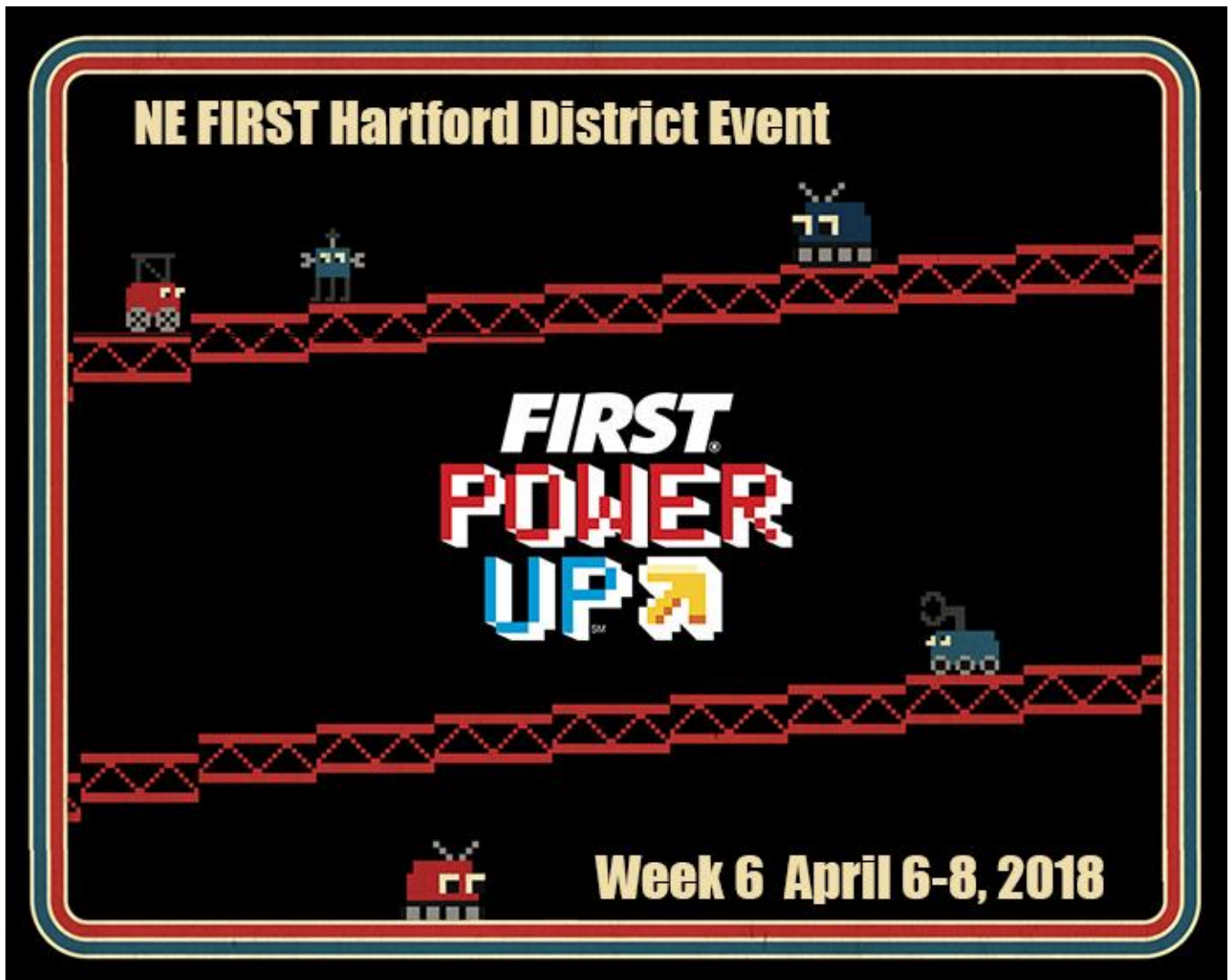




Team Information Packet



Welcome Teams!

On behalf of the 2018 NE FIRST Hartford District Planning Committee, I would like to welcome you to our event! We are excited to have you at this event; it's teams like yours that make this event so successful.

