

Special Message from the GDC

The Coopertition Bridge in Rebound Rumble is this year's method of fostering Coopertition and Gracious Professionalism among students while inspiring an appreciation of science and technology. The white bridge's purpose is to motivate participating players, teams and alliances to collaborate with other players, teams and alliances (even in the heat of competition) by rewarding them for working together. Coopertition and Gracious Professionalism are tenets of *FIRST* – they are part of what makes *FIRST* different and wonderful; all *FIRST* participants, teams and alliances should strive to exercise those principals at every given opportunity. To quote Woodie, “*FIRST* does not celebrate being an incompetent jerk. *FIRST* does celebrate high-quality, well-informed work done in a manner that leaves everyone feeling valued.” In other words, bullying, coercion, and unsportsmanlike conduct have no place in *FIRST*. We expect all teams to always try their best to accomplish the tasks at hand, and always push themselves to achieve even greater successes. Best of luck to all of you as you continue to balance the real-life struggles of competing against each other while cooperating with each other – both on and off the Court.