



# Grand Blanc High School Robotics Team



## Michigan State Championship Competition Information

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Greetings, Team!

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the students, mentors, parents, family, and friends of the Grand Blanc High School Robotics Team, we have qualified for the Michigan State Champion Competition in Ypsilanti, on April 11, 12 and 13, 2013. Everyone should be proud of their accomplishments and contributions to the team – congratulations on helping the team reach this awesome goal!

Because we will be applying for the Chairman's Award at this event, we will be asking for additional support from the Team's Students, Mentors, Parents, and family members. Each Team Member and guest in attendance is representing the Team, and should remember to "always do the right thing" and conduct themselves in a way that reflects gracious professionalism.

Below is the information that you will need to be prepared for the Michigan State Championship event. Please carefully review this document, and become very familiar with its contents. Students may want to bring a copy of this document to the competition with them.

Please contact Clinton or Brandi with any questions that you may have. See you at the Competition!

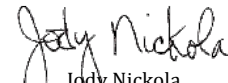
Graciously,



Clinton Bolinger  
Head Mentor



Brandi Bolinger  
Head Mentor



Jody Nickola  
School Liaison

### Travel Information:

#### Required Documents and Forms:

1. All Students (including Students over the age of 18) must submit a completed *Permission Slip*, with a valid parent/guardian signature. Students must also obtain the signatures of ALL of his/her teachers in order to be excused from school on the day(s) of competition. If a Student will not be attending the competition on any day(s) that is listed on the *Permission Slip*, he/she should still complete the *Permission Slip*, but attend school; there is no need to adjust the date(s) listed on the *Permission Slip*. Permission slips are required for all students who wish to attend any portion of the event, even if he/she will not be missing any school.
2. Any Student requiring medication (both prescription and non-prescription) during the Competition must fill out a medical authorization form. Forms and Medication must be delivered to Jody on the morning of the competition in a zip-seal bag, which is clearly labeled with the Student's name. Students may not self-administer ANY medication.
3. All of the above mentioned documents are due to Brandi on or before Tuesday, April 9 at the Team Meeting. No late documents will be accepted. If a student's paperwork is not filled out completely and correctly, and turned into Brandi on or before this date, then he/she will not be able to attend the State Championship event on any day.
  - Students having difficulties obtaining signatures from Teachers should report to his/her assigned counseling office for a signature.
  - Students may obtain the signature of substitute teachers, but must maintain open communication with his/her teachers regarding absences.

#### Meal Information:

1. Students and Team Mentors should eat breakfast at home on Thursday prior to travel (if desired). The Team WILL NOT stop for meals or snacks on the way to the event.
2. The cost for Students' meals is included in the pre-paid Team Expenses (Group meals will be provided by the assigned families; including lunch and dinner on Thursday, Friday; and lunch on Saturday. Meal Schedule is available on the PRO calendar).
3. Funds for snacks, additional food, or meals larger than those provided must be supplied by individual families at their own expense, and at the discretion of parents/guardians. Team Mentors will NOT lend money to Students.
4. Any family or friends attending the competition must plan and pay for their own meals.



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5. There will be a Team Dinner on the Saturday after the competition. Friends and family are welcome, but must pay their own meal fees and gratuity (if applicable). The Team will make reservations at a restaurant in the area around the competition venue. Information regarding these dinners will be made available as soon as arrangements are finalized, and will be available on the online team calendar.

### Uniform Guidelines:

1. Students and Team Mentors should wear the Team shirts provided. Shirts should be professional in appearance (ironed or wrinkle-free), and clean. A long-sleeve shirt may be worn underneath, or Students and Team Mentors may wear a Team sweatshirt or jacket as an outer layer.
2. To ensure a uniform Team appearance, please use the following schedule:  
*Thursday: 2013 Red T-shirt*                      *Friday: 2013 Black T-shirt*                      *Saturday: Black "Mechanic" Shirt*
3. Students and Team Mentors should wear appropriately styled blue jeans, khakis, shorts or appropriate length skirt (with tights or leggings underneath) that is professional in appearance, without holes or tears, and a belt where necessary.
  - NOTE: Team sweatpants or track pants may ONLY be worn on Thursday.
  - Non-Team issued Sweatpants or athletic wear bottoms **MAY NOT** be worn to competition on any day.
4. Students and Mentors should be neatly groomed and professional in appearance.
5. Students, Team Mentors, and any guests in attendance must wear closed-toe tennis shoes or boots in the Pit Area.
6. Students and Team Mentors are responsible for bringing his/her own safety glasses to and from the competition. Students and Team Mentors who do not bring his/her own safety glasses to the competition will NOT be permitted to borrow Safety glasses from the Team, and thus will not be allowed in the pit area.
7. Safety Glasses will be available for guests in attendance to borrow, but must be returned after use.
8. Students should wear the nametag that has been provided to them. Nametag should be worn in an appropriate place that is clearly visible.
9. While in the Pit Area, all Students, Team Mentors and Guests in attendance may not wear loose or baggy clothing, dangling jewelry, or other items that may cause a safety hazard. Long hair must be pulled back into a ponytail or braid that does not present a safety hazard.

