



June 7-11, 2017  
Springfield, Ohio

[www.solarsplash.com](http://www.solarsplash.com)

# News of IEEE/PELS **SOLAR SPLASH® 2017**

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## **BIG CHANGE: Site Location Changed to Springfield, Ohio!**

Our site for this year and for 2018 is the Clark County Fairgrounds in Springfield, Ohio. Springfield is located 25 miles NE of Dayton, and the event is moving there because of scheduling conflicts with the Dayton site. You can see a travel map, the site location, and other travel information by clicking on the “Travel and site information” link at [www.solarsplash.com](http://www.solarsplash.com). Cedarville University continues to serve as the host school for the event. The dates for Solar Splash 2017 remain as **June 7-11, 2017**.

The GPS address for navigating to the site is 4401 S. Charleston Pk., Springfield, OH 45502.

## **Springfield Hotel and Camping Information for the 2017 Splash Teams**

Looking for a hotel close to the Solar Splash site and wanting to spend more time socializing with your competitors? If so, then consider joining other teams at the Hampton Inn in Springfield. The Hampton Inn is conveniently located close to the Solar Splash event site; approximately 5 miles down I-70 from the Clark County Fairgrounds. Solar Splash has negotiated a limited block of rooms for teams at reduced rates; \$94 for 2-queens and \$104 for a king study. These rates include a hot breakfast, free wifi, microwave, and refrigerator in each room. Please note that the number of rooms available at this rate is limited, so consider reserving early. The deadline for reserving rooms at the Solar Splash rate is May 17 at 6:00pm EDT. Reservations may be canceled up to 24 hours prior to arrival. Please use the Hampton Inn reservation link on the “Travel and site information” page on the Solar Splash website to make your reservation. We look forward to seeing you at the Hampton!

The Splash site is at Exit 59 on I-70, and there are several hotels, including the Hampton Inn, located at Exit 54 on I-70.

Camping at the Fairgrounds is available for a nominal cost. If your team is interested in camping, contact Tim Dewhurst ([dewhurst@cedarville.edu](mailto:dewhurst@cedarville.edu)) for more information.

## Solar Splash Schedule of Major Events and Activities

An updated listing of the dates and times of Solar Splash major activities and events can be found in Rule 10 of the Rule Book. All teams are expected to be aware of the stated times, places, and specific events and activities.

### Innovation Award

Solar Splash gives many design awards each year that are determined by teams of judges at the event. Beginning in 2016, a new award – the Innovation Award – was instituted. This is the only award that a team *must apply for*. This new award is intended to reward the team with the most innovative development. Does your boat include a novel engineering creation? Whether it be a new propeller design, a new hull design, the development of a new drive system, or special features on the solar module, Solar Splash wants to know about it.

*To apply for the Innovation Award*, please prepare a narrative, not to exceed 250 words, that describes your team's best innovation this year. Include in your narrative:

- Description of the advancement
- Why the advancement is valuable, including quantifiable metrics if possible
- Brief story of how the team first came to imagine this advancement or see a need for it

Send the narrative in an email to [hq@solarsplash.com](mailto:hq@solarsplash.com). The narrative must be received by noon Eastern Daylight Time, Thursday, June 8, 2017 (during the competition). The innovations will be validated and evaluated, and the team with the best innovation will receive the Innovation Award. Good Luck!

### Team Deadline Dates Approaching Quickly!

**Final Date to Register a Team** → **Monday, April 24** is the last day to get the Entry Form into Splash Headquarters for the 2017 Splash. To register your team, you need to go to the website ([www.solarsplash.com](http://www.solarsplash.com)) to find the Entry Form for the competition.

\*\*\*April 24 is also the time the Entry Fee is supposed to be paid; so if your registered team has not sent in the Entry Fee, please do so by the 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Technical Report due by 5pm EDT, Monday, May 8** → The Technical Report is to be electronically submitted to Splash Headquarters no later than **5pm EDT, Monday, May 8**.

\*\*\*A PDF version of your Technical Report should be emailed to [hq@solarsplash.com](mailto:hq@solarsplash.com).

➔ The format and rules for writing the Technical Report are accessed via the Solar Splash website ([www.solarsplash.com](http://www.solarsplash.com)) menu by clicking first ‘2017 Competition’, then the ‘Technical Reports’ link.

➔ Remember that the top five Technical Reports from the previous year are available on the Technical Reports page of the Splash website. Reading these reports and seeing the boats and equipment provides a wealth of technical information, plus they demonstrate how to structure a highly rated report!

## **“Dolly” Needed for Your Boat**

For safety reasons, teams will not be allowed to use heavy trailers to transport their boats to and from the paddock and water. Heavy trailers pose a danger to the people trying to manage the trailer-plus-boat weight, and a hazard to those on and around the docks if the trailer ‘gets loose’. As has been the case in past Splashes, the solution is for each team to obtain or build a dolly – a light-weight trailer – which can be more easily handled to and from the water. To see various dolly designs used in previous years, check out the ‘team pictures’ taken at previous Splash competitions.

## **Have Not Registered Yet and Might Still Come? Let Us Know!**

The preparations for Solar Splash 2017 are well underway at Splash Headquarters and, as always, we need to know the approximate number of teams to arrange the proper number of paddocks, meals, etc. So if your team “might” register, please let us know as soon as possible.

### Splash Headquarters’ Address and Contact Point is:

Dr. Jeffrey Morehouse

309 Newridge Road

Lexington, SC, USA 29072 tel: 803-920-9231 email: [hq@solarsplash.com](mailto:hq@solarsplash.com)

## **Iteration: Rules Reminders and Rule Changes to Note**

It is the discretion of the Splash officials to conduct the ‘direction’ of travel in the Maneuverability, Slalom, Sprint, and Endurance Courses as is seen fit. Thus, clockwise, counter-clockwise, left-ward, or right-ward changes to the directions as seen in the Rules, or as conducted in previous Splash competitions, should always be planned for.

Several Rules for 2017 have been “word-smithed” or “moved around” within the Rules booklet. Below is a quick listing of the major changes to last year’s Rules. However, there are date and time changes throughout, and all teams are responsible for reading and understanding ALL the Rules. If you have questions, be sure to send your questions to [hq@solarsplash.com](mailto:hq@solarsplash.com) for clarification.

Specific Rules to examine:

Rule 1: “The Faculty advisor may advise only....”

Rule 4.7: All Skippers must have APBA membership at the \$25 level. [Note: Skippers can visit APBA.com to get this membership. This membership registration will also be available at the competition, but cash or checks are required for payment.]

Rule 7.13.1: Steering system fasteners required. [Note: The requirement for propeller fasteners is no longer “required” by the Rules. It’s just a good idea to do so!]

Rule 7.15: Propeller safety rules.

Rule 15.6: Closed-toes shoes are required for all participants while working on a boat.