





INNOVATORS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

NEWS RELEASE:

Solar cars will take the track in the Electrek Formula Sun Grand Prix 2023, the collegiate-level solar car event at Heartland Motorsports Park June 27-July 2

Topeka, KS – The public is invited to come see the solar cars and cheer on the teams competing in the Electrek Formula Sun Grand Prix 2023 June 27-July 2 at Heartland Motorsports Park! The solar cars will be on the track June 30, 10am-6pm and July 1-2, 9am-5pm, completing as many laps as possible on solar power. Admission is free.

Innovators Educational Foundation welcomes <u>Electrek</u> as the Title Sponsor of the Electrek Formula Sun Grand Prix 2023. Electrek is a news and commentary site that tracks, analyzes, and reports news on the transition from fossil-fuel to electric transport as well as wider green energy initiatives – and is proud to sponsor this year's event. "Innovation in green transportation technology starts here!"

Starting June 27, the solar cars will begin scrutineering – a series of inspections – including mechanical and electrical systems, body & sizing, dynamic testing, and more. Teams that pass scrutineering will then put their solar cars to the test in the 3-day track event, running June 30-July 2 with 24 total hours of drive time (three 8-hour days) on solar power. Teams are given defined morning and evening charging hours to recharge the solar car's batteries with the car's solar array. The Formula Sun Grand Prix is much more about reliability, adjusting for weather conditions, and strategic energy management than raw speed, though that doesn't mean teams won't also go for the bragging rights of fastest lap!

Thanks to our Track Partner, <u>Heartland Motorsports Park</u>, teams will also have the opportunity to take a run on the infamous ¹/₄ mile drag strip. Runs are scheduled for June 29 at 5pm, weather permitting.

Please visit the <u>FSGP 2023 competition page</u> for more information and a current list of registered teams. Teams will be competing in two classes: the single-occupant vehicle class with space only for the driver and the multi-occupant vehicle class, capable of transporting passengers and cargo.

Annually, Innovators Educational Foundation organizes the Formula Sun Grand Prix track event, and on even-numbered years, organizes the American Solar Challenge road event. Both events are collegiate student design competitions to design, build, and drive solar-powered vehicles, providing students with a hands-on, STEM, innovative, experiential learning opportunity. This year, the entries include universities from the United States and Canada.

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Innovators Educational Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit that organizes solar car events in the United States, including the American Solar Challenge (road event) and the Formula Sun Grand Prix (track event), to provide hands-on, multi-disciplined learning opportunities for college students. The Formula Sun Grand Prix is not in any way associated or affiliated with the Formula 1 companies, FORMULA 1 racing, or the FIA Formula One World Championship.

To learn more, visit us at American Solar Challenge website, Facebook page, or Twitter account.

For more information, please contact: Gail Lueck, Event Director at ascinfo@americansolarchallenge.org

