

Hadley RC Club – Info Pack 2017



www.hadleyrcclub.com

Our website is full of information on the club. We strongly encourage students and parents to review to website for club updates as well as general information.

Mr. Holm, a member of the pit crew, runs the website. His email is: gerryholm@wowway.com

About the Hadley RC Club

The Hadley RC Club was started in 1989. It's the largest RC club in the nation associated with a school.

The club sponsors are Mr. Mike Dorich, a former Hadley teacher and founder of the Hadley RC Club and Mr. Jim Bourke, a former teacher and now substitute teacher at Hadley. Mr. Dorich can be reached at: DORICH0N740@comcast.net

What we do in the Hadley R/C Club

The RC club meets every Tuesday after school. Currently we're meeting in the Learning Center (Library) We race R/C cars at Hadley on every other Sunday (see the club website for the schedule).

Most importantly we help each other and have fun.

Joining the Club

There's nothing special to join the club. The club is open to students of all ages who attend school in District 41. All members must pay an activity fee to participate for the year. Within District 41, everyone pays \$30 for any clubs or activities. This fee covers any and all clubs and programs except athletics for the school year. These fees do not go directly to the RC club, they are put into the school's general fund.

Activity fees can either be cash or a check made out to the Hadley Jr. High and given to either Mr. Dorich or Mr. Bourke. Regardless if you are a new or returning member of the club, these fees need to be paid and should be paid before the first race.

New Members

Your first car

As a member of the Hadley R/C club, you are eligible to purchase your first car through the club at a discounted price. The cost this year is \$55 which is about 25% of what you'd pay for one in the store. A contract with the club must be signed, in order to take advantage of this huge discount. The essence of the contract states that the student will participate in club meetings and races and conduct themselves in a proper manner.

This year's car is the Traxxas Slash (www.traxxas.com). It's a 1/10 scale electric Short Course Truck. It comes fully assembled and ready to run.

In addition, there are other things that will need to be purchased. The club provides many recommendations that are listed on the website. Hobbytown USA in St. Charles is a local hobby store that supports the RC club. They have very knowledgeable and helpful staff. They also provide discounts to members of the Hadley RC club (typically 10%, but can vary based on the item).

Here is a basic list of things you'll need with the Traxxas Slash. We understand cost can be an issue for some people, so these have been put into recommended and bare minimum minimum categories. The specific products listed are just suggestions and depending on availability, you may need to substitute an equivalent or better product. It also lists an estimated price.

Item	Recommended	Bare Minimum
Car Batteries – NiMH rechargeable batteries, 6 cell (7.2V) with Traxxas connector. Lipo batteries are not allowed.	3 x Duratrax, Dyanamite or any other brand of 6 cell 3000 or 3300mAh NiMH ~\$20/per battery. These batteries will easy last 1 race.	A single battery from the recommended column. This battery will need to be charged on a fast charger after each race. This can be a challenge sometimes as the time between races is insufficient to fully charge them.
Car Batteries – for practice and the other class this truck can run in. There is no size/type ¹ restriction.	Same as above	Racing in extra classes is optional, so purchase as needed
Battery Charger – The car batteries need to be recharged before every race. The included charger is a “slow” charger. It will not be able to charge the batteries between races because of it’s slow rate of charge. You need something that can charge at 3 amps or more.	<p>Duratrax Onyx 225 – Great mainstream charger with display and memories (useful for charging different types of batteries). \$60</p> <p>Hitec X1+ - Charges NiMH/NiCD and Lipo batteries. \$62</p> <p>Radiant Ascend – Charges NiMH/NiCD and Lipo batteries. Has display. \$60</p> <p>There are several great inexpensive chargers available online. Just be careful as many don’t have an AC power supply included. There’s one company that local and will allow you to pick up items at their Addison warehouse. See/email Gerry Holm for more information.</p>	<p>Dynamite Prophet Plus or Duratrax Onyx 200 – The cheapest no thrills chargers you can buy. \$40</p> <p>Radiant Primal - Charges NiMH/NiCD and Lipo batteries, no display. \$45</p>
Spare parts – This truck is very durable, but nothing is indestructable. You should have spare parts for the things that most commonly break.	My opinion is the weakest part is the rear arms. They don’t break frequently, but it’s the most common breakage I’ve seen.	None – Buy as needed
Small tool box, parts tray – Nice way to keep everything organized.	Something like the Plano Stow N Go Tool Box (from Menards, Home Depot, etc) \$15-25	None – carry everything in the box the car comes in.
Tools	2.5mm and 3mm hex drivers, needlenose pliers	The tools that come with the truck
Other stuff	Body clips (these are lost all the time)	

¹ Lipo batteries can only be used at Hadley if a parent supervises the charging and a lipo charging bag is used.

Preparing for a race

These are things that should be done before every race:

- Check for broken or malfunctioning parts on vehicle
- Charge batteries (should be done as close to race day as possible)
- Check radio batteries

Racing Day

Things to bring with you on race day:

- Vehicle, radio, batteries
- Tools to work on your vehicle (screw drivers, pliers, hex drivers, etc)
- Extra batteries for your radio
- Lunch, snack for latter in the day
- Spare parts - you should have spare parts for the things most likely to break



Important: Make sure your radio and batteries are labeled with your name. Many will be the same and having your name and some way to easily identify it will be a good way to tell them apart.

Racers should show up at the school at 10am to help lay out the carpet and track. We usually wrap up everything around 6pm, but can vary. It is every student's responsibility to get transportation to and from the races.

Parent's are encouraged to spend the day with their child. Who knows, maybe you too will want to get into RC racing! Many of the race classes allow adults to race.

When you arrive on race day, the first thing you should do is to help set up. Come into the gym and ask someone what you can do to help. Once everything is set up, you can then prepare your pit area.