

Event Preparation for Teams

A Discussion-based Coach Session on how to Prepare Teams for (and Manage Teams During) Events

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ROBOTICS EDUCATION &
COMPETITION FOUNDATION

SUMMIT

| VEX ROBOTICS PROGRAMS |



<http://bit.ly/46VKu14>

Discussion on Event Preparation

Before the Event

- Preparation
- Robot
- Game Manual
- Notebook/Judging Format
- What to Expect At The Event
 - Students/Parents

During the Event

- Tournaments
- Team/Adult Interactions
- Judging
- Time Management
- Apps

After the Event

- What Did We Learn as a Team?
- Manage Expectations
- Manage Frustrations
- Future Goals
- Documentation

Before the Event

VEX
ROBOTICS
COMPETITION

Preparation

Coach Administrative Responsibilities

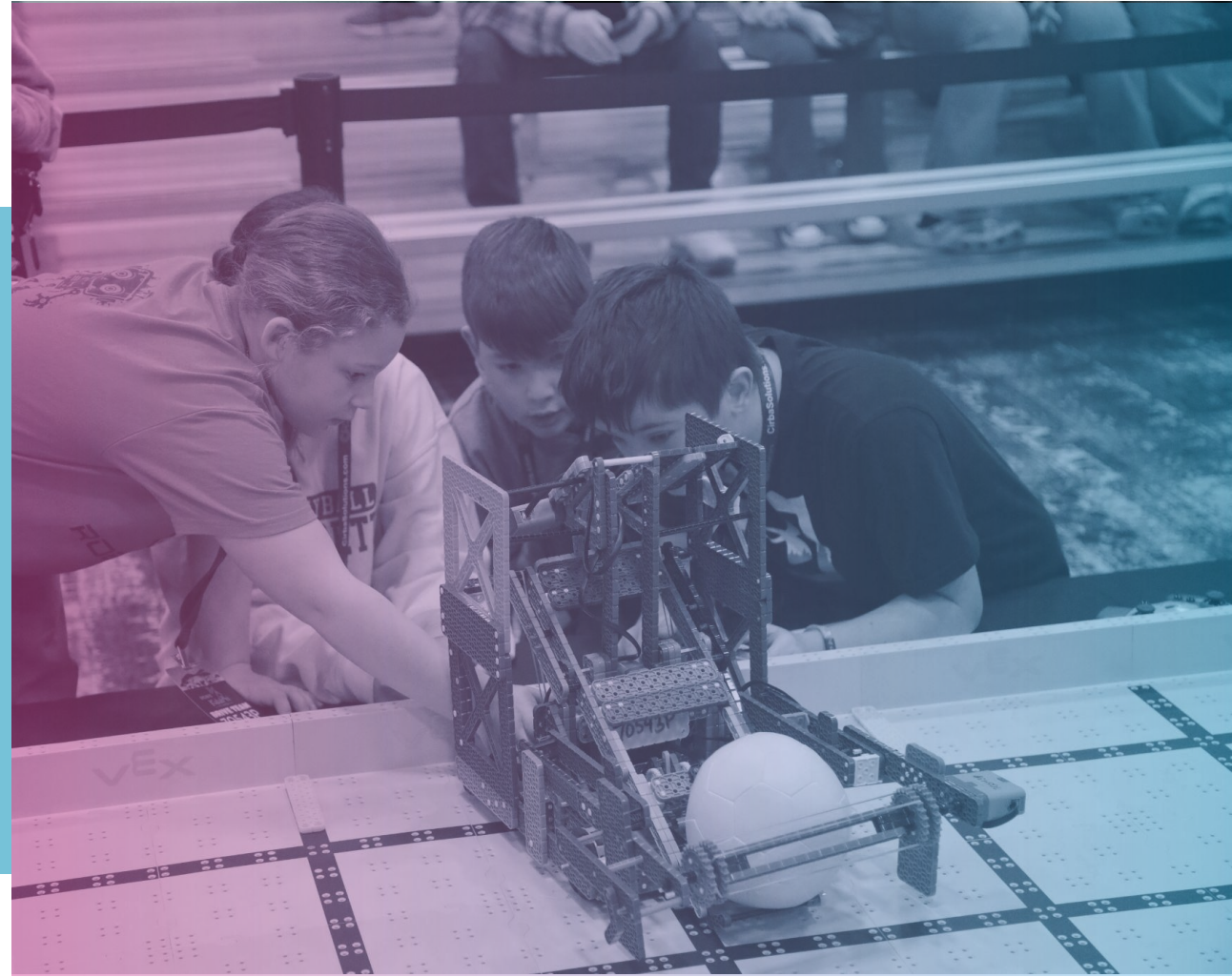
- Register and Pay for Team on Robotevents.com
- Participation Release Forms
- Needs-Based Accommodations
- Budget for number of events to attend
- Register for events & pay before the due date
- Plan Transportation/Field Trip Forms



