Award Descriptions for Judges' Room

The following pages contain award descriptions and key criteria for each award and are useful in guiding the Judges' deliberations.

Event Partners / Judge Advisors may wish to print these descriptions and then laminate them or place them in plastic sheet protectors for use at multiple events.

Not all events will give out all awards. Each Judge Advisor should consult with their Event Partner to determine which awards will be presented at an event.

EXCELLENCE AWARD

KEY CRITERIA

- Be at or near the top of all Engineering Notebook rankings
- Both the Team Interview and Engineering Notebook demonstrate independent inquiry from the beginning stages of their design process through execution
- Be a candidate in consideration for other Judged Awards
- Demonstrate a student-centered ethos
- Exhibit positive team conduct, good sportsmanship, and professionalism
- The Engineering Notebook is consistent with the qualities demonstrated in the Team Interview and robot design
- Be ranked in the top 40%* of qualification rankings at the conclusion of Qualification Matches
- Be ranked in the top 40%* of teams at the conclusion of the Robot Skills Challenge matches
- Be ranked in the top 40%* of Autonomous Coding Skills Challenge scores at the conclusion of the Robot Skills Challenge

*This may include all teams in the event, or just the grade level, depending on how many teams are at the event. Please refer to the REC Foundation Qualifying Criteria for specific information.

DESIGN AWARD

KEY CRITERIA

- Be at or near the top of Engineering Notebook Rubric rankings
- Engineering Notebook demonstrates clear, complete, and organized record of an iterative Engineering Design Process
- Both the Team Interview and Engineering Notebook demonstrate independent inquiry from the beginning stages of their design process through execution
- Team demonstrates effective management of time, personnel, and resources
- Team Interview demonstrates their ability to explain their robot design and game strategy
- Team Interview demonstrates effective communication skills, teamwork, and professionalism.
- Engineering Notebook and Team Interview demonstrate a student-centered ethos
- The Engineering Notebook is consistent with the qualities demonstrated in the Team Interview and robot design

INNOVATE AWARD

KEY CRITERIA

- Teams identify in their notebook a specific section or specific pages covering the origin and development of a design element, strategy, or other attribute that is a key part of their team's robot design or gameplay
- This design element, strategy, or other attribute is unique or uncommon among Innovate Award submissions at the event
- This design element, strategy, or other attribute is well-documented from initial conception through execution
- Engineering Notebook demonstrates a clear, complete, and organized record of the Engineering Design Process
- The Engineering Notebook is consistent with the qualities demonstrated in the Team Interview and robot design
- Both the Team Interview and Engineering Notebook demonstrate independent inquiry from the beginning stages of their design process through execution
- Team demonstrates effective management of time, personnel, and resources
- Team Interview demonstrates their ability to explain their robot design and game strategy
- Team Interview demonstrates effective communication skills, teamwork, professionalism, and a student-centered ethos

JUDGES AWARD

KEY CRITERIA

- Team displays special attributes, exemplary effort, or perseverance at the event
- Team stands out to Judge volunteers as being deserving of special recognition
- Team Interview demonstrates effective communication skills, teamwork, professionalism, and a student-centered ethos

THINK AWARD

KEY CRITERIA

- Participation in the Autonomous Coding Skills Challenge, with a score greater than zero
- Programs are cleanly written, well commented, and easy to follow
- Team clearly explains the programming strategy used to solve the game challenge
- Team clearly explains their programming management process / version control
- Students understand and explain how they worked together to develop their robot programming
- Programming is effective at solving the game challenges for both Qualification Matches and Autonomous Coding Skills Challenge matches
- Team Interview demonstrates effective communication skills, teamwork, professionalism, and a student-centered ethos
- The Engineering Notebook is consistent with the qualities demonstrated in the Team Interview and robot design

AMAZE AWARD

KEY CRITERIA

- Robot reliably contributes to high-scoring matches with their alliance partners
- Robot performs at a high level in Driving Skills and Autonomous Coding Skills at the event
- Programming is effective at solving the game challenges for both Qualification Matches and Skills Challenge matches
- Students understand and explain how they worked together to develop their robot design to consistently execute an effective game strategy
- Team Interview demonstrates effective communication skills, teamwork, professionalism, and a student-centered ethos
- The Engineering Notebook is consistent with the qualities demonstrated in the Team Interview and robot design

BUILD AWARD

KEY CRITERIA

- Robot construction is durable and robust
- Robot is reliable on the field and withstands the rigors of competition
- Robot is designed with attention to safety and detail
- Students understand and explain how they worked together to develop their robot design
- Team Interview demonstrates effective communication skills, teamwork, professionalism, and a student-centered ethos
- The Engineering Notebook is consistent with the qualities demonstrated in the Team Interview and robot design

CREATE AWARD

KEY CRITERIA

- Team demonstrates a creative approach to accomplish game objectives
- Team has committed to ambitious and creative approaches to solving the game challenge
- Students understand and explain how they worked together to develop their robot design and game strategy
- Team Interview demonstrates effective communication skills, teamwork, professionalism, and a student-centered ethos
- The Engineering Notebook is consistent with the qualities demonstrated in the Team Interview and robot design

INSPIRE AWARD

KEY CRITERIA

- Team exhibits passion and positive attitude at the event
- Team exhibits integrity and goodwill toward other teams, coaches, and event staff
- Team overcomes an obstacle or challenge, or achieves a goal or special accomplishment at the event
- Team Interview demonstrates effective communication skills, teamwork, professionalism, and a student-centered ethos

SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

KEY CRITERIA

- Team is courteous, helpful, and respectful to everyone at the event, on and off the field
- Team interacts with others in the spirit of friendly competition and cooperation
- Team acts with honesty and integrity, enriching the event experience for all

ENERGY AWARD

KEY CRITERIA

- Team maintains a high level of enthusiasm and excitement throughout the event
- Team exhibits a passion for the robotics competition that enriches the event experience for all