

Robofest e-Newsletter, 10-11-18

(1) 20th Anniversary Robofest Kickoff Meetings

(2) MCWT Grant for All-Girl Robofest Teams

(3) Media Release and Consent Form with Privacy Policy is Now Online

(4) Seeking Site Hosts for 2018~19 Competitions

(5) New Robofest Coordinator

Note: All times are listed in EST

(1) 20th Anniversary Robofest Kickoff Meetings:

Site Hosts, coaches, volunteers and corporate partners ~ please join us for one of the upcoming kickoff meetings to celebrate and introduce the rules for our 20th Robofest season.

On **Friday, October 26, 2018** we are hosting our first Kickoff meeting of the season in our Computer Science Robotics Lab, Room J234 in the Taubman Complex at LTU. Lunch will be served at noon and we will start the presentation at 12:15. Please join us! RSVP for this meeting by 10/23 here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/Q8Z3MET7wsxL5kwt2>

The meeting will be repeated at the same location on **Friday, November 2** at 6:00 pm. Dinner will be served. Please RSVP for this meeting by 10/30 here: <https://goo.gl/forms/YdvNmxqoF78FpBbc2>

(2) MCWT Grant for All-Girl Robofest Teams:

The Michigan Council of Women in Technology Foundation, 15-year sponsor of Robofest, just announced that they are once again providing \$500 grants for up to six all-girl Robofest teams for the 2019 Robofest Game and Exhibition competition. Deadline for application is December 16, 2018. More information and the application has been posted to their webpage https://mcwt.smapply.io/prog/robofest_grant/

(3) Media Release and Consent Form with Privacy Policy is Now Online:

We have recently made the changes to the Robofest Registration System that now requires coaches to agree to the Privacy Policy and Consent and Release Form online each time they register a team (selection box). Also, the student form can be completed by the parent electronically through the registration system:

- On the team registration page, the coach will enter the "Parent Email" for each student.
- The parent will receive an automated email with a link to view and complete the form online.
- If the coach does not have the parent's email at the time of registration, the coach can enter his/her own email address and can then forward the link to the parent OR the coach can update the parent's email and send the link at any time prior to the site freeze date.
- If no electronic form is submitted, a paper form, <https://robofest.net/ConsentReleaseForm1819.pdf> (signed by the parent) must be submitted by the coach to the hosting site during check-in.

(4) Seeking Site Hosts for 2018~19 Competitions:

Robofest is still seeking site hosts for the 2018~19 year for Robofest Game and Exhibition Qualifiers as well as BottleSumo and RoboParade open events in March ~ April of 2019. We hope to have all sites ready for team registration, which is set to open in early November 2018. Interested individuals, organizations, or schools should contact the Robofest office at spalonis@ltu.edu or visit

<https://robofest.net/index.php/for-site-hosts>

(5) New Robofest Coordinator:

Pam Sparks recently joined the Robofest Office staff as a Coordinator. Pam recently retired from Hazel Park High School where she taught science and coached the Robofest team. Welcome!!

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Pam Sparks, Coordinator

<http://www.robofest.net> <http://facebook.com/robofest>