



## 2021 Off-Season Events

June 24, 2021

### Overview

FIRST Mid-Atlantic's (FMA) primary goal is to give every team that wants to compete the chance to play in at least one event during the offseason providing the most equitable, safe and valuable re-introduction to in-person FRC events possible.

For the 2021 off-season, FMA will partner with off-season venues to host single-day events that can provide FMA teams with at least one play. The plan is that each event venue will have two events per weekend such that one set of teams play on Saturday and a second set of teams play on Sunday. The final number of events will be determined based on the interest of teams and some venues may only host one single-day event.

Due to the rapidly evolving conditions of the pandemic, it is unknown what the specific restrictions and limitations will be in the community and within the schools this fall. FMA & venue hosts will continue to monitor the situation and have developed two options to handle the possible conditions and will update the community closer to the fall. Specific safety precautions that will be in place at events will be communicated to teams at least one month in advance of the event.

### Event Registration

FMA will provide one complimentary first play for all FMA teams. This means that all teams can attend one off-season event at no cost! This is open to all FRC teams within the FMA territory, including any new rookie teams for the 2022 season or any previously registered FRC team.

FMA will manage event registration to ensure all FMA teams are assigned to an event that best aligns with their schedule and geographic location. Once all teams are assigned to an event, additional plays and plays for out-of-district teams may be available and will cost \$300 per play. Details of the registration process will be announced in the coming weeks. Therefore, please do not reach out to venue hosts to register for their events at this time. Any questions should be directed to FMA's Program Director, Joe Troy ([jtroy@midatlanticrobotics.org](mailto:jtroy@midatlanticrobotics.org)) or FMA Team Support at [teamsupport@midatlanticrobotics.org](mailto:teamsupport@midatlanticrobotics.org).

### Events

FMA has selected four existing and sustaining off-season venues and, in order to serve the entire geography of FMA, has added a new event in northern New Jersey at Clifton High School, in Clifton NJ. Below is the FMA Fall Off-Season Schedule:



	Event 1	Event 2*
<b>Event Name TBD</b> Clifton High School Clifton, NJ	Saturday, October 9	Sunday, October 10
<b>Duel on the Delaware</b> Salem Community College Carney's Point NJ	Saturday, October 16	Sunday, October 17
<b>HAVOC</b> Hatboro-Horsham High School Horsham, PA	Saturday, October 23	Sunday, October 24
<b>Ramp Riot</b> Wissahickon High School Ambler, PA	Saturday, October 30	Sunday, October 31
<b>Brunswick Eruption</b> North Brunswick High School North Brunswick, NJ	Saturday, November 6	Sunday, November 7

\*Note: Based on team registration & interest, some venues may only have a Saturday Event.

Any events that may occur within FMA territory outside of this list will not be supported by FMA.

### Event Specifics

Events will be limited to on-field play only and awards will be given out for on-field performance each event day. Judging and Robot Inspection will not occur at off-season events. Teams are encouraged to use their Gracious Professionalism and follow all robot and event rules outlined in the 2020/2021 Infinite Recharge Game Manual, as well as specifics provided by FMA for off-season events.

Tournament format may be altered from the 2020/2021 Game Manual to account for the size of the events. Any alterations will be consistent across all FMA off-season events and announced to teams at least one month in advance of events.

The table below outlines the two ways an off-season event may be conducted.

	Option 1 COVID Restrictive	Option 2 Let's Get Back to Normal
Event Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Play per team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Play + Additional Plays and Out-of-District Teams</li> </ul>
Team Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15-18 teams per event</li> <li>12 participants per team<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24-30 teams per event</li> <li>Participant limits in accordance with federal, state, or local laws, rules, and regulations, including host venue capacity guidance<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>



Field Layout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10' neutral zone around the 72'x30' playing field for field volunteers</li> <li>• 10'x10' queuing areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard field set up</li> </ul>
Pits / Robot Flow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10'x10' pits with 6' gaps between pits</li> <li>• 15' aisles</li> <li>• 6' wide one-way traffic to and from field</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10'x10' pits</li> <li>• 10' aisles</li> </ul>
Social Distancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Team Member / Volunteer flow paths that allow proper social distancing</li> <li>• Individual team areas in stands</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In accordance with host venue guidance</li> </ul>
Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No spectators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited spectators or in accordance with federal, state, or local laws, rules, and regulations, including host venue capacity guidance</li> </ul>

1. Must include 2 adults; final numbers may change

In order to limit the attendees & spectators, the FMA video streaming system will be utilized at all off-season events to allow for non-attendees to view the competition. Events will be broadcast on the FMA YouTube channel, which can be found at [www.youtube.com/c/midatlanticrobotics](http://www.youtube.com/c/midatlanticrobotics).

