



2016 Championship Schedule

Friday, December 2nd

3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Registration Check-in, Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum
Teams must check-in prior to Saturday Marketing Presentations
Teams may begin unloading team exhibit materials

Saturday, December 3rd

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Registration Check-in, Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum
Teams must check-in prior to Saturday Marketing Presentations

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Compliance Check-In, Pit

8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Pit Open, Coliseum Main Floor

8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

BEST Award Team Exhibit Set-Up
Coliseum 3rd Floor Concourse

9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Marketing Presentations, Science Center Classroom #115

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Driving Practice, Coliseum Game Area Main Floor

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Women in Science and Engineering Luncheon
Science Center Auditorium

12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Lunch Break, Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Driver's Meeting, Coliseum stands
Required of ALL who will be in the Pit during the competition

2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Parade of Teams

2:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Seeding Matches begin, Coliseum Main Floor

7:00 p.m.

Pit Closes

7:15 p.m.

Beard-Eaves Memorial Coliseum Closes

Sunday, December 4th

8:00 a.m.	Coliseum Open
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Registration Open , inside Main Entrance
8:00 a.m.	Pit Open , Coliseum Main Floor
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Spirit and Sportsmanship Judging , Everywhere! Special Award Judging , Everywhere!
9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	2016 South's BEST Opening and Welcome!
9:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Seeding Matches (cont.)
9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Team Exhibit & Interview Judging Judging will not occur during lunch break
11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Mascot Dance Off
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch Break Pit and Coliseum Main Floor closed during lunch
12:50 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	BEST Teachers and Judges Recognition , Coliseum Floor All teachers assemble at the playing field "A" area All judges assemble at playing field "B" area
1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Halftime Report Recognitions and announcements
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Seeding Matches (cont.)
2:45 p.m.	Wildcard Match (8 teams)
3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Video Competition Award Announcement
3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Semi-final Round (16 teams)
3:30 p.m.	Team Exhibits may be dismantled
4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	Championship Round (4 teams)
4:30 p.m.	Awards Ceremony & Championship Team Photos
5:00 p.m.	2016 South's BEST Concludes

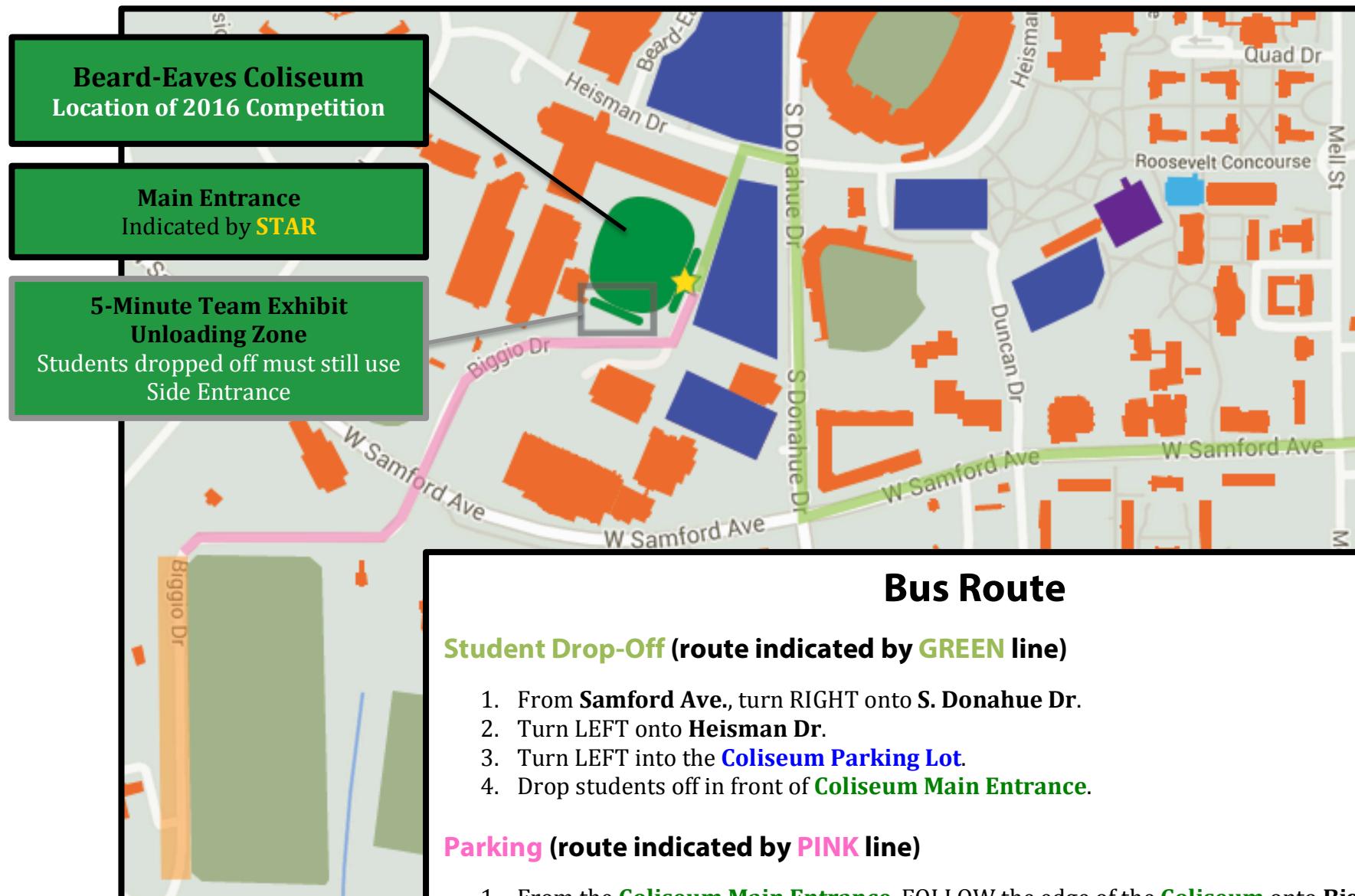
We're mindful that many teams need to get on the road as soon as possible. We'll do everything possible to stick to this schedule, **but sometimes "stuff" happens**.



SOUTH'S
BEST

2016 Bus Map

hosted by
Auburn University



Bus Route

Student Drop-Off (route indicated by GREEN line)

1. From **Samford Ave.**, turn **RIGHT** onto **S. Donahue Dr.**
2. Turn **LEFT** onto **Heisman Dr.**
3. Turn **LEFT** into the **Coliseum Parking Lot**.
4. Drop students off in front of **Coliseum Main Entrance**.

Parking (route indicated by PINK line)

1. From the **Coliseum Main Entrance**, FOLLOW the edge of the **Coliseum** onto **Biggio Dr.**
2. CROSS **Samford Ave.**
NOTE: These are the **Intramural Fields**.
3. PARK in a **PAVED AREA** along this road as indicated by the **LIGHT ORANGE AREA** on the map.

Driving Directions to Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum:

- **From Atlanta, GA:**

Take I--85 South toward Montgomery, AL. At Alabama Exit 51, turn right onto AL---15 (South College Street) toward Auburn. After approximately 2.5 miles, turn left onto Donahue Drive.

Cars and Trailers: Proceed through 2 traffic signals and at the 3rd signal, turn left onto Heisman Drive. Turn left again onto Biggio and the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum will be on your right. All teams should enter through the Main Entrance (East side of building facing the baseball field).

Buses: Proceed through 2 traffic signals and at the 3rd signal, turn left onto Heisman Drive. Turn left again onto Biggio and the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum will be on your right. All teams should enter through the Main Entrance (East side of building facing the baseball field).

- **From Montgomery, AL:**

Take I--85 North toward Atlanta, GA. At Alabama Exit 51, turn left onto AL---15 (South College Street) toward Auburn. after Approximately 2.5 miles, turn left onto Donahue Drive.

Cars and Trailers: Proceed through 2 traffic signals and at the 3rd signal, turn left onto Heisman Drive. Turn left again onto Biggio and the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum will be on your right. All teams should enter through the Main Entrance (East side of building facing the baseball field).

Buses: Proceed through 2 traffic signals and at the 3rd signal, turn left onto Heisman Drive. Turn left again onto Biggio and the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum will be on your right. All teams should enter through the Main Entrance (East side of building facing the baseball field).

- **From Birmingham, AL via U.S. 280:**

After approx. 100 miles, turn right onto AL---147 (North College Street) toward Auburn. Proceed through downtown Auburn, and turn right onto Samford Avenue.

Cars and Trailers: Proceed through the 4 way stop and 1 traffic signal. At the 2nd signal, turn right onto Donahue Drive at the following signal, turn left onto Heisman Drive. Turn left again onto Biggio and the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum will be on your right. All teams should enter through the Main Entrance (East side of building facing the baseball field).

Buses: Proceed through the 4 way stop and 1 traffic signal. At the 2nd signal, turn right onto Donahue Drive at the following signal, turn left onto Heisman Drive. Turn left again onto Biggio and the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum will be on your right. All teams should enter through the Main Entrance (East side of building facing the baseball field).

- **Parking:**

- Cars--- Cars may park in the Auburn Arena, Beard---Eaves Memorial Coliseum, and Stadium Parking lots without being ticketed on Saturday and Sunday of the event.
- Trailers--- Trailers may park in the Beard---Eaves Memorial Coliseum Lot or with the buses at the Intramural Fields on Biggio Drive.
- Buses--- Follow the bus event map to the designated parking area located at the Intramural Fields located on Biggio Drive.



2016 Dates at-a-glance

Participating Hub Competition Dates

Bevill BEST	October 29
Central AL BEST	November 5
Emerald Coast BEST	October 29
Georgia BEST	November 5
Jubilee BEST	October 29
Mississippi BEST	October 1
Music City BEST	October 29
North Alabama BEST	October 21

Northeast AL BEST	October 29
Northwest AL BEST	October 8
River BEST	November 5
Selma BEST	November 4
Shelton State BEST	October 29
Tennessee Valley BEST	October 29
Wiregrass BEST	October 29
War Eagle BEST	October 8

Thursday, October 13th

- Engineering Notebooks and AU Minor Consent Forms due for the following hubs:
 - Mississippi BEST

Thursday, October 20th

- Engineering Notebooks and AU Minor Consent Forms due for the following hubs:
 - Northwest AL BEST
 - War Eagle BEST

Thursday, November 3rd

- Engineering Notebooks and AU Minor Consent Forms due for the following hubs:
 - North Alabama BEST
- Video Competition Submissions due for the following hubs:
 - Mississippi BEST
 - Northwest AL BEST
 - War Eagle BEST

Thursday, November 10th

- Engineering Notebooks and AU Minor Consent Forms due for the following hubs:
 - Bevill BEST
 - Emerald Coast
 - Jubilee BEST
 - Music City BEST
 - Northeast BEST
 - Shelton State BEST
 - Tennessee Valley BEST
 - Wiregrass BEST

Tuesday, November 15th

- Championship T-Shirt Pre-Orders due
- Website URL submissions due
- WISE Luncheon Registration due
- Engineering Notebooks and AU Minor Consent Forms due for the following hubs:
 - Central AL BEST
 - Georgia BEST
 - River BEST
 - Selma BEST

Thursday, November 17th

- Video Competition Submissions due for the following hubs:
 - Bevill BEST
 - Central AL BEST
 - Emerald Coast BEST
 - Georgia BEST
 - Jubilee BEST
 - Music City BEST
 - North Alabama BEST
 - Northeast AL BEST
 - River BEST
 - Selma BEST
 - Shelton State BEST
 - Tennessee Valley BEST
 - Wiregrass BEST
- Final Marketing Presentation Schedule will be e-mailed to all BEST Award Teams

Friday, November 25th

- MathWorks Simulink Submission Deadline
 - Entries can be entered here: http://www.bestinc.org/simulink_award/form.php
 - Password: G00dharv3st

Friday, December 2nd, 3:00 – 7:00pm

- Team Check-in
 - Student surveys, team-wear design (optional), and CAD design (optional) submission due upon check-in

Saturday, December 3rd, 8:00 – 10:00am

- Team Check-in
 - Student surveys, team-wear design (optional), and CAD design (optional) submission due upon check-in



Teacher's To-Do List

We recommend you follow this guide of tasks that need to be completed before and at South's BEST. Note that all times listed in this handbook are in the **Central Time Zone**. In addition, South's BEST staff will send out regular updates to the e-mail address provided on the team information form. These updates will contain critical information including scheduling changes and other event logistics. The team is responsible for maintaining a record of these updates and adhering to any changes that occur.