Preparation

Student Responsibilities

- Create the team
- Analyze the Game
- Decide on Robot Design/Mechanisms
- Build the Robot
- Stay up to date on the Engineering Notebook
- Prepare autonomous coding
- Create a packing checklist
- Practice! Practice! Practice!

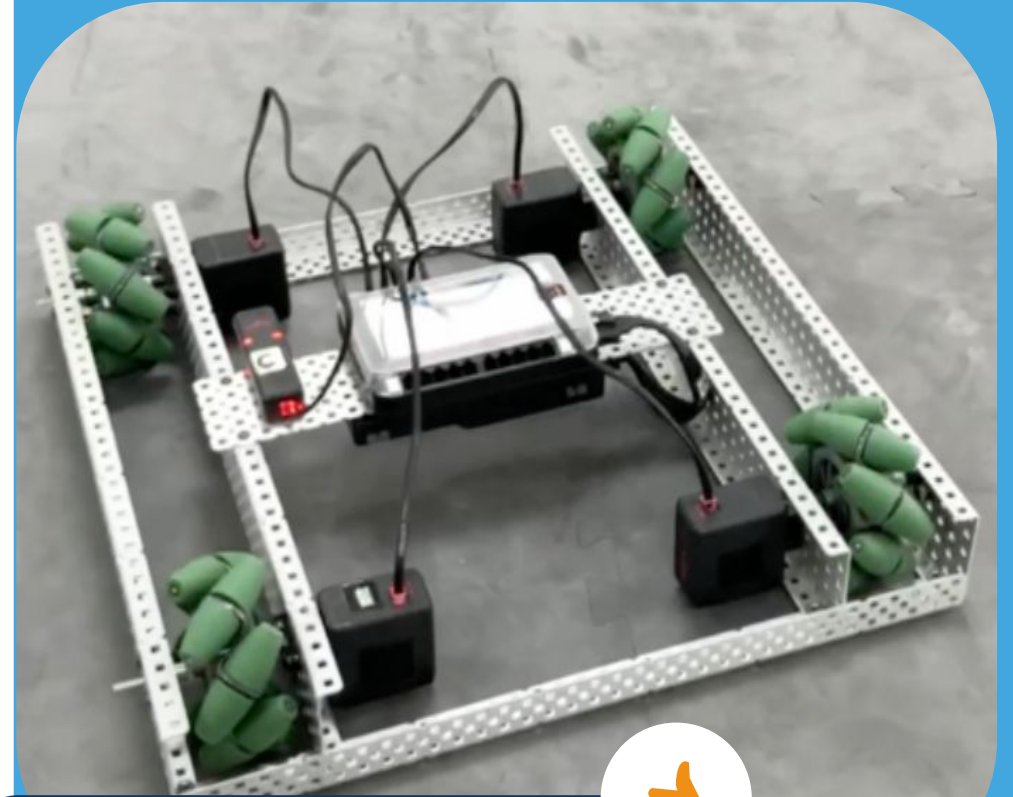


Preparation

Preparing the Robot

- ✓ Build (at least enough to roll)
- ✓ Firmware Updated
- ✓ Autonomous Programming for Skills
- ✓ Competition Template (V5RC)
- ✓ Non-3D Printed License Plates
- ✓ Complete Pre Inspections

