



# Front Range BEST Code of Conduct

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## 1 Purpose

FRONT RANGE BEST (FR BEST) takes great pride in the quality and integrity of the BEST Robotics Inc. (BRI) program, it's teams, team mentors, judges, host facilities and community involvement at each event. In order to continue making the BRI experience enjoyable and rewarding for everyone, FR BEST requires all members to adhere to a set of guidelines known as the Code of Conduct. Good sportsmanship is so highly valued that the BEST program has integrated it into the awards and scoring.

It is the purpose to help FR BEST participants grow and mature by experiencing positive examples and understanding and accepting the consequences of their actions. BRI and FR BEST are an all inclusive program -and the Code of Conduct will be followed by every mentor, member, volunteer and spectator of FR BEST.

*FR BEST, an affiliate of BEST Robotics Inc. (BRI), is committed to providing a professional, quality and safe educational program that is all inclusive. Respect, responsibility, integrity, sportsmanship is our priority.*

## 2 Definitions

### 2.1 Appropriate sportsmanlike behaviors

Actions that result in a quality BEST experience and a safe environment for all participants. Below is a list of appropriate behaviors, however, this list is not intended to be all inclusive.

1. Be respectful in all circumstances.
2. Communicate openly, respectfully, and directly in a positive, team-building, constructive, and solution-oriented manner.
3. Positive attitude and graciousness in both winning and losing.
4. Respectfully encouraging and supporting opponent teams verbally, materially, or in other ways.

5. Adhere to high ethical standards by encouraging, supporting and respecting the quality and the integrity of the game.
6. Demonstrate sensitivity to diverse backgrounds (e.g., gender, race, age, disability, nationality, sexual orientation, religion, etc.).
7. Be mindful of the host facilities (e.g. no gum or food in undesignated areas, no wandering around throughout the facility, keep the facility clean, etc.).
8. Appropriate reporting to Mentors or FR BEST staff or volunteers any concerns, adverse events, potential safety hazards, etc.
9. Positive participation in investigations, briefings and debriefings of adverse events.

## **2.2 Inappropriate/Unacceptable unsportsmanlike behaviors**

Actions or patterns of conduct that undermine the quality BEST Experience, integrity of the game, and have a negative effect on a person's feeling of safety in the environment. Below is a list of behaviors that are inappropriate/unacceptable, however, this list is not intended to be all-inclusive.

1. Verbal or physical misconduct (e.g., verbal discrimination against diverse backgrounds, verbal outbursts, profanity, condescending attitudes, physical threats, blaming/name calling, throwing objects, destroying property, or unconsented physical contact (with or without injury) etc.).
2. Cheating in any aspect of the game or sabotage of another team.
3. Insulting, threatening, intimidating, abusive or coercive behaviors (e.g., non-constructive criticism addressed to its recipient in a way as to intimidate, belittle or to assign stupidity).
4. Engaging in activity that encourages anyone else to violate the code of conduct.
5. Harassment including verbal, physical or sexual.
6. Discrimination based on any status protected by law (e.g., race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability, status as a protected veteran, sexual orientation, gender identity/gender expression, etc.).
7. Disorderly conduct of any type that is disruptive to any FR BEST event or competition.
8. Defacing or damaging property or host facility property.
9. Publically criticizing or arguing with any game official, volunteer, FR BEST personnel, student participant, coach, mentor, or spectator.
10. Inappropriate communication via social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) that falls under the actions listed in this section.

## **3 Responsibilities**

### **3.1 Team Member Responsibility**

It shall be the responsibility of each Team Member to ensure that all individuals associated with FR BEST, conduct themselves in a positive sportsmanlike manner

when representing their team and/or school. Additionally, FR BEST requires and demands the highest standards from all team supporters (Team Members, Mentors, bands, cheerleaders, spirit groups, student bodies, mascots, spectators, public address announcers, and radio/TV personnel, etc.).

### **3.2 Mentor Responsibility**

It shall be the responsibility of each Mentor to ensure that they represent FR BEST with the highest standards. Mentors must conduct themselves in a professional sportsmanlike manner to display a good example of appropriate conduct for their team members and supporters. Mentors will respect the dignity of FR BEST competitions and events by addressing any problems from their team members, parents and spectators.

### **3.3 Spectator Responsibility**

It shall be the responsibility of each Spectator to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner ensuring the safety of the mentors, members and FR BEST staff. Spectators will understand that they are an extension of their team and will display behavior that compliments and earns the respect of their team.

### **3.4 Volunteer Responsibility**

It shall be the responsibility of each Volunteer to conduct themselves to represent FR BEST with the highest standards. The organization greatly appreciates the positive example of integrity and professionalism volunteers display in their service to the organization.

## **4 Violations**

### **4.1 Handling of Complaints**

In an attempt to continue positive communications within the FR BEST hub, complaints should follow these guidelines when possible. Complaints will be address by FR BEST as soon as reasonably possible. All available evidence will be considered carefully and considerations of perspectives of both sides will be evaluated. Calmness, graciousness, and care shall be exercised by the FR BEST representative.

1. If the unsportsmanlike conduct happens within a team, the individual claiming an unsportsmanlike act must first communicate the issue to the team Mentor. The team mentor must in good conscience try to resolve the complaint in a positive inclusive manner.
2. If the unsportsmanlike conduct happens at an event please communicate to a team Mentor, volunteer or an FR BEST hub staff member.
3. Safety hazards at an FR BEST event that put the general public at risk must be brought to the attention of FR BEST volunteers.
4. In the event that a member of a team does not feel that they can go to their team Mentor because of extenuating circumstances please contact FR BEST at <http://www.frbest.org/contact-us.html>.
5. Spectators that have concerns will address their concerns to their team Mentor and the mentor will bring it to FR BEST.
6. Repeated complaints or severe complaints will be documented and kept on file with the Board of Directors of FR BEST.

7. Complaints of unsportsmanlike conduct during the BEST Season may be directed at anytime to FR BEST at <http://www.frbest.org/contact-us.html>. Include detailed information. Complaints filed after the event will not change the outcome.

#### **4.2 Consequences**

Unsportsmanlike conduct shall be subject to individual disciplinary action to be determined by a committee or individual representing FR BEST. The team with which the offending individual is associated may also be subject to disciplinary action if it is found that the team's actions or failure to act substantially contributed to the individual's misconduct. Actions taken by FR BEST will be determined based on the severity of the incident. Below are a few examples of disciplinary actions that FR BEST may choose to enforce. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive as each individual situation will be addressed as FR BEST feels is appropriate.

1. Private reprimand and discussion of events.
2. A public response or reprimand.
3. In cases of cheating or sabotage, the team in violation may have score deductions and may become ineligible for awards.
4. Requirement to vacate the game or event for the day.
5. Suspension from attending any FR BEST events for a determined amount of time. May or may not include participation restrictions in FR BEST activities away from venues and events.
6. Suspension from participating in FR BEST for a determined amount of time or indefinitely.
7. In severe cases where safety is concerned, authorities may be dispatched to assist FR BEST in peaceably handling a situation.