

# SPORTING REGULATIONS



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SOLAR  
CHALLENGE

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SASOL SOLAR CHALLENGE



“Strategy without tactics is the slowest route to victory. Tactics without strategy are the noise before defeat.” — Sun Tzu

## THE WORLD'S TOUGHEST STRATEGY AND ENDURANCE CHALLENGE

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# 2024 Sasol Solar Challenge Sporting Regulations

## Introduction and Welcome

Dear Solar Champions,

Welcome to the thrilling Sasol Solar Challenge (SSC), where innovation meets the blazing brilliance of the sun! As the Event Director, I am ecstatic to have you join us on this electrifying journey that celebrates the power of solar energy.

In the heart of South Africa, we find ourselves in a land teeming with beauty, diversity, and cultural splendour. Picture the breath-taking vistas of the Table Mountain in Cape Town, where the sun kisses the horizon as it sets. Prepare to be captivated by the rhythm of the African savannah, where the sun casts its golden light upon us.

As we embark on this audacious adventure, I am reminded of the words of Leonardo da Vinci, "Learn how to see. Realize that everything connects to everything else." The SSC is not just a challenge; it is a testament to the infinite possibilities that arise when we connect with the boundless energy of the sun and unite our collective vision for a brighter future.

In the spirit of this thrilling event, let us embrace the essence of South Africa's Rainbow Nation, a term coined by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, "We are different so that we can know our need of one another." Our diversity blends together to create a harmonious symphony of unity, fostering an environment where collaboration and innovation can flourish.

Remember, as you navigate the challenges of the SSC, that the sun not only provides us with energy but also reminds us of the infinite possibilities within ourselves. The sun rises every day, presenting us with a new canvas on which to paint our dreams and aspirations. Let the sun's unwavering presence inspire you to push beyond your limits, to explore uncharted territories of innovation, and to pave the way for a sustainable future.

On behalf of the passionate team behind the Sasol Solar Challenge, I extend a warm and electrifying welcome to all of you. May your journey be filled with exhilarating moments, remarkable discoveries, and lasting connections. Together, let us harness the power of the sun, and create a legacy that illuminates our path towards a brighter tomorrow.

See you at the starting line, where the sun's rays will guide us towards victory!

Robert Walker  
Sasol Solar Challenge Event Director





## The major changes for 2024 include:

- Team fleet size restriction.
- New time penalty serving procedure.
- Updated start line procedure.
- Revised special stages.
- Cruiser Class modified to Innovation Class with amended regulations.
- Revised trailering regulations.
- Revised pit use protocol during scrutineering.
- Revised protest and appeal protocol.

The information contained in this document is for the purposes of conducting the 2024 Sasol Solar Challenge and must not be regarded as constituting definitive instructions as to how a solar car should be constructed or operated.

Additional information or clarification of the intent of regulations is included in italics.

Please pay meticulous attention to all elements of this document to ensure your team's compliance of these regulations.

## Special Credits

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# 1. Administration

## 1.1. Scope

- 1.1.1. These regulations apply to the 2024 Sasol Solar Challenge (hereinafter called "the event"), and comprise participants' eligibility, pre-event preparation, scrutineering, testing, on-road components, and any associated activities published by the event organiser as being part of the event.
- 1.1.2. The event will be conducted under the regulations described in this document (which supersede regulations for any previous edition of the Sasol Solar Challenge) and any amendments, further regulations or Team Notices that may be issued.
- 1.1.3. The Sasol Solar Challenge is recognised as an International Solarcar Federation (ISF) event.

## 1.2. Correspondence

- 1.2.1. All correspondence shall be conducted in English, the official language of the event.  
*If you are unsure of the meaning of a regulation, ask for clarification by emailing the Project Manager at [admin@solarchallenge.org.za](mailto:admin@solarchallenge.org.za)*
- 1.2.2. Official correspondence must be conducted between the event organiser and the entrant's nominated representative (the Team Manager) as detailed



by the entrant on the entry form. Specific written instruction to include others in team correspondence will be accepted.

### 1.3. Time Zones

- 1.3.1. At the time of the event, South Africa as a whole observe Standard South African Time (SAST = GMT/UTC +02:00) and is the same as Central African Time (CAT). The event will observe SAST for the duration of the event.

### 1.4. Conduct of the Event

- 1.4.1. The on-road component of the event is conducted on public roads between Secunda and Cape Town, South Africa – a distance of approximately 2300km excluding the calculations of loops. In addition to these event regulations, all activity is conducted under applicable traffic laws, civil laws, and regulations.
- 1.4.2. Specific instructions contained in route notes will be considered part of the event regulations.
- 1.4.3. All activities undertaken by a registered entrant, including activities conducted prior to the commencement of the official event period, are governed by statutory regulations, breaches of which may incur event penalties or further action by law enforcement for which the event organisers will take no responsibility.

### 1.5. Eligibility

- 1.5.1. Eligible vehicles will be those that meet the design criteria described by the Sporting and Technical Regulations. Participating solar cars must not be used on any public roads during the event period until permission has been granted by the event organisers on behalf of the civil authorities. Further information will be included in the Team Manager's Guide.
- 1.5.2. Solar cars must be powered by solar irradiance collected by the solar car. The only other external energy inputs that may be used are:
- The energy in the energy storage system at the start of the event.
  - External energy used to recharge Cruiser Class solar cars at designated locations and times.

*It is accepted that energy from regenerative braking, road gradients and wind incident on the car while driving may also be used.*

### 1.6. Entrant Obligation

- 1.6.1. By applying, entrants declare that they know and understand the regulations of the event and agree that participation will constitute their full acceptance.
- 1.6.2. Each entrant will appoint an individual to act as the "Team Manager." The Team Manager will be responsible for regulatory compliance, the actions of the team members, and any other individuals associated with the team. Once appointed, the Team Manager may only be replaced with the approval of the event organiser.



- 1.6.3. Entrants are expected to act fairly and in good faith in accordance with the regulations.
- 1.6.4. Penalties (which may include exclusion) will be applied to any team deemed to have departed from the spirit of the event by deliberately acting to gain an unfair advantage over others, or by conduct that could bring the event into dispute.

## 1.7. Event Organiser

- 1.7.1. The event is owned and managed by South African Solar Events (SASE) (Pty) Ltd, as defined by No. 2 of 2010: Safety at Sports and Recreational Events act, 2010: “‘event organiser’ means any person who plans, is in charge of, manages, supervises or holds an event or sponsorship rights to an event or in any manner controls or has a material interest in the hosting of an event as contemplated in this Act;”.

Office Address	321 Alpine Way Lynwood Pretoria South Africa 0081
Office Telephone	+27 (73) 624 7137
Event Telephone	+27 73 624 7137
Event Email	<a href="mailto:admin@solarchallenge.org.za">admin@solarchallenge.org.za</a>
Website	<a href="https://www.solarchallenge.org.za/">https://www.solarchallenge.org.za/</a>

## 1.8. Event Management Team

- 1.8.1. Core Operations Team

<b>Robert Walker</b>	<b>Event Director, Sasol Solar Challenge Director, SASE (Pty) Ltd</b>
<b>Lizé-Mari Nel</b>	Event & Project Manager, Sasol Solar Challenge, Senior Event & Project Manager, SASE (Pty) Ltd
<b>Emma-maryn Gouws</b>	Sponsor & Relations Manager, Sasol Solar Challenge Sponsor & Relations Manager SASE (Pty) Ltd
<b>Other</b>	Such other member the event organiser may appoint

- 1.8.2. Officials

<b>Andrew Eva</b>	<b>Clerk of the Course (COC), Sasol Solar Challenge</b>
<b>TBC</b>	Event Secretary, Sasol Solar Challenge
<b>Louis Smuts</b>	Chief Timekeeper, Sasol Solar Challenge





<b>TBC</b>	Chief Medical Officer, Sasol Solar Challenge Specialized Medical Services
Sean Fenn	Chief Safety Officer, Sasol Solar Challenge Head Marshal, Think Bike
<b>TBC</b>	Chief Scrutineer, Sasol Solar Challenge
<b>TBC</b>	Chief Energy Scientist, Sasol Solar Challenge
<b>TBC</b>	Technical Consultant, Sasol Solar Challenge
<b>TBC</b>	Technical Steward, Sasol Solar Challenge
<b>TBC</b>	Environmental Steward, Sasol Solar Challenge
Louis Smuts	Control Stop Manager, Sasol Solar Challenge
<b>TBC</b>	Community & Social Engagement Officer, Sasol Solar Challenge

### 1.9. Officials of the Event

- 1.9.1. The event will appoint officials who will be responsible for the conduct of the event.
- 1.9.2. During the event, these officials will wear clearly identifiable clothing marked with "Official" on the back.
- 1.9.3. A full list of all appointed officials can be found in this document and in the case of any amendments teams will be notified via a Team Notice.

### 1.10. Jury

- 1.10.1. The event organisers will appoint a team of independent jurors to resolve disputes. Jurors will be published via a Team Notice once they have been appointed.
- 1.10.2. The team of appointed jurors is the only authority empowered to determine the interpretation of these regulations.

### 1.11. Judges of Fact

- 1.11.1. Each official appointed by the event organisers is a Judge of Fact in any event-related activity.
- 1.11.2. Observers appointed by the event organisers are Judges of Fact on all event-related activities.

### 1.12. Schedule

- 1.12.1. A detailed event schedule including all official functions, promotional activities and public engagement activations will be published on both the event website and distributed to teams via a Team Notice.



- 1.12.2. All registered teams must adhere to the event schedule, attend official functions, media calls, promotional activities and/or public engagement activations with the solar car and/or any other team vehicles or equipment as listed or requested.

