

# BATTLE O' BALTIMORE

## Welcome to the Tenth Annual Battle O' Baltimore!

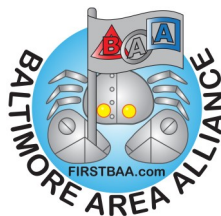
The FIRST Baltimore Area Alliance proudly presents the Battle O' Baltimore, the only off-season event in Maryland.

This year's game is based on the 2016 FIRST FRC Challenge, *FIRST STRONGHOLD*, with a bit of Maryland flavor mixed in.

FIRSTBAA, an alliance of teams in the Baltimore area, wants to thank our sponsors for their generous support.

Enclosed in this packet, you will find a team questionnaire to complete and bring with you, as well as information that we hope will be helpful.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to visit our website at [www.battleobaltimore.com](http://www.battleobaltimore.com) or contact the BAA at [battleobaltimore@gmail.com](mailto:battleobaltimore@gmail.com)



**MCDONOUGH SCHOOL**



**What:** Battle O’Baltimore

**When:** Saturday, September 24, 2016, 9 am to 6 pm

**Where:** McDonogh School — Owings Mills, MD

**Cost:** FREE and open to the public

**Sponsors:** McDonogh School, The Maryland Space Business Roundtable, Mid-Atlantic Robotics, STEM Action, PIE3, NASA, and the FIRST Baltimore Area Alliance teams.

Founded by inventor Dean Kamen, FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) and its Robotics Competitions have engaged students around the world in science and technology. FIRST helps students discover the rewarding world of innovation and engineering with the help of more than 200,000 adult volunteers and mentors.

During the competition season, teams had 6 weeks to design, build, and test robots to play this year’s game called “FIRST STRONGHOLD”.

The official FRC competition events are held in March and April.

Off-season events are organized by local groups to provide additional competition opportunities and exposure to FIRST. The game is played based on the rules established during the regular season. The goal of off-season events is to train new members and entice the interest of potential participants.

FIRST competitions have been described as “the Super Bowl of Smarts.”

Teams at the Battle O’ Baltimore will be representing several states with many local teams participating.

This is the premier event in the Baltimore area for the off-season.

The Battle O’ Baltimore is an exciting event for all ages, including children.

Come learn how you can help build tomorrow’s engineers and scientists through this great program.

Guided tours of pits available!

For further information, visit the websites:

**Battle O’Baltimore:** [www.battleobaltimore.com](http://www.battleobaltimore.com)

**Baltimore Area Alliance:** [www.firstbaa.com](http://www.firstbaa.com)

**Maryland FIRST website:** [www.mdfirst.org](http://www.mdfirst.org)

**FIRST Chesapeake website:** [www.firstchesapeake.org](http://www.firstchesapeake.org)

**FIRST official website:** [www.firstinspires.org](http://www.firstinspires.org)

## **DO**

### **HAVE FUN!!!!!!**

Do respect everyone at the venue

Do bring banners/displays

Do operate in a safe manner

Do wear safety glasses and closed toed shoes in the pits  
and while competing

Do use tether cables to control your robot when not on the field

Do cheer for your team and show team spirit

Do cheer for other teams

Do decorate your pit area if you'd like

Do look at other robots in the pits

Do be prepared to show off your robot to visitors

Do be prepared to have younger roboteers and the public come to your pit  
and ask questions

## **DON'T**

Don't run in the arena

Don't block aisles with toolboxes, carts, supplies, etc.

Don't boo other teams

Don't bang sticks or other noisemakers on bleachers

Don't bring flammable liquids into the arena

Don't have food in the pits or around the playing field

Don't sell food or other items

# WHAT TO BRING CHECKLIST

## SAFETY ITEMS

- Safety Glasses for all team members and pit area guests
- Emergency contact numbers for all team members
- Simple First Aid kit supplies

## ROBOT ITEMS

- Robot, tether cable, and all accessories needed
- Extra battery and charger for the robot
- A backup of your programs
- Laptop computer if necessary

## PIT ITEMS

- Power strip and extension cords
- Tools needed for robot repair
- Extra parts needed for robot repair

## TEAM ITEMS

- Gracious Professionalism
- Team Spirit
- Money for breakfast and lunch
- Notepaper and pens/pencils
- Team promotional handouts
- Camera
- Pit decorations if desired

## **Battle O' Baltimore Team Questionnaire Please bring to event!**

1. Team Number:
  
2. School/Sponsoring Organization:
  
3. Community Partners:
  
4. Team Nickname (and what it means or where you got the idea for it):
  
5. Robot Name (is there anything meaningful about that?)
  
6. Years in FIRST:
  
7. Hometown and State. Is this a big city or a small town? What makes your hometown special?
  
8. How many students are on your team? Mentors? Other significant adults? Do your mentors come from one company, or a variety of businesses?
  
9. What events has your team participated in?
  
10. What awards have you won?
  
11. What does your team do other than build robots for the FIRST competition? Are you involved in any other FIRST-related activities? Are you involved as a team in any other community activities?
  
12. Is there anything you want to share about your team's alumni and their continuing involvement in FIRST or technology-related activities?
  
13. What else would you like for others to know about your team?

# Safety

**Safety rules will be strictly enforced at the Battle O' Baltimore. That means...**

**Safety glasses must be worn by everyone, at all times, in the pits and on the playing field!**

**Closed toe shoes are a requirement for team members in the pits and on the playing field.**

**Ear protection should be used where appropriate.**

**Please take extra care to tape down electrical cords if they may be a tripping hazard. Do not apply duct tape to the gym floor. See staff for gaff tape if needed.**

**If you arrive on Friday, please do not leave batteries charging overnight!**

**Pit space is limited—consider safety issues as you decide what to set up.**