

## 2012 CVS/N Pinewood Challenge Official Rules

Here are the official rules (Yes there are rules) for the 2012 Pinewood Challenge. *All trucks will be weighed, measured and inspected to make sure they comply with the rules below.*

**Maximum GVW** = 4.0 pounds (All trucks will be weighed before racing begins)

**Maximum Length** = 20 inches

**Maximum Height** = 5.50 inches (MUST BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO AS WE WILL HAVE AN ELECTRONIC FINISH LINE SYSTEM WHICH GOES OVER THE TRACK TO DETERMINE THE WINNER)

**Maximum Width** = 3.75 inches. Truck bodies should not be wider than the track (not hanging over the side of the track).

**Propulsion** = Gravity

**Wheels** = Must be Official Boy Scout Approved. There must be 18 of them.

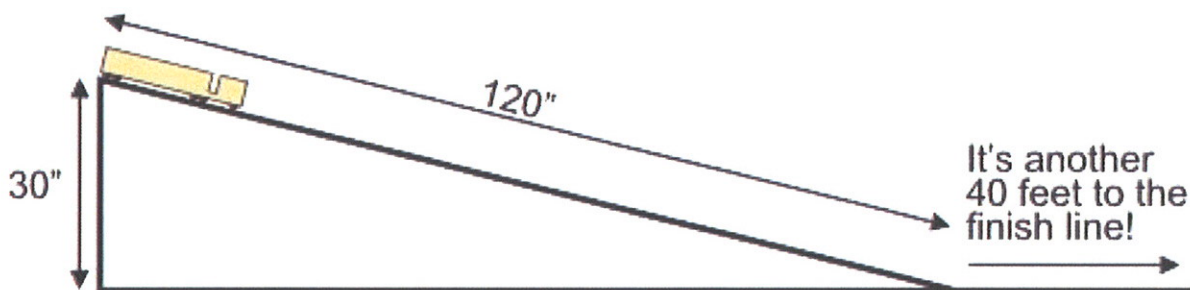
HINT: You'll probably want to start with a block of pine that's sold in your local lumber yard as a 4x4 fencepost.

### THE TRACK

Your truck will run down a ridged plastic track that's 50 feet long, 4.330 inches wide and .787 inches deep. The inside dimensions are 4.0625 inches by .750 inches. It's made from PVC Type 1 plastic channel track. This track is not commercially available.



The starting gate will be 30 inches off the ground. The first (ten foot) length of track will descend to the floor. The next forty feet will take you to the finish line.



### THE AXLES

Any type of axle can be used and mounted as needed. The wheels can be mounted side by side (duel wheels) or singular.

## THE WHEELS

You can buy those wheels from a wide variety of sources. But they **MUST** be **18 official "scout approved" wheels**. Your local hobby shop probably carries them. Or you can go to your favorite search engine on the internet and do a search for "pinewood derby wheels." You should find lots of places to buy them.



In our search for wheels, we found a variety of styles that included smooth treads as well as various approaches to "speed" designs ("H-style" treads and "speed" style treads) that attempt to reduce the actual area of contact with the track to a mere fraction of the width of the wheel. Some people get really serious about this! However, to keep the playing field somewhat level, we're going to limit entrants to the SMOOTH tread wheels.

After that, we've seen wheels that have been specially machine lathed, and axles that have been grooved to form lubricant pockets, and a wide variety of other techniques used to make the wheels run truer or generate less friction. These approaches can become very time consuming and expensive and are, in our opinion, the product of unhinged minds.

## THE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

There will be two lanes. Challengers will face off in one-on-one heats. The winners of each heat will be moved off into one category, the losers will find themselves sitting in another category. The winners will compete against each other until only one is left. The losers will compete against one another until only one is left. Finally, the winner of the winners and the winner of the losers will run off against each other.

## THE JUDGING

The competition is straight forward enough without the need to add more rules. **The Pinewood track features an electronic starting line and a electronic finish line ("The Judge") that makes use of the latest electronic technology. With "The Judge" there will be no disputes about who the winner is.**

But it doesn't stop there. We'll also have a Concours D'élégance judging where the TOP THREE best looking vehicles will win a prize. So if you can't be fast, at least try to look good! All trucks entered will be displayed on the Product Expo Floor before the race.

## FURTHER QUESTIONS

If you have any further questions, please be sure to contact us at 904-737-2900, and we'll get right back to you with the answer.

**Have fun building your truck and see you in Vegas for the Pinewood Challenge at HDAW12!**