This year we're thrilled to host 43 teams from Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire at Hartford Public High School April 6 - 8, 2018 to compete in "FIRST® POWER UPSM."

Our planning committee has been hard at work for many months to prepare a weekend of high-quality, fun-filled, intense team experiences that embody the *FIRST* Core Values of Gracious Professionalism® and Coopertition®! We hope you meet new friends, achieve your team goals, and have great time while at our event!

As Dean Kamen writes, "*FIRST* is **More Than Robots**. *FIRST* participation is proven to encourage students to pursue education and careers in STEM-related fields, inspire them to become leaders and innovators, and enhance their 21st century work-life skills."

In this packet, you will find a great deal of information specific to the Hartford CT District event. Please read through this information carefully and share it with your team.

We look forward to seeing you in Hartford on April 6, 2018!

Sincerely,



Roger Bessette
NE FIRST Hartford Planning Committee Chair

**NE FIRST District
Hartford Event Planning Committee**

Roger Bessette
Carol Scully
Marge Bessette
David Givens
David Goric
Kathie Kentfield
Bill Reis

1. General Instructions for Teams

This document includes **LOAD-IN instructions and Parking maps**, plus special instructions and rules that are specific to the 2018 Hartford District Event. Please make sure that ALL mentors and team members see, hear, and/or read these instructions.

All final event decisions are made by NE *FIRST*, with Carol Scully, Regional Director, as point of contact.

2. Visitors and Community Outreach

We love visitors at our events! But we also want them to be safe!

- All event attendees must wear closed-toe and closed-back shoes as well as safety glasses when visiting the pits. All long hair should be tied back.
- Safety glasses are limited in supply so if you have extra glasses, bring them for your visitors.
- Children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult at all times!
- Inform visitors that “robots have the right of way” in our pits – and to be aware of their surroundings.
- Explain FIRST’s credos of Gracious Professionalism® and Coopertition® to your visitors.

If you know of people interested in starting a team in any of our four *FIRST* programs, please send their name and contact information to Carol Scully, Regional Director, cscully@nefirst.org, so that we can connect with them and arrange for tours at the event and schedule our mandatory training sessions this spring. Let us know if you are interested in mentoring a team.

3. Venue

The 2018 Hartford District Event will be held at:

Hartford Public High School Field House
Academy of Engineering and Green Technology at Hartford Public High School
55 Forest Street
Hartford, CT 06105

3.1 Directions to the Venue

Hartford, CT is accessible by Interstates 84 and 91. **Please plan ahead for traffic on Interstates 84 and 91 on Friday afternoon and evening.**

From 91 South and I91 North:

Take Exit 32A-B for I84 West. Follow directions below.

From 84 West:

Take Exit 47 (Sigourney Street). Turn right onto Sigourney. Go straight to Farmington Ave. Turn left

onto Farmington. Turn left onto Forest Street. High school will be on your right.

From I84 East:

Take Exit 46 (Sisson Avenue). Turn right onto Sisson. Turn right onto Farmington. Turn right onto Forest.

3.2 Parking (New for 2018)

Team car, volunteer and spectator parking will be available in Lot C, State of CT parking lot, underneath the overpass on Forest Street, just past the school. This is the lot with the guardhouse. Trailer, bus and additional team and spectator parking is available at the Hartford Public High School Lot on Hawthorn Street (the first left past the school). This lot is the lot on the left, at the corner of S. Marshall St.



4. Load-In and Load-Out

On Day 0 the event committee will be working to set up all areas of the event. Along with this, it is possible we will have some work to complete in the pits while teams are arriving. Therefore we are asking ahead of time for your consideration and patience. Although entire teams are allowed per the rules, you may wish to only bring essential personnel to the Friday check in and inspection. Teams will not be allowed in areas still undergoing setup unless directed by event personnel. **Day 0 Load-in is required.** If you have a hardship please contact Carol Scully, cscully@nefirst.org, prior to the event.

