



2008 Event Rules

1. **SAFETY**. All rockets must be built and flown in accordance with the Safety Code of the UK Rocketry Association (UKRA) <http://www.ukra.org.uk/node/33>. Rockets flown at the fly-off must have previously flown successfully. They will be inspected before launch and observed during flight by an event official, whose judgement on their compliance with the Safety Code and with these rules will be final. Teams are encouraged to consult with designated UKRA officials who are running this event well before the fly-off to resolve any questions about design or flight safety, about the Safety Code, or about these rules.

2. **TEAMS**. No more than three teams may be entered by any sponsoring organisation. The application for a team must come from a single school or a single UK incorporated non-profit youth organisation (excluding UKRA or any other rocket club or organisation). Team members must be students who are currently enrolled in years 7 through 13 in a UK school. Teams may have members from other schools or other organisations and may obtain financing from any source, not limited to their sponsoring organisation. Teams must be supervised by an adult approved by the principal of the sponsoring school, or by an officially-appointed adult leader of their sponsoring youth organisation. Minimum team size is three students and maximum is five students. Each student member must make a significant contribution to the designing, building, and/or launching of the team's entry. No part of any of these may be done by any adult, by a company (except by the sale of standard off-the-shelf components available to the general public, but not kits or designs for the event), or by any person not a student on that team. No student may be on more than one team. The supervising teacher/adult may supervise more than one team. UKAYRoC is open to the first 80 teams that submit a completed application, including payment, postmarked no later than 30th November 2007.

3. **ROCKET REQUIREMENTS**. Rockets may be any size, but must not exceed 1500 grams (3.3 pounds) gross weight at liftoff. They may not be commercially-made kits designed to carry egg payloads. They must be powered only by commercially-made model rocket motors that have 62.5 grams or less of propellant each. Any number of motors may be used, but the motors used must not contain a combined total of more than 125 grams (4.4 ounces) of propellant, based on the propellant weights in the UKAYRoC list of approved motors. Loose black powder, separate from the certified rocket motors and their internal ejection charges, may not be used in rockets.

4. **PAYLOAD**. Rockets must contain and completely enclose two raw medium hen's eggs of 57 to 63 grams weight and a diameter of 45 millimeters or less, and must return these both from the flight without any cracks or other external damage. Eggs will be issued to the team by event officials during finals, but teams must provide their own eggs for their qualifying flights. Rockets must be allowed to land at the end of its flight without human intervention (catching) and will be disqualified if there is such intervention. The eggs must be removed from the rocket at the end of the flight in the presence of a designated UKRA official observer and presented to that official, who will inspect them for damage. Any external damage to either egg is disqualifying.



5. **DURATION SCORING.** Scores shall be based on total flight duration of the portion of the rocket containing the eggs, measured from first motion at liftoff from the launch pad until the moment of landing or until the rocket can no longer be seen due to distance or to an obstacle. Times must be measured independently by two people not on the team, one of whom is the official UKRA observer, using separate electronic stopwatches accurate to 0.01 seconds. The official duration will be the average of the two times, rounded to the nearest 0.01 second. If one stopwatch malfunctions, the remaining single time will be used. Duration scores will be computed by taking the absolute difference between 45 seconds and the measured average flight duration to the nearest 1/100 second (this difference is always a positive number, or zero), and multiplying this by 2.

6. **ALTITUDE SCORING.** Rockets must contain the commercial electronic altimeter (Perfectflite Model ALT 15K or ALT 15K Rev 2) approved for use in the UKAYRoC event, in a compartment that is properly vented to the atmosphere. The altimeter must be inspected by an UKRA official both before and after the flight, and may not be modified in any manner. The altimeter must be confirmed by this official to have reset to zero before flight. The altitude of the portion of the rocket containing the eggs, as recorded by this altimeter, will be the sole basis for judging the altitude score. This score will be the absolute difference between 750 feet and the altimeter-reported altitude in feet (this difference is always a positive number, or zero).

