DAY 1 OPENING CEREMONIES
(Regionals)

Good morning! Welcome to the 2020 FIRST Robotics Competition and this year’s challenge: Infinite Recharge!

This season, FIRST RISE powered by Star Wars: Force for Change, inspires us to work together, to strengthen and protect the Force that binds us. Together, as a global community, we will RISE -- are you ready to RISE?
As part of FIRST, you are the driving force behind positive change, and this weekend we come together to celebrate you and your creativity, talents, smarts, energy and spirit. You are FIRST City!

We’ve got some great Teams competing here this weekend: many veteran Teams and (if applicable) some rookies- Welcome rookies!

We have teams here from:
_____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________
(announce the states/provinces/countries competing at the event)

FIRST has a great line-up of supporters, cheering you on, including some you just might recognize. Let’s hear from a few of your fans.

DISNEY STAR WARS video (rt: 2:10)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thank you, Disney and Lucasfilm for your support and inspiration.</th>
<th>It’s now my pleasure to introduces our first Speaker:</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>______________________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Proper title and phonetic pronunciation of presenter)</td>
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** If Speaker is representing a Sponsor, use this intro **

“This competition is only possible with the support of our local Sponsors. Representing one of the Sponsors, __________________________ Corporation, please welcome: ______________________________________ |

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Now it’s time to recognize our volunteers in the blue shirts. Please welcome the Judges led by Judge Advisor:</th>
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<td>______________________________________</td>
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</table>
The Judges want to hear your stories, your successes and challenges. This is a distinguished group from companies and organizations where you may want to work someday, so go network!

Judges, thank you for your time and efforts – you’ve got a difficult task with this competitive group of teams.

There’s another group of volunteers you’ll get to know here on the playing field. Their job is to ensure fair play, to help you play within the rules of the game, and to help all teams compete like crazy while remembering their gracious professionalism.

Their rulings are final and there will be no video reviews.

Please welcome your referees, led by Head Referee:

__________________
(name and title/employer – NOTE if a FIRST Alumni)
Along with a fair competition, Safety is a priority at FIRST. We want you to have fun and be safe at the same time. Please welcome our Safety Managers & UL Safety Advisors

(if present: Safety Managers walk onto field, wave, and exit field.)

And congratulations to Team 3100, The Lightning Turtles from Mendota (Men-doh-ta) Heights, Minnesota for their terrific award-winning Safety Animation, let’s check it out.

Speaking of safety, here at the event we’d like to make sure you and your team have a Safety Plan. Mentors, please communicate to your team where you will meet in the case of an evacuation, and note the nearest exits both in the Pits and the Arena.

In the event of an emergency, please listen to the announcements in the field area and the Pits for specific instructions.
Our Judges, Referees, and Safety Managers are not the only ones concerned about how you conduct yourself in FIRST City, we have a special guest from the Championship who also wants to remind you of some expectations and pump you up. Roll CROWD-A-TRON video #1 “CODE OF CONDUCT” (rt: 2:07)

Alright, let’s try to impress Crowd-a-Tron, and each other, with our gracious professionalism and adherence to the Code of Conduct.

In FIRST, you learn a lot: technical skills, business and interpersonal skills, time management and GRIT, among others.

Educators and companies recognize this, and they want YOU! Nearly 200 colleges and universities make available over 80 MILLION dollars in scholarships specifically to FIRST participants and Alumni as part of the FIRST Scholarship Program if education is your next step.
AND Companies are interested in hiring you as Interns and employees, so be sure to share your FIRST experience on your resume and in interviews. Find out more at www.firstinspires.org/alumni

Later we’ll recognize our alumni volunteers and high school seniors, but now let’s hear about the impact of FIRST after high school.
(Roll ALUMNI-SCHOLARSHIP video)

You can find information on the FIRST Alumni and Scholarship Programs at the information table located at: ________________________________

There is only one award which recognizes an individual student, and not a team – it’s the Dean’s List Award.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Would all those students who have been nominated by their team as a Dean’s List Award Semi-Finalist please stand and be recognized. We wish you all the best of luck in your interviews today. Thanks for being such terrific leaders.</th>
<th>Mentors and Coaches, you are critical to the FIRST experience. Thank you! You’re part of the millions-strong support system we’ve built for students around the world who are realizing their dreams, big or small, who succeed due to your encouragement.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We know that many of you also mentor teams from other FIRST Programs: FIRST LEGO League Junior, FIRST LEGO League, and FIRST Tech Challenge.</td>
<td>So, a big thanks to all the Mentors and Coaches for your dedication and efforts on behalf of all FIRST programs. You help FIRST Rise!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(If applicable and FLL and/or FTC is displaying)</td>
<td>Alright, it’s almost time to energize the Shield, but before we start the action we’d like to honor the memory of Distinguished FIRST Advisor Woodie Flowers, the man who created the ethos of FIRST and Gracious Professionalism. So please rise, remove your hats, and join me in a moment of silence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You can check out the other FIRST Programs on display here this weekend up in the concourse. (Or where ever located:)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thank You. And now please remain standing for the National Anthem of ___________________________</td>
<td>(Note: an example of a multiple nation introduction) “Ladies and gentlemen, please stand for the national anthem of the Country of Brazil, followed by the National Anthems of both the United Kingdom, and the United States.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>33A</td>
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</table>
And now, let’s get the droids on the field!
Are you ready to Rise? It’s time to energize the Shield!

