

Gulf Stream Council Pinewood Car Construction Rules

For use in Pack, District ,and Council Races

Eligibility of Cars

Competing cars must have been made for this race season by the scout and their Akela. Cars purchased online or from commercial sources are prohibited. Cars or parts of cars such as wheels or axles, from previous years, may not be used. All car parts must be part of the standard Gran Prix Pinewood Derby Kit or are BSA Nationally approved accessories sold in the Scout Shop. The same care must be run at all race levels. No modifications are permitted to the car after running the first race.

Inspections and Disputes

Each car **must pass inspection** by an Official Inspection Team before it may compete. Car owners will be informed of any construction violations and may be given an opportunity to modify the car to meet these rules prior to the official start time of the first race. The decisions of the inspectors and the Pinewood Chair are final and should promote participation, sportsmanship, and fair play.

Length, Width & Clearance

- Maximum overall width (including wheels and axles) shall not exceed 2 ¾"
- Minimum width between wheels shall be 1 ¾" so car will clear the center guide strip.
- Minimum clearance between the bottom of the car and track shall be 3/8" so the car will clear the center guide strip.
- Maximum length (including wheels) shall not exceed 7"
- Maximum height shall not exceed 2 ¾"
- The wheelbase (distance between the front and rear axles, center to center) may not be changed from the kit body distance of 4 3/8". Axles must stay in originally provided slots.
- No magnets on or in car body or wheels.

Wheels and Axles

- Only the wheels and axles from the official Gran Prix Pinewood Derby kit may be used.(1)
- Washers, bearings or bushings are prohibited.
- Axles may be lightly filed, sanded and polished. (2)
- Wheels may be sanded, trued, and polished with a flat tread surface. The ridges on the outside edge of the wheel must remain intact. (3)
- All cars must be freewheeling, with no starting devices.

Weight and Appearance

- Weight shall not exceed 5 ounces. The readings of the Official Race Scale will be considered final.
- The car may be carved, sculpted, and/or sanded in order to enhance performance and/or appearance.
- No loose materials of any kind are permitted on or inside the car.
- Indented or notched noses are prohibited.

Lubrication

- Only dry powdered lubricants, such as graphite and/or white powder Pinewood Derby Car Lubricant, may be used. Oils and silicone sprays **are prohibited**.
- A car may be lubricated before inspection only. No lubrication may be added after racing has begun.

(1) Wheels and axles not from the official kits are prohibited. Wheels and axles which have been modified by other parties also are prohibited, even if they are from the official kit. Accessories sold by BSA National Catalog or Scout Shop are permitted.

(2) Beveling, rounding, tapering, thinning, perforating, or any other significant altering of the shape of the axles or axle heads is prohibited.

(3) Beveling, rounding, tapering, thinning, perforating, or any other significant altering of the shape of the wheels or wheel hubs is prohibited. Modification of the cylindrical inner wall of the wheel which contacts the axle is prohibited.

(4) Caution: Graphite will produce a gray residue on floors and carpet which is difficult to clean up. It is highly recommended you do not use this for indoor races.