

I'm very excited to say that colleges will now be allowed to compete in class 2 and class 3 this year. I contacted Sara about two months ago and later responded to give permission for my school (NWTC Green Bay Campus) and other colleges to compete. Thus far my group has about ten people and a lot of enthusiasm. I look forward to meeting all of you. I can only see a lot of great opportunities with including colleges in your competition. As of now we have the challenge of getting our name out to the community for their support. Our team and advisors span across the school including machinists, welders, metallurgists, technicians, and still more to come. I'm very excited to start building.

Thanks,

Ryan Wenzlick (NWTC/SWEAT team manager)

I cannot see anything negative about allowing colleges to compete. I assume there would be two 1st., 2nd, and 3rd. place trophies; one for the colleges and one for the high schools (cars running at the same time). This way we could avoid several issues... (if the colleges failed to place?)

This is what Sara told me so far.

"You would be competing against the other teams in your Class. Some of these high schools have amazing cars! It would be a great competition! :)"

As of now we are the only college planning to participate. I was told as soon as the rules are changed that they would send an invite out to all the colleges. I know there will be a lot of discussion further into the interaction between college and high school teams with scoring. It seems to me that it would depend upon how many colleges enter. If it's just my school than I'm guessing that we would run right alongside the high schools. Of course I would hope that there would be enough interest at other colleges to compete. They just need to get the word out as soon as possible. I'm starting now with the logistics and it's definitely a time crunch.

Hey everyone,

We are still finalizing the 2008 Rules but I wanted to make one clarification about colleges competing - we are specifying that college teams will be allowed in Class 3 only. Last year, with only 2 classes, college teams were allowed in Class 2 (with none participating). But now that we're adding a 3rd class, we've decided to move the college teams to Class 3.

Thanks Ryan for your enthusiasm! We look forward to meeting you too!

~Sara

As I posted in a different forum, I see no reason why High Schools should not directly compete with colleges. If we use Stout's HMV from the late 90's as an example, they were no more successful than most of the competitive HMV's. I think competition with a higher level is a win-win for all around, as high school students are able to learn from the college students and the college students will learn from the high school students. Less is more, fewer classes and more awards makes for more winners.

Damon