Attendees (students, mentors, volunteers) will be required to follow all safety precautions listed and discussed with them at the event. In the event that an attendee does not comply, actions will be taken to rectify the situation, including team or volunteer removal from the event. For teams, if a team member (or multiple team members) are caught not complying with the safety precautions, a warning will be provided to the team in the form of a yellow card. If a second incident with a team occurs, a red card and/or dismissal from the event will occur. For volunteers, an initial warning will be provided to the volunteer. If a second incident occurs, the volunteer will be dismissed from the event and may be prevented from volunteering at future FMA events.

### Event Safety Precautions

As CDC and federal/state/local/ laws, rules, regulations and guidance continue to change, FMA will be closely monitoring this in the weeks and months leading up to the off-season events to determine what safety precautions will be in effect and which option will be selected for each off-season event. Final safety precautions that will be in effect for each off-season event will be communicated to teams one month in advance.

*FIRST* and *FIRST* Mid-Atlantic retain the right to cancel events using *FIRST* and FMA owned equipment due to updated federal/state/local laws, rules, regulations and guidance. Notification of event cancellation to teams and event hosts will occur as early as possible prior to the event. Any registration fee paid by a team will be refunded if the event is cancelled.



As of June 24, 2021 the following list of safety precautions, at a minimum, will be in effect for every off-season event:

- Masks required at all times for all individuals in attendance
  - Updated CDC guidance for vaccinated individuals does not include explicit guidance on “large indoor events”, thus FMA is requiring masks for all individuals, vaccinated or not, at this time
  - FIRST Mid-Atlantic will have single-use masks for exceptional circumstances, but please bring your own
  - Must be worn properly over the mouth and nose at all times
  - Note: Face Shields, Bandanas, Single Layer Gaiters and masks with exhalation valves are NOT considered effective face masks for mitigating the spread of COVID-19. FIRST Mid-Atlantic will ask you to use an alternate or one of the masks provided by FMA instead.
- Maintain 6ft social distance where possible
- Field Cleaning will occur prior to the start of each event day and throughout the day as necessary
- Hand Sanitizer stands will be set up throughout the event
- Field Reset Adjustment
  - Allow teams to leave the field prior to new teams entering
  - Game element reset period without teams on the field

The following list of additional safety precautions may be in effect for every off-season event:

- Limited Event Capacity
  - Teams may be limited to a specific number of students and mentors that will be allowed in attendance. Exact numbers will be determined closer to the events, but we expect this number to be around 10-15 people total for option 1, and must include 2 adult mentors.
  - Volunteer roles will be limited to reduce the number of people in attendance
  - No spectators/public
  - No decorating team pits
- Proof of Vaccination or Negative COVID-19 Test
  - A negative PCR COVID-19 test result dated no more than 3 days prior to the event. Rapid antigen test results will not be accepted.
- Temperature/Symptom Check Upon Entry
  - Any person (single or part of a travel group) arriving with a temperature of more than 100.4 degrees F will be turned away. This includes if the entire team is traveling together
- Attestation of health/symptoms of participants

## Volunteers

Volunteer roles will be limited due to the limited capacity and structure of the events. Volunteers must have been cleared through the FIRST YPP system within the past 2 years and have their Pennsylvania Act 15/Act 153 clearances current and on file with FMA.



Preference may be given to those volunteers who were assigned and completed the necessary Infinite Recharge training prior to the 2020 season being cancelled.

Volunteer registration will be managed by FMA and the specific registration process will be communicated to the FMA community in the coming weeks and months. Therefore, please do not reach out to venue hosts to volunteer for their events at this time. Any questions should be directed to FMA Senior Volunteer Coordinator, Ali Marinari, at [amarinari@midatlanticrobotics.org](mailto:amarinari@midatlanticrobotics.org).

---