



Stabler Arena

124 Goodman Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18015

April 14 – 16, 2015

Team Visitor Information Packet

Updated Wednesday, March 23, 2016 2:00 PM

***FIRST* Mid-Atlantic District Championship**

WELCOME!

This event, the *FIRST* Mid-Atlantic Robotics District Championship, has been the objective of the seven prior qualifying events for the 2016 season game of STRONGHOLDsm.

Our teams have worked hard this season, dealing with severe weather conditions and design challenges, to build competitive robots in a short 6 weeks, while maintaining their Gracious Professionalismsm. Fifty-five of our 121 teams have advanced to this District Championship here at Lehigh University's Stabler Arena. The top resulting from this competition will qualify to advance to the *FIRST* Championship in St. Louis, April 28-30, to compete with teams from all over the world.

While the teams are vying for the championship, they are being evaluated by judges for various awards, applicable to both the teams' robots and the attributes of the teams. These recognitions will be presented during the Awards Ceremony at the end of the event.

Throughout the seven qualifying events and the championship we are deeply indebted to our wonderful volunteers who give up their leisure time to support our teams in their endeavors. Without them we would be nothing. Similarly, the teams would not achieve their respective accomplishments without the support of the teachers, coaches, parents, and mentors who provide guidance to the students day-in and day-out. Our warmest thanks go out to all of them. We are proud to admit that this is "...the hardest fun we have ever had."

If, as you feel the excitement, you are motivated to join us, we welcome your help. Please go to our website for additional information: www.midatlanticrobotics.org and "GET INVOLVED."

We are an IRS 501(c)(3) entity and a New Jersey Non-Profit Corporation and welcome your generous, tax deductible donation. Please visit our website and access the DONATE header.

Many have worked hard to make your visit with us a valuable one. Please be safe and enjoy the experience.

Best regards – Michael F. Bregen, Chairman – FIRST Mid-Atlantic

***FIRST* Mid-Atlantic District Championship**

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO THE STABLER ARENA

Stabler Arena Address: 124 Goodman Dr. Bethlehem, PA 18015.

Google MAPS and iPhone tested: Stabler Arena, Goodman Dr., Bethlehem PA

POINTS NORTH: EAST STROUDSBURG, SCRANTON

From the East Stroudsburg area, take Route 33 south to Interstate 78 west. Follow Interstate 78 West to Exit #67 (Hellertown/Bethlehem). Continue straight through light between Wendy's and Turkey Hill. Follow signs that read "Lehigh University/Goodman Campus/Stadium and Arena."

From the Scranton area, take Interstate 476 South (formerly Route 9) to Route 22 east. Exit at Route 309 south and follow to Interstate 78 East. Follow Interstate 78 East to Exit #67 (Hellertown/Bethlehem). Turn right at traffic light at end of ramp and at next light, turn left between Wendy's and Turkey Hill. Follow signs that read "Lehigh University/Goodman Campus/Stadium and Arena."

POINTS SOUTH: PHILADELPHIA, DELAWARE

Follow Interstate 476 North (formerly Route 9) to Exit #32 (Quakertown). Turn left onto Route 663 and continue to Route 309, turn left and go north. Follow Route 309 north to Route 378, turn right and go north. Follow Route 378 north approximately 4.5 miles to light at Seidersville Road. Turn right onto Seidersville Road and follow signs and to Arena.

