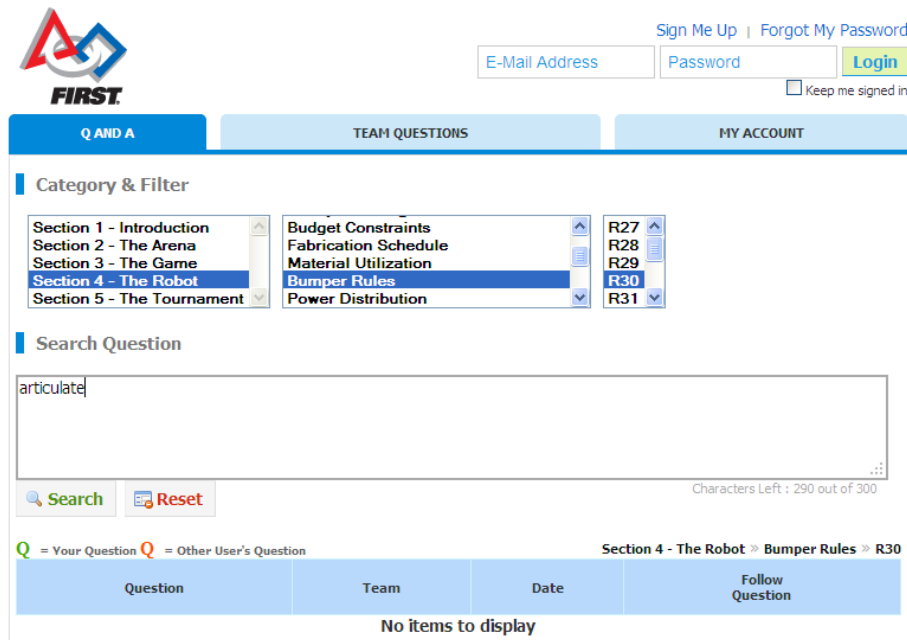


How-To For New Q&A – Team User

The new Question and Answer system can be found at <http://frc-qa.usfirst.org>. Each team has an account from which it can ask questions. Any other user who wishes to create an account to “Follow” questions may do so by clicking “Sign Me Up”. Following a question will send you an e-mail when the question is answered. Team login information can be found on the main summary page in TIMS. For this example, FRC Team 1 (Login FRC0001) will be used to ask a question.

Searching for questions

The new Q&A System allows you to search for questions and will display both those with and without answers. You do not have to be logged in to search. From the Q&A tab, you can search for questions about a specific Rule (e.g. [R30]), Section (e.g. Bumpers), or Chapter (e.g. The Robot).



The screenshot shows the FRC Q&A system interface. At the top left is the FRC logo. To the right are links for "Sign Me Up" and "Forgot My Password". Below these are input fields for "E-Mail Address" and "Password", with a "Login" button and a "Keep me signed in" checkbox. The main navigation bar has three tabs: "Q AND A" (selected), "TEAM QUESTIONS", and "MY ACCOUNT". Under "Q AND A", there is a "Category & Filter" section with three dropdown menus: "Section 1 - Introduction" through "Section 5 - The Tournament" (with "Section 4 - The Robot" selected), "Budget Constraints" through "Power Distribution" (with "Bumper Rules" selected), and "R27" through "R31" (with "R30" selected). Below this is a "Search Question" section with a text input field containing "articulate", a "Search" button, and a "Reset" button. A character count shows "Characters Left: 290 out of 300". At the bottom, there is a legend: "Q = Your Question" and "Q = Other User's Question", and a breadcrumb trail: "Section 4 - The Robot » Bumper Rules » R30". A table header is visible with columns: "Question", "Team", "Date", and "Follow Question". The table content area displays "No items to display".

You can type in key words to help refine your question search. If there are questions related to your search and you have created a User Account, you can Follow a question. When a question you Follow is answered, you will receive an e-mail.

Asking a question

Only the Team Account can ask a question. Enter your team's login information (found in TIMS).

The image shows the FIRST Q&A system interface. At the top left is the FIRST logo. To the right are links for "Sign Me Up" and "Forgot My Password". Below these is a login form with a text input containing "FRC0001", a password input field with masked characters, a "Login" button, and a "Keep me signed in" checkbox. A navigation bar contains three tabs: "Q AND A", "TEAM QUESTIONS", and "MY ACCOUNT". Below the navigation bar, there are two main sections: "Category & Filter" and "Search Question". The "Category & Filter" section includes a list of sections (Introduction, The Arena, The Game, The Robot, The Tournament) and two "Not Selected" dropdown menus. The "Search Question" section has a large text input field and "Search" and "Reset" buttons. Two red arrows point from labels "Login" and "Password" to the respective input fields in the login form.

