Running A Race With DerbyNet

This document will take you through the full process of running a pinewood derby-like race with standalone DerbyNet.

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Initial Set-Up

The initial set-up steps can and generally should be accomplished one or more days before your event. You don't need access to the track or timer; all that's required is the laptop on which you'll be running DerbyNet.

Choose Database

You would normally use a separate database for each derby event. DerbyNet can use several available database libraries, although in most cases, a SQLite database is the easiest to set up.

- 1. To get started, point your browser to <u>http://localhost/derbynet</u>, or to whatever URL takes you to the web server running DerbyNet.
- 2. If you see a guest screen like this, click "Log In" and log in as the Race Coordinator and continue with the next step.



3. If you see the Race Coordinator's home page, like this, then click "Set-Up."



- 4. Now you should see the Set-Up page, like this. Click "Choose Database."
- 5. Choose a name for your new database, or select an existing database (if you're returning to a prior event).

(If for some reason you need to use a database that doesn't reside in the standard directory, or you need to use a different database technology (e.g., Microsoft Access), then instead of entering a database name here, click the "Advanced" button and follow the instructions in the "Advanced Database Set-Up for DerbyNet" document.)

The "OR ... Please select" controls will be absent if there are no existing databases available.

You may use whatever naming convention you wish, but you probably should include your group's name. Click "Submit."

6. The Set-Up page now reflects the name of your new database.

Initialize Database

Normally, a DerbyNet database is initialized when it is first created, and there's usually no need to repeat the initialization. However, databases created or chosen by the "Advanced" option may require manual initialization before it can be used by DerbyNet.

More commonly, re-initializing a database is a convenient way to erase all the data in the database.

To (re)initialize a database, click the Initialize or Re-Initialize button, and then confirm your intent in the dialog box that appears.

Import Roster

Once the database itself is initialized, it's probably time to populate it with data about the racers in your event. This is normally done by importing a spreadsheet. Most common spreadsheet formats can be imported directly, including Excel (.xls and .xlsx) and OpenOffice/LibreOffice (.ods) files, as well as comma-separated value (.csv) files.

Name for new database:
OR
Please select:
Submit
Cancel
Advanced



(In addition to importing a roster, it's also possible to enter racer data one entry at a time through the check-in page. Late registrants would be accommodated in this way, but it's generally faster and easier to import a roster for the majority of entrants.)

It's common (but not universal) for the field of racers to be segmented in some way. For example, a Cub Scout pack is typically divided into dens. The name used for the segmenting is settable by the user; once again, for Cub Scout packs, one would most commonly call a segment a "Den." Segments are used as the basis for racing groups and/or subgroups; see Define Your Racing Groups, below.

1. From the Set-Up page, click the "Import Roster" button. The Import Roster page looks like this:

- 2. Particularly if you're importing a spreadsheet in csv format, you may need to consider character encodings. A csv-format spreadsheet is a simple text file, but there are different ways the characters in the text file may be represented. If your csv file does not contain accented characters or special symbols, the choice of encoding may not matter, as simple ASCII characters will generally be expressed the same way in all encodings. However, if you know what encoding was used in preparing your csv file, you should make the appropriate selection in the Import Roster page.
- 3. Locate your spreadsheet, either by clicking the "Choose File" button, or by just dragging the file to the target area surrounded by dashes. The contents of the spreadsheet should now appear.

4. Now that the file contents are displayed, **you should inspect them** to be sure they're correct.

If some characters in the spreadsheet don't appear as they should, try different encodings until you find one that renders your text correctly.





- 5. Take a look at the top row in your spreadsheet, and decide whether it contains column headers, or data for the first racer. Set the "File has a header row?" switch appropriately.
- 6. Drag the column label boxes that appear above the data so they label the appropriate columns.

Each racer to be imported must have a first name and a last name. First and last name can either be in separate columns, or combined in a single column. (If combined into a single column, the import process will attempt to identify the first and last names within each entry. It's likely to get some wrong, so you should review your roster after import.)

You may also have columns for segment, car number and car name.

7. If the "Den" or segment column label has been placed, the summary line at the top of the page will update to show the total number of segments to be imported, and the number of segments that will be in the database after importing. You can click on this part of the summary line to see the names of the new and existing segments.

If some of the entries' den names are misspelled, you may end up with two or more variations on a single den name in the database. If that's the case, click the "Back" button, fix your spreadsheet, and start again.

8. When the required column labels have been placed, the "Import Roster" button appears. Click the "Import Roster" button. A green "OK" will appear on each row as it's imported.

If there were already racers present in the database before you imported, the spreadsheet's contents will be added to those existing entries. Importing a roster does not replace or delete existing data.

If you make a mistake or are otherwise unhappy with the import results, you can erase all the data in the database by returning to the Set-Up page and re-initializing the database schema.

Define Your Racing Groups

Next you decide how you want your organization's structure (the segments you defined earlier, if any) should be reflected in your race.

DerbyNet Racing Structures

Racing Groups

For racing, the full field of racers within the database is organized into **racing groups.** Each racer is in exactly one racing group, and, if subgroups are used, in exactly one subgroup of that group.

A racing round is a set of heats for a particular racing group formed from racers in one particular

racing group. (There are also aggregate rounds, see below.) Racers from different racing groups will not be included in the same racing round, and therefore won't ever be scheduled to race head-to-head in the same heat, except possibly in an aggregate round.

Subgroups

If desired, each racing group can be divided into **subgroups.** Subgroups support the calculation of separate standings by subgroup, and speed awards by subgroup, but they don't affect race scheduling. Racers in different subgroups of the same group can appear in the same heat.

Aggregates

Standings and awards are automatically calculated for the full field of racers, in addition to those calculated per racing group and per subgroup. Sometimes, however, it's desirable to calculate standings and awards across multiple racing groups, but less than the full field of racers. An **aggregate group** is just a selection of two or more racing groups or other aggregate groups, and allow the calculation of awards and standings across multiple racing groups.

It's possible to create racing rounds for an aggregate groups, e.g. to define a "Grand Finals" racing round in which the top racers from the constituent racing groups compete for an overall award.

