

Game Rules and Season Guidance

Special Olympics
Washington



The Big Idea...



- ▶ ***EVERYONE*** experiences success and is celebrated!
- ▶ Success does not always equal winning!
- ▶ *It's about more than the robot or the game! (USFIRST)*
- ▶ It ***IS*** about:
 - ▶ Building relationships and equity
 - ▶ Meaningful participation
 - ▶ Developing communication skills to present your robot to the judges

The Big Idea...



Visit the Special Olympics Project Unify web site

- ▶ Project Unify is being renamed Unified Schools...

At all times...

- ▶ Gracious Professionalism™
- ▶ Coopertition™
- ▶ Thank you *FIRST*® Robotics!

Explain those terms again, please!



Athletes – students with an intellectual disability

- ▶ Generally students in Special Education

Partners – students without an intellectual disability

- ▶ Generally students in general education

Adult supervisors

- ▶ Very important to have reps from the Special Education department!
- ▶ Basic job is to ensure safe & positive club environment!

How do I get questions answered?



- ▶ The Guidebook (found on the web site...)
- ▶ The web site: unifiedrobotics.org
- ▶ Email: questions@unifiedrobotics.org

But I'm really panicking! I gotta talk with someone NOW!



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How do we get a Unified Robotics Club started?



Talk to your Unified Sports advisor or Special Education teacher.

- ▶ Need to determine if have a Unity Club
- ▶ If not, register the club with ASB

Talk to your school's robotics team (FTC, FRC, etc)

- ▶ Best place to get partner students!

Spread the word, recruit!

- ▶ Posters, table at club fair, etc.
- ▶ Nothing beats word-of-mouth and a direct, friendly invitation!
- ▶ Ask your Special Education teacher to forward an invitation email to the parents of the students in the Special Education department

What does this take?



- ▶ LEGO NXT Mindstorms or EV3 basic kit
- ▶ A school's team can be as small as 1 athlete and 1 partner!
 - ▶ Can serve a team of up to up to 6 students (athletes and partners)
- ▶ Laptop/computer to run the software!
- ▶ Desire to have fun and learn!
- ▶ 1.5 – 2 hours a week for 6 weeks ...
 - ...or 2x a week for 3 weeks, or build your robot all in one weekend!
- ▶ Robots need to be ready to compete on Saturday December 3!

How much can the *Partner* student do?



There is no hard and fast answer...

Best answered by your team advisor and likely an individual decision based on each athlete

Remember, the goals are:

- ▶ **EVERYONE** experiences success!
- ▶ Extreme range of ability and skills
- ▶ The ultimate goal is **NOT** winning ... it is opening doors of opportunity

So the answer is ... it all depends 😊

- ▶ If the partner has to do the work for the athlete, work hard to keep the athlete involved in the process and the decisions being made
- ▶ Teach as you do

How does the game work?



- ▶ Basic Sumo-Wrestling type game...
- ▶ 2 autonomous robots face off against each other in a 3 ft ring
- ▶ 1st one to find and push the other out of the ring wins!
- ▶ “Push out” means more than $\frac{1}{2}$ the main body of the robot is on the black
- ▶ Robots start on opposite sides of the ring, pointed in opposite directions
- ▶ 1st of the two robots called up gets to pick orientation, 2nd has to place opposite in position and orientation (pointed other direction)
- ▶ Robots are limited to the parts in the basic education kit!