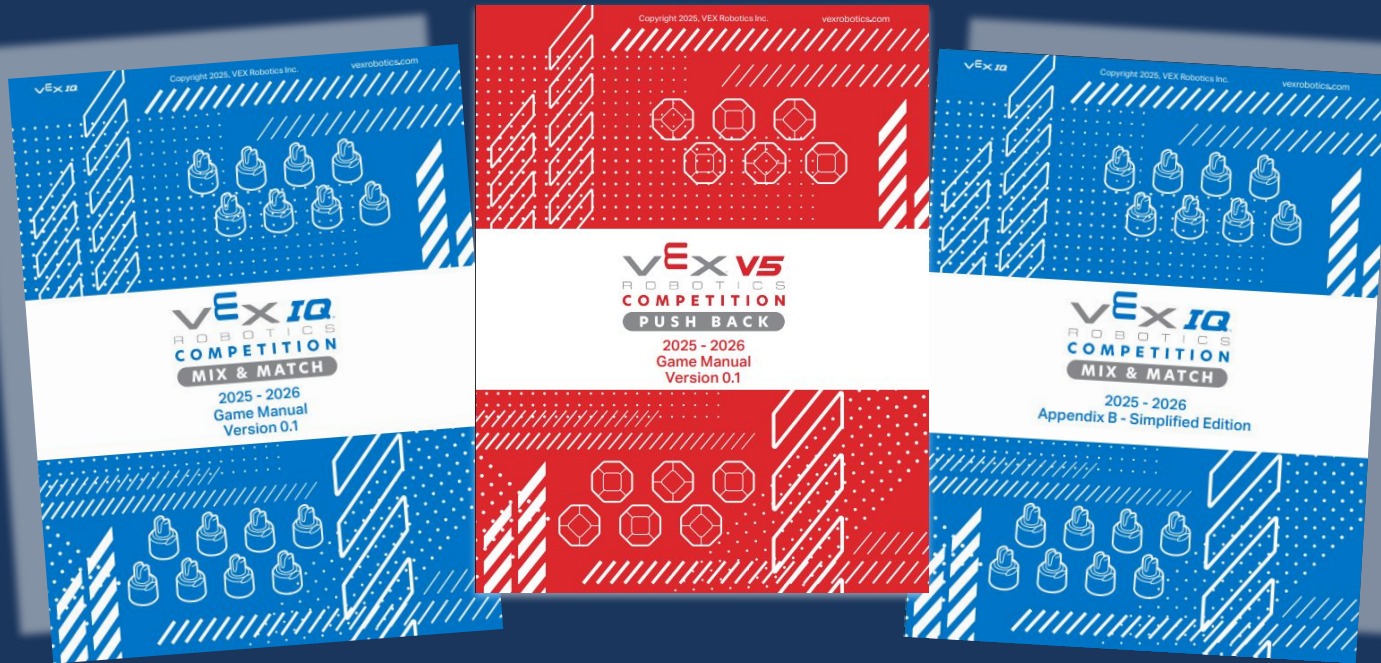
“The robot should be no more complicated than necessary. Keep it simple, make it fun, keep it safe.”- Rick Tyler



100% READY
WILL NEVER HAPPEN

Preparation

Game Manual



DRIVE TEAM TRAINING COURSE

- Available for both V5RC and VIQRC
- Great way to learn the Game Manual



APPENDIX B - SIMPLIFIED EDITION

- VIQRC Game Manual covering the basic rules in a simple language for your youngest students



