

## 2004 FIRST Robotics Competition

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### → Special Notices ←

FIRST realizes that the issue of missing parts has adversely impacted the build schedule for many teams. It is FIRST policy not to extend the build deadline unless special circumstances warrant it, but FIRST has decided that the magnitude of the missing parts issue this year warrants such an extension for fairness, equality and customer satisfaction. **We are therefore extending the robot ship deadline from Tuesday February 24 to Thursday February 26.**

Late part deliveries disrupted the kit packing process and created the quality issues experienced in the kit packing. A number of factors prevented FIRST from providing timely delivery of replacement parts to all teams and we apologize for the inconvenience and disruption to the build schedule that this has caused teams. FIRST realizes this two-day extension may not fully compensate all teams for the delays experienced but a larger extension would impact the receipt of robot crates at events in the first week of the season. Please accept our apologies.

We at FIRST are looking forward to seeing your robots compete in this year's fantastic game developed by the Game Design Committee and FIRST hopes all of you are looking forward to an excellent FIRST experience during the 2004 season.

Steven R. Chism  
Senior Director of Programs, FIRST

FIRST staff and volunteers will vigorously support and enforce the 2004 rules as written.

Team's excellent and creative work that may not align / be in agreement with the rules will be acknowledged as excellent work **but will be disallowed.**

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## → General Notices ←

### Documents and Updates

FIRST will provide important information to teams via the FIRST web site at:

[http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/doc\\_updt.htm](http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/doc_updt.htm)

Please check the team updates portion of the web site on a regular basis to insure that your team does not miss critical information about the 2004 FIRST Robotics Competition.

Our schedule to publish Team Updates is:

- Tuesday by 5PM and Friday by 10AM. We work hard to meet these commitments. Unexpected circumstances may, on occasions, delay their publication.
- Additional updates may be released if required.

### Question & Answer System

The Question & Answer System can be found at:

<http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/2004/qa.htm>

1. Please ask one question at a time.
2. Questions are limited to 240 characters.

### The Manual

#### Updates

Information that was documented in Team Updates 01, 02, 03, and 04 was incorporated into the manual and posted on the FIRST website on Monday, 01/26/2004.

Information documented in Team Updates will be incorporated into the manual and is scheduled to happen weekly / bi-weekly. After this process has taken place, you will be able to access:

- .pdf files with “track changes” **turned on** so teams can see all changes applied;
- .pdf files with all “track changes” **incorporated** = an up-to-date manual.

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## Section 1. Introduction

No changes.

## Section 2. Communication

No changes.

## Section 3. The Arena

No changes.

