



June 4-8, 2024
Springfield, Ohio

News of UPS Battery Center **SOLAR SPLASH® 2024**

www.solarsplash.com

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Rules Clarification for 2024

Official [Rules for SOLAR SPLASH 2024](http://www.solarsplash.com) are posted on the website. All teams are responsible for reading and understanding ALL the Rules. If you have questions, be sure to send your questions to Headquarters at hq@solarsplash.com for clarification. Hard copies of the Rules will be mailed to the teams sometime in May.

A couple of teams have asked for clarification on the solar panel configuration, particularly regarding the changes to Rule 7.3.2 Solar Array. In November 2023 the following sentence was added to Rule 7.3.2:

The onboard solar configuration must remain the same for all events.

This rule is further clarified by the following explanation:

The solar panels may not be moved or changed between runs. However and wherever you decide to mount the panels, they must remain in that same location throughout the competition when your boat is on the water. You are free to remove them when the boat is onshore.

Many thanks to the teams that asked questions about this rule. If your team has any questions about this rule, any other rule, or anything else related to the competition, please send an email to hq@solarsplash.com. We will be glad to answer your questions.

Other Rule Changes

The [first 2024 Newsletter](#) listed 10 changes to the rules and procedures for the 2024 competition. Be sure that your team has read and understood these changes as well as all of the other competition rules.

Along with the increase in allowed solar power from 480W to 720W comes a decrease in the number of sets of batteries. You will be allowed just **one set of batteries** for the competition. This gives your team the challenge of developing an energy management plan based on the event sequence, battery state of charge, weather conditions, and other factors.

Hotel or Camping Arrangements

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 “2024 Competition” menu at www.solarsplash.com. There are special rates for Splash participants at the Marriott Courtyard Downtown – the booking link is on the website. Other nearby hotels are listed as well. Camping is available at the competition site. If your team is interested in camping, contact Dean Blair of the Clark County Agricultural Society for arrangements (deanblair53@gmail.com).

Registration and Payment Deadlines

The deadline for entering SOLAR SPLASH 2024 is April 15, 2024. The [Entry Form](#) and \$1200 entry fee are required at that time. If your team entered by the January 30 Early Registration deadline, payment of the \$900 early entry fee is due by February 29, 2024.

Email the completed entry form to hq@solarsplash.com.

The Video Presentation

This is a reminder that competition scoring includes a Video Presentation. The Video Presentation will be judged by a panel of reviewers and will be awarded a maximum of 40 points. A link to your team’s video presentation must be received at Headquarters by 5 p.m. EDT on May 28, 2024. Requirements for the video presentation are detailed on the [SOLAR SPLASH website](#). Your video will not be shared with other teams or the public until the event begins.

Major Dates/Deadlines for This Year:

- ~~Tuesday, January 30, 2024:~~ Last date for “Early Registration” (getting the Entry Form in!) at the lower \$900 Entry Fee. After this date the Entry Fee is \$1200.
- Thursday, February 29, 2024: Early Registration \$900 Entry Fees due.
- Monday, April 15, 2024: Last date for receipt of the Entry Form to register for SOLAR SPLASH 2024, and last day to pay the \$1200 Entry Fee.
- Monday, April 29, 2024: Last date to submit the Technical Report without a points penalty.
- Tuesday, May 28, 2024: Video presentation submissions due by 5 pm EDT.
- Tuesday, June 4, 2024: First day of the Competition. Registration opens at 8:00 am, and all teams must be on-site and registered by noon.
- Wednesday, June 5, 2024: Innovation Award submissions due, noon Eastern Time.