STEP #1 – Team Information Form

Submit your 2016 Team Information Form to Kristen Bond by 5:00pm (Central Time) on the Monday immediately following your hub competition. Forms should be e-mailed to kristen.bond@auburn.edu or faxed to 334-844-5740.

STEP #2 – Hotel Arrangements

It is **mandatory** that teams book their hotels through Cindy Pugh at the Auburn-Opelika Tourism Bureau. Cindy will contact you directly by the Wednesday, 5PM following your local competition to discuss your lodging needs. Cindy works closely with our local hotels to understand the variety of amenities and price ranges available, thus making her your best resource for finding lodging that works for you and your group. **Please DO NOT book hotels outside of this arrangement.** If Cindy or someone from the Auburn Opelika Tourism Bureau has not contacted you by Wednesday at 5PM, please contact Cindy directly at 334-704-0114 or by e-mail at cindy@aotourism.com.

STEP #3 – Engineering Notebook & Minors on Campus Parental Waiver Submission

All teams **must** submit an **Engineering Notebook** in order to compete at South's BEST. Along with the notebook, teams must submit a **Team Demographics Form** and an **Auburn University Minors on Campus Consent Form*** for **every** student planning to attend South's BEST.

Electronic submission of the notebook is also required by the deadline below. Submit notebooks via the following link: dropitto.me/notebook_submissions Password: **notebooks** (this is case sensitive). Submissions should be formatted as such: team#_team_name.pdf. Example: 888_Teddy_High_School.pdf.

Mail your team's hard copy *Engineering Notebook* and *Minors on Campus Parental Waivers* early enough to **ensure that they are received by the required submission deadline**. The deadlines are based upon your local hub competition dates. Please mail notebooks and waivers to the following address:

COSAM Outreach
South's BEST Notebooks
131 Sciences Center Classrooms Building
315 Roosevelt Concourse
Auburn University, AL 36849

Hub Competition Dates	Submission Deadline (this is NOT a postmark deadline)
October 1	5:00pm CDT, Thursday, October 13
October 8	5:00pm CDT, Thursday, October 20
October 21	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 3
October 29	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 10
November 4-5	5:00pm CST, Tuesday, November 15

Notebooks received after the due date and time will not be judged!

* The Auburn University Minors on Campus Consent Form is required for participation in South's BEST. This form is required to adhere to Auburn University's Minors on Campus policy. For questions regarding this form and/or the AU policy, please contact Kristen Bond at 334-844-5769.

STEP #4 – Women's Luncheon

Complete the Women in Science and Engineering Luncheon Registration found in the Forms Section and submit by Tuesday, November 15th to kristen.bond@auburn.edu or fax to 334-844-5740. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Each team may submit names for 8 students and 2 adults until all spaces fill. Once Kristen has confirmed your school's seats at the luncheon, teams may substitute students into those slots without notifying the South's BEST staff. The 2016 WISE Luncheon will be held in the Science Center Auditorium on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 12 noon – 1:30PM.

STEP #5 – Pre-order South's BEST Championship T-shirts

Collect t-shirt pre-orders from your students. Complete the South's BEST Championship T-Shirt Pre-Order form found in the Forms Section. Submit the form and payment by Tuesday, November 15th using payment information provided on the form. **DO NOT email credit card information** – please call.

STEP #6 – Web Page Design Submission

To compete in the Web Page Design competition, submit the URL on the Team Information Form or e-mail the address to kristen.bond@auburn.edu by Tuesday, November 15th. Judging of webpages will begin on November 18th. Be sure your site is active and ready to be judged by this date.

STEP #7 – Video Competition Submission

To compete in the Video Competition, follow the instructions on the Video Competition Requirements document in this handbook. Videos should be uploaded to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) (can be listed as private if the team prefers) and email the link to Kristen.bond@auburn.edu by the date below:

Hub Competition Dates	Submission Deadline
October 1	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 3
October 8	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 3
October 21	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 17
October 29	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 17
November 4-5	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 17

STEP #8 – Marketing Presentation Time Selection (BEST Award Teams Only)

Marketing Presentations will be held on Saturday, December 3 (9:00am – 12:15pm). Kristen Bond will e-mail you by November 10th to schedule your marketing presentations at which time you will e-mail your top two time slot choices to her by Monday, November 14. The final marketing presentation schedule will be e-mailed to the lead teacher by Thursday, November 17 after all teams have submitted their requests.

STEP #9 – Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If a hearing interpreter is traveling with your party and needs access to areas of the competition site not open to the public, we need to know prior to your arrival to ensure all South's BEST staff members are informed. If you have a student who requires any other accommodations that you believe we need to be aware of, let Kristen know.

STEP #10 – Student Survey

Every participating member of your team **must** complete the Student Survey available in the Forms Section of this handbook. Collect all completed student surveys and turn them in at registration during check-in at South's BEST. **We will not distribute your registration packet or pit packet until we have a form for each student in attendance.**

STEP #11 – Information for Adults

Make copies of key sections of this handbook for other adults in the group. Pay particular attention to the information in the following documents:

- Compliance Checklist
- General Information
- Pit Protocol
- Parking Maps

STEP #12 – Registration Check-In

There will be two registration check-in times available to teams. They are as follows:

- Friday, December 2nd, 3:00 – 7:00pm (Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum) **OR**
- Saturday, December 3rd, 8:00 – 10:00am (Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum)

The primary/lead teacher should check-in at one of the above registration sessions to receive the competition information packet. **Your team must check in before participating in any scheduled events.**



Contact Information

Awards & Judging

Mary Lou Ewald
334-844-5745 (office); 334-444-1513 (cell)
ewaldml@auburn.edu

Event & Logistical Coordination

Kristen Bond
334-844-5769
kristen.bond@auburn.edu

Floor Management

Tj Nguyen
tcn0002@auburn.edu
334-844-7449

Hotel Coordination

Cindy Pugh
334-704-0114
cindy@aotourism.com

Media Coverage

Candis Birchfield
334-844-5734
ceh0012@auburn.edu

School & Team Coordination

Kristen Bond
334-844-5769
kristen.bond@auburn.edu

Technical Coordination

Dan Schnittka
dan.schnittka@gmail.com



2016 Team Information Form

IMPORTANT Information for Advancing Teams!

- This completed form must be e-mailed (Kristen.bond@auburn.edu) or faxed (334.844.5740) by 5:00pm (Central Time) on the Monday immediately following your hub competition.
- Upon receipt of this Team Information Form, a confirmation e-mail will be sent to you specifying your team's eligibility to compete as a Head-to-Head Competition Only team or a BEST Award team.
- The Championship Team Handbook is available at www.southsbest.org.
- Cindy Pugh at the Auburn-Opelika Tourism Bureau will be in touch with you by the Wednesday following of advancement to provide you with hotel options in the area. Teams should NOT book hotel rooms their own.

Team Number (as assigned by your local hub): _____

School Name (as it should appear on plaque): _____

Team website address for entry in the "Best Web Page Award" (optional):

Estimated number of people in your travel party: # of students - _____ # of adults - _____

Hub Affiliate:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bevill BEST (Sumiton, AL) | <input type="checkbox"/> Music City BEST (Nashville, TN) | <input type="checkbox"/> Selma BEST (Selma, AL) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Alabama BEST (Talladega, AL) | <input type="checkbox"/> North Alabama BEST (Hanceville, AL) | <input type="checkbox"/> Shelton State BEST (Tuscaloosa, AL) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emerald Coast BEST (Pensacola, FL) | <input type="checkbox"/> NE Alabama BEST (Rainsville, AL) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Valley BEST (Decatur, AL) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Georgia BEST (Marietta, GA) | <input type="checkbox"/> NW Alabama BEST (Muscle Shoals, AL) | <input type="checkbox"/> War Eagle BEST (Auburn, AL) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jubilee BEST (Mobile, AL) | <input type="checkbox"/> River BEST (Thomasville, AL) | <input type="checkbox"/> Wiregrass BEST (Dothan, AL) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mississippi BEST (Starkville, MS) | | |

Primary Teacher	E-mail	Home or Cell # (after 6pm)
School Mailing Address		City State/Zip
School Phone		School Fax
Type of School (Public, Private, Homeschool)		Total School Enrollment
If public, % of students in Federal FRL Program		Hometown Newspaper

Team Demographics

Grades of Team members (Check all that apply)

____ 5th ____ 7th ____ 9th ____ 11th
____ 6th ____ 8th ____ 10th ____ 12th

Engineering Notebook Guidelines

- Notebooks (hard copy) must be submitted by the deadline below, which is based upon the date of your local hub competition.
- Electronic submission of the notebook is also required by the deadline below. Submit notebooks via the following link: Dropitto.me/notebook_submissions. Password: **notebooks** (this is case sensitive). Submissions should be formatted as such: team#_team_name.pdf. Example: 888_Teddy_High_School.pdf
- Submitted hard copy notebooks must include a copy of the completed *Team Demographics Form*.
- Submitted hard copy notebooks must include an Auburn University Minors on Campus Consent Form for every student planning to attend South's BEST.
- Notebooks, Team Demographic Forms, and Minors on Campus Consent Forms should be submitted to:
COSAM Outreach
South's BEST Notebooks
131 Sciences Center Classrooms Building
315 Roosevelt Concourse
Auburn University, AL 36849

* The *Auburn University Minors on Campus Consent Form* is required for participation in South's BEST. This form is required to adhere to Auburn University's Minors on Campus policy. For questions regarding this form and/or the AU policy, please contact Kristen Bond at 334-844-5769.

Submission Deadline

Competition Dates	Notebook Submission Deadline (this is NOT a postmark date)
October 1	5:00pm CDT, Thursday, October 13
October 8	5:00pm CDT, Thursday, October 20
October 21	5:00pm CDT, Thursday, November 3
October 29	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 10
November 4 - 5	5:00pm CST, Tuesday, November 15

REMEMBER! Notebooks will *not* be judged if...

