



*Okto***Baja***Fest*

RULES

Administrative Regulations:

1. Teams are responsible for reading and understanding the rules in their entirety for the competition in which they are participating.
2. By entering the OktoBAJAFest competition, the team members, faculty advisors and other personnel of the entering university agree to comply with, and be bound by, the rules and all rule interpretations or procedures issued or announced by the OktoBAJAFest organizing body. All team members, faculty advisors and other university representatives are required to cooperate with, and follow all instructions from competition organizers, officials, and judges.
3. The OktoBAJAFest organizing body reserves the right to revise the schedule of any event and/or interpret or modify the competition rules at any time and in any manner, that is, in their sole judgment, required for the efficient operation of the event.
4. All announcements and updates about OktoBAJAFest will be posted on the OktoBAJAFest website (<https://sites.clarkson.edu/OktoBAJAFest/>)
5. Eligibility is limited to undergraduate and graduate students. Individual members of teams participating in this competition must be enrolled as degree seeking undergraduate or graduate student in a college or university. Team members must be at least seventeen (17) years of age at the time of the competition.
6. All on-site participants, spectators and faculty are required to sign a liability waiver prior to or upon registering onsite. If under the age of eighteen (18), the waiver must be signed by a parent or legal guardian.
7. Individual medical and accident insurance coverage is required and is the sole responsibility of the participant.

Vehicle Regulations:

1. The vehicle and associated documentation must be conceived, designed, manufactured, and fabricated by the team members without direct involvement from professional engineers, faculty, or professionals in the off-road and racing communities.
2. The vehicle must have competed, passed technical inspection, and retained its full Baja SAE® Passed Tech sticker from a competition held **within 5 calendar years** of the upcoming of the OktoBAJAFest event.
3. All vehicles will still need to pass on-site Technical Inspection by OktoBAJAFest judges (regardless of previous inspections).
4. During the competition, OktoBAJAFest vehicles may only be driven between the paddocks and an event site, during official practice or in the events themselves and only after passing technical inspection and receiving a OktoBAJAFest Passed Tech sticker.
5. All drivers must attend a driver's orientation meeting before participating in any on track event.
6. Drivers must wear all the equipment as specified in the OktoBAJAFest Technical Inspection ruleset and a properly fastened restraint system at all times when the vehicle is running in any event or on the practice track. Drivers not wearing the proper equipment will not be permitted to drive and may have their competition driver's privileges revoked.
7. Refueling of vehicles must be performed with (1) the engine shut-off and (2) the driver out of the vehicle and (3) fire extinguisher (other than that carried in the vehicle) must be on hand and pointed toward the vehicle/fuel tank whenever a vehicle is being refueled.
8. The swapping out of wheels/tires, CVT's, and shocks will be allowed throughout the dynamic events. No other components can be changed after completing Technical Inspection. All swappable components must be brought to Technical Inspection.
9. DRIVING OFF-SITE IS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED. TEAMS FOUND TO HAVE DRIVEN THEIR VEHICLE AT AN OFF-SITE LOCATION MAY BE EXPELLED FROM THE COMPETITION.

Registration Regulations:

1. Due to site paddock size restrictions, OktoBAJAFest is limited to 15 college teams.
2. Each Team is allowed to bring (2) Baja cars for a total of 30 cars. If registration is not full a third car can be requested.
3. Registration costs are covered for participants with the help of OktoBAJAFest's generous sponsors. All registered participants receive the following:
 - a. Lunch on Saturday
 - b. Closing (meal) banquet on Sunday
 - c. Event t-shirt
4. All team registrations are required to be done online at:
<https://sites.clarkson.edu/OktoBAJAFest/>
5. All spectators must register on-site and sign a liability waiver.

