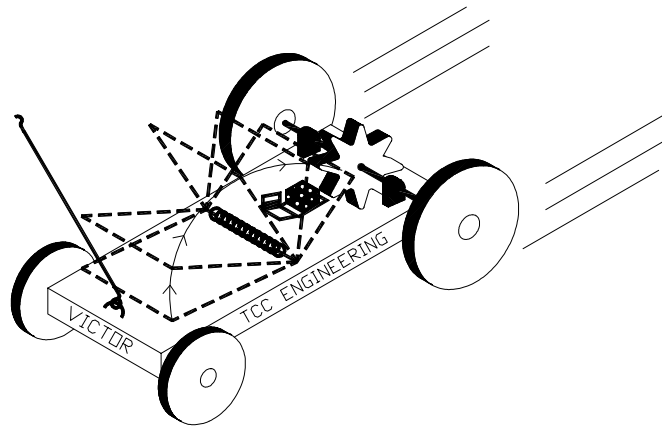


TCC Engineering Club

Mousetrap Car Competition

Thursday, March 17, 12:30pm



The TCC Engineering Club is sponsoring a mousetrap car competition. The competition is open to all TCC students and to all high school students in the ATC. The race will be composed of two separate divisions – the Mousetrap Time Trials and the Mousetrap Distance/Accuracy Trials. The entry fee is \$10.00 per division, which includes an official Victor mouse trap (marked with “TCC”). Prize money for each division is listed below. The competition will be held in the main hallway of the ATC. Contact Paul Gordy in H-115 in the ATC or by email at Pgordy@tcc.edu for more information.

Divisions: The race will be composed of two separate divisions:

- **Mousetrap Time Trials** – Cars are built to travel a distance of 25 ft in the shortest time possible
- **Mousetrap Distance/Accuracy Trials** – Cars are built to travel the furthest distance within a lane that narrows from 18 ft to 0 over a 150 ft distance

Prizes: Prizes will be awarded as follows:

Place	Mousetrap Time Trials	Mousetrap Distance/Accuracy Trials
1 st	\$50.00	\$50.00
2 nd	\$35.00	\$35.00
3 rd	\$20.00	\$20.00

Specifications for both divisions:

- Only the mousetraps provided when the entry fee is paid can be used in the competition.
- Only one mousetrap can be used per vehicle.
- Mousetrap kits (such as those purchased from hobby stores or online) cannot be used.
- The mousetrap must be part of the vehicle (i.e., the mousetrap cannot be used to launch a vehicle).
- The mousetrap vehicles must be powered **only** by the mousetrap (no additional sources of energy are allowed, such as batteries, pre-compressed springs, inflated balloons, etc.)
- The mousetrap cannot be modified other than drilling small holes for mounting or adding parts or extension arms to the moving part of the trap. For example, holes or slots cannot be used to extend the arc length of the snapping mechanism and the spring may not be modified. Check with race officials for further clarification.
- Cars are not restricted in terms of size or weight except as indicated above.
- The car must be started using the original release mechanism on the mousetrap. For example, when a race official gives a signal (such as “On your mark, get set, go!”), the contestant might

perhaps use a pencil to push on the release mechanism to start the vehicle. The contestant must be careful not to push the car forward at all when starting it.

- Individuals or teams may enter the competition. Any prize money earned by teams would be split between the team members.
- The entry fee of \$10.00 must be paid for each division entered (whether or not the same vehicle is used in both divisions or two separate vehicles are used).
- Each person or team may only enter one car per division.
- The competition will be held in the main hallway of the ATC. It will begin at 12:30pm and will continue until all vehicles have been tested. Some high school students in the ATC may test their vehicles at 9:00am since they are only in the ATC for the morning session.

Additional specifications for the Mousetrap Time Trials:

- Diagram 1 illustrates the race course to be used.
- The contestant should indicate to the race official what **fixed** point on the vehicle should be used line up at the starting line. The same point will be used to determine when the vehicle crosses the finish line.
- The car may use the full width of the hallway (about 18 ft). Note that there might be poles or other obstructions along the side of the hallway. Any obstructions that are part of the building should be considered to be part of the race course.
- The judges or officials designated by the TCC Engineering Club will determine the time for each vehicle using stopwatches. The decisions and recorded times of the judges are final.
- Two trials are allowed for each entry. Only the fastest time counts.