- We receive it *after* the deadline
- *It does not include* the completed *Team Demographics Form*

BEST Award Advancement Policy

Teams that advance due to their BEST Award placing are **REQUIRED** to compete in the BEST Award at South's.

Teams that advance due to their Robotics rankings are **NOT** invited to compete in the BEST Award at South's UNLESS the same team would have also advanced due to their BEST Award ranking.

Eligible teams will be contacted by a South's BEST Representative to register as a BEST Award Team.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Kristen Bond at Kristen.bond@auburn.edu or call 334-844-5769 or visit www.southsbest.org

Auburn University

Youth Program/Camp Informed Consent, Voluntary Waiver, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risks & Media Release Form

PROGRAM/CAMP INFORMATION

Program/Camp Name: South's BEST Robotics Championship

Date(s): December 2 – 4, 2016 Time(s): 7:00am – 9:30pm daily

Location: Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum, Parker Hall, Science Center Auditorium

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Name of Participant:

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender: M ____ F ____

PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING. THIS IS A LEGALLY BINDING DOCUMENT. THIS FULLY SIGNED FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED BY A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN BEFORE ANY CHILD IS ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ABOVE REFERENCED PROGRAM/CAMP.

I, the undersigned, wish for my Child (hereafter "Child") to participate in the above referenced youth program (hereafter "Program") on the date(s) and location(s) indicated above and, in consideration for my Child's participation, I hereby agree:

I acknowledge, understand and appreciate that as part of my Child's participation in the Program there are dangers, hazards and inherent risks to which my Child may be exposed, including the risk of serious physical injury, temporary or permanent disability, and death, as well as economic and property loss. I further realize that participating in the youth program may involve risks and dangers, both known and unknown, and have elected to allow my Child to take part in the Program. Therefore I, on behalf of my Child, voluntarily accept and assume all risk of injury, loss of life or damage to property arising out of training, preparing, participating and traveling to or from the Program.

I, on behalf of my Child, hereby release Auburn University, its Board of Trustees, Administration, Faculty, Staff, Student Leaders, the Program Staff, and all other officers, directors, employees, volunteers and agents (hereafter "Auburn") from any and all liability as to any right of action that may accrue to my heirs or representatives for any injury to my Child or loss that my Child may suffer while training, preparing, participating and/or traveling to or from the Camp. This agreement is binding on my heirs and assigns.

I, on behalf of my Child, furthermore release, indemnify and hold harmless Auburn from and against any and all liability, actions, debts, claims and demands of every kind whatsoever, specifically including, but not limited to, any claim for negligence or negligent acts or omissions and any present or future claim, loss or liability for injury to person or property that my Child may suffer, for which my Child may be liable to any other person, that may or does arise out of my Child's participation in the Program. I understand that Auburn accepts no responsibility for my Child's personal property.

In the event of an accident or serious illness, I hereby authorize representatives of Auburn to obtain medical treatment for my Child on my behalf. I hereby hold harmless and agree to indemnify Auburn from any claims, causes of action, damages and/or liabilities, arising out of or resulting from said medical treatment. I further agree to accept full responsibility for any and all expenses, including medical expenses that may derive from any injuries to my Child that may occur during his/her participation in the Program.

I hereby grant to Auburn the right to reproduce, use, exhibit, display, broadcast, distribute, exploit, modify, adapt, and create derivative works of photographs, videotaped images or video/audio recordings of my child (hereafter "Materials") by incorporating them into publications, catalogues, brochures, books, magazines, photo exhibits, motion picture films, videos, electronic media, web sites, and/or other media, or commercial, informational, educational, advertising, or promotional materials or publications related thereto (hereafter "Works"). It is agreed that the Works will be used in connection with Auburn business, the activities of Auburn, or for promoting, publicizing or explaining University activities or events. I understand and agree that the University is and shall be the exclusive owner of all right, title, and interest, including copyright, in the Works, and any commercial, informational, educational, advertising, or promotional materials containing the Materials. All electronic or non-electronic negatives, positives, and prints are owned by the University. I also understand that neither I nor my child will receive compensation in connection with the use of my child's image.

This RELEASE shall be governed by and construed under the laws of Alabama. I agree that any legal action or proceeding relating to this RELEASE, or arising out of any injury, death, damage or loss as a result of my Child's participation in any part of the Program, shall be brought only in Lee County, Alabama.

This RELEASE contains the entire agreement between the parties to this agreement and the terms of this RELEASE are contractual and not a mere recital. The information I have provided is disclosed accurately and truthfully. I have been given ample opportunity to read this document and I understand and agree to all of its terms and conditions. I understand that I am giving up substantial rights (including my right to sue), and acknowledge that I am signing this document freely and voluntarily, and intend by my signature to provide a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law. My signature on this document is intended to bind not only myself and my Child but also the successors, heirs, representatives, administrators, and assigns of myself and my Child.

Participant Name _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Participant Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Date _____



BEST Team Demographics – 2016

Submittal of this form is **required** as part of the **Robot Compliance Check** conducted at the local hub. **Please complete prior to this check.** Alternate format (e.g., electronic) is acceptable if approved by your local hub.

School Name:	City/State:			
Most correctly describes school location: <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> Urban/City <input type="checkbox"/> Sub-urban				
Type of school (check the box): <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Home school <input type="checkbox"/> Other:				
Type of school (check the box): <input type="checkbox"/> Middle/Jr. High <input type="checkbox"/> High School <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____				
Which most appropriately describes the total student population at your school: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 to 399 <input type="checkbox"/> 400 to 799 <input type="checkbox"/> 800 to 1199 <input type="checkbox"/> 1200 to 2000 <input type="checkbox"/> greater than 2000				
Number of students on the BEST team by grade: K - 5 th : _____ 6 th : _____ 7 th : _____ 8 th : _____ 9 th : _____ 10 th : _____ 11 th : _____ 12 th : _____				
Number of students on the BEST team by race (<u>optional</u>): African-American: _____ Asian American: _____ Hispanic: _____ Native American: _____ White: _____ Other: _____				
Total number of students on the BEST team: Number of males: _____ Number of females: _____ Total: _____ (males + females)				
Total number of students who worked on the robot: Number of males: _____ Number of females: _____ Total: _____ (males + females)				
Total number of students who worked on the BEST Award: Number of males: _____ Number of females: _____ Total: _____ (males + females)				
Total number of ADULT MENTORS assisting your BEST team (NOT including teachers): _____				
How is the BEST program implemented at your school? <input type="checkbox"/> Extracurricular activity <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom integration <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____				
Approximate number of students on your BEST team that are		Male	Female	Total
• intending to pursue higher education (tech school, college, university)		_____	_____	_____
• likely to take STEM courses in higher education		_____	_____	_____
• likely to pursue STEM-related degrees in higher education		_____	_____	_____
Approximate number of students on your BEST team likely to pursue careers in engineering, science, math, or technology:				
Number of males: _____ Number of females: _____ Total: _____ (males + females)				
Our team/school used the following software provided by BEST Robotics (check all that apply):				
<input type="checkbox"/> MathWorks Simulink		<input type="checkbox"/> easyCv4	<input type="checkbox"/> RobotC	
<input type="checkbox"/> SolidWorks		<input type="checkbox"/> HSM Works	<input type="checkbox"/> Siemens SolidEdge	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mathematica		<input type="checkbox"/> Solidwize (SolidWorks Training)		



Women in Science and Engineering Luncheon Registration

South's BEST is proud to once again host an event for women with an interest in science and engineering. This year, the event will be a luncheon on Saturday, December 3 from 12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m. at the Science Center Auditorium. Seating is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis.

Each BEST team may register 8 students and up to two adult chaperones until spaces fill. Once Kristen has confirmed your school's seats at the luncheon, teams may substitute students into those slots without notifying the South's BEST staff.

Fax or e-mail this completed form to Kristen by Tuesday, November 15th.

Team #: _____ School: _____

Local Hub: _____

Primary teacher name: _____ Cell #: _____

Primary teacher email: _____

First Name	Last Name	Indicate student, teacher, mentor, parent	Grade in school (students only)	Check below if vegetarian meal is needed

Send completed form to:

Kristen Bond

E-mail: kristen.bond@auburn.edu Fax: 334-844-5740



2016 Championship T-Shirt Pre-Order Form

T-shirts are \$13 pre-order, or \$15 on-site. Payment for pre-order shirts must be by credit card, check, or purchase order no later than **Tuesday, November 15th**. T-shirts can be picked up at the Registration table. DO NOT SEND THIS FORM HOME WITH STUDENTS!

Only ONE pre-order form from each participating school is allowed.

Team #: _____ School: _____

Primary teacher name: _____

Primary teacher email: _____ Primary teacher phone: _____



Size	Quantity	Extra Charge	Total Cost
S		NA	
M		NA	
L		NA	
XL		NA	
2XL		+\$1.00	
3XL		+\$2.00	
Total		NA	

Please mail or fax completed form and payment to:

COSAM Outreach (South's BEST)
131 Sciences Center Classrooms Building
Auburn University, AL 36849
(phone) 334-844-5769 • (fax) 334-844-5740

Payment (please check one below):

- Purchase Order (#_____)
 Check (payable to Auburn University)
 Credit: (circle one) Visa/MasterCard*

in the amount of \$ _____
in amount the of \$ _____
in amount the of \$ _____

Card number*: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Cardholder's Name: _____

3-digit Code: _____

Billing Address: _____

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Signature: _____

For security purposes, *please do not e-mail credit card information. Questions can be directed to Kristen Bond at 334-844-5769 or at Kristen.bond@auburn.edu



Student Survey

Name: _____ City/State: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Gender: Female Male

1.) Do you intend/want to go to college?

- Yes
 No

If so, where would you like to attend? _____

What field of study do you plan to major in?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Fine Arts (art, music, film, theatre) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture/ Design/ Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> History/ Literature/ English |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business (marketing, accounting, aviation, etc) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications/ Journalism | <input type="checkbox"/> Medicine/ Health/ Veterinary/ Nursing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Criminology / Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Psychology/ Social Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Science (chemistry, biology, physics) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering/ Computer Science | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

2.) If you are NOT planning to attend college, why not?

- I have no interest in attending college I can't afford to attend college
 I plan to get a job Other: _____

3.) Has participating in the BEST Program increased your interest in the fields of math, science, and/or engineering?

- Yes
 No

4.) How many years (including this year) have you participated in BEST?

- 1 year 3 years
 2 years More than 3 years: _____

5.) Are you a member of your school's BEST team or are you attending as a visitor supporting your schools' BEST team?

- Team Member
 Visitor



2016 Awards and Judging Logistics



Section 1 South's BEST Expectations & Standard Awards

All South's BEST participating teams MUST:

- Build a robot and compete on the game floor.
- Complete an Engineering Notebook:
 - ALL participating teams are required to submit an Engineering Notebook at both the local competition and the regional championship following the guidelines in Section 4, Category I of the BEST Award Guidelines section of this document. All notebooks will be evaluated on a 30-point scale, as defined in the BEST Award Guidelines section of this document.
 - The notebook scores of all teams will be used to determine which 8 teams earn a chance to participate in one of two “wildcard” matches. The winning wildcard teams will be two of sixteen total teams that advance to the semifinals rounds.
- Complete and submit the required 2016 Team Demographics information with your notebook.

