

HACKERSPACES IN SPACE

The First Annual Space Balloon Competition

RULES AND GUIDELINES



JUNE 1, 2010 - AUGUST 31, 2010

Caution/Disclaimer

(This is taken from the <http://space.1337arts.com/> website)

Launching things into the stratosphere can be DANGEROUS! Please contact the FAA (or your respective government body that regulates air traffic) before trying any launches (even if they are under 4 lbs.) to make sure your vehicle won't be entering restricted airspace and PLEASE check the University of Wyoming's [Balloon Trajectory Predictor](#) (or a similar website) to make sure you balloon won't be landing in the city/a populated area where it might cause significant damage. Also, be sure to test your balloon's terminal velocity for descent before launching to make sure it's within a safe range.

Competition

Rules

- One team per hackerspace. Any size build team, but only 10 people for the launch and retrieval team.
- Payload must be under 4 pounds (~1.814kg).
- Parts cost limit of \$250.00. Must show receipts or have other proof of purchase.
- Payload must return with pictures taken from the flight.
- Only one official launch per team allowed. Notice of official launches must be given by 8 a.m., and a judge must be present for the launch to count.
- All local laws and ordinances must be followed throughout the entire competition.
- Balloon camera must take pictures of the curvature of the earth.
- The Event Board may judge any other conduct considered outside "the spirit" of the event and disqualify a team that does not adhere to it by majority vote.

Scoring

- Retrieval Time Based on time of balloon launch to recovery. Fastest gets 50 points, next gets 45, and so on.
- Weight of Payload 5 points added for every 1/2 pound under 4 lb.
- Cost of Setup Base: 50 points. 0.5 points off for every dollar over \$150.
- Total Points Retrieval Time Score + Weight Score + Cost Score



Event Board & Judges

- Judges are members of each hackerspace, and will be submitted to the Event Board. They will ensure all rules are followed.
- One person from each hackerspace will be on the Event Board. The Event Board will oversee the event, judge each applicant, and declare winners.

Dates

- Competition starts immediately upon challenges going out.
- Teams will indicate acceptance of challenge by March 1, 2010 (either at workshop88.com/space, or the attached PDF form).
- Launches will be held between June 1, 2010 and August 31, 2010.
- Results of the official launch must be sent in by September 7, 2010.
- Winner will be announced on or before September 30, 2010.