

2013 SUPPLEMENTAL RULES FOR MICHIGAN FRC TEAMS

INTRODUCTION

The *FIRST* in Michigan (FiM) event structure provides for eleven district events and one State Championship. The goal of the model is to expand the reach of the *FIRST* Robotics Competition (FRC) to all high schools in Michigan, and to make it more affordable, accessible, rewarding and sustainable for new and veteran teams alike. These rules will supplement the 2013 FRC Competition Manual for all teams participating in FRC in Michigan.

COMMUNICATION

Information about FiM, the district events and the State Championship can be found at the FiM website at: <http://www.firstinmichigan.com/>

If a team needs clarification on any of the rules in this supplement, general questions can be emailed to gail.alpert@gmail.com and pamela.a.williamson@gmail.com. Questions will be answered by email. Additionally, at the discretion of the rules committee, the questions and answers may be posted to the FiM website. Frequently asked questions, as well as any official rules updates, will be emailed directly to all teams and placed on the FiM website under the rules section.

Feedback on the district events, ideas for improvement or additional questions not related to the rules contained in this supplement, should be directed by email to gail.alpert@gmail.com and pamela.a.williamson@gmail.com.

ROBOT ACCESS PERIOD

As FiM events do not have a full practice day, teams will have a “Robot Access Period” as described in the FRC Competition Manual Section 5.7 -Robot Access Period.

PIT SIZE

Pits will range in size from 8' x 8' to 10' x 10'. No team may bring a structure that is larger than 8' x 8'. If a team's structure is larger than 8' x 8' FiM will ask the team to remove it from the pits.

EVENT AGENDAS

District Event Agenda

A sample agenda for the district events is included below. The actual agenda for a specific event may differ slightly. Please check the agenda on the FiM website: <http://www.firstinmichigan.org/>. The agendas will be posted there as they become available. We will also try to make this information available via the www.usfirst.org website. FiM district events follow this schedule:

Please note that attendance on Thursday evening, while optional, is highly recommended. Teams will have access to the field and pits and will have the opportunity to complete Robot Inspection. The goal will be to inspect as many robots as possible. Please make sure your robot is functional and ready to be inspected when it arrives by using the inspection checklist found in the robot manual. The inspectors will be using the same checklist.

Thursday	
Pits open	5:00 PM
Pits close	10:00 PM
Friday	
Pits open	8:00 AM
Opening ceremonies	10:30 AM
Matches begin	11:00 AM
Lunch begins	1:00 PM
Lunch ends Matches resume	2:00 PM
Matches end	7:00 PM
Pits close *	8:00 PM
Saturday	
Pits open	8:00 AM
Opening ceremonies	9:00 AM
Matches begin	9:30 AM
Alliance Selections	12:30 PM
Lunch begins	1:00 PM
Lunch ends/Elimination rounds begin	2:00 PM
Elimination rounds end	5:00 PM
Awards	5:00 PM
Pits close *	6:30 PM

* Pits close at scheduled time, or one hour after the end of last match, whichever is later.

** Schedule subject to change, pending individual venue requirements. All times are estimated based on flow of rounds. See Pit Administration table at the event for updated times.

State Championship Agenda

The Michigan State Championship Agenda may be found on the FiM website.

VOLUNTEERING FOR EVENTS

Each and every team is required to volunteer for two positions at each event they attend. If the team wants to fill a single position with more than one person (shifts) that's fine for some spots, but each team must provide the equivalent of volunteers for two full days for two positions. Teams must have their volunteers registered by February 15, 2013. Any person 14 or older can volunteer. Parents, friends, or relatives are all acceptable.

Each team volunteer should register here:

https://my.usfirst.org/FIRSTPortal/Login/VIMS_Login.aspx

Each volunteer registering in VIMS must include their team number under the first questions ("team involvement") found in the "expertise" section. Without a team number the volunteer coordinator will be unable to credit your team.

A team may choose to provide volunteers at events they are not attending instead. The team should let the volunteer coordinator from the team's registered events know and arrangements can be made. If the whole team would instead like to participate in set up and tear down, there are a limited number of these slots. Contact the volunteer coordinator at the team's registered events.