All Teams Eligible for the following awards (1st – 3rd Place trophies or plaques for each)

Head-to-Head Competition Award

Trophies are awarded to the top teams in the robotics competition. In addition, the fourth place team will also receive an award recognizing the significant accomplishment of making it to the final Championship Round of play.

The highest placing Middle School team in the Head-to-Head division receives a trophy recognizing its accomplishment.

Founders Award for Creative Design

Awarded to the team that makes the best use of the engineering process in consideration of offensive and defensive capabilities in machine design; awarded in recognition of BEST founders Steve Marum and Ted Mahler.

Most Robust Robot

Awarded to the team whose machine requires the least maintenance during and between matches and is generally the sturdiest machine in the competition.

Software Design and Simulation Award

Awarded to the team that developed the most efficient software program for their machine and utilized software simulation for verifying its operation.

Engineering Notebook Award

Awarded to the team that scores the highest on the Engineering Notebook category.

Neptune Technology Group Most Elegant Robot

Awarded to the team whose machine demonstrates the best design and execution of the game...the machine that makes you say “Wow!”

Most Photogenic Robot

Awarded to the team whose machine is the most eye pleasing.

igus TOP GUN Award (First Place Only)

Awarded to the team that scores the most points in a single match.

Best Mascot

Awarded to the team whose mascot inspires the most enthusiasm from the crowd.

Team-Wear Design Award

Awarded for the most original game-specific team-wear design. Team-wear entries should be items worn by all team members and supporters (button down shirts, golf shirt, etc.), not a one-of-a-kind item designed specifically for judging consideration. In addition, teams should submit a brief explanation of their design (no longer than one page) with their shirt. The explanation sheet should clearly identify the team # and school name and be attached to the shirt by pin, clothespin, paperclip, or some similar device. **Entries should be submitted to the Registration/Information Desk before 3PM on Saturday, December 3 to be considered for judging.** Items may be picked up at the Registration Desk on Sunday afternoon.

Web Page Design Award

The website is a marketing tool to be used by the “BEST company” to both market their robot for retail sales and to emphasize that their company is the best company by which to purchase a robot. On a well organized and professionally presented website, teams should showcase their company’s team members, development efforts, and community outreach with consideration to the constraints of the game theme. Judging will be based on the following categories: basic information, navigation, functionality, layout/readability, content/game theme, community outreach, and creativity/originality.

The web address should be included on the 2016 Team Information Form (faxed after local hub competitions) or emailed to Kristen Bond, kristen.bond@auburn.edu **no later than Tuesday, November 15th. Please make sure web pages are completed and active by November 17th at 8:00am CDT.**

CAD Award (1st place only)

Awarded to the team that shows the highest mastery and most creative use of CAD software. Criteria used to assess the designs include best use of CAD software, quality of designs, and degree of difficulty and mastery. Any CAD software may be used. Each team can submit a maximum of 10 pages of CAD drawings, and should include one additional description page (no more than one page typed) of how the team implemented CAD in their design process and

what type of software was used to develop the drawings. These documents should be placed in an envelope or a binder labeled with the school name and team # on the outside. **Drawings can be submitted to the Registration Table by Saturday, December 3rd for consideration.**

BEST Simulink Design Award

The “BEST Simulink Design Award” is open to all teams participating in the competition. The award will be presented to one team in each of the 4 BEST regions (Northern Plains, Frontier Trails, South’s, Texas) that best applies the ‘Simulink Support Package for VEX’ based on the specified judging criteria and their robot performance in the competition. Any team using MathWorks MATLAB/Simulink to design their software (i.e. robot program) is eligible.

See the Judging Rubrics and Guidelines category within the Championship Handbook for additional information.

BEST Software Design and Simulation Award

The Software Design and Simulation Award is presented to the team that is able to best describe and articulate their software design process, techniques, and experiences in their Engineering Notebook. It is intended to recognize teams who understand that “programming” is an essential part of their overall robot design and requires just as much thought as the mechanical/electrical design.

The team scoring the highest in the Software Design and Simulation portion of the Engineering Notebook evaluation at each hub will receive this award and be entered into a nationwide drawing for one of (3) three \$1000 cash awards, to be announced at the conclusion of all local hub competitions. A separate score sheet is provided for evaluating the Software Design and Simulation portion of the Engineering Notebook.

Section 2 BEST Award Categories

Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama Team Exhibit Design and Construction Award (BEST Award teams only)

Awarded to the top three teams with the most creative and innovative Exhibit design.

Team Exhibit and Interview Award (BEST Award teams only)

Awarded to the team that scores the highest on the Team Exhibit and Interview category.

Project Lead the Way Marketing Presentation Award (BEST Award teams only)

Awarded to the team that scores the highest on the Marketing Presentation category.

Spirit and Sportsmanship Award (BEST Award teams only)

Awarded to the team that scores the highest on the Spirit and Sportsmanship category of the BEST award competition.

BEST Award (BEST Award teams only)

Awarded to the team that best embodies the concept of ***Boosting Engineering, Science and Technology***. Winning the BEST Award is considered the highest achievement any team in the competition can accomplish. The teams ranked 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the BEST Award Division will receive trophies superior to the teams finishing 1st-3rd in the Head-to-Head Robotics Division.

Section 3 Team Demographics Information

Minimum Requirements

The 2016 Team Demographics Form MUST be included as part of the Engineering Notebook. Failure to include this form will result in ineligibility to participate in the competition.

Section 4 BEST Award Requirements and Logistics

Teams electing to participate in the BEST Award recognize that inclusiveness, diversity of participation, exposure to and use of the engineering process, sportsmanship, teamwork, creativity, positive attitude and enthusiasm, and school and community involvement play significant roles in a team's competitive experience and contribute to student success in the competition beyond winning an award.

In accordance with the BEST philosophy, **materials submitted by teams must be the work of students**. The involvement of student peers in auxiliary roles to support a school's official BEST team with the documentation – i.e., journalists, photographers, and/or artists– is encouraged.

Due to space limitations, we will enforce a limit on the number of BEST Award teams that are eligible to compete at South's BEST. Teams that advance due to their BEST Award placing will be expected to compete in the BEST Award at South's. If the team advanced due to their Robotics rankings, they will NOT be invited to compete in the BEST Award at South's UNLESS the same team would have also advanced due to their BEST Award ranking.

All teams competing for the BEST Award must participate in and be judged on the following categories:

Judging Category	Point Value
Engineering Notebook	30 points
Marketing Presentation	25 points
Team Exhibit and Interviews	20 points
Spirit and Sportsmanship	10 points
Robot Performance	15 points
<i>Total</i>	<i>100 points</i>

Category I: Engineering Notebook (30 points)

Notebook Guidelines & Requirements

- **ALL** Teams (both BEST Award and non-BEST Award competing teams) are required to submit an Engineering Notebook.
- The purpose of the notebook is to document the process the team used to design, build, and test their robot.
- Notebooks (hard copy) must be submitted by the deadline below, which is based upon the date of your local hub competition.
- Electronic submission of the notebook is also required by the deadline below. Submit notebooks via the following link: Dropitto.me/notebook_submissions Password: **notebooks** (this is case sensitive). Submissions should be formatted as such: team#_team_name.pdf. Example: 888_Teddy_High_School.pdf.
- The 2016 Team Demographics Form **MUST** be included as part of the Engineering Notebook. Failure to include this form will result in ineligibility to participate in the competition.
- Submitted hard copy notebooks **must include** an Auburn University Minors on Campus Consent Form for every student planning to attend South's BEST.
- Notebooks can be mailed/hand-delivered to:
COSAM Outreach
South's BEST Notebooks
131 Sciences Center Classrooms Building
315 Roosevelt Concourse
Auburn University, AL 36849

Hub Competition Dates	Submission Deadline (this is NOT a postmark deadline)
October 1	5:00pm CDT, Thursday, October 13
October 8	5:00pm CDT, Thursday, October 20
October 21	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 3
October 29	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 10
November 4-5	5:00pm CST, Tuesday, November 15

- During the competition, the notebook scores of all teams will be used to determine which eight teams earn a chance to participate in one of two “wildcard” slots. The wildcard teams will be two of sixteen total teams that advance to the semi-final rounds.
- It is recommended that teams competing in the BEST Award print a hard copy of their notebooks and place it in the Team Exhibit.

- The notebook must meet the following specifications:
 - Submitted in a *standard* 3-ring binder with a maximum 2" ring size
 - 32 typed **single-sided** pages or less (note that title page and Table of Contents page will not be counted as part of the 32 pages)
 - Research paper: Within the 32 pages, include a description of how the current year's game theme is related to current technological practices or scientific research with an emphasis on robotics and its relation to said theme (minimum of 2 pages, maximum of 5 pages out of the 32 allotted)
 - Binder cover must identify the school name, teacher contact, and team #
 - Provide description of the process the team used to design and complete its robot
 - Standard, 8½" x 11" paper, double-spaced, 1" margins, and Times New Roman (preferred) or similar business-style font no smaller than 12 point. Single-spacing is acceptable in tables and outlines.
 - Teams may include a supplemental appendix of no more than 20 double-sided sheets (40 pages total) of information. The appendix may include support documentation such as drawings, photos, organization charts, minutes of team meetings, test results, etc. **This material should directly support the process described in the primary document and NOT reflect activities related to community or promotional efforts, spirit development, or team-building.**

Notebook Evaluation

- The notebook will be judged on the team's documentation of the following:
 - **Implementation of the Engineering Design Process**
 - Evidence that the engineering process was effectively used.
 - **Research Paper**
 - Correlation between the current year's game and how related technological practices or scientific research is being used at a company/industry/research lab in the team's state or region; any information related to the game theme, such as history, famous inventor(s), or major milestones; creativity in linking game theme to appropriately related science/technology content; proper use of grammar and composition throughout paper, citations of sources used to gather information for the paper.
 - The research paper must be a minimum of 2 pages and maximum of 5 pages (of the allotted 32 pages).

- **Brainstorming Approaches**
 - How well organized and productive was the brainstorming approach used? How well was the brainstorming approach documented?
- **Analytical Evaluation of Design Alternatives**
 - Use of analytical and mathematical skills in deciding upon and implementing design alternatives.
- **Offensive and Defensive Evaluation**
 - Analysis of gaming strategies and design elements to achieve goals.
- **Software Design & Simulation**
 - Evidence of custom software design vs. using the default robot program.
 - Evidence that a software design process was followed.
 - Demonstration of design and functionality applicable to the defined task.
 - Evidence of use of software simulation (e.g., Simulink, virtual worlds, etc.) to verify the correct operation of the robot program.
 - Evidence that good software design practices, testing/debugging techniques and efficiency and portability were all considered.
 - Award given for this component. See Section 1 for more information.
- **Safety**
 - Evidence that safety training occurred and safe practices were followed to prevent students' misuse of tools and other devices/equipment that may result in personal injury or damage to property.
- **Support Documentation**
 - CAD/other drawings, photos, organization, team minutes, test results, etc. that support the main document.
- **Overall Quality and Completeness of Notebook**
 - Organization, appearance, adherence to specifications, and quality of content.
 - Teams must submit the required Minors on Campus Parent Consent form for every student on the robotics team planning to attend the event.