## Section 4. The Game

- ❖ **Add new rule G29 as below.**

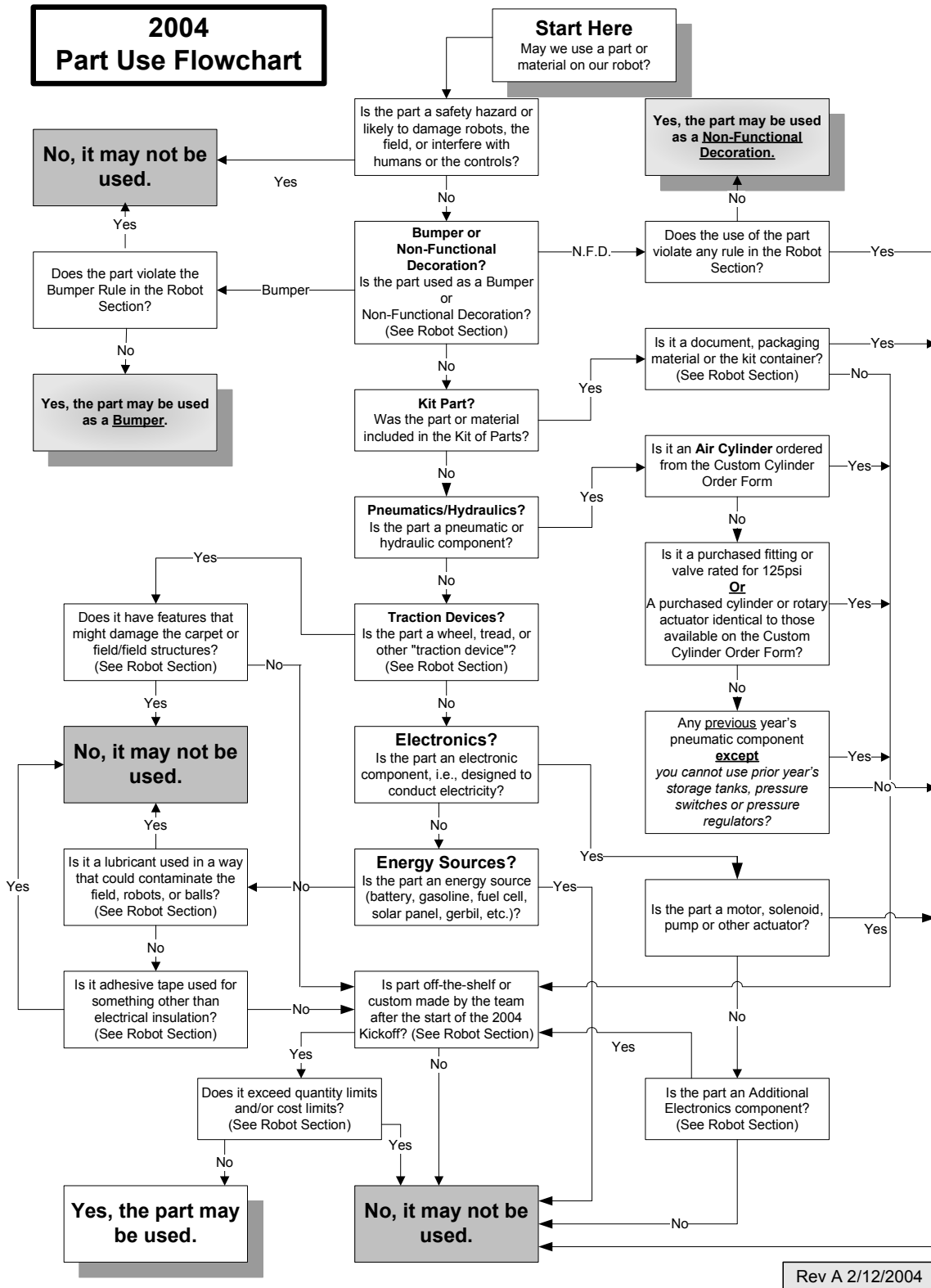
<G29> If a human player touches a mobile goal that has been pushed into the Ball Corral, his / her team will be assessed a 10-point penalty for each occurrence.

## Section 5. The Robot

- ❖ **Caution advised regarding the ½” drill motors. Attempting removal of the blue drill wires can destroy your drill motor. This is an update to what was released in Team Update #08.**

You ~~may~~ **should** not replace the blue wires, however, you may shorten them such that there is a minimum of 1.5 inches still attached to the motor and solder heavier gauge wire to their cut ends. Do not attempt to unsolder the blue wires from the brush housings. The plastic brush support housing will distort if exposed to soldering temperatures and the alignment of the brushes will be affected, which can permanently degrade motor performance.

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Rev A 2/12/2004

The chart has been visually improved and several new boxes added in the right column for clarity.

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## **Section 6. The Kit**

No changes.

## **Section 7. The Tournament**

No changes.

## **Section 8. The Awards**

### ❖ **Revised 2004 Website Award Scoring Sheet.**

See the new 2004 Website Award Scoring Sheet on the FIRST website. This will be incorporated into Section 8 soon.

## **Section 9. Team Organization**

No changes.

## **Section 10. At The Events**

No changes.