### Robofest eNewsletter 12-20-21

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Note: All times are listed in EST unless noted

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## (1) Robofest World Championship Format Survey

At the December kickoff meeting, we announced the dates and format for the Robofest World Championship Events. Since that time, we have received some feedback that some teams may prefer different options due to possible travel restrictions related to the pandemic. We would like to gather more detailed information in order to make final decisions and provide opportunities for all teams to participate in the 2022 Robofest season World Championship and open category events. Please complete this short survey by January 5 <a href="https://forms.gle/RW6uogSvwxvuTrqn7">https://forms.gle/RW6uogSvwxvuTrqn7</a>

We will announce the final plans at the January 15 meeting, on the website and through eNews.

### (2) Annual Report and Assessment Reports Posted

The 2020-2021 Robofest Annual Report and Assessment Report have been posted to the "What's New" section on the Robofest.net home page or directly at: <a href="https://robofest.net/images/2021/robofest21report.pdf">https://robofest.net/images/2021/robofest21report.pdf</a> and <a href="https://robofest.net/images/2021/robofest21assessment.pdf">https://robofest.net/images/2021/robofest21assessment.pdf</a>. The Annual Report includes site and team statistics and the Assessment Report includes links to the anonymous survey results.

#### (3) Workshop Dates Scheduled

All of the 2022 workshops will be held in the Computer Science Robotics Lab - J234. Registration is free to teams that have registered paid for a qualifier. (Pre-registration is available)

- VEX IQ with Robot Mesh: Sat, Feb 26, 9:00am ~ Noon
- Spike Prime / Robot Inventor with Scratch: Sat, Mar 12, 9:00am ~ Noon
- EV3 with Scratch: Sat, Mar 12, 1:00pm ~ 4:00pm
- Spike Prime / Robot Inventor with Python: Sat, Mar 19, 1:00pm ~ 4:00pm

Registration opens on January 5. To register your students, select \*Available Workshops\* on the left menu of the registration page on Robofest.net.

Additional workshops may be added based on the demand

#### (4) 2022 Robofest Game \*OceanBots\* Updated

The 2022 Game rules have been modified slightly to add clarifications and FAQs. The updated version has been posted to the Robofest.net website. Click on the **Get Involved/Game** page.

OceanBots Draft Rules: https://robofest.net/images/2122/Game2022V051.pdf

The US Final rules will be finalized on January 18. If you have any questions about the rules that you would like to have clarified, please send an email to Shannan Palonis (spalonis@ltu.edu) and we will answer them in the FAQ and/or update the rules to add clarity.

(5) Second Kickoff Meeting Saturday, January 15 at 10:00 am on Zoom

Site Hosts, coaches, volunteers and corporate partners ~ please join us via Zoom on January 15 at 10:00 am for the kickoff meeting to introduce the rules and plans for the upcoming 23<sup>rd</sup> Robofest season. The December 8 Meeting Slides and link to the recorded meeting are posted on the **Get Involved/2022 Main Page**.

To Join the January 15 Zoom Meeting, click: https://ltu.zoom.us/j/95877755557?pwd=cWd2NnFEUThMWGZqcExocTJ0UlBadz09

Or login directly with meeting ID: 958 7775 5557 and Passcode: 649126

### (6) Site Host Opportunity Returns for 2022

Robofest is seeking site hosts for the following categories: Game Qualifiers, Exhibition Qualifiers, BottleSumo, RoboParade and other Open Category events during the Spring of 2022. Returning Site Hosts may contact the Robofest Office at spalonis@ltu.edu to start the registration process. The online application is available on the **Registration** page. Downloadable forms and 'New Site Host Information and FAQ' documents are now available on the **For Site Hosts** page on the Robobofest.net website.

### (7) Warmup Competition/Judge Training February 12 at 1:00 pm at LTU

This event will be held on Saturday, Feb 12, 2022 from 1:00pm ~ 5:30pm in Room J234 in the Taubman Complex. Teams who would like to participate should send an email to spalonis@ltu.edu. Check-in for registered teams begins at 1:00 pm and Judge training will start at 1:45 pm. We invite and encourage Michigan Site Hosts and Volunteer Game Judges to attend. Registration for judges will open on January 5.

#### (8) MCWT Grants for All-Girl Robofest Teams

The Michigan Council of Women in Technology Foundation, 18-year sponsor of Robofest, is once again providing \$500 grants for up to ten Michigan all-girl Robofest teams for the 2022 Robofest Game and Exhibition competitions. More information, the application and deadline will be posted to their webpage: <a href="https://mcwt.org/programs/list/K-12-Initiatives/ROBOTICS-GRANTS">https://mcwt.org/programs/list/K-12-Initiatives/ROBOTICS-GRANTS</a>

## (9) LTU Scholarship Opportunity for all Robofest Participants

High School students who have participated in Robofest at any time and who are planning to attend LTU, can apply for a \$3,000 renewable scholarship (Total of \$12,000). Submit a 400-word essay describing your Robofest experience and your career goals, a letter of recommendation from one of your Robofest adult coaches or mentors, and the Scholarship Application by **April 1, 2022.** To find more information visit: <a href="https://www.ltu.edu/financial\_aid/scholarships-freshmen.asp">https://www.ltu.edu/financial\_aid/scholarships-freshmen.asp</a>

# Happy Holidays!!



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