

# Pack 285 – Oak Grove UMC – Little Elm, TX

## Pinewood Derby Rules

The Pinewood Derby consists of three parts: registration, the racing (Scout Division & Open Division), and awards.

### Car Building:

1. All scouts, LEADERS, parents, & siblings, etc are encouraged to build and race a car.
1. All **scouts** are encouraged to build a new car and improve on what they have learned over time, maybe try something different, plus for most this counts as part of an achievement or elective toward rank advancement.

### Race Day: (racer as used below is the car you will register for the appropriate division)

1. Registration - At registration the racers will be verified that the cars meet the specifications listed below. Please do not wait until the last minute to try and get your racer(s) registered as you may need time make minor modifications to your racer(s) in order for it to be allowed to race. The only scale that counts is the 'official' scale, a digital postal scale, at time of registration, so be careful of your weight if using food scales. If you can not be there for registration, you can have someone else register your racer(s) for you. Please plan your time accordingly so we can start the races on time.
2. Post-Registration – After registering, the car will only be handled by race officials. All cars will be giving an equal amount of graphite lubrication prior to racing. This type of handling is to ensure a consistent and fair event.
3. Racing – We will be racing two divisions - Scouts and Open. The Open is for all who want to build a racer which could include siblings, parents, grandparents, pastors, etc. Participants can register one racer per division. That means scouts may build and register one racer for the Scout Division and one for the Open Division.
4. Awards [within 30 minutes from the conclusion of the last Scout Division race] – Awards will **only** be for the Scout Division. The Open Division is just for bragging rights ☺
  - a. The Top 3 best overall times will receive trophies.
  - b. The Best in Show for design, creativity, etc. will receive a trophy.
  - c. Medals will be awarded for different categories like Best Paint Job, Most Patriotic, Most Creative, etc. depending on the Pinewood Derby Crew's decision for that given year.
  - d. All scout participants will receive a ribbon, patch and participant card.

### Specifications: (racer as used below is the car you will register for the appropriate division)

1. Maximum racer size, including wheels, may not exceed 7" in length, 2 ¾" in width, and 3" race height. For the design awards you may have taller cars but those items that exceed 3" must be removable to meet the race height and pass under the timer mechanism.
2. Minimum width between wheels shall be 1 ¾" but shall not exceed the maximum width of the racer, 2 ¾".
3. Minimum ground clearance between the bottom of the racer and the track shall be 3/8".
4. Weight of the racer shall **not** exceed 5 oz. No loose materials are permitted in or on the racer. The racer may be hollowed or drilled out and built up to the maximum weight by the addition of wood or metal only, provided any additional material is securely built/secured in or to the racer body.
5. Wheel bearings, washers, and bushings **are** prohibited.
6. Axles must be made of independent nails equivalent to what comes in the BSA Pinewood Derby box and may be polished and/or de-burred. **For the Open Class only:** *Fixed or single axles are permitted.*
7. Wheels must be BSA molded. Wheels may be de-burred, and/or polished. All four wheels must make contact with the track when the racer is at rest, have the approximate standard tread width of 1cm, and have a consistent flat surface across that tread. **For the Open Class only:** *Wheels may be concaved or have a smaller tread width, but must still meet the minimum wheel width.*
8. Racer shall not ride on any type of springs.
9. Details are permissible as long as they do not exceed the maximum length, width, height, and weight specifications.
10. Racer must be freewheeling. No starting devices allowed.
11. Dry graphite is the only approved lubricant for all divisions. This is to preserve the integrity of the track and racing equality.

### Rules:

1. Once a racer is registered no one may touch that racer except by a race official or as directed by a race official.
2. No modifications, changes or additions may be made to a racer unless the racer has suffered damage and approved by a race official.
3. At no time will the addition of lubricant be allowed after registration, unless done by a race official for all racers in a consistent manner.

### Side notes:

1. The cars run on guides so wheel width minimums and ground clearance are extremely important for the car to move down the track.
2. You may want to epoxy your axles in as sometimes due to handling either by race officials or you the axles may fall out or become untrue.