

West Shore Adventure Guides/Princesses Pinewood Derby Rules

General Information

1. *You must purchase the car kit from Guides/Princesses, not from Pat Catans, hobby shops, online, etc. Those kits will not pass inspection and will be disqualified!*
2. To assist your child in designing their race car to scale, have them trace the side view of the car and wheels on a sheet of paper.
3. **This is a father/child project! Please include your child in the design/preparation/finishing.**
4. Cars from previous years cannot be run in the child's race, they may be entered in the Dad's-only race.
5. If a car has a malfunction, the entrant will be given 5 minutes to repair the problem. No additional lube can be added!
6. Car kit, (wood block, wheels, axles) weigh about 3.9 oz., a wedge shape, hollowed out on the bottom for weights, with wheels, etc. about 2.5 oz. **1 ounce = 28.3 grams**

Weigh-in

1. Cars must be completed prior to weigh-in. Times and date will be published on the website.
2. Cars not meeting specifications can be fixed at weigh-in. Tools are available for minor modifications.
3. All cars will be kept at the race location after weigh-in and through completion of racing on race day. The race committee will bring all cars entered in the race to the race.

Assembly Requirements

1. You must use the wood block, plastic wheels and metal axles provided in the kit.
2. No wheel bearings or bushings of any kind are permitted.
3. Wheel width must be kept the same (wheels cannot be shaved or beveled to make them narrower).
4. Tread on the wheels can be sanded smooth, as long as exterior size and shape are not altered.
5. Axle length and width (diameter) cannot be changed; however, burrs may be removed.
6. Washers may be used on the axles, and the axles may be polished.
7. A lubricant may be used on the axles/wheels prior to weigh-in. No changes or additional lubrication may be added after weigh-in, including the day of the race.

Car Specifications

1. The wheelbase cannot be altered from the original block design (currently 5 inches).
2. The maximum height of the car is two and one-half (2.5) inches.
3. The minimum clearance beneath the car is 3/8 of an inch.
4. Add-ons may not cause the body of the car to be wider than the axles, or longer than the original block.
5. The mass of the car cannot exceed 5 ounces (about 141.5 grams), as determined by the weigh-in scale.
6. Any figures, windshields, decals, etc. used to decorate the car must be securely fastened and remain within the dimensional specifications.
7. The center of the front of the car must be the farthest forward part. It rests on the starting gate pin. If it does not, the car will be run backwards.

Building Suggestions

1. Experience suggests that the key factors affecting speed are weight, lubrication, wheels and axles.
2. The car kits do not include weights. Washers, lead, etc. can be added to reach the 5-ounce limit.
3. Paint/sealer will add to the weight of the car
4. Weight should be added to the center of the car (to help it stay on the track).
5. Weights added to the bottom of the car should be recessed to allow for clearance per specifications.
6. Removable weights are recommended in case cars are overweight at the weigh-in. Most Post Offices have a scale in the lobby, open 24 hours, so try and weigh your car to get it close.

Dad's Race – Optional

1. If scheduled, each father and/or Tribe may enter a separate car in a "Dads-only Race."
2. Fathers'/Tribe cars are weighed in at the same time as the child's cars.
3. The Dad's race will be run at a time determined by the race committees.
4. You must use the wood block, plastic wheels and metal axles provided in the standard kit.
5. The weight cannot exceed 5 ounces. The wheelbase of the car must be 5 inches.
6. The car may not be wider than the axles or longer than the original block.
7. No propulsion of any kind.
8. Other than Dad's rules 1-7, anything goes!!!