

PINEWOOD DERBY GUIDELINES



**Larry Hyché, Associate
Office of Men's Ministries
1404 Fairview Ave, Prattville, AL 36066
P.O. Box 681970, Prattville, AL 36068
Telephone: 1-800-264-1225 ext. 268
Fax: (334) 288-2693**

ALABAMA BAPTIST RA RACECAR GUIDELINES

RA Racecar racing is offered for boys as a fun activity. Keep it as fun and don't let competition mar the fun.

Sometimes the big race obscures one of the primary purposes of the derby, that of bringing a boy and his parents or another adult together in a creative, shared and meaningful activity of building a car. Occasions for such shared activities are all too rare. In years to come will the boy remember this race or the experience and time with his parents or a caring adult? Likely, he will have fond memories of his dad (mom, uncle, or leader) teaching him to use woodworking tools. If this process includes casual conversations, laughter and warm feelings, perhaps winning (or losing) the race is not very important in the long run.

The race should teach boys something about the nature of competition in a Christian manner. This means being gracious in winning (this needs to be taught), and at the same time having pride in doing one's best.

BUILDING GUIDELINES

Make copies of these guidelines for parents and others who may help a boy make a car.

To qualify for the association and state race, build according to the following guidelines.

- * **NUMBER ONE RULE** – If in doubt as to what you can do to your car, a general rule to follow is to do only what the majority of builders will do. Change only the shape, color, weight, and distribution of weight.
- * **Car** must be made of wood. Wheels and axles are to be those sold for the RA Racecar by RoyalRacers, under the sanction of the RA Program, or exactly like them.
- * **Overall width** of car, wheels, and axles shall not exceed 2 3/4", length 7". Weight should be 5 ounces or less. The distance between wheels (width) must not be narrower than 1 1/2". The distance between axles (length) must remain as they are on the standard RA Racecar (4 1/8" ± 1/8").
- * **Year Build: The car must be built within the church year that the car is raced.** THE MONTH AND YEAR must be PERMANENTLY placed on the bottom of the car by marker, paint, carving or stamping.
- * **Weight** must be 5 oz. or less. It may be added using most any material you desire. Make sure it is securely attached to the car. Please don't expect race officials to hold up a race while you re-attach weights.



- * **Identification:** For the State Race: The RA EMBLEM or some form of identifying the car as an **RA RACE CAR** must be visible on the car.
- * **Lubrication:** Only dry powder lubricants, such as graphite, may be used. Lubrication is to be done before presenting the car to the race officials.
- * **Wheels:** Scout or hobby store wheels are acceptable if they are the same as the wheels sold by RoyalRacers. Wide wheels 3/8 inch and 1/4 inch tapered wheels are approved. Wafer wheels are not acceptable. Washers, solid axles, running on three wheels or any other changes/additions, which the majority of participants throughout the state do not do, is illegal.
- * **THE FIRST AND LAST RULE OF BUILDING A RA PINEWOOD DERBY CAR IS... DO NOT DO ANYTHING TO YOUR CAR THAT THE MAJORITY OF BUILDERS/RACERS DO NOT DO!**

RACE INSPECTION AND RULES (Race Officials)

1. Each car must pass inspection by the Race Officials before it may compete. Car owner will be informed of the violations of the set rules and given an opportunity to modify the car to meet these rules prior to the race.
2. If there are any questions of the rules, please ask a member of the Race Officials for an interpretation of these rules prior to the race.

RACE PROCEDURES

1. Heats - All races will be run on a system of elimination by heats or by time averaging.
2. Starting - Cars must start by gravity from a standstill, at a starting line on the track, without any help. No pushing will be allowed.
3. Leaving the Track - If any car leaves the track on the first run, there is no contest. The race will be re-run. If the same car leaves the track on the second run, the car is eliminated from the race.
4. Mechanical Problems - If the car suffers a mechanical problem, loses an axle, breaks a wheel, etc., and a repair can be accomplished in a reasonable time, (5-10 minutes), the heat will be run again. If not, the car will automatically lose the heat.

RACE OPPORTUNITIES

CHURCH RACE – Usually held in February.

ASSOCIATION RACE – Usually held within the last two weeks of February or no later than the first weekend of March.

STATE RACE – Alabama Disaster Relief Center, Prattville, AL

ALL 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD PLACE LAD DIVISION AND CRUSADER DIVISION ASSOCIATION WINNERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO ENTER THE STATE RA PINEWOOD DERBY AT THE ALSBOM PINEWOOD DERBY.

WINNERS OF THE STATE RACE ARE THE *FASTEST* LAD OR CRUSADER RA RACERS IN THE STATE.

