



Qualification Tournament

- Welcome to this year's "Robo-CATastrophe" Qualification Tournament.
- First and foremost, we thank our gracious hosts, Columbia High School of Maplewood and the FIRST Tech Challenge Teams of CHS.
- We'd like to thank our volunteers and our teams who are going to make this competition a great one!
 - *"Robo-CATastrophe" began as a Scrimmage four years ago, attended by about a dozen teams.*
 - *In 2012, it became a Qualifier with well over 2 dozen teams!|*
 - ***Since then, the annual "Robo-CATastrophe" Qualifier has grown to 36 teams, one of the largest competitions in New Jersey!***

Location: Columbia High School,
17 Parker Avenue
Maplewood, NJ 07040

<http://www.somds.k12.nj.us/chs/site/default.asp>

Parking:

- Important Information on the Next Page!

Team Registration: 8am

Event Completes: ~5:15pm



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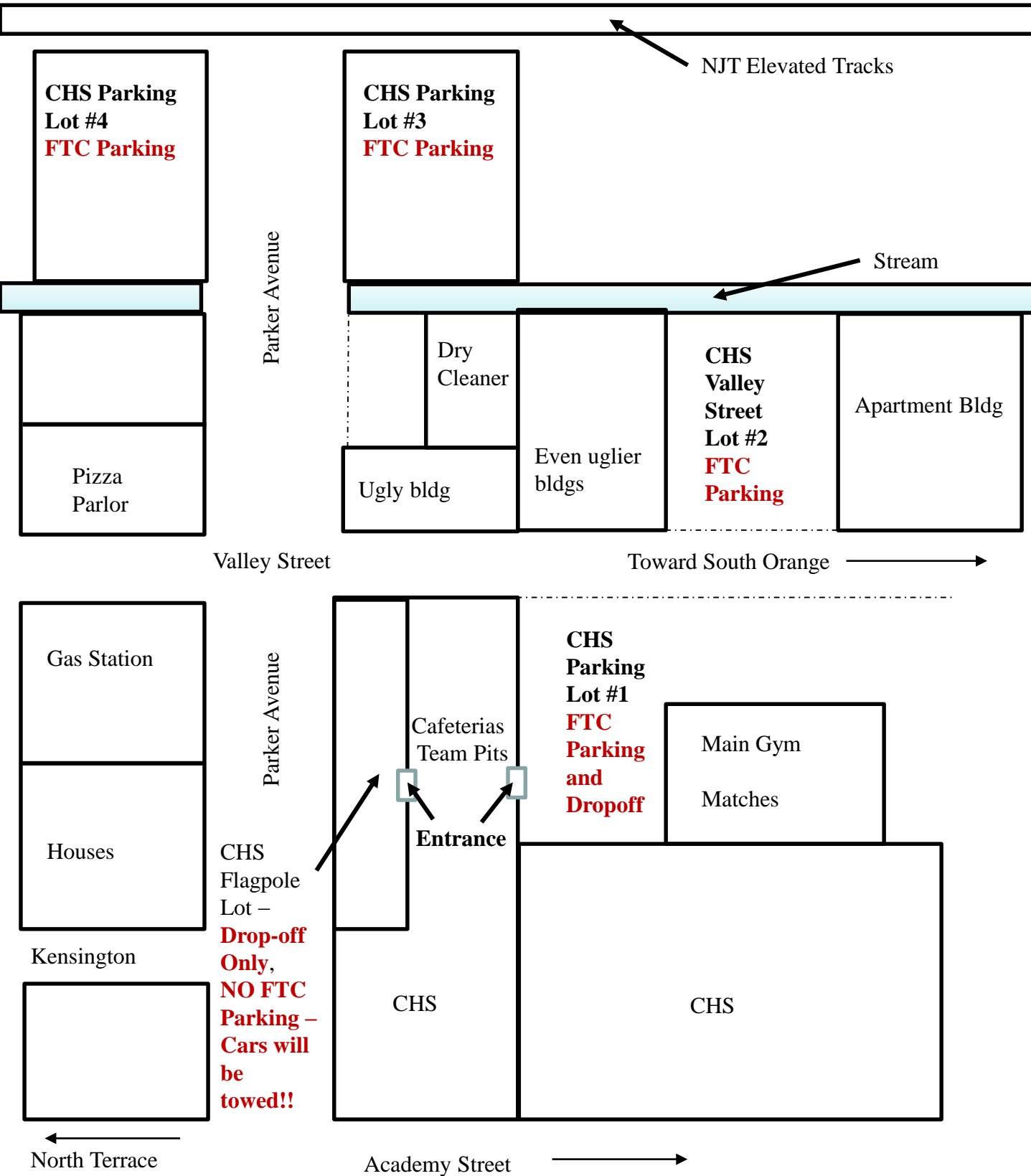
Arrival: It is important that all teams arrive on time and report to the check-in table immediately upon arrival. This will allow us to make the match schedule quickly. Please call 862-432-1526 if you are going to be late.