Date	Activity	Venue
Thursday, 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Event dates announced</li> </ul>	Online
Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Team registrations open</li> </ul>	Online
Friday, 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer registrations open</li> </ul>	Online
Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Team registration close</li> <li>Volunteer registration close</li> </ul>	Online
Monday, 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group A Documentation submission deadline</li> </ul>	Online
Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group B Documentation submission deadline</li> </ul>	Online
Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group C Documentation submission deadline</li> </ul>	Online
Monday, 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Official Entry List published</li> </ul>	Online
Saturday, 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2024 [AM]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Officials onsite registration</li> </ul>	Red Star Raceway
Saturday, 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2024 [PM]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Team onsite registration</li> <li>Team Manager's and team Safety Officer's briefing</li> <li>Welcome</li> </ul>	Red Star Raceway
Sunday, 8 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scrutineering briefing</li> <li>Presentation of Group D Documents</li> <li>Static Scrutineering commences</li> </ul>	Red Star Raceway
Monday, 9 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Static Scrutineering continues</li> <li>Free practice open</li> </ul>	Red Star Raceway
Tuesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dynamic Scrutineering commences</li> <li>Free practice open</li> </ul>	Red Star Raceway
Wednesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer Registration [AM]</li> <li>Dynamic Scrutineering continues</li> <li>Hot lap for start grid positions</li> </ul>	Red Star Raceway
Thursday, 12 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Expo</li> <li>Team briefing</li> <li>Media briefing</li> <li>Observer training</li> </ul>	Graceland Hotel & Casino
Friday, 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Official start</li> <li>On-road segment commences</li> </ul>	Graceland Hotel & Casino
Friday, 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Official Finish</li> <li>On-road segment concludes</li> </ul>	V & A Waterfront
Saturday, 21 <sup>st</sup> September 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cruiser Class Judging</li> <li>Formal Awards Ceremony</li> </ul>	Cape Town
Sunday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final pack up and clean out</li> </ul>	V & A Waterfront



## 1.13. Entering the Event

*Applications for entry are invited from any entrant prepared to meet the standards and obligations of the competition.*

- 1.13.1. Applications may be made from the time that team registrations open, until 12H00 on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2024 (SAST), or such other time as the event organisers may determine.
- 1.13.2. Applications for entry must be made via the official online entry form, available on the Sasol Solar Challenge website ([www.solarchallenge.org.za](http://www.solarchallenge.org.za)).
- 1.13.3. Accepted applications for entry will only be considered confirmed upon payment of the application fee.
- 1.13.4. The number of places is limited. Applications received after the limit is reached may be placed on a reserve list.
- 1.13.5. The granting of a place in the event will become void if the entry fees have not been received by the due date.
- 1.13.6. Entrants who do not satisfy the Chief Scrutineer that they will achieve compliance with the regulations (through documentary submission) may fail to qualify for the event and their place may be offered to a team on the reserve list.
- 1.13.7. The event organiser reserves the right to accept or reject any application without explanation.

## 1.14. Entry Fees

- 1.14.1. Entry fees include South Africa tax (VAT) and are based on the class requested on the entry form.
- 1.14.2. An application fee of 10% of the total entry fee is payable upon confirmation that the application for entry has been accepted by the event organisers. Payment of this fee will be payable upon the receipt of the invoice. The balance of the outstanding entry fee will be payable by the date stipulated on the invoice. An official tax receipt will be provided via email.
- 1.14.3. The application fee, which forms part of the total entry fee, is non-refundable.  
*Entrants will be provided with an invoice or the remaining entry fee within one month of receipt of their completed official entry form and application fee. Acceptable methods for payment of entry fees will be detailed in the invoice document.*
- 1.14.4. International banking charges are the responsibility of the entrant. Minor adjustment (up to ZAR 1,500.00) can be settled at registration at Red Star Raceway.
- 1.14.5. The Standard Entry fee will apply to all applications, irrespective of the entered class.
- 1.14.6. All entry fees are payable in full by the date stated on the invoice that has been issued or otherwise stipulated by the event organisers.
- 1.14.7. The entry fees are:



Class	Entry Fee
Challenger	ZAR 45,000.00 including VAT
Cruiser	ZAR 45,000.00 including VAT
Innovation	TBC

This entry fee includes:

- Team Entry fee
- Team Member Registration fee of up to twenty-five (25) team members
- Up to twenty-five (25) Awards Ceremony tickets plus an additional five (5) guests
- Camping accommodation for up to twenty-five (25) team members at Red Star Raceway during Scrutineering for five (5) nights
- Camping accommodation for up to twenty-five (25) team members at on-road nightly stop over towns for seven (7) nights
- Think Bike marshals for additional on-road safety during the on-road segment for solar cars only

*Team accommodation for the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2024, the official finish at the V & A Waterfront will be the responsibility of the entrants. The organisers will take no responsibility for any accommodation for teams on the aforementioned date.*

- 1.14.8. The event organisers reserve the right to accept late entries. Entry requests granted after the close of entries will attract a 10% late fee.

*All enquiries regarding fees or payments should be directed to the Project Manager via email at [admin@solarchallenge.org.za](mailto:admin@solarchallenge.org.za) or phone +27 73 624 7137 during business hours, 08H30 – 16H00 (SAST), Monday to Friday.*

## 1.15. Refunds

- 1.15.1. Refund entitlement is based on date of withdrawal.

Withdrawal Date	Refund
Before 18 December 2023	Full Refund*
Before 26 February 2024	50% Refund
Before 29 May 2024	25% Refund
After 3 June 2024	No Refund

*\*The application fee and bank charges are not refundable, and a 10% admin fee will be levied in the case of a full refund.*

## 1.16. Cancellation of the Event

- 1.16.1. The event organisers reserve the right to cancel or abandon the event for reasons beyond its reasonable control, including but not limited to acts of God, natural disasters, acts of war, weather, riots and strikes outside its organisation, communicable diseases crisis and quarantine restrictions.

## 1.17. Insurance

### 1.17.1. Public Liability TBC

- 1.17.2. The Third-Party Bodily injury insurance component is not compulsory in South Africa but is strongly advised by the event organisers as this will not be covered by the Event.



1.17.3. Cover has been arranged to cover any claims on *the event organisers* (not solar car teams) for damage caused by a participating solar car during the event. This cost is part of the entry fee.

1.17.4. Comprehensive insurance for personal effects, tools, equipment, solar cars, and other vehicles is the responsibility of the entrant.

*Participants are advised that a personal travel insurance policy in respect of theft, loss, sickness, and accidents is highly recommended. The South African government has reciprocal health care agreements with some countries, covering limited subsidised health services for medical treatment. The South African Health Care System is more reliable when seeking private medical attention, with public health care facilities found more often than not to be unreliable in the attempt to seek medical treatment.*

*Registration fee described in Sporting Regulation 1.14.7 will be levied on each individual team member travelling from Secunda to Cape Town as part of the event.*

## 1.18. Team Members

1.18.1. Each team must include (but not be limited to):

Role	Responsibilities
A Team Director	Responsible for communication between the event organisers and the team only in the case of a serious infringement
A Team Manager	Responsible for the overall management of the project and the team, serves as communication post between the event organisers and the team and reports only to the Team Director
A Safety Officer	Responsible for the safety of the team
A Battery Officer	Responsible for the solar car battery
An Interpreter	*If the Team Manager isn't proficient in English
At least three (3) and at most six (6) solar car drivers	Responsible for driving the solar car
At least two (2) drivers for each support vehicle (solar car drivers should not drive support cars on the same day as driving the solar car)	Responsible for driving the support vehicles
At least one (1) person with a recognised first aid certificate that is current for the duration of the event (preferably the Safety Officer)	Responsible for ad hoc/emergency medical support
Passengers for Cruiser Class teams	Responsible for serving as a passenger in Cruiser Class solar cars
A Community Engagement Manager	Responsible for interacting with different communities along the route and engaging in official event activations and education programmes

*For the team to be granted permission to commence Scrutineering all team members must be registered at Red Star Raceway in Delmas.*

1.18.2. Each team member will be required to register online and be physically present at the team registration at Red Star Raceway in Delmas. All team



members must be at Red Star Raceway and registered by 17H00 on Saturday, the 7<sup>th</sup> of September 2024.

*Teams will not be allowed to proceed to scrutineering until all team members have been registered at Red Star Raceway.*

- 1.18.3. A person holding the position of Team Director, Team Manager, Safety Officer, or Battery Officer may not hold any other of these roles.
- 1.18.4. A person holding the position of Team Manager, Safety Officer or Battery Officer must be seated in the front escort vehicle, solar car, or rear escort vehicle during the on-road component of the event while the solar car is in motion on a public road.
- 1.18.5. The person holding the position of Safety Officer may not be a solar car driver.
- 1.18.6. Each solar car driver must hold an appropriate motor vehicle driver's license recognised by South African authorities and valid for the total period of the event.

*Driving licenses will be inspected and verified by South African road transport authorities as part of the scrutineering process. Acceptable driving licenses must include a photograph of the holder, the class of vehicle for which the license applies and the expiry date. If these details are not in English, either the license must be accompanied by a certified translation, or a valid International Driving License is required.*

- 1.18.7. The event organisers are unable to take responsibility for any person under the age of 18.

*An entrant may make a request for a minor to be included in their team provided such request is accompanied by a document giving permission and acknowledgement that supervision of the person concerned is the responsibility of the Team Manager, not the event organisers. The document must be signed by both the parent or legal guardian of the proposed participant, and the Team Manager.*

- 1.18.8. Teams wishing to register more team members than that indicated allowable on the registration form may request written approval from the event organisers.

*A written request to register more than 25 team members may be submitted to the Project Manager via the email [admin@solarchallenge.org.za](mailto:admin@solarchallenge.org.za). An additional fee will be charged per additional team member which will cover the cost of the event. The total number of additional team members will be at the sole discretion of the event organisers.*

### 1.19. Team Identification

- 1.19.1. Team, Team Manager, and solar car details will be taken from the online entry form.
- 1.19.2. Requests to change entry details will only be considered when submitted, by the Team Manager, by email or through other applications arranged by the event organisers.
- 1.19.3. Once an entry has been accepted, any request to change entry details will be subject to the provisions of Sporting Regulations 1.28 and the approval of the event organiser.



- 1.19.4. Each team will be allocated a team number on acceptance of entry.
- 1.19.5. Early entry applications may make a special request for the use of a team number. Requested numbers should contain two digits.
- 1.19.6. Allocation of any number is at the sole discretion of the event organiser.

### 1.20. Permits

- 1.20.1. Motor vehicles, including solar cars, entering South Africa will require a permit from the International Trade Administration Commission of South Africa (ITAC).

*Strict conditions are in place for the import of all motor vehicles entering South Africa including experimental vehicles (solar cars), therefore the event organisers have partnered with a logistics company, who will assist the teams in this regard. Please see the Freight Manual for detailed information. For assistance from the event organisers teams must contact the Project Manager at [admin@solarchallenge.org.za](mailto:admin@solarchallenge.org.za).*

- 1.20.2. Import permit arrangements for other vehicles (including road trailers) are the responsibility of the entrant.

### 1.21. Freight

- 1.21.1. The entrant is responsible for all freight arrangements.
- 1.21.2. Freight deliveries to Red Star Raceway outside the dates of the event will not be accepted.

*Details of all freight, customs and quarantine arrangement will be provided in the Freight Manual supplied by the official freight and logistics partner of the Sasol Solar Challenge.*

### 1.22. Visas

- 1.22.1. Citizens of countries other than South Africa need a visa to enter South Africa.

*Visas are the responsibility of the individuals concerned. Visa requirements are detailed by the Department of Home Affairs of the Republic of South Africa. Information on how the event organisers is permitted to support visa applications will be provided in the Team Manager's Guide.*

### 1.23. Vehicle Preparation

- 1.23.1. Preparation facilities will not be available prior to the commencement of scrutineering in accordance with the schedule.

*The event organisers are responsible for all operations at Red Star Raceway. Red Star Raceway management is unable to assist with early arrivals, pit allocations or freight issues. Detailed arrangements will be published in the Team Manager's Guide and via Team Notices.*

### 1.24. Style Guide

- 1.24.1. The correct title of the event is the **Sasol Solar Challenge**. Entrants and their sponsors must use the correct title in all references to the event.



