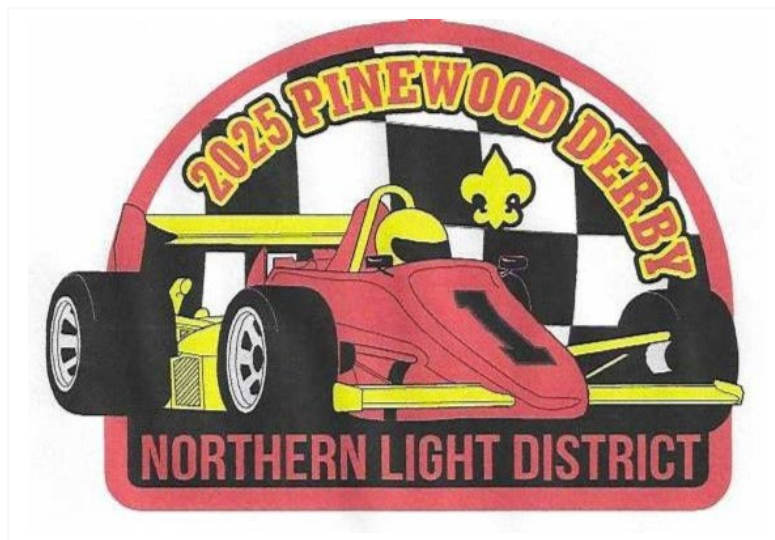


**NORTHERN LIGHT DISTRICT  
SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE COUNCIL  
2026 PINWOOD DERBY**



**SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026  
TOWN HALL ANNEX  
381 MAIN STREET  
WEST NEWBURY, MA**

**PLEASE REMEMBER:**

**THE CAR IS TO BE BUILT BY THE SCOUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION AND AID OF AN ADULT.**

**CARS MUST BE MADE FROM AN OFFICIAL CUB SCOUT KIT.**

**CARS THAT ARE EXTREMELY MODIFIED FROM THE KIT IN A WAY THAT IT IS JUDGED THAT A SCOUT COULD NOT HAVE DONE IT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED.**



## NORTHERN LIGHT DISTRICT

### 2026 PINEWOOD DERBY



#### INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION PACKAGE

Dear Pack Leader,

Enclosed in this package you will find information and registration materials for the 2025 Northern Light District Pinewood Derby. You will find the following enclosed:

- The latest Pinewood Derby rules, which should be duplicated and given to all Cubs and Leaders.
- A reminder memo that should also be duplicated and given to all Scouts and Leaders.
- A short reminder memo about sportsmanship that should be shared with each participant.
- A letter to Scouts and parents outlining what they can do to help the day go smoothly.
- Please make sure that each racer has a copy of the letter, the rules, and a copy of the race classifications.

If you have any questions, please email the NLD Activities Committee at [nldsactivities@comcast.net](mailto:nldsactivities@comcast.net).

Have a good race, but most of all...have fun!

# **NORTHERN LIGHT DISTRICT 2026 PINWOOD DERBY RACE CLASSIFICATIONS AND SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026**

Note – We will try to run on time, but delays happen.

**Check-in for all races ends ten minutes prior to race time.**



**Lion Cubs (3 per pack) and  
Tiger Cubs (3 per pack)**

Check-in begins at 9:00 AM

Race begins at 9:45 AM



Note: Lions and Tigers will race together,  
but results and awards for each level will be separate.



**Wolves (3 per Pack) and  
Bears (3 per Pack)**

Check-in begins at 9:45 AM

Race begins at 10:45 AM



Note: Lions and Tigers will race together,  
but results and awards for each level will be separate.

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**Webelos Scouts (3 per Pack) and  
Arrow of Light Scouts (3 per  
Pack)**

Check-in begins at 10:45 AM

Race begins at 11:45 PM



Note: Webelos and Arrow of Light Scouts will race together,  
but results and awards for each level will be separate.

Note: Arrow of Light Scouts who have crossed over in 2024 prior to this event  
may take part as their pack's representatives.

**NORTHERN LIGHT DISTRICT  
2026 PINWOOD DERBY  
MARCH 21, 2026**

- **NO latecomers will be allowed to race.**
- **ALL racers must be preregistered by March 17. It is the racer's/racer's family's responsibility to be sure that they have been pre-registered.**
- **If a registered racer is not going to attend due to sickness or other reason, please notify the committee ahead of time at [nldbsactivities@comcast.net](mailto:nldbsactivities@comcast.net) or 603-819-1897. We will greatly appreciate the notification.**
- **Three entries per pack per level.**

- Trophies or medals for the top 3 finishers in each level of racing will be awarded as appropriate.
- There will be patches for all participants.
- The cost is \$8.00 per racer.
- Plenty of free parking

Have a fun race and good luck to all!

**\*\* REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED  
BY MARCH 17, 2026 \*\*  
REGISTRATION WILL BE ON-LINE**



## LETTER TO PARENTS

The next page is a letter that can be given to parents of Scouts who qualify and plan to race in the district derby.

### 2026 NORTHERN LIGHT DISTRICT PINWOOD DERBY

Dear Scouts, leaders, and parents,

Congratulations on having won a place to race at the Northern Light District Pinewood Derby. You have done well to make it this far and to represent your pack and we will be very pleased to see you on race day. In order to make your experience as pleasant and fun as possible for all

involved (approximately 120 Scouts and their families), we ask you to observe the following rules.

