

Junk Drawer Races – FAQs

Q:	Can Virtual schools/hubs/classes register a team for Junk Drawer Races and are they being treated as a separate school?
A:	Virtual schools/hubs can register just like in-person schools.

Q:	Is this contest completely virtual? Will there be live video submissions?
A:	Yes, the contests are completely virtual, and students are required to submit a recorded video as a part of their submission process. Please blur faces if students do not have parental permission to be on camera.

Q:	Is there any registration fee to participate?
A:	This year, there is no registration fee for this program.

Q:	Who should register teams, does every student need to register?
A:	Teachers can register team/s from their school. Individual students do not have to register for the regional round.

Q:	If teachers register themselves, will OYAP (and/or other related board contacts) be able to get a full list of their board registrants when registration closes?
A:	Yes. Once registration closes full registration lists can be sent to registration contacts.

Q:	How does a virtual team submit a video if they cannot be together?
A:	Teams that cannot be together can meet virtually and decide the plan of action together. One student can detail the plan, the other can build it and so on. Division of labour is up to the team members.

Q:	Who supplies the materials?
A:	All supplies are to be sourced by the teacher/student. Each race has been created using items found around the house or easily available for not much money.

Q:	Can Coroplast Plastic sheet be used instead of corrugated cardboard?
A:	Yes, students can recycle any coroplast Plastic sheet they may have.

Q:	Where can we find the list of approved materials for a contest?
A:	List of approved material for every contest can found in their respective guidelines.

Q:	Would each school decide which team(s) go to phase 1 (regional competition) prior to registration?
A:	Every team at every school can submit to the JDR regional rounds. Any team who wants to submit can submit. There is no limit to the number of teams a teacher or school can enter.

Q:	Would we (teachers) need to judge our own school projects?
A:	No. Judging is entirely conducted by Skills Ontario.

Q:	Robot Walker - Does the robot have to climb down or up an inclined plane? Does the inclined plane have to be a certain angle?
A:	The robot climbs down the incline. The incline can be up to 8 inches off the ground. All details can be found in the scopes (project descriptions).

Q:	Are Regional Rounds in-person?
A:	Submissions are virtual and a live recorded video will be submitted from each competing team demonstrating their project to be judged.

Q:	Can students in the championship round re-use their regional prototype for Championships?
A:	Yes, or they are welcome to adjust or start over from scratch.

Q:	Are student email addresses necessary for sign up or the post-survey? Is that how you get the surveys to them? There are some concerns about emails from organizations to younger students.
A:	No. All registration is done by the teacher only. Surveys can be conducted and submitted by teachers alone. You will not be required to share student's emails. The teacher will be responsible for their own team's registration

Q:	Where and how do the teachers submit?
A:	The teachers will submit online using JotForm. The link will be posted on the website!

Q:	Are private schools allowed to register and take part?
A:	Yes, private schools are allowed to register and take part in the Junk Drawer Races.

Q:	Are these opportunities available in French?
A:	Yes, each of the Junk Drawer Races is available in French and in English. The contests are completely bilingual.

Q:	How many members can be in a team?
A:	4 members can be in a team.

Q:	Can adhesive materials be used in a non-adhesive way? For e.g., can the students cleverly manipulate the tape to act like a string?
A:	Yes, students can be creative with how they use their adhesive materials.

Q:	Air Pressure Rocket - What is a capsule?
A:	The capsule is the portion of the rocket that can have humans inside. This is the portion of the rocket that lands or stays in space.

Q:	Can they submit more than requested? For example, must it be only one drawing or are multiple sketches and planning drawings allowed to be submitted?
A:	Yes, teams can submit more than requested!

