



Tournament Overview

North Texas Region 2015

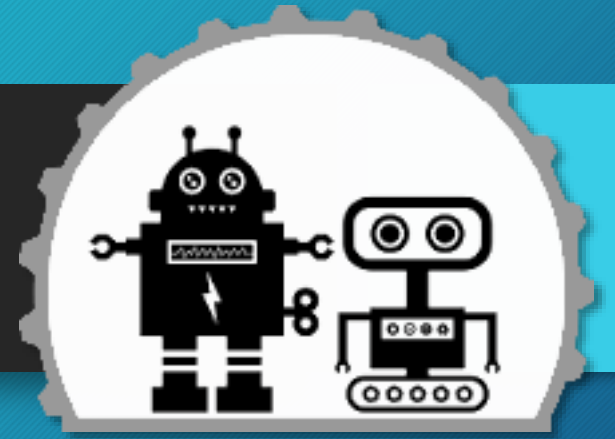
Part 1 of 2



Thank you!

You are making a difference!

What we discover is more important than what we win.



Presentation available at:
<http://www.roboplex.org/fll>

Topics

- Tournament Summary
- Tournament Logistics
- How the day works
 - Robot Games
 - *FLL*® Judging
- Tips for being competitive
- Tournament Preparation
- Questions

Tournament Summary

North Texas Region Tournaments

- Non-Official tournaments
 - Scrimmages
 - Invitational tournaments
- Official Qualifying tournaments
 - Regional Qualifiers
 - Second-Round Qualifiers
 - Regional Championship