Options for Race Organization

The Racing Groups page allows you to choose how your segments are reflected in the organization of your race. The choices available are:

- **Race each** *segment* **as a group:** This reflects the most common practice for Cub Scout packs, in which each den is treated as a racing group.
- **Race as one big group:** This reflects the second most common practice, in which racing heats draw from the entire field of racers. With this option, you may wish to treat segments as subgroups: all racers race together, but awards and standings will still be calculated for each segment.
- **Custom racing groups:** This lets you organize the segments into groups in any way you like. For example, if you mostly want to race each segment as a group, but you have one or two very small segments, you can consolidate two or more of the segments into a single racing group.

The Racing Groups Page

1. From the Set-Up page, click the "Racing Groups" button. The Racing Group page looks like this:

O Race each den as a group	Drag groups and subgrou	ups to re-order.
Race as one big group	Lions & Tigers	ancur Edit
Custom racing groups	White's Wolves	
	Bears and Feires	ancur Edt
Use Subgroups?	No Webelos ("Webes")	GROUP Edt
Add Aggregate		

- 2. For a new database, the "Race each segment as a group" option will O Race each den as a group be chosen, unless there aren't at least two segments defined for your racers. With this option, each segment will be its own racing group.
- 3. Alternatively, the "Race as one big group" option constructs one racing group encompassing the entire field of racers. If the "Use Subgroups" option is on, each segment will be its own subgroup.
- 4. Finally, the "Custom racing nize the segments into groups as ents onto new or existing group
- 5. The "Add Aggregate" button allows aggregate group to be defined. Choose which of the existing groups should be included in the new aggregate group.

6. The "Edit" button on each group or subgroup allows the name of the racing group or subgroup to be changed. It also allows you to customize the number of speed trophies for an individual racing group or subgroup.

Import Awards

Many organizations use trophies or other awards to recognize achievement other than speed – awards



Bace as one big grou

Aggregate by Den	
ew Den	
Number of speed trophies:	Default 📀
Lions & Tigers	Off
White's Wolves	Off
Bears and Frères	Off
Webelos ("Webes")	Off
Arrows <<<<	Off
Submit	
Cancel	

Den Nan	ne	
White	's Wolves	
N speed	umber of trophies:	Default 📀
	Subr	nit
	Canc	el

g groups" option allows you to orga
s you choose. Drag and drop segme
S.

for design, workmanship, or paintwork are typical examples.

DerbyNet lets you import a list of awards from a spreadsheet or csv file if that's convenient for you. The process is exactly like that for importing a roster, with each row serving to define one award. Each row of the spreadsheet must have an award name and award type. If you have some awards that are specific to a group (den) or subgroup, you may optionally designate columns for those restrictions.

Each award's entry in the award type column must be populated with one of the following types:

- Speed Trophy
- Speed General
- Design Trophy
- Design General
- Other

(An additional award category, Ad Hoc awards, is described in the Judging section.)

The Awards Editor

Awards may also be entered by hand, using the Awards Editor. The Awards Editor can be accessed either by a link on the Set-Up page, or by a button from the Judging page. The Awards Editor allows you to add, rename, re-categorize, re-order, and delete awards.

1. From the Set-Up page, click the "Awards Editor" link to reach the Awards Editor page. (Alternatively, from the Judging page, click the "Awards Editor" button.)

••• < > 10	O bioblek/derby-et/search editor pro	C Asserts Editor	0 0 0
Jack	Awards Editor		In ReceCoordinator role Log out
Drag awards to re-order.	New Award		Development
	And Anather Design General	o	
	And Yet Another Design General	0	
	Another Bear Design General Dears and Fele	o	
	Another Lion Design General Lions & Tigen	o	
	Anather Walf Design General White's Wolves	0	
	Most Enthusiastic Design General	0	
	Least Bed Design Trophy	0	
	Most Diabolical Welf Design Trophy White's Wolves	0	
	Scouts' Favorite Design Trophy	0	
	Most Questionable Other	0	
pay a menu	Another Speed General	0	

2. To create a new award, click the "New Award" button. Enter a name for the award, and choose the award category. If the award is specific to a group or subgroup, make that choice here, too. When you're finished, click "Submit."



Award Name:	
And Yet Another	
Award Category:	
Design General	0
Pack	0
Submit	
Close	
Delete Award	

3. To modify or delete an existing award, click on the small gear icon to the right of the award in the list. A similar dialog box appears.

To modify the award, make the changes you wish and click "Submit."

To delete the award altogether, click the "Delete Award" button. You'll be asked to confirm that you want to delete the award. 4. The order of the awards can be changed by dragging and dropping the award entries within the list.



Settings

Once your initial roster has been imported, a few housekeeping settings should be set before proceeding further. (Setting changes may be made at any time, but you're better off getting them set correctly earlier rather than later.)

1. From the Set-Up page, click the "Settings" button to reach the Settings page.

In the steps below, only the most important settings are mentioned, but you should review and adjust all the settings while on this page.



2. Select the number of lanes in your track, if known. You will not be able to schedule any heats until you've entered the number of lanes for racing.

If you wish, you can choose to use fewer lanes than are present on the track. Enter the actual number of lanes for the track, and then click on the "lanes available for scheduling" icons to disable or enable individual lanes on the track.

3. The "Group Labels" sections allows you to select the appropriate terminology for the subdivisions of your organization. "Den" and "Pack" are Cub Scout terms, but you should change them as appropriate for your organization.

4. DerbyNet has powerful features for collecting and displaying photos of your racers, their cars, or both. It can also collect videos of each race if you're using the Replay Kiosk feature. To make the most effective use of these features, you must specify file paths for the directories in which you want uploaded photos and videos to be stored.

These file paths should already be filled in for you if you used the easy database set-up. However, if you used the "Advanced" database set-up, you may need to select the directories here.

Note that the directories must be on the same machine (laptop) that's hosting the web server, and the directories must be writable by the web server. (The web server process typically runs as its own user, with different access restrictions. Just because *you* can open a folder doesn't mean the web server can.)

a. You can enter the file paths for the directories directly in the input boxes, OR you can click the "Browse" button to navigate through the server's file system.

Pay attention to any red warnings that are shown for the chosen directories.

- 5. If you wish, you can display racer photos on several of the displays. To enable these features, click the appropriate checkbox(es).
- 6. See the "Race Option Settings" section, below, for details about the last group of settings.

