

# 2004 FIRST Robotics Competition

January 30, 2004

Team Update

06

## → 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](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 2004 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 Question & Answer System can be found at:

<http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/2004/qa.htm>

1. Please ask one question at a time.
2. Questions are limited to 240 characters.

### The Manual

#### Updates

Information that was documented in Team Updates 01, 02, 03, and 04 was incorporated into the manual and posted on the FIRST website on Monday, 01/26/2004.

Information documented in Team Updates will be incorporated into the manual and is scheduled to happen weekly. After this process has taken place, you will be able to access:

- .pdf files with “track changes” **turned on** so teams can see all changes applied;
- .pdf files with all “track changes” **incorporated** = an up-to-date manual.

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## → Special Notices ←

### Drawings

FIRST has brought in additional resources so that the competition field drawings can be posted next week. FIRST greatly appreciates your patience.

### Balls

After an intensive search, we “may” have located another source for competition balls. We will have a sample on Tuesday, 2/3/2004. If this ball is acceptable, we will notify you.

We will need some idea as to the remaining demand for balls so that the price and supply is guaranteed. **We shudder to ask this but please send an e-mail to the following address that states your needs.**

FIRST ROBOTICS Competition Tech [frctech@usfirst.org](mailto:frctech@usfirst.org)

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## Section 1. Introduction

No changes.

## Section 2. Communication

No changes.

## Section 3. The Arena

No changes.

## Section 4. The Game

No changes.

## Section 5. The Robot

❖ **Notice – additional clarification on robot controls.**

FIRST will allow you to keep your **all** of your **robot** controls and not ship them with your robot on Tuesday, 2/24/2004. This will allow you to continue to work on your programming.

If you decide not to ship them with your robot, please **remember to bring them to your 1<sup>st</sup> competition.** FIRST does not have replacement controls.

❖ **Correct R71 in Team Update #05. The web address for Future Active was incorrect. Insert a – (dash) between the words future and active.**

**ALSO Modify R71 as below. The new/modified text is bolded and italicized and/or ~~lined out~~.**

<R71> Additional electronic components for use on the robot must be currently available from or equivalent to those available from Newark InOne (<http://www.newarkinone.com>), Future Active (<http://www.future-active.com>), Radio Shack (<http://www.radioshack.com>) or Digi-Key Corporation (<http://www.digikey.com>). Additional electronic components include any object that conducts electricity other than IFI relays and voltage controllers, wires, connectors and solder. The total catalogue value of additional electronic components must not

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exceed ~~\$200.00~~ **\$300.00** USD. This cost is counted as part of the \$ 3,500 limit. No single electronic component shall have a catalog value of over \$100.00 USD.

❖ **Fabrication of parts during the 6-week period following the Kickoff and at events.**

***During the six week period following Kickoff***

You may fabricate spare parts for replacement purposes of items on your robot as long as they are exact replacements for parts on the robot you shipped to the event. They must be brought to the event in a completely disassembled state as individual components (no bolt-on assemblies).

***At Events***

Teams are allowed to repair, modify or upgrade their competition robots while participating in a FRC event. They may do so only during the period starting with the opening of the Pit area on Thursday and ending at 4:00PM on Saturday. Work may be done on-site in the Pit or at any facility made available to all teams at the event, e.g., in a team's repair trailer or a local team's shop offered to all teams to use.

## Section 6. The Kit

❖ **Missing Parts Concerns.**

Critical missing parts for many of our teams were shipped on or before 1/26/2004. FIRST will be working over the weekend to package up the remainder of the “critical missing parts” and will send them on Monday 2/2/2004 for arrival by Wednesday 2/4/2004.

FIRST apologizes for the missing parts issue that has confronted you. We thank you for your patience, understanding, and Gracious Professionalism in dealing with this issue.

❖ **Important supplier information - Exide Batteries.**

Teams can locate Exide battery dealers by going to:

[http://www.exide.com/products/trans/na/exide\\_branches.html#AL](http://www.exide.com/products/trans/na/exide_branches.html#AL)

By contacting your nearest Exide Branch on the list, you will either be provided with a specific dealer location to call or arrangements can be made to have batteries shipped to you by the Branch. Exide has alerted all of its branch locations that FIRST teams may be contacting them and their need for ES18-12 batteries.

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❖ **Important supplier information – Batteries Plus.**

They have agreed to carry Exide batteries. A revised order form has been posted.

❖ **Clarification on servos.**

Servos are treated as motors so the 2 servos provided in the kit are the only 2 allowed on the robot. Teams that wish to obtain spares (Hitec servo HS-311 or HS-322) may purchase them from Tower Hobbies at:  
<http://www.towerhobbies.com>

*We had previously answered Electronics. This was an incorrect answer.*

## Section 7. The Tournament

❖ **Modify 7.4.4 as below. The new/modified text is bolded and italicized and/or lined out.**

### **7.4.4 Elimination Scoring**

In the Elimination Rounds, teams do not get “points (2, 1, 0)”; they get a win, loss or tie.

Within each bracket of the Elimination Match Ladder, Matches will be played to determine which Alliance advances, as follows:

- The first Alliance to win two matches advances.
- ~~A maximum of four matches will be played; if, after four matches, neither Alliance has two wins, match 4 will be replayed until an Alliance has 2 wins.~~
- Any tied matches will be replayed until an Alliance has two wins.

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## Section 8. The Awards

- ❖ **Modify 8.2.3.3 Submission Requirements.** The new/modified text is **bolded and italicized and/or lined out**.

It is critical that you carefully read and understand what has changed. By not following instructions, you will put your submission at risk.

Your team **must** be competing in the regional competition to which you submit your Chairman's Award entry. If your team is competing in more than one regional event, choose ONE of those events and submit your entry for that event.

- **Submit only one entry.**  
Any team that submits a Chairman's Award entry to more than one regional competition will automatically be ineligible for consideration for this award for the 2004 season.
- **Send 2004 submissions in electronic form only.**  
Please feel free to bring hard copies of your submission with to your submission event.
- **Team Number:** Put your FIRST Team Number in the footer of ALL pages.
- **Revised Executive Summary Form:** At the time of submission, you must include a completed one page, *revised for 2004*, Chairman's Award Executive Summary Form. ~~Do not restructure or rearrange this form.~~ The form is at the end of the Chairman's Award section of this Manual. *See section 8.2.6 Chairman's Award-Executive Summary for details about the form.*

**NOTE:** *If you submit an entry without a completed, revised Executive Summary form, judges will not review or consider it.*

- **Yearbook Page:** Judges will review the information you enter in the *Yearbook Page* that you submit to FIRST, via e-mail. Check the web's *Important Deadlines Calendar*.

- ❖ **Modify 8.2.6 2004 Chairman's Award - Executive Summary as instructed below.**

**DELETE ALL CONTENTS OF SECTION 8.2.6 AND REPLACE WITH:**

The form is available on the FIRST website at:

[http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/doc\\_updt.htm](http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/doc_updt.htm)

It is a PDF form, which you can edit in Acrobat Reader 5.0 or higher. You must use this PDF form.

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## **Section 9. Team Organization**

No changes.

## **Section 10. At The Events**

No changes.