

DLS Pinewood Derby - Official Rules

How do I participate?

It's easy to participate in this competition. Just follow these simple instructions:

- ❖ Complete the DLS Pinewood Derby Registration Form and provide payment for the Pinewood Derby car kit. *(Please note that you must purchase the DLS-provided car kit to compete in the DLS Pinewood Derby. All other car kits will be disqualified.)*
- ❖ Prepare your car. Once you have received the car kit, you may modify the block of wood in any way as long as you stay within the parameters outlined below.
- ❖ Paint and decorate your car; let your creativity shine! *(NOTE: Your design must not conflict with Deer Lake School values.)* Awards will be given out based on design as well as speed.
- ❖ Show up to the DLS Pinewood Derby Race Day (Wednesday, April 30th, 2025 from 3:30 - 5:00 pm).
- ❖ Bring your car to the DLS Pinewood Derby Inspection Committee table at lunch on race day for final approval.
- ❖ Start your engines!! 😊

Contest Rules

- ❖ Derby Car Dimension Rules
 - The overall length of the car shall not exceed 7 inches (17.8 cm).
 - The overall width of the car shall not exceed 2 ¾ inches (7.0 cm).
 - The car must have 1 ¾" (4.5 cm) clearance between the wheels.
 - The car must have 3/8" (1.0 cm) clearance underneath the body so it does not rub on the track.
- ❖ Derby Car Weight Rules
 - The car shall weigh at least 4.0 ounces but shall not exceed 5.0 ounces as weighed on the official event scale.
 - The official race scale that is used at car check-in shall be considered final.
- ❖ Derby Car Modification Rules
 - The officially provided pinewood block must be used; no other wood block is permitted.
 - The block may be shaped in any way that is desired. However, no modifications or added parts may extend beyond the front of the provided block.
 - The officially provided pinewoodpro.com wheels must be used. The wheels may NOT be cut, drilled, bevelled or rounded.
 - The axles may be polished and lubricated. However, only **dry** lubricants may be used to lubricate wheels, including graphite powder, Teflon powder, or others. **No liquid lubricants are allowed.**
 - The axles must be placed at the provided cuts in the pinewood block.
 - **Cars must be powered by gravity only!** This means no engines, rubber bands, wind-up motors, springs, magnets, rocket motors, CO₂ cartridges, thermo-nuclear reactors, plasma boosters, rodents on hamster wheels, or any other thrust generation or enhancement devices are permitted.
- ❖ Other Pinewood Derby Race Rules
 - Once a car passes inspection and is entered into the race, only race committee members can touch it.
 - If the car loses a wheel or is otherwise damaged, the racer shall have 5 minutes to make repairs.
 - Each car must pass inspection by the official inspection committee before it will be allowed to compete.
 - The Inspection Committee is responsible for disqualifying those cars that do not meet these rules.
 - Sharp and/or power tools may only be used under the supervision of an adult.