



# Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania's Inaugural Girl Scout Grand Prix

2023

Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania is excited to host its first-ever council-wide pinewood car championship on **Saturday, June 17, at the Lawrence County Community Action Partnership's Frew Mill Campus in New Castle**. Details regarding the final schedule will be shared as the event gets closer.

Knowing that many service units and troops host their own local version of pinewood car races, we wanted to release our official competition rules for cars to qualify for the council-wide Girl Scout Grand Prix early enough to ensure girls who advance from their local competitions to the council-wide competition will all follow the same rules regarding car construction.

Local competition rules may differ (i.e. how the tournament is run) but Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania asks that local organizers all follow the same rules regarding the actual building of girls' pinewood race cars in order to ensure that they will be able to participate at the council-wide level.

Girls who compete and win at their local races will be invited to compete in the council-wide race. Girls who did not compete (or competed and did not place) in a local race will still have the opportunity to race in open classes on the day of the Girl Scout Grand Prix.

## Official Car Regulations

All cars must be made of pine and pass the following inspection to qualify for the race. ***The rules included below are the SAME as those most commonly used by traditional pine car races:***

- The **OVERALL LENGTH** of the pine car shall not exceed **7 inches**.
- The **OVERALL WIDTH** of the pine car shall not exceed **2 ¾ inches**.
  - In addition, pine cars must have **1 ¾ inch CLEARANCE** between the wheels. (This is the distance between the inside of the left and right wheels, and the 1 ¾ inch clearance ensures the pine car will clear the center guide rail of the track.)
- The **OVERALL WEIGHT** of the car shall not exceed **5.0 ounces**.
  - The use of **additional weight** is allowed if your base car, axles, and wheels weigh less than 5.0 ounces. However, keep in mind that additional weight **MUST** be non-movable and securely attached to the car with glue, nails, screws, etc.
  - Weigh your car on a food scale before the official weigh-in to give you a good idea of what it weighs.

- **HELPFUL HINT:** Bring extra weights (in case you want to add weight) and a tool to remove weight (in case your car is too heavy), so you can adjust at weigh-in time.
- **REMEMBER:** The car's TOTAL weight MUST NOT exceed 5.0 ounces. ***The official race scale shall be considered final.***
- The **OVERALL BOTTOM CLEARANCE** of the car should be **3/8** of an inch in order to ensure that the car wheels properly straddle the track.
- Axles, wheels, and body shall be from the materials provided in the kit. Additional wheels can be purchased separately. However, wheels CANNOT be modified in any way.
- Wheel bearings, washers, and bushings are prohibited.
- No lubricating oil may be used. Axles may be lubricated with ONLY powdered graphite in order to protect the track.
- The car shall not ride on any kind of spring.
- The car must be freewheeling, with no starting devices.
- No loose materials of any kind are allowed in the car.

We've included links here for several car kits that can be purchased by girls, troops, or families that will meet our pine car regulations outlined above. Have fun painting and "blinging" your cars as much as you like—BUT REMEMBER—you want to make sure that your car stays within the regulations outlined above AND has the proper clearance to run on the track.

**HOBBY LOBBY:**

SINGLE CAR: <http://www.hobbylinc.com/pine-car-pinewood-derby-basic-car-kit-pinewood-derby-car-p370>

BULK CAR KIT (for troops who want to order supplies for multiple girls):

[http://www.hobbylinc.com/pine-car-basic-block-w:wheels-axles-bulk-6-pinewood-derby-car-p4051?source=froogle&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIzf3Roem1-wIVsP\\_jBx1AcAuMEAQYAyABEgJGjPD\\_BwE](http://www.hobbylinc.com/pine-car-basic-block-w:wheels-axles-bulk-6-pinewood-derby-car-p4051?source=froogle&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIzf3Roem1-wIVsP_jBx1AcAuMEAQYAyABEgJGjPD_BwE)

**ABC PINEWOOD CAR** (multiple car designs to choose from):

<https://www.abc-pinewood-derby.com/>

**PINEWOOD PRO:**

<https://www.pinewoodpro.com/>

**PINECAR:** <https://pinecar.woodlandscenics.com/show/category/CarBlocksAndKits>

**LOWES:** <https://www.lowes.com/pl/Pinewood-derby--Outdoor-games-toys-Outdoors/4294610319?refinement=2289630045>

**JOANN FABRIC:** [https://www.joann.com/pinecar-basic-racer-kit/17366105.html?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIucqasOy1-wIVGfbjBx3V\\_wicEAQYBiABEgKQY\\_D\\_BwE](https://www.joann.com/pinecar-basic-racer-kit/17366105.html?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIucqasOy1-wIVGfbjBx3V_wicEAQYBiABEgKQY_D_BwE)

**ORIENTAL TRADING:** <https://www.orientaltrading.com/woodland-scenics-pine-car-derby-basic-blocks-kit-6-pack-a2-14237661.fltr?keyword=Woodland%20Scenics%20Pine%20Car%20Derby%20Basic%20Blocks%20Kit&directSearch=true>