



Aug 20, 2022

Hello everyone.

We now have 20 schools registered for this year's competition, including 3 new ones (*). We have closed registration, so we can finish kits for Kickoff and complete some orders for Game Day.

Team # and School Name

- 351 - Wichita Collegiate HS, John Bullinger
- * 353 – Ulysses, Victor Atayde
- 354 - Council Grove High School, Tracie Schroeder
- 355 - Kapaun Mt. Carmel Catholic High School, Marcus Carrillo
- 357 - Minneapolis Jr/Sr High School, Melissa Baccus
- 358 - Wichita Homeschool, David Alexander
- * 360 - Ellinwood High School, Joseph Kern
- 362 - Atchison High School, Paul Ogle
- 364 - USD #400, Smoky Valley High School, Chris McClure
- 365 - USD 394, Rose Hill High School, Chase Owens & Ryan Hill
- 370 - Garden City High School, Scott Glass
- 371 - Circle High School, Elijah Owens
- 372 - Rock Creek Jr./Sr. High School, Robert Thomas
- 373 - Solomon High School, Erick Underwood
- 375 - Osage City High School, Brock Baxter
- 378 - Valley Center High School, Eugene Allyn
- 379 - Canton-Galva High School, Tyler OConnor
- 381 - Washburn Rural High School, Dean Gerlach
- 384 - Berean Academy, Sarah Spencer
- * 388 – Stafford High School, Jeff Heminway & Jennifer Heminway

Kickoff Information

August 27, 2022

Doors open at 8:15 am, Presentations start at 9:00 am.

Hughes Metroplex, Wichita State University, 5015 E. 29th Street N., Wichita KS

The event program can be viewed at www.kansasbest.org. Follow the '2022 Game Info & Events' button. There is also a link to the map for WSU there.

We will ask you to check-in when you get to the venue, and there will be some of our sponsors in the lobby you can visit with as well.

At 9:00, we will convene in the auditorium, do some introductions, talk a bit about the BEST program, and have a Key Note presentation. Then at about 10:00-10:15 we will offer Breakout Sessions. 'Tips on Building a Robot' will be held in the auditorium, the rest will be in classrooms down the hall. You might want to think about who on your teams you would like to send to the various subjects. I recommend prepping your students to expect to share what they learn in the various sessions with the rest of the group after Kickoff. They can take pictures, notes, ask questions, etc. These aren't so much 'training' as helping them understand the expectations for each topic, the scoring (rubrics), how and when the events will take place, and important resources available.

Breakout Sessions

Tips on Building a Robot

Programming Your Robot

Notebook

Sportsmanship

Robot Modelling & Simulation

Team Exhibit & Marketing Presentation

Critical Design Review

After the Breakout Sessions, we will reconvene in the Auditorium to see information about the kits, reveal the game, and see a demonstration of it on a quadrant of the field and a prototype robot. We will open the floor to questions and answers.

Then we will adjourn, and let you pick up kits and spend some time taking a closer look at the game field.

Teams will be allowed to get hands-on with the game field quadrant on the stage and an additional one in the room where kits are picked up. Given the nature of the game this year, we feel like the teams will benefit from some additional access to the field. We hope you will be able to take advantage of that time.

We want to also foster an environment where teams can interact with each other: investigate, discover, discuss, share. In bringing back the Sportsmanship award this year, I want to emphasize the benefits of collaboration. Judges for Sportsmanship will be taking notes starting with Kickoff and continuing through all the various events. Of course that doesn't mean you are expected to divulge competitive strategies or designs. Sportsmanship is not limited to Game Day.

Official game documents will become available automatically on our Kickoff Day via the [Registry](#). So please get at least a couple of students all setup in there so they can get the documents (rules, rubrics, training, etc) downloaded or printed for your team's use.

Please remind teams that we are having our Kickoff on the first available date. We should not share any of the game documents with anyone outside of the team. There will be Kickoffs happening around the nation through Sept 17. Please don't post documents, pictures or other game specific information on public sites, or distribute them in any way outside the team.

Mentors

If you have parents, other teachers, or friends of the school that are interested in helping you and your teams with this project, they are welcome to come to Kick off as Mentors, attend break out sessions, and network with other teams. We'd also love for them to sign up in the [Registry](#) so they can receive communications from us and be included in your team roster in the Game Day program.

If you do not have any mentors identified, we will attempt to help find someone that can help. Given the variety of questions you might have, it may be virtual help. We will however make an attempt to find someone close to you. We poll our sponsors and industry organizations to find volunteers. If you need help finding a mentor, please contact Coleen Thomas (coleen.thomas@bestinc.org) or me (linda.manfull@bestinc.org) and we'll do our best.

Calendar of events

Legend: **Required for all teams**, **Required for BEST Award**, Optional Event, **National Event**)

Kickoff – August 27, 2022 @ WSU Hughes Metroplex (doors open at 8:15 am, presentation begins at 9:00 sharp)

Critical Design Reviews (virtual meetings with teams) – September 26-30

Marketing Presentations (virtual meetings with teams) – October 3-7

Practice Day – October 8, 2022 @ WSU Heskett Center

Notebooks due (upload on Registry) – midnight Friday Oct 7

Robot Modeling – October 10-11 (tentative)

Team Exhibits (at Koch Arena) – October 22

Game Day – October 22, 2022 @ WSU Koch Arena

Simulink Design Award Submission – November 19 ([link](#))

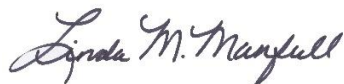
Denver BEST Regional Championship @ Colorado School of Mines – Dec 3&4

BESTography – ongoing ([link](#))

BESTmania IQ Challenge – to be announced

Minecraft – to be announced

Thank you,



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#BESTRobotics