Teams please come on out and power up your robots, and May the Force Be With You!

The other voice you’ll be hearing this weekend is our Game Announcer, please welcome: ___________________________!!

CLOSING CEREMONY

Welcome to this afternoon’s Closing Ceremony! We successfully made it through ____ Qualification matches, and we couldn’t have done it without a terrific Volunteer Crew. So let’s hear it for all the volunteers who helped make today such a success. (lead applause)
And thanks to all the Teams for your Gracious Professionalism on and off the playing field. Keep it up! Together we rose! Now it’s time to recognize a group of leaders in the FIRST community, the FIRST Alumni.

ALUMNI RECOGNITION

PLAN A (stand in place)
Would all the FIRST Alumni please stand up (lead applause) Thank you for all that you continue to do to further the mission of FIRST and inspire the next generation!

For some of you team members, Infinite Recharge may be your final season competing on a FIRST team as a student.
So now let’s recognize those who will soon be FIRST Alumni. Would all students in their final year of high school please stand up! (lead applause)

We look forward to seeing what you do next as FIRST Alumni!

To help you on the next steps in your journey, please visit: ____________________________ to collect your Alumni Handbook, which is full of information and tips on leveraging your FIRST experience on your career journey.

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<tr>
<th>PLAN B (stand in place + photo)</th>
<th>PLAN C (Parade)</th>
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</table>
| Following the recognition in PLAN A, announce plans for a next day Graduation Photo. Photo should be scheduled to take place at a time and place convenient within the event (lunch time may be a popular choice). Photo should be shared on social media and with FIRST Headquarters. | Senior recognition parade organized at the discretion of the Event Manager. Suggested format:  
- Recognize alumni as in Plan A – have them assemble like a Judge’s line  
- Recognize seniors as in Plan A – invite them to process down the line of alumni and receive congratulations and a Handbook |
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<td>Please welcome:</td>
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<td>Now we’d like to recognize all the Mentors for their dedication to the students and the FIRST programs!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLAN A (run Mentor Parade)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With one year of service! (the group marches around field with # sign)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With two years...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Repeat for groups: 3,4,5-7,8-10,11-13,14+ years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(highlight any 15 year or higher individuals)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you, Mentors! We invite you to return to your seats now for the rest of the Ceremony. (then intro 1st Speaker)
- WFFA presenters will be held field-side

And now we’d like to recognize all the Mentors for their dedication to the students and the FIRST programs by inviting them to stand when I call out the number of years they have been Mentoring.

With one year of service! (the group stands) And now please have a seat so we can recognize those Mentors with two years... “
- Repeat for groups: 3,4,5-7,8-10,11-13,14+ years (highlight any 15 year or higher individuals)
- Congratulate all Mentors and then intro 1st Speaker

(Recognize Mentors by asking them to stand up when you announce their years of Volunteering)

PLAN B

PLAN C

(Move Mentor Recognition to the following day or cancel)
Now it’s time to present a couple of well-deserved individual awards.

To acknowledge the Woodie Flowers Finalist Nominees please welcome:

And now it’s time to present the Volunteer of the Year Award. This award is very special because there are so many deserving volunteers.

The Inspectors, Refs, Judges, the Field and scoring table crew, the Planning Committee, the machine shop folks, Pit Admin, are all Volunteers who help FIRST Rise.

And without Volunteer support, FIRST would not exist. Their dedication and commitment are critical across all FIRST programs. Let’s thank them with a loud round of applause for all their work on your behalf. (lead applause)
To present the Volunteer of the Year Award, please welcome the local Committee Chair (or Regional Director or...)

________________________________________

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Congratulation to today’s award winners. We will be presenting all our team awards tomorrow afternoon. Thanks to all the teams for your hard work and gracious professionalism today.

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We have another full day tomorrow with Opening Ceremonies at 8:30 AM. A reminder that the Pits will be closing at __________. It’s time for us to power down. Have a great night and we’ll see you tomorrow.

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