Under the “My Account” tab, you can change the password for this login. However, the account password in TIMS will not update. It is recommended you use the standard TIMS password and click “Keep me signed in”. If you should forget your password, you can click “Forgot My Password” to receive a temporary password via e-mail.

The screenshot displays the 'MY ACCOUNT' page of the FIRST website. At the top, the FIRST logo is on the left, and the user ID 'FRC0001' and a 'Logout' button are on the right. Below the navigation tabs (Q AND A, TEAM QUESTIONS, MY ACCOUNT, MEMBER ACCOUNT), the 'MY ACCOUNT' tab is selected. The page is divided into several sections: 'Account Information' showing details like 'Account Name: FRC0001 (FRC0001)', 'Account Type: FRC Team User', and 'Last Login: 2012-01-09 14:56:00'; 'Change Password' with fields for 'Current Password', 'New Password', and 'Re-type New Password', and a 'Submit Change' button; 'User Settings' with checkboxes for notifications and a 'Save Setting' button; and 'Following Questions' which currently shows 'No items to display'. A red arrow points to the 'MY ACCOUNT' tab, and another red arrow points to the 'New Password' field with a callout box that says 'Create new password'.

To ask a question, click on the Q&A Tab and select a Chapter, Section, and Rule Number for your question. For this example, we will ask a question about [G01]. Type in your question and press "Search". You must search for related questions before asking your question.

The screenshot shows the FRC Q&A system interface. At the top left is the FRC logo. To the right, there is a user ID field containing "FRC001" and a "Logout" button. Below this is a navigation bar with four tabs: "Q AND A" (selected), "TEAM QUESTIONS", "MY ACCOUNT", and "MEMBER ACCOUNT".

The main content area is titled "Category & Filter" and contains three dropdown menus for selection:

- Section 1 - Introduction
- Section 2 - The Arena
- Section 3 - The Game (highlighted)
- Section 4 - The Robot
- Section 5 - The Tournament

The second dropdown menu is titled "Pre-Match" and includes:

- General Rules
- Hybrid Rules
- Robot Actions
- Robot-Robot Interaction

The third dropdown menu is titled "G01" and includes:

- G02
- G03
- G04
- G05

Below the filters is a "Search Question" section with a text input field containing "This is a test question.". A red arrow points from a box labeled "Type in question" to the input field. Below the input field are "Search" and "Reset" buttons. A red arrow points from a box labeled "Search" to the "Search" button. To the right of the buttons, it says "Characters Left : 276 out of 300".

The Q&A System does a search for similar questions to yours that have already been asked. If a similar question you are asking has been asked already, you can choose to Follow that question and be notified when it has an answer. If it has not yet been asked, you can press “Submit Question” and “OK” to submit it.

The screenshot shows the FRC Q&A System interface. At the top left is the FRC logo. To the right, the user ID 'FRC0001' is displayed, along with a 'Logout' button. Below this is a navigation bar with tabs for 'Q AND A', 'TEAM QUESTIONS', 'MY ACCOUNT 1', and 'MEMBER ACCOUNT'. The 'Q AND A' tab is active. Underneath, there is a 'Category & Filter' section with three dropdown menus: 'Section 3 - The Game' (selected), 'Pre-Match', and 'G01'. Below the filters is a 'Search Question' section with a text input field containing 'This is a test question.' and buttons for 'Search', 'Reset', and 'Submit Question'. A red arrow points to the 'Submit Question' button, which is also highlighted by a white box with the text 'Submit Question'. At the bottom, there is a legend for question types and a breadcrumb trail: 'Section 3 - The Game > Pre-Match > G01'. Below the legend is a table header with columns for 'Question', 'Team', 'Date', and 'Follow Question'. The table currently shows 'No items to display'.

Your question has now been asked. To view the questions you have asked, click the “Team Questions” tab. This will show you all of the questions you have asked and any answers that have been given. You can also choose to Filter and only show Answered or Unanswered questions, or search for a specific question.

The screenshot displays the FRC Q&A system interface. At the top left is the FRC logo. The main navigation bar includes 'Q AND A', 'TEAM QUESTIONS' (highlighted with a red arrow and a 'Team Question Tab' label), and 'MY ACCOUNT'. A 'Logout' button is visible in the top right. Below the navigation bar, the 'Team Questions' section features a 'Filter' dropdown menu (pointed to by a red arrow and a 'Filter' label), a 'Search Keyword' input field, and 'Search' and 'Reset' buttons (pointed to by a red arrow and a 'Search' label). The main content area shows a table with columns 'Question' and 'Date'. A single record is displayed: 'Section 3 - The Game > Pre-Match > G01', 'Q. This is a test question.', 'A. This is a test answer.', and '2012-01-10'. At the bottom left, it says 'Total # of Records: 1' and at the bottom right, the number '1'.