

MESA DAY

Mouse Trap Car

Level: Middle School/Grades 6 - 8
High School/Grades 9 – 12

Teams: 2 students per team.

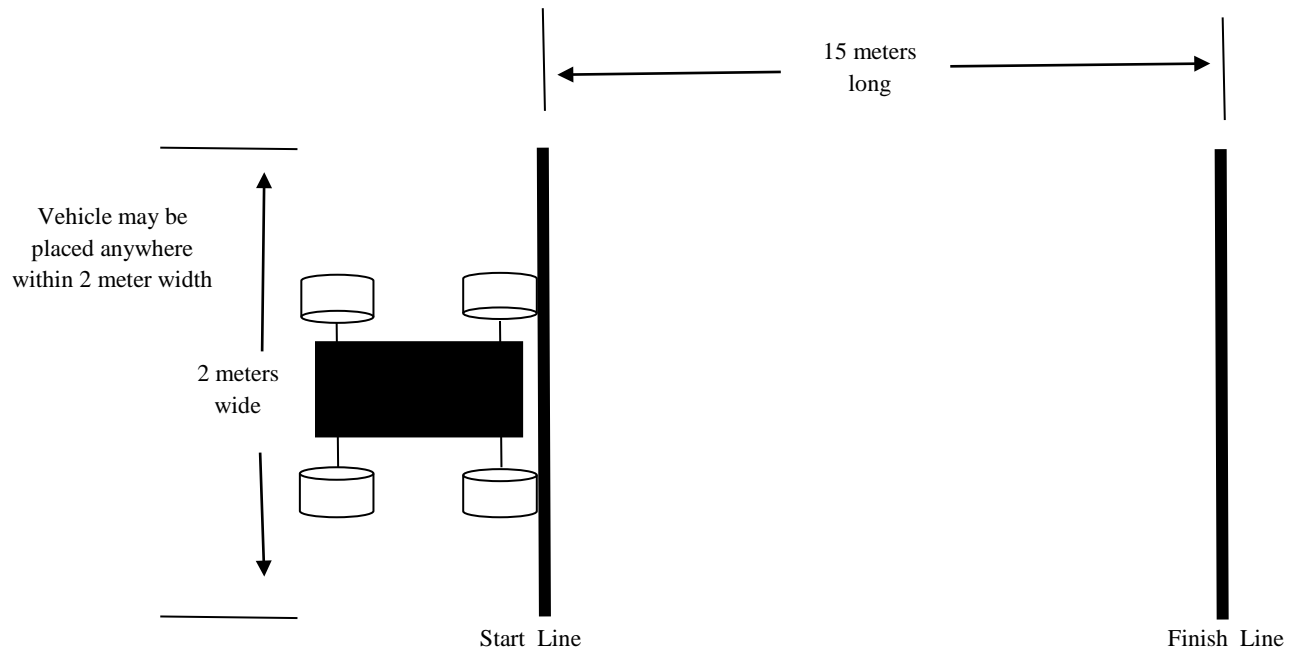
Overview: Students will build ONE vehicle, powered by a single, standard sized mousetrap, which will travel the longest distance.

Materials:

- One standard sized mousetrap
- MESA will provide a basic kit of supplies.
- All other materials to build the vehicle are legal and optional.
- Safety standards must be adhered to.

Rules:

1. Rubber bands may not be used to connect the lever to the axel.
2. Students must design and build their own vehicle which must be solely powered by the mousetrap provided.
3. The springs on the mousetrap may not be cut, bent, over-wound, heat treated, or altered in any other manner.
4. Vehicle must roll or coast along the track. All wheels must stay in contact with the surface.
5. Repairs are only allowed with replacement parts and materials.
6. The axel of the vehicle's front wheel(s) must start on the start line.
7. Students may not touch or interfere with the vehicle once the lever has been tripped.
8. The distance that the vehicle travels will be measured from the start line to the axel of the vehicle's front wheels.
9. The vehicle will be allowed 2 trials. The greater distance of the two trials will be the recorded distance.
10. Track Specifications:
 - The track will be:
 - i. 2 meters wide
 - ii. 15 meters long
 - iii. Vehicle can start anywhere on the 2 meter line



Awards:

Awards are given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for overall winners for each grade level.