Race Option Settings

The last group of settings on the Settings page control procedure and scheduling for your event. These are described here in more detail:

• **Interleave heats from different (groups)?** Racers for a particular heat are always drawn from the same group (called a "den" by default). If this box is unchecked (the default), all the heats







from one group are run, in succession, before heats from another group are run. If this box is checked, heats from each group are spread out among the scheduled heats for all groups. Some organizations prefer this option in order to keep group engaged in the event as long as possible.

- **Race by points (place) instead of by times?** Standings are normally calculated based on finish times, but some timers only report finish place (first, second, third, ...). Check this box if you wish to consider place within each heat instead of finish times for scoring. This scoring change affects the displayed standings, and is also used for selecting racers to advance from one round to the next.
- Abbreviated single-run-per-car schedule? The heat scheduler normally generates schedules that ensure that each racer runs the same number of times in each lane. (The resulting schedule has as many heats as there are racers, provided there are more racers than lanes.) For very large events, the alternative scheduler enabled by this check box will generate a schedule in which each car races only once, rather than once per lane. For an n-lane track, this schedule will have 1/n heats (rounded up to an integer).
- Scoring Method:
 - **Average all heat times** Take an average of all of the heat times for each racer.
 - **Drop slowest heat** Exclude each racer's slowest heat time and then calculate the average of all the remaining heats. Some organizations use this option as a hedge against certain kinds of track inconsistencies, or against a poor staging.
 - **Take fastest single heat** Ignore all but the fastest heat for each racer.

Other Considerations Before Race Day

As you plan the details of your event, you may also want to visit the Scene Editor (to make it easier to manage the kiosk displays) or set a racing rounds playlist.

On-Site Set-Up

With the DerbyNet web server set up, consider some of these options for your on-site set-up.

Bring Your Own Network

DerbyNet operates without any need to connect to the public internet. Accordingly, regardless what kind of internet or WiFi capabilities are offered by your venue, consider bringing your own stand-alone WiFi router, and connecting all your DerbyNet elements to that local network.

Aside from freeing you from dependence on the (perhaps not great) Wi-Fi at your event's venue, bringing your own router also affords you some control of the low-level details, allowing you to do more set-up in advance and less on-site. In particular, if your router can assign a static IP address for a particular device, set the IP address for the laptop that's hosting DerbyNet so that it's known in advance. Other elements of the set-up can then be pre-configured to contact that specific address upon start-up.

If your router can also provide some level of DNS service, you could also assign a domain name, not

just an IP address, for the DerbyNet server. That in turn facilitates using SSL connections (https://instead of http://), which can be useful in some circumstances.

If you're considering buying a router for this purpose, consider open-source (free) router firmware replacement projects such as dd-wrt or Tomato. These provide advanced router features for many base-model (i.e., cheap) routers. Check compatibility before you buy.

The Timer

DerbyNet can interface with most popular digital track timers. There are two options available for connecting the timer to the DerbyNet server: via the in-browser interface, provided certain conditions are met, or via the small derby-timer.jar Java program. These options are described below:

Connecting the Timer Hardware With The In-Browser Interface

Using the in-browser interface requires:

- 1. A browser that supports the Web Serial API.
- 2. Your browser is either running on the same machine as the DerbyNet server, or is connected to the server using a secure (https) connection.
- 1. From the Race Dashboard, in the timer status area, the "Timer" button will launch the in-browser timer interface in a separate window.
- 2. To use the in-browser timer interface, click the "Scan" button. You will be presented with a list of available serial ports on the machine. (Unlike derby-timer.jar, the inbrowser timer interface is not able just to scan all the available serial ports – you must explicitly grant access to each serial port to which your track timer might be connected.)





3. In most cases, you'll be using a USB-toserial adapter. If so, be sure that the adapter is connected before clicking the "Scan" button; otherwise, the serial port that the adapter provides won't appear as an available serial port.

- 4. Note that, for the in-browser timer interface, a connection to the DerbyNet server has already been established, so there's no need to specify a URL for connection to the server.
- 5. As with derby-timer.jar, if you're using a track timer that's not automatically detectable (shown with a grey background), you'll need to click the entry that describes your timer.
- 6. You can verify the status of the timer from the "Race Dashboard" page. Visit the Race Coordinator's home page, and click on "Race Dashboard."

The second box on the left shows the timer status. Here, the red "X" icon indicates no timer connection.



Connecting the Timer Hardware With derby-timer.jar

The derby timer manager is a small Java program that can run on most platforms (Windows, Mac, Linux, including Raspberry Pi) and provides the connection between your hardware timer device and DerbyNet.

1. Choose a host system (most likely the same laptop running the DerbyNet web server, but it need not be) and connect your timer, usually via a USB serial adapter. (If you have a laptop that still has a hardware serial port, you can use that, too.)

2. From the command line, launch the derby timer manager:

java -jar derby-timer.jar

(Alternatively, you may just be able to double-click on the jar file in the native operating system's file browser, e.g., Finder or Windows Explorer.)

derby-timer.jar will launch a small UI panel, like this:

3. The left side of the derby-timer UI is concerned with the connection to the DerbyNet web server, while the right side is dedicated to the connection to the physical timer device.

On the left side, enter the URL (including IP address or domain name) you're using for the DerbyNet web server and press enter. If you're running derby-timer on the same laptop as the DerbyNet web server, that URL might be <u>http://localhost/derbynet</u> or similar.

If the connection can be successfully made, you'll be prompted to log in to the web server:

- 4. Enter the role (usually Timer) and password (none by default) to log in to the web server. You should see a green "OK" symbol on the left.
- 5. Meanwhile, on the right side, derby-timer should be scanning all the available serial ports it knows about, trying to discover your timer device. When the timer is successfully detected, you'll see a green "OK" symbol on the right.

	Derby Timer Management
Server Connection Server URL	Timer Connection /dev/tty.Bluetooth-Incoming-Port
Role	
	•
Password	
	ChampDevice
	FastTrackDevice
Connect	Stop Scanning
Please enter server addres	SS Scanning for connected timer
A	
Connect Please enter server addres	ss Scanning for connected timer

🗧 😑 🗧 De	erby Timer Management
Server Connection	Timer Connection
Server URL	/dev/tty.Bluetooth-Incoming-Port
localhost/derbynet	
Role	
RaceCoordinator	
Password	
	ChampDevice EastTrack Device
	lastriackoevice
Connect	Stop Scanning
Please log in	Scanning for connected timer
<u> </u>	

6. You can verify the status of the timer from the "Race Dashboard" page. Visit the Race Coordinator's home page, and click on "Race Dashboard."

