



World Record Rocket Launch Frequently Asked Questions

General

- What is it we are trying to do?
 - The goal of this project is to introduce several thousand scouts to the Model Rocket hobby and to give them the chance to earn a Guinness World Record..
- What is the official name of the record we are trying to break?
 - The official record is “Most Simultaneous Model Rockets Launched”
- Who is the event leader?
 - The event staff is numerous as should be for a project this large. Andy Berger is the event leader and he can be contacted at andy@bsarocketry.org or 281-804-3190
- Where will this be held?
 - The location for SHAC Jam and the rocket launch is at Texas World Speedway near College Station, TX (on Hwy 6).
- How can I find out more about SHAC Jam?
 - SHAC Jam is a Council-wide “Jamboree-style” extravaganza celebrating Boy Scouts of America’s 100th anniversary. More info on SHAC Jam can be found at: www.shac.org
- How can I (an individual) participate?
 - To avoid having thousands of individual requests for participation, we are asking each unit (Pack, Troop, Ship, Crew, etc) to register as a group. So we recommend you check with your unit leadership and have them visit www.bsarocketry.org to pre-register.
- What if my unit doesn’t want to participate but I still do?
 - Simply visit www.bsarocketry.org and register yourself. We will make sure you are included.
- How can my pack/troop participate?
 - Check with your Pack or Troop leadership and have them visit www.bsarocketry.org to pre-register

- What ages are allowed to participate?
 - Any registered scout, sibling, parent or friend who is interested in scouting can participate by building a World Record model rocket kit. Each youth scout who builds a rocket will have their name entered into a lottery to determine who will be the lucky scout who presses the LAUNCH BUTTON.
- What do I need to participate?
 - Once you have registered and paid for your World Record rocket kit, it will be delivered to you this summer. You will likely need white (school) glue, sandpaper, ruler and a small hobby knife to build the rocket kit. No launching equipment or motors are needed.
- I'm an adult and I'd like to volunteer to help. What can I do?
 - FANTASTIC!!!! Simply send an email to andy@bsarocketry.org if you'd like to join the event team. Here's a run down of staffing opportunities:
 - Before SHAC Jam – The event staff is in serious need of volunteers to assist in coordinating the Rocket Kit orders (publicizing, taking orders, distributing, etc.)
 - During SHAC Jam – We need a HUGE number of volunteers to “adopt a Launch Pad”. There will be 32 launch pads with 100 rockets each. Volunteers will show up “bright and early” on launch day to load the pads.
 - After the Launch – We will need two separate teams of volunteers following the launch. The first team will be focused on recovering and returning ALL of the rockets to their respective units (YIKES). The 2nd team will begin disassembling the launch pads and controller.
- Where can I learn more about model rocketry?
 - The internet is full of information on Model Rocketry. One of the best sources of Model Rocketry information is The National Association of Rocketry (NAR). Visit their website at www.nar.org.
- My brother/sister/parents/relative/friend/club want to participate. Is that ok?
 - Any registered scout, relative or friend (who is interested in scouting) can participate by building a World Record model rocket kit. Simply send an email to andy@bsarocketry.org with your information and questions.
- I won't be able to attend SHAC Jam. Can I still participate in some way?
 - Absolutely! Simply register as if you were going to attend. Participation does not require you to be at SHAC Jam during the launch. Extensive video of the launch will be available following the launch.

- My Pack/Troop is not part of SHAC, can we still participate in the World Record Rocket launch?
 - Absolutely! However, you may wish to check with the Sam Houston Area Council if you wish to camp with the other SHAC Jam'mers.

The Launch

- What day and time during SHAC Jam will the launch take place?
 - The launch will take place on Saturday, October 9th, most probably in the early afternoon.
- Can I build more than one rocket?
 - Absolutely! And if you are a youth scout, your name will be entered into a lottery for each rocket kit you build. The winner of the lottery will get the press the LAUNCH BUTTON!
- Are individual safety waivers required?
 - No additional safety waivers are required. Each rocket will be inspected and loaded by trained rocket safety staff members.
- What is the plan if it rains/winds are too high/there is a burn ban?
 - Just like NASA, if our primary launch window is cancelled due to inclement weather, we will attempt the launch again the following day (Sunday morning).
- Will there be safety inspections of individual rockets?
 - Absolutely, each completed rocket will be inspected for safety before they are loaded. If corrections are needed, rocket experts will make the adjustments.
- Where can I test my rocket before SHAC Jam?
 - To avoid damaging or losing your rocket before SHAC Jam, we are recommending that you **do not test fly your rocket** prior to SHAC Jam. After SHAC Jam, you may launch it as often as you like.
- What is the deadline to register my unit for the rocket launch?
 - Units should submit their rocket kit orders by early June.
- Will I get my rocket back after the launch?
 - Absolutely! The rocket will have your name, unit # and SHAC District so that we can return it to you as quickly as possible. However due to the huge number of rockets, you might not receive it back until the following week.

The Kits

- Can I use my own rocket?
 - Unfortunately, you will not be able to. Only official World Record Rocket Launch kits will be approved to participate. This is a requirement of the safety review

policies so that we can ensure a successful launch.

