

NM MESA Day 2019 Frequently Asked Questions
Last Updated: February 1, 2019

This document is intended to clarify any information pertaining to the upcoming MESA Day/Region Design events. This document also acts as an addendum to the MESA Day Handbook and will be followed at each competition. Some questions have been kept in the FAQ document from previous years to continue to clarify any questions.

GENERAL QUESTIONS:

Q: If I don't pass inspection, can I still qualify and come and just do the on site events?

A: No, due to limited time of your Regional Coordinator, if you do not pass inspection at the time scheduled, they are not able to do a 2nd inspection. A team is not allowed to come unless they participate in all of the designated track events. (12/6/18)

Q: Can students apply for leadership council and compete?

A: No, events will be happening simultaneously. Leadership council students will mainly be assigned to event assistance. (12/6/18)

PREPARED DESIGN: FOOD:

Q: Can the delivery package have a parachute or something similar attached to be deployed after launch (which will make it larger), as long as it fits within the initial test box of 3" x 3" x 3"? In what position does it need to fit within the test box-launch or resting?

A: Yes, It will be tested in resting position so it can expand during launch. As long as it does that without any additional assistance and does not detach from the egg. The parachute is considered part of the delivery package and as long as it stays as one main piece and initially fits within the test box it is allowed. (12/6/18)

Q: The wording for trigger uses "remote" can you clarify?

A: Remote means distant and able to be activated from outside the safety zone (string pull, etc). Electronic power sources are not allowed so no "remote control" devices. (12/6/18)

Q: Trying to understand the meaning of this line from page 12: "The egg must be able to be placed in or out of the delivery package efficiently in less than 30 seconds? Will this be tested? Is it in addition to the 1 minute prep time for the trial?

A: The reason for the Delivery Device requirement of the egg being able to be placed in or taken out of the Delivery Package in 30 seconds or less is so the student will be able to quickly remove the egg for testing by the judges. Putting the egg into the Package is done during the 1 minute prep time and need not be timed separately. However, we do not want delays in removing the egg for the judges to cause a back up in the flow of teams. (12/6/18)

Q: If the Delivery System Device initially fits within the test box of 2' x 2' x 2', but then has an arm extend out for actual launch (which will make it larger than the test box), Is that ok? In what position does it need to fit within the box-Launch or resting?

A: Yes, It will be tested in resting position so it can expand for launch. As long as it can expand by unfolding or extracting, stays in one piece, and can be done without additional tools, re-assembly, or re-attachment. So, As long as it stays as one main piece (does not detach) and initially fits within the test box it is allowed. (12/6/18)

Q: What size confetti eggs will be used? There is a variance in cartons.

A: We will be using a Standard Large Size Egg. We will purchase the eggs ahead of time and make every effort to provide a more accurate size/image for the exact eggs we will be using closer to the event. It is suggested to construct a Delivery Package that allows for a slight variance as we will make every effort to be exact but eggs have a minimal natural variance (12/6/18)

Q: What if the food package lands on a line between 2 scoring zones?

A: The lower scoring zone will be used if in between zones. If, it lands on the line between the lowest zone and out of bounds it will be considered out of bounds. (12/6/18)

Q: Can you provide some guidance on the rule that says different team members need to perform the two different prepared design trials? For example, can a team have Members #1, #2, #3 for Trial 1, then for Trial 2 have Members #1, #2, #4? Does this count as different members, or does it need to be #1 & #2, then #3 & #4? What if a team only has two members but the task requires more than one person to perform?

A: A launch will typically be 1-2 members, but the intent is to have the whole team participate and not the same person doing all main roles. So, in the first scenario if a different person was the launcher and others were preparers that would be ok. With a team of only 2, a switch of roles would be warranted. Ensure that every student has an active part in one of the two trials. (12/6/18)

Q: Can air pressure be used as a form of energy for the launcher?

A: The rules specifically rule out batteries or electricity. However, in accordance with the general safety rules, ANY energy source deemed dangerous or messy will not be allowed and will be disqualified. This includes designs that may utilize extreme air pressure, fuel, water, etc. ALL rulings on safety will be made by the Event Coordinator and will be based on the safety of the device, not just the source. If you are unsure, please submit design in advance for review and approval by the Event Coordinator to bchancey@nmmesa.org (12/6/18)

Q: Can we use 3D Printing?

A: Yes, as long as the design is unique and was created by the team member(s). Do not use pre-created templates or share design files. (1/14/19)

Q: Can we coat the egg with anything to help protect it?

A: No, the egg must remain in the original condition upon final inspection or it will be considered broken. (1/14/19)

Q: Can we place something inside of the delivery package to insulate the egg?

A: Yes, as long as it does not affect the original condition of the egg, it is not liquid or messy, it is hygienic, and it is deemed safe upon inspection. The egg must be able to be placed in and removed quickly for inspection. Also, no insulation can come out of the delivery package or it will be considered a trial disqualification for items coming free during a trial. (1/14/19)

Q: Can we use something to secure our device during launch as our device moves/slides when we release the trigger?

A: Yes, teams can bring items to secure their device as needed so that the device stays within the launch zone. Items used to secure (bungees/clamps, etc) will not be considered part of the device or weight of the device. In addition, a table will be available if a team chooses to launch their device from a tabletop surface rather than the floor. The table will be placed in the launch zone so all distances will still apply. Teams can just choose to launch from the floor or a tabletop surface. The table will be a standard folding table and the floor for MESA Day will be concrete flooring. (2/1/19)

Q: If a package slides, where will the points be given?

A: Where the package comes to rest is where the points will be assigned. (2/1/19)

Q: What will the surface of the target be?

A: The targets will be pre-printed on a vinyl surface. It will be taped to the floor on the edges to allow for a flush surface. But, the package must be tossed in the air and may then slide across the target. It cannot be just pushed along the floor. (2/1/19)

Q: What is considered the “frame” which must be made of wood?

A: Just the base and any legs will be considered the frame and must be wood. Arms, etc. may be other materials. (2/1/19)

Q: Can the trigger come free during launch?

A: Yes, the trigger is allowed to come free from the device as long as it remains with the student launching it. Example: A string pull will come free from the device, but will remain in the hand of the student. (2/1/19)

ON SITE MATH:

Q: Can they use calculators and bring them with them?

A: If calculators are needed, they will be provided. Nothing will be allowed to be brought in. (12/6/18)

Q: Will the event be different for Middle and High School?

A: Yes, a differentiation will be made in possibly difficulty, amount of work, help given, task, etc. (12/6/18)

MESA USA:

Q: Can teams participate in the MESA USA Track even if they did not submit the initial interest form?

A: Yes, the interest form allowed for an additional workshop credit and was required for the Professional Development only. The form is not required for participation in the competition. (1/14/19)