

Team Update 21

General

- **Last One:** *Team Update 21* is the final Team Update of the 2018 *FIRST POWER UP* season.
- **Auto Plate Assignment:** As noted in [Q405](#), one pattern in the four possible patterns of switch/scale randomization appeared more frequently than desired. We have now implemented a solution that results in more uniform distribution of plate patterns, and this solution was deployed during Week 6 events.

The answer to [Q405](#) has been updated as follows:

Updated: 4/10/18

The plates are randomized into one of four patterns, there is no consideration or compensation to guarantee that any individual pattern will appear an equal number of times. However, we too have noticed the RLR pattern appearing more frequently over the thousands of matches that have already been played this season, and we are looking into it.

As announced in Team Update 21, as of week 6 events, a patch has been deployed that results in more uniform PLATE pattern distribution.

- **Awards Update:** The Awards pages have been updated to reflect District Championship Divisions.
- **Q&A:** The official 2018 Q&A will close at noon (Eastern) on Wednesday, April 11, 2018.

Rules & Expectations for *FIRST* Robotics Competition Events

No changes.

Game & Season Manual

Section 10.12.3.8

These slots are guaranteed to the Districts and populated with the following teams:

- qualifying award winners from the District Championship (Chairman's Award, Engineering Award, and Rookie All Star winners),
- teams on the **District Championship Playoff** Winning Alliance ~~from the District Championship~~ (including any Back-Up teams participating),
- qualifying award winners among district teams who traveled to Regionals,
- teams on the final District ranking list, as deep in the ranking list as the District needs to go to fill their allocation.

Section 10.12.3.9 District Championships with Multiple Divisions

Some District Championships will have multiple divisions. In these cases:

- Division winning ALLIANCES play each other in District Championship Playoffs, employing the bracket below that corresponds to their District, until a winning ALLIANCE for the event is determined.

Figure 10-5 FIRST in Michigan District Championship Playoff Bracket

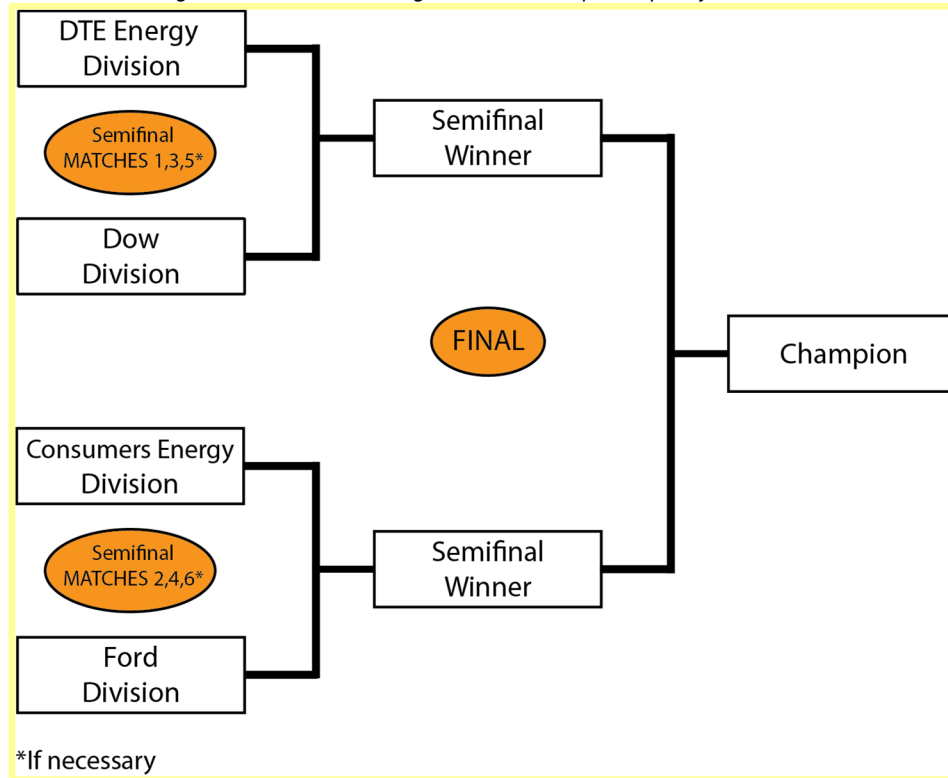
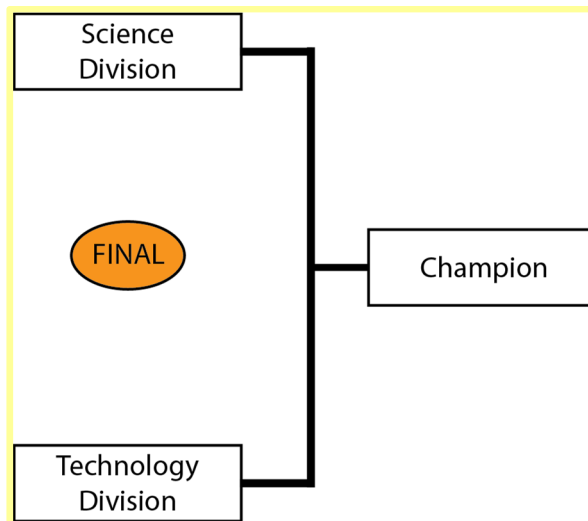


Figure 10-6 Ontario District Championship Playoff Bracket



- Teams participating in District Championship Playoffs earn Playoff round performance District points as described in Section 10.12.3.3.
- If an ALLIANCE in a District Championship Playoff has not yet adopted a BACKUP ROBOT per Section 10.5.2, the ALLIANCE CAPTAIN may bring in only the highest seeded team from their Division's pool of available teams to join its ALLIANCE.
- Team assignments to the Divisions are determined using an algorithm developed by FIRST in Michigan to balance Divisions with respect to team strengths.

