Blue Jay Racing: September Update





September Highlights: Summer Design

We've just finished up our summer design cycle and are moving into our most aggressive fall schedule yet. We're focusing on rapidly building the 16x to allow for plenty of testing and tuning and instrumenting the 15x. Special thanks to Mars Labs for providing us with support and valuable feedback on our instrumentation so far!



Current design of the 16x, featuring a newer, lighter frame and significant rear suspension improvements! (Don't worry, the real thing will have 4 wheels.)



Our newest rear suspension geometry significantly improves packaging, rigidity, and cornering.

We've just finished our first team design review and are going to have our critical design review in three weeks to ensure we're ready to begin manufacturing. We've also made some changes to the frame to make packaging of the master cylinders easier, to give the drivetrain more room in the rear, and to move our tow point for better sled pull performance.



Alumni Weekend Highlights

Despite the focus on being ready to manufacture the 16x, we spent several days getting two older vehicles ready for driving. The 11x and the 15x got some drive time at our Alumni Weekend, where ~10 years worth of alumni, from Baltimore to San Francisco came together to celebrate and share their experiences!



About 10 years of Baja Alumni came back to celebrate by having a drive day! Many thanks to all of them for all their support and to especially to Dr. Belkoff for hosting!



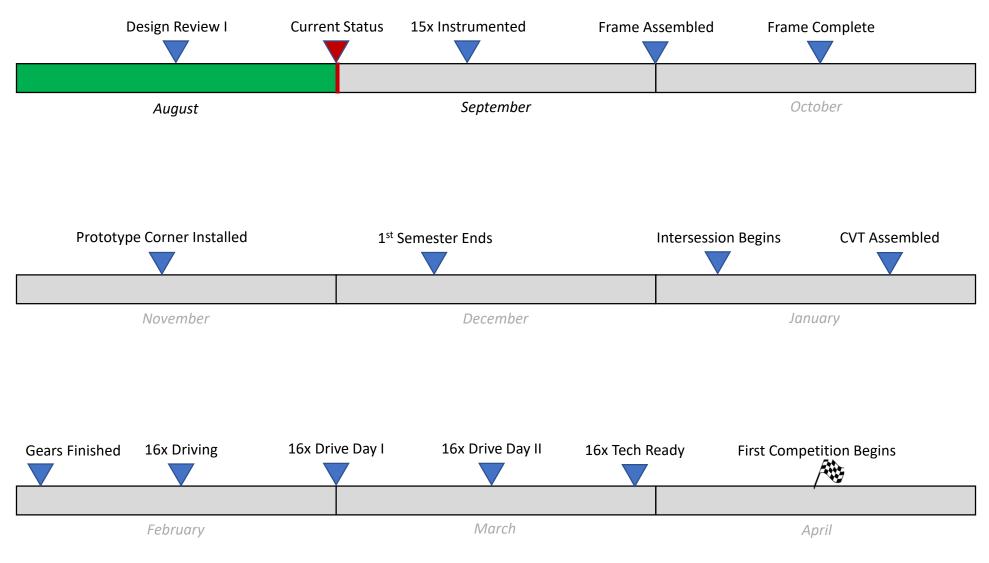
The 15x and the 11x go head-to-head around a forest trail. Though a couple of cracks formed on the 15x frame and the 11x upright, they were quickly repaired.

Despite a few cracks in the 15x and 11x, we were able to reweld to finish out the day. We're looking forward to using more welded components this year- special thanks to Stanley, Black & Decker's Makerspace for giving us machine time on their plasma cutter! This allows us to create components we can continually repair, whether in the field or in the machine shop.

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Timeline



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