Parking.

The diagrams on the following page shows important parking information. Here's a quick summary:

- For this FTC event, there is parking in 4 lots. This can support a few hundred cars.
- Buses may park in Lots 2, 3 and 4, not Lot 1
- There is no parking in Flagpole Lot. School reserves right to tow cars to make room for theater performance staff and crew.
- Equipment and students can be conveniently dropped off at the Flagpole Lot or Lot 1 (see diagram, next page). All can enter Cafeteria (Pit Area) from both of the lots
- There is no on-street parking for the FTC event. Keep streets empty for community members coming to watch the matches and also the theater performance (which take place on Sundays).

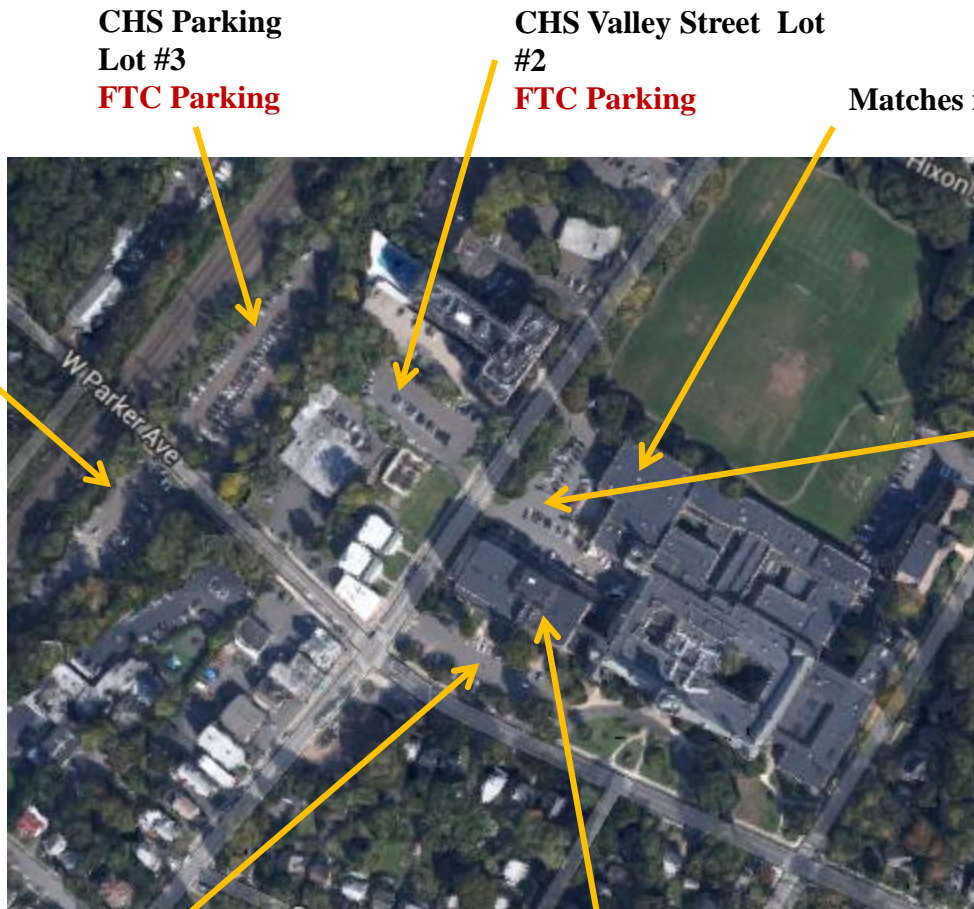
PARKING INFORMATION



FTC Teams can park in CHS Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 – room for a few hundred cars. FTC teams can drop off in Flagpole Lot (*but may not park there*) or in Lot 1 on Valley Street. Teams can enter the cafeteria from both Lots. Matches are held in the gym but no Team Pits are in gym, all Pits are in the cafeteria. CHS has asked for FTC teams to **NOT** park on streets around school. Cars parked in Flagpole could be towed.

PARKING INFORMATION

Aerial View



CHS Parking
Lot #3
FTC Parking

CHS Valley Street Lot
#2
FTC Parking

Matches in Main Gym

CHS
Parking
Lot #1
FTC
Parking
and
Dropoff

Team Pits in Cafeterias

CHS Flagpole Lot – **Drop-off Only,**
NO FTC Parking – Cars will be
towed!!

Columbia HS preference is for teams to use the Parking Lots and not on-street parking. There is a theater performance in the school's Black Box Theater which faces on to the Flagpole Lot. That performance is in the afternoon and they need the Flagpole Lot for stage crew, performers and supervisors. Street parking is intended for people coming to watch that performance *as well as* people in the community coming to watch the robotics matches.