- 1.24.2. The **Official Logo** of the event will be published as an appendix to these regulations. The **Official Logo** will be supported by a style guide that details its conditions of use.
- 1.24.3. Registered entrants and their sponsors wishing to use the **Official Logo** in non-commercial publicity may do so in accordance with the requirements of the style guide.
- 1.24.4. Registered entrants and their sponsors wishing to use the Official Logo in a commercial context (i.e., merchandise offered for sale) must seek the written permission of the event organisers.

### 1.25. Sponsorship Obligations

- 1.25.1. It is a condition of participation that the entrant acknowledges event and category sponsors in their own publicity. Failure to do so may result in the team being delisted from event publicity.

### 1.26. Media and Promotional Obligations

*A promotional schedule will form part of the schedule of activities. The promotional schedule will contain details of official media calls and other promotional activities created for the benefit of the event, the entrants, and their sponsors.*

*Per Regulation 1.12.2, requests to attend media calls, promotional activities, public appearances etc. are obligatory for all registered teams.*

- 1.26.1. Notwithstanding the provision of Regulation 1.26.6, the event organisers will respect the Intellectual Property of the respective owners. Technical details of solar cars will be kept confidential until the start of static scrutineering and commercial in confidence requests and media embargos will be honoured.
- 1.26.2. Registered entrants must notify the event organisers of public, or media promotional activities held for or on behalf of their attendance in the event, not less than seven days prior to the activity taking place.
- 1.26.3. Media travelling with or in support of any team must comply with the event media accreditation requirements.
- 1.26.4. Entrants will be held accountable, through the application of event penalties, for the unacceptable actions of media representative travelling with or in support of their team, whether registered as such or not.  
*Standard operational procedure of South African police is to first remove the cause of any problem. Police have advised that, where media vehicles following a team are creating a danger for other road users, they will take the solar car off the road. Teams are advised to reinforce this point to their country's media in their own language.*
- 1.26.5. Registered entrants who maintain an internet presence are required to provide a link to the official Sasol Solar Challenge website:  
[www.solarchallenge.org.za](http://www.solarchallenge.org.za).
- 1.26.6. The creation and use of any sound recordings or still or moving images of the event used for commercial gain or public performance by the entrant or their sponsors are subject to the prior written approval of the event organisers.





- 1.26.7. Non-commercial media content generated by the entrant must reference the event in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 1.25.
- 1.26.8. Teams and or their sponsors shall not engage in any marketing or promotional activity that will materially detract from the value and standing of the event or its sponsors.
- 1.26.9. Activity by sponsors of teams shall not imply ownership or sponsorship of the event.
- 1.26.10. Entrants are responsible for the activities of their sponsors.

## 1.27. Remotely Piloted Aircraft (Drones)

- 1.27.1. Remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) may only be operated with the approval of the event organisers.
- 1.27.2. RPA registration and pilot accreditation must be in accordance with South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) regulations.

*Further information will be provided in the Team Manager's Guide and/or any subsequent Team Notice or Addendums.*

## 1.28. Compulsory Documentation

- 1.28.1. Except for Group D documents, each team must submit documentation using online forms. All submissions must be made by the dates stated in the event schedule.

*The purpose of the documentations is to help teams identify potential compliance issues before the car is shipped to the event.*

### Group A

- General Specification
- Electrical System Specification
- Solar Collector Specification
- Energy Storage System Specification

### Group B

- Battery Incident Plan
- Team Safety Plan
- Team promotional information
- Publication-quality information and photographs of the team and solar car

### Group C

- Logistics schedule
- Travel, arrival, and accommodation information

### Group D

Group D documentation must be submitted prior to static scrutineering, as defined in the schedule.

- Final technical documentation that describes the car as built and highlights any changes since earlier submission.



- Two printed A4 copies of a diagram of the solar car in plain view, with the front of the solar car depicted at the top of the diagram, and clearly showing how emergency isolation is to be activated.
  - The original signed Roadworthiness Certificate
  - A simplified wiring diagram, printed on A4 paper, showing how the main functional blocks (PV array, energy storage packs, electronics modules, etc.) are connected, together with circuit breakers, and fuses.
- 1.28.2. If the Team Manager wants to vary the documentation after the submission deadline, the Team Manager must make the request to the event organisers in writing setting out the proposed variations. If the event organisers accept the Team Manager's request, the varied document will supersede all previous versions. The event organisers will not be responsible for failure to broadcast or publish any document for publicity because of variations proposed by the Team Manager.

## 2. The Adventure

### 2.1. Supervision

- 2.1.1. The Clerk of the Course is responsible for supervising on-road activities.
- 2.1.2. During on-road activities, communication with the Clerk of the Course must be made through the Think Bike marshals.

*The Think Bike marshals will serve as the first point of contact between the teams and the Clerk of the Course during the on-road segment. Contact details for emergency contact personnel will be shared with teams via a Team Notice.*

### 2.2. Safety

- 2.2.1. The team Safety Officer is responsible for the general safety of the team.
- 2.2.2. The team Battery Officer is responsible for the safe operation of batteries and for supervising response to any battery emergency.
- 2.2.3. Battery incident response kits must be made readily available to the solar car and any other vehicle carrying solar car batteries.
- 2.2.4. A team member with a recognised first-aid certificate (preferably the Safety Officer), current for the duration of the event, must travel in the front or rear escort vehicle.
- 2.2.5. It is the responsibility of each team to ensure that the vehicles under its control are maintained in a safe, roadworthy condition and are operated safely and within the law always.
- 2.2.6. All solar cars and escort vehicles are operated and driven at the team's own risk.
- 2.2.7. The Clerk of the Course may exclude any team from the event at any time if any team member operates a solar car or any other vehicle in an unsafe manner.
- 2.2.8. Teams must look after the health and safety of their team members and observer.



*Fatigue and dehydration are serious hazards in this event. This is especially relevant to drivers, particularly those of solar cars.*

- 2.2.9. Drivers, team members, officials and observers are to be drug free and maintain a blood alcohol level less than 0.01% whilst engaged in any duties associated with the event.
- 2.2.10. Random testing for intoxicating substances may be conducted throughout the event at the organisers' discretion involving any individual who falls under the authority of the event organisers.

### 2.3. Safety Belts

- 2.3.1. The use of safety belts is mandatory for all occupants of motor vehicles in South Africa, including solar cars.

### 2.4. Helmets and Safety Apparel

- 2.4.1. Each occupant of a solar car must wear an approved motorcycle helmet securely fitted and fastened in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- 2.4.2. Motorcycle helmets must have a mark certifying compliance with either:
- DOT standard a.k.a. FMVSS 218
  - UNECE 22.05 standard a.k.a. United Nations Economic Community of Europe Regulation No 22

*Half-shell helmets are not permitted.*

- 2.4.3. Helmets must not be modified, have unauthorised attachments, or be used in any way contrary to the manufacturer's instructions.
- 2.4.4. Fire-resistant clothing (overall, gloves, shoes, socks, balaclava, and underwear) is highly recommended by the event organisers.
- 2.4.5. Solar car drivers and/or passengers must wear at minimum a Level 1 race suit while driving as per FIA or local manufacturer guide lines, this is specified as mandatory. Fire retardant undergarments are not compulsory as per specifications below but are recommended by the event organisers.

*Should your team opt to use a Level 1 race suit without fire retardant undergarments it is advised to wear a cotton T-shirt underneath to help absorb sweat and minimise the need to wash the garment. Each time the garment is washed it reduces the efficacy of the suit.*

- 2.4.6. Such fire-resistant clothing must be in good condition and should be FIA approved or locally produced by a recognised manufacturer from flame-retardant material. The clothing item must be clearly labelled to indicate whether it is FIA approved or locally produced from flame-retardant material. In instances where the racing overall being worn is not FIA-approved, underwear that is FIA-approved is recommended to be worn underneath it.
- 2.4.7. Race suits which carry a valid FIA approval (clearly indicated on the collar) and which appear on the official "technical list" of the FIA will be deemed to be similarly approved by the Sasol Solar Challenge.



- 2.4.8. All local race suit manufacturers are required by the Sasol Solar Challenge to include a permanent identification label on the outside of the back collar to indicate compliance with recognised fire-retardant fabrics and specifications.
- 2.4.9. Recognised fire-retardant fabrics for use in race suit manufacturing include:
- Nomex
  - Diamond
  - Pyrovatex
  - Aflammit
  - Proban
  - Kermal
  - Ter
  - Carmyth Karvin
  - Delta C
  - Hoco Tex Aramid
  - PBI
- 2.4.10. In addition to the fabric itself the Sasol Solar Challenge highly recommends that Nomex sewing thread or similar flame-retardant thread be used in the manufacturing of the garment for all stitching and box quilting.
- 2.4.11. The Sasol Solar Challenge recognises fire retardant race suit specifications:
- Level 1: One piece race suit with one layer of approved fire-retardant fabric
  - Level 2: One piece race suit with two layers of approved fire-retardant fabric
  - Level 3: One piece race suit with two layers of approved fire-retardant fabric of which at least one layer is Nomex, or a similar fabric approved by the FIA

## 2.5. Safety Equipment

- 2.5.1. Suitable and appropriate safety equipment must be carried always. The minimum safety equipment that must be carried in the rear escort vehicle is:
- A first-aid kit
  - Safety glasses and gloves for handling batteries
  - At least two hazard warning cones
  - Two yellow warning flags, minimum size 300mm x 300mm
  - Suitable fire extinguishers
  - Fire blankets



- Sand (or similar material) for extinguishing fires
- A spade
- Suitable containers for damaged electrochemical cells
- Safety vests
- Two whistles

## 2.6. Support Vehicles

2.6.1. Each team must supply a front and a rear escort vehicle, a means of transporting the solar car, and sufficient additional vehicles in accordance with Sporting Regulation 2.6.2 to transport and support the team and its equipment during the event.

2.6.2. Each team will be allowed no more than 8 (eight) support vehicles which will include any tow vehicles, trucks, or semi-trucks.

*This regulation is designed to promote environmental sustainability and enhance the safety of team members by implementing measures to reduce the support vehicle fleet within teams. Recognizing the impact of vehicle emissions on the environment and the potential risks associated with a large number of vehicles, this regulation aims to optimize transportation practices for the benefit of both the environment and the safety of team members.*

*Environmental Benefits:*

- *Reduced Carbon Emissions*
- *Improved Air Quality*
- *Encouraging Sustainable Transportation*

*Safety Benefits:*

- *Decreased Accident Risk*
- *Enhanced Driver Focus*
- *Optimized Vehicle Maintenance*

*By adhering to this regulation, teams can make significant strides in mitigating their environmental impact, contributing to a more sustainable event and future. Simultaneously, the emphasis on safety measures ensures the well-being of team members and promotes responsible transportation practices. This holistic approach to fleet management aligns with the broader goals of environmental conservation and safety enhancement.*

*Please note that this regulation will have a significant impact on the type of vehicles a team chooses to utilize as their support vehicle fleet in order to accommodate their logistical needs for the duration of the event.*

2.6.3. The minimum requirement for transporting the solar car is a suitable truck or trailer, which must accompany the team throughout the journey.