POINTS EAST: NEW JERSEY, NEW YORK CITY

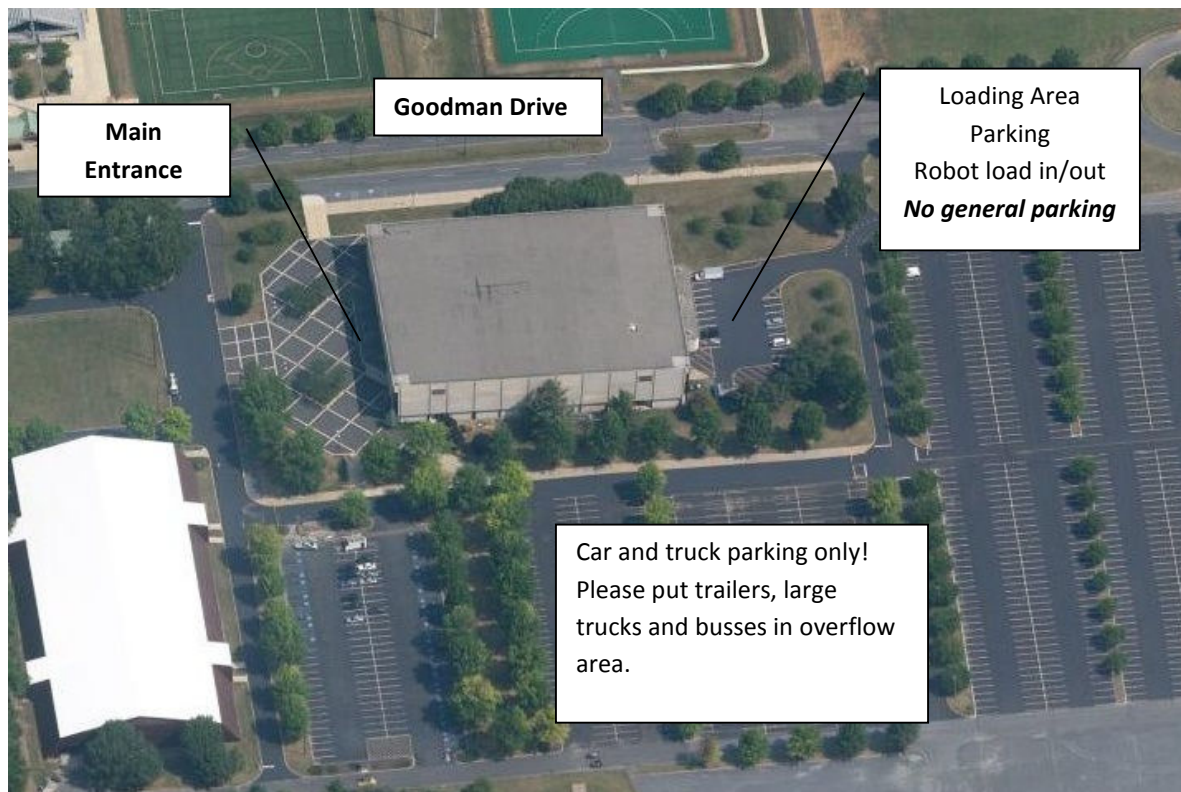
Follow New Jersey Turnpike southwest. At exit #14, follow signs to Interstate 78 west. Follow Interstate 78 West all the way into Pennsylvania. Take Exit #67 (Hellertown/Bethlehem). Continue straight through light between Wendy's and Turkey Hill. Follow signs that read "Lehigh University/Goodman Campus/Stadium and Arena."

POINTS WEST: HARRISBURG

Follow Interstate 78 East to Exit #67 (Hellertown/Bethlehem). Turn right at traffic light at end of ramp and at next light, turn left between Wendy's and Turkey Hill. Follow signs that read "Lehigh University/Goodman Campus/Stadium and Arena."

***FIRST* Mid-Atlantic District Championship**

LOAD-IN/PARKING AT STABLER ARENA (VIEW FROM SPACE)



Note: Please follow the directions of the traffic attendants.

Bus and Trailer Parking in
overflow area

***FIRST* Mid-Atlantic District Championship**

GENERAL EVENT INFORMATION

Please read the following restrictions and adhere to them in order to promote an orderly and exciting competition. As a group, we all should honor agreements with the venue and help promote the spirit of good partnership.

- **Please do not attempt to deliver or ship robots directly to the site.**
- **Please do not remove any FIRST or Team number signs.**
- **Please do not bring food into the arena.** Any food or beverage not provided by Stabler Arena must be consumed outside the building.
- **Please do not sell any products.** Only our approved vendor may offer to sell apparel. No other items, including food, hats, shirts, or any promotional products, may be sold.
- **Please do not give out any free food products,** such as candy, water, soft drinks, or fruit. You may trade team pins or buttons, however. Stickers or Decals are NOT allowed to be distributed as they are often left behind in the venue
- **Please do not sell raffle tickets.**
- **Please do not use extremely noisy devices,** such as floor stompers, whistles, or air horns.
- **Please do not invite or bring live bands** to play in the audience. This dilutes the presentation on the playing field and is too confusing for the audience.
- **Do not play loud music** in the Pit because it interferes with important announcements. If a team is uncooperative, the power to the team's Pit Station will be shut off and/or the music confiscated.
- **Please do not save seats.** It is not fair to other teams or the public that we hope to interest as team sponsors & volunteers.
- **Please do not bring helium tanks.** Helium balloons are NOT allowed at the Arena!
- **Please do not arrange for Internet access** on the site or attempt to connect to the Internet.
- **Please do not use walkie-talkies** as they interfere with the wireless radios used by event service providers as well as the regional staff
- **Please do not form "tunnels"** during the Awards Ceremony.
- **Please do not run in the venue.**
- **Please do not 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.
- **Please ensure anyone in the pit area – including walkways – is wearing safety glasses.**
- **Please have fun and good luck!!!**

