



To: Parents/Guardians/Student
From: John Tsombakos, Raj Patel
Re: FIRST Competition: Overnight Field Trip

Connecticut Regional
Connecticut Convention Ctr.
Hartford, CT
Dates: 3/13/2008 - 3/15/2008

Philadelphia Regional
Drexel University
Philadelphia PA
Dates: 3/27/2008 - 3/29/2008

Holiday Inn Cherry Hill
2175 Rt. 70 & Sayre Ave.
Cherry Hill NJ
(856) 663-5300

Days out of school: 1

Days out of school: 2*

This year we will be participating in two regional competitions; Connecticut Regional in Hartford CT on March 13th – 15th 2008 and Philadelphia Regionals on March 27 - 29. Lodging will be required for the entire team for two nights only at the second regional in Philadelphia as the Hartford regional will just be day trips.

Hartford: Hartford is about an hour drive from Shrewsbury, so we will be driving to and from the event each day. The advance team will go on Thursday, and the entire team will go on Friday and Saturday. The advance team (~20 students) will be leaving SHS at 6:30am sharp on Thursday, March 13, via private vehicles, and will return by about 9pm. Weather permitting we will have a full team meeting in the high school at that time to discuss strategy. On Friday and Saturday the team will travel via school buses to the competition.

Philadelphia: Philadelphia is about a six - seven hour drive from Shrewsbury. A small advance team (8-10 students) will depart on Wednesday, March 26 at after school via private vehicles, and will stay in the hotel overnight. The remainder of the team will leave SHS on a bus at 5:30am sharp on Thursday morning. The team will leave the event by 5 - 6pm on Saturday, March 29, eat dinner on the way, and arrive back at the school approx. midnight. Sophomores will be leaving after they take the MCAS on Thursday after school. They will be taking a small van driven by parents.

Raj Patel will coordinate bus check-in. All forms and payment must be turned in before departure.

We will review the list of anticipated FIRST participants with Judy DeFalco, SHS school nurse. Those students, who require special prescription medicine, must indicate this on the medical release as well give it to either John Tsombakos (advance team) or Raj Patel (bus). A school official will hold and dispense as directed. All medicines MUST be transported in their original prescription bottle.

There are many adult chaperones and coaches that have indicated an interest in attending providing a good ratio of chaperones to students;

- Teachers and Staff: John Tsombakos, Raj Patel, Scott Bartholomew
- Sponsor Engineers: Josh Freier, Adam Jacobson
- Parents & Community Members: Eric Dieffenbach, Nancy Donoghue, Rich & Cathy Cooper , Dawna Alphonse, Ken Ouellette

The total cost per each high school student attending these trips will be \$225.00. This amount includes Hartford and Philadelphia. Make check out to: **Shrewsbury Public Schools: FIRST Robotics**.

Student should bring at least \$25.00 per person per day for food, plus \$2.00 per person for the bus driver's tip. Breakfast will be provided at the hotel in Philadelphia and the team will be treating for dinner in Philadelphia on Thursday and Friday night.

Itinerary – Philadelphia, PA

Wednesday, March 26th Advance Team

2:00 PM Students depart Shrewsbury

Thursday, March 27th Practice Rounds

5:30 AM Students depart Shrewsbury
8:00 AM Pits and machine shop opens
12:00 PM Team arrives in Philadelphia
8:00 AM - Noon Advance Team works on Robot and arranges pit area
Registers Team 467 and Robot is inspected prior to NOON
10:00-5:00 PM Practice Rounds and Intelligence Gathering Activities
5:00 PM Team Dinner / Check in at hotel
8:00 PM Pit Closes / Machine Shop Closes

Friday, March 28th

QUALIFYING MATCHES

8:00 AM Pit Opens / Machine Shop Opens
9:00 AM Opening Ceremonies
9:20 AM - 12 noon Seeding Matches
Intelligence Gathering of assigned teams
12 noon - 1:00 PM Lunch Break (Students must pay)
1:00 – 4:45 PM Seeding Matches
Intelligence Gathering of assigned teams
4:45 PM Award Ceremony
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM Dinner
6:00 PM Pit Closes / Machine Shop Closes
7:30 PM Return to Hotel

