



**River Valley BEST 2015**  
 Middle, Junior High and High School Robotics Championship  
 October 16 & 17, 2015

Baldor Technology and Stubblefield Center,  
 University of Arkansas – Fort Smith

**Judging Sign-up Form – Due by Oct. 8, 2015**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company/Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you judged River Valley BEST before?       YES    NO  
 Have you judged for any BEST competition before?    YES    NO   If yes, in what capacity? \_\_\_\_\_

All judges will be provided with an orange event T-shirt that should be worn at Friday and Saturday judging events, please indicate your t-shirt size:   S      M      L      XL      XXL      XXXL   Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the one that best describes your affiliation:

- College Student                       High School Faculty/employee – Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_
- University Faculty/employee     Business/corporation                       Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Check the events that you would be willing to judge:**

| Rate Choice 1, 2, 3 | Judging Category (descriptions follow below) | Volunteers needed | Location                             | Day               | Time          |
|---------------------|--|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
|                     | Notebooks                                    | 7                 | Baldor Technology Center<br>Room 108 | Friday Oct. 16    | 6:00pm–9:00pm |
|                     | Exhibits and Interviews*                     | 6                 | Stubblefield Center                  | Saturday, Oct. 17 | 8:30am–1:30pm |
|                     | Spirit and Sportsmanship*                    | 4                 | Stubblefield Center                  | Saturday, Oct. 17 | 8:30am–1:30pm |

\* Requires attendance at training session.

Mail, fax, or email this form by **Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015** to: Kerrie Taber, University of Arkansas – Fort Smith, Baldor Building Room 119A, 5210 Grand Avenue, Fort Smith, AR. 72913-3649, Fax: 479-424-6707, Phone: 479-788-7707, Email: [kerrie.taber@uafs.edu](mailto:kerrie.taber@uafs.edu). We thank you in advance for your willingness to volunteer to help with this program. We guarantee you’ll have a blast!

## Judging Event Descriptions

### **1. Project Notebooks – 7 judges needed**

Each participating team must produce a 3-ring binder notebook that documents the process the team went through to design and build the robot...a diary of sorts. The book can contain a maximum of 30 pages of written explanation, along with photographs, design drawings, computer-generated drawings, etc. The notebook judging process will occur Friday evening, October 16th, in the Baldor Technology Center **Room 108**. The evening will include dinner at 6:00pm, followed by a 30-minute orientation and approximately 2 hours of judging. Each of the seven judges will be responsible for scoring a different section of every notebook. People with backgrounds in math, science, engineering and technology are especially needed in this area. The project notebook judges will also decide the Founders Award: Awarded to the team that makes best use of the engineering process in consideration of offensive and defensive capabilities in machine design; awarded in recognition of BEST founders Steve Marum and Ted Mahler.

### **2. Table Displays and Interviews – 6 judges needed(training session required)**

*Table Displays:* Each participating “BEST Award” team is given 10’ X 10’ space with a 6 ft. table on which to visually and creatively display school spirit, community involvement, and robot design and construction. These displays will be positioned in the Stubblefield Center.

*Interviews:* Judges will circulate the table display area and interview team members staffing the displays, as well as team members in the “pit area” on the floor of the competition. Table display judging and student interviews will occur on Saturday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 1:30pm. Please arrive at 8:30 am for orientation.

The table display and interview judges will also decide on two special awards: Most Photogenic (Awarded to the team whose machine is the most eye pleasing, fit and trim of external components and aesthetic embellishments) and the T-Shirt Award (Awarded to the team that has the most original game specific t-shirt design worn by team members during the contest; based on most creative use of the game theme/concept).

### **3. Spirit and Sportsmanship – 4 judges needed (training session required)**

During the competition on Saturday, October 17, 2015 judges will circulate the arena and evaluate school/team spirit and good sportsmanship of team members. Judges will need to arrive on game day by 7:30am and will judge until 1:30pm. Spirit and Sportsmanship judges will also select the Most Elegant Award, awarded to the team whose machine has the best design and execution -- the machine that makes you say, "Wow!".

## **Additional Information for Judges**

- A hospitality room will be provided at the Stubblefield Center on Saturday of the competition. Meals, snacks, and beverages will be provided for event volunteers, judges and corporate sponsors only. Due to budget constraints we cannot accommodate guests of volunteers or judges.
- All judges will be provided with an orange event T-shirt that should be worn at Friday and Saturday judging events
- Judges will use the Hospitality Room at the Stubblefield Center for private consultations among judges. Only judges and judging assistants will be allowed to use this room.
- Questions with regard to judging should be directed to Dr. Kerrie Taber at [kerrie.taber@uafs.edu](mailto:kerrie.taber@uafs.edu) or 479-788-7707.
- Questions with regard to volunteering or referral of volunteers should be directed to Kerrie Taber at [kerrie.taber@uafs.edu](mailto:kerrie.taber@uafs.edu) or 479-788-7707.
- Rules for this year's challenge, "Pay Dirt", can be found at the BRI website, [www.bestinc.org](http://www.bestinc.org). "BEST Award" guidelines are also posted on the website.