

Teams, Team Leaders, Mentors and Parents:

We're excited to have you for the 2023 FRC Midwest Regional which is about a month away. We hope your FIRST Robotics Competition build season is off to a great start! Please read our through the following information and requests:

We will be following Credit Union1 Arena and City of Chicago guidelines regarding COVID. At this time, we do not expect masks and vaccinations to be required. We encourage teams to follow their own school, family, or other organizational guidelines as needed.

- Updates on Website: Our event website is <https://www.firstillinoisrobotics.org/frc/midwest-regional/> where you will be able to find the latest information about our event.
- Field Setup Volunteers: We're in need of volunteers to help us set-up the field on Wednesday. If your team is interested please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/CE37jSmRDGWgJ36r8>.
- Preparing for Event: We know attending a FRC regional can be overwhelming. Check the event experience page at <https://www.firstinspires.org/resource-library/frc/event-experience> for additional info on what to bring and what to expect at the event.
- Team Lunch Order Form: Please use the following form to order lunches. More information about Lunch Options can be found at - <https://www.firstillinoisrobotics.org/frc/midwest-regional/lunch-options/>
- Team Social: On Friday, March 10th evening we will be hosting a Team Social for all 2023 MWR teams. Please see more information - <https://www.firstillinoisrobotics.org/frc/midwest-regional/team-social/>
- Women in STEM Luncheon: On Friday afternoon from 12PM to 1PM, in collaboration with FRC Team 2451, PWNAGE, we will be hosting a Women in STEM Luncheon for all students who identify as women. The Women In STEM Luncheon event will showcase a panel of amazing women STEM professionals, and a meet & greet with the panelists. Lunch will be provided. This event is free to register - <https://forms.gle/h3eTiAqUZKBrPmjM9>
- Poster Contest - Submit your entries by February 15th for the Midwest Regional poster contest! The poster contest provides an opportunity for members of your team to showcase their talents by designing a poster for the 2023 Midwest Regional. More information available here - <https://www.firstillinoisrobotics.org/frc/midwest-regional/poster-contest-and-event-flyer/>
- Quiet Room - The Midwest Regional will offer a Quiet Room where our participants can relax, regroup, and prepare for the stress and commotion of the competition. This room will be staffed by volunteers (not trained mental health professionals). The Quiet Room will be located in a conference room in the Arena's office space and will open on Friday and Saturday, pending volunteer availability. If you have parents or others who can help monitor the Quiet Room please encourage them to register as volunteers.

- Interested in Volunteering? Our event relies on dedicated volunteers throughout all three days. We have a high need for general attendants, field resetters, and queuers at this time. If you have alumni or parents interested they can register at: <https://my.firstinspires.org/Dashboard/>. Prospective volunteers can contact frc-mwr-vc@firstillinoisrobotics.org with any questions about volunteering at the FRC Midwest Regional. We have full or partial day roles for Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

We look forward to having you at the Midwest Regional. If you have any other questions or concerns please email midwestregional@firstillinoisrobotics.org

Gerald A. Smith
Chair, FIRST Midwest Regional Planning Committee