

GVSU FIRST Robotics Practice Field

Rules and Regulations

Before You Arrive

The GVSU FIRST Robotics practice field space is assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. The field can be used by multiple teams at once, so you will need to share the space with other teams. A maximum of 12 teams can utilize the space. We may restrict access to maintain this capacity.

Teams must submit a reservation request in Calendly at least 24 hours in advance. If no teams reserve the field on a particular day, we will close the field.

To the best of your ability, **please provide us with at least 24 hours notice if you need to cancel your reservation(s).** Teams should cancel their reservation(s) via Calendly.

Teams must have an adult coach or mentor with them at all times.

Parking

The area across from the Shape Corp. Innovation Design Center (IDC) is under construction! Teams will need to park in the GVSU DeVos Lot or Seward Lot. Teams can utilize the parking spaces in front of the IDC while loading or unloading equipment but are not permitted to park in these spaces long-term.

The side door in IDC180 (Door #9) can be propped open ONLY while teams are loading or unloading equipment. Door #9 must be closed after teams finish loading or unloading.

If your team has toolboxes or equipment that will not fit through Door #9, you can bring these materials to IDC180 through the main lobby entrance.

Check-In and Check-Out Procedure

When you arrive, report to IDC180 and check in with the GVSU employee who will be monitoring the field space. Please check in before unloading your equipment or setting up your robot. Teams may not begin working or setting up equipment until check-in is complete.

When your team has finished using the field, return to IDC180 and check out. Check-out confirms that your team has removed all equipment, cleaned your work area, and returned shared resources. Failure to check out may affect future access to the field.

Teams MUST vacate the IDC when required. For example, if the practice field closes at 9:00 p.m., all team members must be packed up and out of the building by 9:00 p.m. Security will be notified if teams do not leave when required.

Safety

All teams must follow FIRST Robotics safety standards. **Team members must wear safety glasses when in IDC180.** Closed-toe shoes must be worn at all times. Robots must remain powered off unless they are actively being used on the field or in a designated testing area. **GVSU employees may stop robot activity at any time if unsafe practices are observed.**

Using the Practice Field

The practice field is a shared resource. Robots are only allowed on the field when they are in active use. Do not leave robots sitting idle on the field, as this takes space away from other teams who need to utilize the field.

When your practice run is complete, promptly remove your robot from the field. All repairs, adjustments, and programming must be done in a designated work area or pit station, not on the field. Practice time may be divided into rotations, and teams are expected to respect time limits and rotate when requested.

Conduct and Sportsmanship

All participants are expected to demonstrate FIRST Robotics values, such as Gracious Professionalism® and Coopertition®. Treat other teams, mentors, volunteers, and GVSU employees with respect at all times. Follow staff instructions promptly. Unsafe behavior, harassment, or unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the IDC.

Take Care of the Practice Field

Do not modify any of the field elements. Return all shared equipment after use. Keep walkways clear, manage noise levels, and clean your work area before leaving. Teams are responsible for any damage caused by their robot or equipment.

*** This field works because everyone shares it responsibly. Be efficient, be respectful, and help create a positive experience for all teams.