The second box on the left shows the timer status. Here, the red "X" icon indicates no timer connection.



7. When derby-timer successfully connects, you'll see the timer status change to "OK":

••• <>	0	localhost/derby	vnet/coordinator.php	C	0 0 0
Back	Ra	ce Da	ashboa	rd	?
s	tart Race			Rounds Playlist	
	Not Racing				
Man	nual Results				
	Re-Run				
Timer Status CONNECTED (1 sec.) The track has 4 lane(s).		ОК Test			
Replay Status			ĺ		
Rep	lay Settings				
			-		
Display a menu					

8. If derby-timer does not successfully detect and identify your timer, you may need to specify the correct serial port or timer profile on the command line. See

java -jar derby-timer.jar --help

for more information.

Testing the Timer: Simulated Racing

Once the timer is hooked up, it's a good idea to confirm that everything's working as expected.

The timer test page allows you to experiment with your track and timer with simulated racing heats. Simulated racing does not require to be entered in the database, and allows you to observe the operation of the timer without capturing the results as would happen for your real race heats.

In addition, the timer test page optionally allows you to observe the log stream produced from the derby-timer.jar. This information can be helpful for troubleshooting any connection or timer problems.

 From the Race Dashboard, click the "Test" button to visit the Timer Test page. 	
2. On the left is the control to turn on simulated racing mode. In simulated racing mode, DerbyNet interacts with the derby-timer.jar and the timer as it would during actual racing.The table on the left shows times and place information reported by the timer for each lane.	

3. For timers that support lane masking, you can click on ontries in the "Occupied?"	Lane	Occupied?	Time	Place
column to mark a lane occupied or vacant for a simulated heat.	1	00	3.4231	
	2	00	2.3305	
	3		3.8618	
	4	00	3.7143	
4. On the right side, turn on "Remote Logging" to observe the log stream coming from derby-timer.jar.				

Simulated Timer

If you wish only to experiment with DerbyNet without connecting a hardware timer, you can use the timer simulator program, included in the derby-timer.jar, instead. The timer simulator connects to the server like the regular derby-timer.jar program, but generates random timing results for each requested heat.

The timer simulator is run from the command line, and does not have a GUI. It takes a parameter for the number of lanes the simulated track should have:

java -jar derby-timer.jar -simulate-timer -lanes 4 <web-server-URL>

The Check-In Desk

For checking in your entrants after inspection, set up a laptop or tablet on your network and connect to the DerbyNet web server. The Race Check-In page lets you or other volunteer(s) check users in.

Kiosks (Digital Signage) Set-Up

A key feature of DerbyNet is being able to control unattended kiosks (digital signage). Anything that can run a browser can be set up as a kiosk: smart TV's, Raspberry Pi's, an Android stick, a tablet or a laptop.

1. To set up a kiosk interactively, first visit the guest home from the kiosk's browser. Click the "Log In" button.

2. Click the "Be a Kiosk" button.



- 3. Choose among the options presented for controlling the kiosk display:
 - Use the "Replay Kiosk" button if you plan to incorporate instant replay features via a webcam; see the "Replay Kiosks" section, below.
 - Use the "Fullscreen Kiosk" button to place the browser in fullscreen mode.
 - Otherwise, use the "Be A Kiosk" button to use the current browser frame as a kiosk.
- 4. The kiosk will initially display an identification screen, so you can distinguish between different kiosks running at the same time.





5. In a different browser, visit the Kiosk Dashboard, accessible from the Race Coordinator's home page. Scroll down to find the entry for the new kiosk; the correct entry will have matching identification information.

- 6. If you wish, assign a name to the new kiosk by clicking the "Assign Name" button. If you're using scenes, it's important to name your kiosks to match names expected by the scenes you wish to use.
- 7. Once the kiosk is set up, you can control what's displayed on the kiosk at any time by using the selector for that kiosk.

See the "Managing Kiosks" section, below, for more about using the Kiosk Dashboard.

8. Some kiosk pages have additional configuration options, e.g., to present information only about specific subgroups. After choosing what to display on a kiosk, click the "Configure" button, if present, to further configure the information presented by the kiosk.

See the "Managing Kiosks" section, below, for more about using the Kiosk Dashboard.

Available Kiosk Displays

Once a kiosk is set up, it can display any of the available kiosk pages. These include:

Welcome

Please Check In	Displays the names of registered racers who have not yet checked in.
Slideshow	Displays a continuously-updated slideshow of car and racer photos.
Now Racing	Display this on your main presentation device (projector or large display) to show who's in the current heat and then what the heat's results are.
On Deck	Run this display for the car wrangler(s), to help them know what heats are



	Kieska		
Bet	Kiosks		2
Surrent scene:	0		
0 named klosks out of 2			
Kiosk ::1+49194	Displaying		
Analyse Moure		identify	
Assign Name			
Last contact: 0 minute(s) ago			
Kinah ut (EERO4	Displaying		
NUSK 1+03024	_	identify	
Assign Name			
Last contact: 0 minute(s) ago			

	Kiosk Dashboard	eicr rotanibroc g.out
Klosk ::1+60577 Assign Name	Daplaying: please-check-in Configure	
	Arrows <<><, pears and Frèr, Lions & Tigers, Webelos	webes

	coming up.
Results By Racer	This supplemental display summarizes each racer's heat results by lane. It scrolls continuously to cover the entire field.
Award Presentations	
Identify	This display lets you figure out which kiosk is which when you're setting up.
DerbyNet	A shameless self-promoting advertisement, in case anyone in the audience is curious what software you're running.

You can add additional display pages, perhaps specific to your event, by adding them to the local/kiosks subdirectory of the web site's base directory.

Turnkey Kiosk with a Raspberry Pi

If you know in advance what either the DNS name or IP address for the DerbyNet web server will be, you can configure a Raspberry Pi so that it becomes a kiosk as soon as it's plugged in, with no additional intervention required. See the "Installation- Debian" document for details.