Site Regulations:

1. Alcoholic beverages, recreational marijuana, firearms, weapons of any type and illegal materials are prohibited at OktoBAJAFest sites during the competition. The penalty for violation of this rule is the immediate expulsion of the entire team, not just the individual(s) involved. This rule applies to team members, advisors and any individuals working with the team on-site.
2. Smoking and open toed shoes are prohibited on site and in all locations.
3. Clean-up of trash and debris is the responsibility of the teams. Please make every effort to keep your paddock area clean and uncluttered. At the end of the day, each team must clean their work area and dispose of all trash in the provided dumpster.
4. DO NOT feed any bears, raccoons, or any other wildlife you may encounter – The site is located in the foothills of the Adirondack Mountains and is very rural.
5. The site is also fairly remote with spotty cell service.
6. The use of motorcycles, ATV's, UTV's, bicycles, scooters or similar person-carrying or motor drive devices by team members and spectators in any part of the site, including the paddocks is prohibited.
7. All team members identified as captains or drivers and all faculty advisors MUST attend all meetings as designated. Attendance at meetings is mandatory. Failure to attend meetings can result in disqualification of members or the entire team.
8. When a vehicle is driven anywhere except within the practice track or on event courses it must move at walking speed with a team member walking alongside at a normal pace.
 - a. During the performance events when the excitement is high, it is particularly important that vehicles move at a walking pace in the paddocks and to and from the course entry point.
 - b. The team member alongside the car must remain in arms reach of the kill switch but must NOT hold on to the vehicle while in motion.
 - c. Any vehicle with the motor running must have a driver in the vehicle with all safety gear on.
9. Under no circumstances may anyone other than the driver ride in/on a vehicle.
10. Only the Baja vehicles themselves and the teams' support trucks and trailers are allowed in the paddocks. Parking will be provided for all additional vehicles exactly 1 mile from the paddocks. A shuttle bus or other mode of transport may be provided to transport people to and from the site on endurance race day only, but this is not guaranteed. All participants, spectators, etc. should be dressed in appropriate attire and prepared to walk to all locations.
11. Teams shall properly store all compressed gas cylinders. Cylinders shall be upright and properly secured by chain or other method, capped when not in use, and stored such that cylinder temperature is below 125 degrees F.
12. All teams' members should be wearing eye protection in the paddock when performing any activity involving fuel, grinding, welding, or cutting.
13. Gas cooking grills will be allowed in a specified location only. No gas cooking grills will be allowed in the paddocks.

Spectator Regulations

1. All spectators must register on-site at the registration tent. All spectators will be required to sign a liability waiver and will receive a blue wristband to verify their registration.
2. The organizers typically do not have a direct line of communication with spectators other than on-the spot at the competition; thus, the competitors, faculty and volunteers are expected to help inform the spectators of the safety rules and help restrict spectators to the spectator areas.
3. Spectators may not drink or possess alcoholic beverages at any competition location
4. Spectators must keep a specified distance back from the event or course, this distance is decided by OktoBAJafest organizers, from any area where vehicles are operating under power. Motor vehicle competitions are potentially dangerous and safety rules will be strictly enforced.
5. Spectators must observe all caution tape and markings. Spectators are advised to stand back from these boundaries to maintain a safe observing distance without encroaching on vehicle areas.
6. The competition site requires all children to be supervised by an adult at all times. Spectators who fail to strictly supervise their children will be asked to leave the site.
7. The course officials and organizers have the absolute right to restrict spectator access to any parts of the site and to eject anyone who violates safety rules or ignores the instructions of officials.
8. Open toed shoes are not permitted on site at any time.

Vehicle Requirements – Technical Inspection

PLEASE REFER TO THE OktoBAJafest TECHNICAL INSPECTION RULESET, FOUND UNDER THE “RULES AND DOCUMENTS” TAB ON THE WEB PAGE, FOR ALL TECHNICAL VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS

1. Pass/Fail - All OktoBAJafest vehicles must pass a technical inspection before they are permitted to operate under power.
2. The inspection will determine if the vehicle satisfies the requirements and restrictions of the OktoBAJafest rules.
3. If vehicles are not ready for technical inspection when they arrive at the inspection site, they will be sent away.
4. Any vehicle may be re-inspected at any time during the competition and correction of any noncompliance will be required.
5. The swapping out of wheels/tires, CVT's, and shocks will be allowed without a recheck so long as the components are identical. Swapping of components to gain a competitive advantage is not allowed. In the case a component that is not identical is required to continue in the competition, the team must show the existing component and the one you want to swap to the head technical inspector.

