

The Western Canadian Robot Games Official 2012 Rulebook

WCRG & General Rules

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Rev. 0

WCRG & General Rules

The purpose of the Western Canadian Robot Games (WCRG) is to encourage people to design and build robots, to engage in friendly competition, and to have fun.

We encourage beginners to build kits, because this is a great way to get started. We encourage "scratch" built robots, because they develop both design and building skills.

All venues and competitions are open to anyone interested, young or old. So grab a soldering iron, and start building. Designing and building robots is fun!

General Rules for ALL Robots

Robots must be safe. This means no flammable liquids, no compressed gases, no internal combustion engines, no noxious fumes, no shooting or whacking parts, and nothing that is unsafe.

The decisions of the judges and officials are final. A safety inspection also must be passed, which involves evaluation for sharp edges and wheel treads that can catch a finger, etc. A robot must not expel any liquid, powder, or gas.

A robot must not attempt to damage or injure any other robot, competition arenas, or people. For example, a robot must not include a flame thrower device, or throwing device. Another thing to watch for is laser beam diode devices. They have to be aimed **down** to prevent eye injuries in the crowd. **Anyone who brings an unsafe robot may be ejected from the Western Canadian Robot Games.**

Again, the decision of the judges and officials is final. All competitors must respect all other competitors, robots, and property, and all competitors must respect all judges, officials, and their decisions. We are here to have **fun**. Judges or officials may eject any competitor from the Western Canadian Robot Games who is not behaving appropriately. This includes unsportsmanlike behaviour, using violent language, slander, swearing, using any language that is inappropriate around children, or any other form of behaviour that is inappropriate in a public place.

Definition of a Scratch-Built Robot

First, a kit is a robot that you build without having to design it. We recognize that all robots are built with parts; however, it still requires design to put the parts together to build a scratch-built robot.

Scratch-built robots can have pre-assembled gear boxes, gear head motors (for example, the Tamiya gear box/motor), pre-built motors, L293 motor controllers, wheels, range finders, etc.

To be a scratch-built robot, the main control circuit and frame must be designed and built by the competitor. For microcontroller-controlled robots, the program must be written by the competitor.

If there is still a question as to whether a robot is a modified kit or a scratch-built robot, the judges will look at the number of hours and ability needed to design and build the robot, with a very strong focus on the number of hours and ability needed for design. The judges' decision will be final.

Regarding Running Other Designers' Robots

We have had some requests regarding if a person can enter somebody else's robot by proxy (running it for them). The official policy of the WCRG is that each robot must have a person associated with it to compete. This means YES, you can run Jimmy-Joe's robot for him, but it will be treated as if it was yours.

This may not be a problem unless you are personally entering the same event as the proxy robot, because you (the person running both your own robot and the proxy robot) can only walk away from the event with one prize. So if your friend's autonomous sumo robot (that you're running for him) wins first place, and you win second with your own robot, you will only receive the award for first place, that's all.

Minimum Number of Entrants

To avoid running events with low interest, each competition must have at least 3 competitors, or it may be run as a demonstration event only (with no prizes).