

Hello,

This is the third of the weekly updates we will send until the Championship event on March 13, 2021.

Let's start with new information, then move on to Q&A related to last week's update.

The window for submission of materials for the Vermont FTC Championship has been modified to **03/06/2021 00:00 to 03/12/2021 23:59**. This adds two days (a weekend) at the beginning and shaves one day off at the end. It should provide the judges extra time to review the materials more thoughtfully.

We have created a Trial event called "Acorn" in the FTC scoring system. It is highly encouraged that you visit this platform (<http://ftc-scoring.firstinspires.org>) to become familiar with how you will submit scores, and materials.

More information about the scoring system is provided in the FTC Scoring –Team Guide (https://www.firstinspires.org/sites/default/files/uploads/resource_library/ftc/ftc-cloudscoring-team-user-guide.pdf).

You should also look for your judging schedule and the link by which you will meet with a judge panel.

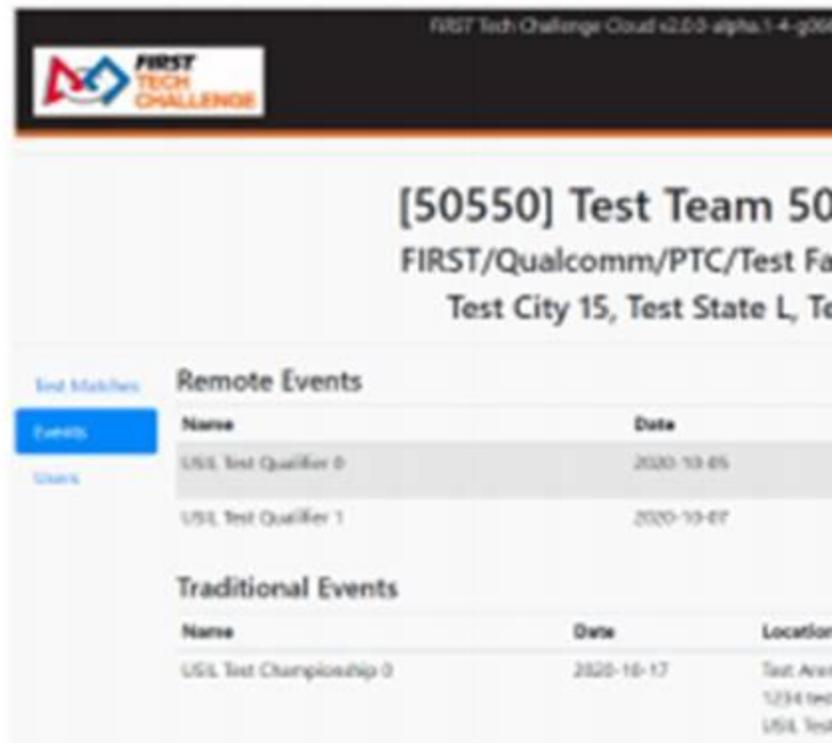


Figure 2 - The team landing page should display your team information

You should see the FTC Scoring system landing page for

- Team info is displayed at the top.
- A list of your team's remote events should be visible.
- A list of your team's traditional events should also be visible.

Something we learned this week: all teams will have two formal interviews with the judge panels.

The first is the presentation interview and the second is the follow-up which is meant to replicate the pit interviews and the informal conversations around the fields.

About Videos: submitting videos of your robot "playing a match" is purely voluntary. We would like to show robots in action with narration by the emcees, and maybe a public Q & A with the teams discussing aspects of how the robot performed and some of the challenges that were solved (or not).

This will likely require submission to a Google Drive folder separate from the FTC scoring system.

We hope to schedule teams and videos for this aspect of the event. If your team is interested, videos need to be submitted in the same window (different portal):

03/06/2021 - 03/12/2021.

OK. Onto the excellent questions.

Q1: Who picked the colors Red and Gray to convey whether an award is being given or not? Why optional and mandatory as labels?

A1: This is a FTC format for the Program Delivery Partner (UVM). Please accept our apologies for an confusion. The following awards will be presented (First, second and third place for each): Design, Motivate, Control, Innovate, Connect, Think & Inspire.

Q2: What if our robot is not competition ready?

A2: There are a lot of first year teams and COVID-19 has certainly made this a challenging year to develop the necessary team dynamics. We want everyone to join the event, but we understand that some teams will be ready to compete for prizes, some will participate to better understand what the event entails and some might just attend to enjoy the seeing what the community has achieved. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to continue the journey.

We are all navigating this together! Thank you for your continued questions, communications, and patience.

We are 2 weeks away, keep it up!

Vermont FTC