

Contact the church office to reserve the basement for the event and weigh-in day (2 days before, from 4-6). Cub Scoutmasters need to be at race day to manage & break down the track.

3 sessions were held for race times, about 1 hour each: Daisies, then Brownies, then Grades 4-6.

We used a laptop & a movie screen to display the scores of the races as they were happening.

At least 6 weeks before the event, create an email inviting girls to participate and have the SUM forward it to all girls. Include a short description of the Derby concept. Ask leaders to RSVP with the names of girls participating so you know how many car kits & trophies to order. They have to pay for their car kits & trophy, about \$8.00 per girl.

Car kits are available at the Boy Scout Council in Oakland or at the larger Ramsey Outdoor store on Rt. 17 South or at The Wide World of Hobbies at 482 Kinderkamack Rd. River Edge (in the strip mall by the River Edge diner). Let SUMs know if you need money in advance to purchase the kits. Get the tax exempt ID certificate from a SUM or ask for a discount. You can return unused kits to the store.

Once you have the kits, send an email asking leaders to come & pick up all the car kits for their troop and pay you at pickup. Distribute the kits several weeks before the Derby to allow girls enough time to build their cars. With each kit, include a the rules that **you want to enforce**, which can be found all over the internet.

WEIGH-IN:

Cars need to be weighed 2 days beforehand so they can be adjusted if they are under/overweight or don't comply with the rules. Bring or borrow a scale from the Cub Scouts. Hint...if a car is below the maximum weight, tape a few quarters on top.

AT THE RACE:

Each car was assigned a number at check in. Numbers were written on small stickers and put onto each car. The girl's name and car number was written down in a log.

Each session had a specific start time. Girls should arrive before their session and must have their car weighed again and put behind the check-in desk. They can't touch their car until after their 2 races.

An independent person picks up 2 cars and places them on the track. That person then lifts the gate and the cars zoom down and the computerized score appears. That score is then typed into the laptop. They race one more time. After the first race, another independent person brings the 2 cars back from the end and places the cars onto the opposite lane for the 2nd race.

We did not serve snacks or drinks. Session ran no more than 1 hour. Trophies for each girl were personalized in advance with their name on it.

RULES:

An official Pinewood Derby rule list can be found all over the web. You can use whatever rules you'd like. Rule sheets need to be given to each participant when they pick up their car kits. It tells them what their car can & cannot have. It should be stressed that the girls need to do most of the work. They can't obviously use the power tools, but car design, sanding & painting can be done by them.

HELPERS:

You can invite older Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts to help & earn service hours.