



Robofest eNewsletter 11-1-24

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Note: All times are listed in Eastern Time unless noted

(1) 2025 Season Rules Released - Kickoff Meeting Dates

The Robofest 2025 Season International Rules were released on Saturday, September 28. Please join us as we review the rules and answer questions at an upcoming kickoff meeting. The US Rules, including clarifications and updates from the first kickoff session in October will be uploaded on November 6.

The remaining kickoff meetings are as follows (Zoom Links are available on the Robofest.net 2025 Main Page):

Thursday, November 7, 2024 7:00 pm ~ 8:30 pm (Zoom only)

Saturday, January 11, 2025 10:00 am ~ 11:30 am (In person and Zoom)

(2) Fall RoboParade in Clinton Township, Michigan

Come join the fun! Registration is still open for the Robofest RoboParade at the Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD) 44001 Garfield Rd, Clinton Twp., MI on **Saturday, November 16, 2024** 9:00 am ~ 1:00 pm. Teams of up to 5 students can build, program and decorate a robotic float in any theme related to fall (examples are Football, Back to School, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Pumpkin Spice). Registration is open. Rules and registration link can be found on the RoboParade page: <https://www.robofest.net/index.php/current-competitions/roboparade>

(3) LTU Visit Days on November 16 and December 14

We encourage Robofest participants to consider LTU as an option for their higher education. To learn more about what the university has to offer (over 100 undergraduate, masters and doctoral degree programs), LTU is hosting 2 visit days from 9:00am to 1:30pm, on Saturday, **November 16** and **December 9th**, where prospective students can meet current LTU students and faculty, hear about campus living, and much more. To register for either of the LTU visit day, visit: <https://apply.ltu.edu/portal/ltuvisitdays>

(4) 99h Robotics Competition Grant Informational Meeting with Michigan Dept. of Education

On **Wednesday, November 6, 2024** 3:30 pm~5:00 pm, the Michigan Department of Education is hosting a 99h information session with Robofest on Zoom. The drop-in session is available to all, and will introduce teachers to the Michigan 99h Grant and Robofest Competition opportunities, review the grant application / registration process and answer any questions. Please join us. The Zoom Link will be made available on the Robofest.net Home Page.

Robofest is an official program provider for the Michigan Department of Education 99h Robotics Competition Grant which provides funding to Public School Districts, Intermediate School Districts, and Nonpublic Schools to participate in Robofest. Grants for 2024-2025 teams (between \$500 and \$1,200) and Coach Stipends (between \$1,000 and \$1,500) will be available for Robofest teams that compete in the 2024-2025 season and are pre-registered in the Robofest Registration system by December 1, 2024 (Pre-registration is open for all categories). More information and detailed instructions will be posted on the Michigan Department of Education website:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/financial-management/grants/oset-grants/99h---robotics>

(5) Warmup Competition/Judge Training on February 15, 2025

We are hosting a Warmup competition and Judge Training on Saturday, Feb 15th, 1:00pm ~ 4:30pm in the Computer Science Robotics Lab, Room J234 on the LTU Campus. Teams who would like to participate should send an email to spalonis@ltu.edu. There is no registration fee for this event, but teams must be registered AND PAID at a local

competition (or Pre-Registration) in order to participate. Please limit to one team per coach. Check-in for registered teams begins at 12:45pm

We encourage Michigan Site Hosts and Volunteer Game Judges to register and attend to gain first-hand experience running the 2025 Game. Registration is open:

<https://www.robofest.net/rms/volunteer.ControllerServlet?newMainPage=index.jsp&siteID=1551>

(6) Pre-season Workshop Schedule

Workshops are available at no cost to registered 2025 Teams. They are held in the Computer Science Robotics Lab on LTU Campus, robots and laptops are provided. workshop materials will be made available on the eAcademy/Workshops page.

LEGO EV3 with Scratch for Game

Saturday, 1/25/25: 9:00 am ~ 12:00 noon

LEGO SPIKE Prime/Robot Inventor with Scratch for Game

Saturday, 1/25/25: 1:00 pm ~ 4:00 pm

VEX IQ with VEXcode for Game

Saturday, 2/1/25: 9:00 am ~ 12:00 noon

LEGO EV3 with Scratch Intro to Exhibition

Saturday, 2/1/25: 1:00 pm ~ 4:00 pm

Registration is open under *Available Workshops" on the registration page on Robofest.net

<https://www.robofest.net/rms/SharedPagesServlet?cmd=getWorkshopsTable>

(7) Seeking Site Hosts for Competitions

We are seeking site hosts for the 2024-2025 Competition Season. In order to get your location on the pre-season promotional materials, US and International hosts must submit the application by November 20, 2024. Interested individuals, organizations, or schools should contact the Robofest office at robofest@ltu.edu or visit

<https://robofest.net/index.php/for-site-hosts> for more information or to download the application.

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