



2017 U.S. Open Robotics Championship Awards



VEX IQ – Middle School

Excellence Award
STEM Research Project Award
Teamwork Champion Award
Teamwork Finalist Award
Skills Champion Award
Skills Finalist Award
Think Award
Design Award
Sportsmanship Award
Bracket Buster

Award Descriptions

Bracket Buster - The “Bracket Buster” award will be given to the teams in the alliance that improves its finals seed compared to finals rankings the most. In the case of a tie the lowest seeded alliance wins. (For example if the 20th seeded alliance finishes with the 8th best finals score they will have improved their finals positions from their seeded position by 12 spots. If that is the most improvement of all alliances they will receive the Bracket Buster award.)

Design Award - The “Design” award is presented to a team that demonstrates an organized and professional approach to the design process, project management, time management and team organization. The winning team will be able to describe how they created and implemented an efficient and productive design process to effectively manage their time and resources to accomplish their project goals.

Key Criteria:

- 1) Engineering Notebook is a clear, complete document of the team’s design and build process
- 2) Team is able to explain their design and strategy throughout the season
- 3) Team demonstrates personnel, time and resource management throughout the season
- 4) Teamwork and interview quality

Excellence Award - This is the highest award presented in the VEX Robotics Competition. The recipient of this award is a team that exemplifies overall excellence in building a well-rounded VEX robotics program. This team excels in many areas and is a shining example of dedication, devotion, hard work and teamwork. A strong contender in

numerous award categories, this team deserves to be recognized for their accomplishments building a robot and in building a “team” committed to quality in everything they do. Teams are given points towards the Excellence Award in the following categories:

- Tournament Qualification Round Ranking
- Programming Skills Challenge Ranking
- Robot Skills Challenge Ranking
- Elimination Results
- Judged performance in all other award categories

Using this wide range of criteria, the Excellence Award will be presented to the team who excels in all areas of VEX Robotics.

Skills Champion - Presented to the # 1 ranked team in the VEX IQ Robotics Competition Skills Challenge.

Skills Finalist - Presented to the # 2 ranked team in the VEX IQ Robotics Competition Skills Challenge.

Sportsmanship Award - The “Sportsmanship” award will be presented to a team that has earned the respect and admiration of the volunteers and other teams at the event. This team is a model for all to follow and interacts with everyone in a positive, respectful and polite manner. This award is judged during the event by teams, referees and volunteers.

STEM Research Project Award - The “STEM Research Project” award will be presented to a team that best:

- Identifies a challenge topic of interest that relates to the STEM theme for the season
- Completes research and collects evidence using reliable sources
- Demonstrates a well organized and documented process to study
- and explain research findings
- Describes how the research findings were applied to develop and test the solution
- Shares the solution in an effective and creative presentation
- Students demonstrate an understanding of the research process
- Students demonstrate teamwork and effective communication skills

Think Award - The Think Award is presented to a team that has developed and effectively used quality programs as part of their strategy to solve the game challenge.

Key criteria:

1. All programming is cleanly written, well documented, and easy to understand
2. Team has explained a clear programming strategy to solve the game challenge
3. Team demonstrates their programming management process, including version history
4. Students understand and explain how they worked together to develop their robot programming

Teamwork Champion - Presented to the winning alliance of the VEX Robotics Competition tournament.

Teamwork Finalists - Presented to the runner-up alliance of the VEX Robotics Competition tournament.