

Florida RA Racer Rules

Introduction: These rules are presented to provide a consistent known set of rules for running State Royal Ambassador (RA) Racer Races as sponsored by the Florida Baptist Convention (FBC). As each local church and RA group is autonomous, they may choose to adopt all or parts of these rules for their own use in races conducted by them or others. It is the intent of the FBC that the State races are established to be for and by the RA boys. These rules will be the official set of rules used when conducting State Races sponsored by the FBC

RA RACER SPECIFICATIONS:

- **Width** - Overall width shall not exceed 2-3/4 inches.
- **Length** - Overall length shall not exceed 7".
- **Axel Separation** - Wheel axel separation may not exceed 4 1/4".
- **Weight** - Weight shall not exceed 5 ounces. No loose materials of any kind are permitted in the car. The car may be hollowed out and built into the body or chassis. Cars must be weighed and inspected before proceeding to the Registration stage.
- **Wheel Bearings** - Washers and/or bushings are prohibited.
- **Springing** - The car shall not ride on any type of springs.
- **Details** - Details such as steering wheel, spoilers, hood scoops, drivers, decal, painting, and interior detail are permissible as long as these details do not exceed maximum weight allowed and do not protrude from the car so as to interfere with other cars, the track or any timing device used on the track.
- **Attachments** - The car must be freewheeling, with no starting devices.
- **Wheels & Axels** – RA wheels and axes must be of the same type as those provided in the RA kits consisting of 4 individual nail style axels and 4 narrow wheels. (RA wheels and axels differ from the typical Boy Scout design which uses two solid axels and 4 wide wheels which are not permitted in a RA Race.) The RA Wheels and Axels may be sanded or polished to smooth rough spots and flashings. No other modification of wheels is allowed. Only official RA Racer wheels stamped Royal Racers will be permitted in the FBC State Race. At least three wheels of the car must be touching the track when the car is placed on the starting line. The use of DRY lubricant is permitted as long as it is used only on the wheels and axels. Additional lubricant will not be allowed after the cars are officially entered.
- **Inspection/Weigh-In** - Inspection and weigh-in will be conducted prior to registration. Inspections will be performed by a designated team of officials and only cars meeting all specifications will compete for prizes. The Inspection/Weigh-in Teams responsibilities shall be as follows:
 - A. Weigh the car prior to registration, allowing the boys to make minor adjustments to weight if necessary, lubricating the wheels where allowed.
 - B. Check the cars using the guidelines of Racer Specifications.
 - C. Any disqualification would be made at this time, prior to the race. After passing inspection and weigh-in, the cars will be registered and will be placed on a table where only designated officials may access the cars for grouping and judging.
 - D. Prior to the race, each car will be run on its designated track to ensure it runs freely on the FBC designated track. If for some reason the car does not run properly on the assigned track, the boy will be notified and allowed to make minor modifications prior to the race.

Revised Jan 14, 2017

- **Participants** - All participants must build a new car each year. Cars used a previous year, if discovered, will not be permitted to race or compete for Best Design. A boy may only enter one car in competition and must be present at registration and during the race to compete.

RACE PROCEDURES/SPECIFICATIONS

- **Registration/Inspection & Weigh-In/Race Time** – An open registration period will be posted and announced. All cars must be registered during that time. The racing order will be determined randomly and by grade level. An Inspection & Weigh-In time will be posted and announced prior to Registration to allow for final tuning and testing. Once a car has been officially entered, no further modification, tuning or handling of the cars will be permitted other than as designated during the race.

- **Heats**

- Using Racing Software and Electronic Timers - If the track is equipped with racing software and electronic timer the car will run at least twice and run at least once on two different lanes. The fastest time ran will determine the cars placement.
- Tracks without Electronic Timers - If the track is not equipped with an electronic timer, two judges will be assigned. The racers will run in double elimination heats meaning that each racer will race at least twice, but once they have lost twice, they are finished. If the judges disagree on a winner, the starter will swap lanes and rerun the heat. In the event of a second tie, a coin toss will determine the winner.
- In the event that the Track Inspector determines that there is a significant difference in run times using a demo car, then the FBC Staff will determine if any additional changes to these procedures are necessary.

- **Starting** - Cars must start by gravity from a standstill, at a starting line on the track, without any help. No pushing or pulling will be allowed. Cars will be given to the starter and the starter will place the cars on the track. The boy then has the option to run his car in reverse if desired and must inform the starter before the race begins.

- **Finish** - The car whose nose is first over the finish line is the winner. Keep in mind that electronic timers utilize a beam that is centered vertically at the midpoint of the lane.

- **Unpredictable Circumstances** - If a car leaves the track on the first run of a heat, there is no contest and the race will be rerun. If the same car, however, leaves the track on a second run, it is automatically disqualified and the remaining contestants will continue the race.

- **Age Criteria** – Each participant will run his car within his Grade Level as racers will be competing for best time within that Grade Level. For example: Lad 1, Lad 2, Lad 3, Crusader 4, Crusader 5, and Crusader 6.

- **Open Class** - Any car that does not meet ALL specifications will be allowed to run in a separate “Open” category not limited by age. However, the winner of the Open Class may not compete for Grand Champion.

- **Best Design:** The following categories will be used to judge the best design:

- Overall theme
 - Paint & stickers
 - Creativity
 - Workmanship primarily from the child

- **Contentions** - Any misunderstandings and/or disagreements should be worked out in the spirit of Christian competition. This should be a means of teaching boys to settle difficult problems with respect. In the event of a problem, a panel of 3 FBC/Event Staff will act as arbitrators and their decision will be final.