UPDATES AND OFFICIAL Q&A

- Updates/Dates listed in the Game Manual
- Official Game Q&A

Preparation

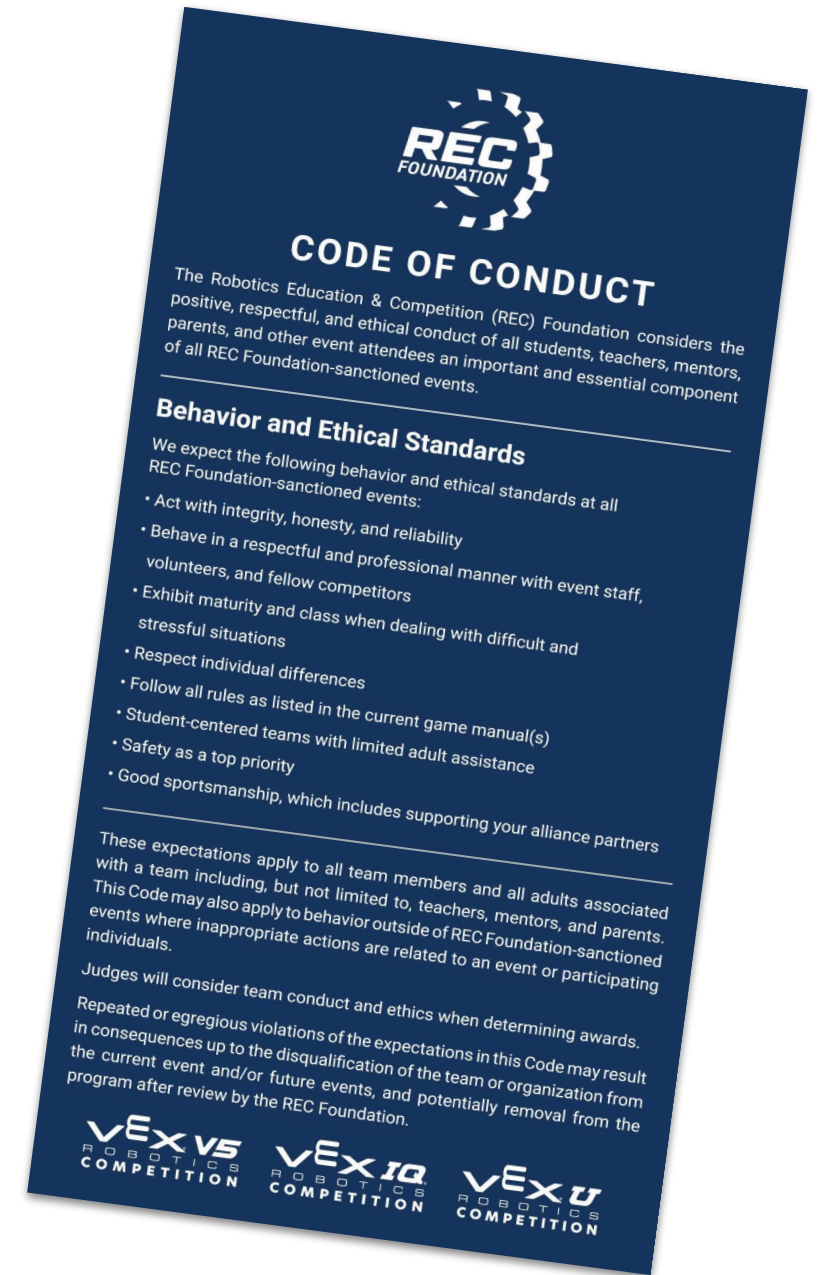
Notebook/Judging Format

- Choose a format (Physical/Digital)
- Deadline to upload for the tournament
- Keep up to date on the Notebook
- Use the Rubric to help
- Practice Interviews



Students Expectations

- Team meeting discussing event
- Share CoC & SCP with students
- Drive team responsibilities
- Roles during the event
- Discuss scouting / alliance selection (V5RC) / finals rankings (VIQRC)
- Discuss Goals (not necessarily winning awards)
- VEX STEM Lab - Competition 101