Replay Kiosks

If your browser supports it, and you have a webcam or similar video capture device attached to the kiosk, a kiosk can provide video instant-replay capability in the browser. When a racing heat completes, the last few seconds of video captured by the camera are presented, temporarily displacing the normal kiosk display.

Replay kiosks require a certain level of computational power to provide acceptable results. Some platforms (e.g., a Raspberry Pi) may not provide satisfactory performance.

 Set up in the usual way, as described above. Choose "Replay Kiosk" when presented with the kiosk options dialog. 	The results of the re
--	--



Remote Replay Camera

In addition to using directly attached cameras, a replay kiosk can provide replay capability based on video streamed from a remote camera. The machine with the remote camera uses the Replay Camera page to transmit video from the camera machine to one or more replay kiosks.

1.	To set up a remote replay camera, first visit the home page. Click the "Log In" button.	C C Racers On Deck Racers On Deck Exported Results About Log in
2.	Click the "Be a Camera" button.	Ite a Kook Be a Camera
3.	The Replay Camera page appears. You likely will have to grant permission for the browser to access any camera(s). The means for granting permission vary by browser. If you have more than one attached camera, the selector under the preview image allows you to choose which camera to use. (The selector under the preview image also includes a "Remote Camera" option; see "Remote Replay Camera," below, for more information.) Once the camera is aimed as desired, you can turn off the preview and its associated processing by unchecking the	Image: state

"Show preview?" checkbox.	
4. On another machine, set up a replay kiosk as described above. Choose "Remote Camera" for the video source. The video feed from the Replay Camera page will appear in the replay kiosk.	

Running the Event

Check In Participants As They Pass Inspection

As participants arrive at your event, check them in as they pass inspection via the check-in page.

- 1. Log in as "Race Crew" on the check-in laptop or tablet if you expect to staff this station with other volunteers. (The "Race Crew" log-in allows someone to check racers in and perform certain other tasks, but not do things like establishing the race schedule or entering manual heat results.)
- 2. Click the "Race Check-In" button that appears on either the Race Crew home page or the Race Coordinator home page.

3. The racer check-in page presents a list of the racers:

4. To check in a racer, tap or click "checked in?" switch for that racer in the rightmost column.





- 5. Other data changes can be made (correcting misspelled names, etc.) by clicking on the "Change" button for a racer, in the leftmost column.
- 6. If it's easier, type part of a racer's name in the search box on the bottom of the window to scroll to matching entries.
- 7. If you're using a device with an attached webcam, you may be able to use the webcam to capture car or racer photos during the check-in process. Click on a camera icon to bring up the photo capture dialog.

At this point the browser may prompt you for permission to allow the photo dialog to access your webcam. In many cases, it's necessary to give permission every time the photo capture dialog comes up. Some browsers may allow a domain to be considered "trusted," provided the connection is secure (made with https rather than http). See the "Webcams and Secure Contexts" document for additional details.

Use the "Switch Camera" button to switch between different cameras if you're using a device (e.g., phone) that has more than one.

Alternatively, if you have photos available, you can upload them by dragging to the photo capture dialog.

- 8. If desired, certain operations can be applied to whole groups or subgroups, or to the whole field. These include checking in racers, assigning car numbers, or marking award eligibility. Click the "Bulk" button for these operations.
- 9. Progress of the check-in process can be assessed from the Race Dashboard. For each den, the top progress bar shows how many of the registered participants have been checked in.



Barcode scanners are inexpensively available, and connecting one to your check-in desk's laptop can help to speed up your check-in process. (The "Car Tag" or "Check-In Card" printables include





barcodes.)

You can choose how the check-in page should respond when a racer barcode is scanned by clicking on the barcode icon at the top of the check-in page. The default response is to locate and scroll to the racer on the check-in page. Other options include automatically checking in the racer, capturing a racer photo, or capturing a car photo.

Mobile Check-In (Experimental)

A simplified version on the check-in page, the "Mobile Check-In" page, is optimized for use with a smartphone camera and barcodes.

To select a racer for check-in and/or photo capture, choose the racer from the presented list, *or* switch to the camera and point the camera at a barcode from one of the printable artifacts (car tag, check-in card, driver's license, etc.). Once a racer is identified, their name appears at the bottom of the screen, and the user is presented with controls to check in the racer and/or capture photos.

The Mobile Check-In page is accessed with the "Mobile" button on the regular check-in page. The "Mobile" button allows navigation to the Mobile Check-In page, as well as presenting a QR code by which a phone can navigate to the Mobile Check-In page.



Photo Editing

Once uploaded to the server, captured photos (of racers or cars) can be cropped, rotated, and assigned.





-

2.	The photo editor page lists racers in a (scrollable) list on the left, and unassigned photos in the remainder of the page.	Image: state stat
3.	Assign a photo to a racer by dragging the photo from the array of photos to the entry for a particular racer.	Image: Control of the control of th
4.	To remove a photo assignment, drag a photo from a racer's list entry back to the pool.	
5.	Click on a photo to bring up the dialog for manipulating the photo itself.	Image: Control of the second seco

6.	To crop the photo, drag out a rectangle and then click the "Crop" button. The aspect ratio of the cropping rectangle is determined by the values specified on the Settings page.	
7.	The dialog also makes it possible to rotate the photo 90° left or right.	

Start Racing

When you're ready for a den to start racing (i.e., enough racers from the group have checked in), you create a racing schedule for that den, and then start the actual race.

1.	From the Race Coordinator's home page, click on "Race Dashboard."	Bace Photos Bacer Photos Edit Car Photos Present Awards Edit Car Photos Bacer Rector Jaging Log car
2.	Tap on the box that summarizes the first racing group. As long as some racers have checked in, this will expose the "Schedule" button for that group.	<form></form>



7.	If you're using a timer that supports a remote gate release feature, you should see a "Start Race" button above the "Racing" control. Clicking this button will operate the track start gate, assuming you have the necessary solenoid or similar hardware.	Skip Heat
8.	When the timer reports the results of the current heat, racing advances automatically to the next heat. As each heat is completed, the lower progress bar advances.	
9.	 When the last heat for the round has completed, the racing control will move to the "Not Racing" position, as shown. You should now do one of the following: Select another racing group to schedule and race, as described in step 2, above. (Note that you can generate a group's schedule in advance, while another group is racing. In that case, you can immediately start the next group racing.) Click on the "Add New Rounds" button and schedule another round for the same group. Click on the "Add New Rounds" button and schedule a aggregate round across several racing groups. 	

