

Information Packet
“Liberty Science Center”
FIRST Tech Challenge Qualification Tournament

January 4, 2014
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Liberty State Park
222 Jersey City Blvd
Jersey City, NJ 07305



Welcome to the 3rd Annual “Liberty Science Center NJ FTC Qualification Tournament.

We would like to thank our host team, the LANDROIDS 4220. Their website is <http://www.landroids.org/> and also visit their [Facebook](#)

You will see that this is an amazing venue. The Liberty Science Center is being very accommodating and supportive relative to space, A/V equipment, judging rooms, etc. We thank them profusely.

Let this be the first of many THANK YOU’s to our many great volunteers, including all who are coming from the Landroids, and the many, many other volunteers who have been amazing all season long. Thanks for your help!

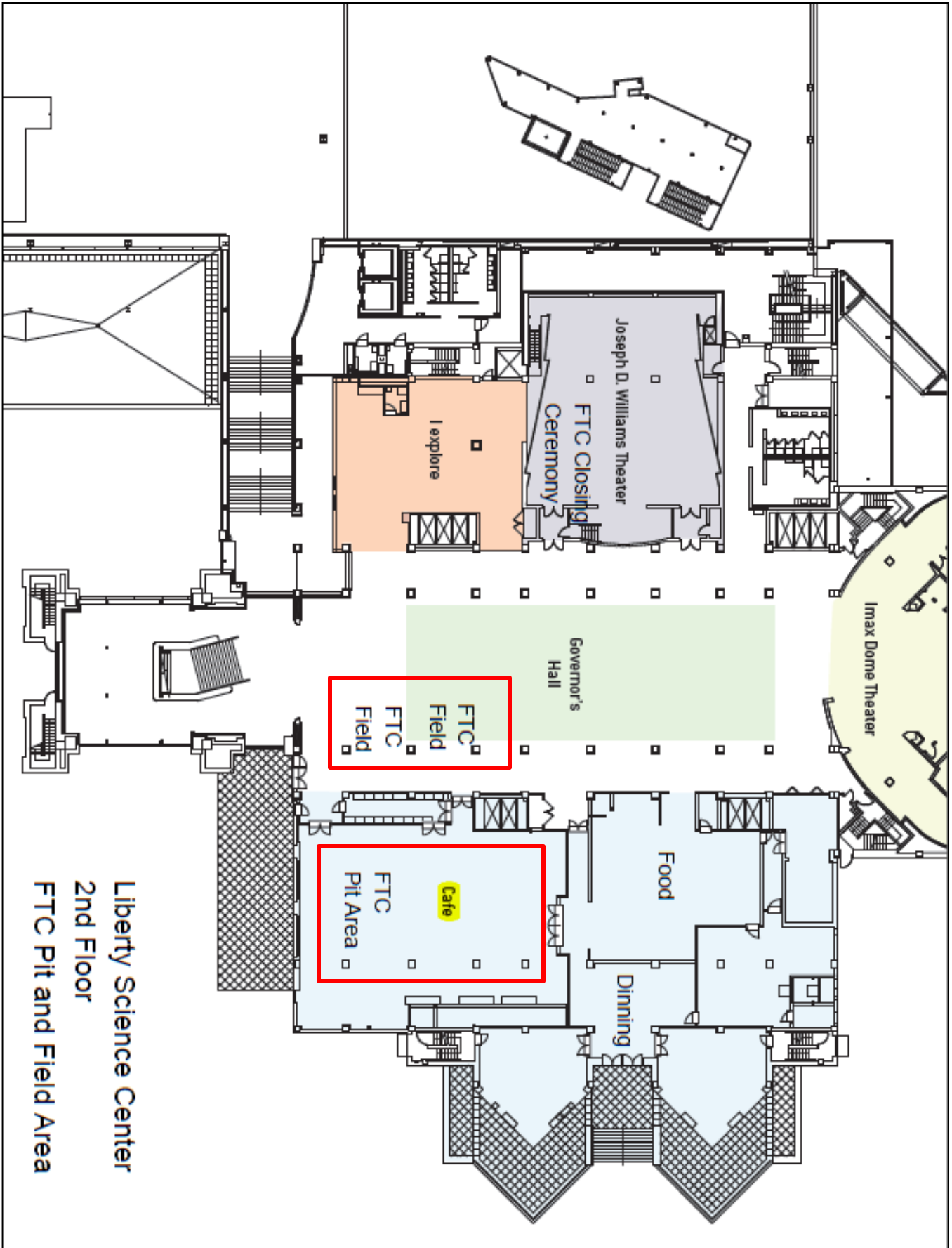
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Competition Schedule

