year's racers will have **staggered check-in** and start times for each rank/level. The check-in and race times will be as shown on the attached Race Day Schedule. There will be no overall races, i.e. Tiger Cubs racing against Webelos or Bears against Wolves, etc. All races will be conducted appropriately, according to rank/age level, with all awards presented following each race. Our goal is that the longest time any individual Cub Scout will be required to be at the races will be an hour and a half or less, from the beginning of his check-in period until the end of the awards period for that race. The only exception will be the Design/Show car entries, which will be on display for 3 hours. However, unlike the racers, those Cub Scouts entering show cars may enter their cars and return later for the awards ceremony.

Please return the enclosed entry form and all applicable fees to the Council Office, no later than **April 24, 2015**, so that we may know your Pack's intention to participate and the entrants that you are sending to the race. All entry fees must be paid prior to race day, along with the entry form. Once the data entry person has collected the registration forms from the Council Office there will be no late entries. We will not be equipped to take in money on race day any entrant not paid prior to race day will not be allowed to enter the race. We are not be able to make exceptions to this payment policy. **Boys may only enter to race or as a show car at the Council Derby but not both. Scouts are required to wear their Class A uniforms to participate.** All racers, parents and leaders are reminded that the races will be held in a public area and that no negative attitudes or comments will be permitted. Any person displaying such attitude or making such comments will be asked to leave the race area. Let's remind all of our scouts, leaders and parents of the values of good sportsmanship.

Also, as you will note from the enclosed race day information sheet, there will be no "garage" or other car repair facility setup at the race area. Any repairs/adjustments needing to be made prior to final entry of the cars will need to be made **outside of the Race area**. We have established a pre -inspection/weigh-in day, at the Scout Shop on **April 29th from 5:30pm – 6:30pm**. While all cars will have to be re-inspected and re-weighed on race day it will be a good time for scouts to bring their cars in and have them inspected and weighed on the same scales that will be used on race day and they may make any adjustments needed that day and have them inspected and weighed, as many times as they wish.

If you have any questions related to allowed car design or specifications or need clarification of anything within these rules/procedures, you may contact Joe Elebash at [Joe.Elebash@mainline.com](mailto:Joe.Elebash@mainline.com). Also, please see the Council's website at <http://www.suwanneeriver.net> for these documents and other information.

If you would like to display your Pack's flag or a banner on Race Day, you may bring it to  
the Mall **Friday night (May 8<sup>th</sup>) at 9:00pm.**

You will be responsible for picking it up by 4:00pm Saturday.

**Suwannee River Area Council Pinewood Derby Race**

**Registration Form**

**Race Date: May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**The entry fee per car is \$7.00 – made payable to BSA**  
**Return to: Council Office 2032 Thomasville Rd. Tallahassee, Fl. 32308**

**Fees must be paid with entry form!**

**Please PRINT:**

**Return by April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

PACK # \_\_\_\_\_

Cub master's Name & Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Pinewood Derby Chairperson's Name & Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Scouts may enter their car as a Show Car or Race Car but NOT both**

**SHOW CARS**

Scout's Name & Rank:

Show Car categories:

Show Car Judging Criteria:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_

- Most patriotic
- Most Creative
- Best Sports Theme
- Best Scout Theme
- Judges Choice

- Original idea
- "Boy Made"
- Best Detail
- Creativity
- Overall appearance

**Top Three Racers in Each Rank:**

Tiger Cubs

Alternate:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

(Only if an entrant cannot participate)

\_\_\_\_\_

WOLVES

Alternate:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

(Only if an entrant cannot participate)

\_\_\_\_\_

BEARS

Alternate:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

(Only if an entrant cannot participate)

\_\_\_\_\_

WEBELOS I

Alternate:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

(Only if an entrant cannot participate)

\_\_\_\_\_

WEBELOS II

Alternate:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

(Only if an entrant cannot participate)

\_\_\_\_\_

Suwannee River Area Council  
Pinewood Derby - 2015  
Design/Show Car Judging Information

**Design/Show Car Category Explanations**

**Most Patriotic** – a car that shows American colors (Red, White & Blue), Flags, etc.

**Most Creative** – a car that show imagination, futuristic, or past history.

**Best Sports theme** – a car in the sports arena – football, soccer, basketball, etc. favorite team colors or mascots.

**Best Scout theme** – a car that shows Scout values, colors (Cub or Boy Scout), Scout emblems, etc.

**Judges' choice** – a car that doesn't seem to fit in any of the above categories but has high qualities in other areas. A car in a class of its own.

Also, if there are too many entrees in one category, the Judges reserve the right to place any car in a different category with fewer entrants giving more boys the opportunity to win.