Saturday, March 29th

QUALIFYING / ELIMINATIONS

8:00 AM Pit Opens / Machine Shop Opens
9:00 AM Opening Ceremonies
9:20 AM - 12 noon Seeding Matches
12 noon - 1:00 PM Lunch Break (Students must pay)
12:40 PM – 1:00 PM Alliance Selections
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Final Rounds
3:00 PM Award Ceremony
On or before 5 PM Robot is re-crated for Shipment to Hartford
On or before 5 PM Bus leaves for Shrewsbury
5:00 PM Pit Closes / Machine Shop Closes
Approx 12:00 AM Bus Arrives at Shrewsbury High School, stop for dinner
(Students must pay)

Students will have access to call home!

Itinerary – Hartford, CT

Thursday, March 13th	Advance Team
6:30 AM	Students depart Shrewsbury
8:00 AM	Pits and machine shop opens
8:00 AM - Noon	Advance Team works on Robot and arranges pit area Registers Team 467 and Robot is inspected prior to NOON
1:00- 7:00 PM	Practice Rounds and Intelligence Gathering Activities
8:00 PM	Pit Closes / Machine Shop Closes
9:00 PM	Team Meeting at High School – Strategy
Friday, March 14th	QUALIFYING MATCHES
6:30 AM	Depart SHS Gym Parking Lot
8:00 AM	Vehicles Arrive
8:00 AM	Pit Opens / Machine Shop Opens
9:00 AM	Opening Ceremonies
9:30 AM - 12 noon	Seeding Matches Intelligence Gathering of assigned teams
12 noon - 1:00 PM	Lunch Break (Students must pay)
1:00 - 5:00 PM	Seeding Matches Intelligence Gathering of assigned teams
5:00 PM - 8 PM	Team Dinner and Social
6:00 PM	Pit Closes / Machine Shop Closes
8 PM	Depart for Shrewsbury High School
Saturday, March 15th	QUALIFYING / ELIMINATIONS
6:30 AM	Depart Shrewsbury
8:00 AM	Pit Opens / Machine Shop Opens
9:00 AM	Opening Ceremonies
9:30 AM - 12 noon	Seeding Matches
12 noon - 1:00 PM	Lunch Break (Students must pay)
12:40 PM – 1:00 PM	Alliance Selections
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Final Rounds
3:00 PM	Award Ceremony
On or before 5 PM	Robot is re-crated for return trip to SHS
On or before 5 PM	Bus leaves for Shrewsbury
5:00 PM	Pit Closes / Machine Shop Closes
7:00 PM	Vehicles at Shrewsbury High School

Students will have access to call home!

Permission Slip

If my child qualifies to attend, I give permission for my child, _____ to attend the trip to Philadelphia, PA on March 27 - 29 and / or Hartford CT March 13 – 15. I understand my child if my child is selected on the advance team, s(he) will be traveling to destination in private insured vehicles driven solely by adults. .

Should illness or accident occur during the event, I will not hold Shrewsbury Public Schools or its employees, any of our sponsors or their employees or any adult supervisor liable for any medical or additional expenses. I give my permission for any medical attention to be given if my child becomes injured or ill. I will also not hold Shrewsbury Public Schools or its employees, any of our sponsors or their employees or any adult supervisor liable for any loss of personal property. Please limit your child to not more than \$25 spending money per day, plus \$2.00 for the bus driver’s tip.

All rules pertaining to behavior and attendance as outlined in the SHS Student Handbook are strictly enforced at all times. Any student violating any rules in the SHS Student Handbook will be subjected to the appropriate discipline upon his/her return to school.

If necessary, disciplinary actions will also be taken while students are still on the trip including being sent home immediately. Parent will be responsible to retrieve child, should it be determined necessary. You are representing our school, town, and corporate sponsors. Make sure that the future school groups will be welcome to participate in the FIRST Program.

Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Please print name of Parent or Guardian

Signature of Student

In the event that you cannot be reached, please give names of at least two people who could be contacted in case of an emergency.

Name _____ Home () _____

Relationship _____ Work () _____

Name _____ Home () _____

Relationship _____ Work () _____