



FIRST[®]
FORWARDSM

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NorCal FTC Kick-Off

September 18, 2021

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Thank You to our NorCal FTC Sponsors!

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Today's Schedule

Time	Content	Who
9:00am	Official FIRST Game Release	FIRSTtv
10:00am	NorCal Season and Announcements	Mark, Dianne
11:00am	Field Walkthrough / Game Q&A	Mark, Head Refs Rick & Jeff
Lunch break		
1:00pm	Rookie Coach Crash Course	Mark, Dianne
2:00pm	Software Workshop	14162: Bots & Bytes
3:00pm	OnShape CAD for FTC	11311: Paragon
4:00pm	GitHub Workshop	8404: Quixilver
5:00pm	Outreach 101: How to Get Involved in your Community	Serendipity STEM

Housekeeping

- Everyone is muted
- All questions through “question box”
- Unanswered questions will be answered on website
- Day broken into multiple sessions
- Each session is being recorded
 - Links to recordings will be posted on website

Introductions

- Playing At Learning
 - program delivery partner for Northern California
 - local 501(c)(3) nonprofit
- FIRST Tech Challenge Staff
 - Jill Wilker
 - Mark Edelman
 - Dianne France

Announcements

All FIRST kick-off materials should be on the FIRST website as of 1:00pm PST

Official Q&A anticipated to open late-Sept for game rule clarification or updates

All students **MUST** be registered through FIRST

Can start now! Don't wait for a competition!!

Season Overview

“Version 1” season structure not completely decided - will likely change

Anticipate qualifiers December 2021 through mid-February 2022

Registration not likely open until late October

NorCal Championship Tournament – TBD; Likely early March

World Championship (Houston) – mid-April 2022

#Registered teams looking like a “normal” season

+ Capacity looking pretty slim

= fewer plays per team (**HIGHLY** unlikely a team will get 3 plays)

Qualifier Structure Types

	Robot Gameplay	Judging
Traditional	alliances play in-person, full-field	in-person, on-site
Hybrid	alliances play in-person, full-field	remote, video conference*
Remote	teams play solo, partial field	remote, video conference

* if limited number of team members are allowed for gameplay, full team will always be allowed for judging

Season Qualifiers

Remote vs. Hybrid vs. Traditional Events

Highly likely a mix of event types across season

Possible need for size limitations (# teams, audience, total capacity, etc)

Sites may have different Covid requirements (vaccinations, masks, waivers, etc)

Only have 14 viable dates for qualifiers

Having trouble finding possible host teams/sites

! Need additional teams to help host events !

Contact us at ftc@playingatlearning.org

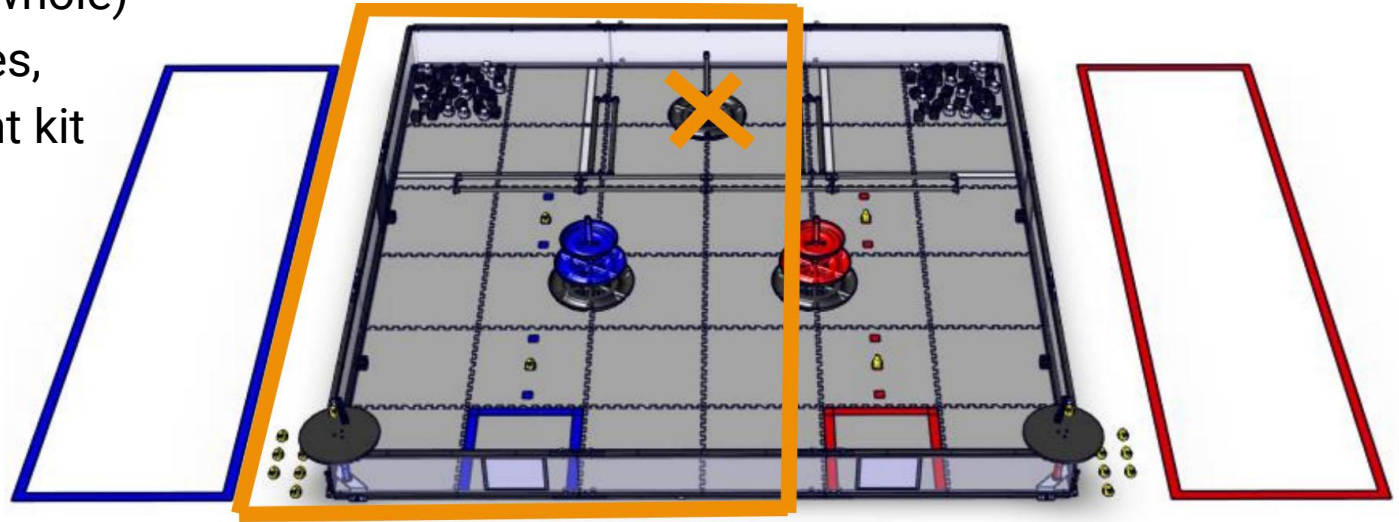
New/different from last season to consider

