



## 2011 Pinewood Derby

# Race Rules and Procedures

**Note:** Rules in **bold** are taken directly from the "Rules and Instructions" sheet from the "Official Gran Prix Pinewood Derby® Kit".

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this "Rules and Procedures" document is to ensure a fair and, in turn, fun race for all participants.

### **Entrants**

1. Each Pack will allowed to send at least two (2) Scout participants from each rank level (Tigers, Wolves, Bears, Webelos I, and Webelos II)to compete in the Arrohattoc District Pinewood Derby. Any opportunities to include additional entrants will be stated with the event registration information.
2. If a Unit has more than one Den in any Rank/Level, it is that unit's responsibility to determine which two Scouts are to advance to the district level, such as conducting a run off amongst those dens until they have only one 1st and one 2nd place winner in each level.
3. Each Scout participant may register only one car in the Arrohattoc District Pinewood Derby race.
4. Each Scout participant's car must be the same car that competed at the Pack Level in the current Scouting year.
5. As the Scout is recognized as the owner of his Pinewood Derby car, the Scout must be present to register his car and must be present for the duration of the race until his car is returned to him from Arrohattoc District Pinewood Derby.

### **Registration, Inspection and Impounding**

1. **Each car must pass inspection by the official inspection Committee before it is entered into the race.**
2. **If, at registration, a car does not pass inspection, the owner will be informed of the reason for failure, and will be given time within the official weigh-in time period to make the adjustment.**
3. Each car to be entered into the Arrohattoc District Pinewood Derby will be inspected for the following points: weight, overall length, overall width, overall height, vehicle clearance and wheel base width.
4. Once a car has been registered, inspected, measured, weighed, and certified, the car will remain impounded until the end of the competition.
5. **After final approval, cars will not be re-inspected unless the car is damaged in handling or in a race.**
6. If a Scout or his guardian chooses to remove the Scout's car from impoundment the car will be removed in its entirety and without the option to return to the race.

### **Scales and Weights**

1. The Arrohattoc District Pinewood Derby staff will acquire a scale or scales to be designated and recognized as the official weight measuring device(s) for weighing any cars to be entered into the Arrohattoc Pinewood Derby.
2. The designated Arrohattoc District Pinewood Derby scale is the official and only recognized weight measuring device for determining the weight of any car to be entered into the Arrohattoc District Pinewood Derby.
3. The Arrohattoc District Pinewood Derby Staff will acquire and designate at least one (1) 5 oz. weight to be used to verify the accuracy of the scale(s) being used to at least one (1) decimal place but no more than two (2) decimal places on the display of the scale.
4. At random times during the registration process, the designated 5 oz. weight or weights will be used to verify the accuracy of any scales used for the check-in process.
5. If the display of the designated scale shows a figure of 5.0 then the scale shall be determined to be accurate for use during the Pinewood Derby registration process.
6. The weighing of any car between two successful scale accuracy verifications, where the test caused the display to show a figure of 5.0 oz., shall be considered accurate.
7. Any protests regarding any discrepancies between a scale used by an entrant prior to the check-in process and any designated official Arrohattoc District Pinewood Derby scale will not be addressed; the Arrohattoc District Pinewood Derby scale is the recognized weight measuring device.

### **Tracks and Lanes**

1. Traditionally, tracks used for the Arrohattoc District Pinewood Derby have been graciously loaned to the District by the Units within the district.
2. The number of cars run during any one heat on a track is determined by the number of lanes available given the track provided. Typically, tracks have three or four lanes.
3. At the beginning of any heat, a car will be placed at the starting point of a lane as a result of chance and without preference to the Scout or any aspect of the car.

### **The Race**

1. The Arrohattoc District Pinewood Derby Committee will determine what type of race will be run for the District Pinewood Derby and will announce the type in advance of the event. At present, two popular methods of race events are 1) double elimination and 2) Stearns-Borom method.
2. Cars will not be purposely pre-arranged in any order for any reason before the start of the race to affect its placement in any heat during the race. However, cars may start in the same order that they were impounded.

### **Race Issues**

1. During any heat, all cars must run and come to a stop in the lane in which they started and do so without having left their respective lanes and without interfering with any of the other cars in that heat.
2. If, during a heat, any car should leave its lane, a designated race official will inspect the track. If a track fault is found to have caused any car to leave its lane, then the race official will order the track fault to be corrected and the heat to be rerun.
3. If, during a heat, a car leaves its lane without crossing the finish line and without interfering with any other car on the track, it shall be considered to have successfully completed the heat and have done so at the point where it left its lane.
4. If, during a heat, a wheel/axle assembly of a car falls off, the wheel/axle assembly will be re-attached with the simplest method possible by a race judge or other race official. No adhesives will be used to re-attach a lost wheel for any subsequent heats or the duration of the race.
5. If, during a heat, any weight or decorative component of a car falls off, with the exception of a wheel/axle assembly, the weight or component will not be re-attached for any subsequent heats or the duration of the race.
6. If, during a heat, a car or any of its components have been determined to have interfered with another car, then, at the race

chairman's discretion, the heat may be re-run with or without the offending car.

7. If, during a heat, no car reaches the finish line and there appears to be no track fault or car faults, then the heat will have been declared complete. Each car's placement will be relative to its distance from the finish line. Ex. The car closest to the finish line will be declared to be in first place, the second closest will be in second place and so on.

#### **Protests & Decisions**

1. The Arrohattoc Pinewood Derby Chairperson may determine if any car is not in compliance with any rule in this document or the spirit of the Arrohattoc District Pinewood Derby race.
2. In the event of a protest, the Arrohattoc Pinewood Derby Chairperson will attempt to gather as much pertinent information with which to make as fair of a decision as possible with respect to the race and all parties involved.
3. ALL DECISIONS DECLARED BY THE ARROHATTOC PINEWOOD DERBY CHAIRPERSON ARE FINAL.