

Team Update 04

General

Official Q&A

[Question 23](#) in the *FIRST* Robotics Competition Q&A led to a good discussion among the folks who answer those questions. The answer is nuanced, and we'd like to use this Team Update to bring attention to it.

Game Manual

Section 5.7 GAME PIECES

NOTES undergo wear and tear during a competition. Generally, a NOTE that still appears to look approximately like a NOTE is considered a NOTE for the purposes of rule evaluation and scoring, whether damaged or not. Small chunks of a NOTE are not considered a NOTE.

Section 6.5.4 SPOTLIGHTING

ALLIANCES may SPOTLIGHT ROBOTS by scoring a HIGH NOTE on a MICROPHONE. A HIGH NOTE is scored on the MICROPHONE if the NOTE surrounds, i.e. encircles, the MICROPHONE.

[Q70](#) has been updated to reflect this edit.

Section 6.8 Other Logistics

NOTES that leave the FIELD are not returned to game play by FIELD STAFF.

Section 7.4.3 ROBOT

G415 **Watch your ARENA interaction.** ROBOTS are prohibited from the following interactions with ARENA elements, except chain (see [G416](#)) and GAME PIECES (see [Section 7.4.2 GAME PIECES](#)).

- A. grabbing,
- B. grasping,
- C. attaching to (including the use of a vacuum or hook fastener to anchor to the FIELD carpet),
- D. becoming entangled with, and
- E. damaging, and
- F. suspending from.

Violation: TECH FOUL, plus YELLOW CARD if REPEATED or longer than MOMENTARY. If the Head REFEREE infers that damage is likely, DISABLED. Corrective action (such as eliminating sharp edges, removing the damaging MECHANISM, and/or re-inspection) may be required before the ROBOT will be allowed to compete in subsequent MATCHES.

Section 10.5.3 Qualification Ranking

Table 10-1 Qualification MATCH ranking criteria

Order Sort	Criteria
5 th	Average ALLIANCE PARK, ONSTAGE, and NOTE in TRAP STAGE points

Section 10.6.2.1 Playoff MATCH Ties

Table 10-3 Playoff MATCH Tiebreaker Criteria

Order Sort	Criteria
3 rd	ALLIANCE PARK, ONSTAGE, and NOTE in TRAP STAGE points

Section 11.2 District Championship Eligibility

Table 11-5 2024 District Championship Capacities

District Championship	Capacity	Divisions
FIRST Chesapeake District Championship	64 54	1