



DECEMBER 2023

# NEWSLETTER

## In This Newsletter:

- Dean's List Deadline Approaching
- Promote Award Information
- Compass Award Information
- December Learning Day Recap
- Bismarck Qualifier Information
- Fargo Qualifier Information
- Portfolio Feedback Opportunity

## Upcoming Dates!

- December 15** Deadline to register for Dakota FTC
- December 20** Deadline to send portfolio to Jason
- January 12** Bismarck Qualifier
- January 15** Deadline for Dean's List Submissions
- January 20** Fargo Qualifier
- February 3** Dakota FTC State Championship
- April 17-20** FIRST Championship in Houston, TX

**SAVE THE DATE**

## Dean's List Deadline Approaching

Dean's List Deadline is approaching. You have until **JANUARY 15** to get your applications in. Please be sure to nominate your outstanding sophomore and junior high school students for the Dean's List Award! Resources for nominating can be found on our [website](#).

## Portfolio Feedback Opportunity

Wondering if your team is on the right track with their portfolio this year? Jason Legatt, Dakota FTC Judge Advisor, is offering personalized feedback for any teams who e-mail their portfolio by 9AM on Wednesday, 12/20. He promises they will be returned with his notes by the new year. E-mail your portfolio to [jasonlegatt@gmail.com](mailto:jasonlegatt@gmail.com) for this opportunity.

## Are you Registered?

Today is the deadline to register to compete in the **Dakota FTC Qualifiers**. If your team is not on the list by Friday, December 15 at 11:59PM CT, your team will not be allowed to compete this season.

[Link to register is here.](#)

**CENTERS STAGE**

PRESENTED BY RTX

## Fargo's Scrimmage/Learning Day

Due to poor weather on the east side of the state, Fargo's December Scrimmage/Learning Day was cancelled. Teams in Casselton (picture) still used this opportunity to host their own scrimmage against each other!

Fargo-Moorhead teams will get another chance to scrimmage on Saturday, January 6 at the Fargo Air Museum as part of the FRC Kick-off. More details will be sent out next week. If teams wish to practice with the full field between now and January 6, please contact Angela Gross at [angela.gross@ndsu.edu](mailto:angela.gross@ndsu.edu).



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## Promote Award Info

The Promote Award is given to the Team that is most successful in creating a compelling video message for the public designed to change our culture and celebrate science, technology, engineering, and math. Teams must submit a one-minute-long public service announcement (PSA) video. The PSA for the 2023-2024 season is "The best thing about FIRST Tech Challenge is..."

Details on criteria and guidelines can be found on page 60/61 of the [FTC Game Manual, Part 1](#). All teams are eligible for this award at Dakota FTC State Championship. Submissions are due at the time of your interview before state and we will share submission details after qualifiers. This does not count towards one of the larger awards, meaning you can get this in addition to others.

## Compass Award Info

Your coach or mentor donates many hours to help your team be successful each year. PLEASE take the time to honor their work and consider a submission for this award.

The Compass Award recognizes an adult coach or mentor who has given outstanding guidance and support to a Team throughout the year and demonstrates to the Team what it means to be a Gracious Professional. The winner of the Compass Award will be chosen from candidates nominated by FIRST Tech Challenge Student Team members, via a 40-60 second video submission. The video must highlight how their mentor has helped them become an inspirational Team. We want to hear what sets the mentor apart. Details on criteria and guidelines can be found on page 61 of the [FTC Game Manual, Part 1](#).

Submissions are due one week prior to state.

## Alexander's Scrimmage/Learning Day

With a late start and only four teams showing up in person due to bad weather, the show still went on for this event, hosted and sponsored by teams #9963 (Comets) & #16630 (Tioga Tech Team). The feedback from the groups who participated was graciousness for allowing the opportunity for teams to get together to mentor and support a very challenging year. Two teams in Bismarck (#6645 Roboticus Maximus & #15886 Shiloh PickleBots) met together at the same time locally and still scrimmaged, supported and joined the presentation online.

A very special thanks to the College of Engineering & Mines at University of North Dakota, who also sponsored this event. Andrew Dahlen, Mechanical Engineering Lecturer from UND, joined online due to poor travel conditions and was excited by the teams he was able to speak with online. He gave an amazing virtual tour of the school facilities and several teams plan on visiting UND this spring to see it in person. He has offered to support teams who reach out via email at [andrew.dahlen.1@und.edu](mailto:andrew.dahlen.1@und.edu).



## Bismarck Qualifier Info

**Date:** Friday, January 12

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM (may change with match schedules)

**Location (NEW!):** [Dakota Adventist Academy](#) Address is 5905 Sheyenne Cir, Bismarck, ND 58503

More information about lunch being provided and other details (maps, where to park, pit info, etc.) will be sent out by December 26. This e-mail will also include virtual judging information.

## Fargo Qualifier Info

**Date:** Saturday, January 20

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM (may change with match schedules)

**Location:** [Bentson Bunker Fieldhouse](#) Address is 1301 Centennial Blvd, Fargo, ND 58102

More information about lunch being provided and other details (maps, where to park, pit info, etc.) will be sent out by January 2. This e-mail will also include virtual judging information. No hotels have been reserved for this event. For questions, reach out to Angela ([angela.gross@ndsu.edu](mailto:angela.gross@ndsu.edu))



Any Questions?



Add us on [Facebook](#)



Email [lee\\_gullingsrud@bismarckschools.org](mailto:lee_gullingsrud@bismarckschools.org)