6. Technical Inspection will consist of four (4) separate parts as follows:
- a. **Engine inspection and governor setting:**
 - i. OktoBAJAFest Representatives will set the governors of all vehicles.
 - ii. Vehicles must be presented for governor setting with the engine output shaft bare, the drivetrain disconnected, and the throttle cable disconnected from the engine and working kill switches.
 - iii. Each vehicle engine must be inspected by OktoBAJAFest staff that will:
 - 1. Confirm its compliance with the rules.
 - 2. Set the governor to the specified rpm. (3800 rpm)
 - iv. The vehicle governor check must be passed before continuing onto the transponder check.
 - b. **Transponder check**
 - i. A transponder check station will be set up at the entrance to the technical inspection tent.
 - ii. At this station teams will receive their transponder and verify the transponder works with the OktoBAJAFest timing equipment.
 - iii. The transponder check must be passed before continuing to technical inspection.
 - c. **Technical Inspection:**
 - i. Each vehicle will be inspected to determine if it complies with the requirements and restrictions of the OktoBAJAFest rules. This inspection will include:
 - ii. A technical inspection of the vehicle.
 - iii. An examination of the driver's equipment including helmet and arm restraints.
 - iv. A test of driver exit time and to ensure that all drivers meet the requirements of the rules.
 - v. Each team must bring the following items to inspection:
 - 1. Technical Inspection Sheet: Before bringing their vehicle to technical inspection each team must:
 - a. Pre-inspect the vehicle for compliance with the rules.
 - b. Complete the official technical inspection sheet at (<https://sites.clarkson.edu/OktoBAJAFest/>). Teams must download the most current version of the technical inspection sheet within two weeks of the competition and thoroughly inspect their vehicle in accordance with the sheet.
 - 2. Drivers: All competition drivers must be present at technical inspection, if a driver is not present during technical inspection, they will be removed from the eligible drivers list.
 - 3. Fire extinguishers.
 - vi. Technical inspectors will use fair and sound judgement to deem a vehicle safe to race. All considerations are for the safety of participants and spectators.
 - vii. Technical inspection must be passed before a team may apply for kill switch and dynamic braking inspection.

- d. **Kill switch and dynamic brake testing:**
 - i. Both the external and cockpit kill switches will be tested for functionality.
 - ii. If both switches pass the test, then the vehicle will be dynamically brake tested.
 - iii. Each vehicle must demonstrate its ability to lock all four wheels and come to rest in an approximately straight line after acceleration run specified by the inspectors.
 - iv. If a vehicle fails to pass any part of the inspection, it must be corrected/modified and brought into compliance with the rules before it is permitted to operate.
- 7. **Inspection Stickers:**
 - a. Once a team passes each part of technical inspection (engine inspection and governor check, transponder check, technical inspection, and kill switch and dynamic brake testing) a “Passed Tech” inspection sticker will be placed on the vehicle by the OktoBAJAFest inspector. The sticker will be placed on the driver’s right side of the firewall above the driver’s shoulder.
 - b. The inspection sticker must remain on the vehicle throughout the competition.
 - c. Vehicles without an inspection sticker may not be operated under power.
 - d. The inspection sticker may be removed, and a vehicle not allowed to operate under power by OktoBAJAFest inspectors if the vehicle that has been damaged or which is reasonably believed may not comply with the rules.

EVENT DAY RULES

Design / Tech Inspection / Dynamic Event Days (Friday and Saturday):

1. All vehicle modifications and repairs shall be done in the paddocks. No repair work shall be done in or around any of the following areas:
 - a. Tech Inspection
 - b. Design Judging
 - c. Brake Check
 - d. Practice Track
 - e. Hill Climb
 - f. Baja Cross Track
 - g. Short Track
2. Any team found to be doing repairs in areas other than the paddocks will be asked to move their vehicle immediately. This is to help keep the area clear and safe for all participants, course workers, and spectators.

