

Cub Pack 61 Event Planning Guide

Pinewood Derby Workshops

Event Coordinator:

Tim Connelly,

Event Description:

These two four-hour workshops are a “how to” on building Pinewood Derby Cars. The Pinewood Derby car kit is a BSA product that is a block of pine, four small brads and four wheels. During the workshops, a scout will be able select a car design, create a template, transfer it to the block, and shape the wood (using scroll saw, coping saw, files/rasps, chisels sandpaper, etc.). Holes or recesses are made to allow the addition of metal weights to bring the car close to the 5 ounce maximum weight. Weights are available for purchase at the workshops but all other tools and equipment, including sandpaper, are provided by the pack.

Scouts are not intended to finish the car at these workshops. The workshops are intended to assist scouts and parents that may be new to cub scouting or may not have the resources to build a car at home. When finished, the scout should have a car that is cut to shape, ready for sanding and has been checked for weight and performance (wheels & axels). At home, the scout should be able to finish sanding his car, paint and decorate it and install the wheels/axels.

The workshops are traditionally held on the first Saturday and Sunday afternoons (12-4 pm) in January in the Douglas Niece Room (downstairs) at the American Legion building. The workshops should be scheduled at least two weeks prior to the Pinewood Derby in order to allow Cubs to finish their car in time for race day.

Planning Timeline:

June (year prior):

1. Establish dates/times for the workshops at the annual pack planning meeting so they can be included in the pack calendar.
2. Confirm availability of the workshop space (Douglas Niece Room) for the planned dates/times. This is usually done as part of the annual planning and all pack events are confirmed with the American Legion over the summer.

November:

1. Order an assortment of weights (flat, round and half-round) to ensure adequate supplies during the workshops. Weights can be obtained from Michaels Crafts, the Flemington Department Store, and numerous on-line sources.
2. Recruit parents and other leaders to help with the workshop. Volunteer periods are for 2 hours (12-2 pm or 2-4 pm each day). First shift volunteers are encouraged to arrive a little early to help with any set-up and second shift

volunteers are expected to help with clean-up. A minimum of 2 volunteers is required at all times, four is even better because the scouts will get more assistance in constructing their car.

3. Identify volunteers who can lend tools (scroll saws, Dremel tools, drill press, hand tools, etc.) for the workshops. See the attached list of recommended tools and supplies.
4. Recruit a volunteer to coordinate snacks for the workshops. Cookies, pretzels, juice and water or similar snacks are usually enough.

December:

1. Confirm the race rules with the Pinewood Derby chairman. Get copies of the rules to handout at the workshops.
2. Announce the workshops at the December pack meeting.
3. Include workshops announcement in any pack newsletters or e-mail notices sent to den leaders and pack members.

Day of Workshops:

Arrive at the American Legion early to do set up. Confirm beforehand with the Legion that someone will be on-site to unlock the building. Supervise the event, provide guidance and assistance to parents and Cubs. Be sure to clean up the work area (sweep all tables and put tables and chairs back in their original locations. A minimum of two volunteers must be present at all times during the workshop, but four is better. On average, it takes about 90 minutes to trace and cut the template, make the rough cut on the block, provide space for car weights, shape the wood with files/rasps, and begin rough sanding. Scouts should leave the workshop with a car that is cut to shape, ready for sanding and has been checked for weight and performance (wheels & axels). At home, the scout should be able to finish sanding his car, paint and decorate it and install the wheels/axels. Send some sandpaper home with the scout if he does not have ant at home.

SAFETY NOTES: Adults must operate any power tools; cubs may assist in a “hands-on-hands” method. Safety glasses and hearing protection must be worn when operating power tools. Similar safety considerations should be given to chisels, as they can be dangerous when used improperly

Budget:

Supplies (Sandpaper, car weights, glue, batteries, etc.)	\$150
Snacks (juice, water, cookies, etc.)	\$50
Income from sale of weights	(\$75)

Other Notes:

Attachments & Resources:

Attachment 1 – Workshop Supplies Checklist

Attachment 2 – Workshop Volunteers Signup Form

Attachment 3 – Workshop Signs

Contact Rob Sheneman for advice or questions.

Web Sites:

<http://members.aol.com/randywoo/pine/index.htm>

<http://members.aol.com/StanDCmr/index.html>

PINWOOD WORKSHOP SUPPLIES

Tools	Pack Supplied	Volunteer(s)
Scroll Saws (3) w/ extra blades		
Coping Saws (3-4)		
Table-top Drill Press (1)		
Misc Clamps		
Drill & drill bits		
Extension Cords		
Dremel Tool and bits		
Hammer		
Chisels		
Wood Rasps		
Wood Files		
Screwdrivers		
Portable Workbench (Workmate)		
Pliers		
Wheel mandrel (for mounting in drill)		
5-minute epoxy	X	
Super-glue	X	
Hot Glue Gun and Glue Sticks		
Broom, dust pan & brushes		
Sanding Blocks		
Sandpaper (various grits)	X	
Size Tester Box	X	
Official Scale (w/ spare batteries)	X	

Car Design Supplies	Pack Supplied	Volunteer(s)
Car Design Sheets	X	
Scissors	X	
Pencils	X	
Car Templates	X	
Example Cars		
First Aid Kit	X	
Safety Glasses		

Wheel and Axle Supplies	Pack Supplied	Volunteer(s)
Emery Cloth (very fine)	X	
Weighs (for purchase)	X	
Graphite Lubricant	X	
Spare Wheels and Axles	X	

Refreshments	Pack Supplied	Volunteer(s)
Cookies		
Drinks (cider, etc.)		
Cups		
Napkins		
Trash Bags		

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