

What do those Judges really do?

An Inside look at the *FIRST* Robotics Competition Judging Process

What does a Judge do?

- Interview and observe teams in the Pit, on the playing field, and other areas
 - Visit the [FIRST Robotics Competition Awards Page](#) for a full description of the awards
- Review team provided materials
- Participate on Judge Panel to decide team/student awards recipients
- Write short awards scripts extolling merits of winning teams
- Assist with award presentations to teams



Judges evaluate attributes that help *FIRST* achieve its mission to change the culture.

The Judging Process

- Judges are typically divided into sets of 2 or 3.
- Judges are assigned to interview specific teams for either [Machine Awards](#) or [Team Attribute Awards](#).
- Each team should be seen by at least 2 sets of judges.
- Judges nominate interviewed teams for awards.
- The Judge Advisor (JA) facilitates discussion with judges to select award winners.
 - Judges 'spread the wealth' and no team can win more than 1 team award at an event.
 - *FIRST* Impact & Dean's List Judging are separate and are based on interviews.
 - Woodie Flowers Finalist Awards are separate and are judged by previous Woodie Flowers Award Winners.

Submitted Awards

FIRST Impact Award & *FIRST* Dean's List Award

- Teams must complete the submission by the posted deadline.
- Judges review submissions and compare data looking for information based on the [award criteria](#).
- At events, teams/students are randomly assigned to interview time slots and each interview has a different length
 - *FIRST* Impact Award: 12 minutes total (7 min presentation, 5 min Q&A)
 - Dean's List: 6 – 10 minute interviews
- Judges deliberate after all interviews have occurred
 - If teams/students have equal impact, those who use *FIRST* programs rise to the top