### Transportation and Attendance Policies:

1. All Students will be assigned a vehicle, which will be driven by an approved Team Mentor or Team Parent. Students may not switch vehicles without permission from Brandi AND Jody.
2. If a Student is not in their assigned vehicle by the designated time, the Team will leave without him/her. The Team will not turn around to pick up Students or wait for late-comers.
3. No Student may drive any other Student to or from this event. No exceptions.
4. Parents, friends, or other family members may not transport any Student (including their own student) without written permission from a Head Mentor *and* School Liaison. If a Student will be transported by a person other than their assigned driver, a release form must be completed. (For example, if a family is attending the Michigan State Championship Event on any day – even Saturday – and wishes to transport a Student, the aforementioned Student must be released from the supervision of the Team, via a written consent form, the *Ride Release Form*.) The Team must receive a release form for each Student, signed by his/her parent/guardian, for each leg of transportation in which he/she will not be transported by the Team. Please see Jody Nickola for a release form. Forms **MUST** be completed prior to the event.
5. Students leaving the competition early must check out with Brandi AND Jody before they leave. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action, up to and including, but not limited to suspension from further competitions.
6. Students requiring transportation to his/her home after the competition should have a ride waiting for him/her in the designated parking lot at the designated drop-off time. Parents may transport other Students after drop-off without a written release form, so long as permission has been granted by the Students' parents.
7. Any family or friends wishing to drive to competitions may do so at their own expense.
8. The team will not be responsible for the refund of any travel expenses (up to and including, but not limited to: transportation costs, meals, hotel accommodations or any other costs) of those Students who leave the competition early, arrive to the competition late, or do not attend the competition.
9. Students and guests should not leave vehicles at Premier Tooling Systems overnight. Please arrange to be dropped off or have your vehicle removed from the parking lot.

### Behavior Expectations:

1. Any Student who does not attend the competition **MUST** attend school on Thursday and Friday! Attendance will be verified.
2. Students are expected to be on their best behavior while traveling with the Team, and must adhere to the Team Member Basic Conduct Guidelines and Team Member Expectations at all times. Per these agreements, any behavior or action(s) deemed inappropriate or detrimental to the Team (at the discretion of Head Mentors and/or School Liaison), will result in the Student's immediate dismissal from the competition. The Team will not be responsible for transporting this Student home; their parents must pick them up. The Team will **NOT** cover any cost to send a Student home due to inappropriate behavior, and will not refund any costs associated with missed Team activities.
3. Parents, friends and family in attendance are also expected to behave in a manner that reflects Gracious Professionalism and represents Team 2337, Grand Blanc High School, and the Team's sponsors in a positive way. Guests behaving inappropriately may be asked to leave.
4. Devices that use Headphones, Earbuds, etc. will not be allowed in the pit area or on the Field, due to safety hazards.



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5. Personal and/or valuable items (e.g. laptops, etc.) should not be brought to the competition. The Team is not responsible for these items, should they be lost or stolen.
6. Large bags and backpacks should not be brought to the competition site, as seating is limited.
7. Students will be expected to keep the area around the Team's seating section clean and organized. Jackets should be neatly stacked, and all trash should be properly disposed of.
8. Students may not go outside of the hotel at any point in time, unless he/she checks out with Brandi AND Jody, AND is accompanied by a Team Mentor (NOTE: your parent is not considered a mentor!).
9. Each morning as they check-in with Brandi, students will receive a schedule of Team responsibilities. Each student is responsible for ensuring that he/she is *on time or early* to his/her assigned location, and that each of his/her individual assigned tasks are completed.
10. Students must use the "buddy system" at all times. Students not using the "buddy system" will receive one warning from Jody and/or Brandi, and on the second offense the students' parents will be called and the student will be sent home.
11. Running is not permitted anywhere inside the event facility. Students who are seen running will receive one warning. Any additional instances of running will cause the student to be placed with a mentor at all times.
12. Students should maintain a professional, respectful relationship among their peers. Inappropriate behavior such as horseplay, unnecessary physical contact, public displays of affection, cruel or inappropriate comments, inappropriate language and intentionally irresponsible behavior will not be tolerated.

