



June 5-9, 2018
Springfield, Ohio

News of **SOLAR SPLASH® 2018**

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www.solarsplash.com

25th Solar Splash Anniversary Year!

Celebrating 25 Years of Solar Splash Competitions!

Solar Splash has now completed 24 consecutive years of the World Intercollegiate Solar/Electric Boat Championships! For the upcoming 25th anniversary in 2018, we hope to get at least 25 boats onsite – making it our largest fleet ever! We also hope to get some of the 100+ schools that have competed in previous Splashes that we haven't seen recently – or even in a 'long' time! Are you one of these schools and would like to see what the Splash competition has become – maybe you even have your old boat around? Come join the fun as we are planning a few special events for the teams, plus a couple of innovations in the competition program – more details on these activities as they are firmed up! The preparations for Solar Splash 2018 are well underway at Splash Headquarters, and we hope that your team is also planning and preparing to come. We already have one registered team and have heard from several other teams that are preparing to attend Solar Splash 2018!

Springfield, Ohio Site and Dates for 2018

Our site for 2018 is the Clark County Fairgrounds Lake in Springfield, Ohio. The host school for the event is again Cedarville University. The dates for Solar Splash 2018 are **Tuesday through Saturday, June 5-9, 2018**. [Note the change from the Wed-Sun days of previous Splashes. We hope these dates make return travel a bit easier.] Springfield is located in the southern part of Ohio, about 20 miles east of the Dayton airport off I-70, and you can see a travel map, the site location, and other travel information by clicking on the "Travel and site information" link on the Splash website menu at www.solarsplash.com.

Are You Preparing for 2018? Keep Us In the Know!

Headquarters activities at this point include: securing sponsorships, answering your questions, keeping the webpage updated, and keeping lines of communication open between Splash Headquarters and you! So don't hesitate to contact us by email, phone, or post – and let us know you are there and working to meet and compete in 2018!

➔ If you're planning to enter in 2018, drop us an email note now so we can get the 'contacts' between us firmly in place – and to get your team listed/linked on the webpage as preparing a boat for the 2018 Splash! ←

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

Top Five 2017 Technical Reports Available

The top 5 Technical Reports from the 2017 Splash are available for downloading by going to the “Technical Reports” link on the Splash website menu (www.solarsplash.com). 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!

Note: This year's Technical Report will be due **Monday, May 7, 2018**.

Entry Form, Entry Fee, and Dates

You need to go to the website (www.solarsplash.com) to find the Entry Form for the competition. The Entry Fee has increased, but it will continue to cover the opening night dinner and lunches Thursday through Sunday for all participants, as well as the ever-popular afternoon ice cream break. The new ‘early fee’ is \$750 if you get your Entry Form in by Tuesday, **January 16**, but the entry fee increases to \$1000 if you send in your enter form after that date. The cut-off date for entries is Monday, **April 23**, 2018. Again, getting the Entry Form to Headquarters is critical for meeting the dates, not when the check arrives! [However, sending the Entry Form in “promises” that you will pay the fee – and the fee is “non-refundable” after the Entry Form has been submitted!]

Major Dates/Deadlines for This Year:

Tuesday, January 16, 2018: Last date for “Early Registration” (getting the Entry Form in!) at the lower \$750 Entry Fee. After this date the Entry Fee is \$1000.

Monday, April 23, 2018: Last date for receipt of the Entry Form to register for Splash 2018.

Monday, May 7, 2018: Last date to submit the “Technical Report” without a points penalty.

Tuesday, June 5, 2018: First day of the Competition. The only “required activity” this first day is the “Skippers’ Swimming Test” which requires each team’s Skippers to be onsite for the test about 2pm.

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 Rule changes have been made in the last two years. There are date and time changes as well, 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 for clarification.

Specific Rules to examine include:

New For Last Year

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

Rule 4.7: All Skippers must have APBA membership at the \$25 level.

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.

New For This Year

The competition will be held Tuesday through Saturday (instead of Wednesday-Sunday as in previous years).

There have been several ‘word-smithing’ changes to Rules, but no significant or major rule changes made since the 2017 competition.