

# 2023 FRC Emcee & GA Pre-Season Training call notes

**Theme** Use the energy theme to set and maintain tone. Find the balance of infusing theme without overdoing it into "cheesy" or annoying.

**Terminology** Use the official terms for field elements as found in the manual. These terms help theme the game and create consistency across events. Consult [Cheat Sheet](#).

- 9000 -- Rookie team starting number
- 9316 -- highest team number
- 3300+ total teams, 167 Reg./Dist./Champs events
- # of countries competing: 32

## NOTES

- Review [EMCEE Training Presentation](#) and [Game Announcer Training Presentation](#) in Resource Library
- Emcees set tone for the event, are the face of *FIRST* at the event
- Don't stand on Charge Stations 'til the Finals. We're trying to discourage students from walking on the Charge Stations except where necessary.
- Costume/Shirt – only *FIRST* affiliated shirts or Sponsors. No licensed characters. Energy themed preferred.
- Say full game title in Ceremonies: CHARGED UP presented by Haas
- During Opening Ceremonies, after you've introduced a guest speaker, Emcees should stand along the rail by scoring table while they are speaking to be accessible for Event Mgr.
- No Emcee Assistants anymore- teams bring flags to field, then Emcees hand off to field re-setters to return to teams
- 2 Webcast cameras are hip/butt/crotch height and located at midfield. Don't stand in front of them.
- Team Introductions- do NOT wait for green stack light, intro teams prior to stack light turning green. Work with FTA to determine timing.
- Introduce teams in proper direction: starting at Red Alliance driver station and moving counterclockwise
- Safety first –be careful not to trip over clear Barrier or Charge Station
- Stand back from field – some robots have long arms this year
- Prior to Match Start: you must get "field is ready" thumbs up from the FTA
- Match Start: "Drivers behind the line, 3, 2, 1, go!"
- Field reset - aiming for 7 min cycles
- Music- Spotify Playlists this season on DJ laptops at Regionals. Districts will have to download.
- WFFA Award– signed shirt at Regl. & District CMP events
- Before Alliance Selection CONFIRM RANKING with Ranking report and gatool
- Alliance Selection- place Capt. armbands on the field on cones before selection, intro the video, then intro all the top 8 Teams from #8 to #1, then begin selection process (use Alliance Script if needed)
- Mention Back-up Team meeting before final pick. After the final pick ALL alliances stay on field to meet with Head Ref. The Head Ref will distribute some paperwork then meet with Captains. The four back-up teams need to confirm participation with another Ref off the field. Top 2 Backup teams will have Reps field-side.
- Playoff Tournament- NEW FORMAT with scripting for Emcees and GAs. No Time-outs anymore.
- Use Playoffs script and PPT assets to explain new Playoff bracket to the audience
- Double Elimination format of the Playoff Tournament...so teams are eliminated (a word we've avoided for many years). Audience will display "Loser" in bracket. In scripting it says Losing Alliance, but feel free to replace with "defeated", etc...

- Back-up teams can be swapped out for the replaced team (NEW this year). Alliances deliver line-up cards to the Head Ref prior to every match.
- Conduct Handshake before Finals Match 1
- Video fillers: during Playoffs. Help guide Production, introduce the videos using the script. Local discretion of how to fill the 8-minute breaks, don't have to use our videos aside from Sponsor video.
- Award scripts will be printed out by the Scorekeeper.
- Day 2 Awards will be presented on the field between Rounds with the Judges lined up on the field. Field will be cleared.
- Emcee should run the Awards ceremony on the field and read Award description and Judge remarks. GA announces Team info after Emcee announces the winners Team #
- Rookie All Star and Rookie Inspiration awards DO NOT have to be given out if few Rookies attending.
- Wildcard criteria are different from prior seasons. Review the new rules.
- Entrepreneurship Award is now the Team Sustainability Award
- Chairman's Award has been renamed the *FIRST* Impact Award
- *FIRST* Impact video: start it as team enters the receiving line, then close event and say goodbye after the video
- Regionals will have a spare video monitor (backup for scorekeeper) on the truck- GA's can use at scoring table
- Please complete the post-event Evaluation – you'll receive an email post-event with a link

## **NOTES - Game Announcer**

- Use all proper game terminology – the [cheat sheet](#) is also in Resource Library
  - Specifically:
    - Cones and Cubes, Grids, Nodes, Community
    - Charge Station, Substation
    - Referees (not Judges)
- During first Team intro announce up to 3 Sponsors, on subsequent intros no Sponsors announced
- [gatool](#) is an enormous help. Visit teams to get updated team info on Practice Day. You need to bring your own device to the event. *FIRST* provides wifi and ethernet connections.
- Gameplay sightlines are good, tho all is ground-based. Stay behind Scoring table
- DO NOT speculate on fouls (for example: "I think I just saw a foul on...")
- Explain and note Ranking points, Yellow/Red Cards, replays, etc.
- Audience Display Screens - will show rank, preview screens, icons for progress during match
- Real time scoring in effect, but there is a Referee consultation/confirmation after match
- A short animation leads off score display, with winning alliance color revealed under F1 car

## **Resources**

- [Emcee & GA Resource Library](#)
- gatool - <https://gatool.org>
- To sign up for access to gatool: <https://mailchi.mp/05884400853c/gatool>
- Week Zero matches: <https://www.twitch.tv/videos/1742014984>
- [Regional matches Webcast Guide](#)
- [2023 Game Manual](#)

## **Webcasts**

- All domestic (US) Regional truck routes have a webcast unit on them. Domestic truck routes that go to Canada are also covered. Mexico is not covered.
- District Events are responsible for their own streams.
- The schedule can be found at <http://frc.watch>

All documents and recorded calls are on the Emcee & GA Resources webpage. Including:

- Master of Ceremonies Training PPT Presentation
- Game Announcer Training PPT Presentation
- Alliance Selection Script
- Regional & District Template Scripts
- Awards Scripts
- Wildcard Sample Script
- Team Fact Sheet for Game Announcers
- CHARGED UP Cheat Sheet
- GA Tool Tutorial

## **Training Call Schedule**

### Dial In Information:

- United States: 1 (571) 317-3129
- Australia: +61 2 8355 1050
- Brazil: +55 11 4118-4897
- Canada: +1 (647) 497-9391
- Israel: +972 3 376 3070
- Mexico: +52 55 1500 3597
- Turkey: +90 212 900 4807
- Online: <https://meet.goto.com/359999717>

**Access Code:** 359-999-717

### Pre-Season Calls:

- February 20, 2023 at 7pm - 8pm ET - Emcees ONLY
- February 21, 2023 at 7pm - 8pm ET - Game Announcers ONLY

### Weekly Calls (All Emcees / Game Announcers Welcome):

- March 7th, 2023 at 7pm - 8pm ET
- March 14th, 2023 at 7pm - 8pm ET
- March 21st, 2023 at 7pm - 8pm ET

**Questions/Issues:** please email me at [Blair@firstinspires.org](mailto:Blair@firstinspires.org)

***Thanks for volunteering and good luck!***