

Question and Answers after Kick-off

Kick-off version will be updated based on this Q&A

1/15/2016

Game: RoboGolf

Table Setup

Q. How should tables be supported?

As stated in Section E: Playing Field Setup, the table is placed on a dark colored **floor** (not on the top of tables). If the floor color is not dark, the floor must be covered with dark color material such as black vinyl table cover.

Team members must move at least 1 meter away from the table edge and may not approach the table until the Judge declares the game is over.

Q. Will the tape that holds the paper to the table be matte or shiny?

Exact type of the tape is an unknown factor. It depends on the Site you are participating in. It will be known when your team arrives the competition site.

Q. Will the distance “d” be consistent between the practice and game tables at a site during the competition (Will all tables have the same d distance?)

Yes, d will be same (with some tolerance) for all tables including practice tables.

Q. Are the greens #1, #2, and #3 parallel to each other?

The Green Areas will be setup as parallel as possible. But there will be some error margin.

Q. The gaps between greens and the gaps between greens and the table edge are the same?

No, they are different. We plan to update the Figure 2 and Table 1. See also attached sample unveiling unknown factors document.

Q. On page 4, section L, item 5, it states green #4 will be reset only for the senior division; what does this mean?

For the Jr Division, x and y will be unveiled prior to ~~the first work-time and remain constant for both~~ **each** rounds.

For the Sr Division, x and y will not be unveiled. During each work-time, the #4 paper will be placed somewhere on the table. After impounding, the location will be changed but will not be announced. It will also be changed again for the second round.

In both cases, any unveiled parameters will be projected on a screen and provided hard copy to the teams. Please see a sample Unveiling Slide for each age division attached.

Putter & Putting

Q. Is there any restriction on how the putter strikes the ball?

The wooden putter must be moved by at least one motor (or actuator).

While the robot is striking the ball with the putter, the robot body must be at rest.

The part of the putter that touches the golf balls must be wood.

Baseball batting style is OK; Pool stick style is also OK.

Q. Can you add more weight to the putter?

We will check only the dimension of the wood. The putter must be designed in such a way that the wood part only can strike the ball.

Q. Are you allowed to use more than one putter?

No. only one wooden putter can assembled into the robot.

Q. Can holes be drilled in the wood?

Yes. We encourage students to use screws or nuts and bolts rather than glue, since we will require teams to detach the wood from the robot to start the competition at the World Championship.

Q. Is the wood going be exactly 28 cm. or is it 28 or lower?

It must be 28cm.

Q. Is sanding of the wood putter allowed? Yes to remove splinters, but not enough to alter dimensions.

Q. What are the putter tolerances if lightly sanded for smoothness?

±1 mm

Game

Q. Can the robot's initial location be anywhere behind greens 1-3 including closely behind green 4?

As stated in Section B Rules, Item 4: The Robot's initial location will not be on the Green Areas and Not between "Greens 1 ~3" AND the Hole-Slots, so therefore it could be behind Green 4 (between the Green and the end of the table)

Q. Is the orientation limited to a specific amount of degrees such as 90, 180, etc.?

It can be, but it is unknown till the unveil time

Q. How will the starting location be determined by the center of the robot or by the edge?

Team should select what is considered the “front” of their robot and label it. Once it is chosen and labeled, it cannot be changed.

When the starting location is unveiled, it will include the placement on the table and the orientation of the “front” of the robot to a location on the table. However, exact specification is unknown until the unveil time.

Q. Is there a chance to restart?

No. Like WRO (World Robot Olympiad), for the first time in Robofest history, once started, there will be no restarting.

Q. Will there be time for students to select the proper program before the round ends?

Before the round starts, the team has reasonable amount of time to select the program. Once selected, the Judge will not allow any changes.

Q. Can student verbally say when they want the round to be ended? (Can team member call game over if they see the robot is going to fall so they can still get the points for staying on the table?)

No. Team members cannot terminate the game or approach the table to grab the robot. The game will end only if one of the following occurs:

- The 2 minute time limit expires
- All 4 balls have been hit and have come to rest AND the robot stops on the table
- The robot leaves the table (the table will be on the floor, so it would not fall)
- The Judge asks the team members if they would like to end the round if the robot malfunctions or stops moving

Q. Is there a specified maximum starting size for the robot?

No. However, teams must notice the minimum “x” value, since the starting location could be the left side of the Green #4.

Q. Can a robot use a touch sensor to start?

Yes.

Q. Does the time in which it takes the robot to Putt the ball matter?

No. There are no time requirements for the robot to locate the ball and putt, but the game ends at the end of 2 minutes.

Q. Balls moved since Robot was heavy or it stroke the table. Do we reset the balls?

No. Game continues. Robots should be constructed to move without disrupting the balls on the table.

Q. Can teams use cell phones/cameras to take pictures of unknown factors projected on the screen?

No. Site host organizer will hand out hard copies of the projection to all teams.

General Rules

Q. Can a Michigan team bypass the Michigan championship and advance to the world championship by using the video submission process (because of a conflict in schedule)

As shown in Figure 1 in the general rule, it is possible. But Game teams through video will be screened by the scores on the video.

Q. Coaches/parents are not allowed to communicate with players during the 30min work time. However, in extreme conditions will parents be allowed to speak with their children?

If any non-game related communication is necessary during the 30 minute work time, Coaches/Parents may speak with team members under the supervision of a judge or proctor, away from the pit area. Please keep in mind that no additional time will be granted for teams who have been interrupted in this manner.

Q. Can a team enter both Jr and Sr Game category?

No

Additional Info

Additional Scholarships will be awarded for

- Winners of Sr. UMC
- Winners of MI championship Sr. divisions