Category II: Marketing Presentation (25 points)

Marketing presentations will take place on Saturday, December 3 from 9:00am – 12:15 pm in the Science Center Classrooms. The sign-up form for Marketing Presentation time slots will be emailed to all teams by November 10 with teams emailing their top two time slot choices to kristen.bond@auburn.edu by **Monday, November 14th**. Teams that have not requested a time slot by that time will be assigned a time slot. Information about Marketing Presentation time

slots, maps, and room locations can be found in each team's Registration Packet (picked up at Registration).

For the marketing presentation, the team should view themselves as employees of a "company" that is marketing their "product" (robot) to a "potential buyer" (judges). This marketing team is an integral part of the engineering team that has designed a specialized robot. The marketing presentation should provide information about their company, the engineering team involved in the design and construction of the product, and why their product is the best one on the market that can complete the assigned task. The potential buyers/investors will assess the following:

- The company's demographics, budget, and operations (e.g. company structure and operations, evidence of diversity of employees, evidence of budget that includes sponsorship and expenditures, etc.)
- The company's design and manufacturing process (engineering process of "design to market", including a discussion on the advantages of your company's robot design)
- Marketing strategies to promote the product (e.g. school and community involvement, promotional efforts, etc.)
- The company's use of technological resources to accomplish the task (e.g. CAD, programming tools, computer simulations, diagnostic tools, web page development, presentation software, etc.)
- Overall quality of presentation, including adherence to guidelines for this category.

Marketing Presentation Guidelines

- A minimum of 4 and a maximum of 8 students should actively participate in the presentation.
- An audience will be allowed to quietly observe the presentations. The size of the allowed audience is space-dependent.
 - Each presentation room will have an official Room Monitor (not a judge) to ensure that the presentation team is not being disturbed or coached by audience members.
 - Audience members are not allowed to ask questions during the Q&A session.
- Adults are not allowed to participate, including setting up or taking down equipment for the presentation.
- Representation by student presenters from more than one grade level is encouraged and will be considered in the evaluation as part of the team's recruitment efforts.
- Videography/photography by team representatives will be allowed during the presentation, however, the person(s) handling videotaping will be counted in the 8 maximum number allowed.
- The presentation format is the prerogative of the team.

Equipment Guidelines

- The following equipment is available to all teams: Macbook Pro equipped with MS Office 2011, projector, and a screen. More information to be e-mailed.

Marketing Presentation Time Breakdown

- **Check-In station: Saturday, December 3 – Science Center Classroom #115**
- Teams should check in 20 minutes prior to their time slot.
- The order and breakdown for the 20-minute presentation time period is as follows:

○ <i>15 minutes</i>	Presentation
○ <i>5 minutes</i>	Q&A with judges
○ <i>3 minutes</i>	Break-down and clear room

Note: Teams will have a maximum time of 15 minutes for their presentation, including any necessary set-up or breakdown.

- **Please bring a copy of team's presentation on a jump drive.**
- **Teams are allowed to use their own equipment, however, they should account for the extra time needed to set up their equipment. Any time needed to set-up/break down equipment will count against the 15-minute presentation time.**

Marketing Presentation Evaluation

- Presentations will be evaluated with consideration of:
 - **Company Demographics, Budget & Operations**
 - Well-defined roles as company employees/owners/managers; methods of company decision-making; organization of company departments for product development; company demographics; evidence of budget including sponsorship and expenditures
 - **Design and Manufacturing Process (Engineering Design Process)**
 - Brainstorming approaches; game strategy evaluation; analytical evaluation of design alternatives; effective implementation of the engineering process

- **Marketing Strategies**
 - Publicity efforts to inform school and community of company's product (e.g. school newsletters, presentations to community and/or school groups, fliers/brochures, posters, press releases, commercials, etc.)
- **Use of Available Technology**
 - CAD or other drawings; software programming and simulation; Web page development, computer simulations, use of presentation software
- **Quality of Presentation**
 - Well organized and prepared; met required specifications; communication skills and professionalism; achieved goal of marketing company's robot; creativity of format; quality of question and answer session with judges

Category III: Team Exhibit and Interviews (20 points)

- The purpose of the exhibit and interviews category is to creatively:
 - a. Communicate an understanding of the game theme
 - b. Demonstrate how the team has promoted BEST in the school and community
- Team Exhibits will be located on the 3rd floor concourse of the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum. The South's BEST office will assign team locations for displays. Teams will be directed to their assigned location upon registration.
- Team Exhibit set-up can begin after team check-in at the Registration desk in the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum. Exhibits should be completely set up by 7:00pm on Saturday and students should be prepared for judges to begin visiting their tables starting at 9:30am on Sunday. Note that judging will NOT occur during the lunch break (12-1) on Sunday.
- During the designated interview time, at least one student representative from the team must be present who is able to respond to informal questions asked about the exhibit. In addition, student representatives should be aware that judges may ask questions concerning robot design and construction. These questions will be part of the interview evaluation of the team.
- It is anticipated that judging of Exhibits will be finished no later than 3:30pm. Note that judging will NOT occur during the lunch break (anticipated 12 noon to 1:00pm).
- Teams should be sure that their Exhibit is clearly marked with school name and team #.
- We anticipate that teams will be able to dismantle Team Exhibits starting at 3:30pm on Sunday. Please wait until the official announcement before any breakdown begins.
- Teams should not leave valuable equipment in the Exhibit booth overnight.

Exhibit and Interview Guidelines

- Tables will not be provided at South's BEST. Teams wishing to have a table in their booth should supply their own.
- Each team should bring one extension cord and one power strip IF the display requires electricity.
- Other exhibit items may be used but must not exceed an 8' X 8' X 8' space allocation.
- Teams are encouraged to avoid using expensive store-bought display boards and structures and opt for more creative and hand-made display props.
- Any audio-visual equipment needs and extra extension cords will be the responsibility of the team.
- Although reasonable effort will be made by South's BEST staff to monitor the concourse area, each team is responsible for security of its own material.
- Each team is also responsible for breakdown of its team materials and cleanup of its exhibit area starting at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday.
- Fog machines and strobe lighting are not allowed in booths.
- Heat generating devices are not allowed in booths (e.g., blow dryers, soldering irons, utility lamps, 3D printers, etc.). Standard string/Christmas lights are fine.
- All material should be clearly marked with the appropriate identification and contact information.
- **Candy and other food or drink items are not permitted at Team Exhibits as complimentary handouts.**
- **No live animals may be distributed as part of a team's give-aways.**
- Teams should expect to be visited by three to four different judges over the entire judging period.
- Judges may also interview team members in the pit area and in the seating area on Sunday.

Exhibit and Interview Evaluation

- **Exhibits** (13 points) will be evaluated on:

- Sharing information and/or technology resources, and mentoring other schools, including other BEST teams
 - Presentations and robot demonstrations to other schools and community groups
 - Publicity (print materials, media/press) generated within the school and within the community about BEST
 - Fundraising and/or sponsorship efforts (strategies used to recruit sponsors, team fund raisers, description of how funds were allocated to support team, team budget information available for review)
 - Use of technology, display models or boards, or multi-media at exhibit in promotion of BEST
 - Creativity in incorporating game theme into design and presentation of this exhibit
 - Compliance with specifications (did not exceed space allocation)
- **Interviews** (7 points) will be evaluated on:
 - Evidence of students' enthusiasm, learning experience, and understanding of the game theme
 - Evidence that recruitment efforts for the team included multiple grade levels and students from a cross-section of the school population
 - Evidence that students were the primary designers and builders of the robot, team exhibits, and all related materials.

Category IV: Spirit and Sportsmanship (10 Points)

Spirit and Sportsmanship Guidelines

- Judges will evaluate this category on Game Weekend.
- Judges will observe the spirit promoted by the team during the head-to-head competition matches as well as the team's conduct throughout the weekend in the seating area, team exhibit area, game floor, and pit area.
- Judges may also consider the teams' conduct at the entire competition (Saturday, Saturday evening, hotel locations, etc.).

Spirit and Sportsmanship Evaluation

- Spirit includes the vigor and enthusiasm displayed by team representatives.
- Teams can use posters, props, t-shirts, cheerleaders, musicians, mascots, costumes, and **lower-frequency, lower-intensity** noise-makers to increase the level of spirit.
- No tape of any kind can be used on any Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum surface to secure posters, banners, spirit signage, etc. Teams should plan to use rope, cable ties, string, etc. when securing spirit stick items to Coliseum surfaces. Tape may be used inside Team Exhibits on surfaces provided by the team.
- The following noise-makers are banned at the event: air-horns, whistles (and similar high frequency items), bass drums (and similar low frequency items), amplified sound or amplified instruments.
- Instruments, including bass drums, will only be allowed during specified spirit breaks and should not be played unless invited by the emcee.
- The Head Judge has the right to ban any noise-makers that are deemed to potentially cause hearing damage by those in attendance at South's BEST.
- Community involvement: number of team supporters present at competition (other than team members).
- Sportsmanship includes outward displays of sportsmanship (i.e. helping other teams in need), grace in winning and losing, and conduct and attitude considered befitting participation in sports.
- Overall team sportsmanship is also demonstrated by students (not mentors) making all of the robot adjustments and repairs during the competition.
- **Spirit Stick:** To facilitate judging, each competing team may bring a “spirit stick” for identification in the seating area. Specifications include:
 - School name and/or team number prominently displayed and visible by judges from a distance
 - Pole constructed of PVC pipe or similar material (should not be pointed or sharp on either end)
 - Maximum height of 8 feet
 - Maximum of 5 spirit sticks per team

- Spirit sticks are meant solely as a means of team identification by the judges during the competition. Please do not attach spirit sticks to the seating area.
- Note that the Coliseum may not be well-lighted during the competition so teams may wish to take this into account when designing their spirit stick. The easier a team is to identify, the happier the judges are!

Category V: Robot Performance (15 Points)

- The fifth category, *Robot Performance*, will determine the final 15% of possible BEST Award points. These 15 points will be based on the total game points earned throughout the seeding competition (prior to the semi-final and championship rounds) according to the following scale:

○ Team finishes in top 20% of all teams competing	15 Points
○ Team finishes in top 40% of all teams competing	12 Points
○ Team finishes in top 60% of all teams competing	9 Points
○ Team finishes in top 80% of all teams competing	6 Points
○ Team finishes in top 100% of all teams competing	3 Points
○ Team is unable to score any points during the competition	0 Points
- Up to 15 Robot Performance points will be added to the total BEST Award points.

Section 5 Additional Information

Seating at South's BEST

Teams may establish seating blocks upon check-in. We ask that teams only reserve the number of seats they need so that all teams can sit together in blocks.