4.1 Bag and Tag Rules

- You must bring your own bagged, tagged, and sealed robot into the venue through the designated robot entrance.
- Teams will NOT have access to a loading dock or forklift; we recommend bringing a rolling cart or dolly to facilitate the load-in.
- Bags may not be opened until they have been checked, approved by an on-site inspector, and the pits have officially been opened for robot work. Teams may load in at 5 p.m. on Day 0.
- **Please be sure to bring an additional tag for resealing your robot after the event so it can be properly transferred to another competition.**

4.2 Load-In - Day 0 (Friday)

- **Teams are expected to bring their robot on Day 0 to check in and begin inspection.** While we hope to offer practice matches as early as possible on Day 0, there is no guarantee that teams will be afforded practice time.
- Starting at 5:00 p.m. on Day 0, teams may begin unloading their robots and pit equipment. You may enter without wearing safety glasses, but please use caution. Unpacking and donning safety glasses should be a priority.
- Robot drop-off traffic:
Load-in will be on the left side of the Field House up the ramp to the back of the pits. Teams are **not allowed** to enter through the front Field House doors on Forest St. Teams will be directed to the driveway just past the Field House on the right as you drive south on Forest Street.

4.3 Load-Out - Day 2 (Sunday)

- After alliance selection, the top 8 robots that were not picked will remain as backup robots. (see <https://firstfrc.blob.core.windows.net/frc2018/Manual/Sections/10-Tournaments.pdf> section 10.5.2)

- Other teams may start loading out immediately.
 - Team vehicles must queue in the driveway and will be directed to the unloading area by event staff.
 - **During load-out, vehicles may NOT be left unattended. The driveway is a fire lane and must be able to be cleared.**
- In the spirit of Gracious Professionalism®, teams are expected to remain in attendance through elimination matches and the final awards ceremony. You do not want to be that team that misses going up for an award because you left early!

4.4 Tips

- Please plan ahead for traffic on Interstates 84 and 91 approaching Hartford, especially on Friday afternoon and evening.
- Prepare for bad weather. We encourage teams to prepare a team-based system for coordinating emergency information, including changes to the event schedule due to weather.
- Transport team materials in closed container.

5. Venue Rules

See *FIRST* General Rules: <http://www.firstinspires.org/resource-library/frc/event-experience>

PLEASE DO:

- Distribute team pins and similar promotional items for teams and spectators.
- Bring enough safety glasses for your team and visitors.
- Wear safety glasses at all times in the PIT and on/around the playing field. During the event you will not be allowed into the pit without safety glasses, even to retrieve safety glasses. Be sure all team members have their safety glasses with them when entering the venue! Our safety glasses are for loan to our visitors and not to our teams. This will be strictly enforced.
- Hang your team banners on the wall behind the bleachers using non-marking tape. Be FRIENDLY and use Gracious Professionalism with other teams and spectators while sharing the stands.
- Be sure that your team mascots can see clearly and have an escort at all times if wearing a costume, and that they respect the personal space and boundaries of spectators.

PLEASE DON'T:

- Attempt to deliver or ship robots, pit setups, tools, and/or materials directly to the site. Everything must be carried in during load in.
- Sell any products such as food, hats, shirts, or any promotional products.
- **Open any peanut-based food products in the venue. Hartford Public HS is a peanut-free school.**
- Distribute any free food products, such as candy, water, soft drinks, fruit.

- Use noisy devices, such as floor stompers, whistles, and/or air horns.
- Invite or bring live bands to play in the audience.
- Play loud music in the Pit because it interferes with important announcements.
- Arrange for Internet access on the site.
- Use walkie-talkies as they interfere with the wireless radios used by event service providers as well as the district event volunteers.
- Wear open-toed or open-backed shoes in the Pits or on the playing field. This includes “clog” and “mule” style shoes, such as Crocs. NOTE: This year all team members must have long hair tied back.

If event staff deems something or someone to be unsafe or against Hartford or *FIRST* standards, they will work with the person(s) to correct the situation. If the situation cannot be corrected, the item will be removed or the person(s) will be asked to leave. Finally, please respect the event staff as we are attempting to run a smooth event and keep everyone safe.

5.1 Seating in the Arena

Ample bleacher style seating is available for teams with great views of the competition field. Please do not try and save seats as it is not permitted per [Rule E03](#). Teams are encouraged to share seats with each other and accommodate for spectators. Per Fire Marshal request, teams cannot store bulky items such as coats, coolers, backpacks, etc. in the bleachers. Store such items safely in your pit if you have room, or in your Team Homeroom (requested in advance).