Endurance Day (Sunday):

1. All drivers who plan to participate in the endurance race must attend the endurance race driver’s meeting.

2. The endurance race distance may be shortened due to weather with teams given fair notice. The planned duration is 4 hours.
3. Vehicles will be allowed to finish the lap that they have started after the first vehicle completes the race.
4. Flags:
 - a. **Yellow Flag:** Yellow flags will be used to indicate that an accident has occurred ahead, and drivers should immediately take caution, slow down, form a single line, and may not overtake their competitors. Once the driver has passed the accident area, they may resume racing speeds.
 - b. **Red Flag:** Red flags will be used to indicate that all vehicles must immediately stop on the course and wait for further instructions. Drivers will remain in their vehicles with their engines at idle and wait for instructions from the course workers on what to do.
 - c. **Black Flag:** Drivers will receive a black flag if they are deemed to be driving aggressively. The flag will be waived, and the flagger will point at the offending vehicle. Drivers will receive a warning after their first offense and will be removed from the endurance race after (3) black flags. Behaviors that will warrant a black flag include but are not limited to:
 - i. Deliberately leaving the track to gain a competitive advantage.
 - ii. Making avoidable contact with other competitors.
 - iii. Taking an action that puts competitors, spectators, and volunteers at risk.
5. In the case of a rollover, a frame inspection is required by a member of the technical inspection team before the vehicle is allowed to continue on the course.
 - a. In the case of a rollover, immediately pull over to the side of the course if able and wait for an inspector. Do not proceed without getting clearance from an inspector.
 - b. Consider the time lost waiting for an inspection as motivation to drive within the means of the track conditions.
 - c. Three (3) rollovers for the same vehicle will remove you from the rest of the endurance race.
 - d. A warning will be given to the current driver on the second rollover
6. Tow vehicles will be used to help return cars to their paddock area. Racing vehicles may not pass a tow vehicle if they are on the track.
7. Fueling Zone (FZ):
 - a. All driver changes and fueling will occur in the FZ.
 - b. Only three (3) people from any given team (excluding drivers) are allowed in the FZ at one time. Even if teams have multiple cars, only 3 people shall be in the fuel zone.
 - c. After fueling is complete or after a driver change, the vehicle shall receive a harness check from the FZ crew before returning to the race.
 - d. Speed in the FZ is walking speed only and will be strictly enforced, drivers may receive a black flag for going too fast in the FZ.
 - e. Fueling:
 - i. During refueling, both fire extinguishers (one in the vehicle and one in the hands of the fire extinguisher person) shall indicate 100% charge on the dial. If at any point a fire extinguisher is discharged or is not showing fully charged, a new fire

extinguisher must be acquired before fueling. Teams are recommended to have at least one spare.

- ii. Before refueling, the vehicle must be stopped, the engine shut off, and the driver completely out of the vehicle. The driver may not be tethered in any way, by harness, communications equipment, or clothing.
 - iii. Before refueling, a team's pit crew member must have a fire extinguisher ready and pointed at the fuel transfer point on the vehicle. This must be a FZ specific fire extinguisher and may not be the fire extinguisher from the vehicle.
 - iv. The exiting driver is the only team member permitted to remove the fuel tank cap.
 - v. A team refueling their vehicle before the driver is clear of the vehicle or who fail to have a fire extinguisher present and pointed at the fuel transfer point will be penalized.
 - vi. A fire extinguisher must be present and pointed at ANY transfer of fuel, including re-filling a smaller container from a larger one when a vehicle is not present.
 - vii. Vehicles must be refueled using a fuel container no larger than 1.5 gallons in volume. Each team shall have no more than two (2) approved fuel containers in the FZ.
 - viii. Each team may have one (1) 5 gallon container to refuel the smaller containers.
 - ix. All fuel must be in the FZ by the time endurance pre-gridding closes and safety checks begin. Once in the FZ no fuel shall be removed until the endurance race is complete.
- f. No repair or other work requiring a tool may be performed in the FZ. Teams are allowed to make adjustments that do not require any tools. Examples include driver harness, seat position, spring-damper preload, etc.
 - g. Teams may only have approved fuel containers, fire extinguishers, and funnels, if required, in the FZ. Tools of any kind are specifically prohibited.