Indy Autonomous Challenge Team Leaders:

As part of our ongoing efforts to ensure the rules and requirements of the Indy Autonomous Challenge (IAC) take into account the impacts caused by the Coronavirus to you and your Team Members, we’re writing to share the following formal modifications to the IAC Rules. This Rules Update #4 builds upon the previously circulated Rules Update #1 (20 March 2020), Rules Update #2 (6 April 2020), Rules Update #3 (9 July 2020), and Rules Update #4 (5 August 2020).

**Hackathon #3 Date**

Hackathon #3 will now launch on Monday December 14, 2020. Submissions will be due on Tuesday January 12, 2021, and the production and awards ceremony will take place on Tuesday January 19, 2021.

This extended duration Hackathon structure is meant to allow enhanced flexibility of work schedule so as to reduce the impact on IAC Teams’ academic commitments and holiday activities. While a month will pass between kickoff and submissions, the work involved should not take close to that full amount of time.

Instead, there will be two parts to Hackathon #3: A training component that will be distributed at the launch on December 14th that will not be collected but instead will prep Teams for the second part of the Hackathon – the competitive element of the event that will commence on January 5th and be due on January 12th.

An agenda specifying times of day for each activity as well as additional details will be circulated as the event approaches.

(Thanks to all of the IAC Teams who recently submitted surveys to help us make an informed decision on this updated timeframe.)

**Alignment of Simulation Race schedule with 2021 Indy 500**

The Simulation Race that was scheduled for February 27, 2021 will now take place on Thursday May 27th 2021. This change is made to account for currently known Covid travel restrictions, and also to align this exciting and festive event with the broader Indy 500 weekend festivities, as well as the first Track Practice weekend at IMS on June 5-6, 2021.

**Addition of Hackathon #4 on Feb 27, and its role as the Round 4 Qualifier**
A fourth Hackathon – Hackathon #4 – is being added to our official roster of activities. It will take place on and/or around the date of the originally planned Simulation Race: February 27, 2021.

This fourth Hackathon will have a role in the broader Indy Autonomous Challenge that was originally reserved for the Simulation Race, namely that of Round 4 qualifier.

This makes Hackathon #4 the first (and, to date, only) Hackathon whereby participation and effort won’t be sufficient; Teams will need to cross over a TBD minimum performance threshold in order to progress to Round 4 (i.e. the on-track activities with actual vehicles). Those that don’t cross over such thresholds will still be permitted to participate in Round 3 activities (including competing for the $150,000 in Simulation Race prize money), but currently would not have additional options by which to progress to Round 4.

Additional details of Hackathon #4 requirements, timeframes, and objectives will be circulated as the event approaches.

----

Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns about these changes. We hope that through subtle, strategic refinements in our scope and timeline as the impacts of the Coronavirus play out, we’ll keep you focused on achieving what matters most to you and us: Supporting your efforts to prepare for October 23, 2021.

Thank you
The Indy Autonomous Challenge Team