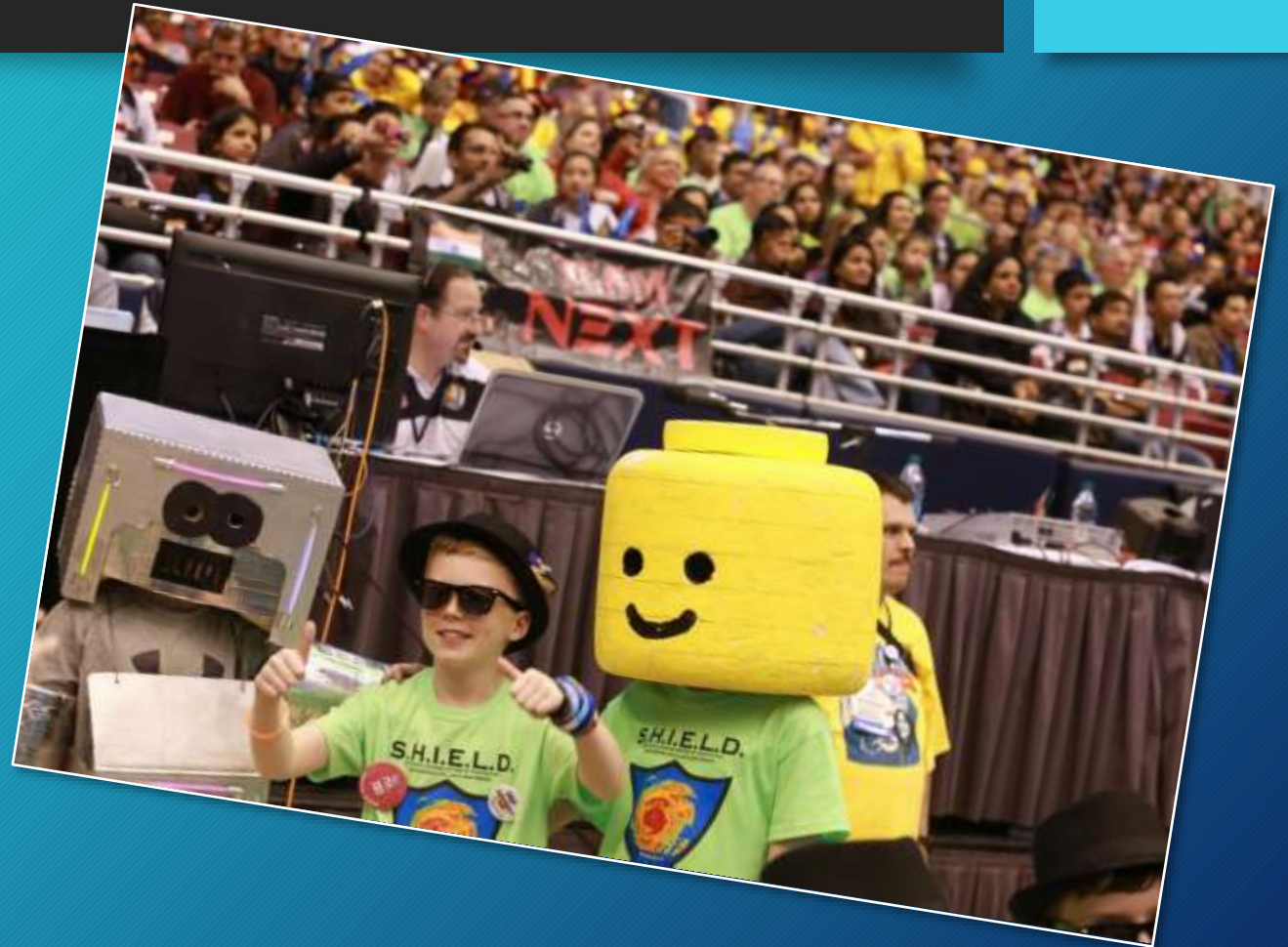


Qualifying Tournaments

- Regional Qualifiers and Second-Round Qualifiers are the first level of official competition.
 - Follow the same judging standards and format as Championship tournaments, but they are usually smaller.
 - Teams must participate in all aspects of the Qualifying tournament to advance.
 - Top teams from each Qualifier will advance to Regional Championship.
 - Notable teams will proceed to the a Second-Round Qualifier.

Championship Tournament

- The highest level of competition teams can attend in a state, country, or region.
- For many teams, a Championship tournament will be the highest level of *FLL*® tournament available.



Tournament Fees - North Texas Region

- Team register for tournaments with the Perot Museum.
 - This is different from the team registration with *FIRST*®.
- Tournament fee is \$100 per team.
- Fees cover the Regional Qualifier, and should the team advance to the Second-Round Qualifier, and Regional Championship.
- Team will select their top four choices of Regional Qualifier sites and will be assign a site based on availability.
- Registration closes November 18th.

North Texas Regional Qualifiers - December 5th

- Fellowship Christian Academy, Dallas
- Parish Episcopal School, Dallas
- Lena Pope Chapel Hill Academy, Fort Worth
- Allen High School, Allen
- Wedgwood Middle School, Fort Worth
- Conrad High School, Dallas

North Texas Regional Qualifiers - December 12th

- Preparatory Academy, Dallas
- Nolan Catholic High School, Fort Worth
- Advanced Technology Complex, Denton
- Trinity High School, Euless
- Amarillo College, Amarillo

North Texas Regional Qualifiers

Texas Regional Qualifier on December 19th

- Bethesda Christian School

FLL® 2015 Second-Round Qualifier on January 16th (tentative)

- Grand Saline Middle School, Grand Saline

FLL® North Texas Regional on February 6th

- Parish Episcopal School



FLL[®] World Festival

- Part of the annual *FIRST[®]* Championship. It is the global celebration of *FLL[®]* teams from around the world, and it is the only event hosted by *FLL[®]* headquarters.
- The invitational process for the World Festival depends on the number of spaces available. The list of World Festival invitations is released in late fall.

FIRST[®] Championship



- April 27-30, 2016 - St. Louis, Missouri
- April 26-29, 2017 - St. Louis, Missouri and Houston, Texas
- April 2018 through 2020 - Houston, Texas and Detroit Michigan

NEW

17,000 talented young people from all over the world participate:

- ***FIRST***[®] Robotics Competition (FRC[®]) Championship (600 teams)
- ***FIRST***[®] Tech Challenge (FTC[®]) World Championship (128 teams)
- ***FIRST***[®] LEGO[®] League (FLL[®]) World Festival (106 teams)
- Junior ***FIRST***[®] LEGO[®] League (Jr.FLL[®]) World Festival Expo (60 teams)

Four Areas of a Competition

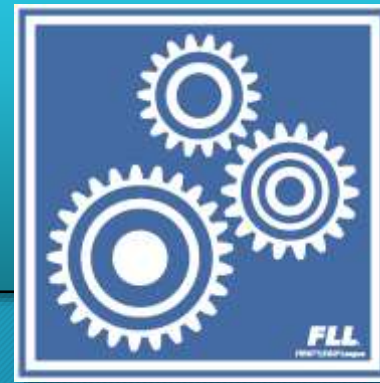
FLL[®] CORE VALUES



CORE VALUES
(TEAMWORK)



PROJECT



ROBOT DESIGN



ROBOT
CHALLENGE

Teams to adhere to **FLL[®]** Core Values throughout the season and while competing in all four parts of an **FLL[®]** Competition.

