

INCISION DECISION

SOUTH'S Best Robotics
Championship 2023



TENNESSEE
VALLEY
AUTHORITY



2023 Team Handbook



SOUTH'S BEST

2023 Championship Schedule

Friday, Dec 1st – Sunday, Dec 3rd

Team Exhibit Set-up: Friday, noon - 6:00 pm and Saturday 8:00 am – 10:00 am

Teams may set up their exhibits in Banquet Room of GUC (loading docks will be monitored)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1st

In the Guillot University Center (GUC):

- noon – 6:00 pm **Team Registration in the GUC 2nd floor**
(Teams must check-in **prior** to Compliance Check-in)
- noon – 6:00 pm **Team Exhibit Set-Up, 2nd floor GUC Banquet Halls**
- 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm **Marketing Presentations, GUC Rooms 200, 207, 210 and 110**
-

In Flower's Hall Arena:

- 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm **Pits Open and Compliance Check-In, Pit on 4th floor Flower's Hall (gym)**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2nd

In the Guillot University Center (GUC):

- 8:00 am – 11:00 am **Team Registration on the GUC 2nd floor** (Teams must check-in prior to Compliance)
- 8:00 am – 6:00 pm **Vendors at entrance of GUC; Food Court open GUC**
- 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm **Game Room in GUC open**
- 8:00 am – 10:00 am **Team Exhibit Set-Up, 2nd floor GUC, Banquet Halls**
- 10:30 am – 3:00 pm **Team Exhibit & Interview Judging, 2nd floor GUC, Banquet Halls**
(no judging between 11:45 and 1 for lunch; will announce when judges are finished)
- 11:45 am - 1:00 pm **Women's STEM Luncheon, 2nd floor GUC, Performance Center**
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In Flower's Hall Arena:

- 8:00 am – 11:45 am **Pits OPEN in Flower's Hall for Compliance and Driving Practice** (pits and Compliance on top floor of gym in Flower's Hall behind top bleachers. Driving Practice on gym floor.)
- 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm **Pits reopen; Drivers Meeting, in Flowers stands on gym floor level**
- 2:00 pm – 2:15 pm **Official Greeting and South's BEST Parade of Teams**
- 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm **Seeding Matches, gym floor**
Team Video Competition
- 3:30 pm **Coaches Meeting, Rm 303 in Flower's Hall**
- 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm **Practice Opening Ceremonies** (those involved on Sunday) *meet at gym floor Production Area*
- 6:00 pm **Flower's Hall CLOSED (GUC remains open until 9:00 pm)**



SOUTH'S BEST

2023 Championship Schedule

Friday, Dec 1st – Sunday, Dec 3rd

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2nd (continued)

In the Guillot University Center (GUC):

- 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm Exhibits must be removed from GUC
(once judges are finished this can begin – announcement will be made)
- 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm BEST Student Social (all teams **PARTY** in Banquet Halls GUC)
- 6:30 pm Hub Director Dinner/Meeting in Performance Center of GUC
- 9:00 PM GUC Closes

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3rd (ALL events in Flower's Hall Arena on Sunday)

- 8:00 am Flower's Hall Opens and Pits are Open
- 8:15 am - 8:30 am 2023 South's BEST Opening Ceremonies and Official Welcome
- 8:30 am – noon Seeding Matches continue
- 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Special Awards Judging
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch Break (Pits CLOSED)
- 1:00 pm– 1:45 pm BEST Teachers and Judges Recognition and Halftime Report
(all teachers – Field A and judges- Field B please assemble on the gym floor)
- 1:45 pm – 2:00 pm Wildcard Match (8 teams) and Video Competition Award Announcement
- 2:15 pm – 2:45 pm Semi-finals Round (16 teams)
- 3:00 pm – 3:15 pm Championship Round (4 teams)
- 3:30 pm – 4:15 pm Awards Ceremony & Championship Team Photos
- 4:30 pm 2023 South's BEST Concludes

*We are mindful that many teams need to get on the road ASAP. We'll do everything possible to stick to this schedule, but sometimes "stuff" happens. **Safe travels, see you next year, and ROAR LIONS!***



Teacher's To-Do List

We recommend you follow this guide of tasks that need to be completed before and at South's BEST. Note that all times listed in this handbook are in the **Central Time Zone**. In addition, South's BEST staff will send out regular updates to the e-mail address provided on the team information form. These updates will contain critical information including scheduling changes and other event logistics. The team is responsible for maintaining a record of these updates and adhering to any changes that occur.

STEP #1 – Team Information Form

- Submit your 2023 Team Information Form by 5:00pm (Central Time) on the Monday immediately following your hub competition using the following link or the provided QR code.

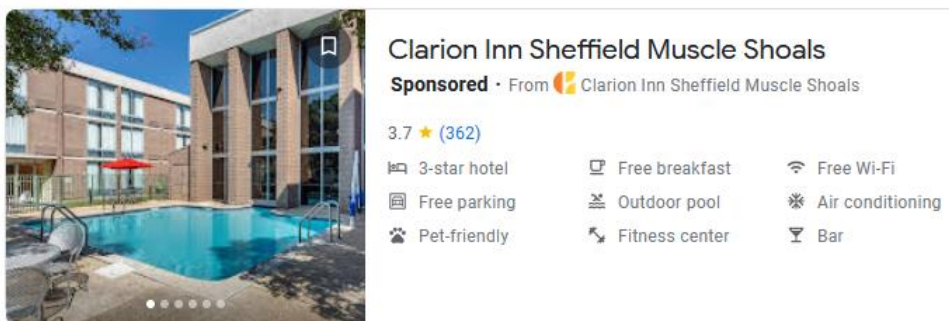
[Teacher To Do #1 Teacher Survey \(Team Info & Demographics\):](#)



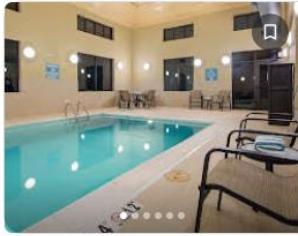
- We will use the Remind app to share information to teams. Please share this with team members. Please register at <https://www.remind.com/join/sbatuna>

STEP #2 – Hotel Arrangements

Once locating suitable rooms for your group, you will have to contact the hotels directly for group rates specific to South's BEST. We have several hotels that are giving our group a discount by using the code "Souths BEST" if you don't see a special link, please call them and ask!



The Clarion Inn in Sheffield, AL (just across the bridge from UNA) is holding rooms and offering us the rate of \$80 per night at the link: <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/AR17U5>



Best Western Plus Tuscumbia/Muscle Shoals Hotel

4.4 ★ (457)

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| 3-star hotel | Free breakfast | Free Wi-Fi |
| Free parking | Indoor pool | Air conditioning |
| Pet-friendly | Fitness center | Golf |

Along Highway 20, this informal hotel near fast-food eateries is ...

The BEST Western in Tuscumbia, AL offers a Souths BEST discount at the link:
https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.01125.html?groupId=S50AU2S9

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Coldwater Inn - The Shoals' Boutique Hotel



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712 U.S. Highway 72 West
Tuscumbia, AL 35674
(256) 383-6844
www.coldwaterinn.com

Coldwater Inn - The Shoals' Boutique Hotel offers:

[Read More Amenities](#)

Comfort Inn & Suites



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5101 Hwy 43 South
Tuscumbia, AL 35674
(256) 248-0850
www.choicehotels.com/hotel/al296

Comfort Inn & Suites offers:

[Read More Amenities](#)

Days Inn



Key West Inn



In Florence, AL: go to <https://www.visitflorenceal.com/where-to-stay/>



Accommodations

Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa

10 Hightower Pl
Florence, AL 35630



Accommodations

Residence Inn by Marriott

1000 Sweetwater Ave
Florence, AL 35630



Accommodations

Hampton Inn Midtown

2281 Florence Blvd
Florence, AL 35630



Accommodations

Hampton Inn & Suites Downtown

505 S Court St
Florence, AL 35630



Accommodations

Holiday Inn Express

180 Etta Gray St
Florence, AL 35630



Lodges

Joe Wheeler State Park

4401 McLean Dr
Rogersville, AL 35652



Accommodations

Great American Hotel

400 S Court St
Florence, AL 35630



Accommodations

Comfort Suites

140 Matthew Paul Ct
Florence, AL 35630



We're newly-renovated!

Accommodations

Economy Inn

15936 Hwy 72
Rogersville, AL 35652



Accommodations

Quality Inn

150 Etta Gray St
Florence, AL 35630



Accommodations

Budget Inn

1238 Florence Blvd
Florence, AL 35630



Accommodations

Lakeview Inn & Suites

Us Hwy 72
Killen, AL 35645



There are also several Air BnBs in the area offering discounts by texting 256-335-9495 and they will contact you back as soon as possible! They offer a discount of 10-15% off of the already discounted rates according to the number of rentals rented.

DOWNTOWN FLORENCE -

Condo A -<https://abnb.me/1z7hOfJKfV>

Condo B -<https://abnb.me/BVPhq1TKfV>

Condo C -<https://abnb.me/tbhSvSYKfV>

Condo D -<https://abnb.me/PTPfEuGuqdb>

3 Bedroom 2 bath downtown -<https://abnb.me/RkW8GM6KfV>

LAKE RENTALS -

Shoal Creek lake home -<https://abnb.me/UzYK2ZcLfV>

Fisherman's Resort Lake Cabin -<https://abnb.me/275KLSSLfV>

Houseboat - 34 ft. docked at Steenson Hollow on Wilson Lake

(Sleeps four) <https://abnb.me/DEeqonIr0hb>

Steenson Hollow Studio Condo #1 (Sleeps four/ part of Wilson Lake/Tennessee River)

<https://abnb.me/KUKdgPqr0hb>

Steenson Hollow Studio Condo

#3 (Sleeps 4/part of Wilson Lake/Tennessee River)<https://abnb.me/HbdywNwlplb>

Steenson Hollow Studio Condo #4 (part of Wilson Lake/Tennessee River, sleeps up to six) -

airbnb.com/h/lakecondo4

Steenson Hollow Studio Condo #2 (part of Wilson Lake/Tennessee River, sleeps up to six) -

<https://abnb.me/h8N8vwh1O8>

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For further assistance go to <https://www.visitflorenceal.com> or contact the Lauderdale County & Florence Tourism office at [\(256\) 740-4141](tel:2567404141).

Additional lodging and tourist information provided after this to-do list.

STEP #3 – Engineering Notebook

All teams **must** submit an Engineering Notebook to compete at South's BEST. The **Engineering Notebook should be received by 5:00 pm five days following your local hub competition**. Team notebooks must be submitted electronically via BEST Registry (<https://registry.bestrobotics.org/>).

Files must be in PDF format (saved as one single document – not multiple) with a file name of "Team# - Team Name.pdf" or "555 - South High School.pdf."

Please upload your team's engineering notebook submission by using the registry file upload feature. See the registry help documentation for "Managing Team Files" for detailed instructions. When uploading the file, select "Engineering Notebook" for the "What is the file for?" field. Be sure to check the appropriate box in the "Uploaded Files" table so that the file is visible to South's BEST.

STEP #4 – Pre-order South's BEST Championship T-shirts

Collect t-shirt pre-orders from your students. Complete the South's BEST Championship T-shirt Pre-Order form found in the Forms Section. Submit the form and payment by Wednesday, November 15th using the payment information provided on the form. **DO NOT** email credit card information – please submit online form.

STEP #5 – Register for Planetarium Shows

The UNA Planetarium will be holding several shows as follows:

Dec 1st, 2023 – 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm

Dec 2nd, 2023 – 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m.

Dec 3rd, 2023 – 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.

Evening Shows will consist of a discussion of the constellations and a video presentation or observing depending on the weather. Afternoon shows will consist of a discussion of the constellations and a video presentation. The shows are targeted towards a general audience of all age group. Seating is limited, so register as soon as possible using the link found [here](#) or by scanning the QR code:



STEP #6 – Web Page Design Submission

To compete in the Web Page Design competition, submit your URL via BEST Registry (<https://registry.bestrobotics.org/>).

Judging of webpages will begin on Wednesday, November 22 at 8:00 am. Be sure your site is active and ready to be judged by this date.

STEP #7 – Video Competition Submission

To compete in the Video Competition, follow the instructions on the Video Competition Requirements document in the Championship handbook. Videos should be uploaded into YouTube and the link to the YouTube video should be uploaded as a PDF file in the BEST Registry under Deliverables no later than 7 days after the team's Game Day at their hub.

STEP #8 – Marketing Presentation Time Selection (BEST Award Teams Only)

Marketing Presentations will be held in-person on Friday, November 30th as scheduled in the BEST Registry. Teams must register by November 20th at midnight. Time slots will be selected via the BEST Registry (<https://registry.bestrobotics.org/>).

STEP #9 – Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If a hearing interpreter is traveling with your party and needs access to areas of the competition site not open to the public, we need to know prior to your arrival to ensure all South's BEST staff members are informed. If you have a student who requires any other accommodation that you believe we need to be aware of, let Julie Taylor know (jayates@una.edu).

STEP #10 – Student Survey

Every participating member of your team **must** complete the Student Survey available at the following



link: [2023 South's BEST Student Survey.](#)

We will not distribute your registration packet or pit packet until each of your attending students has completed the survey.

STEP #11 – Information for Adults

Make copies of key sections of this handbook for other adults in the group. Pay particular attention to the information in the following documents:

- Compliance Checklist
- General Information
- Pit Protocol
- Parking Maps

STEP #12 – Parking Passes

Parking passes can be found on the BEST Registry. Please be sure you have a printed copy to place on your dashboard.

STEP #13 – Registration Check-In

There will be two registration/check-in times available to team teachers:

- Friday, December 1st, 12:00 – 6:00 pm (2nd Floor GUC Guillot University Center)
- Saturday, December 2nd, 8:00 – 11:00 am (2nd Floor GUC Guillot University Center)

T-shirt Design Submission:

- There will be an Information Table in Flower's Hall Lobby (both Saturday and Sunday) Please go there for any assistance needed. This is the location at which you should submit one team T-shirts for the Teamwear Design contest. Please pick up your shirts on Sunday at the same table.

The primary/lead teacher should check-in at the above registration session to receive the competition information packet. Your team must check in before participating in any scheduled events.

Celebrating Women in STEM

LUNCHEON

Guest Speaker: Dr. Amber Pete

Saturday, December 2nd

11:45 am - 1:00 pm

*Guillot University Center at the University of North Alabama
2nd Floor at the Performance Theater*

LIMIT 5 ATTENDEES PER TEAM!

Each person should RSVP using the QR code or at
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VXR077B>
once registered, you will be emailed a ticket for the free luncheon





MAJORS

OFFERED AT UNA

Accounting
Applied Health Science
Art
Biology
Business Administration
Chemistry
Cinematic Arts and Theatre
Communication Arts
Computer Information Systems
Computer Information Technology
Computer Science
Criminal Justice
Culinary Arts
Data Analytics
Early Childhood Education
Elementary Education
Elementary Education with a
 Concentration in Collaborative
 Special Education K-6
Engineering Technology
English
Entertainment Industry
Exercise Science
Fashion Merchandising and Design
Finance
Foreign Languages
Geographic Information Science
Geography
Health & Fitness
History
Hospitality & Events Management
Innovation & Entrepreneurship
Interdisciplinary Studies
Interior Architecture and Design
Marine Biology
Mass Communication

Mathematics
Mechatronics
Music
Nursing
 ACCELERATED
 TRADITIONAL
 RN TO BSN POST LICENSURE
Occupational Health Science
Physics
Political Science
Professional Management
Professional Marketing
Psychology
Respiratory Care
Secondary Education
 BIOLOGY
 BUSINESS AND MARKETING
 CHEMISTRY
 ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS
 FRENCH
 GENERAL SOCIAL SCIENCE
 GERMAN
 HISTORY
 MATHEMATICS
 PHYSICS
 PHYSICS WITH GENERAL SCIENCE
 SPANISH
Social Science
Social Work
Sociology
Spanish
Sport and Recreation Management
Sustainability
Teacher Education
 ART P-12
 CHORAL MUSIC P-12
 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC P-12
 PHYSICAL EDUCATION P-12

This list is a consolidated list of majors as of July 1, 2023. Students can find an updated list at una.edu/majors.



How to Apply

It's Free to Apply!

1. Apply online at apply.una.edu.
2. Submit all transcripts to ugalert@una.edu.

Scholarship Information

Out of State residents receiving an institutional scholarship of \$250 or more *will* qualify for the in-state tuition rate.



The deadline for applying for scholarships is **March 1, 2024**.

Visit una.edu/scholarships or scan the code for more scholarship information.

2024 UNA ACADEMIC AND PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Test Scores **ACT / SAT	ACADEMIC AWARDS						PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS	
	No ACT	20 - 21 1030-1090	22 - 23 1100-1150	24 - 25 1160-1220	26 - 27 1230-1290	28 - 29 1300-1350	30 - 32 1360-1440	33 - 36 1450-1600
High School Unweighted GPA	AMOUNTS AWARDED *						AMOUNTS AWARDED *	
3.00 - 3.50	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,750	\$ 4,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 7,500	\$ 9,000 + Housing	\$ 10,500 + Housing
3.51 - 4.00	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 5,500	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,500	\$ 10,000 + Housing	\$ 12,000 + Housing

**2024 Award amounts subject to final funding October 1, 2023. No refunds on excellence scholarships. **Highest composite or superscore as of June 1, 2023, Housing Scholarships are equivalent to \$4,000 for residence halls only.*



Questions?
Contact us!

Find your admissions counselor by contacting the Office of Admissions at admissions@una.edu.



Visit una.edu/connect or scan the code for more admissions information.

Visit Us!

ROAR
Lions!

Visit the University of North Alabama! Go to una.edu/visit to see campus visit opportunities including events, group tours, personalized appointments, and more!

una.edu • admissions@una.edu • 1.800.TALK.UNA

UNA Campus Tours

Register using the links below for a walking tour of UNA's beautiful campus:

[Friday, December 1st, 2:00pm - 3:00pm](#)

[Friday, December 1st, 3:00pm - 4:00pm](#)

[Saturday, December 2nd, 9:00am - 10:00am](#)

[Saturday, December 2nd, 10:00am - 11:00am](#)

FLORENCE | SHEFFIELD | TUSCUMBIA | MUSCLE SHOALS

The SHOALS

I'LL TAKE YOU *There!*

FLORENCE

Downtown Florence offers a haven for foodies and shoppers alike. Stroll down Court Street or Tennessee Street to admire architecture dating back to the mid-1800s. Don't miss First Fridays from May to December, where artists and musicians fill the streets. Explore historic districts and charming homes surrounding downtown. Visit our website for a directory of shops, restaurants, and attractions in Florence.



Frank Lloyd Wright Rosenbaum House / Florence



Muscle Shoals Sound Studio / Sheffield

TUSCUMBIA

The oldest of the Shoals cities, Tuscumbia boasts a vibrant downtown retail district and grand Victorian homes. The restored railroad station serves as a community hub, and Spring Park hosts events in the warmer months. Native American culture has a strong influence on Tuscumbia, showcased at the Oka Kapassa Festival in September. Helen Keller's birthplace, Ivy Green, stages performances of "The Miracle Worker" in summer. Explore the Tennessee Valley Art Museum and view the ancient petroglyphs. Visit our website for a directory of shops, restaurants, and attractions in Tuscumbia.



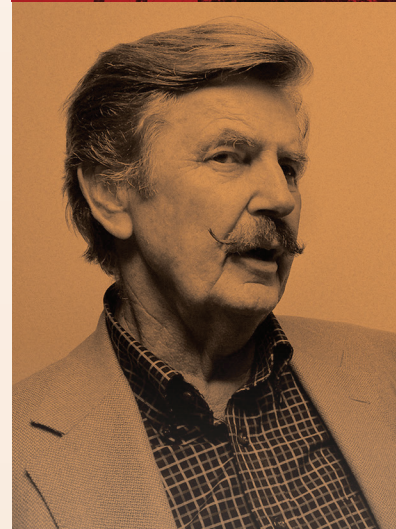
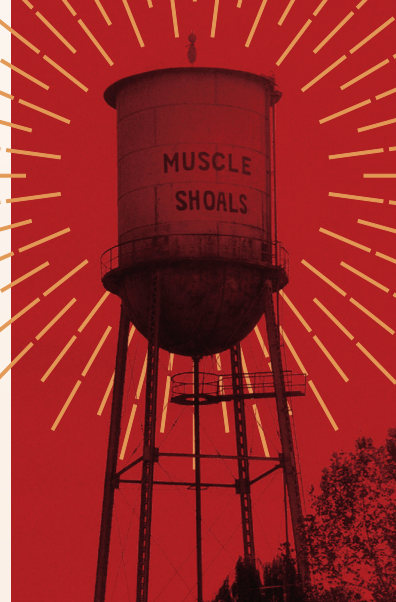
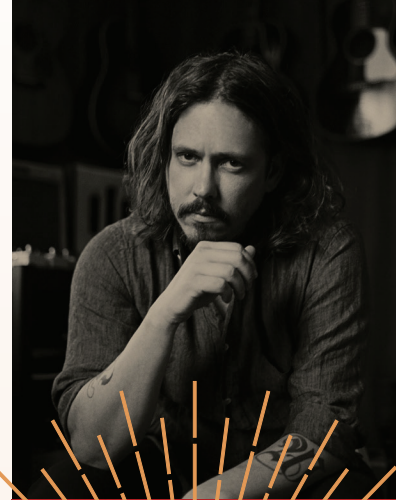
Helen Keller's Birthplace / Tuscumbia



FAME Recording Studios / Muscle Shoals

SHEFFIELD

Sheffield, the 'Center of the Shoals', boasts a rich history and scenic beauty. Explore Montgomery Avenue's downtown for unique shopping experiences. North Montgomery Avenue features charmingly restored homes and leads to the picturesque Tennessee River and the iconic StandPipe. Discover the allure of river views and historic homes in this city. Visit our website for a directory of shops, restaurants, and attractions in Sheffield.



MUSCLE SHOALS

Muscle Shoals is the youngest of the four cities. Born in the 1920s when Wilson Dam was under construction, the city boomed when Henry Ford decided to make this area "Detroit South" by offering to purchase Wilson Dam to power an automotive industry. That didn't happen, but what did was the birth of this city! Muscle Shoals is legendary for the music that has come from this area. Be sure to check out FAME Recording Studio, one of the many recording studios that created the legend of the Muscle Shoals Sound. Visit our website for a directory of shopping, restaurants and attractions in Muscle Shoals.



Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa: 10 Hightower Place, Florence.
256-246-3600 marriott.com



Residence Inn by Marriott: 1000 Sweetwater Ave, Florence.
256-764-9966 marriott.com



Hampton Inn & Suites: 505 S. Court St, Florence. 256-767-8282
hilton.com



Hampton Inn Midtown: 2281 Florence Blvd, Florence. 256-764-8888
hilton.com



GunRunner Boutique Hotel: 301 E. Tennessee St. Florence. 256-349-5464
gunrunnerhotel.com



The Stricklin Hotel: 317 N. Court Street, Florence. 256-248-9982
thestracklin.com



Joe Wheeler State Park Lodge: 4401 McLean Dr., Rogersville.
256-247-5461 alapark.com



Holiday Inn Express: 180 Etta Gray St. Florence. 256-246-2200 ihg.com





Economy Inn of Rogersville: 15936 Hwy 72, Rogersville. 256-247-5416



Lake View Inn & Suites: 101 Hwy 72, Killen. 256-757-2167 priceline.com



Budget Inn: 1238 Florence Blvd, Florence. 256-764-7621
budgetinnflorence.com



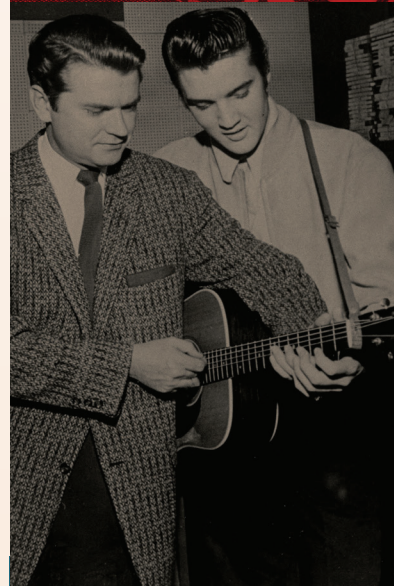
Quality Inn: 150 Etta Gray Dr, Florence. 256-740-0444 choicehotels.com



Comfort Suites: 140 Matthew Paul Court, Florence. 256-246-2300
choicehotels.com



Baymont Inn: 115 Ana Dr., Florence. 256-415-6574 wyndhamhotels.com



VISITOR CENTER

Start your tour at the Florence/Lauderdale Visitor Center, located in scenic McFarland Park. Architect Robert Whitten was inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright's architecture for the 7,500-square-foot building which has impressive displays and exhibits designed to showcase the area's tourism assets, including the music heritage, Wilson Dam, the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Rosenbaum Home and other architecture, Native American artifacts, as well as tributes to famous faces like W.C. Handy, Helen Keller, Billy Reid and Natalie Chain. Another highlight is a large aquarium with local fish and information on the abundant fishing that can be found on Pickwick and Wilson Lakes.





The Muscle Shoals Backstage Pass \$3

A visitor-value program, is aimed at driving more business to our music studios and music attractions. Patrons of the program receive a, large-size VIP concert type badge and lanyard to begin their tour. Visiting any 3 of the venues, patrons will receive a **Muscle Shoals Backstage Pass t-shirt** from the Florence-Lauderdale CVB, and if they visit all 6, they will have the opportunity to enter and win the grand prize drawn at the end of the year.

MuscleShoalsBSP.com



FASHION & FAME

This half day tour combines two of the reasons people come to the Shoals - world-class fashion and world-class music. Fashion designer Billy Reid has brought his flagship store to downtown Florence. Groups may make arrangements to tour the design house, as well as shopping for fashions at the store. Alabama Chanin is the headquarters and factory of internationally-recognized ecodesigner Natalie Chain. Alabama Chain offers a free public tour of its operations each day at 2 p.m. The tour includes a look at the studio and production areas and Building 14 machine sewing operation, as well as a history of the impressive company. 3614 Jackson Highway is the address of the original Muscle Shoals Sound Studios and has been restored to become an attraction AND recording studio, similar to Sun Studio in Memphis. FAME (which stood for Florence Alabama Music Enterprises) was established in 1959 in Florence and has gone on to be the heartbeat of

the Muscle Shoals Sound with entities including FAME Publishing, FAME Recording Studios, FAME Records and Muscle Shoals Records. FAME moved to Muscle Shoals in 1961. FAME has worked in the studio with some of the greatest artists in music history. Artists such as Aretha Franklin, Little Richard, Wilson Pickett, Etta James, Otis Redding, the Osmonds, Jerry Reed, Alabama, Mac Davis, the Gatlin Brothers, Bobbie Gentry and many others. In the last 50 years, FAME has been involved in recording or publishing records that have sold over 350 million copies world wide. And FAME is still a working studio today! The public tour, at 4 p.m.*1 0090 each day, takes visitors on a "backstage" tour of Studio A and B where they'll hear the history and endless stories about the recordings done.

MAVIS TOURS

Have you ever wondered who the makers and shapers were for the City of Florence and The Shoals? Hop aboard the Mavis Tour Bus and take a ride back in time to hear some of the legendary stories of our area! She and her team will take you there! Book your tour today at TheShoalsAL.com



ALL IN ONE TICKET

1 Day - Shoals Area Attraction Ticket \$32

Save and do more as you explore these attractions located in The Shoals, a collection of the four great cities of Florence, Tuscumbia, Sheffield and Muscle Shoals.

Included Attractions: Alabama Music Hall of Fame, Belle Mont Mansion, Florence Indian Mound & Museum, Frank Lloyd Wright - Rosenbaum House, Helen Keller Birthplace/Ivy Green, Muscle Shoals Sound Studio, Pope's Tavern Museum, W.C. Handy Home & Museum, Tennessee Valley Museum of Art, & FAME Recording Studios.

gonow.alabama.travel



@VisitTheShoalsAL

TheShoalsAL.com

256-740-4141

recent works by
JOHN LYTTLE WILSON



November 3 - December 29

Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts
217 E. Tuscaloosa St.
Florence, AL

Caterers/Food Delivery Options

Restaurant	Phone Number	Location	Order Minimum	Delivery Fee	Website
306 Barbeque	256.762.4315	322 N Court St.			306 Barbeque
Alabama Bliss Bistro	256.248.4530	2108 S Wilson Dam Rd	\$100	\$15	Alabama Bliss Bistro
Blue Coast Burrito	731.608.6374	2887 Florence Blvd.			Blue Coast Burrito
Bojangles	256.765.7100	109 Cox Creek Pkwy S	\$150	\$20	Bojangles
Chicken Salad Chick	256.257.0042	363 Cox Creek Pkwy			Chicken Salad Chick
Chick-fil-A	256.764.0535	341 Cox Creek Pkwy			Chick-fil-A
Cracker Barrel	256.766.2442	150 Cox Creek Pkwy. S.			Cracker Barrel
Firehouse Subs	256.284.7740	365 Cox Creek Pkwy	\$0	\$15	Firehouse Subs
Honey Baked Ham	256.760.0650	267 Cox Creek Pkwy S	\$100	\$15	Honey Baked Ham
Jimmy John's	256.768.9994	101 N. Court St.			Jimmy John's
Lennys Grill & Subs	256.712.5483	409 Cox Creek Pkwy	\$30	\$30	Lennys Grill & Subs
Logan's Roadhouse	256.764.5011	2890 US-43 N	\$50	\$30	Logan's Roadhouse
Olive Garden	256.718.3337	375 Cox Creek Pkwy			Olive Garden
Outback Steakhouse	256.383.0046	2750 SR-13 N	\$0	\$30	Outback Steakhouse
Panera Bread	256.768.2707	304 Cox Creek Pkwy			Panera Bread
Popeyes	256.767.3937	1703 SR-13 S	\$50	\$30	Popeyes
Red Lobster	256.764.3766	243 Cox Creek Pkwy	\$75	\$30	Red Lobster
Ricatoni's	256.718.1002	107 N. Court Street			Ricatoni's
Slim Chickens	256.712.2707	3020 Cloverdale Rd	\$100	\$30	Slim Chickens
Subway	256.760.0914	401 N Court St	\$50	\$30	Subway
Swamp John's	256.381.2722	210 Woodward Ave.			Swamp John's
Sweet Basil	256.764.5991	1627 Darby Dr.			Sweet Basil
Sweet Peppers	256.383.8800	619 Avalon Ave			Sweet Peppers
Taco Mama	256.712.4434	121 S. Cherry St			Taco Mama
Taziki's	256.367.2391	261 Cox Creek Pkwy	\$100	\$30	Taziki's
Texas Roadhouse	256.765.7104	307 Cox Creek Pkwy.			Texas Roadhouse
PIZZA					
Dominos Pizza	256.766.6960	1836 Darby Dr.			Dominos Pizza
Cicis Pizza	256.765.2424	157 Cox Creek Pkwy.			Cicis Pizza
Lost Pizza Co.	256.415.8693	201 N. Seminary St.			Lost Pizza Co.
Pie Factory	256.275.3248	106 N. Court St.			Pie Factory
Pizza Chef	256.740.0202	857 Florence Blvd.			
Pizza Hut	256.767.5300	859 Cox Creek Pkwy			Pizza Hut
Papa John's Pizza	256.766.8311	2727 Mall Rd			Papa John's Pizza
Godfather's Pizza	256.767.5504	2801 Mall Rd			Godfather's Pizza
Little Caesars Pizza	256.768.0977	16226 Darby Dr			Little Caesars Pizza
Marco's Pizza	256.978.2020	1003 Woodward Ave.			Marcos' Pizza

In addition to the above listed options, there will be food trucks available in the Communications Lot (see map) during the following times: Friday, December 1 from 12:00-6:00 p.m., Saturday, December 2 from 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., and Sunday, December 3 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. There will also be a table located in the Food Truck Village where deliveries can be made and picked up.

Medical Info & Directions from UNA's Campus

Hospitals

North Alabama Medical Center (NAMC) -- Distance from Campus 2.5 miles (appx. 6 min)

1707 Veterans Drive, Florence, AL 35630

Helen Keller Hospital – DFC 6.8 miles (appx. 15 minutes)

1300 S Montgomery Ave, Sheffield, AL 35660

Urgent Cares

Medical Associates Express Care – 3 miles (appx. 8 min)

2735 Cloverdale Road, Florence, AL 35633

Hamilton Family Urgent Care – 3.6 miles (appx 8 min.)

3500 Cloverdale Road, Florence, AL 35633

Urgent Care Associates Inc. -- 4 miles (appx 9 min)

155 Ana Drive, Florence, AL 35630

Huntsville Hospital Urgent Care – 4.8 miles (appx 12 min)

210 Avalon Ave, Muscle Shoals, AL 35661

Pharmacies

Walgreens -- .4 miles (9 min walking)

109 E Dr Hicks Blvd, Florence, AL 35630

CVS – 2.2 miles (6 minutes)

1501 Florence Blvd, Florence, AL 35630

Chad's Payless Pharmacy -- .7 miles (3 min)

501 W College St, Florence, AL 35630



2023 Championship T-Shirt Pre-Order Form

T-shirts are \$17 pre-order (sizes S-XL), or \$20 on-site. Payment for pre-order shirts must be by credit card, check, or purchase order no later than Wednesday, November 15th. T-shirts can be picked up at the Registration table. **DO NOT SEND THIS FORM HOME WITH STUDENTS!** Only ONE pre-order form from each participating school is allowed.

Team #: _____ School: _____

Primary teacher name: _____

Primary teacher email: _____ Primary teacher phone: _____

Please fill out form and scan and email form to Ranee Mitchell at rbmitchell@una.edu.

Size	Quantity	Cost	Total Cost
S		\$17	
M		\$17	
L		\$17	
XL		\$17	
2XL		\$17	
3XL		\$17	
Total			



Select Payment Method:

____ Credit Card

Please visit this [link](#) or scan the QR code

____ Check

University of North Alabama
Attn: Ranee Mitchell

UNA Box 5011
Florence, AL 35632



Questions can be directed to Ranee Mitchell at rbmitchell@una.edu



South's BEST Regional Championship 2023 Awards and Judging Logistics



Inaugural South's BEST Championship for the University of North Alabama

Section 1. Competition Format and Deliverables

2023 South's BEST Regional Championship is hosted by the University of North Alabama.

Our championship event locations are on the campus of the University of North Alabama at the Guillot University Center and Flower's Hall Arena. (See Map provided.) All competitions are judged in-person, other than the Engineering Notebooks which are judged online.

Teams may take part in the following activities:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robot Performance – head-to-head on the game field (required) • Engineering Notebook (required) • Engineering Drawings • Team Exhibit and Interview • Marketing Presentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spirit & Sportsmanship • Team wear (T-shirt) Design Challenge • Dance-Off Competition • Video Design Challenge • Website Design Challenge
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<i>Deliverables & Tasks (see BEST Registry Team Workflow)</i>	<i>Notes: all uploads should be posted in the BEST Registry in your Team Workflow at https://registry.bestrobotics.org</i>
<i>Engineering Notebook</i>	<i>Pdf document, uploaded no later than 5 days from the Team's Local Game Day by 9:00am</i>
<i>Engineering Drawings</i>	<i>Pdf document, uploaded no later than 5 days from the Team's Local Game Day by 9:00am (upload with notebook AND separately for drawings only)</i>
<i>Website Design Complete</i>	<i>For Website Design Challenge. PDF document with the web address of your website</i>
<i>Video Design Complete</i>	<i>For Video Design Challenge. PDF document with the video's YouTube URL</i>
<i>Identify all Students Attending Game Day</i>	<i>Task; before December 1st</i>
<i>Student Participation Surveys Complete</i>	<i>Task; before December 1st</i>
<i>Driver Schedule Complete</i>	<i>Task; posted in BEST Registry before December 1st</i>
<i>BEST IQ Challenge Deadline (national)</i>	<i>Task, due Nov 26th, 11:59pm</i>
<i>Simulink Design Award (regional – more info given below in Section 2)</i>	Form Submission by November 18, 2023 at 11:00 PM local time to http://www.bestrobotics.org/simulink_award/form.php

<i>Scheduled Activities (see times in BEST Registry or SB Schedule)</i>	<i>Notes</i>
<i>Practice (Optional in Flower's Hall)</i>	<i>Once teams pass Compliance there is an Optional Practice Time on Saturday morning December 2nd (see SB schedule)</i>
<i>Marketing Presentation (as scheduled in the GUC)</i>	<i>Friday, December 1st as team has scheduled in the BEST Registry workflow (appointments from 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM in GUC) Register for your time slot within 5 days of your hub's Game Day</i>
<i>Team Exhibit Interviews (in GUC Banquet Halls)</i>	<i>Saturday, December 2nd 10:00 AM – until announced all have been judged</i>

Section 2. South's BEST Competition Awards

In addition to the Standard Required Hub Level Awards outlined in the BEST Competition Rules document (Section 7.1 – *Awards & Judging*, page 84 and Section 7.2 – *Standard Required Awards*, page 85), the awards below will be given at the South's BEST competition. Unless otherwise noted, all teams are eligible for the award(s) with 1st – 3rd place plaques for each.

Engineering Notebook Award

Awarded to the team that scores the highest in the Engineering Notebook category.

Most Elegant Robot

Awarded to the team whose machine demonstrates the best design and execution of the game...the machine that makes you say "Wow!"

Most Photogenic Robot

Awarded to the team whose machine is the most eye pleasing.

igus TOP GUN Award (First Place Only)

Awarded to the team who scores the most points in a single match.

South's BEST Southern Style Award (First Place Only)

The Southern Style Award recognizes excellence exhibited by teams during the competition in the following areas: Honesty, Respect, Fairness, Integrity, Safety, Teamwork, and Diversity.

South's BEST values these qualities and celebrates these same qualities in BEST teams. This award will be based on the results of a team ballot system (ballot will be included in the Registration packet) as well as input from the judges. The team receiving the greatest number of votes from other teams in attendance, plus a satisfactory rating from the judges, will earn the "Southern Style" award.

T-Shirt Design Award

Awarded for the most original game-specific team t-shirt or team-wear design. Team-wear entries should be items worn by all team members and supporters (button down shirts, golf shirt, t-shirts, etc.), not a one-of-a-kind item designed specifically for judging consideration. In addition, teams should submit a brief explanation of their design (no longer than one page) with their shirt. The explanation sheet should clearly identify the team # and school name and be attached to the shirt by pin, clothespin, paperclip, or some similar device. Entries should be submitted to the Registration/Information Desk on the 2nd floor of the GUC by noon on Saturday, December 2nd to be considered for judging. Items may be picked up at the Registration Desk on Sunday after 1:00 pm, which will be located at the front entrance of Flower's Hall.

Web Page Design Award

The website is a marketing tool to be used by the "BEST company" to both market their robot for retail sales and to emphasize that their company is the best company by which to purchase a robot. Judging will be based on the following categories: user experience (20 points), navigation (15 points), design (25 points), execution (20 points), and functionality (20 points).

To be considered for this award, upload a PDF that includes your Team Name, Team Number, and the URL to your team's web page in the Team Workflow of the BEST Registry at <https://registry.bestrobotics.org>. Judging of webpages will begin on November 20th. Be sure your site is active and ready to be judged by this date.

Team Exhibit Design & Construction Award (BEST Award teams only)

Awarded to teams with the most creative and innovative Exhibit design.

Team Exhibit and Interview Award (BEST Award teams only)

Awarded to the team that scores the highest on the Team Exhibit and Interview category.

Marketing Presentation Award (BEST Award teams only)

Awarded to the team that scores the highest on the Marketing Presentation category.

Spirit & Sportsmanship Award (BEST Award teams only)

Awarded to the team that scores the highest on their team's and supporters' Spirit & Sportsmanship with every activity involved with BEST Robotics (i.e. in the pit, exhibit, on game field, etc.) Air horns and other noisemakers that might sound similar to the timer buzzer are prohibited. Be considerate and do not damage facilities with decorations. When in doubt, ask your hub director.

Team Dance-Off Award (limited to one person per team) A representative from each team will be allowed to compete in the contest. The participant must be in the BEST Registry as a member of the team, the team should submit a PDF to enter the contest. The PDF should contain the following information: Student Name, Team Number, and Team Name. The entry PDF should be uploaded BEFORE November 20th at midnight in the BEST Registry.

***Note that we will not be hosting a Mascot competition this year and will not be recognizing the Best Mascot with an award as we have done in the past. However, teams are welcome to have mascots in attendance. The mascot is allowed to compete in the Dance-Off.**

BEST Award Requirements and Logistics

Hub vs. Championship Judging

Teams chosen to participate in the BEST Award recognize that inclusiveness, diversity of participation, exposure to and use of the engineering process, sportsmanship, teamwork, creativity, positive attitude and enthusiasm, and school and community involvement play significant roles in a team's competitive experience and contribute to student success in the competition beyond winning an award.

In accordance with the BEST philosophy, materials submitted by teams must be the work of students. The involvement of student peers in auxiliary roles to support a school's official BEST team with the documentation – i.e., journalists, photographers, and/or artists– is encouraged.

Due to space limitations, we will enforce a limit on the number of BEST Award teams that are eligible to compete at South's BEST. Teams that advance due to their BEST Award placing will be expected to compete in the BEST Award at South's.

All teams competing for the BEST Award must participate in all categories and will be judged using the following point system:

Judged Components	Point Value
Engineering Notebook	30 points
Marketing Presentation	25 points
Team Exhibit and Interviews	20 points
Robot Performance	15 points
Spirit and Sportsmanship	10 points

Total: 100 points

Engineering Notebook (30 points)

ALL participating teams (both BEST Award and non-BEST Award) are required to submit an Engineering Notebook to compete at South's BEST. The Engineering Notebook should be received by 5PM on the date below.

Hub Competition (Game Day)	Submission Deadline in BEST Registry Workflow (this is NOT a postmark deadline)
October 21 st	5:00pm CST, Thursday, October 26
November 4 th	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 9
November 11 th	5:00pm CST, Thursday, November 16

Team notebooks must be submitted electronically via the BEST National Registry (<https://registry.bestrobotics.org/>). The engineering notebook is listed under "Tasks & Deliverables" on your team workflow. Files must be in PDF format (saved as one single document – not multiple) with a file name of "Team# - Team Name.pdf" (i.e. "555 - South High School.pdf.")

Please upload your team's engineering notebook submission by using the registry file upload feature. See the registry help documentation for "Managing Team Files" for detailed instructions. When uploading the file, select "Engineering Notebook" for the "What is the file for?" field. Be sure to check the appropriate box in the "Uploaded Files" table so that the file is visible to South's BEST.

For additional information regarding Engineering Notebook requirements, please reference Section 5.1 – *Judged Components*, pages 73-75 of the 2023 BEST Robotics Competition Rules.

Marketing Presentation (25 points)

Marketing Presentations will be held in-person at the University of North Alabama - Guillot Center (GUC). Time slots will be selected via the BEST Registry by each team (<https://registry.bestrobotics.org/>). **Note the Room Assignment on your Sign-Up time chosen.** We will have 4 rooms of marketing presentations going on simultaneously. You will register at the Registration Desk on the 2nd floor of the GUC upon arrival, then be directed to your assigned room.

Teams at South's BEST will have a total of **15 minutes to complete their presentation**, with **up to 5 minutes of additional time for Q and A with the judges.**

For additional information regarding Marketing Presentations, please reference Section 5.2 – *Judged Components*, pages 75 - 77 of the 2023 BEST Robotics Competition Rules.

Team Exhibit and Interviews (20 points)

Team Exhibits will be located on the 2nd floor of the Guillot University Center at UNA in the Banquet Halls. Exhibits are restricted to a maximum size of 8 feet wide X 8 feet tall X 8 feet long. (NOTE: next year in 2024, exhibits will be limited to a maximum size of 4 feet wide x 8 feet long x 8 feet tall.) The South's BEST staff will assign team locations for Exhibit placement. Teams will be directed to their assigned location upon registration.

Team Exhibit set-up can begin after team check-in at the Registration desk on the 2nd floor of the GUC on Friday, December 1st starting at 1:00 PM. The GUC doors will close at 6:00 PM. There is additional setup time available on Saturday, December 2nd between 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM. Exhibits should be completely set up and prepared for judges to begin visiting their tables **starting at 10:00 AM on Saturday.**

Tables will not be provided at South's BEST. Teams wishing to have a table in their booth should supply their own. Each team should bring one extension cord and one power strip IF the display requires electricity.

Teams should not leave valuable equipment in the Exhibit booth overnight.

It is anticipated that judging of Exhibits will be finished no later than 3:30pm on Saturday. Teams should expect to be visited by at least 3-4 judges. Exhibits should remain open and operational from 10:00am until it is announced in the gym that all exhibits have been judged. At this point, teams may disassemble their exhibits. The GUC will remain open until 9:00 PM on Saturday. **Please wait until the official announcement before any breakdown begins.**

A Student Social is scheduled on Saturday in the Banquet Halls from 6:00 – 9:00 PM. Teams may work on disassembly during the Student Social. Light refreshments will be served (free of charge.) There is a food court open and a Game Room for your use also on the 1st floor of the GUC. We've hired a DJ to entertain you while you complete the disassembly and want you to enjoy yourselves while getting to know other students from other teams. **All exhibits should be removed from the GUC no later than 9:00 PM on Saturday.** The GUC will be closed on Sunday while all activities are held at Flower's Hall.

Fog machines and strobe lighting are NOT allowed in booths. Heat generating devices are NOT allowed in booths (e.g., blow dryers, soldering irons, utility lamps, 3D printers, etc.). Standard string/Christmas lights are fine. Candy and other food or drink items are NOT permitted at Team Exhibits as complimentary handouts.

Live animals should not be part of the exhibit and may NOT be distributed as part of a team giveaways. Stickers will NOT be allowed to be distributed as part of team giveaways.

For additional information regarding your Team Exhibit and Judges Interview, please reference Section 5.3 – *Judged Components*, pages 77-79 of the 2023 BEST Robotics Competition Rules.

Spirit & Sportsmanship (10 Points)

The following noise makers will not be allowed during the competition: airhorns, sounds that may be confused with the scoreboard/timer buzzer will be prohibited. If a noise is interfering with the production, we will notify you. We love for you to be excited! But, please be courteous!

Teams may be assigned a specific section of bleachers on Game Day!

Robot Performance (15 Points)

The fifth category, Robot Performance, will determine the final 15 points of teams' BEST Award score. These 15 points will be based on the total game points earned throughout the seeding phase of the competition (prior to the semi-final and championship rounds) Up to 15 Robot Performance points will be included in BEST Award points.

The Robot Performance calculation is changing for the 2023 season. BEST will no longer implement the 20% stepped point allocation. Instead, we are moving to a system of distributing points to each team based on **seeding score rank**. Each rank will receive a unique point value. The point spread ranges from 15 points (maximum) to 3 points (minimum.)

Applying for the Simulink Design Award

To apply for the award, teams are required to submit their Simulink model and a link to a short video describing their program design using Simulink. Teams will submit their entries by completing a form at the following location:

http://www.bestrobotics.org/simulink_award/form.php

PASSCODE = St1tch3s!

The entries must be submitted before 11 PM (local time) November 18, 2023 for all regions.

Information that teams need to provide when submitting their entry:

- Name of School
- BEST Hub (know which hub you belong to)
- Team Contact
- Team Contact Email Address (*important: all entries are tied to this email address*)
- # Students on the Team
- Simulink Model File (.slx file)
- Link to YouTube Video (3 min. maximum)
- Brief Description (256 chars) of how the team used Simulink to program their robot

Section 3. Demographics and Student Participation Survey

The required Student Demographics and Participation Survey must be completed by all students on the team roster **before the Robot Compliance Check** will be considered complete. Teams that do not complete Robot Compliance Check are subject to disqualification.


Students complete their demographic information in the student profile during registration and complete the participation survey when it becomes available in the BEST National Registry. Students with a Student Account (Avatar & Password) can complete the participation survey on their own through their user profile after login. Students without a Student Account (Avatar & Password) must complete the survey through their parent's registry account. Completion of Student Surveys must be done prior to December 1st, 2023.

Student's View (Access to Profile & Survey)



Home Events Me Mentors Help

Following you can manager your student profile and participate in year-round BEST activities. Additional this is the **new way** to access your Team Workflow. If you require technical support, please contact us through the links at the top of the page.

 Jane Doe Profile

Your participation survey is not completed.
[Click here to complete it.](#)

[View/Edit Profile](#)

Parent's View (Access to Student Profile & Survey)



[Home](#) [Events](#) [Me](#) [Parents](#) [Schools](#) [Mentors](#) [Volunteers](#) [Help](#)

BEST Robotics 2023 is underway. Following you can manager and register your children for the BEST Robotics program. If you are a teacher registering a school for this season, please visit the [Schools](#) page. If you require technical support, please contact us through the [Contact Us](#) links at the bottom of the page.

Robotics Competition Student Registrations

Robotics Competition Student Registrations is where you register your child(ren) for participation in the fall BEST robotics competition. During registration you can create an online student account (if needed) and will select the school team on which your child participates. If you do not know the BEST hub and school your child participates with, please contact your child's teacher and/or BEST Robotics sponsor.

[Register Student for a Team](#)

You are parent/guardian for these students. Use the action button beside the child's name to perform actions. Click the Edit Student Profile button to edit your child's general profile. Click the Student Participation Survey button to assist your child with completing the required end of season survey. If your child has a student account, he/she can login and complete the participation survey within his/her own account.

STUDENT	TEAM #	SCHOOL NAME	HUB	STUDENT PARTICIPATION SURVEY	STUDENT LOGIN
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The teacher will ensure that all students have completed these requirements before December 1st. This will be verified by the South's BEST Staff as well.

Teacher's Roster View (check for new view)

	STUDENT	GENDER	PREVIOUS PARTICIPANT	GRADE LEVEL	PERMISSION	STUDENT PARTICIPATION SURVEY	ATTENDING GAMEDAY	WORKFLOW ACCESS
	Bo, Jack	M	No	8TH	✓	✗	<input type="checkbox"/>	No student avatar
	Doe2, John	M	No	6TH	✓	✓	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Full Acce-
	G, G	M	No	7TH	✓	✓	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No student avatar
	Jones, Tom	M	Yes	9TH	✓	✓	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None
	Smith, Alice	F	Yes	10TH	✓	✓	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None
	SMITH, JOHN	M	No	12TH	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	View Only

NOTE: For 2023, the demographics and student participation survey status can be verified online by the hub without the need for a physical deliverable. It is still the responsibility of the teacher to make sure that this data is collected for every student on the roster.

Additional Information

Seating at South's BEST

Teams will be assigned a seating location in the bleachers of Flower's Hall Arena upon check-in on either Friday afternoon or Saturday morning on the 2nd floor of the GUC. Teams will be limited to no more than 75 people, including students, parents, teachers and other team supporters. Teams may NOT rope off seating areas due to fire code restrictions. Wristbands may be required while in the gym. This is to help us keep count of the people inside the gym and limit it as necessary to comply with capacity restrictions, as needed.

Judging Procedure and Results

A distinguished team of judges from both private and public sectors with technical and non-technical expertise will evaluate teams with all judges serving on a rotation schedule.

Category scores will be the average of each judges' individual scores. Teams should know in advance that scores among many teams frequently differ by only fractions of a point.

Each team will be able to view its scoresheets in the BEST Registry following the competition. Top rankings will be posted on the South's BEST website at www.southsbest.org.



Video Competition Specifications

Teams competing in the Video Design Competition should prepare a 90 second video on this year's game theme. The purpose of the video contest is to enhance students' researching and fact-finding skills, and to educate them about the game theme. Students are encouraged to be creative in their entries, yet informative. The video can be staged as a short play, commercial, news broadcast, talk show, music video, documentary, etc.

Guidelines

- One submission per team
- Between 60 seconds – 90 seconds in length
- Based on your current BEST team
- Incorporate this year's game theme
- Include school name, location, and name of participating hub
- Can include music, but no objectionable lyrics
- Content should not be objectionable and should be representative of the team and school
- Resolution should be at minimum 1280 X 720 (720p)

Judging Criteria

- Captivating
- Creativity and innovation
- Clarity of audio
- Technical quality of video
- Editing (organization, flow)
- Best use of game theme
- Best combination of narration and video
- Best incorporation of team members

Judging Process

A team of judges will preview videos and choose the top videos to be shown during South's BEST. South's BEST teams will vote on the top three videos. The winners will be announced on Sunday.

Video Submission Process

Videos should be uploaded in YouTube and the link to the YouTube Video should be uploaded as a PDF file in the BEST Registry under Deliverables no later than 7 days after the team's Game Day at their Hub.

Judges' 2023 Engineering Notebook Score Sheet

Purpose: To document the process used to design, build, and test the robot. (30 pts.)

Research Paper (4 pts.)				Possible Points	Points Awarded
Correlation between the game and how the science/technology is being used at a company/industry/research lab in the team's state or region					
8-10	In-depth discussion of how this year's game theme relates to industry in this region.				
4-7	General discussion of how this year's game theme relates to industry in this region.				
1-3	General discussion of this year's game theme, but no ties to the region	0	No discussion of game theme.		
<i>Comments:</i>				10	
Any related information of the game theme such as history, famous inventor(s), major milestones, etc.					
4-5	In-depth discussion of history and people related to this year's game theme.				
2-3	General discussion of history and people related to this year's game theme.				
1	Some mention of history or people.	0	No discussion of related info		
<i>Comments:</i>				5	
Analysis of the game theme/problem & related technology's impact on the human experience, our needs, adaptations, and progress with solutions.					
4-5	In-depth historical account of the effects to human experience, needs, adaptation and progress toward solutions.				
2-3	Some discussion about the effects of the theme/problem/technology on human experiences, needs, adaptations or progress.				
1	Mentioned the effects to human experience, needs, adaptation or progress.	0	No mention of history/effects to humanity.		
<i>Comments:</i>				5	
Creativity in linking the game to appropriately related science content					
8-10	Very creative in linking this year's game theme to other science/technology.				
4-7	Attempted to link this year's game theme to other science/technology.				
1-3	Mentioned other science/technology.	0	No discussion of other science/technology.		
<i>Comments:</i>				10	
Proper formal writing - Proper use of grammar & composition throughout ; source citations used to gather information; within 2-5 page limit					
8-10	Very few grammar mistakes/misspellings, included citations, 2-5 pages.				
4-7	Noticeable grammar mistakes/misspellings or did not include citations, 2-5 pages.				
1-3	Many grammar mistakes/misspellings, no citations, or not within 2-5 pages.	0	Incomprehensible or missing.		
<i>Comments:</i>				10	
Design Process (17 pts.)					
Implementation of the Engineering Design Process (Evidence that the engineering design process was effectively used)					
21-25	Process is explicitly identified; steps are obvious and explanation is thorough.				
16-20	Process is identified; steps are discernible and there is some explanation.				
11-15	Process is not identified; there is some discussion of a design process.	6-10	Discussion of process is minimal.		
1-5	You can tell there was a design process of some sort.	0	No discernible design process.		
<i>Comments:</i>				25	
Brainstorming Approaches - How well organized and productive was the brainstorming approach? How well was it documented?					
21-25	Approach is explicitly identified, organization & productivity are obvious, explanation is thorough, discussion of how decisions made.				
16-20	Approach is identified, organization and productivity are discernible, there is some explanation.				
11-15	Approach is not identified, there is some discussion of brainstorming.	6-10	Discussion of approach is minimal.		
1-5	You can tell there were ideas generated.	0	No discernible brainstorming.		
<i>Comments:</i>				25	
Analytical evaluation of design alternatives - Use of analytical and mathematical skills in deciding upon and implementing design alternatives					
21-25	Evaluation is explicitly identified, analytic/mathematical approach is obvious, alternative designs are explained.				
16-20	Evaluation is identified, analytic/mathematical approach is discernible, alternative designs are identified.				
11-15	Evaluation is not identifiable, alternative designs are identified.	6-10	Discussion of alternative designs is minimal.		
1-5	You can tell there were alternatives.	0	No discernible evaluation.		
<i>Comments:</i>				25	

Judges' 2023 Engineering Notebook Score Sheet

Offensive and defensive evaluation - Analysis of gaming strategies and design elements used to achieve team goals				
21-25	Evaluation of offensive/defensive strategies is explicitly identified, goals of this team are clearly identified, discussion shows a deep knowledge of the game.			
16-20	Evaluation is identified, goals are discernible, discussion shows a knowledge of the game.			
11-15	Evaluation is not identified, there is some notion of goals and game knowledge.			
6-10	Discussion of goals and game knowledge are minimal.			
1-5	There is some slight mention of strategy.	0	No discernible evaluation.	
Comments:			25	
Software Development Process (Evidence that a software development process was effectively used)				
21-25	Process is explicitly identified; steps are obvious and explanation is thorough. Design methods utilized are identified and explained.			
16-20	Process is identified; steps are discernible and there is some explanation. Some design methods are discussed.			
11-15	There is some discussion of a development process or design methods.	6-10	Process is mentioned but minimal detail.	
1-5	You can tell there were some software design methods used.	0	No discernible software development process	
Comments:			25	
Safety - Evidence that safety training occurred and safe practices were followed to prevent students' misuse of tools and other devices/equipment that may result in personal injury or damage to property				
17-20	Clear evidence that safety training occurred, clear evidence that the team verified safety procedures were followed.			
13-16	Clear evidence of safety training, some evidence procedures were verified.			
9-12	Some evidence of safety training, some procedures were verified.	5-8	Some evidence safety training, no verifying proc	
1-4	Safety was mentioned; unsafe methods might be visible in photos.	0	No mention of safety.	
Comments:			20	
Support Documentation - Team organization, meeting minutes/notes, CAD/other drawings, photos, derived requirements, test results, code/algorithms, etc. that support the main document (max 40 pages)				
21-25	Clearly identifies at least 5 categories mentioned above; references made from primary document.			
16-20	Items from at least 4 categories mentioned are included.			
11-15	Items from at least 3 categories above are included.	6-10	Items from at least 2 categories above are included.	
1-5	Includes items from at least 1 category; but not identified.	0	No items from listed categories are included.	
Comments:			25	
Overall Quality and completeness of Notebook (9 pts.)				
Organization and appearance - Table of contents, summary, page numbers, discussion of evaluation points, linkage to appendices				
21-30	Well organized, looks good, includes Table of Contents, summary, page numbers, discussion of evaluation points (e.g. Items on the score sheet), linkage to appendices.			
11-20	Reasonably organized, looks good, missing one or two items from list above.			
1-10	Poorly organized, no attention to looks, missing multiple items from list above.	0	Disorganized, missing most items.	
Comments:			30	
Adherence to specifications Cover sheet and/or title page that identifies the school team name, teacher contact information, and team number 1" margins; Business font no smaller than 12 pt., double-spaced (single spaced ok in tables and outlines) ; PDF Format Only, 35 pages max for main section, 40 pages max for appendices				
21-30	Adheres to the specifications listed above.			
11-20	Violates one of the specifications listed above.			
1-10	Violates two or three of the specifications listed above.	0	Violates four or more specs.	
Comments:			30	
Quality of content - Well written, clear photo labels, lack of extraneous material such as community or promotional efforts, spirit development, team building				
21-30	Everything is well written/clear/logical, everything is clearly labeled, no excess material.			
11-20	You can follow everything with some effort, one or two things that are unnecessary.			
1-10	Hard to understand in places, labels missing in places, unnecessary material.	0	Very difficult to follow, unnecessary material.	
Comments:			30	
SCORE CALCULATION and Additional Comments:		Total		300
				÷10
		Final Score		30 max

Judge name/number (print): _____

Team Number: _____ School: _____

2023 Marketing Presentation Score Sheet

Objective: Address the needs of a potential client, share product and brand information and navigate the business environment (25pts)

	Scoring Sections	Possible Points	Points Awarded
Section 1: Company Overview		75	
Organization	Presented structure/org chart, employee roles, experience levels (grades/years), inclusiveness – team is multidisciplinary and includes roles in engineering, business, presentation skills, etc.	10	
Mission Statement	Defined the team's mission statement – one or two sentences, using simple and concise terms, stating the team's purpose for being, encapsulating culture, values, and ethics.	10	
Brand Promise	Defined the team's brand promise – the value or experience customers can expect to receive every time they interact with the company.	10	
Visual Identity	Created a strong visual identity (logos, color scheme, style book, etc.) based on brand and mission.	10	
Public Image	Presented the team's publicity, social responsibility, community visibility (brochures, press release, outreach to other Schools and Businesses). It included BEST and sponsor logos.	15	
Budget	Presented funding sources (sponsors, in-kind, fundraisers) and engineering development expenses.	10	
Company Sustainability	Presented and explained the 1-year company outlook, including employee development, recruitment, and training. Explained how they will leave the team in better hands for next year.	10	
Comments:			
Section 2: Product Features		70	
Task Knowledge	Defined the problem and customer priorities (as derived from the game rules). Has specific requirements and specifications listed. Referenced the Client's needs" as listed in the Request For Proposal ("the Game Story") and defined their focused solution.	20	
Meeting Requirements	Described how the specific game details influenced their detailed design. Described how the real physical features of the robot address actions on the physical field. Explained how the product's features solve the client's problem.	20	
Differentiation	Explained how the product features are unique and better than the competition.	20	
Visual Aids	Used visual aids to effectively enhance the presentation (eg. CAD drawing, computer simulation, photos, videos, mockups, infographics, etc.)	10	
Comments:			

Judge Name/number (print): _____

Team Number: _____ School: _____

2023 Marketing Presentation Score Sheet

Scoring Sections		Possible Points	Points Awarded
Section 3: Business Offer		50	
Sales Price	<p>Showed the product's acquisition cost. May include individual and multiple units, delivery, warranty, repairs, training, etc.</p> <p>Showed manufacturing cost – (MLO); part of acquisition cost based on the cost of the Materials, Labor, Overhead.</p> <p>Included an itemized cost breakdown and explained final Price. (Clarification: Based on real costs of the prototype robot, not a hypothetical for the company).</p>	25	
Aftermarket Support	Addressed details of warranty and training for the client's workforce to operate and/or maintain the product.	20	
Formal Offer	Formal offer was made in the meeting.	5	
Comments:			
Section 4: Business Professionalism		55	
Mechanics	All 4-8 presenters participated; dressed professionally or theme-based. Students performed all set up/breakdown; stayed within time limits.	10	
Endorsements	Included testimonials to support research or success stories.	10	
Professional	Presentation was understandable, well organized, prepared, conversational, and engaged in discussion. Fully responsive to questions.	15	
Creativity	Presentation was creative and interesting. (Wow Factor)	20	
Comments:			
Additional Comments:		Total:	250
			÷10
		Final Score:	25

Judge Name/number (print): _____

Team Number: _____ School: _____

2023 Team Exhibit and Interviews Score Sheet

Total: 20pts

Student Interviews		Possible Points	Points Awarded
Objective: Communicate Company Brand, Learning, and Outreach Scores will reflect interviews with students at team exhibits, in the pit area and in the stands			
Section 1: Elevator Speech and Branding			
Elevator Speech	Clearly defines what benefits the product (robot) delivers. Explains outreach and social responsibility. Conveys the company's brand through tone and language.	20	
Branding	Brand promise (what service/reputation your company offers the customer) is evident in the Exhibit. Explains how the product illustrates the company brand.	15	
Comments:			
Section 2: Knowledge and Experience with BEST			
Knowledge	Students easily and thoroughly answer technical questions about the robot, team exhibit, and related materials. They show a deep understanding of the design and construction of robot and exhibit; adult contributions are mentioned purely in an advisory capacity.	15	
Learning	Evidence of students' learning experience and understanding of the game. They can clearly articulate lessons learned through experience, and it is evident they understand the game theme.	15	
Enthusiasm (Enjoyed it)	Students describe with obvious enthusiasm and positivity their experience in BEST and show a clear understanding of the organization's mission. Students communicate the impact of the BEST Robotics program on his/her path toward STEM or career choice (testimonial).	10	
Comments:			
Section 3: Outreach			
Sharing	Sharing information and/or technology resources, and mentoring other schools, including other BEST teams. Clear evidence of support (including testimonials or storytelling) to other schools with information, technology, or encouragement.	20	
Publicity/ Demos	Students effectively communicate their publicity methods (print materials, media/press), media platforms used, and specific presentations/demonstrations to other schools & community groups about BEST to generate excitement.	20	
Inclusion	Evidence that recruitment efforts include multiple grade levels and students from a cross-section of the school population. Clearly identify specific efforts to promote inclusiveness.	15	
Advocacy	Fundraising and/or sponsorship efforts. Describe strategies to recruit sponsors, team fundraisers, and how any funds raised were allocated to support team (team budget available for review). Presents and demonstrates strong evidence of effectively executing these efforts.	10	
Comments:			
Interviews Subtotal		140	

Judge Name/number (print): _____

Team Number: _____ School: _____

2023 Team Exhibit and Interviews Score Sheet

Total: 20pts

	Exhibit Objective: Display a Visual Story of the Product and Company	Possible Points	Points Awarded
Section 4: Exhibit			
Creativity	Creativity in incorporating game theme into design and presentation of this exhibit. Display is unique. Game theme is very prominent.	25	
Technology	Effective balance of print, multi-media and technology in exhibit. • Physical Exhibit (e.g., display boards, physical models, multi-media equipment, etc.) • Virtual Exhibit (e.g., graphics vs. text, virtual models, rich multi-media, creative layout, etc.)	15	
Aesthetics	The exhibit is cohesive, engaging, and interactive. Information is logically arranged.	10	
Compliance	Team, Hub, and national BEST logos / branding are visible. All sponsors are clearly displayed. Compliance with specifications (did not exceed space allocation of 8'X8'X8' cube). Area is neat, clean, well-organized. Evidence that the students were the primary designers and builders of robot, team exhibit, and all materials.	10	
	Interview Subtotal	140	
	Exhibit Subtotal	60	
	Interview & Exhibit Raw Total	200	
		÷ 10	÷ 10
	Exhibit & Interviews Total	20	
Comments:			
Overall Comments			

Judge Name/number (print): _____

Team Number: _____ School: _____

Judges' 2023 Spirit and Sportsmanship Score Sheet

Purpose: To display team spirit & sportsmanship at the competition. (10pts)

SPIRIT! (4 points)

Exhibit vigor and enthusiasm throughout competition event.			
12-10	Clear evidence of continued support over an extended time period, group is loud and enthusiastic and consistent encouragement for own team and opponents.		
9-7	Evidence of support most of time, group is often loud and enthusiastic, but inconsistent for opponent teams.		
6-4	Group is loud and enthusiastic once or twice, and there is not visible encouragement for opponent teams.		
3-1	You can tell some people are rooting for the team once in a while.		
Comments:			12
Use of signs, posters, props, costumes, t-shirts, etc.			
12-10	Group uses multiple avenues of support - signs, posters, props, costumes, t-shirts, these are creative and noticeable.		
9-7	Group uses three or more methods of support, but they are not particularly creative or noticeable.		
6-4	Group shows support through one or two methods in a creative way.		
3-1	Group shows support through one or two methods, but they are not creative or noticeable.		
Comments:			12
Cheerleaders, mascots, bands, organized noise-makers, etc.			
8-6	Group has several of these things (cheerleaders, mascots, bands, noise-makers), they are quite noticeable, and appropriately used.		
5-3	Group has several things, but they are not prominent and are noticeable or appropriately used.		
2-1	Group has one of these things, but many not noticeable or appropriately used.		
Comments:			8
Number of supporters with school (other than students)			
8-6	It is clear there are many non-student supporters, and they are actively engaged.		
5-3	There are clearly a few supporters other than students, but appear to be somewhat disengaged.		
2-1	You think they have non-students supporters but you aren't sure.		
Comments:			8