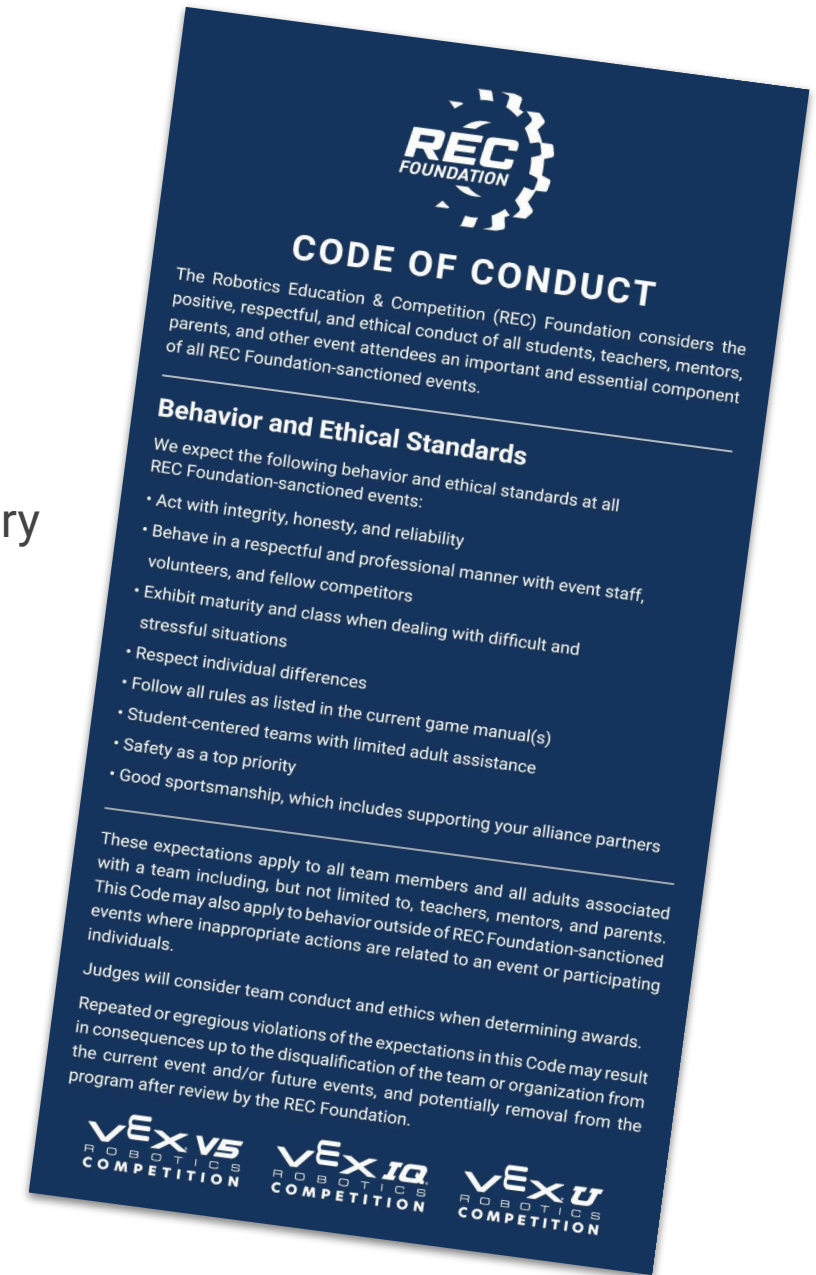




Parents

Expectations

- Parent meeting guide in REC Library
- Share CoC & SCP with parents
- Behavior Guidelines for Adults
- Parent Letter in REC Library
- Discuss the “Why?”
- parents.vex.com
- audience.vex.com



Discussion

Before the Event



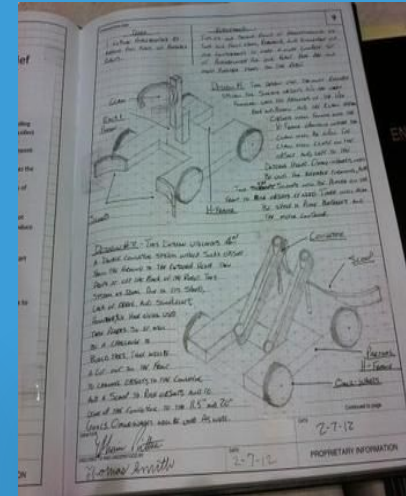
**Administrative
Preparation**



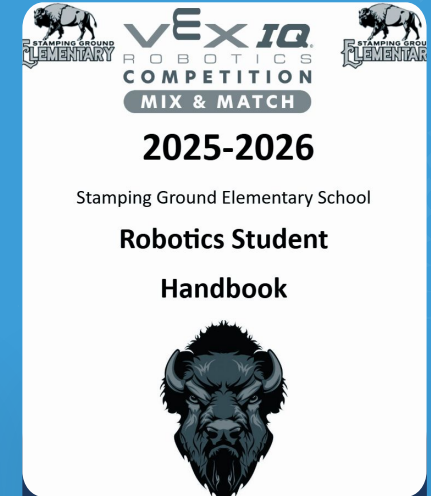
Robot



Game Manual



**Notebooking /
Judging**



Expectations

<http://bit.ly/46VKu14>



During the Event

Expectations At the Tournament

- Check In
- Pits
- Inspection
- Event Meeting
- Driver/Autonomous Skills
- Teamwork / Tournament Matches
- Elimination/Finals
- Judging / Awards
- Cleaning Up



