

The 2003 FIRST Robotics Competition

January 30, 2003

TEAM UPDATE

9

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS TO OTHER TEAM MEMBERS!

FIRST will provide rules updates and other important information to teams via the FIRST web site at:

<http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/2003/docs.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 2003 FIRST Robotics Competition. FIRST recommends assigning at least one team member the duty of keeping up to date on all team updates. This person or group should be responsible for distributing information contained in team updates to the appropriate team members.

QUESTIONS?

MESSAGE BOARD

In order to post questions on our message board at:

<http://jive.ilearning.com/index.jsp>

- You **must** reference the particular section of the manual you are questioning or your question will not be answered. This will help us give you the most accurate answer possible.
- Limit each message board submittal to ask only 1 question at a time. This will allow us to categorize your question and will enhance our ability to respond in a timely manner.
- **Please state your inquiry as a question. Some submittals have been lengthy and we have had a great deal of trouble trying to find the question buried within.**
- Do **not** reply to posted messages. FIRST is the only official source for answers. Your replies to posted questions slow down the moderating of this forum. Replies other than from FIRST will be deleted.

AUTODESK, INC.

For all inquiries, please e-mail:

first.entries@autodesk.com

The 2003 FIRST Robotics Competition

THE GAME

REMINDER

Teams are not allowed on the field or in the driver stations at any time except during their scheduled practice times on Thursday and scheduled competition match times on Friday and Saturday.

PRACTICE DAY – THURSDAY AT EACH EVENT

Typically, practice rounds are run for all teams on Thursday from 10:00am until about 6:00pm, depending on the number of teams registered. Two years ago, teams had two 10-minute practice sessions during the day. This past season, teams had three 6-minute practices during the day.

We are working on how practice will be run this season and this information will be available in the Tuesday, 2/4/2003 Team Update #10. We have, however, decided the following:

- You will be assigned practice times;
- **THERE IS NO SWAPPING OF PRACTICE TIMES WITH OTHER TEAMS;**
- If you miss your practice time, there will be no make-up sessions;
- No one will be allowed on the field while robots are running in autonomous mode.

PAGE 4, SECTION 7.3

Autonomous control period – clarification:

The 2nd paragraph in The Game, Section 7.3, allows the use of the E-Stop button during the autonomous period. The intent is for the E-Stop buttons to act as a safety device, **not** for team use to, in any way, control/modify control of its robot during the 15-second autonomous period. See The Game, Rule GM22.

PAGE 8, RULE GM22

Replace GM22 with the following:

Two Emergency Stop (E-Stop) buttons are located in each alliance station, one for each team. Pressing an E-Stop button will cause the corresponding team's robot to be disabled. Any member of a team may press the E-Stop button corresponding to their own robot. A team that has pressed its E-Stop button may release it, thus re-enabling their robot at any time prior to the end of a match; **however, activation of the E-Stop button during the autonomous period will result in a team's robot being disabled for the remainder of the autonomous period AND for the first 30 seconds of the driver control period.**

The E-Stop buttons are intended for remote robot shut down during a match in the event of safety hazards and will not otherwise affect match scoring or duration. The E-Stop buttons may **not** be used to remotely control the robot during autonomous mode.

The 2003 FIRST Robotics Competition

PAGE 9, RULE S1

REMINDER - IMPORTANT SAFETY ISSUE!!!!

Bring plenty of **SAFETY glasses**. You need them at all times in the Pit area and while competing. THIS INCLUDES PRACTICE DAY ON THURSDAY. Please be safe!

PAGE 9, RULE S3

REMINDER - IMPORTANT SAFETY ISSUE!!!!

Appropriate footwear is required at all times while in the pit area and while competing. THIS INCLUDES PRACTICE DAY ON THURSDAY. No bare feet, no sandals, no open-toed shoes, no high heels, etc. Please be safe!

THE ROBOT

SKIL-BOSCH ½” DRILL MOTORS – REPEAT OF PREVIOUS WARNING

Cautionary Note About Skil-Bosch Drill motors!!!!

DO NOT attempt to unsolder the wires that are attached to the Skil-Bosch motors. The plastic housing that holds the brush assemblies will be damaged if you do. ***The high temperature of the soldering process causes the plastic to deform and destroys the motor.*** Teams should make their electrical power connections to the motors' pre-attached wires, not directly to the brush holders.

PAGE 20, RULE C1

Replace the 1st paragraph with the following:

The control system is provided to allow wireless control of the robots. The Operator Interface, Robot Controller, Servos, Speed Controllers, Relay Modules, Radio Modems, Batteries, Battery Charger, Power Supply, 9-pin cables, **Maxi-style breaker panel, ATC breaker panel**, circuit breakers, fuses, and joysticks may not be tampered with, modified or adjusted in any way, with the following exceptions:

KIT OF PARTS

MISSING OR BROKEN

For any missing parts or broken parts, please contact us at:

freparts@usfirst.org

The 2003 FIRST Robotics Competition

FIELD / CORRECTIONS

There are none for this update.

AUTODESK

Nothing for this update.

ADMINISTRATIVE/MATERIAL HANDLING/SHIPPING

Nothing for this update.