Utah FRC Regional

COVID-19 Health and Safety Policy Finalized 3/30/22
Overview

Event staff and attendees participating in this event should recognize that any gathering poses an increased risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread. FIRST® believes that the best path toward ending the COVID-19 pandemic — and having a successful season — is through vaccination. We strongly recommend everyone who is eligible and has access to a vaccine consult with their physician and get vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as possible.

More information can be found at coronavirus.utah.gov, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization websites.

The Utah FRC Regional has developed the following COVID-19 Health and Safety Policy to reduce the risk of coronavirus exposure and spread at this event. Safety recommendations are taken from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Note that this policy is finalized as of 3/30/22 though we may make additions or revisions as needed.

Pre-Event

Stay Home if you:

- Have tested positive for COVID-19.
- Are waiting for COVID-19 test results.
- Are feeling unwell and/or have any of the following COVID-19 symptoms.
  - Fever or chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea
- Have had close contact (within 6 feet for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with a person who has tested positive for or who has symptoms of COVID-19 within the last 14 days, unless you have been fully vaccinated.
Contact Tracing

Contact tracing is key to slowing the spread of COVID-19 and helps protect the community by:

- Letting people know they may have been exposed to COVID-19 and should monitor their health for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
- Helping people who may have been exposed to COVID-19 get tested.
- Asking people to self-isolate if they have COVID-19 or develop symptoms of COVID-19 or to self-quarantine if they are a close contact.

Prior to the event, all event staff/volunteers, coaches, and team members should register with FIRST, complete a “FIRST Consent and Release Form,” and coaches should bring the “Team Roster” to the event. All team members (youth and adults) must be listed on the “Consent and Release and Health Verification.” During the registration process they will provide their name, phone number, email, and parent or guardian name, phone number, and email if the team member is a minor. Contact information will be accessible to event organizers via the “Team Roster.”

Event attendees may be required to complete a consent form and provide contact information prior to entering the event. This information will only be used for the purposes of contact tracing and will be destroyed after the event.

If a person who attended this event tests positive for COVID-19, someone from the health department may call you to discuss important COVID-19 information, such as signs and symptoms of COVID-19, testing, and quarantine. Discussions with health department staff are confidential. This means that your personal and medical information will be kept private and only shared with those who may need to know, like your health care provider.

Please review the information for what to expect to happen during contact tracing, provided by the CDC.

Utah FRC Regional COVID-19 Health and Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form

Each coach must agree to abide by the Utah FRC Regional COVID-19 Health and Safety Policy, to share this policy and compliance expectations with their team members and their families, and to sign the Utah FRC Regional COVID-19 Health and Safety Policy Affirmation Form (distributed pre-event) and return the form to event organizers prior to the start of the event.
Event Entry Requirements

Behavior Requirements

Face Masks

- Masks are highly recommended but not required.

Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette

Hand hygiene should be practiced and encouraged by all event staff and attendees.

- All event staff and attendees should wash their hands frequently (for example, before, during, and after check-in, touching garbage, using the restroom) with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Event staff and attendees should use hand sanitizer, available at hand sanitizing stations throughout the event, including before and after game play or practice field use or any other time that soap and water are not readily available.
- All event staff and attendees should refrain from singing or shouting, especially indoors. Please use alternate ways to celebrate like clapping, dancing, finger-snapping, etc.

Physical Distancing

Physical distancing will be practiced at this event.

- Keep of distance between yourself and people who don’t live in your household or not part of your cohort (members of the same home team) whenever possible.
- Follow all physical distancing guidelines, including direction provided by event staff.
- Follow all signage and marker direction, such as those that are freestanding or on the ground, to indicate the appropriate direction of pedestrian movement or to maintain a safe physical distance from others.
- Do not greet others with physical contact (for example, handshakes) or celebrate with high-fives or fist bumps. Utah is all about the “air elbow”.

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FIRST

FIRST LEGO LEAGUE

FIRST TECH CHALLENGE

FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION
FIRST recognizes a single team as a cohort, which is not subject to the same physical distancing requirement. However, this exception only applies to members of the same team. In all other cases, the physical distancing requirements outlined in this policy remain in effect.