Tournament Personnel

- Tournament Host
- Head Referee
 - Field Referees
- Head Judge
 - Robot Design Judges
 - Project Judges
 - Core Value Judges
 - Roaming Core Value Judges
- Score Keeper, Emcee, and countless other volunteers



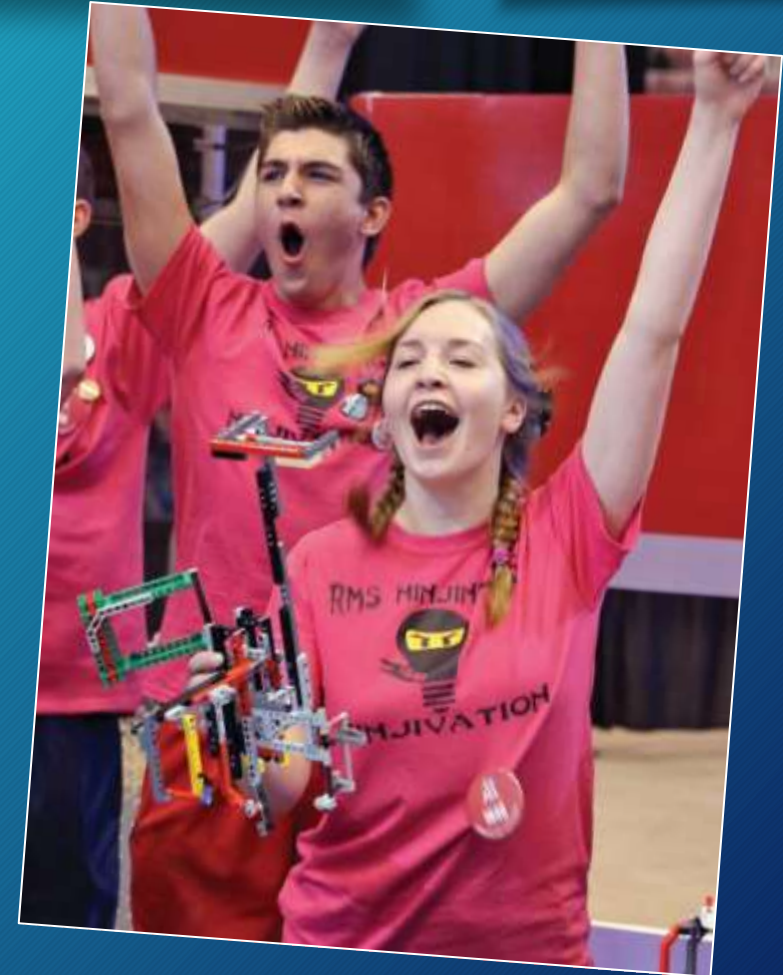
General rules

- Bluetooth must be disabled for all tournaments.
- No markings are permitted on the robot with the exception of labeling of the Brick for identification in a nonvisible spot.
- Only official LEGO® parts are permitted.
- The infrared sensor is not permitted (available in the commercial Mindstorms® kits.)
- Unlimited sensors can be used.
- Only four motors can be in the competition area. Any number of motors are permitted in the Pit area.