Expectations

Alliance Selection

**ALLIANCE
SELECTION**

- Qualification Matches matter (<T12>, <T16>)
- Understand the process (Tournament Definitions)
- Representative must be Present (<T15>)
- No electronic devices (<T15>)
- Understand declining invitation implication (<T16>)
- Arrive prepared / don't take it personally
- Watch [YouTube video on Alliance Selection](#).



Student/ Adult Interactions



Student INTERACTIONS

- Helpful
- Making Connections
- Sharing Ideas
- Discord



Adult INTERACTIONS

- Adults in the stands
- Referees
- Judges
- Sponsors

Manage Expectations

- ✓ Matches
- ✓ Judging
- ✓ Programming
- ✓ Finals/Elimination Bracket
- ✓ Be Realistic - Yet Flexible
- ✓ Execute What You Have Practiced

“Success has a price. If you aren’t prepared to pay it, you shouldn’t expect to achieve it.” – Dan Waldschmidt.



Prepare
For Everything

Responsibilities

Time Management

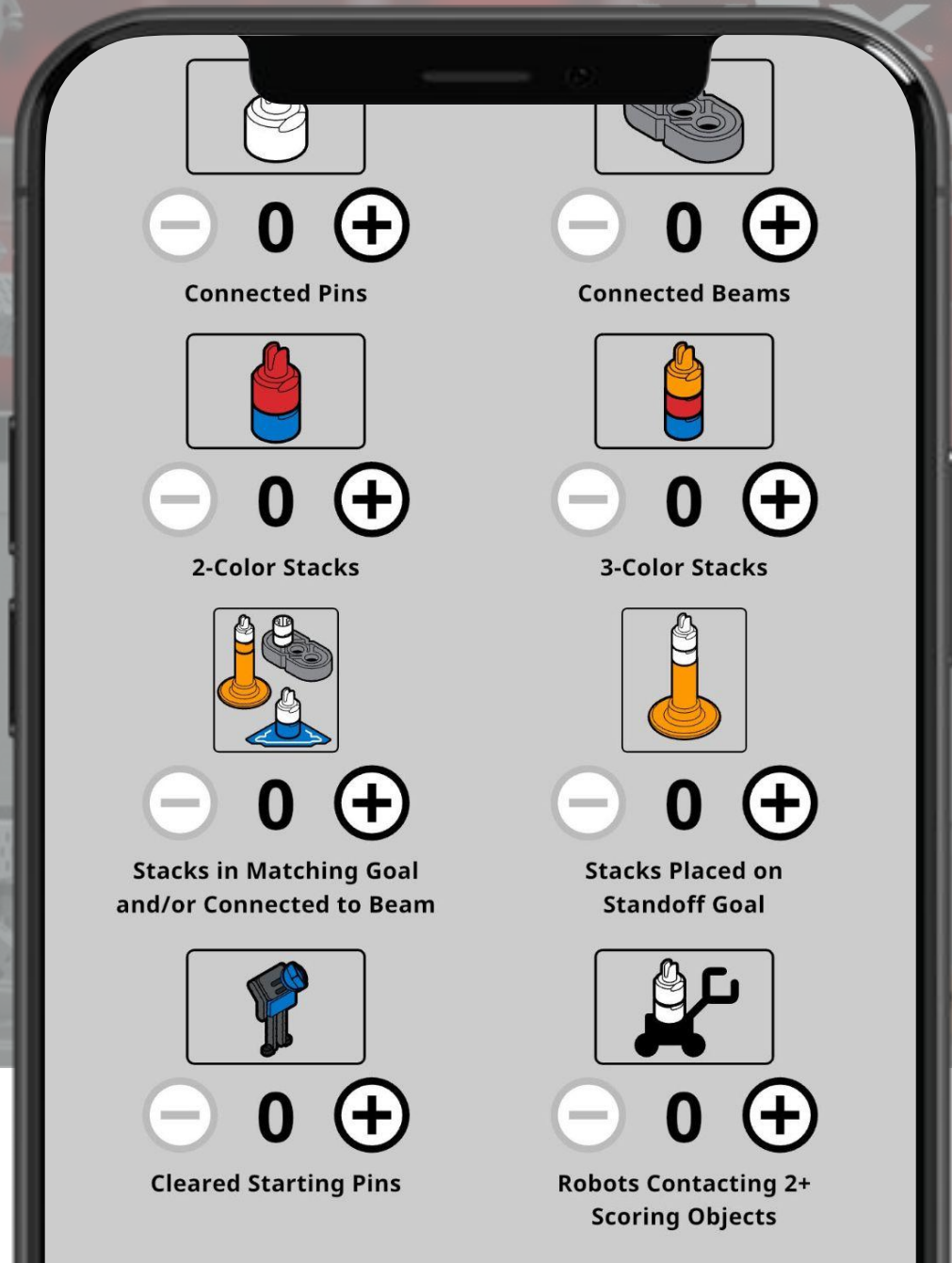


- Plan to execute all tournament elements
- Who is in charge (1 person or shared responsibility)?
- How is this managed?
 - Paper format
 - Digital
 - Top of your head
- Visual Benefits






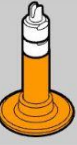




Helpful Apps

- > VEX HUB 
- > VEX VIA 
- > RobotEvents.com



V5
ICS
TION
CK

 - 0 + Connected Pins	 - 0 + Connected Beams
 - 0 + 2-Color Stacks	 - 0 + 3-Color Stacks
 - 0 + Stacks in Matching Goal and/or Connected to Beam	 - 0 + Stacks Placed on Standoff Goal
 - 0 + Cleared Starting Pins	 - 0 + Robots Contacting 2+ Scoring Objects

Discussion During the Event



**At the
Tournament**



**Team/Adult
Interactions**



**Manage
Expectations**



**Time
Management**