5.2 Media Pass

Hartford DE teams will receive one Media Pass Button upon check-in. The button grants access to one person from your team to take photos or videos from a special designated seating area field-side at this event only. Your media person will be allowed access to that seating **ONLY** during your team’s matches. The FTA and/or Head Referee may rule that there are too many people field-side at any time, or abuse of the pass has been made, and revocation of this benefit is at their discretion.

5.3 Machine Shop Information/Rules

General Rules and Process for machine shop work requests:

- Any onsite work will be done by certified operators.
- You must supply any material that is needed for repairs. The machine shop cannot provide scrap material.
- One team representative must initially accompany their request to the shop request table, but may leave after providing any needed explanations.

6. Emergencies

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:

Notify personnel at the Pit Admin table or the Scorekeeping table of the emergency. They will notify the emergency responders on duty at the event as well as the Event Chairperson and Regional Director.

We encourage teams to identify a meeting place away from the building (i.e. the team bus) where team members will meet if a building evacuation is necessary.

7. Building Layout

A map showing the location of all rooms to be used during the competition will be available at the Pit Admin table.

8. The Pits

- A proposed pit map is included in the Appendix. It is subject to change. Teams will receive a final pit map when they register at the Pit Administration table on Day 0.
- Each team's pit will have an 8ft table and 1 power outlet and is approximately 10' X 9' so plan accordingly. (If you do not wish to use our pit table please let us know prior to Day 0 and we will not set one up in your pit.)
- Due to safety and regulations, teams cannot build any structure that supports people or items for storage above the work area in their pit space.
- No structures should be higher than 10 feet above the floor and must safely support any signs or displays mounted to the structure.
- As a special reminder, don't forget:
 - A 25ft heavy duty extension cord and a power strip.
 - A small cart to transport your heavy robot from the Pit to the playing field.
 - Safety glasses for everyone on your team and your guests that will be visiting the pits.
- Review the *FIRST* Suggested Items to Bring list:
http://www.firstinspires.org/sites/default/files/uploads/resource_library/frc/game-and-season-info/competition-manual/2017/suggested-items-to-bring-to-events.pdf

9. Event Schedule

The public event schedule is in the Appendix and is subject to change without notice. All times are estimated based on the flow of rounds.

Please see Pit Administration for updated times. Match schedules will be released as soon as possible on Day 1.

10. Consent and Release Forms

We strongly encourage all team members and mentors submit their Consent and Release forms electronically. Mentors registered in TIMS may complete the electronic Consent and Release form in TIMS, and student team members/parents may complete their Consent and Release forms electronically via the *FIRST* Youth Team Member Registration (STIMS).

Note that all team members must complete the *FIRST* form as well as a District form electronically. If necessary, print forms may be found here: <https://nefirst.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/2017-New-England-consent-and-release-Form.pdf> . **The NE *FIRST* form for each team member must be brought to Pit Admin at each *FIRST* event you attend, along with your team roster.**

11. Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather please check your email and the event's Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/events/123982061586664/>) and Twitter (@NE_Hartford) for updates.

All team members may also sign up to receive emails or text alerts if we have a change in our schedule. If you wish to sign up to receive emergency text alerts about the NE *FIRST* Hartford District Event for 2018, please send a text message to **84483** with the word **poweruphartford**. We suggest you create a plan for notifying team members in case of a change of schedule.

12. The Competitors

A team list appears in the Appendix. Forty-three teams from Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire will be competing at our event!

13. Chairman's Award Presentations

Eligible teams that submitted for the Chairman's Award will need to sign up at pit admin and provide a Chairman's Award Video Consent Form in order to be interviewed by the Judges at the event. If a team does not sign up for an interview slot, they will be considered ineligible to earn the Chairman's Award at that event. Be sure to come prepared with your Chairman's Video, Video Consent Form and Judge Feedback Form if you wish to receive feedback. To receive feedback, teams submitting for Chairman's Award must fill out their Team Number and Team Name on the Chairman's Award [feedback form](#) and provide it to the Judges at the beginning of their Chairman's Award interview. **To ensure that ALL teams get their feedback forms back, please ALSO include a stamped self-addressed envelope with the feedback form.** For additional information visit the *FIRST* website: <http://www.firstinspires.org/resource-library/frc/submitted-awards>

14. Photos

Immediately following the conclusion of the awards ceremony on Sunday evening the playing field

will be available for 20 minutes for the Chairman's Award and Winning Alliance teams to pose for photos. Please plan accordingly.

