Indy Autonomous Challenge Team Leaders,

In further recognition of the challenges that you and your teammates are encountering as you adapt to restrictions imposed by the Coronavirus, and also to align our activities with changes made to those at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS), we’re writing to share additional adjustments to the IAC timeline and Rules that we hope will further facilitate your current priorities as well as your long-term IAC participation.

**Hackathon #1: Virtual-only format and shortened agenda**

Hackathon #1 will still take place on Thursday May 21, 2020, but it will be an online-only experience; no in person participation will be accommodated. Instead, Teams will only join and participate via a remote platform (details to follow).

Additionally, the agenda for Hackathon #1 will be shortened. Instead of lasting the day, we’re planning an approximately two-hour session, from approximately 9AM to 11AM ET, with the focus on the unveiling and distribution of the Ansys VRXPERIENCE Driving Simulator Powered by SCANeR (VRXP-DS), with embedded models of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and the Dallara IL-15.

Note that it is still mandatory for all Teams to participate in Hackathon #1, even with this shortened, virtual format.

**Hackathon #2 date changed to August 20 to align with the rescheduled Indy 500**

The date of Hackathon #2 is changed from Saturday July 11 to Thursday August 20, 2020 to align with the rescheduling of the Indy 500, which is now slated for Sunday August 23, 2020 at IMS (for the IMS press release on this date change, see: [https://covid19.ims.com/index.html](https://covid19.ims.com/index.html)).

Hackathon #2 will take place at IMS. At this point, we do not plan on facilitating online participation, but we may again adjust our approach as the Coronavirus continues to play out.

For those who wish to stay beyond the 20th, the various Indy-500 related perks and experiences that were previously offered to Teams will again be extended during this August event. These include:
THURSDAY, Aug. 20
Indianapolis 500 Practice
Freedom 100 Practice, Qualifying

FRIDAY, Aug. 21 – MILLER LITE CARB DAY
Indianapolis 500 Final Practice
Freedom 100
Advance Auto Parts Indy 500 Pit Stop Challenge

SATURDAY, Aug. 22 – LEGENDS DAY presented by Firestone
Public Drivers’ Meeting
Driver Autograph Session

SUNDAY, Aug. 23 – RACE DAY
104th Indianapolis 500 presented by Gainbridge | Green Flag

IMS’ full revised schedule can be found online at https://covid19.ims.com/schedule.html

More details, logistics, and an agenda will be provided in advance of August.

Round #2 deliverable timeline and criteria

The due date for the Round 2 video submission will now be August 19, 2020 – the day before the updated Hackathon #2 date.

Public relations outreach campaign

On March 9, we corresponded with you about our plans to maximize public and media attention of the IAC final race at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in 2021, as well as publicizing in both mainstream and social media our entire journey leading up to that historic day, including: profiles of the individual teams’ brilliance and triumphs, as well as coverage of activities on campus, at other IAC events, and at IMS.

Our originally scheduled March press release about the IAC Teams (i.e. you) is now tentatively scheduled for the week of April 20. At that same time, we will begin our social media campaign, featuring all of our registered teams. To help with this, please send to Diane Murphy (Diane@aquariusgroup.net) of the Aquarius Group:

- A photo of your IAC Team
- Your university logo
- A Team quote; why you are excited to be registered in the IAC
- A point of contact within your university PR department
- Your Team’s social media account(s) (so we will tag you in our IAC posts)
- The name of your Team liaison for media relations with the Aquarius Group

Also note that we will be sending out a media kit, with a template press release for you to use locally, visuals you can put with it, approved logos of our sponsors – as well as key messages for any interviews, describing the IAC and its sponsors.

----

Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns about these changes. All of us that are a part of the Indy Autonomous Challenge are here for you during these challenging times and committed to doing what we can to enable your continued participation and progress in the competition.

Thank you
The Indy Autonomous Challenge Team