EVENT INFORMATION

Early Arrival: If you are a team that is having trouble with your robot, please let us know and please plan to arrive by 7:30. It is our hope to have some veteran team members available to lend a hand.... **BUT remember, this is a Qualification Tournament. You really should arrive with a robot that is ready to compete and that can immediately be submitted for Field Inspection (Android operation) and Robot Inspection (Hdw).**

Pit Area: The Pits will be located in the school cafeteria area. It is easy access from the Parking Area and it will be marked. This year, the Competition Area is again in the large Gymnasium! (Thanks Columbia!!!) The path the Competition Area will be nicely marked. Give yourself a couple of more minutes to walk to the Queuing Zone. Don't be late for your match!

NOTE – There are 3 Fields at this event. We are really asking folks to adhere to the “controlled area” limits around the fields. Only the 3-member drive team and involved volunteer should be at the field. Let's make sure that everyone gets a good chance to see the robots in action!

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. The Pit Areas should stay clear of obstructions to traffic and NO Team networks are allowed in the Pit.

Queuing: Per usual, Queuers will work with adult Lead Queuers to help teams to move from the Pit Area to the Competition Area in time for matches. We will likely queue 1-2 matches ahead and ask that those Drive Teams / Bots standby in Queuing Hold Area (designated at the venue.)

NOTE – It is the responsibility of the Teams, not the Queuers, to assure that Robots, Drivers and Coaches arrive at their Match on time. Our volunteers are there to assist, not assume responsibility. It is strongly recommended that you assign someone on your team to watch match progress and expedite your Robot to the Queuing Area.

Supplies: Be sure to bring a Utility Strip. **Safety Glasses**, Battery Chargers (marked with Team Number) and spare parts.

Opening Ceremony: At 9:45am, we ask that everyone not actually in the process of being judged, or having their Bot inspected, assemble for the brief Opening Ceremonies. All will resume after the Ceremonies.

Match Lists: We are often asked “when will Match Lists be available?”. They will be handed out after Opening Ceremonies. The information will be available sooner if all teams are able to pass inspection earlier.

EVENT INFORMATION (continued)

Inspection: Teams will be given **Appointment Times for Field Inspection** (as well as Judged Interviews. **Pick up your time at Team Check-In** ...and we will also advance email it to you on Friday/Saturday. **Please make your Appointment on time. This is always THE pacing element in getting the competition started on time. Please help.**

There will NOT be Appointment Times for Robot Inspection (Hardware Inspection). We want to give the teams some latitude to accomplish as early as they can. Work with us.

Robot Marking: Remember to have your team numbers on the robot in large size, per specification. That sometimes does not happen early in the season. So too, make sure that your robot accommodates the mounting of the Alliance Flag.

Lunch: Our host will handle the ordering of food for the event (i.e., Pizza, Subs). This means that food orders need to be taken immediately after Team Check In. Please have someone designated to provide this important information to host personnel so that the food order can be called in on time.

Food Order input must be received by 9:30.

- As with all of the NJ events, the food will be very reasonably priced and we ask that teams support our host by purchasing their lunch on site, rather than bringing their own or ordering out.
- If your team members simply have some pocket-money for lunch and snacks (and you coordinate your lunch order submittal by 9am) all will be just fine.
- Columbia also has Bagels, Donuts and Coffee available for purchase in the AM..

Gracious Professionalism: 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.

FIRST AID

Please go to the Pit Administration table for basic First Aid Supplies. Please alert the event organizers if more involved care is required.

PIT SAFETY

Safety expectations and rules at this Qualifier are the same as for all FIRST events. Please refer to the FIRST manual for those standards.

GENERAL CONDUCT

Participants and volunteers are expected to behave with Gracious Professionalism at all times. Any unruly behavior or actions which create safety concerns may result in warnings or ejection from the site at the discretion of the organizers.

Ungracious or threatening behavior directed at referees or event volunteers will not be tolerated and will be grounds for disqualification and ejection from the event.

GENERAL SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

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.



Schedule

"Robo-CATastrophe" Qualifier 2015 November 15th

7:00 - 7:30		Arrival Time for Volunteers
7:30		All Volunteers On Site Teams Needing Extra Help
8:00		Team Registration Inspection Stations Open (Hdw & Sfw Insp Begins)
8:15		Welcome to Teams Description of Day's Logistics
8:30		Judged Interviews Begin Drivers Meeting
10:00		followed by Reset Crew Mtg
10:15		Opening Ceremony
10:30		45 Qualifying Rounds, Total (36 Teams: 5 Matches Each) [270 Minutes @ 6 Minute Cycle Time]
		Complete ~20 of 45 Rounds
12:30		Lunch
1:00		Finish Qualifying Rounds (~25 Rounds) [150 Minutes]
3:45		Alliance Selection
4:00		Start SEMI-FINALS 6 Matches Yield 2 Alliances from 4 [48 Minutes]
4:45		Start FINALS 3 Matches Used to Yield the Winning Alliance [24 Minutes]
5:15		Complete FINALS (2 Alliances - One Winning, One Finalist)
5:15		Closing Ceremonies