*Many vehicle rental companies in South Africa require the hirer and all drivers to be at least 18 years of age, and drivers under the age of 25 can expect additional surcharges. One-way national rentals may not be possible through an airport rental desk and required head office approval in some cases. Trailers should be booked early. Teams may contact the Project Manager via the email [admin@solarchallenge.org.za](mailto:admin@solarchallenge.org.za) regarding the preferred event car hire company for further information.*



- 2.6.4. Each solar car must, always when in motion on the route, be accompanied by two escort vehicles – one immediately in front of the solar car and one immediately behind the solar car.
- 2.6.5. A minimum of two drivers must be available for every vehicle associated with the team.
- 2.6.6. The rear escort vehicle must not be a bus, truck or large campervan or be towing a trailer.

*If traffic approaching from behind sees a large vehicle with a flashing light, the immediate perception is that the vehicle itself is the hazard, not the solar car it is escorting. This may lead to a member or the public overtaking large rear escort vehicle only to encounter an unexpected and previously unseen solar car. Large rear escort vehicles make it difficult for vehicles approaching from the rear to see the solar car.*

- 2.6.7. Team “scout,” “spy” or “tail” vehicles are strictly prohibited. If a team is found guilty of such an infringement due to tailing another team for any reason whatsoever the team will be subject to severe penalties and in extreme cases exclusion from the event.

*During recent internationally recognised solar car events it has been observed that “tail” or “scout” vehicles have been deployed by some teams to follow other competitor teams with the aim of gaining information about their competitors’ location, speed, strategy, etc. It is more often than not that these vehicles have been found guilty of reckless driving, endangering other participants, and endangering other road users. The safety of all participants, especially solar car drivers are the top priority of the event organisers, and it is in the teams’ best interest to adhere to Sporting Regulation 2.6.7.*

## 2.7. Escort Vehicle Signage

- 2.7.1. All team vehicles must carry a sign, visible from 30m to the rear, stating the name and team number of the team to which they belong.
- 2.7.2. All team vehicles equipped with Citizen’s Band (CB) radio must carry a sign, visible from 30m to the rear, advising the VB channel number in use.
- 2.7.3. A warning sign larger than 900mm x 300mm with black lettering on a yellow background, clearly visible from 30m, must be displayed on the rear escort vehicle stating:

**CAUTION: SOLAR VEHICLE AHEAD**

- 2.7.4. No vehicle other than the rear escort vehicle may carry such a sign.
- 2.7.5. Front and rear escort vehicles must be fitted with amber flashing lights visible from all directions at a distance of at least 200m in daylight. Flashing amber lights must not be obscured by signs or other equipment on the roof of an escort vehicle.

*Beacons designed as warning devices for industrial equipment are unlikely to meet the visibility requirements.*

## 2.8. Communication

- 2.8.1. Every solar car must have means of two-way voice radio communication with its rear escort vehicle. Communication must be possible whenever the



driver is in the solar car, including when the main energy storage contactors are open and when the car is in safe state.

- 2.8.2. Each team must carry a cell phone with a registered South African telecommunications provider and notify the event organisers of its number (See Team Manager's Guide Regulation 4.2. Mobile (Cell) Phones). This information will be required at registration when arriving on site at Red Star Raceway.
- 2.8.3. During the event, we require that all Team Managers download the WhatsApp application onto their mobile devices. WhatsApp is a messaging application that can be installed on both Android and iOS devices. This is an official channel of communication between the event organisers and the teams during the event. This application works with a wireless network connection as well as with local cellular network service providers and guarantees minimal data usage of any kind. WhatsApp can be installed via the Play Store for Android and App Store for iOS.
- 2.8.4. During the event, we require that all Team Managers download the Zello application onto their mobile devices. Zello is a push-to-talk application that can be installed on both Android and iOS devices. This is an official two-way channel of communication between the event organisers and the teams during the event. This application works with a wireless network connection as well as with local cellular network service providers and guarantees minimal data usage of any kind. Zello can be installed via the Play Store for Android and App Store for iOS.
- 2.8.5. The front and rear escort vehicles (at least) for each solar car must each carry a cell phone with a registered South African telecommunications provider as per Sporting Regulation 2.8.2. Zello and WhatsApp must also be installed onto these devices as per Sporting Regulation 2.8.3 and 2.8.4. Teams must monitor the channel they have been allocated always while on the road, and respond promptly and courteously, in English, to reasonable communications with other teams and officials.

## 2.9. Heavy Vehicles

- 2.9.1. Any team operating or contracting a vehicle over 5.4 tonnes GVM or a passenger vehicle with 12 or more seats must register the full details with the event organisers.
- 2.9.2. Compliance with South African regulations and campaigns concerning driving hours, record keeping, and fatigue management is mandatory.

## 2.10. Preparation and Testing

- 2.10.1. The event organisers will provide facilities for team preparation and track testing of solar cars at Red Star Raceway in accordance with the dates listed in the schedule.
- 2.10.2. All participating teams must base themselves, and their solar cars, at Red Star Raceway from Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- 2.10.3. The main pits will be reserved for teams that base themselves at Red Star Raceway for the full duration of scrutineering. This includes camping of the entire team and setting up their workspace on site at Red Star Raceway.



Teams that choose to use alternative work space and accommodation will by default be provided with secondary pits. Allocation of pits will be on a first come first serve basis.

*Teams that wish to utilize alternative work space and accommodation during scrutineering must inform the event organisers of such arrangements. Utilizing the scrutineering work space and accommodation is not compulsory but is included in the team registration fee.*

- 2.10.4. The event organisers will appoint a paddock manager to supervise the preparation test facility. The directions of the paddock manager must be followed.
- 2.10.5. The Occupational Health and Safety Act 85 of 1993 will apply to all event-related activities in South Africa.
- 2.10.6. The Clerk of the Course may impose event penalties for breaches of speed limits or other rules at Red Star Raceway.
- 2.10.7. No test driving is to be conducted in the paddock, car park or access roads.
- 2.10.8. The track must not be accessed without clearance from the Clerk of the Course/track controller.
- 2.10.9. Any team driving a solar car on a public road without a permit is liable to civil penalties and exclusion from the event.  
*Teams who make direct contact with South African road authorities delay this process.*
- 2.10.10. A refundable security deposit of R 1 500.00 must be paid in cash during on-site team registration by each team at Red Star Raceway before a pit will be allocated to mitigate against damage, rubbish removal or cleaning beyond reasonable expectations. Once the team pit has been inspected before departure by the paddock manager the deposit will be returned to the team only if the team pit has been left as it was found.

## 2.11. Team Registration and Scrutineering

- 2.11.1. All participants are required to attend with their team to complete the registration process and present their solar car for the scrutineering process. The scrutineering process is divided into static and dynamic operations.
- 2.11.2. Team registration and static scrutineering will take place at Red Star Raceway, or such other place as determined by the event organisers at the time and date described in the schedule.
- 2.11.3. Teams must attend registration and static scrutineering with:
  - The Team Manager, and an interpreter if required
  - All solar car drivers, with their driving licenses
  - Any waiver documents required for participating under the age of 18
  - Original signed copy of the indemnity form
  - All solar car passengers
  - The team Safety Officer





- The team Battery Officer
  - The solar car, in road-ready condition
  - Front and rear escort vehicles, including any trailer that may be attached to the front escort vehicle, in road-ready condition
  - The solar car trailer or solar car transport truck they intend to use in the event
  - Tools and personnel required to facilitate inspection of the solar car
  - A list of all vehicles associated with the team, including make, model, colour, and registration number
  - Group D compulsory documentation
  - A spare solar car tyre of each type
  - A sample energy storage cell (if cells inside the energy storage packs are not clearly visible)
  - The lockable box in which energy storage packs can be impounded where required
- 2.11.4. Solar cars must be transported to scrutineering on the solar car trailer or truck that will be used during the event.
- 2.11.5. The Team Manager must attend all registration and scrutineering stations. A Team Manager not proficient in English must provide an interpreter to accompany them always during this process.
- 2.11.6. All team members must complete their online registration by signing in at registration.

### 2.12. Static Scrutineering

- 2.12.1. Static scrutineering will check for compliance with the regulations and will include a regulatory compliance and roadworthiness inspection by the South African road transport authority.
- 2.12.2. Qualification must be achieved in road-ready condition. ***Teams that do not present at the designated time in road-ready condition may fail to qualify.***
- 2.12.3. Up to seven members of a team (including an interpreter and any team media personnel) may accompany the solar car on the scrutineering floor. Team members may be substituted between inspection stations.
- 2.12.4. Some dismantling (such as removal of the solar collector or top shell) may be required to facilitate inspection of the following components:
- Mechanical systems (including seats, tyres, brakes, and steering)
  - Electrical systems
  - Energy storage systems
- 2.12.5. Dismantling and reassembly of the solar car when required to facilitate inspection of the solar car must be conducted (in the sole opinion of the Chief Scrutineer) in a reasonable time.



- 2.12.6. Checks and inspections with the solar car in a road-ready configuration will include, but not be limited to:
- Signage
  - Dimensions
  - Solar collector type and size
  - Egress – all solar car drivers and passengers are required
  - Vision – all solar car drivers are required
  - Lights, indicators, and horn
  - Electrical compliance
- 2.12.7. All energy storage devices must be declared at static scrutineering. Failure to declare any energy storage device may lead to disqualification.
- 2.12.8. The mass of each Challenger or Cruiser Class solar car driver or passenger, with helmet, driving clothes, and shoes, will be determined at scrutineering. If the mass of a driver or passenger is less than 80kg, ballast provided by the team will be added to make up the difference. No credit will be given if a driver or passenger weighs more than 80kg. All ballasts provided by the team will be weighed and scrutinized during the scrutineering process to ensure all regulations are abided by. Ballast must consist of non-functional items e.g.; batteries may not be used as ballast.
- Deliberate consumption of excessive food and drink prior to weigh-in is not in keeping with the spirit of the event and may be hazardous to the health of the individual.*
- Solar car occupants must wear similar clothes (including shoes) while driving as when they weigh in.*
- If there is a weight discrepancy regarding the ballasts provided by the team the event organisers will provide additional ballasts to compensate for the discrepancy.*
- 2.12.9. Drivers and passengers may be re-weighed at any time during the event. Changes in weight considered unreasonable by the Chief Medical Officer will be referred to the Clerk of the Course.
- 2.12.10. Non-compliance penalties may be imposed at the absolute discretion of the Chief Scrutineer and may include failure to qualify. Penalties will be published.

## 2.13. Dynamic Scrutineering

- 2.13.1. Dynamic scrutineering exercises will test the speed, stability, and braking capability of the solar car.
- 2.13.2. Dynamic scrutineering will be held at Red Star Raceway, or such other place as determined by the event organisers, on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024. Attendance of Team Managers and drivers at 07H00 roll call is mandatory.
- 2.13.3. No solar car may be submitted for dynamic scrutineering without having first passed static scrutineering.
- 2.13.4. Solar cars must complete dynamic scrutineering in road-ready condition and with occupants and ballast in place.