**Explanation of Show Car Judging Criteria (Scoring)**

**1 – 10 points; - 10 being the best.**

**Original idea** – an idea unique and unusual.

**Detail** – careful thought taken in planning, design & building of the car – attention to detail

**"Boy" made** – a car that has the signs the boy made the car with little or no help from an adult

**Creative** – a car that took time to create and design

**Overall Appearance** - careful workmanship and planning to create the overall appearance

The Judges will take know if a Tiger, Wolf, Bear, or Webelos enters a car – this will be taken into account when awarding the points for a car. Each car will receive points ranging from 1 to 10 from each judge and will be judged by 3 – 5 judges (No judge will judge his or her own pack's car). The Head Judge will judge the car of any one who can't judge a car in a certain category.

When the tally sheets have been turned into the Head Judge, the scores of each car will be tallied. (In case of a tie – the Judges will be called back and given the opportunity to vote on the top cars.) The cars with the highest points in each category will receive the Medals for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. The 3 cars with the Highest scores overall will receive a Trophy for Best of Show. No car may receive an award in more than one design category. The head Judge will make any final judgments necessary.

**Suwannee River Area Council Pinewood Derby – 2015**

# Official Rules

The SRAC Pinewood Derby Committee will be utilizing the BSA Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Rules that are included inside your official BSA Grad Prix Pinewood Derby kit as well as the “standard wheelbase” requirement as indicated in the car specifications below.

## **CAR SPECIFICATIONS:**

- Maximum width: -  $2 \frac{3}{4}$ " – Maximum length - 7" – Maximum Height  $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " – Maximum weight - 5 Ounces
- Minimum width between wheels –  $1 \frac{3}{4}$ "
- Minimum bottom clearance between car and track –  $\frac{3}{8}$ "
- Maximum wheelbase - 4 1/2 inches  
(The Wheelbase is the distance from the center of the front wheel/axle to the center of the rear wheel/axle on the same side of the car)  
Show cars ONLY may have a Maximum height of 7"

## **RULES**

**Boys may only enter to race or show at the Council level not both.**

- Wheel bearings, washers, and bushings are prohibited.
  - The car shall not ride on springs.
  - Only official Cub Scout Grand Prix Pinewood Derby wheels and axles are permitted.
  - Only dry lubricant is permitted.
  - Details, such as steering wheel and driver are permissible as long as these details do not exceed the maximum length, width and weight specifications. The car must be free-wheeling, with no starting devices.
  - Each car (both racers and design/show competitors) must pass inspection by the official inspection committee before it may compete.
  - If a car does not pass inspection, the owner will be informed of the reason for failure, and given time within the official check-in time to make any adjustments. A car not able to meet specifications will be disqualified.
  - After final approval, cars will not be re-inspected unless the car is damaged in handling or in a race.
  - The scale used on race day will be a digital scale with an exact 5-ounce weight and is the only official scale.
  - Any lubricant which remains wet after application may not be used on any part of the car. Nor shall any powdered lubricant be allowed to “spill out” of the car during check-in or racing, as to mess up the track.
  - Axle shafts must be from the current BSA Pinewood Derby Kit and must not have any material added to them, other than appropriate lubrication. Axle shafts may be sanded to remove burrs from the metal, but may not be altered in any other manner (including grooves, etc.).
  - Axle slots or drilling holes permissible – As long as all required dimensions and clearances are maintained.
  - Wheels must be from the current BSA Pinewood Derby Kit and can have the bore of the hub (hole in center) cleaned of any obstructions and the contact surface (around the circumference) smoothed but cannot have the cross section or tread reshaped in anyway. Wheels will not be checked for contact with the track.
  - The forward most edge of the car must be wide and low enough to rest against the rear of the starting gate pin (in center of its lane) or it will be disqualified from racing.
  - **The objective** of the Pinewood Derby is to allow a Cub Scout advised and assisted by an adult partner to design and **build a wood car from the Official BSA Pinewood Derby Kit**. The Pinewood Derby is not intended to be a contest of expensive and exotically built cars.
- Race officials are provided pictures of all the commonly available pre-cut car kits.**
- Any kit cars found will be immediately disqualified.**
- All rules interpretations and judgments related to these rules and the race are the sole prerogative of the SRAC Derby Committee Chairman and his ruling(s) shall be final.