- New Driver's Hub from Rev Robotics
 - Replaces driver phone
 - <RE07> specifies legal phones - note that over time these will be harder to get and possibly phased out
- Latest Versions of Robot Controller/Driver Station Android Apps no longer in Google Play Store - use REV Hardware Client
- Traditional event will require printed Portfolio/Feedback form
 - Remote or Hybrid will require uploaded documentation
- Scoring system - different for Remote vs Traditional (same scoring calculations)

Playing Field Options

Half “Remote” field = **orange** (can be red or blue)
 (two halves <> whole)

If re-using cubies,
 need weight kit



FREIGHT FRENZY Field Visits

Limited days & time-slots

9/18 - 3-6pm, 9/19 - 12-3pm, 9/21 - 5-7pm, 9/24 - 5-7pm

15 minutes at the field

Requirements

only 4 students & 1 adult

masks required

gloves required to touch any field elements

pre-registration **REQUIRED**

Ongoing Team Support

Ask An Expert Sessions - TBD

Robot Inspection

Field Technical Advisor

Control System Advisor

Referee/Game Questions etc.

Possibility of limited/appointment-only in-person help sessions at The Play Space

“Teams Helping Teams”

New workshops coming up today!

New workshop recordings available now!

2020-2021 Recordings from workshops available on the website

Anticipating second “day” of workshops to include topics specific to competitions

- Inspections

- Common Failures (and How to Avoid Them)

- Best Practices for Judging Presentations

Fair Play ...

- Effort to encourage all teams to be:
 - honest
 - open
 - transparent
- See website
 - <http://www.norcalftc.org/fair-play-for-ftc>
- Videos!!!
 - All robot matches
 - Robot “reveal” (i.e. self-inspection)
 - Scheme for tagging & publishing

Fair Play FRENZY!



**FTC
88888**

Fair Play Video Tagging

- Simple Scheme
 - All tags follow basic format:
 - FTC2489-Q1-M1 (qualifier #1, match #1)
 - FTC2489-MT1-M1 (meet #1, match #1)
 - FTC2489-LT-M1 (league tournament)
 - FTC2489-RC-M1 (regional championship)
 - FTC2489-Robot (robot reveal)
- Post to searchable video service - create a channel or playlist
 - YouTube
 - others?

Fair Play FRENZY!



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Resources - Be willing to do a little reading!!

[FIRST Website - firstinspires.org](http://firstinspires.org)

Remote Field Requirements, DIY instructions, scoring help

Official Q&A - new system this year!

Resource Library!!

Mechanical, Electrical, Software help

Preparing for competition (Inspections, Control Award, Feedback, etc)

Notebook/portfolio

Team Management

Mentor Manual, Coach Playbook, Funding, etc.

Resources

[NorCal FTC Website - norcalftc.org](http://norcalftc.org)

(being updated with new season information - please be patient)

Sign up for NorCalFTC Google Group!!!!

BEST PRACTICE is to sign up a few people, not just coaches!!

Teams Helping Teams

Team List - shows status

Screened coaches, Team Roster, Qualifier Registration, Payment
Qualifier Schedule (not updated yet...)

Qualifier Registration Instructions

Policies (ie. cancellation)

Volunteering (event volunteers, hosting information)

Resources

Other websites

Suppliers

REV Robotics - documentation, example videos, troubleshooting, CAD, etc.

Pitsco/Tetrix - CAD for parts, suggestions, building tips

Andymark - Field information, parts CAD, use suggestions

Social Media - ***proceed with caution***

Discord, blogs, etc - peoples' opinions, not vetted by FIRST

Q&A on social media is NOT an official source for legit answers

And the winner is.....

Team 11201 Piedmont Pioneers

will have their first Qualifying Tournament paid
by Playing at Learning!

Next Steps ...

1st Town Hall Meeting - Sept 29th at 7:00pm
Registration link on our website

Join the Google Group!

Have fun and build robots!!!

Questions

ftc@playingatlearning.org



Field Walkthrough “Unofficial” Game Q&A

starting at 11:00am (or thereabouts) ;)