Managing Kiosks See the section on "Kiosks (Digital Signage) Set-Up" for guidance on initially setting up kiosks at your site. This section describes the management of the displays during your event.

1. From the Race Coordinator's home page, click "Kiosk Dashboard."



2. The Kiosk Dashboard page shows all the kiosks that are currently (or have recently been) in contact with the web server. It also shows the currently selected scene, if any.

3. You can choose a scene to become the current scene by using the current scene control.	Current scene: 0 named kio	sks out of 2
Note that scenes affect only those kiosks that have been named to match the scene's kiosk names. The "named kiosks" message is a reminder of how many kiosk names match the scene kiosk names.		

Unusual Situations

Re-run a heat

Should it be necessary to do so, a heat can be re-run as follows:



3.	Click the "Discard Results" button to delete the previously- recorded heat results for the heat.	st pt ol	Lane 1 2 3 4	Racer Owen O'Leary Ben Bittinger Edgardo Easterwood Derick Deeier Discard Ch Ca	Car 161 106 126 121 121 121 121 121 121 12	Time 3.401 2.345 2.739 3.738 its
4.	Click the "Racing" slider to initialize the timer and prepare to re-run the heat.		Inner Status	A to records	PATREN CONTRACTOR	

Late Arrivals and Other Race Schedule Changes

No matter how good your planning, preparation, and organization, sooner or later you'll have the experience of a racer showing up to your event *after* the racing for their group has started and some heat results have been recorded. (Slightly less common, and perhaps more preventable, is having a racer or their parent ask why they're not shown in the currently-racing group, even though they checked in a while ago, leading you realize they were assigned the wrong group. And, again, the group they should be in has already run some heats.)

DerbyNet now supports making *adjustments* to an existing schedule, in order to accommodate changes in the roster for the round. (In the past, the options were to throw out the results of the already-run heats and generate a new schedule, or to race the affected racers in a group that hadn't started racing.)

1. From the check-in page, check in the late arrival, or reassign the	
misplaced racer to the correct group.	Checked In?

2. If the change affects the currently-racing round, the "Now Racing" and "On Deck" kiosks will show an overlay to indicate that the schedule needs changing.

3. On the race dashboard, the affected racing rounds will show with an orange background, indicating that there's a discrepancy between the race schedule and the race roster. Opening the controls for the round will describe the specific discrepancy, and provide an "Adjust Schedule" button to resolve.

Note that the discrepancy itself may be an error – maybe someone at the check-in desk clicked the wrong thing. In that case, resolve the issue from the check-in page, and the warnings and overlays will clear by themselves.

Adding a New Round

If you need to add a new round for racing, there are generally two cases to consider: adding a round to an existing, native, racing group, and adding an aggregate round incorporating finalists from multiple groups. The two cases are similar, but not identical.

Adding a Native Round

1. From the Race Dashboard, click the "Add New Rounds" button.	Contraction of the second
	Ne field Sign full Pectod fille Under Route Vertifier Not flave flave Not flave

	Schedule adjustment
ski	needed. Ifo "Dolf" Asher
111 116	
1.11 1.16	

The race schedule needs to be adjusted because: • 106 Ben Bittinger isn't in the schedule.			
Adjust Schedule			
Repeat Round			



Adding an Aggregate Round

1.	From the Race Dashboard, click the "Add New Rounds" button.	
2.	Click the "Aggregate Round" button.	Add Round 2 Lions & Tigers White's Wolves Add Aggregate Round Aggregate Round Cancel
3.	Decide how the roster for the aggregate round should be constructed: from which race groups to draw entrants, and either the number of entrants to choose from each group, or the total number of best results to choose. Click "Submit."	Lions & Tigers On Unite's Wolves On Choose top 3 Choose top 3 racers from Overall Submit Cancel Lions & Tigers

4. The aggregate round appears in the list of racing rounds.

As with the other racing rounds, click on the newly-added round to expose buttons for scheduling and racing.



Additional Features

Scenes

If you will be running your event with more than one kiosk, it can be cumbersome to switch several displays at once, for example, when you switch from racing to presenting awards. Scenes allow you to package together the page selections for several kiosks, and switch between them with a single gesture. Scenes are also used in the construction of the racing rounds playlist (see next section).

From the Kiosk Dashboard, click the "Scene Editor" button to visit the Scenes editor. (There's also a link to the scene editor from the Set-Up page.) You'll see there are several pre-defined scenes you can use (or change); you can also define new scenes of your own.

Each row in the Scenes editor represents one kiosk name for the scene. The predefined scenes use the kiosk names "Main," "Aux1," and "Aux2;" you can add additional names if you like. (A kiosk name will be removed if no scene specifies a kiosk page for that name.)

For the currently selected scene, the scene editor shows a miniature (live) version of what a kiosk with that name would display.

Back	Scenes	? 📴
	Racing 💿	
Main now-racing		
Aux1 ondeck		4 Contract of a
Auro		
results-by-racer		Parado II / Jacon
	Add Kiosk Delete Scene	
Display a menu		

Racing Rounds Playlist

The racing rounds playlist allows you to plan the sequence of racing rounds for your event, and automatically advance from one round to the next. This relieves the race coordinator of the work to manage the roster and heat schedule for each round manually. With a playlist defined, when one racing round finishes, the playlist advances automatically to whatever the next step is.

Many groups will plan a pause between racing rounds, e.g. for the presentation of awards from the previous round. The playlist allows each racing round to include a scene change to occur at the conclusion of the racing round. (A scene change is not required: the default end-of-round action is "Start Next Round" to continue racing with the next round.)

When the playlist advances from one entry to the next, the following happens:

- As happens whenever a racing round finishes, the state changes from "Racing" to "Not racing."
- If the new racing round doesn't have a roster, the roster is constructed based on the parameters you set when you added the round to the playlist.
- If the new racing round doesn't have a schedule, a heat schedule is generated using the parameters you set when you added the round to the playlist.
- The first heat of the new racing round becomes the current racing heat.
- If the just-finished round specifies "Stop" as the after-racing action, then nothing else happens. Otherwise, if an after-racing scene was specified, that scene is made current, and nothing else happens. Finally, if the just-finished round specified "Start Next Round," then the state changes from "Not racing" back to "Racing."