Tournament Logistics

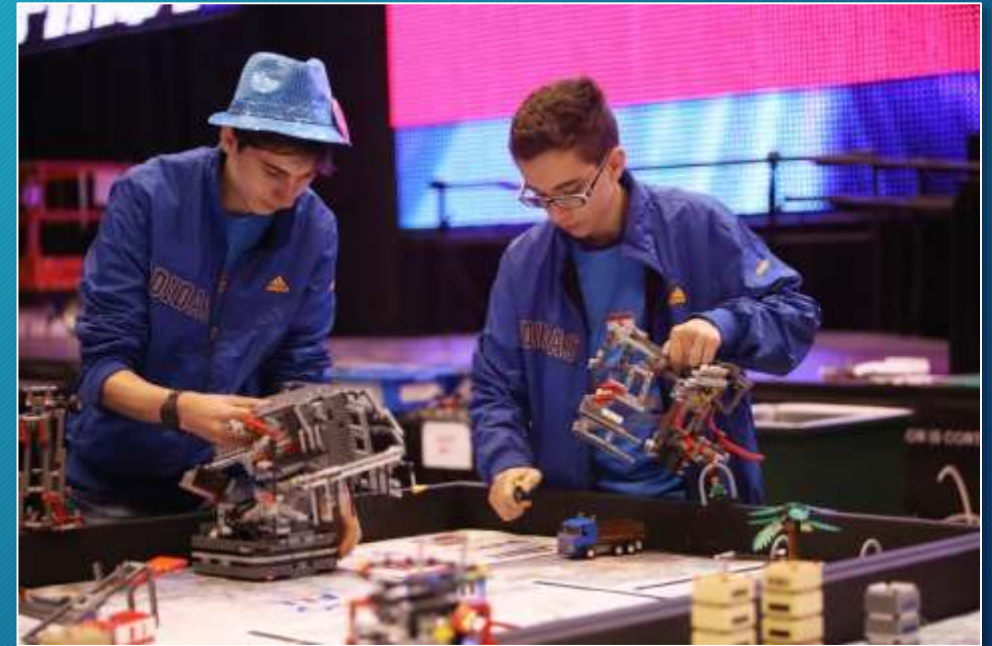
Adult Supervision and Safety

- Adult supervision is critical for a successful tournament.
- Whether the team is moving about the site or performing, make sure all team members are supervised.
- Use the buddy system and have each child travel with at least one other person.
- Remind every person attending with your team that they are expected to demonstrate *FLL*® Core Values at all times. This includes parents and guests of the team.



Registration

- Upon arrival at the tournament coaches must first find the registration table and check in.
- At most tournaments, all of the teams arrive during the same half hour. It can be very chaotic, and lines sometimes form at the registration table for a brief period.
- Keeping your forms organized, and ensuring that you have all the necessary paperwork when you arrive, can help to reduce the wait for everyone.



