

Section
8



Team Resources

Table of Contents

Contents	
Section 8 – Team Resources	3
8.1 – Overview	3
8.2 – FIRST Contact Information.....	3
8.3 – Getting Answers to Your Questions.....	3
8.4 – Technical Support	3
8.5 – Team Development Support.....	4
8.6 – Using the FIRST and FTC Logos.....	4

Section 8 – Team Resources

8.1 – Overview

This chapter provides teams with necessary information for contacting *FIRST* Tech Challenge staff, accessing technical support, using the FTC Q&A system, and using the *FIRST* and *FIRST* Tech Challenge logos.

8.2 – FIRST Contact Information

You can reach the *FIRST* Tech Challenge staff by phone at (800) 871-8326 or e-mail at FTCteams@usfirst.org. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., EST. Be sure to provide your team number in your message and leave contact information. Refer to the information below for the appropriate resource.

8.3 – Getting Answers to Your Questions

For general information and questions regarding the *FIRST* Tech Challenge, please send an e-mail request to FTCteams@usfirst.org.

For questions regarding the *FIRST* Tech Challenge *FIRST Face Off!* game, please have your team leader log into the TMS (Team Information Management System) to see your FTC team forum login under the 'What's New' information once your team has registered and paid with the *FIRST* Tech Challenge.

** Please note that accounts are updated weekly by our IT Department. If you have trouble accessing the forums, please feel free to contact *FIRST* at the information above.**

The free forum account needs to be registered and activated in order to ask official game questions. The FTC Interactive Manual and Game Q&A is accessed directly at <http://forums.usfirst.org/forumdisplay.php?f=26> or by browsing to forums.usfirst.org and following the "*FIRST* Tech Challenge" link found under the "*FIRST* Programs" heading. Please do **not** use the FRC Game Q&A for FTC Questions.

For detailed information on the *FIRST* Tech Challenge program, robot kit and accessories, playing field, etc., visit the following websites:

Website	Description
www.usfirst.org/community/FTC/default.aspx?id=968	FTC information, FAQs, and team resources
forums.usfirst.org	FTC Game Q&A and Interactive Manual
www.ftctraining.com	NXT-G, Labview, and RobotC tutorials

8.4 – Technical Support

It is in the spirit of *FIRST* to bring the technical knowledge of an engineer to high school students to broaden their awareness and knowledge of the engineering world. There are many online resources to find help with the TETRIX™ Robotics Design System as well as many examples of the versatility of the kit. Please email ftcteams@usfirst.org for more help or information.

8.5 – Team Development Support

In addition to the staff at *FIRST* Headquarters, an additional regional level of support is available through the *FIRST* Tech Challenge Affiliate Partners, *FIRST* Regional Directors, *FIRST* Senior Mentors, and VISTA Volunteers. The FTC Affiliate Partners coordinate all FTC activities within a state, province, or region, and should be your foremost resource for help with the program. To find an Affiliate Partner, Regional Director, Senior Mentor, or VISTA volunteer available in your area, please contact *FIRST* at ftcteams@usfirst.org.

8.6 – Using the *FIRST* and FTC Logos

We encourage teams to develop and promote team identity. It is a great way to help *FIRST* judges, announcers, and audiences recognize your team at the competition, and it is also a way to help you create a “buzz” about your team in your community.

You have incredibly creative opportunities in terms of designing your own identity. There are many examples of how teams “brand” their efforts with websites, incredible team logos on robots, t-shirts, hats, banners, fliers, and giveaways.

You can download the *FIRST* and FTC logos and Logo Standards information from the *FIRST* Tech Challenge web site at <http://www.usfirst.org/community/resourcecenter.aspx?id=746>. Keep in mind the following when working with the *FIRST* and FTC logos:

Positive Promotion: Use the *FIRST* and FTC logos in a manner that is positive and promotes *FIRST*.

Unmodified: Use the *FIRST* and FTC logos without modification. This means that you will use our name and the circle, square, and triangle as you see it on our website or letterhead. You can use it in red, blue, and white, or in black and white.

Modification Permission: If you have an interest in modifying the *FIRST* and FTC logos, you must first contact *FIRST*. Please submit a written request letting us know why you want to modify the logo, how you plan to do it, and where you plan to apply it. Send an e-mail request to Marian Murphy, mmurphy@usfirst.org, Marketing and Promotion.

Advertising Use Approval: All teams and sponsors must obtain approval from *FIRST* prior to incorporating our logo in any advertising. Send an e-mail request for advertising approval to Marian Murphy at mmurphy@usfirst.org.

