

February 8, 2006

TEAM UPDATE #7

GENERAL NOTICES

Documents and Updates

No changes.

Question & Answer System

No changes.

Section 0 - Introduction

No changes.

Section 1 - Communication

No changes.

Section 2 – Team Organization

No changes.

Section 3 - The Arena

No changes.

Section 4 - The Game

No changes.

Section 5. The Robot (includes the Kit of Parts)

No changes.

Section 6 – Robot Transportation

The crate packaging of Section 6 – Robot Transportation has been modified to *Rev C* to allow the case where robot 12VDC batteries ship separately from the robot crate. Section 6.2, with the new underlined text, reads as follows:

6.2 Battery Packaging

When the 12VDC Batteries will be shipped in the crate together with the robot, Federal regulations require teams to follow the instructions below. If you do not adhere to these rules, your crate may not make it to the event(s). ...

Section 6.3.5 has been modified with the underlined text to read as follows:

“ 6.3.5 Required Crate Contents

Teams must include the robot and may include the two batteries. When shipping the batteries in the crate, carefully and completely follow all instructions listed above in the “Battery Packaging” Section 6.2. “

Special Note:

Teams should be aware that, whether shipping by air or by ground transport, these 12VDC sealed batteries are classified as “Hazardous cargo” and will require special packaging, marking, and handling that fully meets Federal requirements. The packing requirements stated in section 6.2 for shipping containers, terminal isolation, marking, and shipping in an upright position will be valid in every case when transporting the batteries.

Teams should be aware that airlines most likely will NOT allow batteries to be transported on the plane (checked or not) when they travel to events. Teams are strongly encouraged to ship the batteries in the robot crate unless they are driving to an event.

Following this advice could prevent a team from learning the hard way.

Section 7 – At the Events

Section 7 – At the Events has been modified to *Rev B* to include a new section 7.3.5 which provides additional safety recommendations. Section 7.3.6 Robot Carts is restated for clarity.

7.3.5 NEW: Other Safety Recommendations

At events the pure anticipation and excitement of being at the competition can sometimes overshadow common sense and safety fundamentals. One safety area that team members sometimes overlook is the particular need to wear appropriate and proper clothing when hanging around the robots. In addition to the Safety glasses required for eye protection, *FIRST* also highly recommends that team members:

- Do not wear loose or baggy clothing near the robots,
- Do wear proper shoes to protect feet and toes,
- Do wear gloves when carrying the robot or manhandling the robot crates to protect hands and fingers.

7.3.6 NEW: Robot Carts

To protect team members from muscle strains and other injuries as they transport the heavy robot from the Pit to the competition area, it is recommended that teams use some type of cart. Carts must remain in the team pit area when not in use for robot transportation. And importantly, all carts should fit through a standard 30-inch door. Cart wheels must not damage site flooring.

Section 8 – The Tournament

No changes.

Section 9 – The Awards

No changes.

Section 10 – Get Published

No changes.

2006 *FIRST* Guidelines, Tips & Good Practices

No changes.

E-Mail Blasts Sent Since Last Update

February 6, 2006

Team Yearbook Submissions

The Team Yearbook is your opportunity to share valuable information about your team with *FIRST*. The data collected helps *FIRST* track important statistics such as how much it cost your team to participate in the competition, the population of the team (e.g., male/female students, teachers, parents, non-technical professionals) and class breakdown. This information is helpful in *FIRST*'s efforts to procure funding.

Judges also use the Team Yearbook at the Regional and Championship events. They learn important details about your team such as the history, goals, strengths and challenges your team has overcome. Judges take all of this into consideration when they make decisions about team awards. Please note we may use the robot photos you submit for the Awards Ceremonies.

To enter this data, please go to the Team Information Management System at http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/res_art2.htm starting Wednesday, February 8th. Once logged in, go to the "Pre-Event Information " area and complete the **Additional Team Info, Team School Demographics, and Team Essays** sections. Please note you must do this before **12:01 am EST February 23rd**.

Customer Service Note:

In the past some teams have waited until the deadline date to start inputting information. Unfortunately, some also experienced last minute problems that could not be resolved by closing time. Since we are against a strict printing deadline, we urge you to start and complete this tab ahead of the deadline date - this way if you have any problems or questions, Team Support will have enough time to help you. Should you need assistance, please contact us at frcteams@usfirst.org.

****IMPORTANT**** Due to printing constraints there can be No Extensions. The "Pre-event Information" sections listed above must be completed on-line by **12:01 am EST February 23rd** for inclusion in the Team Yearbook.

Question & Answer Items of Note

No changes.