2. If you wish, use the "Racing scene"	Racing scene:
control to define a scene for racing. Whenever you switch from "Not racing" to "Racing" (on the race dashboard), the selected scene will become the current scene, and any matching kiosks will be updated to match.	Racing
3. From the "Available Rounds" column on the right, choose racing rounds to add to the playlist by clicking the "+" button.	Lions & Tigers, Round 1 +
 4. When adding a playlist entry, you specify: a "runs per lane" value that will be used to generate a schedule for the round (when it becomes the current round); and an after-racing action, which can be one of the following: Stop (do nothing); Start Next Round (continue to the next racing round in the playlist, if any); A scene. (Racing will stop, and the selected scene will become the current scene.) 	Runs per lane: 1 And then: Start Next Round Submit Cancel

5. If the round being added to the playlist does not have a defined roster (shown by a dotted outline), then adding the playlist entry will also require specifying how the round roster should be constructed.	Choose top 3 © racers from Overall Runs per lane: 1 © And then: Start Next Round © Submit Cancel
 6. The playlist on the left shows the scheduled racing rounds. To change the settings for a round, click on the entry. 	Lions & Tigers, Round 1 Awards Scene White's Wolves, Round 1 Bears and Frères, Round 1 Bears and Frères, Round 1 Runs per lane: 1 After racing: Start Next Round Webelos ("Webes, Round 1
 To remove a playlist entry, click the red "x" button on the entry. 	
8. You can drag entries in the playlist to reorder them, if desired.	

Wrapping Up

View Standings

1.	The "Standings" page is available to logged-in users from the home page:	Image: Check-In Race Check-In Edit Race Photos Edit Car Photos Recults By Racer Banding Edit Car Photos Banding Edit Car Photos Banding Edit Car Photos Banding Exported Results About Log out	
2.	The "Standings" page lets you view standings for each round, as well as the overall standings. Use the selector control at the top of the page to switch view different rounds.		

Judging for Awards

If you intend to present non-speed related awards ("Best Design," "Best Workmanship," etc.), judging the recipients of any awards would happen either during the event or just afterwards.

Additionally, some organizations choose to recognize some participants with *ad hoc* awards, invented just for that recipient: "Best Use of the Color Red," or "Fastest Looking." These *ad hoc* awards are handled on the same award judging page.

For some awards, you may wish to allow participants to decide the winners by ballot, rather than relying on a set of judges. DerbyNet supports online balloting for awards; see the "Online Balloting in DerbyNet" document for additional details.

1. From the Race Coordinator's home page, click on "Judging."	Beckup Recer Chacks Beckup Recer Chacks Edit Becer Photos Bendres Edit Der Photos Bendres Rece Chacks Bendres Edit Der Photos Bendres Kein Derboard Doort Judging Log out
 The judging page shows all the defined awards on the left, and all the (passed) racers on the right. 	Image: state stat
3. Racers who are slated to receive speed awards will have laurel leaves shown. (Some organizations elect not to award design awards to racers already receiving speed awards.)	131 Felton Fouche Lions & Tigers
4. To select a recipient for an award, you can <i>either</i> :	
• Drag the award onto the racer, <i>or</i>	
• Drag the racer onto the award.	

5.	When a named award has been assigned to a racer, an award ribbon appears on the entry for the racer.	126 Edgardo Easterwood Lions & Tigers
6.	When a recipient has been assigned for an award, the name of recipient appears in the award list.	Scouts' Choice Other #Edgardo Easterwood
7.	To remove the recipient from an award, click on the "X" symbol in the award entry.	
8.	Click on the racer entry to see a modal dialog for <i>ad hoc</i> awards. To remove an <i>ad hoc</i> award, just delete the text of the award's name.	Awards for 136 Herb Halfacre Ad hoc award: Most lifelike Submit Close
9.	A racer with an <i>ad hoc</i> award assigned gets a small yellow star.	136 Herb Halfacre Lions & Tigers

Award Presentations

The "Present Awards" page and the "Award Presentations" kiosk display are intended to work together. Using the Present Awards page, the event emcee can select each award as it's about to be presented; the "Award Presentations" kiosk(s) will update to reflect the name of the award currently being presented, but, at first, will not identify the recipient of the award.

On the "Present Awards" page, the currently-selected award appears on the right, along with the

recipient's name and car number. A switch on the right ("Hidden"/"Showing") controls when the identity of the recipient is revealed. When the switch is flipped to "Showing," the racer's name and car number, along with photos of the recipient and their car, if available, are displayed on the "Award Presentations" display. A video of celebratory confetti is overlaid on the display.



Exporting Results for Distribution

The "Export Results" option is available from the home page, even for users who are not logged in.

Clicking this button downloads a spreadsheet file containing:

- the results of each heat for each racer;
- overall standings, as well as standings for all groups, subgroups, and aggregate groups;
- all awards and their recipients.

The "Export Results" page offers a choice among several popular spreadsheet formats. Choose the format in which you would prefer to receive the data.

Looking Back At Your Event

Putting on a great pinewood derby event takes a lot of effort, and there are always opportunities to improve for next time.

The "Retrospective" page allows a look back on the now-completed event to gain some insights for the race coordinator.





At the top of Retrospective page is a "Lane Bias Analysis" section that applies a statistical test to try to answer the question, "Are any lanes on the track particularly fast or slow?" Click on the triangle control to see the details.	Lane Bias Analysis ▼ There is no evidence of significant lane bias. Lane 1 23 run(s) 1 DNF(s) 3.433s avg. 1.757 sample variance. Lane 2 23 run(s) 1 DNF(s) 3.396s avg. 1.867 sample variance. Lane 3 23 run(s) 0 DNF(s) 3.289s avg. 1.832 sample variance. Lane 4 23 run(s) 1 DNF(s) 3.299s avg. 1.986 sample variance. Lane 4 23 run(s) 1 DNF(s) 3.299s avg. 1.986 sample variance. Lane 4 23 run(s) 1 DNF(s) 3.299s avg. 1.986 sample variance. Cartististic is NaN with dft=3 and df2=85 Critical value for F statistic is 2.041 Statistic is 2.041	
The "Events Timeline" section of the page records the "significant"	Bears and Frèr heat 2 2019-11-29 08:22:22 0m00s	
events that occurred during the race, including:	Lions & Tigers heat 1 2019-11-29 08:22:23 Discarded result for lane 1: car 101 Adolfo "Dolf" Asher	
Completion of a heat	Lions & Tigers heat 2 2019-11-29 08:22:23	
	Lions & Tigers heat 3 2019-11-29 08:22:23	
 Discarding of any previously-captured heat results 	Discarded result for lane 1: car 121 Derick Dreier Lions & Tigers heat 4 2019-11-29 08:22:23	
Manually recorded heat results	Discarded result for lane 1: car 131 Felton Fouche	
For normal heat completions, other than for the first heat in a round, the rightmost column shows the time between heats, in minutes and seconds. This can help you assess how fast your race crew was able to advance from one heat to the next. Knowing the average turnaround time can also help you predict how long an event should take.		

