



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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High School Students Put Robots to the Test, Compete to Qualify for Global *FIRST*[®] Robotics Championship, March 24-26

At 17th Annual San Diego FIRST Robotics Competition, 50 Teams Compete for Awards and Qualification for International Championship

WHO:

- 1500+ high school students from local school districts, plus other California cities, Switzerland, Turkey and Chinese Taipei, will participate in the [17th Annual San Diego *FIRST*[®] Robotics Competition](#) for an opportunity to win regional recognition for design excellence, sportsmanship, teamwork, and more, and advance to the *FIRST* Championship competition.
- 50 robots and *FIRST* Robotics teams
- Professional mentors and passionate fans
- The public is encouraged to attend, catch the excitement of this intense competition, tour the pits to visit with teams and robots, and cheer on their favorite teams. **Admission is free and open to the public.**

WHAT:

The *FIRST* Robotics Competition is a program that challenges high school students – working with professional Mentors – to design and build a robot to compete in matches that measure the effectiveness of each robot, the power of collaboration, and the determination of students. Teams in the San Diego *FIRST* Robotics Competition will vie for regional awards and a spot at the *FIRST*[®] Championship to be held April 19-22 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas. The competition is part of *FIRST*, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to preparing young people for the future.

Game Description:

[CHARGED UPSM](#) presented by Haas is part of the 2023 *FIRST*[®] ENERGIZESM presented by Qualcomm season. In CHARGED UP, teams are inspired to see the potential of energy storage in a new light as they compete to charge up their communities. Using renewable energy can transform our communities, but only if it is effectively stored and delivered to those who need it. The power of engineering can help make a meaningful difference. This year's challenge addresses global challenges related to United Nations Sustainable Development Goal #7 -- focused on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.

WHEN:

- Friday, **March 24th** - Practice Rounds (noon-6:30pm)
- Saturday, **March 25th** - Opening Ceremonies, Qualification Matches, Awards (8:30am - 5:45pm)

- Sunday, **March 26th** - Opening Ceremonies, Qualification Matches, Alliance Selection, Awards (8:30am - 4:30pm)

Online Agenda: The detailed agenda for the 3 day event can be found [here](#).

WHERE: UCSD LionTree Arena (formerly RIMAC/Triton Arena), 9730 Hopkins Dr, La Jolla, CA 92093

PHOTO OPP:

- Students working against the clock to test, tune up, and compete with their robots
- Highly spirited students in vibrant costumes and creative team mascots
- Passionate fans cheering on teams.
- Life-sized Robots speed around and retrieve game pieces, scoring into the grid, and playing defense with other robots.
- In the final moments of each match, alliance robots race to balance their robots on the charge station!

EVENT WEBSITE: <https://cafirst.org/frc/sandiego>

About *FIRST*[®]

[FIRST](#)[®] is a robotics community that prepares young people for the future through a suite of inclusive, team-based robotics programs for ages 4-18 (PreK-12) that can be facilitated in school or in structured afterschool programs. Boosted by a global support system of volunteers, educators, and sponsors that include over 200 of the Fortune 500 companies, teams operate under a signature set of *FIRST* [Core Values](#) to conduct research, fundraise, design, build, and showcase their achievements during annual challenges. An international not-for-profit organization founded by accomplished inventor Dean Kamen in 1989, *FIRST* has a [proven impact](#) on STEM learning, interest, and skill-building well beyond high school. [Alumni](#) of *FIRST* programs gain access to exclusive scholarships, internships, and other opportunities that create connections and open pathways to a wide variety of careers. Learn more at firstinspires.org

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