Q:	Hydraulic Crane - Is the crane position plan inside the scope/challenge guideline the correct size for the test?
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A:	No. The correct size and drawing of the crane position and the pickup/drop off points can be printed from the website (in PDF form).
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Q:	Are they allowed to use Tinkercad for their design or does it have to be hand drawn?
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A:	Yes, Tinkercad can be used to create designs. They do not have to be drawn by hand.
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Q:	Cardboard Car Race – can we buy wheels that have already been created/premade?
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A:	No, teams must build their own wheels. Predesigned/prefabricated wheels are not permitted.
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Q:	Cardboard Car Race – are paperclips allowed?
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A:	Yes, paperclips are allowed.
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Q:	Cardboard Car Race – are pull back elastic motors allowed?
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A:	No, pull back elastic motors are not one of the approved materials.
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Q:	Air Pressure Rocket - Does the capsule have to be attached to the rocket, or can it just rest on the top of it?
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A:	The capsule can be attached to the balloons, but it doesn't have to be.
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Q:	Air Pressure Rocket - Can hot air be used to keep the capsule in the air to prevent it from falling back to the ground?
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A:	The air system must be a closed loop system. No external sources can be used to keep the capsule in the air.
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Q:	Air Pressure Rocket - Does the propulsion have to be from a balloon, or can it be provided in another way?
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A:	Yes, the propulsion must be from the balloons.
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Q:	Hydraulic Crane - Are the students allowed to use the fine wire for the platform holding the coins that they can then lift with the hook?
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A:	Yes, fine wire can be used.
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Q:	Air Pressure Rocket - Can they cut the straws in half, so they have 4 straws instead of 2?
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A:	Yes, students can cut the straws.
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Q:	Air Pressure Rocket - Can they cover things in tape (to make it stronger)?
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A:	Yes, students can be creative with their use of adhesive materials.
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Q:	Air Pressure Rocket - Can they put straws or other objects through the capsule, or must the capsule be a closed object?
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A:	The capsule does not need to be a closed object.
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Q:	Air Pressure Rocket - Can they put the capsule inside the balloon?
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A:	There is no rule against putting the capsule inside the balloon.
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Q:	Hydraulic Crane - does the boom of the crane need to be behind the line before the start of the timing trial?
A:	The boom can be over/across the line at the start of the timing trial, just the crane's platform needs to be behind the line (as shown in the photo in the scope).

Q:	Can LEGO be included in the Junk Drawer Races? Some ideas we thought of were having a LEGO background, or the base of the rocket, etc. Would this be allowed? Also, would we be able to make any part of it using LEGO?
A:	LEGO can be used as a background to the challenges but can't be used as part of the design or decorations, as LEGO would create a structural advantage.

Q:	Air Pressure Rocket – Are they allowed to build a parachute to help it stay in the air longer after the balloons deflated.
A:	Yes, parachutes are allowed.

Q:	Air Pressure Rocket - are they allowed to design paper wings on their rockets?
A:	Yes, paper wings are allowed.

Q:	Carboard Car Race - Are we allowed to put an elastic around the tire?
A:	There is no limit in the rules for the number of rubber bands that are used, nor on how they should be used.

Q:	Carboard Car Race - Are they allowed to decorate the car with elements that may have plastic? I.e.: stickers, a logo printed on acetate.
A:	Yes, they would be allowed to be as creative as they want to be to make their cars work!

Q:	Hydraulic Crane - what size of paper do I print the crane test map on?
A:	The crane test map should be printed on 8.5x11 standard printer paper.

Q:	Can groups like Girl Guides, Boy Scouts, or Big Brothers/Big Sisters register teams?
A:	Unfortunately, only schools are able to submit to the Regional and Championship rounds; however, Skills Ontario encourages you to do the challenges internally as a fun way to test out careers in the skilled trades.

Q:	Air Pressure Rocket – Can they use helium in their balloons?
A:	The only element that students can use in their rockets is Oxygen.

Q:	Hydraulic Crane - it states that the 1 st Boom can be a maximum of 18cm. They would like to create a 2 nd boom that moves in and out from that boom. Is there a length restriction on this?
A:	The rules in the scope are that any boom can't be more than 18cm so any additional boom would have to also be within that same dimension.

Q:	Hydraulic Crane – how are the students to hook and remove the mass from their crane? Can they use their hands for this?
A:	Students can use their hands to hook the mass to their crane. They can do this before the test starts.

Q:	Hydraulic Crane - Can the crane have a basket to put the weight in?
A:	Yes, the crane can have a basket or container to put the weight onto/into.

Q:	Paper Glider Competition – can students use string?
A:	Yes, students can use string.

Q:	Paper Glider Competition – can students use batteries as part of their design?
A:	Yes, old batteries can be used as counterweight.

Q:	Can wooden dowels be used in the projects?
A:	Yes, wooden dowels can be used.

Q:	Hydraulic Crane - Do we just print off the two pages with the dotted line and butt them up to one another?
A:	Yes. There is a photo in the Hydraulic Crane scope to show how the photos should be lined up. They should be printed on 8.5x11 printer paper.

Q:	Air Pressure Rocket – Can students use rubber bands/elastics?
A:	Yes, rubber bans can be used for the Air Pressure Rocket Challenge.