



**Inspiring technology literacy and creativity
in youth through hands-on, mentor-based
programs across New England in collaboration
with the world's leading youth-serving nonprofit
advancing STEM Education, *FIRST*®**

High School Students in Massachusetts Make Waves with STEM as they Compete in an Ocean-Inspired Robotics Competition in Springfield

Mar. 14, 2025

SPRINGFIELD, MASS. – Thirty-five teams of students in grades 9–12 from Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Vermont will compete at the NE *FIRST* Western NE District Event, a *FIRST*® Robotics Competition qualifier, the weekend of March 15–16, 2025, at Western New England University. The event is free and open to the public.

FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) combines the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and technology. With strict rules and limited resources, each team of high-school students is challenged to raise funds, hone teamwork skills, and build and program robots to perform prescribed tasks against a field of competitors. This year, the challenge is [REEFSCAPE presented by Haas](#), an ocean-themed game played by two alliances of three robots each.

[REEFSCAPE presented by Haas](#) is part of the [2025 *FIRST* DIVE](#)SM presented by Qualcomm season. In REEFSCAPE, competing teams will use their engineering skills to strengthen one of the ocean's most diverse habitats—making waves to build a better world. Project-based, hands-on *FIRST* programs introduce students to engineering and coding in an engaging, inclusive, and creative learning environment in schools and local communities. Participants work collaboratively to solve an annual, themed robotics challenge.

NE *FIRST* FRC District Events are where teams will see their solutions play out in a competitive arena. New England FRC teams each earn ranking points at two local district events, such as the NE *FIRST* Western NE District Event, with the hopes of qualifying to participate in the regional advancement tournament, the New England District Championship. The New England District Championship will host 96 of the top-ranked New England FRC teams the weekend of April 3–5, 2025, at the Eastern States Exposition (The Big E) in West Springfield, Mass.

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For more information, visit NEFIRST.org

**LEARN MORE:
NEFIRST.ORG**

Public Event Schedule nefirst.org/frc-events/uvvm

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

- Event opens at 8 a.m.
- Opening ceremonies at 10:30 a.m.
- Qualification matches from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. and 2–7 p.m.
- Event closes at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

- Event opens at 8 a.m.
- Opening ceremonies at 9 a.m.
- Qualification matches from 9:30–11:30 a.m.
- Playoff matches and awards from 1–4:00 p.m.
- Event closes at ~5:00 p.m.

FIRST Robotics Competition Team List: NE FIRST Western NE District Event

#	Name	From	#	Name	From
61	BVT Robotics	Upton, MA	3461	Operation PEACCE	Bristol, CT
173	RAGE Robotics	Tolland, CT	4169	Warrior Robotics	Sudbury, MA
176	Aces High	Windsor Locks, CT	4628	Sintian Robotics	West Haven, CT
177	Bobcat Robotics	South Windsor, CT	4905	Andromeda One	Ayer, MA
178	2nd Law Enforcers	Farmington, CT	5563	Phalanx	Lynn, MA
195	CyberKnights	Southington, CT	6731	Record Robotics	Belmont, MA
236	Techno-Ticks	Old Lyme, CT	6895	Mechanical Madness 4-H	Walpole, NH
429	Two Many Bobcats	South Windsor, CT	6933	Archytas	Bethel, VT
467	Center of Mass	Shrewsbury, MA	7127	LongMetal Robotics	Longmeadow, MA
571	Team Paragon	Windsor, CT	7694	THE IRON LIONS	West Hartford, CT
999	MechaRAMS	Cheshire, CT	8013	Boston Lions	Boston, MA
1027	Mechatronic Maniacs	West Springfield, MA	8046	LakerBots	Meredith, NH
1100	Inverse Polarity	North/Southborough, MA	8567	Team Ultraviolet	Wellesley Hills, MA
1922	Oz-Ram	Contoocook, NH	8604	Alpha Centauri	Lexington, MA
2170	Galvanized Guardians	Glastonbury, CT	9096	Bad Weather	Stowe, VT
2262	Robo-Panthers	Holliston, MA	9710	Discovery PolyBotz	Springfield, MA
2370	IBOTS	Rutland, VT	10592	Stamford Cyber-Hird TSA	Stamford, CT
3146	GRANBY GRUNTS	Granby, CT			

About NE FIRST

New England *FIRST* supports the global mission of *FIRST*® in all six New England states: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. NE *FIRST* provides accessible, innovative robotics programs that motivate young people to pursue education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math, while building self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills. NE *FIRST* is supported by ingenuityNE, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public charity incorporated in the State of Connecticut. **Learn more at nefirst.org.**

Additional New England *FIRST* Robotics Competition Events (full details linked)

• Salem, NH	NE FIRST Granite State District Event	March 1–2, 2025
• Falmouth, ME	NE FIRST Southern Maine District Event	March 1–2, 2025
• Waterbury, CT	NE FIRST Waterbury District Event	March 8–9, 2025
• Revere, MA	NE FIRST Greater Boston District Event	March 8–9, 2025
• Kingston, RI	NE FIRST URI District Event	March 14–15, 2025
• Springfield, MA	NE FIRST Western NE District Event	March 15–16, 2025
• Lewiston, MA	NE FIRST Pine Tree District Event	March 15–16, 2025
• Worcester, MA	NE FIRST WPI District Event	March 22–23, 2025
• Durham, NH	NE FIRST UNH District Event	March 22–23, 2025
• Hartford, CT	NE FIRST Hartford District Event	March 29–30, 2025
• Burlington, VT	NE FIRST UVM District Event	March 29–30, 2025
• West Springfield, MA	New England District Championship	April 3–5, 2025

About *FIRST*®

FIRST® is a robotics community that prepares young people for the future through a suite of inclusive, team-based robotics programs for ages 4–18 (grades PreK–12) that can be facilitated in school or in structured afterschool programs. Boosted by a global support system of volunteers, educators, and sponsors that include over 200 of the Fortune 500 companies, teams operate under a signature set of *FIRST* Core Values to conduct research, fundraise, design, build, and showcase their achievements during annual challenges.

An international not-for-profit organization founded by accomplished inventor Dean Kamen in 1989, *FIRST* has a [proven impact](#) on STEM learning, interest, and skill-building well beyond high school. [Alumni](#) of *FIRST* programs gain access to exclusive scholarships, internships, and other opportunities that create connections and open pathways to a wide variety of careers.

FIRST is powered primarily by volunteers. Professionals from the business community serve as mentors for high school team members. Each team is responsible for their own fundraising, and are judged on many criteria from community outreach to robot creativity to team sustainability.

Learn more at firstinspires.org.