15. Additional Activities at the Venue

Plan to visit the various tables and booths set-up in the entrance lobby. *FIRST* will have a table with information about the four *FIRST* programs in case you are interested in starting a team, or know someone who wants to! Be sure to visit Scholarship Row; we are expecting representatives from Southern New Hampshire University and Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI). In addition, we will have a LEGO play area for our young visitors. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. All LEGOs must remain in this spot and we ask that visitors do not bring any home with them so that others may enjoy the play area!

16. Food

Concessions will be available for teams and guests throughout our event, provided by FRC teams 181 and 1991. Details are in the Appendix. (Teams may also bring food into the venue from outside, but there is no place to store coolers, etc. inside except in your Team Homeroom.) Tables are limited so be considerate of your fellow *FIRST*ers who may be waiting for a table. **Hartford Public HS is a peanut-free school.**

17. Mentor Lounge

We invite mentors to visit our Mentor Lounge, location TBD. The Mentor Lounge, sponsored by Thrivent Financial, is a quiet space for mentors to make calls, network with other mentors, and enjoy light refreshments. Please make sure all your mentors are aware of the Mentor Lounge!

18. Social Media – Make it Loud!

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/123982061586664/>
- Twitter: @NE_Hartford
- Hashtags: #NEHartford, #omgrobots, #WeAreNE

19. Hat/Tiara Day

Following a tradition from Championships, our volunteers will be wearing silly or favorite hats, or tiaras on Day 1 (Saturday). We invite teams to join in the fun!

20. Resources

Competition Manuals: <http://www.firstinspires.org/resource-library/frc/competition-manual-qa-system>

Website: <https://nefirst.org/event/ne-district-hartford-district-event/>

FIRST Power Up one-page game description: available in the Appendix – print a copy for your

visitors!

21. Contacts

Got any last-minute questions? Email Kathie Kentfield, Team Liaison at kentfieldk@gmail.com.

Are you running late? **Call and let us know your status!**

- Carol Scully, Event Coordinator: 860.989.1688
- Kathie Kentfield, Team Liaison: 860.416.9148

APPENDIX

2018 DISTRICT SCHEDULE

Day 0 – Friday, April 6, 2018

5 – 10 p.m. Pits Open for Load-In; Inspections Begin

Day 1 – Saturday, April 7, 2018

8 a.m. Pits Open; Practice Rounds; Inspections
10:30 a.m. Opening Ceremonies
11 a.m. Qualification Matches Begin
1 – 2 p.m. Lunch
2 – 7 p.m. Qualification Matches
*8 p.m. Pits Close

Day 2 – Sunday, April 8, 2018

8 a.m. Pits Open
9 a.m. Opening Ceremonies
9:30 a.m. Qualification Matches Begin
11:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Alliance Selections
12 – 1 p.m. Lunch
1 – 4:30 p.m. Playoff Matches
4:30 – 6 p.m. Awards Ceremony
*6:30 p.m. Pits Close

