

# 2005 FIRST Robotics Competition

<b>April 18, 2005</b>	<b>Team Update</b>	<b>21</b>
-----------------------	--------------------	-----------

→ **Special Notices** ←

**\*\*\*\*\* SPECIAL UPDATE \*\*\*\*\***

→ **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 2005 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 Q&A SYSTEM HAS BEEN SHUT DOWN FOR QUESTION SUBMITTALS. IT IS STILL AVAILABLE FOR READ ACCESS.**

<u>Find Q&amp;A Answered After a certain date</u>	<u>Find an Individual Q&amp;A ID</u>
Leave <b>Section</b> set to <b>All</b>	Enter question ID # in the <b>ID</b> field
Set <b>Date</b> to <b>After</b>	Press <b>Update Filter</b>
Enter the appropriate date in the next field	
Leave <b>Search</b> blank	
Set <b>Status</b> to <b>Answered</b>	
Press <b>Update Filter</b>	

# 2005 FIRST Robotics Competition

April 18, 2005

Team Update

21

## Section 4 - The Game

### ➤ REVISED DEFINITION of: STACKED

#### Why are we doing this?

This update is to nullify strategies aimed at "blocking" a goal by hanging tetras on a goal so that the goal is partially or totally unavailable for the placement of additional STACKED tetras. By expanding on the definition of STACKED, we intend to obviate a potential strategy that might cripple the excitement of the game. Such a strategy has not yet been used at any regional competitions and we are taking this precautionary step to ensure that the game you have played at the regional competitions is the same one that will be played at The Championship. Since side-stacked tetras are not considered STACKED (and thus not scored), they may be removed by either alliance without penalty. One of the tetras in the example pictures might be easily removed -- which might leave the remaining tetra STACKED and SCORED.

*We are further modifying the definition of STACKED to allow tetras placed on top of side-stacked pairs to count as STACKED even though the side-stacked pair would not count. This will give an alliance two options in dealing with a side stack. It can be removed, or if it is well nested (see the left-hand example picture) stacking can continue on top of the side-stacked tetras. Note that it will still be possible to make a stack of tetras that is so tall it becomes unstable. If an alliance stacks tetras so high that the stack collapses, then a determination will be made regarding a potential de-scoring situation, and penalties assessed as appropriate. The existence (or absence) of SIDE-STACKED TETRAS in such a stack will not change the fundamental laws of physics, and the appropriate rules will still be enforced.*

#### The revised definition of STACKED follows

**STACKED** – A TETRA is STACKED when it is placed on top of a GOAL or on top of another STACKED TETRA. To be considered STACKED, the TETRA must be properly seated on the subordinate GOAL or TETRA such that all four apex connectors are within six inches of the SUPPORTING structure. Due to the GOAL and TETRA geometries, a TETRA may occasionally not completely “seat” on the GOAL or subordinate TETRA, and remain precariously positioned on top of the structure. Such TETRAS are not considered STACKED. A TETRA is not considered STACKED if it is touching a ROBOT of the same alliance. ***A SIDE-STACKED TETRA is not considered STACKED, regardless of the distance from its apex connectors to the SUPPORTING structure. A TETRA placed on top of a group of SIDE-STACKED TETRAS is considered STACKED, regardless of the distance from its apex connectors to the SUPPORTING structure.***

# 2005 FIRST Robotics Competition

April 18, 2005

Team Update

21

## Add a new definition of SIDE-STACKED TETRA

**SIDE-STACKED TETRAS** (the RED tetras) are shown in figures below.



*When a TETRA is properly seated on a GOAL or TETRA per the definition of STACKED, it has the apex of the subordinate goal or tetra passing through the bottom face of the tetra. Let that face be defined as the stacked tetra's "base." Additional STACKED TETRAS must have their base pass over the apex opposite the base of the first tetra. Tetras stacked in different orientations are SIDE STACKED. Side-stacked tetras have an apex that passes through a non-base face of another tetra. All tetras with the different orientations are SIDE-STACKED TETRAS, including the tetra whose non- base face is passed through and the tetra that is passing through the non-base face.*