1. Where possible, only the Cub Scout and one adult should wait in the check-in and inspection line. Other family members can take their seats and await race time. This will, of course, reduce the amount of people waiting in line and helping to avoid problems. Also, the Cub Scouts tend to be much smaller than their accompanying adults and will feel less crushed if there are fewer people in line.
2. Please do not go beyond any barriers to get closer to the track. They are there to ensure the best view for everyone, and to enable staff to work safely and quickly around the track.
3. Instruct all children not to leave the immediate area. We cannot accept responsibility for your children wandering off. Any child that we know to be lost will be taken to the racing area to await collection by a parent. If you become separated from your child, check the racing area. Similarly, if you see a child that appears lost, please tell a race official and they will see that the child is taken to the Check-in table.
4. Any Scout that has won a place at the District Derby has a great car and has done very well. Remember that this is a race of champions and only one car can have the fastest time.
5. Should you feel the need to question a judge's decision, please do so quietly off to one side in order to not disrupt the race.

Please make sure that all Scouts in attendance are wearing their best Class A uniform. We will try to get pictures of the winners entered into the local newspapers. In years past, publications have decided not to print any picture where one or more Scouts were not in uniform. Adult leaders should also wear their Class A uniforms, setting a good example for the Scouts.

Anyone needing assistance should ask either any staff member/race official, or anyone wearing silver epaulets. We have tried to think of things that will ensure that you will have a wonderful time. We hope that you do!

Thank You and Good Luck!

## **NORTHERN LIGHT 2026 DISTRICT PINWOOD DERBY RULES**

The entrant is to have the satisfaction of building his own car from the materials furnished in the kit. Guidance and minimal assistance should be given. The Pinewood Derby is a Scout fun event - parents and adults must honor the Scouting Spirit and be a good example for the Scouts.

Please recognize that the staff of the District Pinewood Derby are all volunteers and should be treated with courtesy as they have given up their time for your Scout and many others. Please also recognize that every effort is made to run a fair and equitable event and we are glad to accept volunteers to assist in the future.

### Car Specifications



1. Build

- The car must be made by using an official Cub Scout Pinewood Derby car kit. Any cars that are extremely modified in shape in a way only an adult could do will not be accepted.
- The car must have been built between September 1, 2025 and the pack's race date and must be the same car raced by the Scout in his Pack Pinewood Derby. No alteration of the car is allowed between the entry of the car into the Pack Pinewood Derby and its entry into the District Pinewood Derby except for the addition of dry lubricant into the wheels for the District Pinewood Derby event.

2. Width

- No loose materials will be allowed
- Overall width of the car, including wheels, should not exceed 2 and three-quarter (2.75) inches.

3. Length

- Overall length of the car shall not exceed seven (7) inches. No part of the car may extend past the starting line, regardless of length.

4. Weight

- The weight of the car shall not exceed 5.0 ounces as registered by the official scale at the race check-in table. Registration will be on a pass/fail basis system.
- The car may be hollowed out and built up to the maximum weight by the addition of wood, wood filler (e. g. Elmer's Carpenters' Wood filler or any substantially similar product) or metal only, provided it is securely built into the body. No fluids.
- Because the scale used at the district competition may register different than the scale used at the pack competition, you should be prepared to change the weight of your car at the competition. The scale used at the competition shall be the official scale. Efforts will be made to calibrate the official scale to ensure accurate weight registration.
- No loose materials are permitted in or on the car. Therefore, any removable weights must be securely attached.

5. Wheels

- Washers, bushings, or any other type of bearing are prohibited. Wheel treatment (hub and tread smoothing and polishing) may not result in substantial removal of mass or in reducing the tread width from the original kit wheels. Wheel tread surface tread must be cylindrical. The letters/words "BSA Pinewood Derby" must remain intact on the exterior of the wheel and the letters/words "Official BSA" must remain intact on the interior of the wheel. The foregoing must be clearly visible to the inspector. Some of the original tread marks must be intact, and apparent to the inspector.

- Wheels may not be altered in any manner except for truing the wheel by removal of the burrs remaining from the injection molding process. The entire surface of the wheel must be capable of contact with the track as the wheel rolls. Any other alteration, including but not limited to shaping the tread to reduce track contact is disqualifying.

- No materials, including weights, may be added to the wheels.

- All four wheels must contact the track surface.

6. Axles and Wheelbase
- Only the axles (nails) provided with the kit are permitted. Full axles or other substitutes are prohibited, and axle points must be visible. There can be no changes made to the axle slots – the car must use the axle slots already made in the kit. The axles must be inserted into the pre-cut axle slots.
7. Springs
- The car shall not ride on any type of springs.
8. Details
- Details, such as steering wheel, driver, decals, painting, and interior details, are permissible as long as they do not exceed the maximum length, width, and weight specifications and are securely attached.
- Be sure everything is attached securely. Other than wheels, items that come loose during racing will not be reattached.
- No modifications may be made to a car once it has passed inspection and has been accepted for racing
9. Attachments
- The car must be free wheeling with no starting devices.
10. Inspection
- Each car must pass inspection by the official inspection committee before it may compete. The inspectors have the right to disqualify cars not meeting the above specifications.

### **Suggestions and Hints**

- Maintain at least a 3/8” space between the bottom of the car and the bottom of the wheels to prevent drag on the guide strip.
- Lubricate the axles where the wheel rotates – just below the axle head. Use dry lubricant only, such as graphite. Do not use regular or silicone spray since it might soften the plastic and mess up the track.
- Be sure everything is attached to the car securely. Other than wheels, items that come loose during racing will not be re-attached during a race.

### **Racing Rules**

1. Each Heat will be announced
2. The Starter will make sure that cars are on the track properly and then will start the race.
3. Placing will be determined by the cumulative time from all races in each division – lowest cumulative time is the winner.
4. Awards will be announced after all of the heats are completed. The trophy winners will then report to the stage.
5. The decisions of the race officials are final.
6. The track will be cleaned off after each division’s races have finished. It will be cleaned with dry cloths per the manufacturer’s instruction manual.

Note: The track in use will be Pack 26’s track.