Finally, please respect the event staff and volunteers as we are attempting to run a smooth event and keep everyone safe. Remember without volunteers none of this is possible. Please thank them for their help.

***FIRST* Mid-Atlantic District Championship**

CONSENT FORMS

All participants in FRC events must submit a FIRST Consent and Release form (either an electronic form via the FIRST website or a hard copy of the downloaded form) and a separate MAR Consent and Release form (adult version or minor version as appropriate) at their initial event of the season. Additional copies of the forms are not required at subsequent events.

To register at this event, each team must provide a Team Roster listing all team members. Any team member for whom this event is the first of the season must submit both FIRST and MAR forms. A complete description of the FIRST Consent and release process may be found at...

<http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc/first-student-team-information-members-system-and-consent-form>

All forms may be downloaded at...

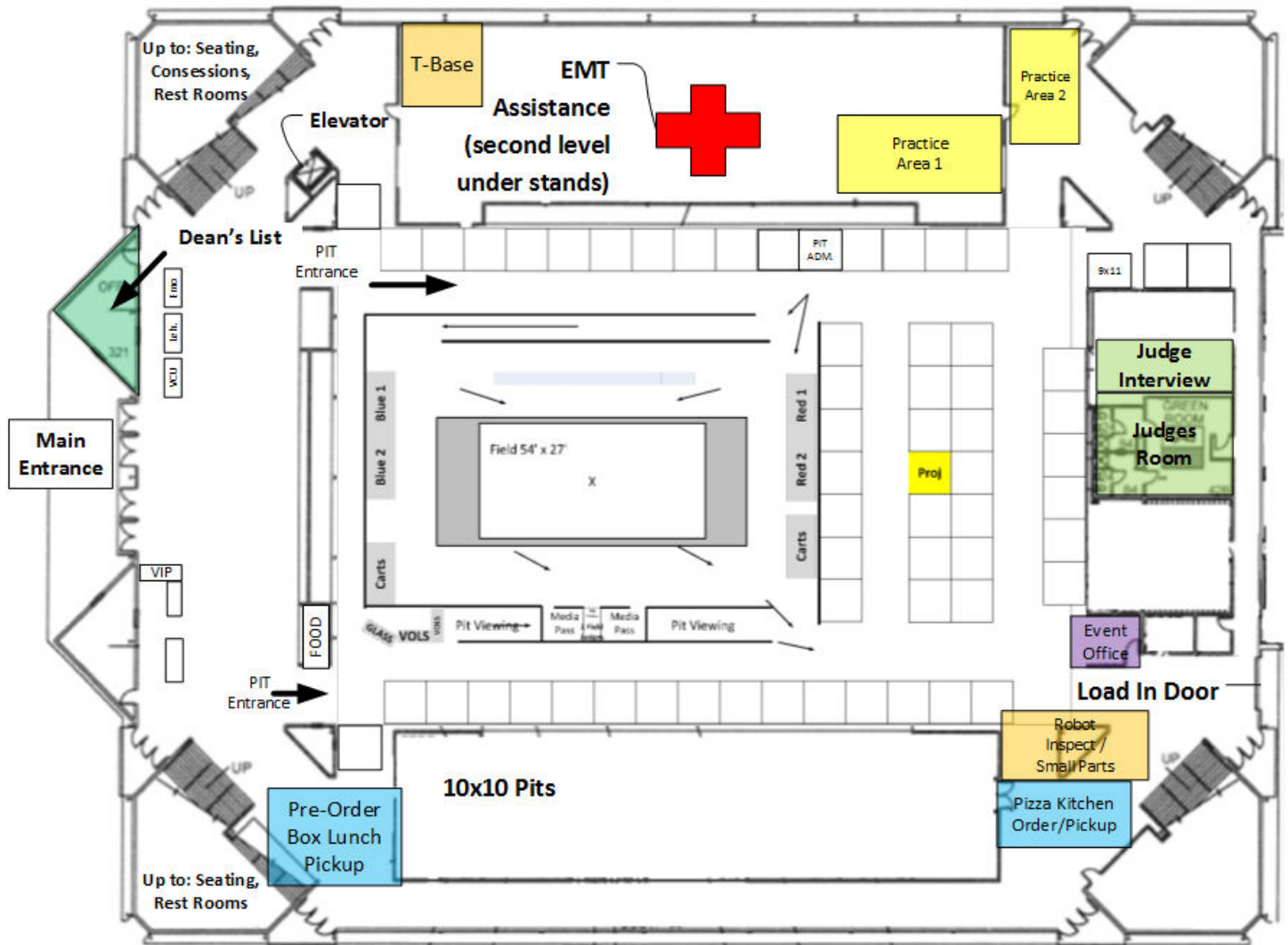
<http://www.midatlanticrobotics.org/downloads/>