### Overnight/Hotel Information:

1. The Grand Blanc High School Robotics team will be staying at the Ann Arbor Marriott Ypsilanti at Eagle Crest, located at 1275 South Huron Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.
2. Mentors, family and friends wishing to reserve a room may do so at their own expense. Please contact the hotel at 1-248-305-5533 and book under "Grand Blanc Robotics" to make a reservation. The Grand Blanc High School Robotics Team will not be responsible for reservations and payment of hotel rooms of Mentors, family, and/or friends.
3. When students report to the Hotel lobby in the morning, he/she should be ready for departure, and should NOT plan on returning to his/her room prior to departure for the competition.
4. On Saturday morning, students should be packed and ready for checkout prior to departure in the morning. Room checks will be completed prior to breakfast on Saturday. Rooms which are ready for checkout should be clear of all personal belongings, have the bedding piled on beds, all dirty towels placed in the bath tub, and all cabinets/drawers opened. Students should quietly and graciously place his/her bags in the hallway and open their door as a signal that their ENTIRE room is ready for checkout.
5. Each room will have two (2) queen-sized beds. Each room will have up to four (4) students assigned to it. Students will be responsible for making their own sleeping arrangements. Students should be Gracious Professionals when making arrangements, and should bring any issues to Clinton, Brandi, or Jody Nickola.
6. Team members may not enter into the rooms of students of opposite sex at any point during the trip. Should a female and male Team member want to spend their free time together, he/she may only do so in public/common areas (such as the pool area - during operational hours.) while under supervision of a Team Mentor or assigned chaperone. Students wishing to spend his/her free time in a public/common area must check out with Brand AND Jody, and gain permission to go to a specific area, *before* going to their chosen location.
7. Students should remain quiet when in the hotel hallways, and refrain from slamming guest room doors.
8. Students may not go outside of the hotel at any point in time, unless he/she checks out with Brandi AND Jody, AND is accompanied by a Team Mentor (NOTE: your parent is not considered a mentor!).
9. If the hotel has a pool, students may use the pool under Mentor supervision, during regular pool operating hours. Students should wear appropriate swimming attire (no excessive skin exposure), and exude Gracious Behavior at all times.
10. All students will be expected to remain in their assigned rooms once the room check is performed. Any student outside of their assigned room at this time will be sent home without a warning (aside from a case of emergency).

### Additional Information:

1. The venues for the MSC will be equipped with stadium seating (fold-down chairs). Patrons may bring cushions or stadium chairs to supplement the hard surface. The Team will not be responsible for any such items.
2. Photography and videography are permitted and encouraged. Media passes may be available – check with Brandi on Friday for details.
3. Any guest under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult AT ALL TIMES.
4. Venues tend to be very hot or very chilly during competitions. Please take into consideration any provisions that may need to be made for your personal comfort.
5. A webcast will be available for families at home, which can be found at [www.twitch.tv/firstinmichigan](http://www.twitch.tv/firstinmichigan) or [www.thebluealliance.com](http://www.thebluealliance.com)
6. Additional event information, match schedule, match results, ranking, and awards can be found at: [http://firstinmichigan.com/FRC\\_2013/State\\_Championship/state\\_championship.html](http://firstinmichigan.com/FRC_2013/State_Championship/state_championship.html)
7. Match result text message alerts are available from FRC Megaphone at <http://www.frcmega.com/register/2337>
8. YouTube archives of each match can be found at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/firstinmichigan>



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### What to bring:

Please use the following checklist as a guideline for travel packing. Please do not over-pack, as there is limited space available in vehicles for bags and suitcases. Please limit luggage to one (1) soft-sided duffle bag, tote, or small suitcase.

