

2009 Bison BEST Robotics

Pit & Match Protocol



Pit Protocol

- There will be a MANDATORY team/driver meeting in the Civic Arena at 5:00 pm to discuss pit and match protocol.
- All robots must pass through compliance prior to competing. Teams are encouraged to go through compliance on Friday evening between 5:30 and 8 pm. The compliance station will be open Saturday morning from 7 – 8:30 am for teams that did not pass compliance on Friday; after that, teams must make special arrangements with a compliance official to have their robot checked. During the compliance check, teams must also surrender their “crystal” from their transmitter. No team may operate their robot in remote mode in the Pit area. Teams that have passed compliance on Friday must leave their robot in the Pit area Friday night.
- Pit access is limited to four (4) students and one (1) teacher/mentor at any time. Students and teachers/mentors may leave the Pit area at designated entry points and exchange passes with other team members, but no more than four students and one teacher/mentor may be in the Pit at any given time. Pit passes must be worn at all times by team members (red passes) and teachers/mentors (orange pass) while in the Pit. Pit passes will be on your table in the Pit area on Saturday morning.
- Mentors may assist students with repairs and adjustments to the robot, but must not take over the repairs. The Pit officials will monitor how much work is being done on the robot by the mentors. If a mentor is consistently dominating the work (rather than team members), a warning will be issued by the Pit officials. A second warning will be issued if this appears to be a pattern. If this persists, the Pit Boss will be notified, the mentor will be escorted from the Pit area, and no other adult may take his/her place.
- If a team’s robot is deemed to be non-compliant, it cannot compete until the robot has been brought into compliance. A yellow “Compliance” card will be issued to teams once they have passed the compliance check. This card must be carried and displayed to the game officials prior to competing in each match.
- Pit officials will monitor teams throughout the competition to ensure no illegal changes are made to robots after successfully passing the compliance check. If any rule violations are discovered at any time, the Pit Boss will be notified and the

yellow “Compliance” card will be revoked until the robot is brought into compliance. Winning teams may be checked again for compliance after the competition.

- No power is supplied to individual team tables in the Pit. Only hand tools and a cordless drill/driver are allowed in the Pit.
- Teams should place their battery chargers (labeled with team name on masking tape) on the Charging Table in the Pit area. Batteries should also be labeled with team names (using masking tape). Team members are responsible for monitoring batteries during charging. There is no excuse for a battery meltdown during the competition.
- Soldering irons and tools will be available on the Technical Assistance Table in the Pit area. Assistance with the BRAIN will also be available in the Pit area.
- All teams are responsible to bring their own safety glasses on game day. Drivers and spotters are required to wear safety glasses during each match. Team members and teachers/mentors working on their robot in the Pit area are also required to wear safety glasses.
- The Pit Boss oversees all Pit operations, including compliance and staging. If a team has problems or concerns regarding equipment, personnel, or other teams, they should address them to the Pit Boss, who is the only person designated to handle them. Each team will be issued one Pit pass with a green sticker on it, designating the Team Representative. This student is the **ONLY** team member authorized to address the Pit Boss with questions or concerns.

Match Protocol

- It is the goal of Bison BEST that each team will compete in eight (8) matches during the preliminary rounds; however, if time runs short this number may be reduced at the discretion of game officials. In accordance with the game-specific rules, *each team MUST drop at least one match during the preliminary rounds*. If no match has been dropped prior to the team’s final match, the final match will be automatically forfeited.
- Teams must submit a driver list with the minimum number of required drivers based on the size of the team (yellow form provided at check-in). The driver list must be turned in at the scoring table by 8:30 am Saturday. The driver order must follow that specified on the driver list.

- Teams should monitor the real-time game display to keep track of the matches. During the match prior to your team's next scheduled match, the driver and spotter must bring the robot to the staging area and check in with the staging officials. Teams must present their "Compliance" card to the staging officials. In addition, prior to each match, your team must turn in a "Drop-Keep" slip to the staging officials indicating your intent to keep or drop the *previous* match.
- At the staging area, each team's Receiver box will be replaced with a Field Receiver box for use on the game field.
- If a team is not at the staging area when the prior match is over and their match is starting, that team will not compete.
- When instructed by the staging officials, each team should place their robot in the specified starting area for their match and display their yellow "Compliance" card to the referees. Teams have no more than 1 minute to place their robot, turn it on, plug their transmitter into the field transmitter, and get into the appropriate driver and spotter areas. *Both the driver and spotter must wear safety glasses during the match.*
- After the match has started, drivers and spotters must stay in their respective areas. Team members may not touch their robot after it has left the starting area. Making adjustments to the robot after the match has started but before it has left the starting area will incur a 20 second penalty, enforced by the referees.
- If any game or rule violations are observed by the referees, a timed penalty or disqualification may be enforced as specified by the generic or game-specific rules. In this case, the driver in violation must surrender the transmitter to the referee for the specified time period.
- After the match is complete, the referees will tabulate the scores. One team member (driver or spotter) must sign the scoring sheet for that match before leaving the playing field. When instructed by the referees, the other team member may enter the field, remove the robot, and take it back to the staging area.
- Before returning to the Pit, staging officials will remove the field receiver box from the robot and return the team receiver box. *Teams must not take the field receiver box back to the Pit area.*
- Any concerns or disagreements regarding scoring or game rules should be immediately brought to the attention of the Head Referee by the driver for that match. The Head Referee has final authority on all decisions involving the game rules. Once the team has signed the scoring sheet and left the field, the score for that match becomes final.