The "About" Page

The "About" page displays details about the DerbyNet installation you're using.

Reporting Bugs

If you encounter a bug or other problem with DerbyNet, please report it! Include the content of the "About" page, which will capture details about your particular configuration.

1. The home page always includes an "About" button.	Set-Lip Recer Charlos Race Check-In Results By Racer Edit Car Photos Present Awards Edit Car Photos Bandrags Race Dashboard Eborred Recurs Kock Dashboard Doorted Recurs J.dging Log out
 2. The "About" page includes details about your installa environment and database configuration that can be u debugging. Please note that the "About" page includes more inforyou are logged in as "Race Coordinator" than if you a logged in. If you have a choice, please log in before o the "About" button. Please capture the "About" page content, perhaps by p to a PDF or by saving the page on your hard drive, an with your bug report. 	<pre>tion seful for mation if the not clicking printing do include</pre>
3. Use the green "Download Database Snapshot" button download a copy of your database. If possible, please this database when reporting a bug. (The data include names of the racers, which may be a reason for some hesitate in sharing. The snapshot does <i>not</i> include any or video.)	to e include e the to y photos

Exporting Preferences

You can export a preferences file that describes the customizations you made for your event, including racer segments, awards, custom racing group and aggregate group structures, and individual settings from the settings page. This may make it easier to set up your next event.

1. Export a preferences file from the "About" page from the link in the upper right.



2. When setting up your next event, import your preferences by dragging and dropping on the Set-Up page.



Appendix: Data File Locations and Customization

DerbyNet organizes all user data within an "umbrella" data directory whose location varies by the type of installation:

Windows	The Data directory is found directly under the UniServerZ directory.
Мас	~/Public/DerbyNet
Linux (including Raspbian)	/var/lib/derbynet
Docker	<pre>/var/lib/derbynet, but this is commonly mapped to a directory on the machine hosting the docker instance.</pre>

The umbrella data directory can hold within it the data for several distinct races or events, each in a separate sub-folder grouped by the year in which the event occurred. In addition, the umbrella data directory has folders named slides and imagery, to support customization of slide shows and kiosk imagery.

E.g., the files for a 2025 event called TheBigRace would be found in:

Windows	\UniServerZ\Data\2025\TheBigRace\
Mac	~/Public/DerbyNet/2025/TheBigRace/
Linux	/var/lib/derbynet/2025/TheBigRace

For each race or event, the file hierarchy looks like this:

cars	Captured car photos are stored here.
derbynet.sqlite3	This is the database for the race, holding all the racer names, round schedules, heat results, etc.
imagery	Imagery customized to this race or event; see below.
logs	Server-side timer logs (if enabled from the timer test page) are stored here.
racers	Captured racer photos are stored here.

slides	Slides customized to this race or event; see below.
videos	Captured instant replay videos are stored here.

Custom Slides

You can add custom slides to slide shows you present by adding images or photos to one of two designated folders. Images can be most any file type that's displayable as an image (e.g., .jpeg, .png, .ico, .svg, .tiff, .bmp, etc.).

Slides can be added to either:

- The slides directory that's directly under the "umbrella" data directory. Images found here are added to slide shows for *every* event served from this installation.
- The slides directory within the data folder for a specific race or event. Images found here will be be added to slide shows for that specific race.

If the slides folder contains an image named 'title' (e.g., title.png or title.jpeg), that image will replace the title slide for the slide show. Otherwise, all slides are presented after the title slide and before the racer photos, in order by file name.

Custom Imagery

Customization across other kiosk pages is available by adding images to one of two imagery folders, found alongside the slides directories: one directly under the "umbrella" data directory (and used for all events served from this installation), and one within the data folder for a specific race or event.

Images in the imagery directories override specific images that would otherwise be taken from the stock Image Set (selected on the Settings page). As with the slides folders, images are chosen by the base file name, ignoring the file extension.

Image name

Emblem	The emblem image appears on:	
(e.g. emblem.png) Flag (e.g., flag.svg)	 The "Welcome" kiosk page The "Please Check In" kiosk page "Check-In Card" printables "Driver's License" printables, and "Pit Pass" printables. The flag image appears on the "Flag" kiosk. (Non-U.S. groups, take note!) 	
centuries/x00-series (e.g., centuries/000- series.jpg)	The imagery/centuries folders contain images used for "Car Tag" printables, based on the car number for each car. (E.g., the tag for car number 203 would be rendered with the 200-series image.)	

Generic image

Custom URL Base

Both the About page and the QR code on the check-in page attempt to present the IP address for the DerbyNet server. If a custom URL is preferred (perhaps the server is behind a network translation layer, or perhaps uses a specific domain name), a custom URL base can be used instead. Start with the desired URL for the DerbyNet index page, and remove the trailing "/index.php"; the result should look something akin to "<u>https://my.derbynet.instance.com/derbynet</u>". Note that there should be NO trailing slash.

Once the URL base has been determined, create a text file named "config-url" (no extension) containing just the URL base. The config-url should be placed as follows:

Windows	\UniServerZ\www\local\config-url
Mac (MAMP)	/Library/WebServer/Documents/derbynet/local/config-url
Linux (including Raspbian)	/var/www/html/derbynet/local/config-url
Docker	<pre>/var/lib/derbynet/config-url, but that directory is commonly mapped to a directory on the machine hosting the docker instance.</pre>