****Schedule subject to change. All times are estimated based on flow of rounds.***

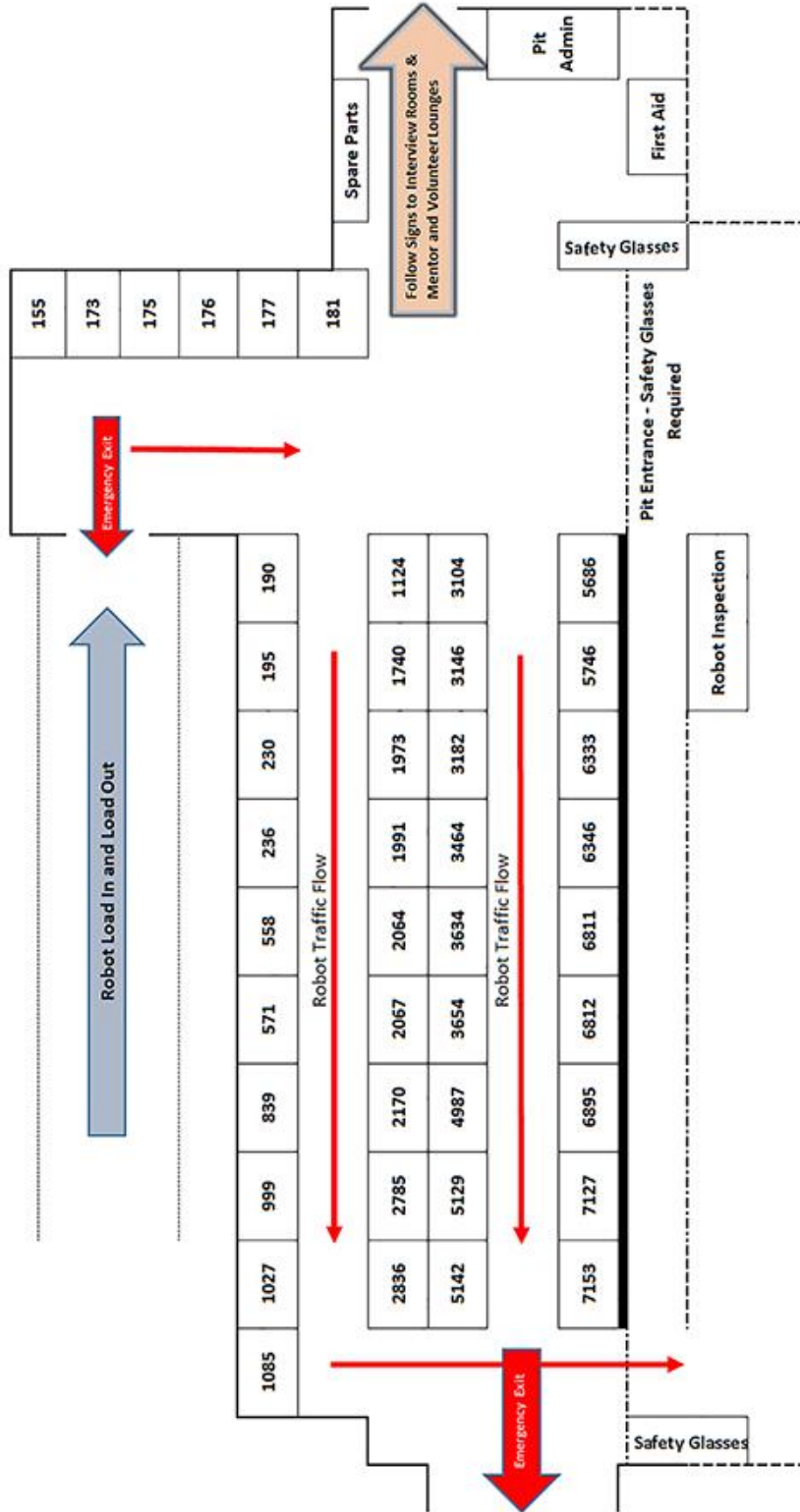
See Pit Administration table for updated times.

TEAM LIST

Team #	Team Nickname	City	State
155	The Technonuts	Berlin	CT
173	RAGE Robotics	Tolland	CT
175	Buzz Robotics	Enfield	CT
176	Aces High	Windsor Locks	CT
177	Bobcat Robotics	South Windsor	CT
181	Birds Of Prey	Hartford	CT
190	Gompei and the H.E.R.D.	Worcester	MA
195	CyberKnights	Southington	CT
230	Gaelhawks	Shelton	CT
236	Techno-Ticks	Old Lyme	CT
558	Elm City Robo Squad	New Haven	CT
571	Team Paragon	Windsor	CT
839	Rosie Robotics	Agawam	MA
999	MechaRAMS	Cheshire	CT
1027	Project Jabberwocky	West Springfield	MA
1085	Aquatic Robotics	Avon	CT
1124	UberBots	Avon	CT
1740	Ledyard Cyber Colonels	Ledyard	CT
1973	Burning Tiger	Brighton, Brookline	MA
1991	Dragons	Hartford	CT
2064	The Panther Project	Southbury / Middlebury	CT
2067	Apple Pi	Guilford	CT
2170	Titanium Tomahawks	Glastonbury	CT
2785	Prometheus	Kent	CT
2836	Team Beta	Woodbury	CT
3104	The Cyber Rams	Stamford	CT
3146	GRANBY GRUNTS	Granby	CT
3182	Athena's Warriors	West Hartford	CT
3464	Sim-City	Simsbury	CT
3634	Spark City	Bridgeport	CT
3654	TechTigers	Middletown	CT
4987	MegaRams	Worcester	MA
5129	Digital Devils	Plainville	CT

