

Section
1



Magbot Mayhem Introduction

Table of Contents

Section 1 – Introduction.....2

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1.1 – Overview

This section provides background for the CREATE Open game called *Magbot Mayhem*.

1.2 – Introduction

Competitive robotics have been around for over two decades at the high school level with middle school teams joining in greater numbers over the last few years. The purpose, to engage students in a technology based activity that is compelling and fun, to prepare them for careers in engineering, technology and science, has never been needed more than today.

With the advent of high quality, integrated and affordable robotics kits, participation has exploded. Each year more and more students form teams to compete in the annual challenge. Students are starting younger and building more robust and creative robots every year. Many of those that have participated in these competitions for a few years are hungry for an even more difficult and exciting challenge. This is the motivation for a new class of competitions built upon the popular VEX Robotics Platform, the CREATE Open. The games will be more challenging and the competition open to not only middle school and high school teams but college students and professional engineers as well.

However to be truly an open competition it must be affordable so that teams from any location, any size school or club will not find cost to be an insurmountable barrier. By using re-usable robotics components and inexpensive and accessible add on materials the CREATE Foundation offers a challenge that is within reach of teams, welcomes all teams, and is a competition that is truly open.

In this it's inaugural year the CREATE Open has taken middle and high school competitive robotics to new heights with it's game *Magbot Mayhem*. Breaking free of two dimensional play *Magbot Mayhem* challenges teams to build robots that can go vertical!

The following sections of the *Magbot Mayhem* manual will open up new challenges, new opportunities for creativity and design. There are no easy ways to score in this new class of challenge and the risks are higher. If this the type of challenge you are looking for then we welcome ANY team with the ability to build a robot to join the exhilarating fun of *Magbot Mayhem*.