FIRST Mid-Atlantic District Championship

THE ARENA

Seating is available on 3 sides of the playing field. Arena ushers will make sure spectators do not block aisles and walkways. There is no assigned seating and seats cannot be saved. Teams and the general public have equal access to the seating area throughout the competition. You are responsible for your belongings.

Updated 60 Teams Arena Layout



FIRST Mid-Atlantic District Championship

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

In the event of an emergency at the MAR Championships Event make sure to listen to the instructions from the event staff as it may be necessary to evacuate or clear a path for emergency personnel. We recommend setting up a team meeting place outside of the arena beforehand. A card with this location as well as your hotel and other important team contacts would be a great handout to remind your team! First Aid is located on the second level as designated in the Arena drawing.

Note: If you have an emergency please contact one of the volunteers for directions.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

- General Emergency 911

EVENT CONTACT INFORMATION

- Frank Larkin Event Coordinator (before event) 215-823-9593 (at event, team 272)
- Tom Wexler Event Manager (at event, contact Pit Admin, he is on radio)
- Cathy Morgan Volunteer Coordinator (before event) 215-219-7513 (at event on radio)
- Event Website <http://www.midatlanticrobotics.org/events/mar-championship/>

FIRST AID

Please go to EMTs for first aid treatment. As you look at the field from the main seating area they will be on your left. They are located on the second level, in the middle of the arena. If you need first aid at any time and are not sure what to do, please see a volunteer. They will direct you.

PIT AND COMPETITION FIELD SAFETY

Safety glasses **must** be worn in the Pits and Competition Fields at all times. Teams and mentors must bring their own safety glasses. Safety glasses will be available for visitor use at the event but must be returned upon leaving the Pit area.

GENERAL CONDUCT

All participants, volunteers and supporters are expected to exhibit Gracious Professionalism during the entire competition. Any behavior causing safety concerns may result in a warning, or possibly being escorted off the site. Reminder no smoking is permitted in the Stabler Arena.

SAFETY QUESTIONS OR ISSUES

If you need safety information, or encounter unsafe behavior that you are uncomfortable dealing with, please notify the Safety Advisor, Volunteer Coordinator or the Event Manager.

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THE PITS

Teams will receive a final pit map when they register at the arena on Thursday at the Pit Administration Table.

- Each team's pit station will have a table. Most of the pits are 10 x 10 with the exception of 6 at the far end of the pit area. These are almost 10 X 10. (See right side of drawings)
- We may ask you to connect to the Power spider box within 10 feet of your pit or we may drop power to the back of your pit. Please have at least a 10 foot extension. If you do not have one, one will be provided.
- Due to safety and insurance regulations, teams cannot build any structure that supports people or items for storage above the work area in their pit space.
- No structures can be higher than 10 feet above the floor and must safely support any signs or displays mounted to the structure. We will require the removal of any pit structure that is deemed unsafe by event management personnel and local committee members.
- The current match and the match being queued will be displayed on the Stabler Arena Scoreboard at either end of the arena under words MATCH and QUEUEING. **There will be no calls for queuing on Matches. Your team is expected to be in the queue area and ready to go when you match comes up.**
- Because of the sound at the competition and Pit layout, we will be keeping Pit announcements to a bare minimum. We will be using a message system website we have developed called **Pit Messages**. This is generated locally and is available on your PCs, iPhones, iPads, Android, Galaxy or other Internet capable Wireless device. There will be detailed instructions in your team registration packet.
Note: Please limit use of this to only 2 pit members per team. A spare driver station computer is very good for this purpose.