1. Team Uniform – Please ensure that you pack THE CORRECT years' uniform. Students wearing incorrect uniforms will be asked to change.
  - 2013 Red Thursday T-Shirt
  - 2013 Black Friday T-Shirt
  - Black Saturday Mechanic Shirt
  - Appropriate/professional blue jeans, khakis, shorts, Capri pants or skirt for each day
  - Close-toed shoes
  - Belt (where necessary)
  - Safety Glasses
  - Name Badge
2. Sleeping Needs
  - Sleeping bag or blankets (optional)
  - Pillow (optional)
  - Appropriate sleeping attire
3. Toiletries
  - Soap
  - Shampoo
  - Toothbrush and Toothpaste
  - Deodorant
  - Other needed essentials
4. Other/Optional
  - Warm sweatshirt or jacket for travel
  - Bathing Suit
  - Snacks/beverages for Hotel
  - Books, deck of cards, games, music, etc. for entertainment



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### Tentative Schedule of Events

Event Location Information:  
Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center,  
799 North Hewitt Road Ypsilanti, MI 48197

#### Tentative Schedule of Events – Tuesday, April 9, 2013 HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR ALL STUDENTS ATTENDING STATES

Time	Description
6:30pm	Meet at Premier
6:30 – 9:30pm	Load Trailer – section leaders will be in charge of their own areas' materials.

#### Tentative Schedule of Events – Wednesday, April 10, 2013 SELECTED STUDENTS ONLY – WILL BE CHOSEN BY CLINTON AND BRANDI

Time	Description
1:45pm	Meet at Premier, load necessary items
2:15pm	Leave for Ypsilanti, stop for dinner on the way
4:15pm	Arrive at Eastern Michigan University, unload pits
5:00pm – 10:00pm	Pits Open
10:00pm	Leave for Grand Blanc
11:00pm	Arrive at Premier Tooling Systems, students should be picked up

#### Tentative Schedule of Events – Thursday, April 11, 2013

Time	Description
6:00am	Meet in the Grand Blanc High School West Campus parking lot
6:15am	Depart for Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
7:45am	Arrive at Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
8:00am	Pits and Machine Shop Open
1:00pm – 2:00pm	Lunch Break
3:00pm	Opening Ceremonies
3:15pm – 7:30pm	Qualification Matches
8:30pm*	Pit area closes at designated time, or one hour after the last match, whichever is later
9:00pm*	Arrive at the Hotel, check in, unload bags, students move to assigned rooms
9:30pm*	Dinner at Hotel
After Dinner	Team Activities – time permitting (students may not leave the hotel)
11:00pm	Room Inspection, Students must remain in their assigned Hotel Rooms after this time

#### Tentative Schedule of Events – Friday, April 12, 2013

Time	Description
7:00am	Meet in Lobby of the Hotel, ready for departure
7:15am	Depart for Eastern Michigan University, stop for breakfast on the way
7:45am	Arrive at Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
8:00am	Pits and Machine Shop Open
9:00am	Opening Ceremonies
9:15am – 1:00pm	Seeding Matches
1:00pm – 2:00pm	Lunch Break
2:00pm – 6:30pm	Seeding Matches
7:30pm	Pit Area Closes, Depart Eastern Michigan University
8:00pm*	Arrive at the HOTEL
8:30pm*	Dinner Served
After dinner	Team Activities – time permitting (students may not leave the hotel)
11:00pm	Room Inspection, Students must remain in their assigned Hotel Rooms after this time



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### Tentative Schedule of Events – Saturday, April 13, 2013

Time	Description
6:30am	Room Checks
6:45am	Load luggage into Assigned vehicles
7:00am	Meet in Lobby of the HOTEL, ready for departure
7:15am	Depart for Eastern Michigan University, stop for breakfast on the way
7:45am	Arrive at Eastern Michigan University
8:00am	Pits and Machine Shop Open
9:00am	Opening Ceremonies
9:30am- 11:00am*	Seeding Matches
12:00pm	Alliance Selection
11:30am- 12:30pm	Lunch Break
1:30pm	Elimination Matches Begin
4:30pm	Awards Ceremony
6:30pm	Pit Area Closes, Depart Eastern Michigan University
7:30pm*	Team Dinner at Location TBD – check online team calendar for updates
11:00pm*	Arrive at GBHS West Campus, Grand Blanc. Students should be picked up.

*\* Times are subject to change based on length of Team Activities, Traffic, flow of Rounds, Road Traffic etc.*