Mini Scouting Palooza Manual

Fall 2021

Hosted by PWNAGE 2451

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The Basics

The bare minimum you need to know:

- Register to compete here: http://tiny.cc/MSP2021-Register

- Submit entries here: http://tiny.cc/MSP2021-Submissions

- You don't have to submit to all three awards

- Submissions open Nov 1, and close on Nov 30

- Our website is https://pwnagerobotics.org/scoutingpalooza

- Contact scoutingpalooza@gmail.com with any questions

- Have fun!

Why Participate?

Our first Scouting Palooza, held last spring, was originally created to fill the void that COVID and cancelled competitions caused. Due to the positive feedback and success of our last palooza, PWNAGE decided to make it an annual event, but moved it to the preseason, for greater flexibility.

At PWNAGE, we believe that scouting is a fundamental part of FRC that should be celebrated! The Scouting Palooza is a way for teams to practice their scouting skills and engage in friendly competition that may have been lacking within the last year and a half. It's also a way for newer teams to gain exposure to the subject.

Have fun and good luck!

Rules

We only have a few rules:

- Live by Coopertition

- Teams may enter as many awards as they would like, but a team can only win one of the 3 awards

- Only one entry per team per award

- Teams must register for the competition first before they will be considered for any award

- All submission files must be in PDF format

- Judges' decisions are final

- Previous winners of an award are not eligible for that award for 2 years.

Timeline

Submissions open on Nov 1

Submissions close on Nov 30

Judges' decisions will be announced in January.

The exact date is TBD, but will be posted on our social media soon after submissions close.

How to Enter

STEP 1: Registration

Register here: http://tiny.cc/MSP2021-Register

In order to make sure we have enough judges, we need an idea of how many teams will be competing, so pre-registration is required. You are not eligible to win unless you pre-register!

Registration will remain open until the competition closes on Nov 30. However, please register as soon as you know your team will compete, so we can properly allocate and prepare our judges.

STEP 2: Prepare submission

Create your submission. You should have a separate PDF file for each award entered.

    Note: For awards with several parts, include answers to all parts in one PDF.

Each submission should clearly have the following information in the PDF:

- Team Number

- Contact Name

- Contact Email

- Which award this entry is being submitted to

All submissions must be in a PDF format. After writing your submission or creating your visualization, convert/export it to a PDF file. Please name it using this format: <teamNumber>_<Award Name>_2021.pdf

STEP 3: Submit Entry

Submit your entry here: http://tiny.cc/MSP2021-Submissions

Fill out the form completely and upload your PDF entries for each award you'd like to enter. Please wait until all your entries are completed and then submit them all at once.

Any questions can be addressed to scoutingpalooza@gmail.com

The Innovation Award

<u>Format:</u> Long Answer

You only have to respond to one of the prompts below.

<u>Prompts:</u>

#1: What is the biggest innovation that your team has made over the past two years that has brought your team to the next level of scouting?

#2: If you are new to scouting, what is one innovation your team plans to implement this season? Explain benefits and future implementation strategy.

#3: Describe the evolution and advancement of scouting technology/methods used by your team over the past 4 years. Explain the reasoning and tradeoffs for the decisions made.

Scoring Rubric for The Innovation Award

15 Pt. Scale	Innovation/Creativity (__/15)	Usefulness (__/10)	Implementation (__/10)	10 Pt. Scale
10-15	The scouting solution is innovative and novel. Solution takes a unique approach to effectively tackling one of team's problems.			
5-9	The scouting solution is somewhat innovative. While the solution is a good idea, it is common or doesn't solve a problem.	Innovation presents significant benefits to the team. Benefits are clearly detailed.	Innovation was implemented and used during a competition season.	5-10
0-4	Solution is not innovative or doesn't relate to scouting.	Innovation had no benefit to the team.	Innovation was conceptual only or only partially implemented.	0-4

The Data Visualization Award

Share a data visualization that your team has created in the past and explain how this visualization advanced your team's scouting endeavors. Format: Graph(s) with short explanation.

Scoring Rubric for The Data Visualization Award:

15 Pt. Scale	Visual Appeal (__/15)	Data Insight (__/15)	Readability (__/15)
10-15	Graph is clean, professional, and takes a unique approach to visualizing data.	Graph presents a unique data insight, one which holds clear benefits for the team.	Graph clearly expresses its information and follows graphing conventions (i.e. axes labelled, legend present). Data's conclusions are apparent.
5-9	Graph may be visually confusing or cluttered.	Graph presents some benefit to the team, but not an insight unique to this medium.	Graph's information is mostly clear. Conclusions can be drawn, but with a required effort.
0-4	Graph is unintelligible.	Graph holds no practical value to the team.	Graph is misleading or does not succinctly represent data.

The General Scouting Award

Answer the following questions about your team's scouting efforts. Teams are required to answer a minimum of 7 questions, but can choose which ones to answer.

Format: Questionnaire / Short Answer

General

1. What does your team do differently compared to other teams when scouting?

2. Why is scouting important?

3. How do you make FIRST Core Values and Coopertition a priority in scouting?

4. What skills does scouting teach your students that can be used beyond FIRST and in future careers?

5. Tell us your favorite scouting story.

Process

6. How does your team maintain/practice scouting during the off-season?

7. How do you keep scouts engaged at competitions?

8. How do you filter/organize your collected data into something meaningful and comprehensible (ex: a visual, etc)?

9. How does your team communicate/strategize with other teams at competitions?

10. How do you train new students to scout?

11. How do you decide what game factors/types of data to scout?

<u>Analysis</u>

12. How do you deal with errors or technical problems with your data?

13. How do you apply/use your data to create a pick list?

14. How do you consider your own team's performance when applying data?

Scoring Rubric for The General Scouting Award

Points Per Question	5-6	3-4	1-2
Reason	Team demonstrates excellence in scouting through concrete examples. Answer is well thought out and shows the team's passion for and commitment to scouting.	Team's passion and commitment are clear to judges, but answer lacks depth or concrete examples.	Answer is brief or confusing and doesn't demonstrate the team's approach to scouting.