



2025 Baja SAE Design Evaluation Procedures

The Design Evaluation at all competitions this year will follow the same procedure as 2024. Below you will find the procedure and general information regarding the Design Evaluation portion of the competition. Please familiarize yourself and your team with the process and the design section of the rules (C3.1) for an effective and efficient Design Evaluation.

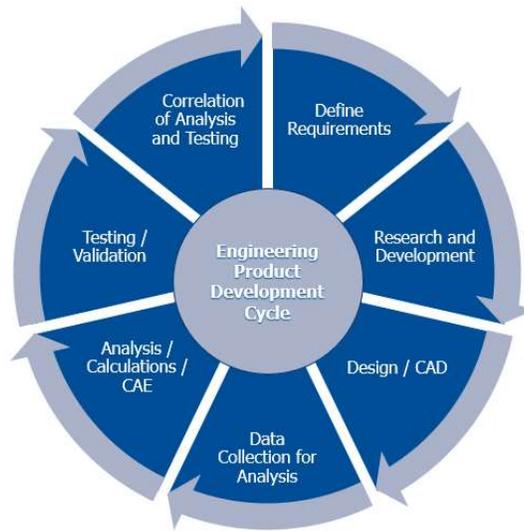
Design Judging Panel

The members of the judging panel each have a specialty: drivetrain, chassis/ergonomics, suspension/steering/brakes, and the bay leader (which will be evaluating Vehicle Level Engineering). The design judges all have significant engineering experience and most have substantial experience in the design of Baja SAE vehicles. So that many schools of Baja thought are represented on each judging panel, judges from more than just the local colleges have volunteered to participate; therefore, numerous volunteers have traveled considerable distances, often at their own expense, to enhance Baja SAE's educational impact in engineering. Competition teams should strive to give the judging panels their professional best. Each competition team's DRB has been read and scored by the same design judges as will staff that team's judging panel for Design Evaluation at competition.

Procedures

In initial (pre-Finals) Evaluation, each car will be evaluated once, at one bay, by one integrated panel of Design Judges, mentioned above. The score sheet and DRB template are posted at www.bajasae.net/go/downloads. However, the total points will be determined by the judging panel as a whole, since the vehicle is judged as whole, and therefore may not match the sum of the categories.

Each competition team will begin its evaluation period by presenting a design overview of the car, delivered by one (or more) person (probably the captain) to the entire judging panel (key vehicle and team goals, requirements and values that guided the design process; key concepts and configuration outcomes). After the team captain's overview, the judging panel will separate into individual specialties, and each judge will look for team members to present their team's design and answer questions about more detailed elements of that design. "Students will be judged on the creation of design requirements and the ability to meet those requirements, computer aided drafting, analysis, testing and development, manufacturability, serviceability, system integration and how the vehicle works together as a whole. Each of these parts of the engineering product development cycle will be judged within the following subsystems: Suspension, Steering, Brakes, Drivetrain/Powertrain, 4WD/AWD, and Chassis and Ergonomics." (Baja SAE Rule C3.1). Each of these parts of the engineering product development cycle will be judged within the categories mentioned above.



Staging and Timeline

All teams have been assigned a Design Evaluation scheduled time and Bay. **Please have your car and team in the design staging area ready for the event at least 15 minutes prior to your design time.** In the event that a team misses their time slot, there is no guarantee that the team will be evaluated, so please be prompt. If a team has a design / tech time conflict, please have 1 team member come to the design staging area at least 30 minutes prior to your design time to request a new time. We will do our best to accommodate changes, but there is no guarantee that we can change your time slot.

Evaluation Layout

There are eight design evaluation bays. Judging panels will remain in one bay, and will not interchange members. Each team will be evaluated in a 30 minute period. This period decomposes as: 20 minutes for team presentations and judge's questioning (typically 1 to 3 minutes for the overall presentation, followed by 17 to 19 minutes of one-on-one (or two) discussions of categories with judges); followed by 10 minutes for the judging panel to reach a consensus on score assessment, the team to exit the bay, and the next team to enter the bay and set up.

4wd / Awd

As noted in the rules and as shown in the design evaluation score sheet, 4wd / Awd will be evaluated Drivetrain section of the Baja SAE design event.

Design Finals

A separate document will outline the procedures for the Design Finals portion of the design evaluation.

Tips for Success

You have spent all year designing, engineering, building, and testing your Baja SAE car, so organize all the photos, figures, test reports, requirements, decision matrices, broken parts, and anything else that you would like to show off to the judges and bring it to competition. The DRB template is aligned directly to the design evaluation scoresheet, so use it as your guide. **It is REQUIRED that teams bring a printed copy of their DRB and a tablet, laptop computer, binders, or posters to show documentation and the engineering that has been completed,** but no projectors will be allowed. Space is limited, so keep that in mind. Also, remember if you designed it for this car, but for whatever reason it didn't work out, so it's not on this car, you can't talk about it in the design event.