



Rocky Mountain BEST

(Boosting Engineering Science and Technology)

2013 Game Newsletter No 1

4 June 2013

Student teams and teachers, welcome to the 2013 RM BEST robotics competition! This is our 4th year in Colorado and the 21st year for the national organization, BEST Robotics Inc. (BRI). In October 2013 teams in 16 states and 62 local hubs (http://best.eng.auburn.edu/b_best_hubs.php) will be playing the same game with the hope of reaching the regional competitions.

On Saturday, September 14th we will be unveiling and revealing “**Gatekeeper**” after for which your teams will have six weeks to build a robot based on your winning strategy. On that day, Kick-Off, you will be issued a box with consumables materials that you can keep and a box with electronics that you will be required to return to Rocky Mountain BEST. You will build your robot using only those materials. If you are curious about the game, there is a teaser at the BRI web site at <http://best.eng.auburn.edu/>. Get ready to bring your mascots, band, cheerleaders and supporters to the game. The BEST games are no different than a sports game with all the noise and excitement expected of that type of event!

In terms of activities between now and Kick Off on September 14th at South High School in Denver, we will host a Teachers and Mentor’s Institute (TMI), August 5th and 6th at the Lowry Conference Center. At this activity you will be exposed to the VEX electronics used in our robots and to the overall rules for the BEST competition. The TMI is only for teachers & mentors, no students are allowed. Following newsletters will have more information.

On Practice Day, October 19th, one week PRIOR to Game Day, students can bring their robots and try them out on the game floor. This is an excellent way to check out if the robots can perform as the students designed them. The judges will inspect the robots to make sure they follow the rules. We make sure that the students, not

the mentors or teachers, are building the machines. If you are curious about last year's season, check out our 2012 Space Elevator game video at our website <http://www.rockymountainbest.org/> .

This year's game, to be held Saturday, October 26th at the Auraria Campus Events Center, sponsored by the Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU Denver) Engineering Technology Department, will have 28 Colorado teams from as far as Otis and Colorado Springs. In the next newsletter I will be announcing the participating schools so that you know your competition. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me or any of the members listed at our web site.

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