- 2.13.5. Cruiser Class solar cars with four or fewer seats must complete dynamic scrutineering with all seats occupied. Cruiser Class solar cars with more than four seats must complete dynamic scrutineering with four seats occupied.
- 2.13.6. No solar car will be given permission to start the event until it has passed dynamic scrutineering. Any solar car failing dynamic scrutineering will only be permitted to re-scrutineer at the absolute discretion of the Chief Scrutineer. Dynamic scrutineering will close at 12H30 on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

## 2.14. Modifications or Changes After Scrutineering

- 2.14.1. Once a solar car and its drivers have passed static scrutineering, no changes to the design or configuration of the solar car (that is, to any items described in the compulsory documentation) or changes to drivers will be permitted.
- 2.14.2. Once a solar car has passed dynamic scrutineering, and until released from the start line, component exchange, modification or repair to the solar car is not permitted without the approval of the Chief Scrutineer.

## 2.15. Briefings

- 2.15.1. A compulsory briefing for Team Managers and team Safety Officers will be held at Red Star Raceway on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at a time and place to be advised. Team Managers not proficient in English must request permission to be accompanied by an interpreter.
- 2.15.2. A compulsory safety, procedural and media briefing will be held on Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at a time and place to be advised. All team members must attend.

## 2.16. Observers

- 2.16.1. The Clerk of the Course will appoint an observer to travel with each team. Observers may be changed between teams at any time during the event.
- 2.16.2. The observer's responsibilities are:
- To record the locations and times that teams start and stop
  - To record the locations and times of all activities and incidents that may affect the outcome of the event
  - To record the number of Cruiser Class occupants travelling between control stops
  - To check that ballast is correct for each driver or passenger change
  - To be satisfied that the energy storage system cannot be charged or interfered with between sunset and sunrise, except as allowed for Cruiser Class solar cars
  - To notify an Event Official or the Clerk of the Course at the earliest opportunity if any breach of regulation is suspected, energy storage cells or modules have been changed or an energy storage system



seal broken, or if they have any concerns about the actions of the team

- 2.16.3. Observers are not permitted to interpret regulations or to give advice or directions to teams. Advice or directions from observers do not supersede regulations or directions from Event Officials. The only exception is if an observer asks a team to stop because they feel unsafe – the team must stop.
- 2.16.4. Each team's responsibilities to the observer are:
- To assist the observer in their duties always
  - To provide reasonable food for the observer at least three times a day, and such drinking water as the observer may require (unless otherwise arranged by the event organisers)
  - If requested by the observer, to send for assistance from the event organiser or transmit information to the Challenge Control Centre
  - To provide a proper seat in the rear escort vehicle
  - To provide space for the observer's luggage in the rear escort vehicle
  - To not make any demands of the observer to assist team operations
- 2.16.5. Each team must allocate the front passenger seat of the rear escort vehicle to the observer. This includes fair and reasonable space with, for example, the foot well not being filled with computer equipment such that the passenger space is restricted.
- 2.16.6. Each team must provide a suitable place for the observer to sleep. Provisions of a tent and a sleeping mat are minimum requirements. The observer must provide their own sleeping gear (sleeping bag, pillow etc.)

## 2.17. Start Line and Grid

- 2.17.1. The ceremonial start of the event will be held at Graceland Hotel and Casino, Secunda, from 09H00 on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024, or such other place and time as the event organisers may direct. Detailed procedural instructions will be issued at Red Star Raceway via a Team Notice.
- 2.17.2. Starting position will be determined by class and performance during dynamic scrutineering.
- 2.17.3. All solar cars must be in their starting grid position by the appointed time for final inspections. Any solar car not present will have their starting position amended.
- 2.17.4. Teams must not work on their solar cars on the start grid.
- 2.17.5. Two team members must stay with the solar car on the start grid to assist Event Officials with final inspections.
- 2.17.6. Front and rear escort vehicles must be in their designated places by 08H30.
- 2.17.7. Escort vehicles must be in position with the solar car before entering public roads. Solar cars which have left the start line and whose escort vehicles are not ready to merge will be directed to return to the start area.



*Team Managers should recognise that it is not a realistic expectation for escort vehicle crew members to witness the start and re-join their vehicles to make a timely departure.*

2.17.8. Except for Day 1, all vehicles must be in the start line holding area by 07H15.

2.17.9. All solar cars must be in their designated starting block by 07H30.

*Each solar car will be allocated a 2 m wide by 5 m long starting block in the start grid order in which the solar car may be configured in any way as long as the solar car and team activities do not infringe on another team's starting block. This is to mitigate the effects of natural shade etc. The organisers will strive to ensure that the start grid is located in a suitable area to minimise any disadvantage but cannot control the natural effects of nature and weather. Teams must take note that in some instances a portion of the start grid might have more sunlight than the rest, but it is not the intention of the organisers to create additional obstacles for teams to overcome. Teams will not be permitted to move their solar car out of their starting block nor to request their starting block to be moved for any reason unless safety is concerned.*

2.17.10. The starting grid will be classed as "parc fermé" between the hours of 07H30 and 07H45 or such other time as the Clerk of the Course may nominate.

2.17.11. Solar cars must be configured in the start grid position by 07H50

2.17.12. Solar car drivers must be in position in the solar car ready to depart by 07H55 or at the discretion of the COC at which time the start grid must be cleared of all tools and team members.

2.17.13. The start of each day except for Day 1 will commence at 08H00 where solar cars will depart in accordance with the start grid order. Teams will be released in 1-minute intervals following the first solar car.

2.17.14. Starting positions for all days other than Day 1 will be determined by the previous day's results.

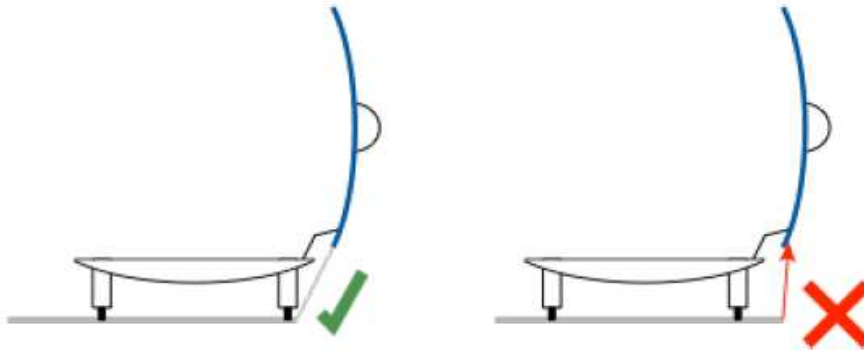
2.17.15. Special stages will be declared for various reasons, these include record attempts, required trailering stages, and slower speed stages. Although most special stages will be documented ahead of the event, due to changing conditions or changes to previous special stages, new special stages may be defined during the event.

## 2.18. Energy Collection and Storage

2.18.1. Charging the energy storage system or powering the solar car from an unauthorised source will lead to exclusion from the event.

2.18.2. External devices intended to increase the irradiance on the solar collector or increase the efficiency of the solar collector must not be used at any time with the exception of spraying water from an external source.

*Ground sheets must not be placed in any position where it is possible to draw a straight line from any part of the ground sheet to any part of the solar collector.*



- 2.18.3. From the official start of the on-road component of the event until finish or withdrawal, the energy storage system must never be removed from the observer's control.
- 2.18.4. Damaged energy storage cells may be bypassed, but must not be removed from the energy storage system unless it would be unsafe to leave them in. Cells removed must be replaced by ballast with mass greater than the mass of the removed cells.
- 2.18.5. If a solar car is unable to continue because too many energy storage cells have been damaged, the team may, with the event organisers' permission, replace cells and continue. The final ranking of the team will be based on the distance achieved before replacing cells.

## 2.19. Route

- 2.19.1. This is a multi-stage event consisting of 8 consecutive Challenge days.
- 2.19.2. The event course will be on public roads between Secunda and Cape Town and will include sections of major highways and other national roads – approximately 2300km excluding loop stops.
- 2.19.3. One printed copy of the official route notes will be provided to each registered team. Additional copies will be available for download from the Sasol Solar Challenge website before the event commences.
- 2.19.4. Mandatory control stops will be established along the route. The locations of the control stops will be published in the official route notes.
- 2.19.5. Any detour signs erected by the civil authorities must be observed and the correct route re-joined at the first opportunity.
- 2.19.6. The event organisers may change the course at any time.
- 2.19.7. Longer distances can be achieved via completing loops, which will give competitors the ability to travel farther than the set distance in a single day.

## 2.20. Special Stages

- 2.20.1 The organisers reserve the right to implement special stages to the route to test participating teams' strategy skills and teamwork. There are 3 different special stages, and they will all be implemented in the 2024 Sasol Solar Challenge. Each special stage consists of a different set of rules or instructions.



### Half Blind Stage

A Half Blind Stage can be implemented on any given day stage during the on-road segment of the event. The event organisers carefully plan where the Half Blind Stage will take place to ensure the safety of all participating teams and parties involved. The following key rules or instructions apply:

- Information regarding the Half Blind Stage will be provided to the teams the night before via a Golden Envelope, this will include the KML files for the route
- All teams will receive this information at the same time, the Team Manager of each team will be able to collect their Golden Envelope after the announcement which will take place during the Team Manager's meeting that takes place at the end of each day
- Before the announcement, the following information will be known to all teams as published in the Route Notes:
  - Total distance for the day's stage excluding the loop
  - Location of the control stop
- Before the announcement, the following information will be unknown to all teams:
  - Any information relating to the day's loop

### Full Blind Stage

A Full Blind Stage can be implemented on any given day stage during the on-road segment of the event. The event organisers carefully plan where the Full Blind Stage will take place to ensure the safety of all participating teams and parties involved. The following key rules or instructions apply:

- Information regarding the Full Blind stage will be provided to the teams the night before via a Golden Envelope, this will include the KML files for the route
- All teams will receive this information at the same time, the Team Manager of each team will be able to collect their Golden Envelope after the announcement which will take place during the Team Manager's meeting that takes place at the end of each day
- Before the announcement, the following information will be known to all teams as published in the Route Notes:
  - Location of the start line for the day's stage
  - Location of the finish line for the day's stage
- Before the announcement, the following information will be unknown to all teams:
  - Any information relating to the day's route
  - Any information relating to the day's loop
  - Location of the control stop



### Marathon Stage

A Marathon Stage can be implemented on any given day stage during the on-road segment of the event. The event organisers carefully plan where the Marathon Stage will take place to ensure the safety of all participating teams and parties involved. The following key rules or instructions apply:

