



FIRST Robotics Competition

Coaches Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 12, 2019, 6:00 pm



Streaming is available if you can't make it.

[twitch.tv/firstmoks](https://www.twitch.tv/firstmoks)

6:00-6:25 - Food, Fellowship, and Announcements

6:30-7:55 - 3 Rotations of information - each session will be 25 min long.

Rotation 1 - Robert Dumler

Announcements of Regionals

- Greater Kansas City Regional - Week 1
 - February 27-March 1, 2020
 - Lee's Summit North HS
 - Friday through Sunday event
- Heartland Regional - Week 4
 - March 18-21, 2020
 - Olathe South HS
 - Thursday through Saturday event
- Central Missouri Regional - Week 6
 - April 2-5, 2020
 - Smith-Cotton HS, Sedalia, MO
 - Friday through Sunday event

Workshops at Regionals - Teams want to lead them

- Currently have Chairman's Exchange and Girls in FIRST
- Do we want more? - Watch for a form to answer the following
 - What do you want to see?
 - What can your team present? (presented by the students, 30-45 min range)

End of Bag and Tag

- #1 - don't kill your mentors!
- #2 - don't kill yourselves!
- #3 - don't kill your students!
- Set limits for amount of time, days of the week, etc.
- Plan for snow days... The Farmer's Almanac for this year says before Oct 1 will be first accumulative snow AND cold, wet winter.
- Robot Rule Change
 - I1. It's your team's ROBOT. The ROBOT and its MAJOR MECHANISMS must be built by the FIRST Robotics Competition Team
 - There is a Q&A System set up for questions surrounding these changes.

Shipping of Robot to Championship

- No new shipping rules yet, but there's a chance they may allow teams to bring robots.
- Detroit has said they would allow it
- Houston has said "NO"
- FIRST is trying to figure out specifics

Awards

- List of awards and deadlines: <https://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/frc/awards>
- FIRST Choice and Virtual Kit
 - USE YOUR POINTS
 - Info: <https://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/frc/kit-of-parts#FIRSTChoice>

Rotation 2 - Martha McCabe and Laura Bauer

KC STEM Alliance and FIRST in Kansas City

- Majority of income comes from Gifts (Foundation, corporate gifts, etc), Kauffman grant, and other revenue (FLL registration money, which is allowed to stay local).
- FIRST is about 31% of expense budget
- FIRST Expenses \$372,497
 - FRC - \$185,737
 - FLL - \$73,929
 - FTC - \$26,535
 - FIRST Team Grants \$64,546
 - FTC Summer Camps - \$21,751
- KC STEM Grants
 - Deadline midnight tomorrow (Friday, Sept 13)
 - Include a team budget
 - Range is \$500 to \$3500 per team, an average of \$2000
 - Total pool is \$50,000
 - Basis of award - Free and Reduced Lunch percentage along with other needs
 - NEW: Teams MUST apply for this grant to be eligible for travel grants!
- From FIRST - Equity and Access Grant (due Sept 25)
- kefirst.org
 - Program portal page has great information for teams
 - Under News, there's Team news...send info about team events coming up or news from your team.
- Facebook Page - [KansasCityFIRST](https://www.facebook.com/KansasCityFIRST)
- FIRST AmeriCorps VISTA - Hannah Hadley hhadley@firstinspires.org
 - Email Laura or Robert if you'd like her to assist your team in any way. Former Team Driven member.
 - If you know of anyone who would like to take a year to work with FIRST, there are two more VISTA spots open. They do get to go to New Hampshire to FIRST Headquarters.

Rotation 3 - Bob Crance

Senior Mentor

FIRST Senior Mentor (FSM) Bob Crance focuses on recruiting, supporting, and expanding the FIRST programs. Bob identifies and recruits volunteers, mentors, coaches, etc. Communicate with Bob if you need anything. He will meet with teams, get to know their strengths, needs, and connect teams with available resources (including scholarships). Bob also wants to encourage team participation in all awards. Chairmans, preparing for pit interviews, etc.

How to recruit Mentors and make them effective

- How do teams value mentors?
 - Coaches value mentors, kids...depends on the day.
 - Mentors can offer guidance with design ideas
 - Mentors can play devil's advocate with brainstorming, problem solving, design

- Could teams make use of more mentors?
 - YES - some teams have only electrical and programming
 - Need more engineering/design mentors
- Technical Mentors
 - Programming
 - Electrical Engineer
 - Mechanical Engineer
 - Machining
 - Skilled Crafts
 - Safety
- Non-Technical Mentors
 - Project Management
 - Scholarship
 - Marketing
 - Finance
 - Grant writing
 - Awards Guidance
 - Logistics
- Consider aligning mentors with awards!
- How do teams find mentors?
 - Parents
 - Consider “onboarding” new mentors - giving them training with expectations, rules, etc.
- How can teams be attractive to potential mentors?
 - Clearly describe the role of a mentor
 - Clearly explain the time commitment needed
- How can teams retain mentors?
 - Assure resources are available
 - Assure students are prepared - make sure students know they are coming, what their role is, what they’ll help with, etc.
 - Provide feedback on contribution and impact
 - Say “Thank you!”
 - Ask for suggestions/feedback from the mentor

7:55 - 8:00 - Closing - Final Thoughts

If you need to contact any of the presentors or need more information please feel free.

Robert: rdumler@firstinspires.org

Martha: mccabemb@kcstem.org

Laura: bauerlb@kcstem.org

Bob: bobcrance@firstinspires.org