



FRC 2009=>Road Map to Useful Links

For the *FIRST* Robotics Competition

Updated 12/08/2008

=>WHERE TO SEND QUESTIONS for OFFICIAL ANSWERS

[NOTE: send questions about rules & the 2009 game to links in **RULES & CLARIFICATIONS** section listed in next section below]

- FRC Support (8:30am-5pm EST) 1-800-871-8326 ext 0
frcteams@usfirst.org
- Find your local Regional staff. Regional Directors are the primary *FIRST* representative in the field, working to support sustainable teams and events. They can connect you if there are Senior Mentors or VISTA volunteers in your area, and to the local Regional Planning Committee:
<http://www.usfirst.org/regionalcontact.aspx>

=>RULES & CLARIFICATIONS

OFFICIAL:

- FRC Manual (partial manual posted before kickoff. Complete manual released Jan. 3, 2009):
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc...nt.aspx?id=452>
- Email blast archive from FRC:
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=6616>
- Updates for FRC teams (posted 2x week in Jan. & Feb.):
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc...nt.aspx?id=450>
- FRC Director Blog: <http://frcdirector.blogspot.com/>
- *FIRST* forums, for discussions on many topics in FRC:
<http://forums.usfirst.org/>
- 2009 Game Q&A – teams submit questions for clarification:
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc...nt.aspx?id=456>

UNOFFICIAL:

Discussion on chiefdelphi forums. These forums are heavily moderated, but can contain opinions from anyone registered. Thousands of users. For discussion on rules: <http://www.chiefdelphi.com/forums/forumdisplay.php?f=6>

=>TEAM MANAGEMENT

- *FIRST* Calendar of Important Deadlines-*Official*:
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc...nt.aspx?id=454>
- Team Information Management System (TIMS)-*Official*- needs to be kept current with contacts from each team & sponsors:
<https://my.usfirst.org/frc/tims/site.lasso>
- Team Resources-*Official*:
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc...nt.aspx?id=478>
- CD Media- White Papers & Photos. (contributed by many FRC teams). Thousands of ideas, including examples of business plans, fundraising ideas, scouting sheets: <http://www.chiefdelphi.com/media/>
- Operational nuts and bolts posted by the FRC community on the chiefdelphi forums:
<http://www.chiefdelphi.com/forums/forumdisplay.php?f=86>
- Non-Engineering Mentor Organization-NEMO. NEMO has a private forum (hosted on www.chiefdelphi.com) for adult mentors in *FIRST* for discussion on running a team. Register a user-id on the Chief Delphi site <http://www.chiefdelphi.com/forums/register.php> and request access into the NEMO site. <http://www.firstnemo.org/join.htm>
- NEMO Resources page containing “How-to” papers on running a team (including this Road Map): <http://www.firstnemo.org/resources.htm>

=>GRANTS & FUNDRAISING

- *FIRST* Grants: <http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=7358>
- NASA grants: <http://robots.nasa.gov/>
- Discussion & ideas contributed by hundreds of teams:
<http://www.chiefdelphi.com/forums/forumdisplay.php?f=63>
- Hexbugs: <http://www.vexrobotics.com/hexbug-fundraiser.shtml>

=>AWARDS

- Award Deadlines-*Official*:
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc...nt.aspx?id=454>
- Where to submit Chairman’s and WFA-*Official*: <http://www.firstawards.org>
- Awards section in Team Manual-*Official*:
<http://www.usfirst.org/uploadedFiles/5%20-%20The%20Awards.pdf>
- Awards discussion: <http://www.chiefdelphi.com/forums/fo...play.php?f=158>

=>MARKETING

- Handouts, Graphics, Logos, Power points-*Official* (can be used by teams):
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/resourcecenter.aspx?id=952>

=>BUILDING A ROBOT

- Technical Guide- *Official*:
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=482>
- New Control System- *Official*:
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=10934> &
<http://decibel.ni.com/content/community/first>
- PTC- *Official*-Project management and other software:
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc....aspx?id=10990>
- FIRSTbase (Autodesk software and support)-*Official*:
<http://firstbasefrc.autodesk.com/?nd=home>
- Discussion on technical:
<http://www.chiefdelphi.com/forums/forumdisplay.php?f=50>
- CD Media- White Papers & Photos. (Contributed by many FRC teams).
Thousands of ideas, on robot design & building:
<http://www.chiefdelphi.com/media/?>
- Parts Vendors: Extensive list of Links to vendors:
<http://www.team358.org/files/>
- Think Tank through WPI: <http://thinktank.wpi.edu>

=>EVENTS

- *Official*: <http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=902>
- Off-season competitions and scrimmages:
<http://www.firstnemo.org/calendar.htm> & www.Robotevents.com

=>MENTORING

- *FIRST* mentoring guide- *Official*:
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=498>

=>SCHOLARSHIPS

- *Official*-(updated frequently)
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=508>

=>HISTORY OF FRC

- Archives for previous games documentation and event results- *Official*:
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=4094>
- Team 45: <http://www.technokats.org/historyproject.php>
- *FIRST* Robotics Resource Center (An archive of workshop and conference presentations): <http://first.wpi.edu/>
- The Blue Alliance (Match video archives & workshops):
<http://www.thebluealliance.net/>
- Team 108-SOAP: <http://soap.circuitrunners.com/2008/movies/>
- *FIRST* Robotics Competition on Wikipedia
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FIRST_Robotics_Competition

=>ADVICE - FROM OTHER TEAMS & SENIOR MENTORS

- *FIRST* Senior Mentor teleconferences on current topics :
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=10124>
- President's Circle (Teams selected by *FIRST* to contribute):
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc...t.aspx?id=7006>
- Top websites for resources- *Official*:
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc/content.aspx?id=7010>
- Chief Delphi (A forum used by thousands in *FIRST*):
<http://www.chiefdelphi.com/forums/portal.php?>
- Team 1114 workshops: <http://www.simbotics.org/workshops>

=>TEAM MANUALS

- Sample team handbook from *FIRST*:
http://www.usfirst.org/uploadedFiles/Community/FRC/Team_Resources/FRCHandbook.pdf
- Sample Timelines:
http://www.usfirst.org/uploadedFiles/Community/FRC/Team_Resources/Appendix%20D%20Team%20Sample%20Timeline3.pdf
- President's Circle (Teams selected by *FIRST* to contribute):
<http://www.usfirst.org/community/frc...t.aspx?id=7006>
- CD Media- White Papers & Photos. (Contributed by many FRC teams):
<http://www.chiefdelphi.com/media/?>

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