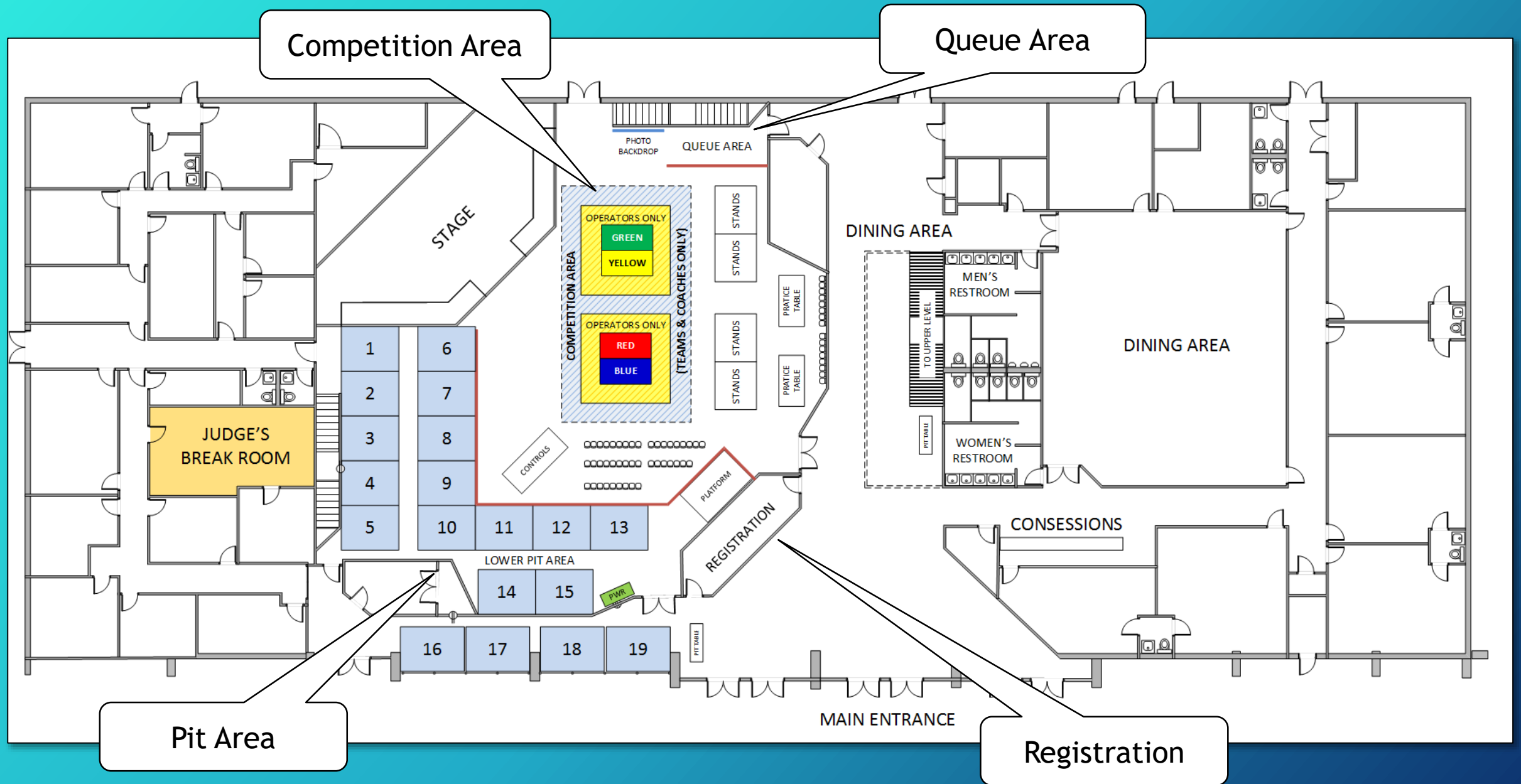
Registration Forms

- Have these forms ready when you arrive at registration:
- Consent and Release form. Printed from *FIRST*® Team Information Management System (TIMS).
- Anyone participating in an *FLL*® event may be photographed or recorded, so *FIRST*® requires a signed consent form from each participant. (Online.)
- Any other forms or information required by your tournament host/organizers.

Tournament Main Areas



- When your team completes registration at the event, you may be provided a site map or volunteers will let you know where to find important areas of the event.
- Make sure your team knows how to find:
 - Team Pit Area
 - Judging Rooms
 - Competition area



UME Prep Tournament Floor Plan

Team Pit Area

- The pit will be your team's home for the day.
- It will usually have a staffed pit administration table where you can ask questions or get updates during the day.
- Check with the event volunteers to find out if spectators are allowed in the pit, as some facilities allow only team members, Coaches, and Mentors in this area.
- Your team may be assigned a specific location to set up when you register (a pit station or pit table), but some events are first-come, first-served.

Team Pit Area

- Generally, a table will be provided so your team can set up a display (optional) for other teams to see, showcase your Core Values, robot, and project, or make minor repairs.
- If your team has any posters or banners, set them up to show your team spirit.
- Regardless of the size of your team's pit station, be gracious and keep your team within the borders of your pit area.
- Electricity might be provided at the pit, but some venues will not have convenient electrical outlets. If your team brings a laptop, make sure it's fully charged.

