



“I² – Idaho Invitational”

Idaho 2021 Off-Season Event Plan

(some items are subject to change)

Dates: September 9 to 11, 2021. Load in on the 9th, (field in the morning, teams in the evening) event activity Friday and Saturday with load out after awards on Saturday night. Official Agenda coming soon.

Location: Mountain View Events Center, 1567 Way to Grace Avenue Pocatello, ID.

[About the MEC - Mountain View Event Center \(meceventcenter.com\)](http://meceventcenter.com)

Health Department and COVID information location (updated hourly):

[Welcome to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) \(idaho.gov\)](http://idaho.gov)

The above link will allow you to access updated information for both the virus and the vaccinations.

Teams: We have invited all Idaho teams and previous participating teams at Idaho Regionals since 2016. Other teams will be welcomed as they notify us of their interest. Registration opened May 15th with invitations being sent out around May 1st. Registration closes August 1st with full payment due.

Advertising: Idaho FRC Regional Monthly newsletter, Idaho FRC Regional website, Idaho FRC Regional Facebook page and Twitter account, Chief Delphi.

Event Plan:

We will be using the 2020-2021 game “Infinite Recharge” with the full field, all elements and end game. The rules will be the 2021 updated rules.

All public health protocols will be followed based on local health district guidelines: Multiple Hand sanitizing stations, frequent surface cleaning (every 30 minutes), masks worn by all in the building. The facility reports that they have HEPA filtration systems. A “Hold FIRST and Idaho Regional Robotics, Inc. Harmless for attendance and participation” is being crafted by an attorney before entrance is granted to all participants, volunteers, staff and guests. It will be included with a Consent and Release agreement. Discussion is being held on electronic signature or paper-trail for verification after the fact.

Safety glasses will be used once, collected in a bin, cleaned each evening, and returned for use for the next day. We had a donation of 1,000 glasses in 2020, in addition to what we already had purchased or were donated over the years.

Team participation will be based on each school district ruling. That is to be determined.

We already have teams from Idaho, Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming registered.

We have three plans to work from and can scale the event as needed for local health guidelines as the time gets closer:

As usual events with 47 teams (pre-Covid appearance)	36 teams (social distancing of pits and less volunteers)	Scenario 2 plan from FIRST back in July 2020 (22 teams per day, and less volunteers)
Pit spacing based on local social distance guidelines. (Map TBD). Draping across the back.	Pit spacing 10' minimum. Draping between pits along the back wall. (Map TBD) Draping across the back.	10' space between each as designed in the Scenario 2 plan. Little islands. (Map TBD) Draping across the back.
Volunteers: 140	Volunteers: 25-60 per day	Volunteers: 25-40 per day
Masks required by all – Team Mask parade and design competition to be held.	Masks required by all – Team Mask parade and design competition to be held.	Masks required by all – Team Mask parade and design competition to be held.
Team participation based on local social distancing for gathering limits.	Team participation based on local social distancing for gathering limits. We may limit team and mentor numbers per team.	6 students, 2 mentors per team. No audience participation. This can be scaled based on local guidelines.
Team Social with class offerings. TBD	Virtual Team Social.	Virtual Team Social.
Boxed lunch Catering for all volunteers.	Boxed lunch Catering for all volunteers.	Boxed lunch Catering for all volunteers.
Food allowed to be brought by teams or we can provide boxed lunches for a fee since lunch would only be 30 minutes.	Food allowed to be brought by teams or we can provide boxed lunches for a fee since lunch would only be 30 minutes.	Food allowed to be brought by teams or we can provide boxed lunches for a fee since lunch would only be 30 minutes.
Public participation based on local social distancing guidelines and gathering thresholds. There is already limited seating at the facility for 900.	Public participation based on local social distancing guidelines and gathering thresholds.	Public participation based on local social distancing guidelines and gathering thresholds. Will be very limited, if allowed at all by local health district.
Team coaches will be required to verify the health of their students prior to entering the facility in line with PII and HIPAA concerns. (Form attached)	Participants and guests MAY be required to provide a negative test result or vaccination records. Team coaches will be required to verify the health of their students prior to entering the facility in line with PII and HIPAA concerns. Temperature checks at the door with encouraged social distancing.	Participants and guests WILL be required to provide a negative test result or vaccination records. Team coaches will be required to verify the health of their students prior to entering the facility in line with PII and HIPAA concerns. Temperature checks at the door with demonstrated social distancing.
ALL participants will be required to sign the Consent and Release form prior to entry. Coaches may collect and keep the data but will be required to verify that all have agreed.	ALL participants will be required to sign the Consent and Release form prior to entry. Coaches may collect and keep the data but will be required to verify that all have agreed.	ALL participants will be required to sign the Consent and Release form prior to entry. Coaches may collect and keep the data but will be required to verify that all have agreed.

