FIRST Robotics Competition
Website Award Criteria

Overview

The Website Award recognizes excellence in student designed, built, and managed FIRST team websites. Three subcategories of awards are awarded:

- Website Excellence - Every submission that meets the FIRST website design standards of excellence (80% or better of total possible score) will receive the Website Excellence award.
- Regional, District and State/Region Championship Best Website - One Best Website award will be given at each Regional and District Competition. The Best Website from each District Competition will go on to compete at the corresponding State/Region Championship. A team that wins a District Best Website Award does not have to attend the State or Region Championship to be considered for the State/Region Championship Best Website award.
- Championship Best Website – One winner will be chosen from the Regional and State/Region Championship Best Website award winners. A team that wins a Regional or State/Region Championship Best Website award does not have to attend Championship to be considered for this award.

Submission and Deadline Information

Teams must enter their website into STIMS (https://my.usfirst.org/stims/site.lasso) for evaluation by **NOON on February 16, 2012**. The website must be complete and functional by the date of submission. Each team's website will be evaluated for the website award at every regional and district event at which the team competes.
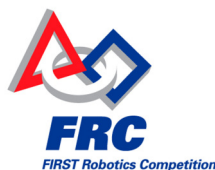
Evaluation Process

Each website submitted for consideration will be reviewed by a panel of evaluators prior to the event. Any website found to be "down," and not able to be viewed by the evaluators, will be disqualified. There will be no on-site interviews.

Award Presentation

The winners of each Regional, District and State/Region Best Website and the Championship Best Website will be presented with a trophy at the event and will receive an emailed electronic certificate following the Championship. Teams that earn the Website Excellence award will receive an emailed electronic certificate following the FIRST Championship.
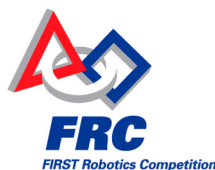
Scoring Criteria

See page 2-3 for award criteria.

FIRST Robotics Competition Website Award Criteria					
CONTENT	Does not meet expectations	Partially meets expectations	Meets expectations	Partially exceeds expectations	Exceeds expectations
Y/N – can a new user easily locate and identify	No		Yes		
Team name	0		2		
Team number	0		2		
Physical location of the team	0		2		
A link to the *FIRST* website	0		2		
The *FIRST* logo	0		2		
How well does the website explain *FIRST* and promote its vision to people not familiar with the organization?	0	1	2	3	4
How current is the website content? (i.e. Does the website include information on this year's game? Is information on team activity up to date? Does the website appear to have been updated recently?)	0	1	2	3	4
How well does the website convey the team story? (i.e. What makes this team unique?)	0	1	2	3	4
How well does the website recognize the team sponsors, mentors and volunteers?	0	1	2	3	4
To what extent does the website support other *FIRST* teams? (i.e. Are there links to other resources? Does the team share resources they developed themselves?)	0	1	2	3	4
How well is the website content written? (i.e. Is information presented in a clear, readable manner? Does it contain very few (preferably zero) grammar, punctuation or spelling errors?)	0	1	2	3	4
FUNCTIONALITY	Does not meet expectations	Partially meets expectations	Meets expectations	Partially exceeds expectations	Exceeds expectations
How well does the site function? (i.e. Do pages load quickly and completely? Do all links work?)	0	1	2	3	4
How extensive is the website's use of multimedia? (i.e. Does the website contain music, sound, animation, or video relevant to *FIRST*? Does the website use newer web technologies in a beneficial way?)	0	1	2	3	4
How cross-browser compatible is the website? (i.e. Do all the features work in all the major browsers (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari)? Is the site useable with a mobile device? Can the website be viewed with a 1024x768 screen?)	0	1	2	3	4
How much of the website design is original to the team? (i.e. Did the team do any custom coding?)	0	1	2	3	4
How much care was taken when designing the website with regards to web standards such as valid HTML and CSS? (i.e. Does the site pass the W3Cmarkup validation service http://validator.w3.org/)	0	1	2	3	4

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DESIGN	Does not meet expectations	Partially meets expectations	Meets expectations	Partially exceeds expectations	Exceeds expectations
How does the website look overall? Does it give a positive first impression?	0	1	2	3	4
How inviting is the site to potential visitors? (i.e. Does the site speak to all of its audiences -students, parents, mentors, sponsors, volunteers, plus people who have never heard of *FIRST*?)	0	1	2	3	4
How easily can a new user navigate the website? (i.e. Is there a clear method of navigation? Are menu items clear? Are there too many menu items?)	0	1	2	3	4
How reader friendly is the website? (i.e. Does the font size and format make the site easy to read? Is consistent formatting used throughout the site?)	0	1	2	3	4
How engaging is the website? (i.e. Does it encourage exploration? Does it make you want to return or recommend it to a friend?)	0	1	2	3	4
How well does the website give a sense of team identity?	0	1	2	3	4
How does the website handle distribution of information to team members? (i.e. Are meeting times and locations visible to all visitors or is there a private section? Does the public section of the website include personal posts to or from team members?)	0	1	2	3	4
EXTRA CREDIT	No		Yes		Emphatically Yes
Did the team include anything in their website that would merit extra credit?	0		2		4
Is the website handicap accessible? (i.e. Can a blind user with a screen reader get information from the website? Will a deaf user miss important information? http://www.cynthiasays.com)	0		2		4
PENALTIES	No		Yes		Excessively yes
Use of inappropriate language or inclusion of inappropriate audio or visual elements.	0		-2		Remove from competition
Copyright infringement - Does the website make use of copyright material without permission (music, text, illustrations, video)? Does the website neglect to give credit to copyright holders where copyright material is used?	0		-2		Remove from competition