



2018 Awards and Judging Logistics



Awards

In addition to the Standard Required Hub Level Awards outlined in the BEST Competition Rules document (Section 4 – *Awards & Judging*, pages 49 – 53 and Section 7 – *Standard Required Awards*, page 63), the awards below will be given at the South’s BEST competition. Unless otherwise noted, all teams are eligible for the award(s) with 1st – 3rd place plaques for each.

Engineering Notebook Award

Awarded to the team that scores the highest in the Engineering Notebook category.

Neptune Technology Group Most Elegant Robot

Awarded to the team whose machine demonstrates the best design and execution of the game...the machine that makes you say “Wow!”

Most Photogenic Robot

Awarded to the team whose machine is the most eye pleasing.

igus TOP GUN Award (First Place Only)

Awarded to the team who scores the most points in a single match.

Best Mascot

Awarded to the team whose mascot inspires the most enthusiasm from the crowd.

T-Shirt Design Award

Awarded for the most original game-specific team t-shirt design. Team-wear entries should be items worn by all team members and supporters (button down shirts, golf shirt, etc.), not a one-of-a-kind item designed specifically for judging consideration. In addition, teams should submit a brief explanation of their design (no longer than one page) with their shirt. The explanation sheet should clearly identify the team # and school name and be attached to the shirt by pin, clothespin, paperclip, or some similar device. Entries should be submitted to the Registration/Information Desk before 3PM on Saturday, December 1 to be considered for judging. Items may be picked up at the Registration Desk on Sunday afternoon.

Web Page Design Award

The website is a marketing tool to be used by the “BEST company” to both market their robot for retail sales and to emphasize that their company is the best company by which to purchase a robot. On a well-organized and professionally presented website, teams should showcase their company’s team members, development efforts, and community outreach with consideration to the constraints of the game theme. Judging will be based on the following categories: basic information, navigation, functionality, layout/readability, content/game theme, community outreach, and creativity/originality.

To be considered for this award, submit the URL to the following link by Tuesday, November 13th: [2018 Web Page Design Submission](#). Judging of webpages will begin on November 14th. Be sure your site is active and ready to be judged by this date.

Computer-Aided Design Award (1st place only)

Awarded to the team that shows the highest mastery and most creative use of CAD software. Criteria used to assess the designs include best use of CAD software, quality of designs, and degree of difficulty and mastery. Any CAD software may be used. Each team can submit a maximum of 10 pages of CAD drawings and should include one additional description page (no more than one page typed) of how the team implemented CAD in their design process and what type of software was used to develop the drawings. These documents should be placed in an envelope or a binder labeled with the school name and team # on the outside. Drawings can be submitted to the Registration Table by 3PM on Saturday, December 1st for consideration.

HMMA Team Exhibit Design & Construction Award (BEST Award teams only)

Awarded to the top three teams with the most creative and innovative Exhibit design.

Team Exhibit and Interview Award (BEST Award teams only)

Awarded to the team that scores the highest on the Team Exhibit and Interview category.

Marketing Presentation Award (BEST Award teams only)

Awarded to the team that scores the highest on the Marketing Presentation category.

Spirit and Sportsmanship Award (BEST Award teams only)

Awarded to the team that scores the highest on the Spirit and Sportsmanship category of the BEST award competition.

Team Demographics/Minors on Campus Parental Waiver Submission

All teams must submit a hard copy Team Demographics Form and an Auburn University Minors on Campus Consent Form* for every student planning to attend South's BEST. Minors on Campus forms must be signed (by participant and parent/guardian) and received by the deadlines below, based upon your local hub competition dates. Failure to submit these forms will result in ineligibility to participate in this competition. Please submit waivers to the following address:

COSAM Outreach
131 Sciences Center Classrooms Building; 315 Roosevelt Concourse
Auburn University, AL 36849

Hub Competition Dates	Submission Deadline (this is NOT a postmark deadline)
October 6	5:00pm CDT, Tuesday, October 16
October 13	5:00pm CST, Tuesday, October 23
October 20	5:00pm CST, Tuesday, October 30
October 26/27	5:00pm CST, Tuesday, November 6
November 1/3	5:00pm CST, Tuesday, November 13

* The Auburn University Minors on Campus Consent Form is required for participation in South's BEST. This form is required to adhere to Auburn University's Minors on Campus policy.

BEST Award Requirements and Logistics

Hub vs. Championship Judging

Teams electing to participate in the BEST Award recognize that inclusiveness, diversity of participation, exposure to and use of the engineering process, sportsmanship, teamwork, creativity, positive attitude and enthusiasm, and school and community involvement play significant roles in a team's competitive experience and contribute to student success in the competition beyond winning an award.

