

boardsport technologies enterprise
park team



The Park Team of the Boardsport Technologies Enterprise at Michigan Technological University is responsible for creating new and innovative terrain park features that are lightweight, easy to setup and move, and provide the necessary strength and weather resistance inherent to a terrain park environment.

Currently, the Park Team has created two obstacles for Houghton's local ski hill: Mont Ripley. The Park Team has also prided itself on repairing the existing boxes and rails at Mont Ripley and keeping the park in stellar shape. The two obstacles that were built last school year (2006-2007) consisted of a 30 foot up-flat-down box and a 20 foot flat down rail. The team has also renovated a 15 foot rail and has proposed a complete rebuild of many of the current features at the park.

This year the Park Team has a new design approach and a lot of new ideas. Currently the team has proposed an interchangeable 36 foot down-flat-down box, a launch rail, and a drop-in for street rails. All rails are built of mild steel for strength and all boxes utilize either wood or steel construction with Ultra-High Molecular Weight Polyethylene sliding surfaces. The team employs hand sketches and modeling in Unigraphics along with force and mass calculations to ensure every rail is built strong and without excess material.

Overall the Park Team focuses on keeping obstacles smooth and safe while utilizing specific force calculations to minimize weight.

Our team is always open to new ideas, and we take pride in doing things a little different than the average ski hill would. We take satisfaction in using engineering principles to build terrain park obstacles, because without engineering we would just be any other shop building mediocre rails.