Results

- A distinguished team of judges from both private and public sectors with technical and non-technical expertise will evaluate teams with all judges serving on a rotation schedule.
- Category scores will be the average of each judges' individual scores. Teams should know in advance that scores among many teams frequently differ by only fractions of a point.
- Each team will be mailed a copy of its score sheets following the competition. Top rankings will be posted on the South's BEST website at www.southsbest.org

Team Number: _____

School: _____

2016 Engineering Notebook Score Sheet

Purpose: To document the process used to design, build, and test the robot (30 Points)	Possible Points	Score
RESEARCH PAPER (4 Points)		
▪ Correlation between game and how the science/technology is being used at a company/industry/research lab in the team's state or region	10	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Any related information of game theme, such as history, famous inventor(s), or major milestones.	10	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Creativity in linking game theme to appropriately related science content	10	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Proper use of grammar and composition throughout paper, citations of sources used to gather information for paper, stayed within 2-5 page limit	10	
<i>Comments:</i>		
DESIGN PROCESS (17 Points)		
▪ Implementation of the Engineering Design Process Evidence that the engineering process was effectively used.	25	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Brainstorming Approaches How well organized and productive was the brainstorming approach used? How well was the brainstorming approach documented?	25	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Analytical Evaluation of Design Alternatives Use of analytical and mathematical skills in deciding upon and implementing design alternatives	25	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Offensive and Defensive Evaluation Analysis of gaming strategies and design elements used to achieve team goals	25	
<i>Comments:</i>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Software Design and Simulation (from additional scoresheet) Evidence of custom software design vs default program; Demonstration of software design process; Evidence of use of simulation (e.g., Simulink) to verify correct operation of robot program; Consideration of good software design practices such as comments, naming conventions, design simplicity, modularity, portability, etc. 	25	
<i>Comments:</i> (see Software Design and Simulation Scoresheet)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety Evidence that safety training occurred and safe practices were followed to prevent students' misuse of tools and other devices/equipment that may result in personal injury or damage to property 	20	
<i>Comments:</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Documentation CAD/other drawings, photos, team organization, meeting minutes, test results, etc. that support the main document (max 20 double-sided pages) 	25	
<i>Comments:</i>		
OVERALL QUALITY AND COMPLETENESS OF NOTEBOOK (9 Points)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organization and appearance Table of contents, summary, page numbers, discussion of evaluation points, linkage to appendices 	30	
<i>Comments:</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adherence to specifications Standard binder, business font no smaller than 12 pt., double-spaced (single spaced ok in tables and outlines), 32 one-sided page limit for main section, 20 double-sided page limit for appendices, 1" margins, cover sheet and/or title page that identifies the school team name, teacher contact information, and team number. 	30	
<i>Comments:</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of content Well written descriptions, clear photo labels, lack of extraneous material such as community or promotional efforts, spirit development, team building, etc. 	30	
<i>Comments:</i>		
Total	300	
	÷10	÷ 10
Final score:	30	

Team Number: _____

School: _____

2016 Marketing Presentation Score Sheet

Purpose: To present information and respond to questions concerning the company's effectiveness in creating a product ready for market. (25 pts.)		Possible Points	Score
COMPANY DEMOGRAPHICS, BUDGET & OPERATIONS (5 Points)			
▪ Company structure and operations (well-defined roles as company employees/owners/managers, methods of company decision-making, etc.)	20		
<i>Comments:</i>			
▪ Organization of company departments for product development	10		
<i>Comments:</i>			
▪ Company demographics (evidence of diversity – male, female, variety of grades represented, minority involvement)	10		
<i>Comments:</i>			
▪ Evidence of a budget (how funds were generated, company expenses, etc.)	10		
<i>Comments:</i>			
DESIGN & MANUFACTURING PROCESS (ENGINEERING PROCESS) (3 Points)			
▪ Brainstorming approaches, including game strategy evaluation	10		
<i>Comments:</i>			
▪ Analytical evaluation of design alternatives	10		
<i>Comments:</i>			
▪ Effective implementation of engineering process	10		
<i>Comments:</i>			
MARKETING STRATEGIES (3 Points)			
▪ Publicity efforts to inform school and community of company's effort (e.g. school newsletters, presentations to community and/or school groups, fliers/brochures, posters, press releases, etc.)	30		
<i>Comments:</i>			

USE OF AVAILABLE TECHNOLOGY (4 Points)

▪ CAD or other drawings, Computer programming, software simulation	20	
<i>Comments:</i>		

▪ Web page development/computer simulations/PowerPoint	20	
<i>Comments:</i>		

QUALITY OF PRESENTATION (10 Points)

▪ Communication skills and professionalism of presenters. Understandable, well organized, prepared.	30	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Met specifications for presentations (time limit, minimum 4 presenters, maximum 8 presenters, set-up and break-down by students)	10	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Achieved goal of marketing the company's 'product'	20	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Creativity of format	20	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Q&A quality in responses to judges	20	
<i>Comments:</i>		

Overall Comments:

Total	250	
	<u>÷10</u>	<u>÷ 10</u>
Final score:	25 max	

Judge name/number (print): _____

Team Number: _____

School: _____

2016 Team Exhibit and Interviews Score Sheet

Purpose: To creatively a) communicate an understanding of the game theme, and b) demonstrate how the team has promoted BEST in the school and community (20 pts.)	Possible Points	Score
EXHIBIT: LEVEL & QUALITY OF INFO PRESENTED ON PROMOTION OF BEST CONCEPT (13 points)		
▪ Sharing information and/or technology resources, and mentoring other schools, including other BEST teams	15	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Presentations & robot demonstrations to other schools & community groups	15	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Publicity (print materials, media/press) generated within the school and within the community about BEST	15	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Fund raising and/or sponsorship efforts (strategies used to recruit sponsors, team fund raisers, description of how funds were allocated to support team, team budget information available for review)	15	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Use of technology, display models or boards, or multi-media at exhibit in promotion of BEST	20	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Creativity in incorporating game theme into design and presentation of this exhibit	40	
<i>Comments:</i>		

▪ Compliance with specifications (did not exceed space allocation)	10	
<i>Comments:</i>		
INTERVIEWS AT EXHIBIT, IN PIT, AND IN STANDS (7 points)		
▪ Evidence of students' learning experience, and understanding of the game theme	20	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Evidence of students' enthusiasm about their experience in BEST	10	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Evidence that recruitment efforts for this team included multiple grade levels and students from a cross-section of the school population	10	
<i>Comments:</i>		
▪ Evidence that students were the primary designers and builders of robot, team exhibit and all materials	30	
<i>Comments:</i>		
Total		200
<u>÷10</u>		<u>÷ 10</u>
Final score:		20 max
<i>Additional Comments:</i>		

Judge name/number (print): _____

Team Number: _____

School: _____

2016 Spirit and Sportsmanship Score Sheet

Purpose: To display team spirit & sportsmanship at the Competition (10 points)	Possible Points	Score
SPIRIT ! (4 points)		
▪ Exhibit vigor and enthusiasm throughout competition event.\	12	
Comments:		
▪ Use of signs, posters, props, costumes, t-shirts, etc.	12	
Comments:		
▪ Cheerleaders, mascots, bands, organized noise-makers, etc.	8	
Comments:		
▪ Number of supporters with school (other than students)	8	
Comments:		
SPORTSMANSHIP (6 points)		
▪ Outward display of sportsmanship (e.g. helping other teams in need)	20	
Comments:		
▪ Conduct an attitude considered befitting participation in sports (e.g., grace in winning or losing).\	20	
Comments:		
▪ Evidence that students are the <u>primary</u> “pit crew” (robot repairs and adjustments during competition)	20	
Comments:		
Total	100	
	$\div 10$	$\div 10$
Final Score	10 max	

Judge name/number (print):_____

Page 1 of 1



Webpage Design Specifications

The website is a marketing tool to be used by the BEST company to both market their robot for retail sales and to emphasize that their company is the best company to purchase a robot from by showcasing their company's team members, development efforts, and community outreach within the constraints of the game theme. Judging will be based on the following categories: basic information, navigation, functionality, layout/readability, content/game theme, and community outreach. See the below rubric for specific judging criteria.

To compete in the Web page Design competition, submit the URL on the Team Information Form OR email the address to Kristen.Bond@auburn.edu by Tuesday, November 15. Judging of webpages will begin on November 17th. Be sure your site is active and ready to be judged by this date.

Category	Points
Basic Information	
Product Identified by Name/Title	The title/name of the product being provided by the BEST company is obvious to the user and clearly identified on the homepage. /4
Lead-in Statement	The homepage has a clearly and concisely written lead-in describing who the company is and what the product entails. /2
Contact Information	Every Web page contains a statement of authorship, school name, and the date of publication/date last edited. /2
Citation	Fair use guidelines are followed with clear, easy-to-locate and accurate citations for all borrowed material. No material is included from websites that state that permission is required unless permission has been obtained. /2
Navigation	
Internal Linking Pages	The website has three or more unique, internally linked pages. /4
Navigability	Page(s) navigation is consistent, easily accessible, and user friendly. All internally linked pages contain a title and have a defined purpose. /12
Functionality	
Compatibility	The site has been tested and shown to work in all current versions of Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, and Safari. /4
Load Time	The pages typically load very quickly on a standard connection due to good compression of sounds and graphics, appropriate division of content and avoidance of excessive animations that slow down the experience. /2
Mobile Access	Site functions with equal navigability with current smart phone browsers. /8
Image Accessibility	All images, especially those that are used for navigation, have an ALT tag that describes the image. /2

Layout /Readability		
Basic Layout	The site has exceptionally attractive layout. White space, graphics, divider lines, bullets and/or alignment are used to effectively organize material.	/8
Spelling & Grammar	There are no errors in spelling, punctuation or grammar.	/4
Background and Continuity	Background is exceptionally attractive, consistent across pages, adds to the theme or purpose of the site, and does not detract from readability. All individual pages look as though they belong to the same site.	/2
Color Choices	Colors of background, fonts, un-visited and visited links form a pleasing palette, do not detract from the content, and are consistent across the pages.	/2
Fonts	The fonts are consistent, easy to read and point size varies appropriately for headings and text. Use of font styles is used consistently and improves readability.	/2
Clarity	The text on the entire site is clearly and concisely written to enhance readability	/4
Content/Game Theme		
Graphics	Graphics are related to the theme/purpose of the site, are thoughtfully cropped, are of high quality and enhance reader interest or understanding	/4
Interest	The author has made an exceptional attempt to make the content of this site interesting to the people for whom it is intended.	/4
Audience Needs	The site addresses has effectively met its specific audience needs by defining of technical terms, using appropriate tone, and developing ideas at the appropriate level.	/4
Content	The site has a clear purpose and theme, which are carried throughout the entire site.	/4
Game Theme	The site shows exceptional understanding of game related material and where to find additional information related to the game theme.	/4
Community Outreach		
Outreach Efforts	The site effectively documents the company's community outreach efforts. These efforts could include (but not limited to): visits to other schools, efforts aimed at introducing younger students to robotics, or robot demonstrations at community civic organizations (Rotary, Lion's, etc.).	/4
Creativity/Originality		
Creativity	The overall "wow" factor of the website. These elements should be present: modern, clean, attractive; over all the website should be enjoyable to use and explore.	/6
Originality	The site appears to be written exclusively by students. If third party website editors are used as tools in the site creation (i.e., Weebly, Wix, etc.), originality is still present and unique.	/6
Total Score:		/100



Video Competition Specifications

Teams competing in the Video Design Competition should prepare a 90 second video on this year's game theme. The purpose of the video contest is to enhance students' researching and fact-finding skills, and to educate them about the game theme. Students are encouraged to be creative in their entries, yet informative. The video can be staged as a short play, commercial, news broadcast, talk show, music video, documentary, etc.