AS A SPECIAL REMINDER, DON'T FORGET:

- A 25 ft. 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 if they will be visiting the pits.
- Safety gloves for team members that will be handling the robot during transport to and from the field.

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MACHINE SHOP INFORMATION AND PROCESS

Below are the general rules and process for machine shop work requests:

- You must supply any material that is needed for repairs. The machine shop cannot provide scrap material.
- One team representative must initially go to Pit Admin to get a Machine Shop form. They will also sign the Machine Register indicating they are asking for Machine shop help. They must include the time they entered the request.
- They then go fill out the form back at your pits or at the Machine Shop table near the large rear door of the arena. The form should explain what needs to be done. There is room to include a drawing and dimensions. Leave the form and any materials at the table.
- **You may not observe your job being worked due to safety and liability.**
- All work requests are First Come First Serve, unless a reasonable exception can be made. The machine shop cannot guarantee timing for any ASAP requests.
- Your team will be notified via **Pit Messaging** when the part is ready. You can pick it up at the machine shop table.

TEAM MEDIA PASSES

Because of the layout of this year's game we are able to have a Media Area for teams to send representatives to take video and photos of their teams **while they play**. For each team there will be 2 Media passes in your team registration packet.

We will use the following process...

- 1) Before the match, the team media people will queue with their teams and stand in the queuing area with their robot. **Do not go to Media Gallery early.**
- 2) The team media people will move to the Media Gallery when their team is cleared to load the robot on the field. **Please make sure you do not stop to take pictures or video while this is happening.**
- 3) Please wait patiently for the others to leave. They will be moving that out as soon as robots are cleared to be removed from the field.
- 4) In the Gallery please do not block any other outside press, photographers, videographers or media people from other teams. If there is an issue, please contact the usher managing this area.
- 5) **There will be no power provided in the Gallery.**
- 6) When your round is over please be prepared to finish what you are doing. Once teams are allowed to clear the robots from the field you MUST leave the Gallery as quickly as possible to make room for the next team.

Note: These passes are a privilege not a right. The local committee reserves the right to revoke this privilege.

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PIT VIEWING AREA

As we did last year there will be a pit viewing area. This is provided primarily for pit crews to watch their teams in action. Please do not abuse this by setting up cameras or video equipment. If your team is not yet up please do not stand in front of those whose team is competing. Move to the back or exit this viewing area when your team is not competing.

FOOD/MEALS

Please take advantage of the pre-order meal options for this event since there are not a lot of outside meal options near the Stabler Arena. Food items will be available for purchase in the Arena during the event which is open to all spectators and teams. Pre-orders offer immediate availability and team time management.

- Sandwich pre-orders for lunch only will be managed directly with Lehigh Catering. Pizza pre-orders will be handled by the Stabler concession folks. 16" Pizza's are 12\$, with topping starting at 14\$. Please see the separate Pre-Order forms and other information on the MAR Website. We have been able to extend ordering to **Wednesday April 13th**!

<http://www.midatlanticrobotics.org/events/mar-championship/>

- Food will also be available from the Stabler Arena vendors. They have a variety of food that is all described in the Stabler Arena Menu. This too is viewable on the MAR website link above. The food concessions are located on the second level above the Arena Entrance. This area has been remodeled to make it more like a food court. We suggest you get food at a break in the action for your team before the official lunch break. This is to help avoid the crowds.

The hours of operation will be...

| | |
|----------|--------------------|
| Thursday | 10:00 am - 7:00 pm |
| Friday | 10:00 am - 5:00 pm |
| Saturday | 10:00 am - 5:00 pm |

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TEAM LUGGAGE STORAGE (SATURDAY ONLY)

We know that some teams will be traveling to the event by their own bus and then using our shuttle busses. MAR is trying to help by providing those buses and recognizes that luggage storage on Saturday only can be an issue. We would rather not have it in the arena.