- How do I get a World Record Rocket kit?
 - Each unit should identify the scouts who wish to participate. The leader should then register their unit at www.BSARocketry.org. They will then be instructed on how to complete the rocket kit ordering process.
- Can the rocket be built on-site (at SHAC Jam)? Will there be time?
 - Unfortunately, the kits will need to be finished and impounded in September so you will not be able to build a rocket kit onsite at SHAC Jam. It may be possible to purchase a model rocket kit from the Scout Shop area at SHAC Jam but that rocket will not launch as part of the World Record attempt.
- I added things onto my rocket that wasn't part of the kit. Is that ok?
 - You may decorate your rocket kit with paint, stickers, etc., but please do not add or replace anything onto the outside or inside of the rocket. The kits should be built following the instructions and using the parts supplied. Failure to comply with these instructions may result in having your rocket returned to you prior to the launch.
- Are motors supplied in the kits?
 - Special rocket motors will be installed by safety-trained Rocket Launch team members just prior to the launch. No rocket motors will be included in the kit when you receive it.
- Can I use a different engine?
 - For the Rocket Launch, a rocket motor will be supplied and installed by safety-trained Rocket Launch team members just before the launch. If you wish to launch your rocket again after it is returned to you, you certainly may launch it using appropriate launching equipment and motors.
- My kit came damaged (or is missing parts), what should I do?
 - Contact your unit leader asap. If you are the unit leader, please send an email to andy@bsarocketry.org so we can get you a replacement kit.
- I broke a part in my kit, what do I do?
 - Contact your unit leader asap. If you are the unit leader, please send an email to andy@bsarocketry.org. If we have a spare part, we will get it to you as quickly as possible.
- I put the kit together wrong, what do I do?
 - Contact your unit leader asap. If you are the unit leader and cannot repair the rocket, please send an email to andy@bsarocketry.org.
- I don't have time to get a kit before SHAC Jam. Can I get one on site?

- Unfortunately, the kits will need to be finished and impounded in September so you will not be able to get a rocket kit onsite at SHAC Jam. It may be possible to purchase a model rocket kit from the Scout Shop area at SHAC Jam but that rocket will not launch as part of the World Record attempt.
- My kit didn't include and rocket motor or igniter. What do I do?
 - None of the World Record Rocket kits will have motors or igniters. These items will be supplied and installed by safety-trained Rocket Launch team members at SHAC Jam. If you wish to launch your rocket after you return from SHAC Jam, we recommend you go to your local Hobby Lobby, Michaels or another hobby shop to purchase a launch controller, launch pad and motors/igniters.
- How are rocket motors properly handled?
 - Cub Scouts and Webelos should not handle or attempt to load rocket motors or igniters. While the motors are very safe when handled properly, adult supervision is always required. Adults should always follow the manufacturers instructions on safe handling, installation and disposal.
- Is the rocket motor dangerous?
 - Model Rocket motors can certainly be dangerous when improperly handled. However, by following the manufacturers' instructions and National Association of Rocketry (www.nar.org) safety standards, this hobby **is** very safe and loads of fun!
- How much does a kit cost?
 - While the final cost has not been determined yet, the cost will be \$10 - \$12 per kit (which includes the motor/igniter for the World Record Launch)
- Are their quantity discounts available?
 - The quantity discounts (for all several thousand kits) have already been applied. No additional discounts are available.
- Who do I make the check out to?
 - TBD – Keep checking www.bsarocketry.org for updated information.

The Results

- Will I get my name in the Guinness Book of World Records if we are successful?
 - Unfortunately, publishing 3,000+ names for this record would not be feasible. We are hopeful that Guinness Book will describe SHAC Jam. You can also look back at your Rocket for proof to your friends and family that you are a record holder!
- Where can I see the official results after SHAC Jam?
 - Keep checking back at www.bsarocketry.org for updated information. We will also have multiple videos on www.youtube.com of the event.

- If it doesn't work the first time (partial launch), will we try again?
 - Your rocket launch staff is working tirelessly to ensure this launch goes very successfully. Unfortunately, if a partial launch takes place, we will likely have to reschedule a 2nd attempt.

- What was the previous record?
 - Back in May 2007, Austin-area Cub Scout Pack 990 and Boy Scout Troop 990 successfully launched 965 model rockets. This record still stands. Several months later at the World Jamboree in London, scouts launched 1,032 rockets simultaneously, but this effort was not officially submitted. You can watch both videos by searching for them on www.youtube.com.

- Can I get a belt loop/pin/merit badge/patch for participating in this?
 - By building a model rocket, Boy Scouts complete a requirement for the Space Exploration merit badge. Cub Scouts and Webelos should check with their Akelas to see what requirements might be completed. Here are some possibilities:
 - Wolf : Achievement 5e "Build something Useful"
(Check with Akela to see if adopting a launch pad at SHAC Jam and building a rocket qualifies)
 - Bear : Achievement 21a, "Build a Model from a kit"
 - Webelo: Scientist Requirement 8, "Build and launch a model rocket"
 - Space Exploration Merit Badge – Req #3 Build, launch, and recover a model rocket.* Make a second launch to accomplish a specific objective.