Teams wishing to participate in the lottery for a third event must have their team volunteers in VIMS for their two events prior to the lottery.

Here is the list of Volunteer Coordinators for each event:

Week 1

Kettering
Marjie Jenkins
marjiejenkins@gmail.com

Traverse City
Karen Connick
karen.connick@newtonsroad.org

Week 2

Waterford
Cindy Nader
clnader@comcast.net

Gull Lake
Barb Russell
barb_bbar28@yahoo.com

Week 3

Detroit
Carlos Moore
carlosmoore.fvc@gmail.com

St. Joseph
Laura Hollister
slhollister@gmail.com

Week 4

West Michigan
Amy Hoppe
amyhoppe@gmail.com

Grand Blanc
Brandi Bolinger
bbolinger@gmail.com

Week 5

Troy
Margaret Milligan-Joye
milliga9@msu.edu

Livonia
Cindy Nader
clnader@comcast.net

Week 6

Bedford
Sandy Smith
ssmithmich@gmail.com

Week 7

State Championship
Carolyn Beyer
carolyngraceb@hotmail.com

EVENT ELIGIBILITY, REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

Point System for Ranking Teams:

Teams will accumulate points at the first two district events they attend in chronological order as well as at the State Championship. Teams attending more than two district events will not earn points at the additional events, regardless of their performance or the awards they win. Below is a schedule of points teams will earn:

POINT CATEGORY POINTS	POINTS
Win-Loss Record in Qualifying Rounds	
Win	2
Tie	1
Final Alliance Captains After Picking	
#1 Alliance Captain	16
#2 Alliance Captain	15
#3 Alliance Captain down to #8 Alliance Captain	14 down to 9
Draft Order by Acceptance	
#1 Draft Pick (Accepted)	16
#2 Draft Pick (Accepted)	15
#3 Draft Pick down to #16 Draft Pick	14 down to 1
Elimination Round Performance	
Winning Alliance Teams:	
Alliance Captain and First Pick	30
Second Pick	24
Finalist Alliance Teams:	
Alliance Captain and First Pick	20
Second Pick	16
Semi Finalist Alliance Teams:	
Alliance Captain and First Pick	10
Second Pick	8
Awards	
Industrial Design	5
Quality	5
Excellence in Engineering	5
Innovation in Control	5
Creativity	5
Entrepreneurship	5
Team Spirit	2
Gracious Professionalism	2
Imagery	2
Highest Rookie Seed	2
Industrial Safety	2
Judges Award	2
Rookie Inspiration	2

At the conclusion of the district events, the points from the team's first two events will be totaled and all teams will be given a state rank.

If any teams have the same number of points, the following hierarchy of tiebreakers will be used to break the tie:

1. Elimination Round Performance Points
2. Best Elimination Round Finish
3. Draft Points
4. Highest Draft/Seed Achieved
5. Qualification Round Win-Loss Points
6. Most Wins
7. Highest Match Score
8. Second Highest Match Score
9. Third Highest Match Score
10. Coin Flip

State Championship: Qualifying and Registering to Compete

Sixty four (64) teams will qualify for the State Championship:

- The District Chairman's Award Winner from each district event will automatically qualify for a spot.
- The balance of the 64 State Championship spots will be filled by the top teams in ranked order based on their total points following the close of the district event season.

The final ranking list will be posted on the *FIRST* in Michigan website no later than 9:00 A.M. on the Sunday morning following the Week 6 events. All eligible teams, whether they plan to attend or not, are required to go to TIMS no later than noon on Monday following the Week 6 events, and either register for the State Championship, or decline.

If any of the eligible teams are unable to attend, choose not to attend, or do not respond by Monday at noon, the next team in ranked order will be eligible to take their place. Eligibility will continue to move down through the ranks until all places at the State Championship are filled. This makes it vital for teams to notify FIRST in Michigan at gail.alpert@gmail.com if they do not plan to attend.

Payment for State Championship

The cost to participate in the State Championship is \$4,000. Teams are required to pay at the time of registration to secure their spot. Acceptable forms of payment are the same as they are for all other FIRST events. These include check, wire, credit card or P.O.