In accordance with the BEST philosophy, materials submitted by teams must be the work of students. The involvement of student peers in auxiliary roles to support a school's official BEST team with the documentation – i.e., journalists, photographers, and/or artists– is encouraged.

Due to space limitations, we will enforce a limit on the number of BEST Award teams that are eligible to compete at South's BEST. Teams that advance due to their BEST Award placing will be expected to compete in the BEST Award at South's. If the team advanced due to their Robotics rankings, they will NOT be invited to compete in the BEST Award at South's UNLESS the same team would have also advanced due to their BEST Award ranking.

All teams competing for the BEST Award must participate and will be judged using the following categories:

Judged Components	Point Value
Engineering Notebook	30 points
Marketing Presentation	25 points
Team Exhibit and Interviews	20 points
Spirit and Sportsmanship	10 points
Robot Performance	15 points

Total: 100 points

Engineering Notebook (30 points)

ALL participating teams (both BEST Award and non-BEST Award) are required to submit an Engineering Notebook in order to compete at South's BEST. The Engineering Notebook should be received by 5PM on the date below.

Team notebooks must be submitted electronically via the following link: <https://driveuploader.com/upload/1Hfl18ADZZ/>. Files must be in PDF format (saved as one single document – not multiple) with a file name of "Team# - Team Name.pdf" or "555 - South High School.pdf."

Hub Competition Dates	Submission Deadline (this is NOT a postmark deadline)
October 6	5:00pm CDT, Tuesday, October 16
October 13	5:00pm CST, Tuesday, October 23
October 20	5:00pm CST, Tuesday, October 30
October 26/27	5:00pm CST, Tuesday, November 6
November 1/3	5:00pm CST, Tuesday, November 13

For additional information regarding your Engineering Notebook, please reference Section 5.1 – *Judged Components*, pages 53 – 54 of the 2018 BEST Robotics Competition Rules.

Marketing Presentation (25 points)

Marketing presentations will take place on Saturday, December 3 from 9:00am – 12:30pm in the Sciences Center Classrooms building. On November 6th, each BEST Award team will sign up for 2 preferred presentation time slots with teams emailing their top two time slots choices to Janie Marino at jgm0010@aubuern.edu by Friday, November 9th. Teams that have not requested a time slot by that time will be assigned an open time slot. Information about Marketing Presentation time slots, maps, and room locations can be found in each team's Registration Packet (picked up at Registration).

Teams at South's BEST will have a total of 18 minutes from when they enter the room to set-up, begin, and complete their presentation.

Check-in for Marketing Presentations will be Saturday, December 1 at the Sciences Center Classroom Building, room 115. Teams should check-in 20 minutes prior to their scheduled time slot.

For additional information regarding your Marketing Presentation, please reference Section 5.2 – *Judged Components*, pages 55 – 57 of the 2017 BEST Robotics Competition Rules.

Marketing Presentation Equipment Guidelines

At the time of the presentation, the following equipment will be available: Macbook Pro equipped with MS Office 2011, an updated Chrome browser, projector, and a screen. The team must provide any additional equipment it wishes to use. Please bring a copy of team's presentation on a jump drive.

Teams are allowed to use their own equipment; however, they should account for the extra time needed to set up their equipment.

Team Exhibit and Interviews (20 points)

Team Exhibits will be located on the 3rd floor concourse of the Beard-Eaves-Memorial Coliseum. The South's BEST staff will assign team locations for display. Teams will be directed to their assigned location upon registration.

Team Exhibit set-up can begin after team check-in at the Registration desk in the Beard-Eaves-Memorial Coliseum. Exhibits should be completely set up by 7:00pm on Saturday and students should be prepared for judges to begin visiting their tables starting at 9:30am on Sunday.

Tables will not be provided at South's BEST. Teams wishing to have a table in their booth should supply their own. Each team should bring one extension cord and one power strip IF the display requires electricity.

Teams should not leave valuable equipment in the Exhibit booth overnight.

It is anticipated that judging of Exhibits will be finished no later than 3:30pm. Note that judging will NOT occur during the lunch break (anticipated 12:00 to 1:00pm on Sunday). Please wait until the official announcement before any breakdown begins.

Fog machines and strobe lighting are NOT allowed in booths. Heat generating devices are NOT allowed in booths (e.g., blow dryers, soldering irons, utility lamps, 3D printers, etc.). Standard string/Christmas lights are fine. Candy and other food or drink items are NOT permitted at Team Exhibits as complimentary handouts.

Live animals may NOT be distributed as part of a team giveaways. Stickers will NOT be allowed to be distributed as part of team giveaways.

For additional information regarding your Team Exhibit and Judges Interview, please reference Section 5.3 – *Judged Components*, pages 58 – 59 of the 2018 BEST Robotics Competition Rules.