Guidelines

- One submission per team
- Between 60 seconds – 90 seconds in length
- Based on your current BEST team
- Incorporate this year's game theme
- Include school name, location, and name of participating hub
- Can include music, but no objectionable lyrics
- Content should not be objectionable and should be representative of the team and school
- Resolution should be at minimum 1280 X 720 (720p)

Judging Criteria

- Captivating
- Creativity and innovation
- Clarity of audio
- Technical quality of video
- Editing (organization, flow)
- Best use of game theme
- Best combination of narration and video
- Best incorporation of team members

Judging Process

A team of judges will preview videos and choose the top videos to be shown during South's BEST. South's BEST teams will vote on the top three videos. The winner will be announced on Sunday afternoon.

Video Submission Process

Videos should be uploaded to [Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) (can be listed as private if team prefers) and email the link to kristen.bond@auburn.edu by the date below:

Hub Competition Dates	Submission Deadline- This is NOT a postmark deadline
October 1	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 3
October 8	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 3
October 21	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 17
October 29	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 17
November 4-5	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 17

Team Number: _____

School: _____

2016 Software Design and Simulation Score Sheet

Purpose: To document the software design process and practices used for creating and testing the robot program. (25 Points)	Possible Points	Score
SOFTWARE DESIGN PROCESS (180 points))		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of custom software design versus using the default robot program 	50	
<i>Comments:</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Evidence that a software design process was followed</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying the required operations (e.g., locomotion/drive, chassis rotate, arm lift/bend/rotate/extend, claw rotate/open, ...) Designing each required operation (e.g., flow charting the steps involved) Designing a user-interface (e.g., how the robot will be controlled) Test planning (how correct operation of the robot program will be tested) 	50	
<i>Comments:</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of advanced testing and debugging techniques utilized to verify the correct operation of the robot program without depending solely on the physical robot (e.g., software simulation via Simulink, virtual world, software-in-the-loop, etc.) 	50	
<i>Comments:</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence that the defined program functionality is applicable to the defined task(s). The program functionality maps clearly to the desired game strategies. 	30	
<i>Comments:</i>		
SOFTWARE DESIGN PRACTICES (55 points)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of good software design practices (e.g., commenting, naming conventions, code simplicity, modularity) 	25	
<i>Comments:</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of error conditions and response actions. (e.g., motor/servo stop limits, out of bounds values, etc.) 	15	
<i>Comments:</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of code portability and maintainability (e.g., use of variables vs. hardcoding values; use of functions, tasks and subsystems, etc.) 	15	
<i>Comments:</i>		

CLARITY OF DESIGN AND DESCRIPTION (15 points)		
• Clarity of design and description.	15	
<i>Comments:</i>		
	Total	250
	$\div 10$	$\div 10$
	Final score:	25



Driver and Spotter Protocol

Prior to Match Play

- Each team must submit a Drivers List (in the pit packet) during the Driver's Meeting.
- The minimum number of student team members on the driver list is shown in the following table:

Robotics Team members present at competition	Minimum number of students on Drivers List
2-4	2
5-6	3
7-8	4
9 or more	5

- *BEST encourages participation by as many team members as possible.*
- The first person on the Drivers List is the driver for the first match; the second person on the list is the driver for the second match, etc.
- This rotation continues for successive matches.
- Rotation during wild card, semi-final, and final matches will begin where the seeding round rotation left off.
- If a match is eliminated for any reason, the driver rotation will continue in accordance with the driver list, with the driver scheduled for the eliminated match (or matches) being the first driver for the following match.
- The spotter may be any student from the team.
NOTE: This may change due to game-specific rules. Be sure to check the game-specific rules for details.

During Match Play

- Only one team member is allowed in each of the Driver's & Spotter's "squares," respectively.
- Adults are not allowed in the Staging or Playing Field areas.
- Drivers & Spotters may not stand on platforms of their own construction in the squares.
- Drivers & Spotters may not communicate with anyone (including each other) through the use of any electronic devices or other signaling aids.



Driver's Meeting (Saturday, 1:30 – 2:00pm)

There is a **mandatory meeting** for ALL team members that expect to be in the Pit during the competition. Teachers and mentors are welcome to attend the Drivers Meeting to assist students as needed. The meeting covers information provided in this document as well as other logistical issues.

I. General Information

Access to Power

There is no a/c at teams' pit tables. Power is only available at the Battery Charging Station and Pit Repair Stations located at the rear of the Pit (see *Pit Stations* below).

Access to the Pit

Saturday

- **Teams will be allowed to access the Pit once their team has registered at the Registration Desk (3rd Floor – Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum) either 3PM – 7PM on Friday or 8AM – 10AM on Saturday.**
- Pit access is limited to **ONE specific stairwell** which will be identified with signage.
- During check-in, teams will receive Pit Packets at the Registration Table on the 3rd floor of the Coliseum. Pit Packets will contain: 8 Driver's bracelets, 2 vests (1 for driver, 1 for spotter), a Team Rep button, 5 student Pit Passes and a Drivers List (to be completed and submitted to Pit Boss).
- Loading in/out machines and equipment can only be accessed **through the South Entrance of the Coliseum** (see event map). Security will be posted there to help guide teams to the Pit.
- Due to the large number of teams and the limited size of the Pit, we must control the number of people on the floor. We will not enforce a strict number of students and adults per team that can be in the Pit on Friday night and Saturday morning prior to the seeding matches. However, this area will be continually monitored for safety.
- When seeding matches begin (approximately 2:30 pm), only those with a Pit Pass will be allowed in the Pit and on the floor. Each team will receive five student Pit Passes in their Pit Packet for use on Saturday and Sunday during matches. No adults on the floor after seeding matches begin. **No pass, no access.**
- **Adults will NOT be allowed in the Pit during competition matches.**

Sunday

- The Pit opens at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday. Teams should continue to use the designated Pit entrance and access will still be limited to those wearing a Pit Pass.
- Pit Passes must be worn at all times by team members while in the Pit. It is up to each team to determine who needs to be in the Pit and how passes will be swapped.

Driving

Drivers List

- Each team must turn in a driver's list, due by the start of the Driver's Meeting Saturday at 1:30 p.m. Team members that are not on the list and who attempt to drive will not be allowed to do so. Drivers will drive in the order provided on the list.

Driving Practice Matches (Saturday)

- Driving practice matches are simulated game matches: three minutes each; two sets of four teams each will practice at a time; and one driver and spotter per team.
- Driving practice runs from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon and is optional for teams.
- Teams may sign up for practice matches after they successfully pass Compliance Check-in, which occurs on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.

Driver Rotation

- Drivers must rotate equally throughout the competition; teams are responsible for rotating in the order provided on their driver's list.

Safety Glasses

- Safety glasses will be available at staging. Drivers and spotters are required to wear safety glasses during practice and game matches.
- Teams are encouraged to bring their own safety glasses and wear them while working in the Pit.

Vests

- At Check-In, each team will receive two vests with their team number to be worn by the team driver and spotter during competition matches. **These vests should be returned to the Pit Boss at the end of the competition.**

Wristbands

- At Check-In, each driver will be issued a wristband with his/her team number. The wristbands will be checked at Staging to ensure that drivers are rotating as required. Wristbands should be worn on both Saturday and Sunday. You will only receive one set of wristbands. Do not let students lose them on Saturday night.

Pit Stations

Battery Charging Station

- All battery charging is done at this station; teams must use their own BEST-provided charger at the Battery Charging Station.
- Teams should designate one member to monitor the battery and charger.
- Illegal (non BEST-issued) chargers or batteries will not be allowed.
- No other types of equipment or cell phones may be charged at this station.
- South's BEST is not responsible for lost or stolen batteries and has no replacements.

Power Tool Repair Station

- All repairs requiring a/c power tools must be done at this station; teams must provide their own tools.

Soldering Station

- All soldering must be done at this station; teams must provide their own iron and solder.

Team Equipment & Materials

- Teams should label/tag any personal equipment, tools, or materials that will be used at any of the repair stations. Teams that choose to leave equipment or materials at their Pit table overnight do so at their own risk.

Replacement Parts

- South's BEST will NOT supply additional parts for robots at South's BEST. It is up to the hub from which you advanced to provide you with additional parts should yours become damaged (or are defective). Most hubs will have a representative available at South's BEST who will bring additional parts with them. Otherwise, they should send your team to South's BEST with additional parts. If you have questions about this, please contact your local hub director.

Team Numbers & School Names

Each team's robot is required to have the team number and school name in an easily visible location. The number must be a minimum 2" in size.

II. Resolving Problems Teams May Encounter

Team Rep Button

- Each team will have one button in their Pit Packet that is to be worn by a Student voicing a concern to the **Team Advocate**. **No button, no response.**

Pit Problems – Team Advocate

- If a team has problems regarding equipment, event personnel, or other teams, they should address them to the Team Advocate, who is THE ONLY person designated to handle them. The Team Advocate will be introduced at the Driver's Meeting so that teams will be able to recognize him/her during the competition.
- **Only one (1) team member (not a mentor) can approach the Team Advocate concerning a problem and they must be wearing their Team Rep Button.**
- The Team Advocate will work with the team to resolve the problem. If it cannot be resolved, the Team Advocate will consult with the Pit Boss and Floor Boss for a final ruling.

Game-Specific Challenges

- Teams that have a conflict or problem with scoring, field electronics, etc. should approach the Team Advocate initially. If the issue cannot be resolved immediately, the Team Advocate will consult with the Head Referee or Floor Boss.

Floor Boss

- The Floor Boss oversees the entire competition area: Pit, Staging, Playing Field, and Scorekeeping areas.
- The Floor Boss is consulted when the Pit Boss, Team Advocate, and Head Referee cannot resolve problems and issues that are brought to them by teams.

III. Compliance Check-In

Regardless of how Compliance Check-In was performed by your local hub, at South's BEST teams will follow our established policies and procedures.

Failure to abide by South's BEST Compliance Check-in policies and procedures could result in disqualification.

Teams will not be allowed to practice drive on Saturday or compete on Sunday until or unless their machines are in full compliance.

Included in this handbook is a document entitled *Compliance Checklist*. **We strongly suggest you go through this list BEFORE you come to South's to ensure your team is eligible to compete.**

Saturday

- Compliance Check-In takes place in the Pit from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.
- Teams whose machines are non-compliant when Compliance Check-In concludes at 12:00 noon will not be allowed to compete.
- At the end of matches on Saturday, robots will be impounded and will be kept in the Coliseum, which will be secured overnight.