LIBERTY SCIENCE CENTER QUALIFIER	
7:00 - 7:30	Arrival Time for Volunteers
7:30	All Volunteers On Site Teams Needing Extra Help Team Registration
8:00	Inspection Stations Open (Hdw & Sfw Insp Begins)
8:15	Welcome to Teams
8:30	Description of Day's Logistics
8:45	Judged Interviews Begin
9:15	Drivers Meeting
10:45	followed by Reset Crew Mtg Practice Match(es), as possible
11:00	Opening Ceremony
12:15	Start of Qualifying Rounds 30 Rounds, Total (24 Teams: 5 Matches Each) [180 Minutes @ 6 Minute Cycle Time]
1:00	Lunch (13 Matches Completed)
2:45	Finish Qualifying Rounds (17 Rounds) [102 Minutes]
3:00	Rankings Generated
3:45	Alliance Selection
4:15	Start SEMI-FINALS 6 Matches Used to Yield 2 Alliances from 4
4:30	Start FINALS 3 Matches Used to Yield the Winning Alliance
4:45	Complete FINALS (2 Alliances - One Winning, One Finalist)
4:50	Closing Ceremonies
5:00	Event Complete

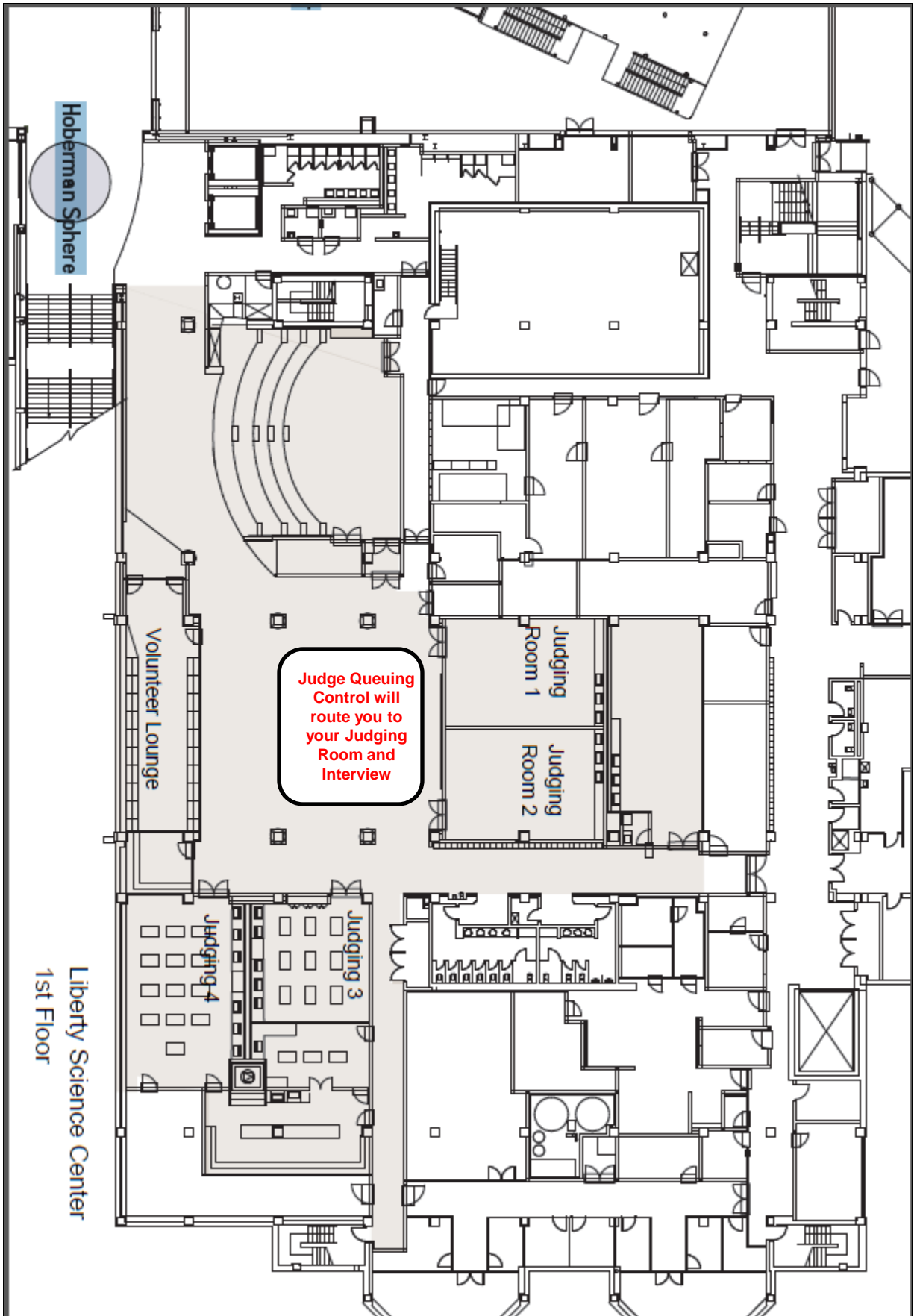
Competition Area (2nd Floor)



