



Cessna Aircraft Company
Raytheon Missile Systems
AIAA Foundation

Please remember that questions submitted prior to the entry deadline of 31 October that were not answered in the FAQ must be resubmitted.

Be sure to re-check the Rules, FAQ and prior Q&A issues before submitting questions to avoid duplication.

DBF Q&A #1

7 Nov 2009

Q: Summary of “Bat” Questions

A: cg – Since the bats are not tapered (for safety requirements) the cg of the bat will be “approximately” at the middle of their length.

ends – “Bats” will be capped at their ends.

bats must be carried external to the airframe – No part of the bat may be covered/hidden by the airframe.

fairings – No form of fairing may be attached to the bats

hole – The pin hole in the “bats” will not go through but will be deep enough to allow at least a 3/8” long pin protrusion to clear. The pin hole will be drilled with a standard drill so will accommodate a standard 3/16” diameter bolt as a pin.

tolerance – There is no specified tolerance on “bat” diameter. Teams must allow for variation in diameter in the mount design.

length – “Bats” will vary in length. Teams will likely receive a different mix of bat lengths for each mission/attempt

Q: Summary of Softball Questions

A: inserts – Payload inserts are legal. There may be different inserts for different combinations of softballs. All inserts to be used must be included in the “case” for storage and weight. Inserts may not be structural (the aircraft must be capable of flying without them).

softballs must be carried internally – no part of any softball payload or removable insert may be exposed to the airstream.

preloading – Softballs, when placed in the “case” may not be inside the payload insert.

To assure that inserts are not pre-loaded softballs will be placed inside a plastic trash bag when put into the “case” prior to the timed loading. Softballs must be out of the plastic trash bag when installed in the aircraft. The trash bag may not be “torn” open but must be

(essentially) reusable after the softballs are removed during the loading process.
grid – Staggered grids are not allowed.

Q: Where will the “case” be located with respect to the aircraft? Can we move the aircraft or the “case” during the loading process?

A: The distance from the “case” to the aircraft at the start of the loading process will be determined based on conditions at the contest site. It will “likely” be between 10 and 20 feet. Either the “case” or the aircraft may be moved during the loading process. Both the “case” and the aircraft must be returned to their original positions before the end of the timed loading.

Q: Additional Velcro and tape exceptions

A: You may also use Velcro and/or tape to secure internal wiring in the aircraft such as servo leads and motor wiring, but not the “safety fuse” mount or holder.

Q:

A: