



Competition Overview

BEST Competitions



- **Hub Level** (local competition)
 - Two divisions:
 - Robotics (the annual game)
 - **Each team must submit a *Project Engineering Notebook***
 - The BEST Award (**additional/optional competition**)
 - Allows for school-wide student participation
- **Regional Championship**
 - Hub winners in both divisions advance to “Regionals”
 - 10 or more hubs comprise a BEST region
- **National Championship**
 - Regional winners in both divisions advance to the national championship

Robotics - The Game



- New educational theme/challenge and field each year
- **Challenge and field kept secret until Kick Off Day**
- Playing field is usually a 24' x 24' configuration
- 4 teams compete per 3-minute match
- Points awarded for successful completion of tasks
- Each team competes in 5-8 matches in a preliminary “seeding” round

Game Rounds



- **Seeding Round** (5-8 matches per team)
 - Rank-order of robots by most points scored
 - **Top 7** ranked teams advance to Semi-Final Round
- **Wild Card Match** (1 match)
 - Top 4 *Project Engineering Notebook* teams (**not among the top 7 robotics teams**) compete for the 8th slot in the Semi-Final Round
- **Semi-Final Round** (6 matches)
 - Top 7 + Wild Card winner to determine “Final Four”
- **Championship Round** (3 matches)
 - Top 4 teams

The BEST Award



- The BEST Award is presented to the top three teams (1st – 3rd) that best embody the concept of “boosting” Engineering, Science and Technology
- **The BEST Award is the most coveted award in BEST**
- Criteria:
 - Teamwork
 - Diversity of Participation
 - Sportsmanship
 - Creativity
 - Application of the Engineering Design Process
 - Ethics
 - Positive Attitude/Enthusiasm
 - School/Community Involvement

Awards



- **Robotics**
 - Game Winner
 - Founders Award for Creative Design
 - Most Robust
- **BEST Award** (overall winner)
 - Plus winners of each of these individual categories:
 - Oral Presentation
 - Educational Display
 - Project Engineering Notebook
 - Spirit and Sportsmanship

Additional Awards



- Most Photogenic Machine
- Most Elegant Machine
- Best Web Page Design
- Best CAD Design
- Best Team Video
- Best T-shirt Design
- Best Middle School Team
- Best Small School Team
- Best Rookie Team
- Top Gun (most points scored in a single match)

Competition Events



- **Kick Off Day** (start of fall competition)
 - Unveiling of playing field and overview of game
- **Mall Day** (playing field set up at local mall)
 - Practice driving, community awareness
 - Help from hub in troubleshooting technical problems
- **Game Day** (Robotics and BEST Award competitions)
- **Regionals** (late fall)
 - Top teams in both divisions (Robotics and BEST Award) advance to a Regional Championship
- **National Championship** (following April)
 - Winners of regional championships