When you are coming on Thursday or Friday we ask that you; 1) go to your hotel and drop off your luggage. They will store it for you. 2) Then use your bus to get you to the Stabler Area. **We will not be holding any luggage at Stabler on Thursday or Friday.**

MAR Shuttle service will start at 4:30 pm from Stabler Arena to the designated hotels.

On Saturday you take your luggage with you in the MAR supplied shuttle busses and arrive at Stabler between 7:30 and 9:00.

- 1) Carry your luggage to the area outside the back loading doors. There will be a POD available for you to put your luggage into. **For your own sake, you MUST have an ID tag on the luggage.** You then place the luggage in the POD near your teammate's luggage.
- 2) You will be able to pick up luggage at the following times (there will be an announcement).
 - a. For those leaving early, for 1 hour only following the Volunteer Break
 - b. Final pickup immediately after the Award Ceremonies.

Again, with your adult mentors and/or chaperones help...

- a. You then enter the POD, find your bag. **Make sure the ID matches you.**
- b. Take it out to the person watching over the POD and **show them the ID.**
- c. If your bag does not have ID you may be asked to identify what is in the bag.

SCHEDULE CONSIDERATIONS

We are altering the schedule a little to accommodate many of the issues generated from last year's event. We will be starting every day at 7:45 am and allowing teams to leave by 5:00 to 5:30 pm. This is to allow those traveling by bus to have a hard stop time for the bus to pick them up. All will get home a little earlier to get much needed rest. We are trying not to stress teams and volunteers.

Thursday will be devoted to inspection, robot tweaks, practice and a few qualification matches. **We fully expect that since all teams have been to at least two MAR District events, you will all be fully inspected, field connections tested and competition ready by Thursday at 2:00 pm to start qualification matches.** We will be shooting for a 7-8 minute cycle time. This is based upon the 7 district events we have just completed over the past 6 weeks. Since we will have 60 teams and the pits are close you should have ample time to fix problems. We are looking to you to help us provide a great, fast paced and exciting event.

FIRST Mid-Atlantic District Championship

EVENT SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY APRIL 13, 2016

- 12:00 PM Setup - If you can spare some time come help get MAR Champs ready.
- 6:00 PM Pits Open members to drop off and do pit setup. Max 10 people only (Load-In Door)
- 8:00 PM Pit Access Closed

THURSDAY APRIL 14, 2016

- 7:30 AM Teams begin to arrive, stage in building if possible. Cannot get to stands or pits.
- 7:45 AM Seating Opens, Pits Opens, Machine Shop Opens, Inspection begins, registration begins.
- 10:00 AM Practice matches begin on main field (assigned times and rotating cue as available)
- 11:00 AM Safety Captain Meeting (Location TBD)
- 12:00 PM Practice Matches End (UPDATED!!!)
- 12:00 PM Volunteer Replenishment Time (*we suggest you eat when you can to avoid long lines*)
- 1:00 PM Drivers Meeting on Field (UPDATED!!!)
- 2:00 PM Qualification Matches Begin (UPDATED!!!)
- 5:30 PM Qualification Matches End for the day (UPDATED!!!)
- 7:00 PM Pits, machine shop close

FRIDAY APRIL 15, 2016

- 7:30 AM Teams begin to arrive, stage in building if possible. Cannot get to stands or pits.
- 7:45 AM All Open, Stands, Pits, Machine Shop, Inspection resumes
- 8:00 AM Optional Driver Meeting for Overnight Updates (at head referee's discretion)
- 8:30 AM Opening ceremonies
- 9:00 AM Qualifying Matches (continue)
- 12:00 PM Volunteer Replenishment Time (*we suggest you eat when you can to avoid long lines*)
- 1:00 PM Qualifying Matches (cont.)
- 5:30 PM Qualification Matches End for the day
- 6:00 PM Pits and machine shop close or ½ hour after last qualification match whichever is greater

SATURDAY APRIL 16, 2016

- 7:30 AM Teams begin arrive, stage in building if possible. Cannot get to stands or pits.
- 7:45 AM All Open, Stands, Pits, Machine Shop,
- 8:30 AM Opening ceremonies
- 9:00 AM Qualifying Matches (continue)
- 1:00 PM Alliance Selections
- 1:15 PM Volunteer Replenishment Time (*we suggest you eat when you can to avoid long lines*)
- 2:15 PM Final rounds
- 5:00 PM Pit cleanup begins where possible, Power turned off.
- 5:00 PM Awards ceremony