

Is there anyone out there who gives a checklist or outline for the students to fill out when they go to the challenges?
If so could you please forward a copy?

Thanks:

Jay

I've got a pre-race checklist that I had some students develop a few years ago, when something stupid fell off like a brake caliper or battery box lid. Is that what you're looking for? Any can add items or descriptions then re post it and we all might have something we could use

1. Brake Bolts
2. Tire Pressure
3. Wheels
- 4 Tie-Rod Ends
5. Axle Bolts
6. Motor Mounts
7. Motor Connections
8. Battery Box Lid
9. Battery Voltage
10. Battery Secure in Box
11. Sprockets
12. Electrical Connection
13. Mirrors
14. Power Check on Controller
15. Brake Check
16. Driver - Long Sleeve, Long Pants, Gloves, Helmet, Shoes
17. Helmet
18. Driver Ballast
19. Battery Voltage
20. Brake Light
21. Pit Area - tools, spare tires, tools organized
22. Wind shield

Dave's checklist is great. I would personally have them go through the list prior to leaving for the competitions. I go through the safety inspection list with the kids and make them pass the tests prior to leaving so normally the tech inspection should go smoothly.

We went to Kansas City in Oct., left our helmet in Omaha. We have forgotten everything at one time or another that isn't nailed or welded down, such as air pump, spare spokes, spoke wrench, steering wheel, seat, we used a check list to, just make sure the person using it, KNOWS HOW TO READ, just kidding. Stan

Hi everyone:

First I want to thank the people who responded to my first post on the Electrathon checklist. I will certainly use the list provided. I was looking for something slightly different though. We plan on bringing students in our newly developed intro to engineering course to the fall Dells challenge to observe the challenge. What I am looking for is some sort of list that is developed so the students will get the most out of the trip. In other words something to point out to them all the important things that they should be taking in from the experience so when we get back we can go over these things together. Anything like that out there?

Thanks in advance:

Jay Schroeder

I would certainly pay close attention to the safety inspections. I would also

observe how teams use different approaches to meet the requirements.

So what do engineering students do? I'd say they observe, design, build & test. Kind of sounds like Electrathon on a grander scale doesn't it? Observe what works well for the front runners & what's not working for those in the rear. Is it skill or luck that places where they are? Sometimes a team of thinkers & doers can Take a heavy steel but well designed car & put a hurt on a team in a lightweight car that looks better on paper. Teamwork & preparation mean a lot. Good luck

Give them each a list of interview questions that they need to complete by asking students, advisors and judges on the day...

- * How long have you been working on your car? How often do you meet? How many hours a week?
- * What was the hardest thing this year with your team/car?
- * How much money did your team spend? How did you raise that money? What was your best/worst fundraiser? Do you get team sponsors? How?
- * What would you do differently this year if you would have known?
- * What is the role of a "Leader" on your team? Advisor? Member? Business Partner? Parent?
- * What material did you choose on your vehicle chassis and why?
- * What batteries did you use on your vehicle and why?
- * What ??? did you use on your vehicle and why?
- * How did you learn to build/wire/??? you vehicle?
- * Why is your vehicle doing well? bad?

*** Ultimately if you have 10 or ?? students doing this interview, they should get 10 different people's answers and then when you are back at school or the van ride home, you review the answers and pictures taken and as a class.

Jesse Domer, Watertown High School

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Jay,

Glad to hear your intentions for coming to the Dells challenge. That is a large part of why we have it, to attract the new students and teams and pique their interest. Isn't Faust going to have an existing team? I would love to have that team compete and continue to build our numbers.