Concurrent Judging Schedule

LIBERTY SCIENCE CENTER QUALIFIER		JUDGING SCHEDULE BELOW
7:00 - 7:30	Arrival Time for Volunteers	7:00 to 7:30 - Arrival Time for Volunteers
7:30	All Volunteers On Site Teams Needing Extra Help	7:30 to 8:00 - On Site Orientation
	Team Registration	
8:00	Inspection Stations Open (Hdw & Sfw Insp Begins)	
8:15	Welcome to Teams	Welcome to Teams
8:30	Description of Day's Logistics	<p>8:30 to 10:30 - Judges interview teams.</p> <p>Each of four 2-3 person Judging Panels should see 6 teams. The interview should be ~10 minutes, then 5 minutes to record notes. Another 5 minutes is allowed to shift</p> <p>10:30 - Judges prepare notes regarding Top Contenders.</p> <p>10:45 - Judges attend Opening Ceremony</p> <p>11:00 - Judges identify their Top Contenders for each of the Awards.</p> <p>11:30 to 12:15 - Judge Panels re-formed by Awards; Judges begin to observe Teams in Qualification Matches and in the Pits</p>
8:30	Judged Interviews Begin	
	Drivers Meeting	
8:45	followed by Reset Crew Mtg	
9:15	Practice Match(es), as possible	
10:45	Opening Ceremony	
11:00	<p style="text-align: center;">Start of Qualifying Rounds</p> <p style="text-align: center;">30 Rounds, Total (24 Teams: 5 Matches Each) [180 Minutes @ 6 Minute Cycle Time]</p>	
12:15	<p style="text-align: center;">Lunch (13 Matches Completed)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Finish Qualifying Rounds (17 Rounds)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lunch (possible Lunchtime Deliberations)</p>
1:00	[102 Minutes]	1:00 to 2:30, Judges can observe final Qualification Matches, ...
2:45	<p style="text-align: center;">Rankings Generated</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Alliance Selection</p>	2:30 to 3:00 - Additional Deliberations. Final Discussions
3:00	<p style="text-align: center;">Start SEMI-FINALS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6 Matches Used to Yield 2 Alliances from 4</p>	3:00 - Start writing Awards Scripts
3:45	<p style="text-align: center;">Start FINALS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3 Matches Used to Yield the Winning Alliance</p>	3:45 Award Scripts are finished and Judges are prepared for Closing Ceremony
4:15	<p style="text-align: center;">Complete FINALS (2 Alliances - One Winning, One Finalist)</p>	
4:30	Closing Ceremonies	Closing Ceremonies
5:00	Event Complete	Event Complete

Judging Area Floor Plan (1st Floor)



Liberty Science Center
1st Floor

EVENT INFORMATION - Arrival

Directions: 222 Jersey City Blvd, Jersey City, NJ 07305. [Directions](#) are available on the Liberty Science Center website at LSC.org.

Parking: Based upon last year's event, Parking is \$7.00 for each car and \$10.00 for each bus. The parking lot is owned by the State of New Jersey and is operated by Central Parking. Please note that LSC does not control the operation of the lot nor could they waive the parking for any volunteers or attendees.

Venue Entry: Every guest who visits LSC is subject to a security screening upon entering the building. Please use discretion when determining what to bring to the event. If you have any questions about what is acceptable to bring feel free to contact Stuart Neal at sneal@lsc.org.

Admission Policy (Teams): On January 4, 2014, Liberty Science Center will operate as normal with the added bonus of the FTC Qualifying event. This event will be open to the public from 9 AM to 5 PM. Every person participating in the event will be required to have a wrist band. Each team will receive up to 10 free passes for team members and 2 free passes for adult mentors/coaches. Based on the number of students and coaches checked-in in the morning, each team will be given that same number of wrist bands as free passes.

Admission Policy (Other FTC Guests): Any additional people attending the event will be required to purchase a ticket at the box office upon arrival. The normal Exhibition tickets are \$19.75 for adults and \$14.75 for students. Last year, LSC graciously extended a discount to FIRST supporters (adults & students). We will send a follow-up note to all on distribution of this Information Packet to provide the Discount Code, if that arrangement is made again this year.