The MEC facility manager is fully on board with following health guidelines, protecting the kids and protecting our organization. We have caterers set to go who will individually wrap and box all meals and will deliver. The hotels in the area have been contacted and have already increased their cleaning policies. Room discounts have been negotiated. Local teams are willing to lend a hand in whatever we need.

Each team will be required to verify that all members are healthy, consent and release forms and “Hold Harmless” forms have been signed and they are aware that FIRST has the right to cancel this event with no refunds being given.

Inspections of robot will be held on Thursday evening and Friday morning. Dean Klein, LRI from both Idaho and Utah Regionals, will be in charge.

Class offerings for the best-case scenario of 47 teams may include:

- Public Presentations and Chairman’s,
- Fundraising and Grant Writing,
- Programming,
- Electrical tricks and tips,
- Mechanical tricks and tips,
- Uses of everyday items for various play of elements, and
- Team Building Exercises.

This is still to be determined and will need to be chaired by someone. We are asking teams to volunteer to present for these classes.

The facility is an Auditorium District with 5 hotels within walking distance. Hotel discounts have been negotiated so be sure to tell them you are with the “I-squared: Idaho Invitational” robotics competition when you make your reservations before August 8th to get the discount. There is also a KOA campground 2 miles up the road. Plenty of Air BnB homes are in the area since it is a college town.

New teams’ introduction will include continued outreach to the smaller, rural, underserved and underrepresented school districts in Idaho. We believe that many of the smaller districts are ready and ripe for an FRC team. We will invite the Trustees, Administrators and Teachers for science and computer science to this event from the rural districts in the vicinity within a two-hour drive. We ask that you help us explain the program and enthusiastically encourage these potential teams to join our ranks when they come and visit you in the pits. If you have specific people with other groups or schools that you would like added to our invitation list, please forward their contact information on to Lisa.

Alumni engagement will begin by including the students who have been a part of this program through their education but live on the other side of the state from our usual Regional event. We are excited to include them in our volunteer pool and foster relationships with them as they grow in their places in industry. Please feel free to have your alumni contact Lisa with questions or Cody Race (racecody@isu.edu) to volunteer.

Sponsor engagement for team support and the year-round program may be included through a small VIP event – dependent upon the health conditions and local district guidelines – and will enable us to invite the industries on the eastern side of Idaho to see this program in ACTION! You all know, it’s a tough program to fully explain but once someone “sees” it in person, explanations are no longer necessary. Feel free to send your suggestions for potential team, event or program sponsors to Lisa.

Our success depends upon your success so if we can help you get sponsors for your team, it benefits us all.

Sponsor retention is incredibly crucial. Those relationships are what we have been leveraging to get in with other industry sponsors. This event will enable us to maintain our seat at the table, grow existing relationships within industry, include new and potential sponsors, and grow the program statewide in Idaho. Our continued success in fundraising to fully pay for our teams and program contributes to the success of FIRST. Please send contact information to Lisa for people you'd like to have invited to attend.

We can't wait to see you all in September! Please feel free to contact Lisa with any questions, concerns or suggestions. We are also inviting people to become a member of our Planning Committee to help put this together and polish the event. Come be a part of history, help define this event from the beginning, get first-hand information and provide suggestions for improvement. Time to have some fun and let's PLAY!

Warmest personal regards,

Board of Directors, Idaho Regional Robotics, Inc.

and

Lisa Lalliss-Skogsberg, Regional Director

FIRST Idaho

lisa_lalliss_skogsberg@msn.com