7. **FLIGHTS.** Team members cannot be changed after the first qualification flight. Only team members on record at Space Connections with valid parent consent forms are eligible to receive prizes. Only one flight is allowed per team at the final fly-off, except as specifically noted in these rules. In order to be eligible for the fly-off, a team is required to fly a qualifying flight observed in person by an adult (senior) member of the UKRA (unrelated to any team members and not a paid employee of their school or member of their youth group) between 3rd September 2007 and 22nd February. Each team may conduct a maximum of two qualification flights. A second qualification flight is not required if the team is satisfied with the results of their first one. A qualification flight attempt must be declared to the UKRA observer before the rocket's motor(s) are ignited. Once an attempt is declared, the results of that flight must be recorded and submitted to Space Connections, even if the flight is unsuccessful. A rocket that departs the launch pad under rocket power is considered to have made a flight, even if all motors do not ignite. If a rocket experiences a rare "catastrophic" malfunction of a rocket motor (as determined by a UKRA official observer), a replacement flight may be made, with a replacement vehicle if necessary. Flights which are otherwise fully safe and qualified but which result in an altimeter reading of greater than zero feet but less than 50 feet will be counted as "no flight" due to false triggering of the altimeter and may be reflown without penalty. The results from qualification flight attempts must be faxed to and received at the offices of the UKAYRoC Helpdesk by 5pm on Monday 22nd February 2008. As soon as we receive your qualifying score, "Qualification Score Received" will appear under your team information on the "Registered Teams" page at www.ukayroc.org.uk. The top-scoring 20 teams will be notified no later than Wednesday 5th March 2008, and invited to participate in the final fly-off to be held on Friday 28th March 2008 (alternate fly-off date in case of inclement weather will be Saturday 29th March 2008).



Document Ref:	UKAYRoC /2008/ Events Rules
Date Issued:	28 th August 2008
Issue	Final
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8. **SAFE RECOVERY.** Each part of the rocket must either contain a recovery device or be designed to glide, tumble unstably, or otherwise return to earth at a velocity that presents no hazard. Any entry which has a major part (including but not limited an expended engine casing) land without a recovery system (gliding/tumbling components are considered to have a system), or at a velocity that is judged by an event official to be hazardous, due to recovery system absence, insufficiency, or malfunction, will be disqualified.

9. **RETURNS.** Return of the portion of the flight vehicle containing the eggs is required by the deadline time established at the beginning of the day's flying. Entries whose eggs are not returned after flight by the time deadline cannot receive prizes. If this portion cannot be returned after an otherwise safe and stable flight because it landed in a spot from which recovery would be hazardous (as determined by an event official), a replacement vehicle may be substituted for a second flight. There will be no third flights. Return of the other portions of the rocket is required only if there is a question from an event official concerning the safe operation of the vehicle (e.g. a question as to whether the vehicle ejected a part that landed in an unsafe manner). An entry which has any such portion that is not returned when its return is required for this safety inspection shall be disqualified.

10. **LAUNCH SYSTEMS.** Teams may use the electrical launch system and the launch pads (with 1.5m long, 6mm diameter rods) provided by the event officials at the fly-off, or may provide their own system. Systems provided by teams for their own use must be inspected for safety by an event official before use, and must provide at least 1.5m of rigid guidance, including use of a rod diameter of at least 6mm, if a rod is used. All launches will be controlled by the event Range Safety Officer and must occur from the ground.

11. **FREE FLIGHT.** Rockets may not use an externally-generated signal such as radio or computer control (except GPS navigation satellite signals) for any purpose, including flight termination, after liftoff. They may use autonomous onboard control systems to control any aspect of flight.

12. **PLACES.** Places in the competition will be determined on the basis of how close the portion of the entry containing the egg comes to the designated target duration of 45 seconds and the designated target altitude of 750 feet, as determined by the sum of the altitude and duration scores above; the lowest combined score wins. Entries which are disqualified for reasons noted in these rules may not receive a place. Ties will result in pooling and even splitting of the prizes for the affected place(s) - for example, a two-way tie for 2nd place would result in a merger and even division of the prizes for 2nd and 3rd places. The organisers reserve the right to make all last and final contest determinations.