

2005 FIRST Robotics Competition

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→ **Special Notices** ←

***** **SPECIAL UPDATE** *****

→ **General Notices** ←

Documents and Updates

FIRST will provide important information to teams via the FIRST web site at:

http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/doc_updt.htm

Please check the team updates portion of the web site on a regular basis to insure that your team does not miss critical information about the 2005 FIRST Robotics Competition.

Our schedule to publish Team Updates is:

- Tuesday by 5PM and Friday by 10AM. We work hard to meet these commitments. Unexpected circumstances may, on occasions, delay their publication.
- Additional updates may be released if required.

Question & Answer System

THE Q&A SYSTEM HAS BEEN SHUT DOWN FOR QUESTION SUBMITTALS. IT IS STILL AVAILABLE FOR READ ACCESS.

<u>Find Q&A Answered After a certain date</u>	<u>Find an Individual Q&A ID</u>
Leave Section set to All	Enter question ID # in the ID field
Set Date to After	Press Update Filter
Enter the appropriate date in the next field	
Leave Search blank	
Set Status to Answered	
Press Update Filter	

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Safety at The Championship

Don't be surprised if you notice a change!

Safety problems during the 30 regional events were not frightening, but were not without a few incidents. Because the Championship will likely demonstrate an even higher level of play than we have witnessed thus far and because the FIRST fields are used extensively for off-season Invitational Tournaments, FIRST has decided to install a safety barrier over the driver stations to protect the drivers.

Practice Fields at The Championship

The Pit area will have 2 full-size FIRST playing fields for practice that will be shared by four (4) divisions of ~ 85 teams each. These fields will sit on carpet.

In order to give all teams a chance to practice, there will be four (4) sign-up sheets, one for each ½ field, divided into 10-minute blocks. Three (3) teams are permitted to practice on each field half of the field at one time.

There will be a means to disable robots that are not operating safely.

***** Practice Field Rules *****

- ➔ **BE SAFE!** Protect yourself and help protect others.
- ➔ Do not practice unless you have signed up.
- ➔ Use no more than your allotted time slot.
- ➔ **NO ONE** allowed on the practice field during autonomous!
- ➔ Help with field reset.
- ➔ Treat other teams / team members with respect!
- ➔ Treat the volunteers that support the practice area with respect!
- ➔ **BE SAFE!**

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Section 4 - The Game

➤ MODIFY EXAMPLES to: Rule G15, examples 6 and 8

New text is bolded and italicized; removed text is lined out

Example 6

Robot "RED01" is in the red alliance-loading zone, is already loaded with a tetra, and is waiting for a path to clear to the center goal before moving in to the rest of the field. Robot "BLUE01" approaches the loading zone, and blocks RED01's attempts to leave the loading zone and score on the center goal. The robots come into contact several times while BLUE01 blocks RED01. ~~No penalty is assessed to either alliance, provided BLUE01 acts within the limitations of <G21> that prohibit pinning for more than 10 seconds. RED01 is not retrieving a tetra, so no violation of <G15> has occurred.~~ ***A 30-point penalty is assessed against the blue alliance because the process of receiving/retrieving a tetra is not completed until the robot leaves the loading zone.***

Example 8

Robot "RED01" is in the red alliance-loading zone, retrieving a tetra. Robot "BLUE01" is next to the loading zone, but clearly not touching the loading zone or RED01. Robot "RED02" approaches BLUE01, and pushes BLUE01 into the loading zone, where it contacts RED01 and prevents it from completing the tetra retrieval. No penalty is assessed against either alliance. RED02 was the source of the interference. Because BLUE01 was merely the object used by RED02 to interfere, and not the source of the interference, it did not violate <G15>. ~~The red alliance is not given a penalty, because interference with their own alliance partners is permitted (although not very wise).~~ ***Depending on the specifics of the interference (e.g., the location of the human player), the referees may assess a 10-point penalty or disable RED02 for a violation of <S01>.***

Section 8 – The Tournament

➤ How the backup teams will work at The Championship

The backup teams at the Championship will work a bit different than they did at the regional events.

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Championship Divisional Playoffs

For the purposes of illustration, assume that the three teams on any alliance going into **Divisional Playoffs** are A, B, C. The Highest Seeded team in that division NOT on one of the 8 alliances is Team D.

If at any point during the **Divisional Playoffs**, one of alliance teams A, B or C can't go on and the alliance captain decides to bring up Team D to replace said robot (for this example, we'll use team C), Team C (the replaced robot) may not play in any following **Divisional Playoff** matches.

Championship Einstein Playoffs

IF the above alliance wins their division and moves on to the **Einstein Playoffs**, at that point the alliance can move Team C back into play in place of Team D, making Team D the backup again.

In this case, if this alliance wins the **Einstein Playoffs**, the Grand Champions would be teams A, B, C, and D.

If Team C is not able to be repaired and teams A, B, and D play and win the **Einstein Playoffs**, the Grand Champions would be teams A, B, C, and D.

If Team C is not able to get repaired and if one of team A, B or D gets damaged in the **Einstein Playoffs**, thus creating a need for a third robot, then the alliance may bring up Team E (the highest remaining seeded team from their division, which did not participate in the **Divisional Playoffs**) to replace the damaged robot.

In this case, if the alliance with Team E wins the **Einstein Playoffs**, the Grand Champions will be teams A, B, C, D, and E.

In any case, once a replacement robot is used in the **Einstein Playoffs**, none of the teams who sat out a match can come back into play.

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Question & Answer Items of Note

➤ #1852

Q: Please identify ANY and ALL cases in which a TETRA is considered an extension of a Robot. Is it ONLY during the HP loading function, or are there other situations this applies?

A: The tetra is considered part of the robot only during the human player loading sequence. This is for safety reasons. However, a tetra being carried by a robot is still the responsibility of the robot in situations such as de-scoring, removing tetras from an opponents automated loading zone, loading zone interference, etc. In these cases, causality will be the determining factor whether to assess a penalty, etc.

Please see updated Q&A 1824 as described in Team Update 18, as well as the updated G15 examples in Team Update #20 that will be posted on Thursday, 4/14/2005.

➤ #1853

Q: Please clarify the conflict between the last (updated) sentence of G15, and the previous examples for certain situations (especially ex 6-7).

A: Nice catch! Thanks for your rigorous review of the rules.

The last sentence of G15 takes precedence. Please see Team Update #20 (this update will be published on Thursday, 4/14/2005) for updated G15 examples.

➤ Revised #1856

Q: ID 1837 says only tools needed for uncrating the robot may be brought in; ID 1847 says you may bring in toolboxes Wednesday night or Thursday. Can you clarify?

Revised answer 4/11/2005: #1837 should have said the only tools that can be used are for uncrating of the robot.

Original answer: #1847 is correct, BUT no robot work may be done.