



Frontier Trails BEST 2016

Middle, Junior High and High School Robotics Competition

December 2-3, 2016

Fort Smith Convention Center – Fort Smith

Judging Sign-up Form – **Due by Nov. 28**

Name: _____ Company/Institution: _____

Title/Position: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Email address: _____ Work Phone: _____

All Judges will be provided with an event T-shirt that should be worn at Friday and Saturday 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
 University Faculty/employee
 High School Faculty/employee
 Business/corporation
 State Dept. of Education
 Name of school associated with: _____

Check all the positions that you would be willing to judge:

Rate Choice 1, 2, 3	Judging Category (descriptions follow below)	Judges Needed	Location	Day	Time
	Notebooks	7	University of Arkansas Fort Smith	Nov. 28-Dec. 1	7:00 am – 5:00 pm
	Oral Presentations	9	Fort Smith Convention Center	Friday, Dec. 2	9:00 pm - 4:00 pm
	Registration/Information Desk (see times below)	2 per time slot	Fort Smith Convention Center	Friday, Dec. 2 Saturday, Dec. 3	8:00 am-5:00 pm 6:00 am-5:00 pm
	Exhibits and Interviews	6	Fort Smith Convention Center Rooms 5 & 6	Saturday, Dec. 3	9:00 am-3:00 pm
	Spirit and Sportsmanship*	4	Fort Smith Convention Center	Saturday, Dec. 3	7:00 am – 3:00 pm

***Requires attendance at training session**

Mail, fax, or email *this* form back by **Monday, November 28, 2016** 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.

Judging Event Descriptions

1. Project Notebooks – 7 judges needed

Each participating “BEST Award” 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 the week of November 28-December 1, at UAFS. 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. Oral Presentations – 9 judges needed

Each participating “BEST Award” team must give a 20 minute oral presentation to relay both the team’s robot-building process as well as community involvement. Each team is allowed a 30 minute time slot; 5 minutes for set-up, 15 minutes to present, 5 minutes for Q & A from the judges, and 5 minutes for judges to fill out the scoring sheets. Teams are encouraged to be as creative as possible with their presentations. This category will include a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 3 team members, with 3 judges present for each presentation. This judging event will occur on Friday, Dec. 2nd with orientation at 8:00 am and judging beginning at 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in the Fort Smith Convention Center.

3. Exhibits 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 on the floor of the Fort Smith Convention Center in Exhibit Hall C.

Interviews: Judges will circulate the table display area and interview team members staffing the displays. Table display judging and student interviews will occur on Friday, Dec. 2nd from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. A training session will be held on Friday, Dec. 2 at 8:00 am. You will be contacted with details upon receipt of this form.

The exhibits 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 with 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.).

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

During the competition on Saturday, December 3 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 7:00 am and will judge until 3:00 pm. A training session will be held on Saturday, December 3 at 7:00 am. You will be contacted with details upon receipt of this form.

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 Convention 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.
- Because of the non-profit nature of the BEST program, we are unable to pay for out of town judges' accommodations; however, we have blocked a number of hotel rooms for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, December 1-3.
 - *Holiday Inn City Center – 479-783-1000 (Thurs, Fri, and Sat night available)*
- All judges will be provided with an event T-shirt that should be worn at Friday and Saturday judging events.
- A “Judges Only” room will be available at the Convention Center (Room 4) for private consultations among judges. Only judges and judging assistants will be allowed to enter this room.
- Questions with regard to judging, volunteering or referral of volunteers should be directed to Dr. Kerrie Taber at Kerrie.taber@uafs.edu or 479-788-7707.
- Rules for this year's challenge, “Bet The Farm”, can be found at the BRI website, www.bestinc.org. “BEST Award” guidelines are also posted on the website.