**You may NOT use a pre-cut car kit!!!**

**Suwannee River Area Council**  
**Pinewood Derby – May 9, 2015**  
**Race Day - Car Owners Instructions**

- All cars entered must be the same cars that were raced during the Pack's 2015 races and should be cars made after the 2013 Council Pinewood Derby races.
- If a registered owner is unable to attend the Council's Pinewood Derby or is not physically able to race his car, he may designate another Cub Scout or Leader to act in his place. This person will be called a handler. □□All car owners or handlers are required to be in an **official BSA uniform shirt** (not a T-shirt) to participate in the Derby (we want all eligible scouts to participate– exceptional circumstances considered)
- While we will make every effort to allow every eligible scout to participate, Car owners or handlers must present their car for check-in and inspection during the announced time on race day or risk not being able to participate.
- No entrant for any race period will be accepted, after that race period has begun.
- Only the racers listed on the Pack's official entry form will be allowed to enter the race.
- The alternate racer(s) will only be allowed to enter the race if one of the top 3 entrants does not arrive to enter. Any alternate will have their car inspected and placed in a temporary impound area until such time as the check-in period ends. Any alternate who is left in the temporary impound area will then be entered into the race.
- Car owners or handlers will be the only persons touching the cars, under supervision, once they are impounded and only at the time(s) that they are called to lineup for a race. Car owners and handlers must stay alert for the call of their name during the race.
- All lubrication or other service must be completed prior to presenting the car for technical inspection because all cars will immediately be impounded for the duration of its eligibility to race.
- Under no circumstances will any lubrication be applied to any axles or wheels once the car is impounded, including a car that has lost an axle or wheel during the race and has to have the axle or wheel replaced.
- There will be no onsite facility for pre-race repair/adjustments to cars. Any adjustments or repairs that require removal of wood, drilling, hammering or application of powdered lubricants must be made outside.
- There will be no overall council championship race, where Cub Scouts of different levels compete against one another.
- Anyone touching or attempting to touch another racer's car, without express permission from the car owner/handler and under the supervision of the race official, will be asked to leave the race area and if a racer, will have his own car disqualified.
- Any car owner or handler bumping or stepping on or across the Pinewood track as well as anyone causing such action will be subject to disqualification.
- Any person displaying poor behavior can be asked to leave the race area.
- All racers, parents and leaders are reminded that the races will be held in a public area and that no negative attitudes or comments will be permitted. Any person displaying such attitude or making such comments will be asked to leave the race area.
- Please remind your scouts of the qualities of good sportsmanship.
- **It is strongly suggested that all Cub Scout Adult Leaders as well as car owners and their parents read all rules and procedures.**
- The Council Pinewood Derby Committee recommends that car owners should be given the responsibility to hold their own cars from after the Pack Pinewood Derby until presentation at the Council Race.  
*Please see the Council's website at <http://www.suwanneeriver.net> for these documents and other information.*

**Suwannee River Area Council**  
**Pinewood Derby –May 9, 2015**

|   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Webelos II Race Car Check-in                | 10:00 am                    |
|   | 10:25 am                    |
| Computer input                              | 10:25 am                    |
|   | 10:30 am                    |
| Webelos II Races                            | 10:30 am                    |
| <b><u>Show Car Check-in - ALL RANKS</u></b> | 10:00am                     |
| Show car computer input                     | 10:30 am                    |
| Tiger Race Car Check-in                     | 10:30am                     |
| Computer input                              | 10:55 am                    |
| Webelos II Awards                           | 11:00am                     |
| Design/Show Car Judging                     | 11:00                       |
| Tiger Races                                 | 11:15am                     |
| Tiger Awards                                | 11:45am                     |
| <b>Break</b>                                | <b>12:00 noon - 12:30pm</b> |
| Webelos I Race Car Check-in                 | 12:30pm                     |
| Computer input                              | 12:55pm                     |
| Design/Show Car Awards                      | 1:00pm                      |
| Webelos I Races                             | 1:15pm                      |
| Wolf Race Car Check-in                      | 1:00pm                      |
| Wolf Computer input                         | 1:25pm                      |
| Webelos I Awards                            | 1:40pm                      |
| Wolf Race                                   | 1:50pm                      |
| Bear Race Car Check-in                      | 2:00pm                      |
| Bear computer input                         | 2:25pm                      |
| Wolf Awards                                 | 2:30pm                      |
| Bear Race                                   | 2:45pm                      |
| Bear Awards                                 | 3:15pm                      |

Suwannee River Area Council  
Boy Scouts of America  
2032-C Thomasville Rd  
Tallahassee, FL 32303

## **Basic Rules:**

**Buy your kit from the Scout shop**

**Use the equipment in the box**

**DO NOT exceed the maximum allowed wheelbase**

**Do not use a pre-cut or kit car of any kind**

**Race officials will be provided pictures of all of the commonly available pre-cut car kits. Any kit cars found will be immediately disqualified.**

### **CAR SPECIFICATIONS:**

- **Maximum width - 2 3/4" – Maximum length - 7"**  
**–Maximum Height 3 1/2" – Maximum weight – 5 oz**
- **Minimum width between wheels – 1 3/4" – Maximum wheelbase - 4 1/2 inches**

**(The Wheelbase is the distance from the center of the front wheel/axle to the center of the rear wheel/axle on the same side of the car)**

- **Minimum bottom clearance between Car & track – 3/8"**
- **Showcars ONLY may have a Maximum height of 7"**

**You MAY NOT use a pre – cut car kit of any Kind!!!**

**Be careful of Web sites/books that tell you how to win a race – some techniques are not allowed by Council rules! Please do not let your child's car be disqualified because you did not read the rules!!!**