- Information regarding the Marathon Stage will be provided to the teams prior to the event with the wholistic compilation of the published Route Notes
- The following information will be known to all teams as published in the Route Notes
  - Location of the start line for the day's stage
  - Location of the control stop for the day's stage
  - Location of the finish line of the day's stage
  - Any information relating to the day's route
  - Any information relating to the day's loop
- Rules and instructions for the Marathon Stage
  - Teams will start the day's stage as per normal circumstances
  - Once teams cross the finish line solar cars are required to complete the mandatory 30min in parc fermé
  - Once the Clerk of the Course has opened parc fermé teams will be given 30min to assess their solar car (no solar car may be removed from the parc fermé area until the next morning)
  - After the conclusion of the 30min assessment time all team members will be required to exit the parc fermé area
  - Teams will be required to choose 3 (three) registered members that will be appointed to work on the solar car from the time that parc fermé reopens until 22H00 or such other time as indicated by the event organisers
  - The Team Manager of each team must communicate to the Clerk of the Course which 3 team members have been selected to work on the solar car
  - Only the 3 selected team members of each team will be permitted within the parc fermé area to work on their team's solar car, these individuals will be provided with accreditation which will need to be presented to the Event Official manning the parc fermé entrance
  - Any tools, gear or equipment of any kind that is required to work on the solar car must be brought in solely by the 3 accredited team members, no unaccredited team members may assist in this process nor may teams assist one another
  - Tools, gear, or equipment may not be passed on over, under or through the parc fermé barriers by any team members or individuals (this includes lighting, any resources required to work on the solar car must be manned, managed, and operated solely by the accredited





team members), all tools, gear, and equipment must pass through the parc fermé entrance under the scrutiny of the designated Event Official

- Teams may not set up their main workshop in close proximity to the parc fermé area (this excludes the workstation set up within the parc fermé area by the accredited team members), this will be monitored at the discretion of the event organisers
- Accredited team members may erect a structure over or around their solar car within the parameters of the parc fermé area within reason of other teams and their solar cars, this will be monitored at the discretion of the event organisers
- Parc fermé will be opened by the Clerk of the Course at 06H00 the following morning (1 hour before the day's start)
- Teams who require their solar car to be removed from the parc fermé area, for any reason whatsoever, before the permitted time will be penalised by docking 150km from their total distance

*Teams who opt to not participate in the Marathon Stage will be penalised with a 30min time penalty.*

### 2.21. Timing

- 2.21.1. The official start time on Day 1 will be 09H00 for all teams.
- 2.21.2. The official start time each day after Day 1 is 08H00. The official finish time each day is 17H00, at this time all solar cars need to be based at the nightly stop.
- 2.21.3. The official timed finish line on Day 8 will be at 15H00 for all teams at a location selected by the event organisers.
- 2.21.4. The finish line time on Day 8 for the official finish line proceedings is 17H00.
- 2.21.5. A time penalty of one minute will be imposed for each minute taken past the official finish time, up to and including 10 minutes past the official finish time. Beyond 10 minutes, each additional minute will attract a penalty of two minutes. Time penalties incurred in this manner will be served at the control stop the following day.  
*Example: If a team finishes at 17H07 on Day 2, the total time penalty for Day 3 will 00:07. If a team finishes at 17H13 on Day 2, the time penalty for Day 3 will be determined by  $1 \times 10 + 2 \times 3$  minutes to 00:16.*
- 2.21.6. A solar car starting before its official start time will be subject to a penalty of 2 minutes for each offending minute.
- 2.21.7. Event timing is managed by the official Event Timekeeper with the assistance of assigned observers.
- 2.21.8. Timing starts when the solar car crosses the start line and is stopped when the solar car crosses the finish line for the day. This is called the period in which the team is "competing." Teams are permitted to charge before crossing the finish line, but the clock will continue to run on.



## 2.22. Tracking

- 2.22.1. Each solar car must carry a data logging and tracking device provided by the event organisers. The specifications of the tracking device are described in Technical Regulation 1.9.
- 2.22.2. Information concerning progress and operation of solar cars may be published during the event.
- 2.22.3. Satellite tracking data will not be accepted as basis for inter-team protests.

## 2.23. Solar Car Drivers and Passengers

- 2.23.1. Only registered solar car drivers may drive the solar car during event hours. Please refer to Sporting Regulations 1.19.1.
- 2.23.2. When driving, ballast must be carried in accordance with the provisions of Sporting Regulation 2.12.8.
- 2.23.3. Each solar car driver and passenger must have at least two litres of water whenever they start their stint.
- 2.23.4. Solar car drivers must change every two hours.
- 2.23.5. Solar car drivers who will drive the solar car for more than one hour in a day must not drive a support vehicle within two hours of driving the solar car.

## 2.24. Driving Conduct

- 2.24.1. Each team must ensure that all vehicles associated with their attendance at the event are driven in a careful and courteous manner always.
- 2.24.2. Overtaking must be done in a safe manner and take in to account prevailing conditions.  
*A team seeking to overtake another team should communicate with the other team via radio, and both teams should maintain communication throughout the manoeuvre.*
- 2.24.3. The organisers reserve the right to determine if any individual is acting de facto as a part of a team.
- 2.24.4. The front and rear escort vehicles must have their amber flashing lights operating whenever they are escorting the solar car. Support vehicles must not have amber flashing lights operating if they are not (directly) escorting the solar car.
- 2.24.5. Except when pushing a disabled solar car to a place of safety, solar cars must not be pushed along the road. Push starting the solar car is not allowed.
- 2.24.6. Whilst travelling on the open road, the front escort vehicle must be within 500m of the solar car. The solar car must be allowed a safe stopping distance appropriate to the speed and conditions prevailing.
- 2.24.7. Whilst travelling on the open road, the rear escort vehicle must be within 5 seconds of the solar car and must always maintain a safe stopping distance appropriate to the speed and conditions prevailing.



- 2.24.8 Solar cars must not be driven on any public road between sunset and sunrise.
- 2.24.9 Teams must comply with all requirements imposed by road traffic authorities, police, or Event Officials.
- 2.24.10 Solar cars, escort vehicles and other team vehicles may be subject to scrutineering at any time during the event to ensure compliance with the regulations.

### 2.25 Stopping

- 2.25.1 No team vehicle may stop on the road except in an emergency or when required by traffic conditions.
- Stopping on the road so that you can lift your car off the road is dangerous and will attract a penalty determined by the Clerk of the Course.*
- 2.25.2 When stopped adjacent to a road, all wheels of all vehicles must be clear of the road.
- 2.25.3 Whenever possible, vehicles must be parked, and all team activity must occur, at least 1m from the edge of the road.
- 2.25.4 Where any activity takes place less than 2m from the road, two team members must be positioned in a place of safety to warn approaching traffic using yellow flags, and to warn the team of approaching traffic using a whistle.
- 2.25.5 If a solar car has suffered damage to any component certified by the team's certifying engineer, other than tyres, then the team may repair their solar car but may not resume driving until:
- The team's certifying engineer has rectified the repaired car
  - The team has submitted the new certification to the Clerk of the Course
  - The Clerk of the Course has approved the resumption of driving
- 2.25.6 If a solar car rolls onto its side or roof, then the team must withdraw immediately.
- 2.25.7 Teams wanting to repair their solar car or escort vehicles may, after obtaining approval from the Clerk of the Course, mark the road at the location where they stopped and trailer their solar car to a suitable place for making repairs, then return to the location where they stopped and continue driving.

### 2.26 Obstructing Other Road Users

- 2.26.1 Vehicles associated with a team must not obstruct other road users, including other teams. Infringement of this regulation will incur a penalty for each incident.
- 2.26.2 To avoid obstructing other road users, each driver of a team vehicle other than the solar car and front and rear escort vehicles must leave at least 200 metres of space in front of their vehicle so that other road users can overtake and occupy the space in front of them. If it is safe to do so and will



help clear traffic building up behind a vehicle, drivers of team support vehicles should pull off the road to allow other road users to pass.

- 2.26.3 Driving in convoy is strictly prohibited except for the solar car, it's lead support vehicle and chase support vehicle. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in a penalty being imposed.

### 2.27 Control Stops

- 2.27.1 Control stops will be established at intervals along the route. Control stops are typically located halfway along the daily route but may vary at the discretion of the event organisers.
- 2.27.2 Control stops will be opened in time to accommodate the leading solar car and remain open during competition hours. Closing times will be calculated according to the minimum speed required to reach the nightly stop.
- 2.27.3 Any team that has missed a control stop must contact the Clerk of the Course.
- 2.27.4 The Clerk of the Course may direct a team to trailer their solar car to the nightly stop; this will always be done with the team's best interests at heart.
- 2.27.5 Solar cars must stop for 30 minutes at designated control stops along the route. The locations of the control stops will be specified in the official route notes provided by the event organisers. The Clerk of the Course may direct any additional penalty time to be taken at a control stop.
- 2.27.6 All vehicles must obey control stop speed limits.
- 2.27.7 Teams must obey all directions given by the Control Stop Manager.
- 2.27.8 Teams must park in the spaces designated by Control Stop Officials and volunteers. Teams may not modify the parking space in any way. Ground sheets may not be used. No team members other than arriving occupants may touch the solar car once it is in the parking space.
- 2.27.9 Occupants must get out of the car without assistance from other team members. Occupants must remove their ballast from their solar car.
- 2.27.10 Occupants must get out of the solar car, the arriving driver, alone, may reconfigure the solar car for charging before control stop timing commences.
- 2.27.11 Control stop timing commences when the arriving driver has stepped away from the solar car with both hands in the air confirming to their team for the timing to commence with the word "GO!" The announcement and actions must be visible and audible to the Observer and the Observer must clearly acknowledge the actions of the arriving driver.
- 2.27.12 No team member may touch the solar car for 25 minutes. The solar car may reconfigure itself.
- 2.27.13 After 25 minutes, the departing driver, alone, may reconfigure the car for driving. The driver and any passengers may get into the car and prepare for departure. No other team member may touch the solar car.



- 2.27.14 The solar car may depart once 30 minutes has elapsed. The solar car must not depart until ballast and drinking water are in place, seat belts are fastened, helmets are secured, and the solar car is ready for the road.

*The Control Stop Manager may reset the remaining time to 30 minutes if team members interfere with the solar car during the 30-minute control stop period.*

## 2.28 Loop Stops

- 2.28.1 Loops stops will be established at intervals along the route. Loop stops are typically located at the same location as the daily control stop but may vary at the discretion of the event organisers.
- 2.28.2 Loop stops will be opened in time to accommodate the leading solar car and remain open during competition hours. Closing times will be calculated according to the minimum speed required to reach the nightly stop.
- 2.28.3 Loop stops are a unique element created by the event organisers to allow teams to rack up additional kilometres in addition to the set daily distances of the route in the form of set loop routes. This will ultimately determine the team with the most kilometres clocked on their solar car – who will be declared as the winners of the Sasol Solar Challenge.
- 2.28.4 Teams are expected to stop at the loop stop and report their intent to the Control Stop Manager to continue on the loop route, or to stop completing loops to proceed to the daily finish line at the nightly stop.
- 2.28.5 Solar cars must stop for 5 minutes at designated loop stops between each loop.
- 2.28.6 All vehicles must obey loop stop speed limits.
- 2.28.7 Teams must obey all directions given by the Control Stop Manager.
- 2.28.8 Teams must park in the spaces designated by Loop Stop Officials or volunteers. Teams may not modify the parking space in any way. Ground sheets may not be used. No team members other than arriving occupants may touch the solar car once it is in the parking space.
- 2.28.9 Occupants must get out of the car without assistance from other team members. Occupants must remove their ballast from their solar car.
- 2.28.10 Occupants must get out of the solar car, the arriving driver, alone, may reconfigure the solar car for charging before loop stop timing commences.
- 2.28.11 Loop stop timing commences when the arriving driver has stepped away from the solar car with both hands in the air confirming to their team for the timing to commence with the word "GO!" The announcement and actions must be visible and audible to the Observer and the Observer must clearly acknowledge the actions of the arriving driver.
- 2.28.12 No team member may touch the solar car for 5 minutes. The solar car may reconfigure itself.
- 2.28.13 After 5 minutes, the departing driver, alone, may reconfigure the car for driving. The driver and any passengers may get into the car and prepare for departure. No other team member may touch the solar car.