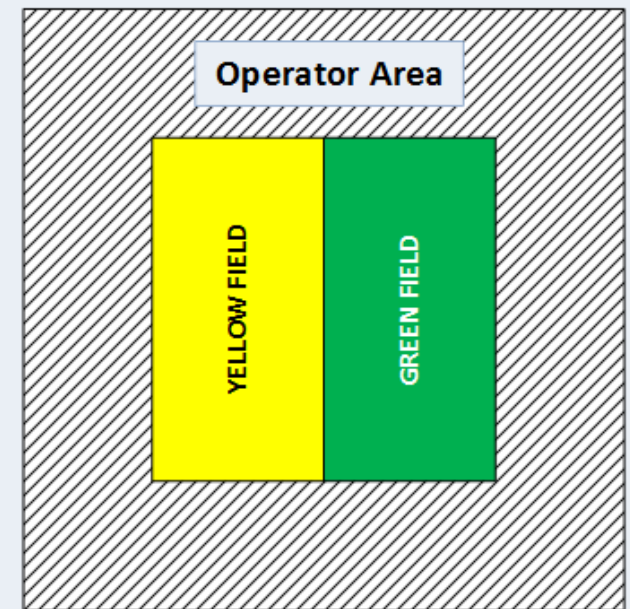
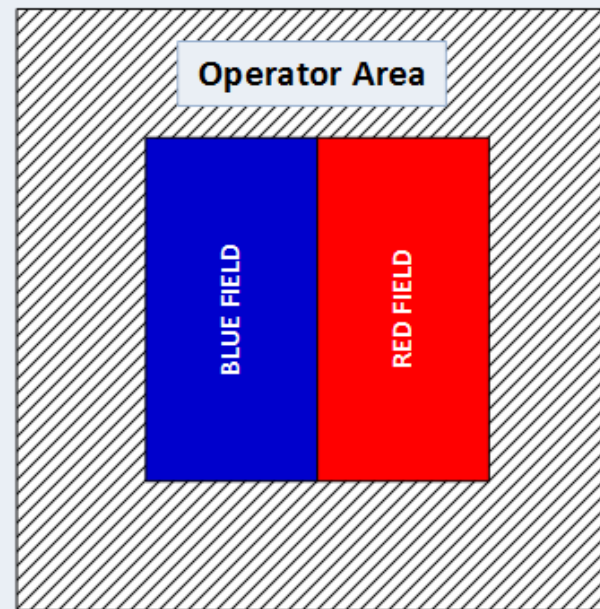
Competition Area

The competition area is where the official Robot Game playing fields are located and robot performance matches are scored by official referees.

Include:

- Fields
- Operator area
- Coach and team area
- Spectators

Coach and Team Area



Queuing area

- The queuing area is like the on-deck box in baseball. This is where your team will wait when next for a robot run.
- Be at the queue area at least five minutes before your next robot run. Check in with the queuing person.
- Have your robot and attachments with you and ready.



Practice Field(s)

- Many tournaments provide access to a practice field where teams take turns running matches with their robot. If a field is provided, scheduling is often tight and teams may need to reserve a time slot to practice.
- Some hosts provide mission models, some do not. You are permitted to bring your own at most tournaments.



Judging Rooms

- Judging sessions for Core Values, Robot Design, and the Project generally take place in rooms separate from the competition area.
- Your team will participate in each of the three sessions typically before lunch, so make sure you understand where and when your team should be.



How the Day Works

Time Management

- Review the day's schedule with your team members. Competition schedules are usually very tight, so it's important that your team is ready and on time.
- Your teams Head Coach will concentrate on getting to the scheduled judging appointments and rounds on time. Delegate the responsibility of keeping your team together to your team captain or another coach or mentor.

Sample Schedule

#	Start	End	Red Field	Blue Field	Yellow Field	Green Field
Round 1						
1	9:10 A	9:14 A	14101	17951		
2	9:18 A	9:22 A			3646	18675
3	9:26 A	9:30 A	6218	12042		
4	9:34 A	9:38 A			15636	9722
5	9:42 A	9:46 A	17561	9843		
6	9:50 A	9:54 A			4307	11374

The Coaches' Meeting

- Many events hold a meeting for Coaches at the very beginning of the day while teams are setting up their pit areas.
- Find out where this meeting will take place and make sure you attend or send an adult representative. The tournament organizers often use this time to discuss any changes to the day's schedule or any logistical concerns.
- This is also your last opportunity to clarify the rules before the competition begins, so be ready with any last-minute questions your team may have.

Field Inspection

- Field inspection usually takes place immediately after the Coaches' Meeting.
- This is your best chance to inspect the fields and make requests for any fixes.



The Opening Ceremony

- Usually the opening ceremony is very high energy and sets the tone for the day. Judges, referees, and special guests are introduced, the Challenge and scoring are explained, and tournament organizers tell teams about the exciting day ahead of them.
- After the opening ceremony, teams not immediately scheduled for robot performance matches or a judging session should return to the pit to listen for queuing, use the practice fields for final robot adjustments, or prepare to meet with the judges.