

BATTLE O' BALTIMORE

Welcome to the First Annual Battle O' Baltimore!

The FIRST Baltimore Area Alliance proudly presents the Battle O' Baltimore, the only off-season event in Maryland. This year's game is based on the 2008 FIRST FRC Challenge, First Overdrive, with a bit of Maryland flavor mixed in.



FIRSTBAA, an alliance of ten teams in the Baltimore area, wants to thank our sponsors, the Community College of Baltimore and the Time Center, for their generous support.

Enclosed in this packet, you will find a team questionnaire to complete and bring with you, as well as information that we hope will be helpful. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to visit our website at www.battleobaltimore.com or to contact Brian Bruneau at bbruneau@bcps.org.



Battle O' Baltimore Team Questionnaire Please bring to event!

1. Team Number:
2. School/Sponsoring Organization:
3. Community Partners:
4. Team Nickname (and what it means or where you got the idea for it):
5. Robot Name (is there anything meaningful about that?)
6. Years in FIRST:
7. Hometown and State. Is this a big city or a small town? What makes your hometown special?
8. How many students are on your team? Mentors? Other significant adults? Do your mentors come from one company, or a variety of businesses?
9. What events has your team participated in?
10. What awards have you won?
11. What does your team do other than build robots for the FIRST competition? Are you involved in any other FIRST-related activities? Are you involved as a team in any other community activities?
12. Is there anything you want to share about your team's alumni and their continuing involvement in FIRST or technology-related activities?
13. What else would you like for others to know about your team?

You are invited to attend the

BATTLE O' BALTIMORE

a *FIRST* Off-Season event

Free and open to the public

What: Battle O' Baltimore

When: Saturday, August 9, 2008, 9 am to 4 pm

Where: Park School

Cost: FREE and open to the public

Website: www.battleobaltimore.com

Sponsors: TIME Center; Community College of Baltimore County; and the *FIRST* Baltimore Area Alliance teams

Founded by inventor Dean Kamen, *FIRST* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) and its Robotics Competitions have swept the nation, engaging more than 32,000 high-school students in science and technology this year. *FIRST* helps high school students discover the rewarding world of innovation and engineering with the help of more than 18,000 volunteer mentors. During the competition season, teams had 6 weeks to build 120 lb robots to play this year's game called "Rack N' Roll."

The official competition events are held in March and April. Off-season events are organized by local groups to provide additional competition opportunities and exposure to *FIRST*. The game is played based on the rules established during the regular season. The goal of off-season events is to train new members and entice the interest of potential participants.

In 2006-2007 there were more than 2,000 sponsors, and \$8 million in college scholarships were awarded.

FIRST competitions have been described as "the Super Bowl of Smarts. Teams at the Battle O' Baltimore will be representing 4 states with many local teams participating. This is the inaugural event in the Baltimore area for the off-season.

The **Battle O' Baltimore** is an exciting event for all ages, including children. Come learn how you can help build tomorrow's engineers and scientists through this great program. Guided tours of pits available!

For further information, visit the websites:

- Battle O' Baltimore: www.battleobaltimore.com
- TIME Center: <http://www.time-center.org/>
- Chesapeake *FIRST* website: www.chesapeakefirst.org
- *FIRST* official website: www.usfirst.org

Honoring Mike Wade

The Baltimore Area Alliance dedicates the Battle O' Baltimore to the memory of Mike Wade, whose passing was a huge loss to the *FIRST* community. Mike was instrumental in creating the Chesapeake Regional, supporting *FIRST* Robotics Competition teams, assisting off-season events and supervising the NASA mobile machine shop at regional FRC events across the country. He touched the lives of thousands of students and mentors in *FIRST*.

Mike produced the first Mid-Atlantic off-season FRC competition at the Maryland State Fair, and it was his wish to establish another in central Maryland. Many of the organizers of this event were trained by Mike, and worked with the FRC teams that Mike supported. We are grateful to Mike's family for sharing his time with us for the past 10 years, and hope that Mike would be proud of the way we are continuing his legacy of dedication to the students of Maryland.



DO

- **HAVE FUN!!!!**
- Do respect everyone at the venue
- Do bring banners/displays
- Do operate in a safe manner
- Do wear safety glasses in the pits and while competing
- Do use tether cables to control your robot when not on the field
- Do cheer for your team and show team spirit
- Do cheer for other teams
- Do decorate your pit area if you'd like
- Do look at other robots in the pits
- Do be prepared to show off your robot to visitors
- Do be prepared to have younger roboteers and the public come to your pit and ask questions

DON'T

- Don't run in the arena
- Don't block aisleways with toolboxes, carts, supplies, etc.
- Don't boo other teams
- Don't bang sticks or other noisemakers on bleachers
- Don't bring flammable liquids into the arena
- Don't have food in the pits or around the playing field
- Don't sell food or other items

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WHAT TO BRING CHECKLIST 2008

SAFETY ITEMS

- Safety Glasses for all team members and pit area guests
- Emergency contact numbers for all team members
- Simple First Aid kit supplies

ROBOT ITEMS

- Robot, tether cable, and all accessories needed
- One extra battery and charger for the robot
- A backup of your programs
- Laptop computer if necessary

PIT ITEMS

- Power strip and extension cords
- Tools needed for robot repair
- Extra parts needed for robot repair

TEAM ITEMS

- Gracious Professionalism
- Team Spirit
- Money for breakfast and lunch
- Notepaper and pens/pencils
- Team promotional handouts
- Camera
- Pit decorations if desired