5.0 Tournament Types

There are several types of tournaments that Teams and other organizers hold throughout the FIRST Tech Challenge season and off-season. Tournament types are listed in the following section.

5.1 Scrimmage
A scrimmage is an unofficial FIRST Tech Challenge Event where Teams do not advance. Teams compete at a scrimmage solely to prepare for an official tournament. Anyone can host a scrimmage to prepare for an official tournament. Teams hosting a scrimmage are encouraged to tell their local Affiliate Partner that such a tournament is taking place. Teams that choose to create and host a local tournament are responsible for finding a location, organizing the format for the day, and inviting other Teams to participate. Teams may also have to secure the field elements, computers, and other items.

5.2 Meets and League Play
A League Meet is a one-field competition that uses the same field and game as other tournaments. The number of Meets a Team can play in may vary by region. Whenever possible, it is highly encouraged that Teams participate in as many Meets as they can. Rankings from one meet to the next accumulate as outlined in Section 4.8.2. Some standard tournament guidelines may be adapted for those regions that participate in the League format. Teams should contact their Affiliate Partner for more information about the scheduling, structure, advancement, and processes that are unique to the League/Meet in their region.

5.3 Qualifying Tournaments and League Tournaments
Hosted and managed by FIRST Tech Challenge Affiliate Partners or Affiliate Partner-appointed hosts. Qualifying tournaments follow the format outlined in sections 4.0. Qualifying Tournaments are held before Championship Tournaments in regions where there are many Teams. The number of Teams advancing to the State Championship Tournament depends on the capacity of the State Championship Tournament, the number of Qualifying Tournaments, and the number of Teams attending the Qualifying Tournament. The Advancement Criteria for moving up to the next tournament level is detailed in section 6.0.

5.4 Super-Qualifying Tournaments
These tournaments are held in regions with a large number of Teams and/or Leagues. In these regions, Teams advance from either a League Championship or Qualifying Tournament to a Super-Qualifying Tournament, and then to the regional or State Championship. Super-Qualifying Tournaments adhere to FIRST standards in format, judging, and awards.

5.5 Championship Tournaments
Hosted and managed by a FIRST Tech Challenge Affiliate Partner, Championship Tournaments uphold certain standards in format, judging, awards, and overall quality. Some Championship Tournaments require that Teams advance from a Qualifying Tournament or League Tournament to advance to the State/Regional Championship. Championship Tournaments may include Teams from a geographic region, province, state, country, or several countries. Teams should expect a higher level of competition, both on the field and in the judging room at Championship Tournaments.