5142	Robo Dominators	West Haven	CT
5686	Wirecats	Simsbury	CT
5746	Human Error	Deep River	CT
6333	Scavenger Robotics	Putnam	CT
6346	Norwalk High School Robotics	Norwalk	CT
6811	Gunnery Gears	Washington	CT
6812	Andover Snowflakes	Andover	MA
6895	Mechanical Madness 4-H	Walpole	NH
7127	LongMetal Robotics	Longmeadow	MA
7153	Aetos Dios	Manchester	CT

PIT MAP
 (Subject to change)



**Birds of Prey Concession Stand
(in Lobby Outside of Field House)**Food

- Apple - \$1.00
- Banana - \$1.00
- Chips - \$1.00
- Cookies - \$1.00
- Candy - \$1.00
- Popcorn - \$1.00
- Yogurt - \$1.00
- Hot Dogs - \$2.00
- Pizza by the slice either plain cheese or pepperoni - \$2.00
- Grilled Cheese Sandwiches - \$3.00
- Empanadas with Rice - \$3.00
- Wings (5 wings) - \$5.00
- Lunch/Dinner Special: Chicken with Rice and a Drink - \$8.00

Drinks

- 12 oz. Coffee - \$2.00
- Water - \$1.00
- Soda - \$1.00
- 12 Oz. can Brisk Iced Tea - \$1.00
- 12 oz. bottle Gatorade - \$1.00

**The Dragons Concession Stand
(in the back cafeteria - look for our signs)**



Food

- Doughnuts - \$1.00
- Chips/popcorn - \$1.00
- Cookies - \$1.00
- Candy - \$1.00
- Fruit (bananas/apples/oranges) - \$1.00
- Bagels w/cream cheese - \$2.00
- Muffins - \$2.00
- Grilled Cheese Sandwiches - \$3.00

Drinks

- Water - \$1.00
- Soda - \$1.00
- Coffee (12 oz) - \$2.00
- Tea/hot chocolate - \$2.00
- Gatorade/ Iced Tea - \$2.00

We will be available all hours that the Pits are open. Thank You!

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FIRST® Robotics Competition Game

FIRST® POWER UPSM, the 2018 FIRST® Robotics Competition game, finds our teams trapped in an 8bit video game! Teams use power cubes to defeat the boss.

Each three-team alliance has three ways to help defeat the boss:

1. **Owning the scale or their switch.** Ownership occurs when the scale or alliance's switch is tipped in their favor. Robots collect and deliver power cubes to gain ownership.
2. **Playing power ups.** Alliances exchange power cubes for power ups. Power ups provide a timed advantage during the match. There are three power ups that can be played: Force, Boost, and Levitate.
3. **Climbing the scale tower.** Robots work together to climb the scale tower to face the boss.

Autonomous Period:

Robots operate independently following preprogrammed instructions for the first fifteen seconds of the match.

- Alliances score points by:
- Reaching their own autonomous line
 - Gaining ownership of the scale or their switch

Teleoperated Period:

Operators take control for the final two minutes and fifteen seconds of the match.

Alliances continue to score points by:

- Gaining ownership of the scale or their switch
- Delivering power cubes to the alliance's vault
- Using power ups for a timed advantage
- Parking on the scale platform or climbing the scale to face the boss

The alliance with the highest score at the end of the match defeats the boss and wins.