- 2.28.14 The solar car may depart once 5 minutes has elapsed. The solar car must not depart until ballast and drinking water are in place, seat belts are fastened, helmets are secured, and the solar car is ready for the road.

*The Control Stop Manager may reset the remaining time to 5 minutes if team members interfere with the solar car during the 5-minute loop stop period.*

*At loop stops all control stop rules apply as mentioned in Regulation 2.27 with the exception of regulations presented in Regulation 2.28.*

*Teams may choose when they want to complete their 30-minute compulsory control stop e.g., if a team arrives at the control stop and indicates to the Control Stop Manager that they will be performing their 5-minute loop stop followed by a loop they may proceed to do so. If the team completes an additional 3 loops with their compulsory 5-minute loop stops before each and only thereafter complete their compulsory 30-minute control stop, they may proceed to do so. As long as the team takes into consideration the fact that the solar car needs to cross the finish line at the nightly stop at 17H00 as explained in Sporting Regulation 2.29.1.*

## 2.29 Nightly Stops

- 2.29.1 Nightly stops are determined by the event organisers, the schedule at each nightly stop is as follows:

- Solar cars to arrive by 17H00
- At 17H00 parc fermé closes until further notice by the Clerk of the Course
- Parc fermé will open once final results for the day have been published (subject to change at the discretion of the Clerk of the Course)
- Depending on the facilities at the nightly stops, participants may be required to attend organized activities arranged by the event organisers between 17H00 and 19H30.
- Teams are obligated to honour all nightly stop activity commitments as set out in this regulation

- 2.29.2 Team Manager's briefings will take place after parc fermé has opened where final start times will be presented for the following morning's start, including time penalties.

- 2.29.3 There are no restrictions on the number of team members used to reconfigure the solar collector for charging at the nightly stop before crossing the finish line.

- 2.29.4 The solar car must be driven, pushed by hand, or carried by hand between crossing the finish line and the parc fermé area.

- 2.29.5 The cost for overnight stops will be covered by the event organisers, these facilities will typically be camping grounds.

- 2.29.6 If the team wishes to not make use of the provided overnight camping facilities, they are to notify the Clerk of the Course of their alternative accommodation arrangements.

- 2.29.7 The energy storage packs of Challenger Class solar cars will be disconnected and sealed as soon as the solar car is secured in parc fermé.



- 2.29.8 The energy storage packs for Cruiser Class solar cars will be disconnected and sealed as soon as the solar car is secured in parc fermé, or after the scheduled external charging has concluded at predetermined specified stages set out by the event organisers.

- 2.29.9 Energy storage packs will be unsealed 15 minutes before sunrise.

## 2.30. Solar Array Charging

- 2.30.1. Solar charging is only allowed during the morning from sunrise, and while competing (when the competition time is running).

- 2.30.2. Once crossing the finish line and the competition time has stopped, the team will be allowed reasonable time (no more than 10 minutes), to demonstrate that the solar array is disconnected when secured in parc fermé.

- 2.30.3. Teams who opt to charge before crossing the finish line are still considered to be competing and must adhere to all event and safety regulations. Once charging is complete, the team must still officially cross the finish line for the competition time to be stopped.

- 2.30.4. There are no restrictions on the number of team members used to reconfigure the solar collector for charging at the nightly stop before crossing the finish line.

## 2.31. Trailering

*The term "trailering" applies to all means of transport used to carry the solar car.*

- 2.31.1. Teams unable to maintain a minimum speed of 60km/h on the open road, or unable to drive to the next control stop before it closes, or unable to drive to reach the nightly stop finish line by 17H00 must stop and transport their solar car forward to the nightly stop.

- 2.31.2. The solar car must be in safe state always while being transported.

- 2.31.3. If a solar car is being trailered all event regulations still apply, including finish line closing times and observer protocols.

- 2.31.4. If a solar car is driven from the start and requires to be trailered for any reason, the solar car must be trailered to the control stop. Teams may not offload the solar car to drive to the control stop once it has been trailered.

- 2.31.5. If a solar car is driven from the control stop and requires to be trailered for any reason, the solar car must be trailered to the finish line. Only once in close proximity (500m) to the finish line may the solar car be offloaded and driven over the finish line permitting that other teams are not obstructed, and general traffic isn't obscured

- 2.31.6. If a solar car is trailered from the start line, it must be trailered to the control stop. Only then may the solar car be offloaded and driven to the finish line if fit to do so. Sporting Regulation 2.31.5 should still be observed in this case.

## 2.32. Withdrawal

- 2.32.1. A team may withdraw by forwarding a completed withdrawal form (available from the observer) to the Clerk of the Course. The solar car may



be transported to Cape Town to take part in the post event activities and awards ceremony.

## 2.33 Penalties

- 2.33.1 The Clerk of the Course may impose penalties on any team that breaches a regulation and may deputise any other Event Official to serve the notice to the entrant. Penalties will be published and may be used to determine overall event standings when all other determining factors are equal.
- 2.33.2 All regulation infringements are subject the scale of seriousness of the infringement.
- 2.33.3 Once a team has infringed a regulation a decision on the severity of the infringement will be taken by the Event Director, the Clerk of the Course, and an independent adjudicator within 12 to 24 hours of its occurrence.
- 2.33.4 The Team Director may submit a written or verbal testimony regarding the infringement to the panel to be assessed when contemplating the severity of the penalty to be issued.
- 2.33.5 Decisions regarding the severity of the penalty to be issued must be unanimous. All infringements are subject to the following criteria:
- 2.32.6 Unintentional and non-beneficial: 0km-50km  
This is when team A's actions unintentionally affect team B's position/opportunity to gain points/km. If team A's infringement did not benefit them in any way, they could potentially face a penalty of up to 50km.
- 2.32.7 Unintentional but beneficial: 50km-100km  
This is when team A's actions unintentionally affect team B's position/opportunity to gain points/km. If team A's infringement benefitted them in any way, they could potentially face a penalty of up to 100km.
- 2.32.8 Intentional infringement: 150km-200km or disqualification/exclusion from the event.  
This is when team A's actions intentionally affect team B's position/opportunity to gain points/km. If team A's infringement is declared intentional, they could potentially face a penalty of up to 200km or disqualification/exclusion from the event.  
*If a team is disqualified, they will be classified as a non-finisher.*
- 2.33.9 Under normal circumstances penalties imposed are distance oriented, however when time penalties are imposed, they shall be served on the day of issue, at the control stop (or the following day) and prior to crossing the finish line or departing from the control stop.  
*The Clerk of the Course reserves the right to impose penalties (time or distance) after a solar car has crossed the finish line, even if such actions change the final position of the team.*
- 2.33.10 Each demerit point given to a Cruiser class team will reduce the team's final score by 1%.





- 2.33.11 A team accruing three or more demerit points will be excluded from the remainder of the event.
- 2.33.12 The Clerk of the Course may impose operation restrictions (such as speed restrictions) on any team.
- 2.33.13 At any time during the event, the Clerk of the Course may issue a time penalty in response to any of the following behaviours noted by an observer or reported by an Event Official:
- Obstructing other road users
  - Stopping on the road (other than when required by traffic conditions)
  - Poor safety protocols (e.g., safety flags, whistles etc.)
  - Driving without both front and rear escort vehicles
  - Escort vehicles driving without visible flashing lights
  - Driving without effective rear vision
  - Slip streaming, pressure wave pushing or hand pushing
  - Failure to follow the route instructions
  - Failure to observe a request by police or Event Officials
  - Wilful damage or interference to property
  - Failure to stop at a designated control stop
  - Exceeding any posted speed limit
  - Driving at less than 50km/h in areas with a speed limit of 100km/h or greater, when not constrained by traffic
  - Driving without adequate visibility, due to smoke, dust, or rain
  - Starting prior to the due time of departure
  - Failure to comply with any provision of any event regulations
- The Clerk of the Course may impose other arrangements appropriate to circumstances. Time penalties for cell or module replacement shall be served at the Control Stop following the replacement.*
- 2.33.14 Time penalties that have been awarded on Day 8; the final day of the challenge will be served in accordance with the regulations. If a time penalty cannot be served at the control stop on Day 8, the time penalty will be added to the final event finish time of the team which may impact the final standings of the team in question.
- 2.33.15 The Clerk of the Course may exclude any team from the event for wilful disregard of any regulation or of the spirit of the event. These offences include but are not limited to:
- Misrepresentation
  - Wilful obstruction, or aggressive or unsafe driving
  - Replacement of energy storage cells



- Charging of the energy storage system from any unapproved source
- Driving the solar car without a rear escort vehicle
- Removing the battery back from the observer's control without permissible grounds
- Unauthorised drivers operating the solar car during competition times
- Failing the stability test
- Inability to maintain minimum speed
- Carrying or towing a competing vehicle without the assigned observer present
- Attempting more than a single segment per day excluding loops
- Breach of any South African road regulations
- Repeated failure to adhere to instructions from Event Officials
- Accumulation of three or more infringements

*Teams who have been excluded for the inability to maintain minimum speed may trailer their solar car to the finish line in Cape Town and take part in all post event activities such as the awards ceremony etc.*

*If the problem experienced can be addressed during the nightly stop, the team may attempt to prove that their solar car is roadworthy and functional to the Clerk of the Course the following morning after all other teams have departed.*

*The panel of stewards, in consultation with the event organisers, will determine whether an excluded team will be given credit for their activities up to the point of their exclusion, and if they may participate in the post event activities, irrespective of this decision, the team will be termed a non-finisher.*

- 2.33.16 In the rare instance that the Clerk of the Course rules that the infringement may be served as either a time or distance penalty, normal rules for penalties will apply.

## 2.34 Protests and Appeals

- 2.34.1 All event protest fees are R1,500.00.
- 2.34.2 Protesting against the preliminary results of each daily stage must be lodged in writing by the Team Manager to the Clerk of the Course within 30 minutes of publication on the official notice board.
- 2.34.3 Upon the expiration of the 30-minute time period the preliminary results of the corresponding daily stage become final.
- 2.34.4 All protest, appeals, and discrepancies must be presented to the Clerk of the Course in writing and accompanied by the protest fees.