Signs and Messages

Comply with all COVID-19 health and safety signs that are displayed in waiting areas, near restrooms, in seating areas, and used to control traffic patterns and entrance and exit points.

Follow event staff instructions related to COVID-19 safety.

Policy Changes and Non-Compliance

Given the current trajectory of the pandemic, these guidelines may change with little notice up to and including event cancellation based on updates from the CDC and Salt Lake County Health Department guidelines. If this event must be cancelled, you will be notified via email and via phone call to mentors 1 & 2 phone numbers listed within the FIRST Utah FRC Regional team dashboard. The event will either be rescheduled or moved to a remote event platform as determined by the local organizing committee.

The information contained in this document is not intended or implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. All content, including text and links, are provided for general informational purposes.

Any person entering this event is required to abide by this COVID-19 health and safety policy and the FIRST Code of Conduct. Non-compliance may result in removal from this event and being barred from future participation in FIRST activities.
2022 Utah Regional FRC Event Plan

The biggest change the Utah Regional has implemented this season is the requirement for a complete roster BEFORE the team is allowed to enter the building. Each team coach should have a complete list of all participants (students, mentors, parent volunteers that will be in close continual contact with the team) and verify that each has completed the FIRST Consent and Release form and health verification by handing in the Roster/Health Verification/Consent and Release when the team first arrives at the Maverik Center. Only those on the list will be permitted to load in.

COVID Protocols Announcement

***An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. COVID-19 is a contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death. Senior citizens and guests with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable. By visiting our establishment, you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19.***

The health and safety of our teams is our top priority. We all know that there are many levels of opinions on the pandemic, but we have done our best to address the situation seriously in making conscientious plans and decisions within our control. We graciously ask that everyone comply with the following requests and then, just have as much fun as is humanly possible! We’re back IRL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

PLAN AHEAD

- All participants and guardians will be required to sign the FIRST Consent and Release form prior to entry. Coaches may collect and keep the completed forms but will be required to verify, upon check in, by handing in the Roster/Health Verification/Consent and Release when the team first arrives at the Maverik Center. Only participants on the list will be permitted to load in and receive a Utah Regional pin!
- The Utah Regional recommends everyone (teams, volunteers, judges, spectators) wear a CDC-approved mask – worn correctly over the nose and the mouth and end under the chin, though not required. See our full policy for more specifics.

SPREAD OUT, PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE ALWAYS
• Public participation will be based on local health department guidelines. Monitor the local situation yourself at https://slco.org/health/COVID-19/data/

• While we are not limiting how many people may attend with the teams or spectators, we are encouraging everyone to spread out. A 5-7 person limit within the individual pits will be set. We have a huge venue and there’s plenty of room to spread out. We encourage teams to set up a ‘homebase” area out in the arena seating in normal seasons, so this should be an easy ask. It’s rarely safe to have more people in the pit at the same time anyway, so thank for your compliance here.

• Practice good hygiene every chance you get. Wash and sanitize your hands, wear a clean mask and label your water bottles. See our full policy if you have any symptoms.

ON THE PIT FLOOR

• We’ll have 10’x10’ pits with extra aisle spacing in high traffic areas. The total number of teams allowed to register was reduced by 25% to accomplish this strategy to spread out more.
• Water bottles are fine and allowed in the Pits.
• No eating will be allowed in the pit area.
• All meals will be organized and consumed outside of the pits. Set up a homebase out in the arena seats or even outside.
• Boxed lunch catering will be available for purchase by teams. Menu and how to order and pay will be available soon on our website and emailed to lead mentors with the team guide.
• Sanitizing stations are placed around the venue for hand sanitizing.
• Cleaning supplies will be provided at the field for driver’s stations and other high-touch areas.
• Loaner safety glasses available at the pit entrances will not be reused at any time during the competition day, but will be put into totes and thoroughly sanitized following the conclusion of each competition day. We would appreciate it if you could bring your own if you have them.
• Event will be livestreamed for those who are unable to follow these protocols. The link will be sent out closer to the event.

Utah Regional Team Guide

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