

Greetings Teams!

On behalf of the Central Illinois Regional Planning Committee, we welcome you to our 7th Central Illinois Regional. It has been a very busy few months for everyone, but we are looking forward to hosting you at the Central Illinois Regional, March 18-21, 2020.

There have been numerous inquiries regarding the impact of the Covid-19 virus on FIRST events. We are following FIRST's direction for the Central Illinois Regional. FIRST has released the following:
<https://www.firstinspires.org/covid-19>

Information regarding the Central Illinois Regional can be found on the FIRST IL Robotics website at:
<https://www.firstillinoisrobotics.org/frc/events/central-illinois-regional/>

Food at the Event: Bradley University Catering department provides the food options for the Central Illinois Regional, including several on-campus options.

Box lunches and Pizza are available for pre-order. The order form is easily available to fill out on the Bradley FIRST Robotics Lunch Options page:

<https://www.bradley.edu/academic/continue/programs/robotics/lunch/>

These pre-orders will be delivered to the venue and can be picked up at Concession Stand #1 on Southeast side of Renaissance Coliseum, so your team will not need to leave the venue. **Orders must be placed by 3:00 pm on March 16, 2020.**

A food court is available in the Michel Student Center, which is a short walk from the Renaissance Coliseum and has Chick-fil-A, Moe's Southwestern Grill, Marketplace Deli, & Tossed.

You may bring the Food Court items back to the venue but no other food purchased at nearby restaurants will be permitted anywhere in the facility. There will be concession stands in the Renaissance Coliseum with hot dogs, bratwurst, soda, popcorn, candy, etc.

If a team member has a special dietary need and will be bringing a pre-packed lunch that is certainly permitted on an individual basis.

Team Social: Per the previous email blast sent to team lead and asst. lead mentors, there will not be a team social at CIR this year.

The CIR Safety Glass Station will continue to be staffed by team volunteers:

Volunteers needed for the Safety Glasses station at 2020 CIR March 19, 20, 21
Who says the Safety Glasses Table cannot be fun?

Yet again, we will be managing the safety glasses table at CIR and are seeking team members to work shifts at our two safety glasses stations (one upstairs at the Pit entrance, the other downstairs at the Pit exit). Team members will man the two safety glasses stations in 1½-2 hour increments- we ask that each team provide at least 4 people for at least one time slot.

We have an objective to make sure that the people staffing the tables do not miss matches where their team is playing, so we will coordinate the schedule and provide substitutes so you can watch while your team competes.

First come, first served for filling the available slots. To sign up, **please have each team member** fill out the form at <https://forms.gle/1xPkvHhgdVmaJgBdA>

Form may also be found on Robot Casserole website here, <https://robotcasserole.org/>

If you have questions about the safety glasses table, please send them to Carrie Wong: catipaalis@gmail.com Thank you in advance!

Reminder from FIRST HQ:

Safety glasses are required in the pit area at all times. FIRST mentors and team members MUST bring their own safety glasses for the event. FIRST provides safety glasses for visitors to borrow. If a team member must borrow FIRST safety glasses, a mentor will be required to come with them to the safety glasses station and sign a pair out for the student. The mentor is also responsible to sign the glasses back in. Remember to keep safety glasses with you, rather than packing them in your pit boxes!

Parking: Due to construction on the Bradley campus, last minute load-in and parking instructions will be sent to teams just prior to the event.

Load-In Information: Again this year, we will allow pit set up during the Wednesday night load in from 6pm to 8:30pm. Local Teams will be providing volunteers to assist you unloading your vehicles and trailers so we can keep the flow moving into the venue and minimize wait in line. When your vehicle is unloaded and all items are cleared from the sidewalk, you will be permitted to set up your pit. Access will be limited to 5 team members, one of which must be an adult mentor. Robot Inspectors will be monitoring the Pits during this time to ensure safety. No one else will have access to the arena, so please plan accordingly if your entire team is arriving on a bus on Wednesday evening. The maps and procedure for load in will be updated just prior to the event. Please review the document and feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

We have updated the IL FIRST CIR website to reflect 2020 information.
<https://www.firstillinoisrobotics.org/frc/events/central-illinois-regional/>

Please feel free to contact us with any questions. We look forward to greeting you and your team in a few weeks!

Best regards,

Tim Koch

Central Illinois Regional Planning Committee Chairman

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