*The Clerk of the Course reserves the right to impose any penalty, including distance, time or exclusion based on the information provided within the written protest. No infringements other than that provided in the written protest will be heard. All facts and information should be stated in the written protest and only the information presented will be considered when concluding a verdict. This includes Sporting Regulation 2.34.8.*



- 2.34.5 No claims, accusations, protests, or appeals will be accepted verbally. If an infringement on a regulation has taken place and a team wishes to address the matter by any means the protest procedure must be followed.  
*There will be no exception to this rule. Verbal complaints or protests will not be considered or heard.*
- 2.34.6 Every protest is eligible to be examined by the event stewards only if it is accompanied by the above refereed protest fee, which is not refundable should the protest fail to be upheld.
- 2.34.7 No team will be allowed to lodge a verbal complaint or protest
- 2.34.8 The Clerk of the Course may convene a tribunal to consider any protest or appeal requiring final resolution. The tribunal may take advice from any party about the incident giving rise to the decision being appealed. The decision of the tribunal is final and binding.
- 2.34.9 If the protest requires the dismantling and the re-assembly of some parts of the solar car the claimant must pay the cost if the protest is unfounded; otherwise, the team against whom the protest was lodged must cover this cost if the protest is upheld.
- 2.34.10 Where an unfounded protest has resulted in time loss for competition against whom the protest was lodged, the panel of stewards has the right to both penalise the claimant and find an acceptable means to credit the team that was disadvantaged.  
*The panel of stewards or event stewards will consider all protests at the earliest opportunity.*

## 3. Achievement and Celebration

### 3.1 Completing the Course

- 3.1.1 To complete the course, the solar car must reach the finish line by the designated route, in accordance with the regulations.
- 3.1.2 For a team to be classified as a finisher a solar car must have completed at least 1000km within the time parameters allowed.
- 3.1.3 A marshalling point will be established a few kilometres before the official finish line. The finish line time for the challenge will be determined at the marshalling point or as indicated by the event organisers.
- 3.1.4 The solar car must be trailered to the official finish line and be offloaded for the official finish line proceedings at a location determined by the event organisers at the V&A Waterfront. Other team vehicles will be directed to pre-arranged parking at the V & A Waterfront.

### 3.2 Event Results

- 3.2.1 Results published throughout the duration of the event are final.
- 3.2.2 Overall results will be determined at the conclusion of the event by consolidating all daily stage results of each team.



### 3.3 Challenger Class

- 3.3.1 The goal for the Challenger Class is to have driven the furthest distance, in accordance with the route and the regulations.
- 3.3.2 Parc fermé will be established close to the official finish line at the V & A Waterfront. The location will be published in the official route notes. All teams must pass the marshalling point for their time to be stopped and continue to parc fermé to prepare for the official finish line proceedings.
- 3.3.3 Once all teams have convened at parc fermé the organisers will coordinate the official finish line proceedings by organising solar cars according to final competition standings. Solar cars will be placed from 1<sup>st</sup> place in a descending order.
- 3.3.4 Any unserved time penalties must be served at the final control stop for the day or in accordance with Sporting Regulation 2.33.14.
- 3.3.5 The Challenger Cup will be awarded to the Challenger Class team that completes the route with the most kilometres (including time and penalties).
- 3.3.6 Challenger Class teams that complete the route will be ranked by most kilometres completed.
- 3.3.7 Challenger Class teams that do not complete the route will be ranked behind Challenger Class team that complete the route. They will be ranked by the number of kilometres completed during the challenge.

### 3.4 Cruiser Class

- 3.4.1 The goal for Cruiser Class teams is to design and build a practical solar car and transport people from Secunda to Cape Town according to the given schedule. Cruiser Class teams will be scored on energy efficiency and practicality.
- 3.4.2 Cruiser Class solar cars may be recharged from Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) provided by the organisers every night at overnight stops, between 18H00 and 22H00. No other charging form external sources is allowed. The external energy used to recharge the solar car will be measured by the organisers. The time each Cruiser Class spends charging from external sources will be published, along with the energy used, and will be considered by the practicality Judges.

#### 3.4.3 TBC

- 3.4.4 The Cruiser Cup will be awarded to the Cruiser Class team that completes all stages with the highest score.

- 3.4.5 Cruiser Class teams will be ranked in the following groups:

- Teams that complete the entire route to Cape Town, ranked by score
- Remaining teams that complete at least 1000km of the route excluding loops, ranked by score
- All remaining teams, unranked

#### 3.4.6 TBC



### 3.4.7 TBC

- 3.4.8 The nominal energy capacity of other types of energy storage system will be determined by the Chief Energy Scientist.
- 3.4.9 Person-kilometre distance is the sum of the distances travelled by drivers and passengers in the solar car. Person-kilometres will be counted for each seat that is occupied for a complete leg between consecutive control stops.
- 3.4.10 The practicality score for a Cruiser Class team will be determined by a panel of Judges appointed by the organisers. Each Judge will allocate a single score between 0 and 100% to each team. The final practicality score for a team will be the arithmetic mean of the individual Judge's scores. Judges will be asked to consider:
- Design innovation
  - Environmental impact
  - Ease of access and egress
  - Occupant space and comfort
  - Ease of operation (driving and charging)
  - Versatility
  - Style and desirability
  - Suitability for the declared purpose

Judges will not be told how much weight to place on each of these criteria.

*The number of seats will not contribute to the practicality score, because the benefits of more seats should be reflected in the person-km distance score.*

## 3.5 Innovation Class

*Step into the future with the Innovation Class – the driving force behind the Renewable Mobility Competition. Showcasing a range of New Energy Vehicles (NEVs), this class brings together pioneers in sustainable mobility. From sleek electric cars to revolutionary urban solutions, these vehicles embody a commitment to eco-friendly design and cutting-edge technology. Beyond a mere showcase, the Innovation Class fosters collaboration, inspiring a collective journey towards a greener, cleaner planet. Join us in witnessing the next wave of transformative mobility solutions, where innovation meets sustainability head-on.*

*Further regulations regarding the Innovation Class will be published soon.*

- 3.5.1 Innovation Class is a class designed for New Energy Vehicles (NEVs) and may include but is not limited to EVs, hydrogen fuel cell vehicles or experimental renewable energy vehicles.
- 3.5.2 The progress of Innovation Class cars will be controlled by the Clerk of the Course.
- Innovation Class solar cars will be allowed to drive to the official finish line with other competing solar car teams lead my Challenger Class solar cars, followed by Cruiser Class solar cars and then Innovation Class cars in procession.*
- 3.5.3 Teams in Innovation Class will be ranked by performance in accordance with category.



## 3.6 Awards

3.6.1 An awards ceremony will be held in Cape Town during the day of Saturday 21 September 2023 (time and location will be confirmed).

3.6.2 Entry to the awards ceremony is by ticket only.

*Tickets for up to 25 registered team members and 5 guests are included in the team entry fee and pro-rate team member registration fee outlined in Sporting Regulation 1.14. Additional tickets (subject to the capacity of the venue, and approval from the event organisers) for friends, family, sponsors, and public may be purchased. Further detail will be provided in the Team Manager's Guide and/or via Team Notice.*

3.6.3 The winner of the Challenger Class will receive the Challenger Cup; the winner of the Cruiser Class will receive the Cruiser Cup.

3.6.4 Additional awards may be presented.

3.6.5 The event organisers reserve the right not to present an award in any given category.

3.6.6 Each team will receive a participation award.

3.6.7 All winning teams must make themselves available for an official media call if required.

3.6.8 The top placing teams of each vehicle class must make themselves available to exhibit their solar cars at the awards ceremony in accordance with Sporting Regulation 1.12.2. The event organisers will identify the top Challenger Class team, the top African Challenger Class team, the top Cruiser Class team or any other team requested to exhibit their solar car at the awards function.

3.6.9 Teams selected to exhibit their solar cars at the awards function must ensure that the solar car is placed in position at the awards venue on the evening of the official finish line (20 September 2024) after the commencement of the official finish line proceedings and before 21H00 that same evening.

*The venue will be secure with security in place to safeguard the solar cars.*

## 3.7 Pack-down facilities

3.7.1 Open air facilities will be made available for repacking solar cars for shipment. All vehicles, containers and equipment must be removed by close of business Sunday 22 September 2024. Any remaining items will be removed for storage at the entrant's expense.



## Glossary

Battery	Electrochemical cells wired in series or parallel and housed in a single container
CB	Citizen's Band radio
Certifying Engineer	A professional engineer engaged by a team to report on compliance with regulations and roadworthiness requirements. The certifying engineer must be qualified to certify vehicles for operation on public roads.
Clerk of the Course	The person responsible for coordinating Dynamic scrutineering and the on-road segment of the event
DOT	Department of Transport
DST	South African Department of Science and Technology
Energy Storage Pack	A self-contained box containing components of the energy storage system, such as electrochemical cells and a battery management system
Entrant	The legal entity that completes the Participant Agreement and requests a place in the event for one or more teams. An entrant is typically a registered institution, organisation, or commercial entity.
Event Name	The official name of the event is the "Sasol Solar Challenge"
BWSC	Bridgestone World Solar Challenge
EVSE	Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment
FMVSS	United States Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards
High Voltage	More than 60V DC or more than 30V RMS AC
FIA	Federation Internationale de'Automotive
ISF	International Solar Car Federation
Judge	A person invited to make subjective comment on Cruise Class attributes
Judge of Fact	A person recognised by the organiser as able to determine whether an event occurred (e.g., whether a team obstructed traffic)
Juror	A person appointed by the event to resolve disputes
Challenge Control Centre	The event organisers' operations centre
Participant	A person who has registered to participate in the event as a member of a team



PV	Photovoltaic
Regulations	2024 Sasol Solar Challenge Sporting Regulations, Technical Regulations and Team Manager's Guide
Road-ready	Ready to drive on public roads
Official Website	<a href="http://www.solarchallenge.org.za">http://www.solarchallenge.org.za</a>
Official Instagram	<a href="http://www.instagram.com/sasolarchallenge">http://www.instagram.com/sasolarchallenge</a>
Official Facebook	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/SASolarChallenge">http://www.facebook.com/SASolarChallenge</a>
Official Twitter	<a href="http://www.twitter.com/Solar_Challenge">http://www.twitter.com/Solar_Challenge</a>
Official Time	South African Standard Time GTM + 2
Scrutineering	The process of checking the solar car and other team vehicles for compliance with the regulations
Solar Collector	The solar car subsystem used to collect solar energy. It is typically an array of photovoltaic cells, with or without concentrators or reflectors, but other types of solar collectors are possible
Special Stage	Organisers implement special stages to the route to test participating teams' strategy skills and teamwork
Steward	An event official responsible for ensuring regulations are applied correctly and fairly
Team	A group of people registered by the entrant to participate in the event. An entrant may have more than one team participating in the event.
Team Manager	The person in charge of, and responsible for, the actions of a team
UHF	Ultra-High Frequency. Commonly refers to a South African two-way radio.
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, responsible for regulations for motor vehicles
VIN	Vehicle identification Number