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## ELO reflection

Previously I thought drag racing was just another dangerous motor sport, but the readings on drag racing along with the experiences at crossroads drag way in fact changed my outlook on drag racing. Drag racing provides the thrill and enthusiasm of racing, but is less risky compared to other types of motor racing. So drag racing can be performed by people who have passion for driving at great speeds. The opportunity provided by crossroads drag way to young adults and students could be considered as an excellent chance for the young adults to get a feel of the events as well as in identifying their likeness towards racing and related activities. Reflection on the experiences at crossroads drag way during the Friday Night Fun Night event is discussed in detail.

## Interest for motor motorsports

I am not a very hard core fan of motor racing and I do not watch motor racing on television or internet regularly. As I like sports and related activities, I like watching motor racing once in a while. But studies and readings on drag racing created in me more fascination towards the game. What attracted me most about drag racing was that it was quite unique from other form of races where speed is considered as the main criteria for winning. Here in drag racing the drivers speeding ability, judgment, reflex and control is also tested. The possibility for collision is less compared to other motor sports as the driver need to race through the same track.

## The most appealing among the motor sport

After the Friday Night Fun Night event, I consider drag racing to be slightly more appealing to me than other motor racing like circuit racing, cross country, rally, etc. One among the chief factor that created more interest in drag racing was that it is relatively safer, less risky and there was no major criterion for participating. Drag racing can be considered as an opportunity given to the rider to display his control, speed and capability to make quick responses (NHRA, n. d). It is less tiring as the drivers need to race only short distances, about quarter of a mile. In drag racing, it is allowed to use any street cars, but in perfect condition and so any racing enthusiast can try on the drag racing race track of his or her capabilities. These are some of the features that made drag racing a slightly more appealing to me.

## Comparing drag racing with other types of motor racing

In comparison to the most popular races like the circuit racing, rallies, off road racing, etc, drag racing is less risky, less specialized, races over shorter distances, etc. In drag racing one can use his or her on car without any major modifications, but should be in perfect condition. In drag racing, the racers need to drive through the straight raceway and speed is not the only criteria for deciding on the winners. In drag racing, driver’s control, discipline, response rates, etc also is tested in addition to the speed. While in formulae racing and other forms of circuit racing, speed is the one major criterion that is being tested. Late starters would be disqualified in case of drag racing, while in most other forms of motor racing even late starters get a chance to race, though it might be disadvantageous to the racer. In drag racing, even ordinary drivers with passion for racing could participate in their own vehicles. On the other hand, in circuit racing only specified cars only be used.

## Motor sport spectator or participant

Prior to Friday Nights Fun Night event I considered myself as a spectator and never as a participant. Though I like to drive, I hardly had any intention to participate in any motor racing sport. Even though I decided to attend the Friday Nights Fun Night event, I was planning to remain as a spectator for this event as well. But after seeing drag racing track and other setup I was rather very thrilled. When some of my friend’s decided to register for drag racing, I also joined as a racer, with all the enthusiasm of a first time racer.

## Experience at the track on a Friday Fun Night

As a fresher on the racing track, I was bit nervous when my turn for racing came. I had to race with a very experienced driver. As I have learned the rules of the race pretty well, I could do exactly as needed. I made a good start immediately after the lights turned green and I was able to maneuver the car through the race way in high speed and put brakes at the end of the race way as expected. I was pretty happy with my performance though the other person won the race. Majority of the participants were young adults and there were lots of young spectators who were very lively as well. The best thing about drag racing is the discipline maintained on the race way and sportsmanship of the participants. The interactions between the participants were also very healthy and I could get a lot of information on racing from my fellow racers. The least favorite was the long wait for getting our turn to race.

## Suggestions for increasing crowd at drag strip

Promotional events such as Friday Nights Fun Night event for the young adults and the youth could drive large numbers into participating in the event as well as for watching the event. There is need to write promotional articles on drag racing and advertisements that target on the right target audience need to be developed. University wise campaigns for popularizing the sport among the youth might turn effective. Designing specific promotional and cost effective offers is considered to be highly relevant in increasing the crowd at drag strip. Proper scheduling also forms an important factor in attracting large crowds. Attracting more sponsors to the event also could enhance the attractiveness of prizes as well. Providing some freebies through the sponsors also seems appropriate.

## References

NHRA (n. d.). Basics of drag racing. Retrieved from http://www. nhra. com/nhra101/basics. aspx? AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport= 1