

Michigan's Adventure Accelerometer Policy 2009 Amusement Park Physics

The information below is found at Michigan's Adventure website:

For safety reasons, Michigan's Adventure will only allow simple spring and horizontal accelerometers that meet the following guidelines:

- Any accelerometer must be a simple spring or horizontal accelerometer. The device may not electronically collect or report data.
- Accelerometers must be made of light weight, non-breakable materials.
- Accelerometers must be small enough (12" or less) to not interfere with the riders' ability to safely ride the ride and must be secured to the rider. Riders must be able to hold on to restraints with both hands at all times.
- Accelerometers must have a #2 or heavier nylon cord attached. The nylon cord must have the ability to be fastened securely around the wrist (a 7mm pony bead will do this).
- A knot must be tied at the end of the loop to insure the pony bead will not slip off.

Accelerometers may be modified with the following procedure in order to comply with the guidelines:

- Place the ends of an 18 inch #2 nylon cord at the base of the accelerometer.
- Use electrical tape to secure the nylon cord to the base.
- Slide a 7mm pony bead over the loop end of the cord and slide toward the accelerometer.
- Tie a knot at the end of loop to ensure pony bead will not slip off.

MAISD Regional Mathematics & Science Center Statement:

Since there is a safety issue regarding the design of the accelerometer used for Physics Day, the MAISD Regional Mathematics & Science Center submitted an accelerometer that was made using the directions given to its Amusement Park Physics participants. This design was approved by the park in November, 2006. Therefore, it is extremely important that the specifications outlined in the directions for making an accelerometer be followed precisely. **This is the responsibility of the teacher who registers a team or teams for APP.** An additional response item concerning this issue has been added to the on-line registration form. Please read carefully and respond accordingly.

Students using accelerometers not properly constructed may not be permitted to ride certain rides. **Please remember - - this is a safety issue.**

Your cooperation is appreciated. If you have questions, please contact June Au at 231-767-7326 or jau@muskegonisd.org