



Guidelines For Off-Season Events

Occurring After April 22, 2023

FIRST® is a global robotics community that prepares young people for the future.



Off-Season Events

The Basics:

- Events occurring on or after April 22nd, 2023, will be labelled as an "Off-Season" event and will be available to Event Organizers in the *FIRST* Tech Challenge Scoring System (ftc-scoring cloud and ftc-live).
- Off-Season events will not be officially supported by *FIRST*.
- Off-Season events can be requested through the [Off-Season Event Notice Smartsheet](#).
- Off-Season events can be requested through the *FIRST* Tech Challenge Scoring System by a Program Delivery Partner.

The Details:

- Volunteers will not have access to screening or training during the off-season.
- Event Organizers will not have event level access to VMS screening, training, or placement of volunteers in roles for Off-Season events.

Teams

The Basics:

- Teams that are eligible for the *FIRST* Tech Challenge 2023-2024 season can participate in events after the new season begins on September 9, 2023.
- Teams that register for *FIRST* Tech Challenge before April 22, 2023, are eligible to participate in Off-Season events during the 2023 summertime frame.

The Details:

- The *FIRST* Tech Challenge Scoring System pulls eligible 2022-2023 season teams through a *FIRST* Database data call via API. The data from these calls resides in the Scoring System cloud.
- Once team 2023-2024 data is updated to the cloud by the rollover date, May 7, the team's eligibility status can no longer be updated.
 - Event Organizers pull the eligible teams for their region from the scoring system.
 - Event Organizers can add individual eligible teams from regions outside of their own.

Volunteers

The Basics:

- Volunteers who register for your event will show up in the *FIRST* Tech Challenge Scoring System if they are added to and screened through VMS **before** the May 7 rollover date.

The Details:

- A subset of volunteers will require screening, based on the date of their screening expiration (this is normal and happens every season).
- The scoring system pulls this information from the *FIRST* database via an API. Volunteers must apply for their event roles before May 7th, 2023.



Program Delivery Partners/ Event Organizers

The Basics:

- Teams registered by April 22, 2023, will populate correctly.
- Volunteers registered by May 7, 2023, will populate correctly.
- Off-season events can be requested via [Off-Season Event Notice Smartsheet](#).
- Events added during the Off-Season will appear on the *FIRST* Tech Challenge Scoring system but will **not be added** to the *FIRST* event database.
- Event results will populate to [FTC Event Web : Home \(firstinspires.org\)](#)
- Last Official Event Date for 2022-2023: April 22, 2023.
- Last Off-Season Event Date: September 8, 2023.

The Details:

- Events added to the *FIRST* Database must follow all [FIRST Tech Challenge Event Guidelines](#).
- Off-Season events will not be added to the *FIRST* event database, only to the *FIRST* Tech Challenge Scoring System.
- The *FIRST* Tech Challenge Scoring System cannot be modified to accommodate Off-Season events. [The FIRST Tech Challenge Live](#) release should be used for Off-Season events.

Event Support

FIRST Tech Challenge staff will not be available to provide on call support during off-season events. If you have any questions or need assistance, please reach out to us at ftcteams@firstinspires.org.

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