Making a Great FS Team

Learn to Win 2019

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24th October
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Overview

• A little about me
• Team Dynamics
• Project Management
• Sponsorship
• Scoring Points
A little about me...

- FS Scrutineer 2002 - Present
- Oxford Brookes University FA 2003-2006
- University of Hertfordshire FA 2006 – Present
  - World’s first hydrogen FS car
  - World’s first competing electric FS car
Team Dynamics

• Team work is crucial!
• Manage expectations from day one
• Interview everybody!
  • Find out what skills they can bring
• Break down barriers – social events, 5 a side, karting, baking, ...
Team Dynamics

- Find a communal area the team can work
  - Be visible!
  - Communicate your ideas, changes have knock on affects!
- Voice any concerns as soon as they arise
Project Management

• If you don’t plan, you plan to fail!
• Have a team structure in place
• Team Leader selection
  • Not a popularity contest
• Set your aim and objectives
• Meet regularly
Project Management

- Team philosophy
- Set milestones
  - Gantt chart, planning tracker, visual management board
- Panic early
Project Management

Value statements, consider each stakeholder. e.g. Alumni, “We will ensure that there is a continued commitment to alumni ensure that there is continued involved in the future development of the team”
Project Management

• Continually manage your risk profile
• Don’t under estimate manufacturing & procurement time
  • This WILL eat in to your testing time
• Set a launch date – you need a target date
Project Management

• Don’t procrastinate!
  • If there’s a job that can be done NOW, get it done!

• Make your decisions based on objective measures
Sponsorship

• Invariably to build the car your team wants, you’ll need additional resources
• Nurturing & developing relationships is key
• Extra resource can come in many guises;
  • Cash
  • Knowledge
  • Services
  • Parts
Sponsorship

• Whole team should be accountable

• Many companies offer product discounts to FS teams – look for the deals!

• Be careful – full paying customers will take priority – manage the risk!
Scoring Points

• Firstly, don’t give any away!
  • Don’t use deadlines as target dates 😊

• Do a points analysis of your own team
  • Set targets
  • Consider all events from day one
  • Design, cost and business presentation are not after thoughts
Scoring Points

• FS is not F1, it’s not just 1/10ths that separate the teams.
  • saving that last (kilo)gram will cost you performance if the car isn’t ready!
• Consider innovation vs. risk
• Point scoring is down to your preparation
Scoring Points

• At the event - aim to be at the head of the scrutineering queue

• Pre-scrutineer your car against the published tech sheet, inc. noise and brake

• No tech stickers = no dynamics points 😞

• Success determined by project management 😊