

Lutheran Girl Pioneers, Inc

International Pinecar Derby Rules

Rules for entering & racing your derby car

Contents of the Pinecar Kit sold by the Girl Pioneers National Office:
1 pine wood block, 4 wheels, 2 axles, and a strip of 5 hub caps



These rules are the official rules for the 2025 International Pinecar Derby

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RACING & CRAFT SPECIFICATIONS

Cars that do not meet specifications may be disqualified.

Local Caravan and District rules may vary, but cars wishing to participate in the International Derby must conform to the Lutheran Girl Pioneer International Pinecar rules.

1. KITS

All cars must be built from Pinecar kits sold by the Lutheran Girl Pioneers National Office and must use axles. All cars may only be entered once in a District and International Pinecar Derby.

2. WIDTH

If a car is participating in a Pinecar Derby at any level (Caravan, District or National) its overall width shall not exceed 2 3/4". The wheels, pipes, fenders, or other items must be considered as part of the overall width. Wheels must remain outside of original block width.

3. LENGTH

Total length shall not exceed 7 1/4". Original axle slots and spacing between axles must be used.

4. WEIGHT

Total weight shall not exceed five (5.000) ounces. *Cars at the International Race are measured to the thousandth point; please ensure your local and district scales go to the thousandths.* No materials that can fall off during a race are permitted in or on the cars. Embedded and undercarriage weight may be added but must not be part of the design of the car. Undercarriage weight must leave the clearance noted in #6. Be aware that undercarriage weight may hang up on the braking systems at the end of some tracks and cause the car to be thrown off the track.

5. BEARINGS

Wheel bearings and bushings are prohibited. Metal or plastic washers and spacers are considered bushings and not allowed. Axles and wheels provided in the kit must be used. Wheels may be modified. Axles may not be cut.

6. CLEARANCE

Each car should have a minimum of 5/16" between chassis and road bed.

7. DESIGN

The finished product must have 4 wheels. The complete car must rest behind the starting pin (the car cannot be designed to allow part of the car to be closer to the finish line than the starting pin, thereby creating an advantage over other racers).

8. ATTACHMENTS

All cars must be made from a normal official Pinecar Derby Kit sold by the National LGP Office (4 wheels, 2 axles and pine wood block). Paints, stickers, and decals may be added. Stickers and decals must be less than 3/64" inch thick. No other commercially prepared products such as googly eyes, feathers, or gems, may be added to the design of the car. Pipes, windshields, fenders, and other attachments may be made from parts of the original block that were cut away.

9. LUBRICATION

Any type of lubrication is permitted on the wheels and/or axles but must be applied before the car is entered in the race.

10. HELP

Each participant is to build the car with as little help from adults as possible. Adult advice is encouraged. Adult and parent participation should diminish as the child gets older. A new car must be built each year.

RULES FOR ENTERING AND RACING IN THE INTERNATIONAL DERBY

1. REGISTRATION

The Lutheran Girl Pioneer International Pinecar Derby is open to all Lutheran Girl Pioneers that have a **paid national membership no later than January 1st of the race year and that have placed as winners in their respective district or caravan derby race.**

Twelve cars for speed (4 Sunbeam {Kindergarten- 2nd grade}, four (4) 3rd-5th grade, and four (4) 6th-12th grade) and 12 for craft (4 Sunbeam {Kindergarten- 2nd grade}, four (4) 3rd-5th grade, and four (4) 6th-12th grade) will be allowed from each district if a district race has been held. It is strongly encouraged that districts hold a District Race.

If that is impossible, caravans within that district may enter 6 cars for speed (2 Sunbeam {Kindergarten- 2nd grade}, two (2) 3rd-5th grade, and two (2) 6th-12th grade), and 6 for craft (2 Sunbeam {Kindergarten- 2nd grade}, two (2) 3rd-5th grade, and two (2) 6th-12th grade).

Each girl may enter only 1 car. The car may be entered for only one category- either Speed or Craft (not both).

Speed and Craft categories are Sunbeams, 3rd-5th grades, and 6th-12th grades.

Any car entered in a previous year cannot be re-entered in following years. It must be a newly built car each year.

2. ENTRY FEE

An entry fee per car entered for each category will be established. This fee will be used to help defray the cost of the race.

3. NUMBERING

Each car entered will be assigned a number at the time of registration.

4. ORDER OF RACING

We use a computerized system to set up races. Cars are raced in random order set by the computer.

5. GUIDELINES FOR THE RACE

Each car will run on each of the lanes (ensures fairness). The races may be paused at any time for a break. Overall results will be based on the cumulative time of the races, not points.

6. FINISH

An electronic finish device that picks all places, will be used at the finish line to determine the placement of all the racers.

7. LEAVING THE TRACK

If any car leaves the track on its first run, the race is declared no contest and will be rerun. If the same car leaves the track on a second run the car is disqualified. The race is then rerun. In extenuating circumstances, the judges will make the final determination.

8. ADJUSTMENTS DURING HEATS

No adjustments or repairs are to be made by the racers or racer parent once the racing begins. If adjustments are made by track staff after a car has been registered, the car must be re-inspected and weighed before competing. If something becomes loose, breaks or falls off during the race, the car may still continue to run as long as it does not endanger another car or the track. If by racing, the car might cause damage to the track or interfere with another car, the car will be disqualified at the track staff's discretion. Hub cap repairs will be made by the race staff.

9. CRAFT JUDGING

Scoring will include the following categories:

- A. Detail of design**
- B. Painting**
- C. Quality of workmanship**
- D. Symmetry**
- E. Originality of design**

Each car will be judged on each category. All judges' scores will be added together to determine winners. The car with the most points is the first place car. This continues until all places have been determined. All judges will work independently. The underside of the car will not be included in the judging.