Additional specifications for the Mousetrap Distance/Accuracy Trials:

- Diagram 2 illustrates the race course to be used.
- Note that the course is 18 ft wide at the starting line and tapers to a point (0 ft wide) at the end of the 150 ft course. The boundaries of the course will be marked with tape.
- The car's distance will be recorded at the point where any part of the vehicle crosses over or touches any part of the tape.
- The distance traveled is measured along a line that is perpendicular to the starting line to the point where the car went out of bounds.
- The judges or officials designated by the TCC Engineering Club will determine the distance traveled for each vehicle. The decisions and recorded distances of the judges are final.
- Two trials are allowed for each entry in each division. Only the longest distance traveled counts.

Diagram 1: Mousetrap Time Trials

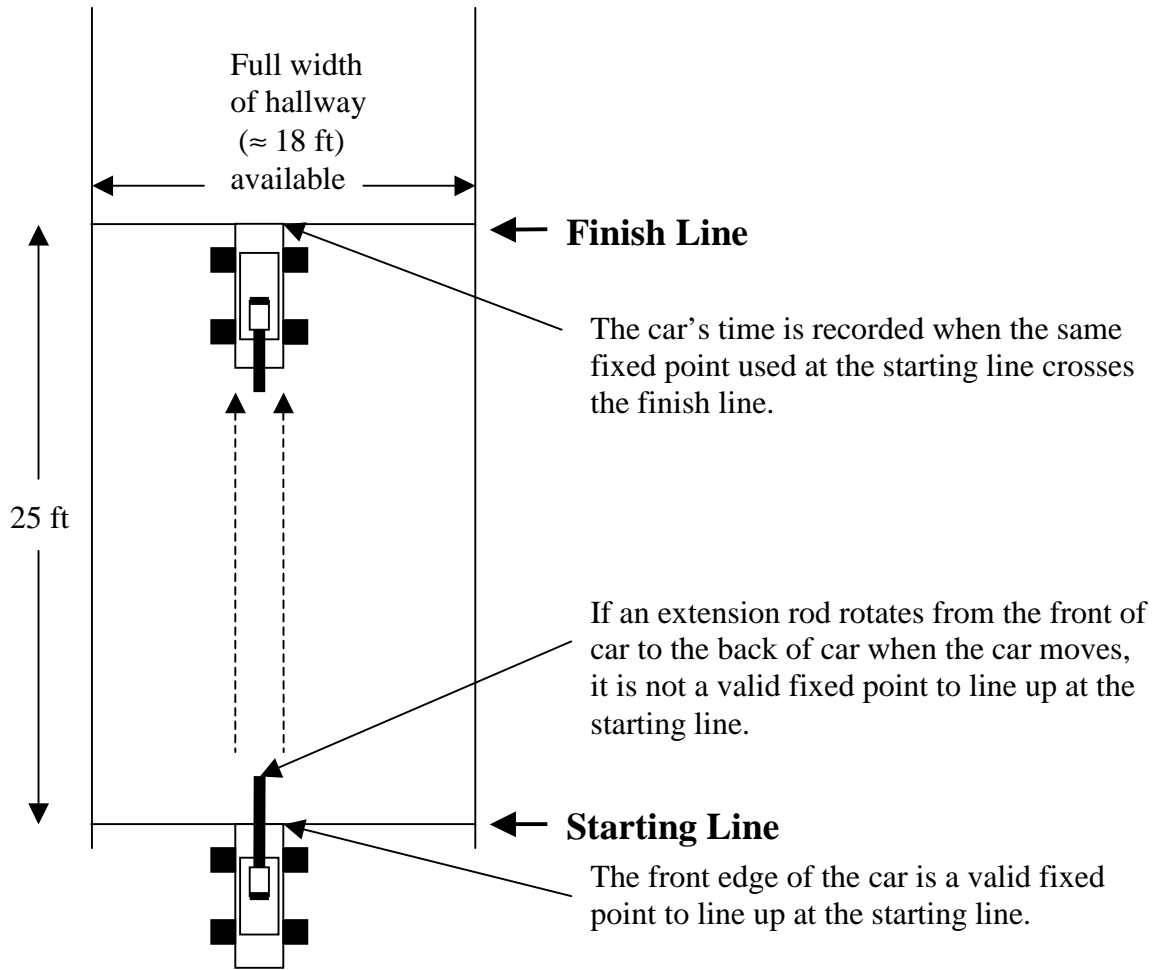


Diagram 2: Mousetrap Distance/Accuracy Trials