Team Name:
Team Number:

Compliance Check

Weight (Must be less than 24 lb. with the battery):

Size Check (Must fit in 24" cube with detachable parts):

Control System

	Joystick	Cortex	
No adhesives		Cortex mounted	(use mounting holes)
No labels		On/Off Switch	(Accessible?)
No rubber bands		7.2V NiMH Battery	(One? Secured Properly?)
VEXnet 2.0 Key		No solder	(use cables)
AAA Batteries		Motor Ports	(Ports 1 & 10 not used)
		VEXnet 2.0 Key	(White)

(Teams may use no-residue painters tape to secure the USB keys to the Cortex/Joystick and to secure the motor controller and server adapter connections. No other tape may be used)

Miscellaneous

2016 Team Demographic Form completed

Team number visible

Battery chargers labeled with team name/number on painters tape

Servo Adapters used with all servos

Motor controllers used with all motors

No adhesive or paint on Returnables

No alteration or damage to any Returnables (except 3ft. strip belt and servo horns)

Team Custom Part (up to 2, unconstrained 2" x 4" x 4", homogeneous material)

Wire Management (up to 25 clips/ties, only used on wiring)

Parts Check

Max Qty.		Max Qty.	
2	Small motor	2 ft.	Adhesive-backed gum rubber strip
2	Large motor	1 ea.	1/4", 3/8", 1/2" thick 2' x 4' Plywood
4	Servos	1	Door Spring
2 ea. type*	Servo horns (mods allowed)	10 ea.	1/2" PVC tees and 90° ells
1	Lg Round Servo horn (mods allowed)	6 ea.	1" PVC tees and 90° ells
2 ea.	24" and 40" servo extension	4 ea.	Flat angle & corner angle bracket
1	Large HTD drive pulley	2 ea.	Hinges (1.5"H & 2.5"H narrow)
1	Small HTD drive pulley	25	Deck/Drywall screws
1	Small HTD Idler	0	Aluminum Soft Drink Cans
4	Bearings	0	Aluminum Foil
2	Window Alarm Sensors	0	Golf Ball Tees
1	3' HTD Strip Belt (mods allowed)	0	3/4" PVC tees, 90° ells, pipe
1	HTD Loop Belt (NO mods allowed)	0	Bicycle Inner Tube
1	Roller blade wheel and axle	0	Bicycle Brake Cable

*4-arm, 6-arm, Small Round

Compliance Check completed by: _____



General Information

Access to Power for Team Exhibits

Teams will be required to provide their own supplies, including surge protectors/power strips, a 25-foot (recommended) extension cord, and gaffer's tape. Teams are responsible for securing their extension cords to the ground using gaffer's tape. South's BEST staff will facilitate the set-up of exhibits to ensure that all walking paths are clear and cords are securely taped down.

Teams should not use heat-generating devices in their Team Exhibits. This will overload the circuit in the Coliseum and cause problems. More specifics can be found in the Awards and Judging Guidelines.

Bus Driver Restrictions

If you're booking a bus, be sure to check with the company about how long the driver can be on duty without having to take a break. Many states have laws regarding driving-time limitations for bus drivers.

Clean-Up and Maintenance of the Coliseum facility:

Auburn University Facilities Management is kind enough to allow us use of this space, but any future use is contingent upon our maintenance of the facility. Encourage students to be good stewards of this facility as we wish to continue using facilities on campus for South's BEST in future years.

- Spray paints and spray adhesives should not be used inside the facility.
- Glitter should not be applied to an object while inside the facility.
- Signage may not be adhered with tape to ANY SURFACE of the facility.
- No confetti!

Help us keep the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum clean and free of trash. In your registration packet you will find a large trash bag for your convenience. Trash bags may be left near any Coliseum garbage can at the end of the event on Sunday. Upon conclusion of Sunday's events please have your students do the following:

- Dispose of all food and drink trash in your team's seating area.
- Remove and dispose (or take with you) any signage used in your team's seating area.
- Remove all trash, items, and portions of your Team Exhibit. Do not leave any part of your team's exhibit behind in the Coliseum. We cannot be responsible for disposing of wood, PVC, etc.
- For all of the above, **please utilize the dumpster that will be located at the South Entrance of the Coliseum.**

Concessions

Concessions will be sold both Saturday and Sunday at the Coliseum. Traditional sporting event food will be served at traditional sporting event prices.

Driver's Meeting (Saturday, 1:30 – 2:00pm)

ALL team members that expect to be in the Pit during the competition must attend this meeting in the Coliseum seating. Teachers and mentors are welcome to attend the meeting to assist students as needed.

Emergency Number

Determine one adult who will be responsible for receiving any emergency phone calls from home while your team is here. Provide that person's cell number to parents, school officials, and others.

First Aid

An EMT is on-duty both days Saturday and Sunday during the course of the event. Medical emergencies should be reported to Registration. The nearest hospital is East Alabama Medical Center:

East Alabama Medical Center
2000 Pepperell Parkway
Opelika, AL 36801
334-749-3411

Lost and Found

Lost and Found is located at Registration on the 3rd floor of the Concourse.

Noise-Makers

The following are not allowed in or around the Coliseum and will be confiscated*:

- Whistles
- Air horns
- Electric instruments (no amps!)
- **High intensity/frequency** noise-makers

Bands (including bass drums) are allowed. Instruments will only be allowed to play during spirit breaks in the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum. The emcee will coordinate these breaks and instruments should not be played unless invited by the emcee. Instruments may be played on the 3rd level concourse area prior to seeding matches. Outside performances are prohibited.

*The Head Judge has the right to ban noise makers that are deemed hearing hazards.

Parking and Unloading:

Auburn University does not ticket many of its parking lots on the weekend. However, vehicles parked in areas not specifically designated for vehicle parking (sidewalk, grass, etc.) may be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense. Parking is sometimes a slow process. Please be mindful of this when setting your departure times. **In this packet you will find parking maps for cars, trailers and buses. Please print these maps and bring them with you to the event.**

- Designated Parking Areas:
 - Cars may park in the following three lots: Auburn Arena Parking Lot, Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum Parking Lot, and the Stadium Parking Deck.
 - Buses may park at the Intramural fields

- Trailers may park at both the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum Parking Lot and the Intramural Fields
- Designated Unloading Areas:
 - Materials Unloading: Cars and small trailers carrying exhibit materials should be unloaded at the 5 Minute Unloading Zone (see map in this handbook) located on the South Entrance of the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum.
 - Each team should have a group of students, parents, mentors (other than the driver of the vehicle) prepared to remove the exhibit from the vehicle in a timely manner.
 - **The driver of the vehicle should NOT leave the vehicle at any time during the unloading process.**
 - A South's BEST staff member will be available on site during the unloading times to assist and ensure a smooth process.
 - Students: Students arriving in buses should be dropped off at the **EAST entrance** of the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum. **Please see the 2016 Map for procedures for dropping off students from buses.**

Photos & Video – Blanket Release Permission

South's BEST assumes blanket permission to photograph and video team members, teachers, parents, chaperones, mentors, and others in attendance. These are used for promotional purposes in printed materials, videos, and on BEST websites.

Souvenirs

South's BEST souvenirs and a limited number of championship t-shirts will be on sale at registration. We recommend that teams pre-order their souvenir t-shirts.

Team Banners

Teams may post spirit banners on the railing in the Coliseum from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday and before the start of the competition on Sunday. Banner restrictions:

- Banners must contain grommets at the top and be attached with string or cable ties.
- No tape is allowed. Teams should bring their own string/ties and scissors.
- Banners may not have any design or language of a crude nature.
- Banners and other team signage are not to be posted at other sites in the Coliseum or elsewhere on campus.
- All banners (including rope and cable ties) MUST be taken down and REMOVED from the Coliseum at the conclusion of the event.

Note that teams will not be allowed to tape signage to any surface of the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum.

Team Seating in Stands

Teams may establish seating sections following their check-in at Registration. Seating will only be allowed in **DESIGNATED** seating areas of the Coliseum. Team seating is on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Please be courteous to other teams and only reserve those seats needed for your team. Teams may not rope off seating due to fire code restrictions.

Wireless Internet Access

Due to the high volume of Internet usage during the South's BEST competition, options are being considered to not impede game play. Additional information will be forthcoming but please note Wireless Access for the Team Exhibits MAY be prohibited.



Code of Student Conduct

South's BEST expects teams and supporters accompanying them to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner while participating in the Championship. **This includes all activities associated with their participation in the event.**

- Appropriate conduct of teams and supporters is the sole responsibility of school officials and other adult chaperones that have legal responsibility as supervisors.
- Students should be under the supervision of school officials or chaperones during all excursions and competition activities, including while in hotels and restaurants.
- Students who violate the conduct code at any point during South's BEST are subject to suspension from remaining competition activities.
- **South's BEST reserves the right to refuse participation in future competitions, to any team whose behavior has been disruptive.**

Inappropriate conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Property damage, vandalism, or theft.
- Appropriation of Auburn University or South's BEST memorabilia.
- Use of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- Use of water pistols, water balloons, or other creative missiles.
- Fighting, loud/foul language, or other disruptive/rude behavior.
- Disruptive and excessive noise during activities other than the actual competition.
- Inappropriate dress. Students are expected to wear shirts/t-shirts and shoes.
- Distractive apparel that displays design or language of a crude nature.

Financial liability for all damages or losses incurred by actions of team members and supporters shall be the sole responsibility of the team/school.



Hotel & Restaurant Information

Hotel Information



The Auburn Opelika Tourism Bureau is an official sponsor of South's BEST. It is mandatory that the teams book their hotel rooms through the AO Tourism Bureau. Cindy Pugh will contact you by the Wednesday, 5PM following your local competition to discuss your lodging needs. Cindy works closely with our local hotels to understand the variety of amenities and price ranges available, thus making her your best resource for finding lodging that works for you and your group. Please do not book hotels outside of this arrangement.



Cindy L. Pugh
Phone: 334-704-0114
Fax: 334-749-4740
Email: cindy@aotourism.com

Restaurant Information

The Auburn-Opelika area is fortunate to offer a large number of restaurants with a wide variety of price points. For the most up-to-date options both on and off campus, check out the following links:

<http://www.aotourism.com>

<http://www.auburn.edu/dining/>

Where's the Food?

THE VILLAGE DINING

- AU TIGER ZONE**
- Village MARKET**
- 844-BURGER** (AUBURN RAISED, GRASS-FED BEEF)

FOY FOOD COURT

- LOWDER**
- STARBUCKS COFFEE**
- AFC**
- Ceci**
- CHICKEN SALAD CHICK**
- Salsarita's FRESH Cantina**
- Terra Nova SALADS**
- PANDA EXPRESS GOURMET CHINESE FOOD**

DRAUGHON (R.B.) LIBRARY

- Caribou COFFEE**

HALEY Coming Soon!

- EINSTEIN BROS. BAGELS**

THE STUDENT CENTER

- STARBUCKS COFFEE**
- Outtakes**
- PAPA JOHN'S** Better Ingredients. Better Pizza.
- au bon pain.**
- the olive Branch** Mediterranean Kitchen
- API TRADING CO.**
- Chick-fil-A**

LUPTON HALL

- AU SMOKEHOUSE**
- PLAINS 2 PLATE** Fresh. Local. Healthy.

SOUTH DONAHUE

Wellness Kitchen

DUDLEY HALL

- drawing board CAFE**

The Hill

- TIGER TRAXX** Great Meals on the Move
- terrell market**
- BURRITO DEL MAR**
- RYE OF THE TIGER GRRRILL**
- KICK & CAFE** WHERE IT ONLY TAKES TO GRAB A HOT MEAL
- LOCAL GREENS** AT TERRELL MARKET
- PANDA EXPRESS GOURMET CHINESE FOOD**

You can also choose from a variety of "Tiger Traxx" mobile food truck venues!

More than 35 dining options!