Please note that there is an extremely short window of time between the end of Week 6 when many of the teams will learn they are eligible for the State Championship, and the State Championship. Teams are urged to make arrangements ahead of time to pay for the event if they want to attend. FIRST is willing to accept payment (including a P.O.) any time between now and the State Championship and will gladly refund the payment or cancel the P.O. in the event the team does not qualify. It may also be possible to make the terms of the P.O. null and void in the event the team does not qualify for the State Championship.

AWARDS

Awards will be presented at FiM events in accordance with FRC Competition Manual Section 6 – The Awards, with the following variations.

Chairman's Award At District Events

Each FiM team may submit their Chairman's Award submission at either one of their first two 2013 FiM district events.

Chairman's Award, Engineering Inspiration, Rookie All-Star Award at the State Championship

Only the District Winners of Chairman's Award, Engineering Inspiration, and the Rookie All-Star Award will be eligible to compete for the award at the State Championship.

Chairman's Award at the State Championship

All teams competing for the Chairman's Award at the FiM State Championship will need to conduct a scheduled formal interview with the Judges at the event. A signup sheet will be available at Pit Administration.

All District Chairman's Award winners are invited to prepare a display for the State Championship. Each team will be supplied with a table with skirting and an electrical outlet. Teams should display a copy of their written Chairman's Award submission, AND their Chairman's Award DVD. The teams are responsible for providing their own method for playing the DVD. Teams may either set up displays behind their table, or on top of their table. Displays may not be more than 8' wide x 8' tall if setup behind their table, or more than 4' wide x 4' tall if setup on top of their table.

Please note: The DVD for display is in ADDITION to the DVD that must be turned in for the Judges. Teams are requested to turn in their copy of the DVD for the Judges, to Pit Administration when they register at the event.

There will be three (3) FiM State Championship Chairman's Award winners, each of which will be eligible to attend the *FIRST* Championship.

Rookie All-Star Award and Engineering Inspiration Award at the State Championship

All teams competing for the Rookie All-Star Award and the Engineering Inspiration Award at the FiM State Championship will need to conduct a scheduled formal interview with the Judges at the event. A signup sheet will be available at Pit Administration.

There will be one (1) FiM State Championship Rookie All-Star Award winner and one (1) Engineering Inspiration Award winner that will be eligible to attend the *FIRST* Championship.

QUALIFYING FOR THE *FIRST* CHAMPIONSHIP

27 spots have been reserved for FiM teams at the *FIRST* Championship. These spots will be awarded based on performance (as determined by recomputed point system rankings) and awards earned at the FiM State Championship. The 27 spots are broken down as follows:

- 3 spots – one for each of the three State Championship Chairman's Award winners
- 3 spots – one for each of the three teams making up the winning alliance at the State Championship*
- 1 spot – for the State Championship Rookie All-Star Award winner
- 1 spot – for the State Championship Engineering Inspiration Award winner
- The remaining 19 qualifying spots will be filled by starting at the top of the re-computed rankings and moving down as far as is necessary to fill the nineteen spots, skipping over teams that are already eligible or scheduled to attend.

*Note: To the extent any of the three teams on the winning alliance are already registered or qualify for a spot another way, the next available team in ranked order will be substituted in their place.

To re-compute the state rankings following the State Championship, points earned at the State Championship will be multiplied by three (3) and added to the total points earned at the team's two district events. This will allow performance at the State Championship to count for 60% and the district events to count for 40% of the total. If two or more teams have earned the same number of points, tiebreakers will be applied using the list found on page 5 above.

Notification of Eligibility and Registration Deadlines

The list of eligible teams will be posted on the FiM website, and an e-mail will be sent to the appropriate team contacts, no later than Sunday morning at 9:00 AM following the State Championship.

Teams that plan to attend must register on the *FIRST* Website before Tuesday at 9:00AM or they will lose their spot. Teams that do not wish to attend must send an email quickly to both gail.alpert@gmail.com and FRCteams@usfirst.org.

Payment

Please consult <http://www3.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc/frc-payment-terms> for details.