All participants (except those who placed in the association derby) may enter in the Derby Dash. This race is by grade. Winners will be the fastest first grader, second grader, etc. at the ALSBOM Pinewood Derby.

AWARD CATEGORIES AT THE RA CONGRESS

STATE WINNERS – Lad Division

Crusader Division

Best Looking (chosen from “all” cars at Adventure Weekend)

Most Unique (chosen from “all” cars at the Adventure Weekend)

Almost Anything Goes Race (For the cars that are 5 ounces or less, fit within the race lane, but have been modified in some way different from what the majority of builders/racers have done. For parents, leaders, moms/sisters, and other adults)

DERBY DASH

1st Grade

2nd Grade

3rd Grade

4th Grade

5th Grade

6th Grade

Pinewood derby car kits can be obtained from:

www.maketrackscompany.com

931-935-8201

Royal Racers

Make Tracks Co./ Royal Racers

Your Source for Royal Ambassador Support Products since 1984
Orders can be mailed, Faxed, or Phoned in.



2, 3,4,& 6 lane race car track kits available in center or siderail design
Assembly & finishing available custom stop pads and storage boxes available



Mailing Address:
192 Lovejoy Rd.
Sparta, TN 38583

Additional information and printable order forms are available online at:
www.maketrackscompany.com

Email us: info@royalracers.com

*Phone orders accepted at: (931)935-8201

*Fax number: (931) 935-8203

ROYAL RACERS ORDER FORM

Date _____

Customer Name _____ Phone No. _____













Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Ship to (If not the same as above) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

A. Block <input type="checkbox"/> 	B. Stock Car <input type="checkbox"/> 	C. Fastback <input type="checkbox"/> 	D. Pickup <input type="checkbox"/> 	E. Speeder <input type="checkbox"/> 	F. Wedge <input type="checkbox"/> 
G. Roadster <input type="checkbox"/> 	H. Funny Car <input type="checkbox"/> 	I. Windracer <input type="checkbox"/> 	J. Classic <input type="checkbox"/> 	K. Flash <input type="checkbox"/> 	L. Thunderbolt <input type="checkbox"/> 

Car kits are packaged individually whether purchased individually or in bulk quantities. All plain kits include one piece of wood (block or shape), one set of wheels, one set of pin axles, number stickers, and instructions. Deluxe kits include all the items in the plain kits plus the car base is routed to receive the stick-on weights that are included in the deluxe kit.

Please check wheel choice: 1/4 inch tapered wheel _____ OR 3/8 inch wide track wheel _____

Quantity	Plain Kits Block	Plain Kits Shaped	Deluxe Kits Block	Deluxe Kits Shaped
1-24	4.50	5.75	7.75	8.95
25-49	4.25	5.50	7.50	8.75
50-up	4.00	5.25	7.25	8.25

Fill in ordering quantities and total price in the following blanks:

	Quantity	Price Each	Total Price
Plain Block Kits	_____	_____	_____
Plain Shaped Kits	_____	_____	_____
Deluxe Block Kits	_____	_____	_____
Deluxe Shaped Kits	_____	_____	_____
Extra Wheels & Axles	_____	_____	_____
Extra Weight (3 oz.)	_____	_____	_____
Routed Bottoms	_____	_____	_____
Tube of Graphite	_____	_____	_____

Check Enclosed _____

Bill Us _____

Total \$ _____

RA PINEWOOD DERBY RACE DATES

Church Race - February

Creative Ideas:

- 1. Have the race in the church parking lot so that pass-a-byers can see that the children are having fun at that church.*
- 2. Have the first race without weights and lubrication. (Winner 1) Add weights to the slowest car and race again. (Winner 2) Add weights to all cars and race. (Winner 3) Lubricate the slowest car and race. (Winner 4) Lubricate all cars and race. (Winner 5) NOW WASN'T THAT A LOT MORE FUN!
[Can you do this every year? Sure. Just tell the boys, "You know how we do this".]*
- 3. Race with another Baptist Church RA group nearby. This builds some friendly competition and relationships. Also gives you more racing before the Association race.*

Association Race - Late February/Early March

If your association does not have an association race, your RAs can still participate in the Derby Dash.

Association race directors are supposed to call or e-mail in their derby results so that we can look for the boy's car to be in the STATE RACE at the ALSBOM Pinewood Derby

State Race –

Alabama Disaster Relief Center, Prattville, AL

**Three categories*

STATE RACE – for association winners.

OPEN RACE – for all boys, 1st-6th grade, not racing in the State Race

ANYTHING GOES- for adults, girls, cars not meeting state guidelines and kids not participating in RAs.