Arrival: It is critical that all teams arrive on-time (by 8:00 AM) and report to Team Registration immediately upon arrival. Only two representatives should report to Team Registration. The rest of the team should go directly to 2nd floor Cafe to setup your pit table, and prepare for Inspection and Interviews.

Consent Forms: Similar to other NJ FTC events this year, teams should utilize the on-line system, STIMS (Student Team Member Summary) rather hard-copy Consent Forms for each member. Bring the Summary Report from STMS to Check-In. Adult mentors and coaches are now able to use STIMS as well.

Engineering Notebook: Please submit your engineering notebook to the registration desk during check in.

Judging Time: Each team has been pre-assigned an Judged Interview time. Please see the final page of this Information Packet for your appointment time.

Late Arrival: Call 862-432-1526 if you are going to be late. We will begin creating the Match List once most teams have passed Inspection so that it is available by Opening Ceremony. We will not delay creation of the Match List for MIA teams. Once it is run, it is may not be changed

EVENT INFORMATION – Materials, Areas, and Food

Overall Schedule: The day's timing will be in keeping with most competitions this year. Teams are asked to arrive by 8am at the very latest and we will open Team Registration as early as 7:30 for the teams that can make it to LSC by then. The day ends around 5pm and a 45 minute lunch period is planned..

What to Bring ...

For the Pits and Field: **SAFETY GLASSES for your participants is a top priority. We will expect teams to wear this important safety item.** Also, remember to bring a multi-outlet utility strip to assure that you can bring power to a convenient spot on your Pit table. As usual, it is also good to bring spare batteries and other critical parts, as well as a battery charger. It is always smart to mark you materials with your team number so that they don't get mixed with those of another team.

For Judging: Some recommendations are your robot, any props to show the robot's capability, charge up batteries and load up program if demonstrating, and poster board or tri-fold is welcome if you wish.

For Inspection: Robot NXT with Samostat and proper Tournament Template loaded (for software inspection) and extra copy of BOM (for Mechanical Inspection).

Pit Area: On the 2nd floor, directly next to Governors Hall, there is large cafeteria at the Liberty Science Center which will serve as our Pit Area. Your team number will be affixed to the table that has been assigned to you. Space is limited in the pit area.

Please stay within the boundaries of your pit and be kind to your neighbors. If you have large banners, displays, or posters, we can find a space somewhere else in the arena for these items. Taping or pinning any posters or banners on the walls are not permitted. The Pit Areas should stay clear of obstructions to traffic and sight lines to the field. If you are having an issue, please see an event manager or crew member for immediate assistance.

Queuing Areas will be marked just outside the Pit Area door.

Practice Area: Depending on the available floor space within the pit area, there may or may not be practice field will be within the Pits. Teams who passed all inspections may be able to utilize one of the competition fields to practice.

Food: The event will have food available for purchase during the day and at lunch time, of course. Please have team members bring some pocket money. Lunch will be available for purchase from LSC, as opposed to our usual pizza/sub arrangements. Students should bring \$7 - \$10 for lunch. Food can be eaten in the Pit area, but NO FOOD is allowed in the Competition seating area.

Outside food and drinks cannot be brought in or delivered to the Center.

EVENT INFORMATION – Competition Fields

Inspection: Bring your robot to Inspection immediately upon arrival. Robots must pass the hardware and software inspection before they can participate on the practice field and in the competition.

Multiple Hardware Inspection Areas are available. It is requested that team accomplish Hardware Inspection FIRST before proceeding to Software Inspection. Also, please proceed IMMEDIATELY to Software Inspection after passing Hardware Inspection.

Remember that Software Inspection is twofold ... #1 Flashing Your Samantha to the LSC Fields Router and #2 Performance of a Field Demo by your Robot. All Software Inspection will take place near the two Competition Fields.

BOM: A copy of Build of Materials should be included in the Engineering Notebook, as well as bringing a separate copy for hardware inspection.

Competition Area: Two fields will located in Governors Hall within the Liberty Science Center. Spectators are welcome, however, it is asked the people use the seats and do not crowd the field area. Otherwise, the view of others will be obstructed

When queued for a match, please report to the Queuing Area near the fields. We expect to have a table there, where your robot can be set. From there, a Queuer will take your Drive Team to the playing field at the appropriate time.

In order to finish on schedule, including 5 qualification matches for all 24 teams, it is important that the direction of Queuers be followed. If, for any reason, your robot is not ready when queued, a team must send a representative to the field.