Spirit and Sportsmanship (10 Points)

Judges will evaluate this category on Game Weekend.

Judges will observe the spirit promoted by the team during the head-to-head competition matches as well as the team's conduct throughout the day in the seating area, team exhibit area, game floor, and pit area.

Judges may also consider the teams' conduct at the entire competition (Saturday, Saturday evening, hotel locations, etc.).

No tape of any kind can be used on any Beard-Eaves-Memorial Coliseum surface to secure posters, banners, spirit signage, etc. Teams should plan to use rope, cable ties, string, etc. when securing spirit stick items to Coliseum surfaces. Tape may be used inside Team Exhibits on surfaces provided by the team.

The following noise-makers are banned at the event: air-horns, whistles (and similar high frequency items), bass drums (and similar low frequency items), amplified sound or amplified instruments.

Instruments, including bass drums, will only be allowed during specified spirit breaks and should not be played unless invited by the emcee.

The Head Judge has the right to ban any noise-makers that are deemed to potentially cause hearing damage by those in attendance at South's BEST.

Spirit Stick: To facilitate judging, each competing team may bring a "spirit stick" for identification in the seating area. Specifications include:

- School name and/or team number prominently displayed and visible by judges from a distance
- Pole constructed of PVC pipe or similar material (should not be pointed or sharp on either end)
- Maximum height of 8 feet
- Maximum of 5 spirit sticks per team

Spirit sticks are meant solely as a means of team identification by the judges during the competition. Please do not attach spirit sticks to the seating area.

Note that the Coliseum may not be well-lighted during the competition, so teams may wish to take this into account when designing their spirit stick. Making a team easier to identify makes for happy judges!

For additional information regarding Spirit and Sportsmanship, please reference Section 5.4 – *Judged Components*, page 60 of the 2018 BEST Robotics Competition Rules.

Robot Performance (10 Points)

The fifth category, Robot Performance, will determine the final 15% of possible BEST Award points. These 15 points will be based on the total game points earned throughout the seeding competition (prior to the semi-final and championship rounds) according to the following scale:

Team finishes in top 20% of all teams competing	15 Points
Team finishes in top 40% of all teams competing	12 Points
Team finishes in top 60% of all teams competing	9 Points
Team finishes in top 80% of all teams competing	6 Points
Team finishes in top 100% of all teams competing	3 Points
Team is unable to score any points during the competition	0 Points

Up to 15 Robot Performance points will be added to the total BEST Award points.

Applying for the Simulink Design Award

The “BEST Simulink Design Award” sponsored by MathWorks is an award open to all teams participating in the competition. The award will be presented to one team in each of the 5 BEST regions (Northern Plains, Frontier Trails, South’s, Texas, Wild West) that best applies the ‘Simulink Support Package for VEX’ based on the specified judging criteria and their robot performance in the competition. Any team using MathWorks MATLAB/Simulink to design their software (i.e. robot program) is eligible.

To apply for the award, teams are required to submit their Simulink model and a link to a short video describing their program design using Simulink. Teams will submit their entries by completing a form at the following location: http://www.bestinc.org/simulink_award/form.php with the password: Recycl3m3.

The entries must be submitted before 11 PM (local time) November 24, 2018 for all regions.

Information that teams need to provide when submitting their entry:

- Name of School
- BEST Hub (know which hub you belong to)
- Team Contact
- Team Contact Email Address (important: all entries are tied to this email address)
- # Students on the Team
- Simulink Model File (.slx file)
- Link to YouTube Video (3 min. maximum)
- Brief Description (256 chars) of how the team used Simulink to program their robot

For additional information regarding this award, please see the following: Section 4.4.2 – *Simulink Design Award Guidelines*, Section 4.4.3 – *Simulink Design Award Evaluations*, and Section 4.4.4 – *Simulink Design Award Recognition* on pages 51-52 in the 2018 BEST Robotics Competition Rules.

Additional Information

Seating at South’s BEST

Teams may establish seating sections starting at 8:00am or after on Saturday morning. Teams may only establish their seating sections following their check-in at Registration. Seating will only be allowed in DESIGNATED seating areas of the Coliseum. Team seating is on a first-come, first serve basis and please be courteous to other teams by only reserving seats needed for your team. Teams may NOT rope off seating due to fire code restrictions.

Results

A distinguished team of judges from both private and public sectors with technical and non-technical expertise will evaluate teams with all judges serving on a rotation schedule.

Category scores will be the average of each judges' individual scores. Teams should know in advance that scores among many teams frequently differ by only fractions of a point.

Each team will be mailed a copy of its score sheets following the competition. Top rankings will be posted on the South's BEST website at www.southsbest.org.