SPORTSMANSHIP (6 points)

Outward display of sportsmanship (e.g. helping other teams in need).					
20-19	You clearly see and hear of two or more instances of helping another team that are genuine.				
18-15	You clearly see and hear of at least one instance of helping another team that are genuine.				
14-10	You clearly see and hear of instances of helping another team but not authentic.				
9-5	Group appears helpful, but you have no direct evidence.	4-0	Minimal engagement with other teams, or teammates on their own team.		
Comments:			20		
Conduct an attitude considered befitting participation in sports (e.g., grace in winning or losing).					
20-19	Team actively cheers for other teams no matter what the circumstances, they always show respect for others.				
18-15	Team generally cheers for and supports other teams most of the time.				
14-10	Team sometimes cheers for others.				
9-5	Team shows respect for others most of the time.	4-0	Team shows minimal respect for others.		
Comments:			20		
Evidence that students are the primary "pit crew" (robot repairs and adjustments during competition)					
20-16	Students clearly do all the work with minimal guidance from adults.				
15-10	Students do most of the work with some help from adults.				
9-5	Adults are in charge in the pit and students are doing some work.	4-0	Adults are in charge in the pit and students are doing minimal work		
Comments:			20		
SCORE CALCULATION and Additional Comments:			Total	100	
				÷10	÷10
			Final Score	10 max	

Judge name/number (print): _____

Team Number: _____ School: _____



Access to Power for Team Exhibits

Teams will be required to provide their own supplies, including surge protectors/power strips, a 25-foot (recommended) extension cord, and gaffer's tape. Teams are responsible for securing their extension cords to the ground using gaffer's tape. South's BEST staff will facilitate the set-up of exhibits to ensure that all walking paths are clear and cords are securely taped down.

Teams should not use heat-generating devices in their Team Exhibits. This will overload the circuit in the gym and cause problems. Examples of heat-generating devices that should not be used include soldering irons, utility lights (unless it is LED), 3-D printers, etc. If you are uncertain about using a particular device, please contact the Awards and Judging coordinator, Kim Sheppard at kim.sheppard@nwscs.edu.

Bus Driver Restrictions

If you're booking a bus, be sure to check with the company about how long the driver can be on duty without having to take a break. Many states have laws regarding driving-time limitations for bus drivers.

Clean-Up and Maintenance of the Gym facility

Encourage students to be good stewards of this facility as we wish to continue using facilities on campus for South's BEST in future years.

- Spray paints and spray adhesives should not be used inside the facility.
- Glitter should not be applied to an object while inside the facility.
- **Signage may not be adhered with tape to ANY SURFACE of the facility. This includes to the back wall of the gym for team signs.**
- No confetti!

Help us keep Flowers Hall clean and free of trash. In your registration packet you will find a large trash bag for your convenience. Trash bags may be left near any garbage can at the end of the event on Sunday. Upon conclusion of Sunday's events please have your students do the following:

- Dispose of all food and drink trash in your team's seating area.
- Remove and dispose (or take with you) any signage used in your team's seating area.

- Remove all trash, items, and portions of your Team Exhibit. Do not leave any part of your team's exhibit behind in the GUC. We cannot be responsible for disposing of wood, PVC, etc.
- For all of the above, **please utilize the dumpster that will be located at the basement of Flowers Hall by the loading dock or outside the Flowers Hall Annex.**
- **Please utilize the dumpster that will be located next to the Guillot University Center loading dock.**

Concessions

Soft drinks will be sold both Saturday and Sunday at Flowers Hall. There will be food trucks located behind the Communication building and other dining options will be open. The UNA bookstore will be open on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Driver's Meeting (Saturday, 12:30 – 1:00pm)

ALL team members that expect to be in the Pit during the competition must attend this meeting in Flowers Hall. Teachers and mentors are welcome to attend the meeting to assist students as needed. A printout or copy of your team's Driver List should be turned in at this meeting. The submitted copy must match the Driver List submitted in the BEST Registry Team Workflow.

Emergency Number

Determine one adult who will be responsible for receiving any emergency phone calls from home while your team is here. Provide that person's cell number to parents, school officials, and others.

First Aid

An EMT is on-duty both days Saturday and Sunday during the event. Medical emergencies should be reported to Registration if in the GUC or if in Flower's Hall the Floor Boss on the gym floor with a designated vest. The nearest emergency facility is North Alabama Medical Center located 2.6 miles from Flowers Hall:

<https://namccares.com/>

Address: 1701 Veterans Drive
Florence, AL 35630
Phone: 256-629-1000

Lost and Found

Lost and Found is located at Registration on the 1st floor.

Noise-Makers and Band Instruments

The following are not allowed in or around the gym and will be confiscated*:

- Any noise maker or instrument that requires the use of the mouth to make sound
- Bands/pep bands will not be allowed at South's BEST this year
- Air horns
- Electric instruments
- High intensity/high frequency noise makers

The Head Judge has the right to ban noisemakers that are deemed hearing hazards. Spirit and Sportsmanship will be a judged category for the BEST Award competition this year. Instead, ALL teams will have an opportunity to vote for one team to receive the "South's BEST Southern Hospitality Award". The voting ballot for this award can be found in the team's registration packet distributed during team check-in.

Parking and Unloading

UNA does not ticket many of its parking lots on the weekend. However, vehicles parked in areas not specifically designated for vehicle parking (sidewalk, grass, etc.) may be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense. Parking is sometimes a slow process. Please be mindful of this when setting your departure times. In this packet you will find parking maps for cars, trailers and buses. Please print these maps and bring them with you to the event.

- Designated Parking Areas:
 - Cars may park in the following areas: Parking garage across the street from Flowers Hall; in any white space on campus with parking pass.
 - Buses may park behind Flowers Hall on Stewart Ave from Circular to Cumberland Drive facing northbound.
 - Trailers may park behind Flowers Hall in Parking Lot O; Stewart Ave.
- Designated Unloading Areas:
 - Materials Unloading: Cars and small trailers carrying exhibit materials should unload at the 5 Minute Unloading Zone (see map in this handbook) located in the GUC Parking Lot.
 - Each team should have a group of students, parents, mentors (other than the driver of the vehicle) prepared to remove the exhibit from the vehicle in a timely manner.
 - **The driver of the vehicle should NOT leave the vehicle at any time during the unloading process.**
 - A South's BEST staff member will be available on site during the unloading times to assist and ensure a smooth process.
 - Students: Students arriving in buses should be dropped off at the front of Flowers Hall. Please see the 2023 Map for procedures for dropping off students from buses.

Photos & Video – Blanket Release Permission

South's BEST assumes blanket permission to photograph and video team members, teachers, parents, chaperones, mentors, and others in attendance. These are used for promotional purposes in printed materials, videos, and on BEST websites.

Souvenirs

South's BEST souvenirs and a limited number of championship t-shirts will be on sale at registration. We recommend that teams pre-order their souvenir t-shirts.

Team Banners

Teams may post spirit banners on the railing in the gym from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday and before the start of the competition on Sunday. Banner restrictions:

- Banners must contain grommets at the top and be attached with string or cable ties.
- **No tape is allowed. Teams should bring their own string/ties and scissors.**
- Banners may not have any design or language of a crude nature.
- Banners and other team signage are not to be posted at other sites in the gym or elsewhere on campus.
- All banners (including rope and cable ties) **MUST** be taken down and REMOVED from the gym at the conclusion of the event.

Note that teams will not be allowed to tape signage to any surface of Flowers Hall.

Team Seating in Stands

Teams will be assigned a seating location upon check-in on Saturday morning. Teams will be limited to no more than 75 people, including students, parents, teachers and other team supporters. Teams may NOT rope off seating areas due to fire code restrictions.

QUESTIONS:

Event Logistics should be directed to Julie Taylor at jayates@una.edu and Dr. Jessica Stovall at jstovall@una.edu

Awards and Judging should be directed to Kim Sheppard at kim.sheppard@nwcc.edu

Technical/Game/Pit should be directed to Hunter Terry at hgterry61@gmail.com



Student Code of Conduct

South's BEST expects teams and supporters accompanying them to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner while participating in the Championship. This includes all activities associated with their participation in the event.

- Appropriate conduct of teams and supporters is the sole responsibility of school officials and other adult chaperones that have legal responsibility as supervisors.
- Students should be under the supervision of school officials or chaperones during all excursions and competition activities, including while in hotels and restaurants.
- Students who violate the conduct code at any point during South's BEST are subject to suspension from remaining competition activities.
- South's BEST reserves the right to refuse participation in future competitions, to any team whose behavior has been disruptive.

Inappropriate conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- **At no time should any South's BEST participant (student or adult) be found in "No Access" zones in Flowers Hall. No Access zones include those marked with signage. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification of the team with which the violator is associated.**
- Property damage, vandalism, or theft.
- Appropriation of University of North Alabama or South's BEST memorabilia.
- Use of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- Use of water pistols, water balloons, or other creative missiles.
- Fighting, loud/foul language, or other disruptive/rude behavior.
- Disruptive and excessive noise during activities other than the actual competition.
- Inappropriate dress. Students are expected to wear shirts/t-shirts and shoes.
- Distractive apparel that displays design or language of a crude nature.

Financial liability for all damages or losses incurred by actions of team members and supporters shall be the sole responsibility of the team/school.



Pit Protocol

Driver's Meeting (Saturday, 1:00pm)

This is a **mandatory meeting** for ALL team members that expect to be in the Pit during the competition. Teachers/mentors are welcome to attend the Driver's Meeting to assist students as needed. The meeting covers information provided in this document as well as other logistics.

I. General Information

Access to Power

There is no power access at teams' pit tables. Power is only available at the Battery Charging Station and Pit Repair Stations located at the rear of the Pit (see *Pit Stations* below).

Access to the Pit

Friday/Saturday

- Teams will be allowed to access the Pit once their team has registered at the Registration Desk (2nd floor – Guillot University Center).
- Pit access is limited to one specific stairwell, which will be identified with signage.
- During check-in, teams will receive Pit Packets at the Registration Table on the 2nd floor of the GUC. Pit Packets will contain: 8 Driver's bracelets, a Team Rep button, 5 student Pit Passes, 1 student/adult Pit Pass and a Drivers List (to be completed and submitted to Pit Boss).
- Loading in/out machines and equipment can only be accessed through the front entrance of Flowers Hall (see event map). Security will be posted there to help guide teams to the Pit.
- Due to the large number of teams and the limited size of the Pit, we must control the number of people on the floor. We will not enforce a strict number of students and adults per team that can be on the floor prior to the seeding matches. However, this area will be continually monitored for safety.
- When seeding matches begin (approximately 2:30 pm on Saturday), only those with a Pit Pass will be allowed in the Pit and on the floor. Each team will receive five student Pit Passes in their Pit Packet for use on Saturday and Sunday during matches. Each team will also receive one student/adult Pit Pass to be used by adults on a very limited basis in cases of urgency or emergency. When the student/adult Pit Pass is not being used by an adult, it may be used by a student. **No pass, no access.**

Sunday

- The Pit opens at 8:00am on Sunday. Teams should continue to use the designated Pit entrance and access will still be limited to those wearing a Pit Pass.
- Pit Passes must be worn at all times by team members while in the Pit. It is up to each team to determine who needs to be in the Pit and how passes will be swapped.

Driving

Drivers List

- Each team should submit a drivers list into the BEST Registry by Thursday, November 30 by 5:00 p.m. Team members that are not on the list and who attempt to drive will not be allowed to do so. Drivers will drive in the order provided on the list.