Safety : All team members and their guests are expected to behave in a safe manner and obey all safety rules. Individuals not acting safely will be asked to leave the event premises. Please notify an Event Crew member if you have any safety issues or concerns. Please report any illness or injuries to the Pit Administration table or event organizers.

Volunteers: As is our usual practice, we may be asking each team if they can provide a volunteer for the day. Support is appreciated.

JUDGED AWARDS, ALLIANCES, ADVANCEMENT CRITERIA

Judged Awards: The full set of awards will be given out at the January 4th Qualifier. We will have 4 panels of Judges. See the final page of this Information Packet for your Judged Interview time. Your team may also be given a Reminder Card at Check-In.

We plan to accomplish ALL of the judged interviews BEFORE the start of Qualification Matches. It is important that teams arrive-by 8:00 ... and really abide by the interview time that they are given. **Judged Interview Time takes priority over Robot Inspection.**

Note – The interviews are being conducted one floor down from Governors Hall. Be aware of the Judging Room to which you have been assigned and look for the wall signs. Escorts will help people move quickly to their interview. Maintaining schedule is vital.

Alliance Selection: Under the assumption that all 24 teams participate , we will be following FIRST rules regarding 3-team Alliances. Following the completion of Qualification Matches, we'll form four Alliances to participate in the Elimination Matches. Note: If less than 24 teams participate, we will form four 2-team Alliances.

Alliance Rules: Several teams have asked if “NJ Scrimmage Rules” apply (i.e., Alliance Captains cannot pick amongst themselves). **NJ Scrimmage Rules DO NOT apply.** Alliance Captains are free to pick amongst themselves. All other official FIRST tournament rules, such as declining an alliance, apply as well.

Qualifying for the NJ FTC Championship: Here are the guidelines for earning an invitation to the NJ FTC Championship Tournament. Assuming that the January 4th tournament size is 24 teams, there are 5 invitations being awarded. We will work our way down the partial list, below, until 5 advancing teams are identified.

1. Inspire Award Winner
2. Winning Alliance Captain
3. Inspire Award 2nd place
4. Winning Alliance Partner
5. Inspire Award 3rd place
6. Finalist Alliance Captain
7. Think Award Winner
8. Finalist Alliance Partner
9. Connect Award Winner

Gracious Professionalism: Fun is the rule for the day. Please act in accordance with the guidelines of Gracious Professionalism. Ungracious behavior directed at referees or event volunteers will not be tolerated and will be grounds for disqualification from the event. Be kind to your referees, fellow teams, and help them as needed.

25 Competing Teams

Team Number	Team Name	School or Organization	Key Contact
251	Mechalodons	Cliffside Park hs	Martin Carcich
391	Mighty Irish	Notre Dame HS	Ed OByrne
2753	Team Overdrive	Teen Technology	Howard Scalzo
3719	Bionic Raiders	North Brunswick Township High	Roger Weiss
4086	ORC	Oratory Prep	Ted Dore
4301	Tigers	Timothy Christian School	Wendy Gall
4328	C'est la Vie	Dwight Morrow/Academies @Englewood	Randy Sherry
5169	Watts Up!	Say Watt Robotics	Jim Carr
5212	Megahertz	Cliffside Park HS	David Rappaport
5354	ORC	Oratory Prep	Ted Dore
5406	Optimus Bees	Bergen Arts and Science Charter School	Orhan Edipon/Edin Bilali
5717	Gear UP!	NJIT Consortium	Gerry Kollath
6224	Domo Inferno	Urban Promise Academy	Dr. Cortney Bolden
6613	Robo Y.A.L.E.	Y,A.L.E. School Inc.	Matthew Brady
6983	Cougars	Cresskill	Jessica Nowak
7005	Highlands Robotics	Northern Highlands	Adam Brunner
7071	EngiNerds	South Jersey Robotics	Sandee Rodriguez
7213	Matrix	Royal Challengers Robotics Club	Khaja Mohideen
7251	Comets	Hackensack High School	Tania Feliz
7556	Inner City Circuits	Safe Passage CTC	Saki Wilcox
7675	HPRHS	High Point Regional HS	Madelaine Travaille
7740	Primus Pilus	N/A	Yin Bao
7906	ICE Squared	I.C.E.	Venkat Chirra
7990	GEARHEADS!	NJIT Consortium	Gerry Kollath

Pre-Assigned Judging Times

Appointment Time	8:30	8:50	9:10	9:30	9:50	10:20
Judging Room #1	251	4086	5212	6224	7071	7675
Judging Room #2	391	4301	5354	6613	7213	7740
Judging Room #3	2753	4328	5406	6983	7251	7906
Judging Room #4	3719	5169	5717	7005	7556	7990