**Helpful
Apps**

<http://bit.ly/46VKu14>

After the Event



Post Event

What did we learn as a team?



Learned from:

- other teams
- other robots
- interviews
- matches

Next Steps

Manage Actual Results

- Back to the drawing board (+ and Deltas)
- Frustrations (Can the team affect the outcome?)
- Realistic Next Steps
- Rebuilds (Timeline)
- Other Goals





Always
Be prepared

Check-list

Manage Frustration

- ✓ Time Management
- ✓ Be Realistic - Yet Flexible
- ✓ Execute What You Have Practiced

***“Success is not built on success. It's built on failure. It's built on frustration. Sometimes it's built on catastrophe.”
- Sumner Redstone***

Goals



SMART



Planning (short term / long term)



Relevant to the Team

S

Specific

M

Measurable

A

Achievable

R

Relevant

T

Time-based

Helpful Tools

Documentation and Sponsors

Social Media

(Promoting your team)

Discord

(Sharing / Making friends)

YouTube

(Learning / sharing skills)



Discussion

After the Event



What did we Learn?



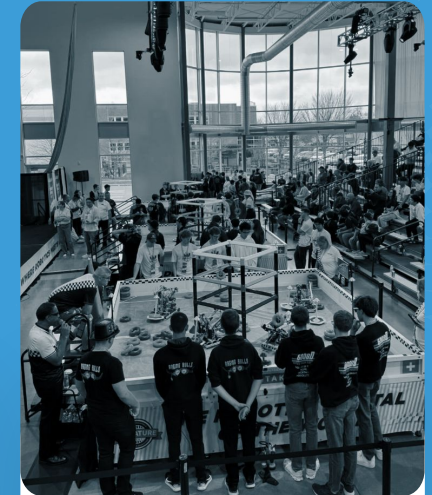
Manage Actual Results



Manage Frustrations



Goals



Documentation / Sponsors

<http://bit.ly/46VKu14>

Final Thoughts

- How do we as the REC Foundation better support coaches?
- How can coaches better support each other?
- How can teams support other teams?



Contact

We are here for you

Event Partners and coaches are the core of our competition program here at the REC Foundation. Please reach out to us with any questions or concerns. Thank you for all of your support.

Address

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[Resources](#)



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