Driving Practice Matches (Saturday)

- Driving practice matches are simulated game matches: three minutes each; two sets of four teams each will practice at a time; and one driver and spotter per team.
- Driving practice runs from 8:00am – 11:45 and is optional for teams.
- Teams may sign up for practice matches after they successfully pass Compliance Check-in, which occurs on Saturday from 8:00am – 11:45.

Driver Rotation

- Drivers must rotate equally throughout the competition; teams are responsible for rotating in the order provided on their driver's list.

Safety Glasses

- **Due to Health & Safety concerns, teams MUST provide their own safety glasses. Safety glasses are required for your team to compete.**
- Teams are encouraged to bring extra safety glasses and wear them while working in the Pit.

Vests

- At check-in, each team will receive two safety vests with the team's number attached. These vests are the team's responsibility throughout the competition and are required to be worn by drivers and spotters during matches. These vests do not have to be returned at the end of the competition.

Wristbands

- At check-in, each driver will be issued a wristband with his/her team number. The wristbands will be checked at Staging to ensure that drivers are rotating as required. Wristbands should be worn on both Saturday and Sunday. You will only receive one set of wristbands. Do not let students lose them on Saturday night.

Pit Stations

Battery Charging Station

- All battery charging is done at this station; teams must use their own BEST-provided charger at the Battery Charging Station.
- Teams should designate one member to monitor the battery and charger.
- Illegal (non BEST-issued) chargers or batteries will not be allowed.
- No other types of equipment or cell phones may be charged at this station.
- South's BEST is not responsible for lost or stolen batteries and has no replacements.

Power Tool Repair Station

- All repairs requiring power tools must be done at this station; teams must provide their own tools.

Soldering Station

- All soldering must be done at this station; teams must provide their own iron and solder.

Team Equipment & Materials

- Teams should label/tag any personal equipment, tools, or materials that will be used at any of the repair stations. Teams that choose to leave equipment or materials at their Pit table overnight do so at their own risk.

Replacement Parts

- South's BEST will NOT supply additional parts for robots at South's BEST. It is up to the hub from which you advanced to provide you with additional parts should yours become damaged (or are defective). Most hubs will have a representative available at South's BEST who will bring additional parts with them. Otherwise, they should send your team to South's BEST with additional parts. If you have questions about this, please contact your local hub director.

Team Numbers & School Names

Each team's robot is required to have the team number and school name in an easily visible location. The number must be a minimum 2" in size.

II. Resolving Problems Teams May Encounter

Team Rep Button

- Each team will have one button in their Pit Packet that is to be worn by a Student voicing a concern to the Team Advocate. **No button, no response.**

Pit Problems – Team Advocate

- If a team has problems regarding equipment, event personnel, or other teams, they should address them to the Team Advocate, who is THE ONLY person designated to handle them. The Team Advocate(s) will be introduced at the Driver's Meeting so that teams will be able to recognize him/her during the competition.
- Only ONE team member (not a mentor) can approach the Team Advocate concerning a problem and they must be wearing their Team Rep Button.
- The Team Advocate will work with the team to resolve the problem. If it cannot be resolved, the Team Advocate will consult with the Pit Boss, Floor Boss, Head Referee, and/or Head Scorekeeper for a final ruling.

Game-Specific Challenges

- Teams that have a conflict or problem with scoring, field electronics, etc. should approach the Team Advocate initially. If the issue cannot be resolved immediately, the Team Advocate will consult with the Head Referee, Floor Boss, and/or Head Scorekeeper.

Floor Boss

- The Floor Boss oversees the entire competition area: Pit, Staging, Playing Field, and Scorekeeping areas.
- The Floor Boss is consulted when the Pit Boss, Team Advocate, Head Referee, and Head Scorekeeper cannot resolve problems and issues that are brought to them by teams.

III. Compliance Check-In

Regardless of how Compliance check-in was performed by your local hub, at South's BEST teams will follow our established policies and procedures. Failure to abide by South's BEST Compliance check-in policies and procedures could result in disqualification.

Teams will not be allowed to practice drive on Saturday or compete on Sunday until or unless their machines are in full compliance.

Included in this handbook is a document entitled *Compliance Checklist*. We strongly suggest you go through this list BEFORE you come to South's to ensure your team is eligible to compete.

Saturday

- South's BEST will NOT conduct a Critical Design Review but will conduct Compliance check-in.
- Compliance check-in takes place in the Pit from 8:00am – 11:45 on Saturday.
- Teams whose machines are non-compliant when Compliance check-in concludes at 11:45 will not be allowed to compete.
- At the end of matches on Saturday, robots will be impounded and will be kept in the gym, which will be secured overnight.



Driver and Spotter Protocol

Prior to Match Play

Each team must submit their team's Drivers List in the Team Workflow in the BEST Registry by the designated cutoff date and time. A printout or copy of this driver's list should be submitted during the Driver's Meeting.

The minimum number of student team members on the driver list is shown in the following table:

Robotics Team members present at competition	Minimum number of students on Drivers List
2-4	2
5-6	3
7-8	4
9 or more	5

BEST encourages participation by as many team members as possible.

The first person on the Drivers List is the driver for the first match; the second person on the list is the driver for the second match, etc.

This rotation continues for successive matches.

Rotation during wild card, semi-final, and final matches will begin where the seeding round rotation left off.

If a match is eliminated for any reason, the driver rotation will continue in accordance with the driver list, with the driver scheduled for the eliminated match (or matches) being the first driver for the following match.

The spotter(s) may be any students from the team.

NOTE: This may change due to game-specific rules. Be sure to check the game-specific rules for details.

During Match Play

Only one team member is allowed in each of the Driver's & Spotter's "squares," respectively.

Adults are not allowed in the Staging or Playing Field areas.

Drivers & Spotters may not stand on platforms of their own construction in the squares.

Drivers & Spotters may not communicate with anyone (including each other) through the use of any electronic devices or other signaling aids.

Machine Compliance Check 2023

Team Name

Team Number

General

Comments:

- ☐ weight less than 24 lb (with battery and detachable parts)
- ☐ size less than 24" cube (unconstrained, can be powered)
- ☐ team number (visible?)
- ☐ multiple configurations? (check each one)

Control System

Joystick

- ☐ no labels
- ☐ no rubber bands
- ☐ no tape of any kind

Cortex

- ☐ mounted (use mounting holes)
- ☐ no solder (use RK cables)
- ☐ on/off switch (must be accessible)
- ☐ motor ports 1 and 10 not used
- ☐ 7.2v battery secured (holder/mount)

General Parts Check

- ☐ no paint, adhesives or tape on returnable parts (except as noted¹)
- ☐ no modified returnable parts (except for servo horns and 3' belt)
- ☐ only allowable parts/materials/quantities - see Kit Lists
- ☐ detachable parts? (must be weighed and measured with robot) - incl. team-built arms
- ☐ team-built Squeaky arms (size, materials) (measured separately 8" x 8" x 24")
- ☐ team-built Squeaky arms (weighed with robot)

Team Custom Parts (two parts are allowed)

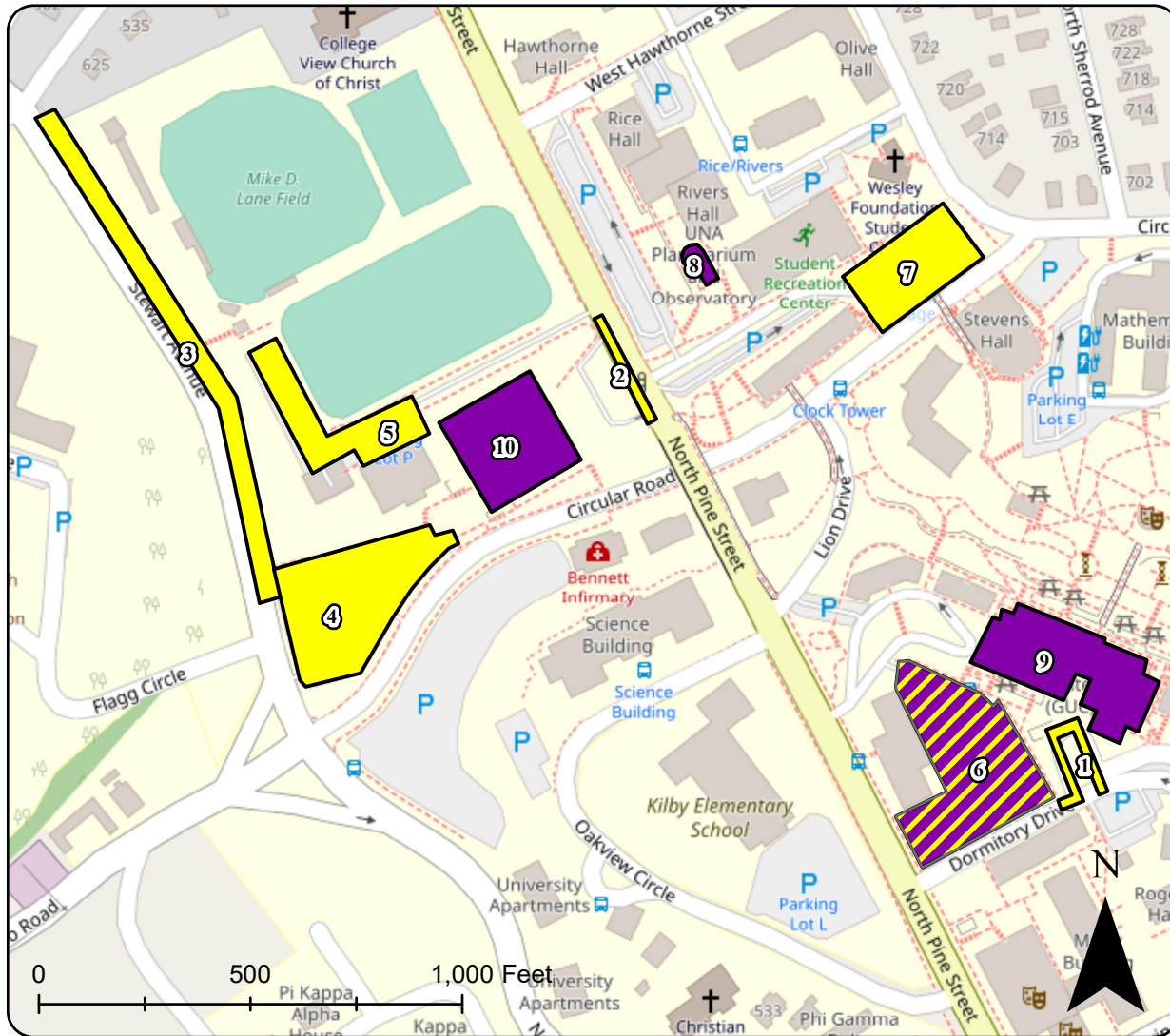
- ☐ each part could fit within 2" x 4" x 4" cuboid
- ☐ each part is made from a uniform material
- ☐ raw stock shape is rectangular or cylindrical (if applicable)

Comments:

Notes: 1) Painters tape allowed on all items except the Joystick.



Regional Robotics Championship



Legend

- Event Space
- Parking and Transport
- Mixed Space

- 1 - GUC Bus Drop-off
- 2 - Flowers Hall Bus Drop-off
- 3 - Bus Parking
- 4 - Trailer Parking
- 5 - VIP Parking
- 6 - Food Truck Village
- 7 - Parking Deck
- 8 - Planetarium
- 9 - GUC
- 10 - Flowers Hall