36 - "Robo CATastrophe" Teams:

1	247	Reboot
2	248	Fatal Error
3	2753	Team Overdrive
4	3415	Livingston Lancers
5	3567	Fear The Gear
6	3774	Hive Voltage
7	3983	Highlands Undefined
8	4102	Columbia Cougars
9	4215	Hypnotic Robotics
10	4328	C'est La Vie
11	4347	NanoGurus
12	4486	MAD Science
13	4890	Hive Voltage 2.0
14	5332	Columbia Cougar Current
15	5873	Dragon Terminators
16	5996	Hyper Nike
17	6081	i ² r robotics
18	6936	CodeRunners
19	6980	Bad Wolf
20	7026	JDroids
21	7311	Terrier Byte Bots I
22	7312	Terrier Byte Bots II
23	7486	Team Erebor
24	7487	Labyrinth
25	7488	Technosaurs
26	8391	W-Prime Robotics
27	8405	Millburn Robotics
28	9042	The MidKnight Magic
29	9129	Demon's Run
30	9244	Lenape Robotics
31	9848	Mechanical Pioneers
32	9921	Patriots
33	9927	The MidKnight Magic Too
34	9999	The Ninejas
35	10159	Lionheart
36	10243	Ramsey High

JUDGED AWARDS

Room Interviews & Judge Panels

- The full set of Judged Awards will be involved at the November 15th Qualifier.
- Interviews with Panels of 2-3 Judges will take place first thing in the morning, while Robot Inspection is taking place.
- Qualifier Trophies will be handed out at Closing Ceremonies.

Judged Interview Appointments

1. You will be given an appointment with the Judges at the time of Team Check-In. They are non-negotiable.
2. While it is very important to get your robot through Inspection, please give priority to the Judged Interview.
3. Have your robot ready to go, closely review your judged interview time, and work robot inspection around it.
4. Don't keep the Judges waiting!

“CONTROL” Award - The Control Award recognizes excellence in programming and use of sensors. See the US FIRST website for details.

Take Note: Teams must submit an application to be considered for the Control Award.

Our Judges will assess performance during Autonomous Mode, as well as semi-automatic operation during Tele-Op Mode, and other Award criteria.

The COMPASS and PROMOTE Award are not included in the November 15th Qualifier. They will be included at the NJ FTC Championship Tournament.

ADVANCEMENT TO CHAMPIONSHIP

Advancement Slots – Seven teams will be invited to the New Jersey State Championship based on the outcome of this Qualifier. The invitations will be given to the INSPIRE Winner, Winning Alliance Captain, INSPIRE Runner-Up, Winning Alliance 1st Pick Partner, INSPIRE 2nd Runner-UP, ... and so on, in accordance with FIRST's published criteria.

Double Qualifying at Robo-CATastrophe – Should a team be in the Winning Alliance AND one of the INSPIRE award winners noted above, they will single-qualify. At the Closing Ceremony, we will use the next advancement criteria (officially published by FIRST) to determine the next advancing team.

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Advancement from QP/RP's – Many of our teams are also pursuing a berth in the Northern NJ and Southern NJ Meet Championships in early February. Each of those Meet Championships will advance six teams to the New Jersey State Championship.

Teams can earn invitation to a Meet Championship via competition performance at Meets and official NJ FTC competitions**. QP/RP's earned during the 5 qualification rounds on Nov 15th will count the same as those earned during the five matches at any of our NJ FTC Meets.

The 48 Teams with the best two outings (in official NJ FTC competitions) will be invited to one of the two Meet Championships.

Northern NJ Meet Championship: River Dell HS on February 7th.

Southern NJ Meet Championship: Bridgewater Raritan HS on February 13th.

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Teams are automatically placed in the Meet Championship associated with their region* (NE and Western to the North; South and Central to the Southern Meet Championship) until they fill, then the more remote venue is assigned. All to assure that the top 48 ranked teams advance.

(* = CT, NY, MA Teams would be invited to the North, PA, DE, MD invited to the South).

(** NJ FTC takes the average of the best two outings to establish a team's place within the "NJ FTC Season Standings".) The NJ FTC "Standings", including our out-of-state participants, are shown on www.NewJerseyFTC.com)

Double Qualifying via Qualifier and Meets – A team that earns advancement to the NJ State Championship through a NJ FTC Qualifier will be removed from the Meet Championship sweepstakes, thereby allowing teams below it to move up in the Standings ...