



2015 Event Partner Summit Question Cards

Day One

REC/ VEX	Category	Question	Answer
VEX	Game Rules	What are the plans for future preloading objects that stay outside of the field?	Visit the VEX Forum for suggested methods.
VEX	Game Rules	How do you place the VEX IQ Bank Shot balls on the field so that they don't move around?	Some parts were added to the field and were distributed in kits. Please see the instructions.
VEX	Ordering	What's the delay with getting VEX IQ Bank shot elements out?	There should be no further delay. Please contact your Regional Support Manager in the event that delays continue.
VEX	VEX IQ Game	Why are balls separated into 2 sets of 22?	The separation is more affordable for those wishing to not have a full field set.
REC FOUNDATION	New Partner	I have never hosted an event. How do I get started?	Will be covered in the next few days here. Meet with your regional support manager for further support in order to direct you to your resources.
REC FOUNDATION	New Partner	Is there any funding available for new Event Partners?	Although there is no direct funding specifically for events, we attempt to make hosting as cost-efficient as possible. Event fees will go back to you, since you put forth the effort, time and money for hosting, the fees will hopefully cover the cost. It is helpful to share resources with other Event Partners.
REC FOUNDATION	New Partner	What about grants for new VEX IQ teams? I think I have helped to start at least six teams.	More information will be coming soon.
VEX	Shirt Orders	Is there a place we can go to order Judges and Referee shirts for competitions at a discount?	Referee shirts are in the works of modeling.
REC FOUNDATION	Certifications	With the new VEX IQ curriculum handbooks, will there be any certifications for our students?	VEX introduced a new workshop. The REC Foundation has a new certification program. Email Matt_Conroy@roboticseducation.org .

VEX	New Releases	What is the projected release of the new EDR Cortex and EDR smart motor?	This will be determined by VEX. There will be a trophy pack included. If you host a state/regionals competition you will get another trophy pack. This goes back to making your events profitable.
REC FOUNDATION	Field Prices	VRC Field and objects kits for Event Partners are no longer offered for free the first time around.	They are now offered 50% off every time for unlimited.
REC FOUNDATION	Branding	What is the REC Foundation?	Visit RoboticsEducation.org for more information!
REC FOUNDATION	New balls	Should Event Partners be made to buy new balls for the field?	It would be wise to do so but we cannot make you.
REC FOUNDATION	Reset Time	What strategy and recommendations do you have to speed up the reset time for this year's game?	The best thing to do is get more referees and volunteers. Make sure you put extra people into the field reset
REC FOUNDATION	Future EP Summit Location	When do we get to go back to Hawaii?	To be determined.
VEX	Snapcad	Will Snapcad be available for VRC?	We have no current plans to do so.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX IQ Ramp	What qualifies for being parked on the VEX IQ Ramp?	Read the game manual. Must be touching the ramp, and not the floor.
REC FOUNDATION	Robot Stall	If a robot stalls, what do we do? Do we restart the match?	Do not restart the match. The field is a fancy switch. If there is a software issue, it is the robot.
VEX	Shipping	Will game elements be available for purchase after Worlds?	Hopefully, this is dependent on the situation with shipping.
VEX	Motor Pins	Will VEX make a bag of headers to repair motor pins?	These can be bought by an outside producer.
REC FOUNDATION	Qualification Deadline	Has the March National Championships cut offs been determined?	The cut-off date is the second weekend in March. March 13 is the last date to hold a World Championship Qualifying event and All teams qualified for World Championship must be registered and paid by March 16. We are trying to give more than 30-days in order for travel plans.
VEX	Tournament Manager for Mac	Why is Tournament Manager only available for Windows?	This is a resource limitation. It is currently not available for Mac, but this is in the works.

REC FOUNDATION	Fences	Can any part of the robot lean on the fence or stabilize on the fence?	Look in the rule book or VEX IQ Forum.
REC FOUNDATION	Robot C	Will VEX ever pressure or empower for the use of Robot C?	It depends on the support from the community as whole that we receive. Robomatter and Robot C will also change due to pressure and community support.
VEX	Trace Log Feature	Have you considered some sort of trace log feature for the new sySTEM?	Yes on the new sySTEM. New sySTEM will be named V5.
VEX	Tournament Manager at Worlds	Is there going to be a Worlds version of Tournament Manager Software?	This was an experiment for DWAB Tech. It is in the beginning stage and is very high tech.
REC FOUNDATION	Autonomous	Why is autonomous much lower in the tournament score? I fear this will disinterest students in creating autonomous programs.	This is why we have the Autonomous Skill Challenge that gives a direct ticket to Worlds. We don't want the first 10-15 seconds to dominate the challenge. So this was an attempt to balance the competition. VEX IQ teams can win a trophy dedicated to programming skills. The challenge heavily reinforces the significance for programming skills. The Game Design Committee attempts to create a game that is good for both the local competitions and national competitions.
VEX	Drone Footage	Will the drone footage be available?	Possibly. We will try to locate it.
REC FOUNDATION	Most Teams by State	What state has the most VEX teams?	California seems to have the most and Texas is very close.
REC FOUNDATION	Entry Fees	What is the average nationwide entry fees for VEX IQ, VRC, and VEXU?	\$25-\$50 VEX-IQ; \$50-\$100 VRC.
REC FOUNDATION	Price Cap	Will the REC Foundation make a pricing cap for hosting events?	We have not enforced this. The market seems to regulate, as teams avoid expensive events. High dollar events may raise a red flag and we will contact these EPs.
VEX	Autodesk Update	Any chance that VEX and/or Autodesk will update their software soon?	Autodesk has agreed to update all of their specific sections to specific products. VEX has their portion complete. Once everything is update, it will be released. This will follow suite with the VEX EDR update.
VEX	Smart Radio	How will the Smart Radio work for autonomous?	It is not legal for competition this year.

VEX	Sensor Availability	Are all of the Sensors available now? The website had shown "Out of Stock".	These are usually not out of stock. They are being held for kits. Call the Sales Teams/Customer Support for a walk-through.
VEX	Replacement Parts	Can you consider selling replacement screws/gears?	We are still discussing making a temporary replacement kit.
VEX	TMS	Will Add-it up and Highrise be kept in the Tournament Manager SySTEM?	The understanding is that it will. New games are always kept higher up in the queue.
REC FOUNDATION	Age Cut-off	Is there an age cut-off to form a VEX IQ team in elementary and middle school? It is difficult to assess this when looking at home-schooled kids.	The manual clearly covers the issue.
REC FOUNDATION	Coach/Mentor	Does a team have to have a coach?	Not necessarily at the field, but they do need an adult at the event.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX IQ Alliance Selection	Why do VEX IQ teams not have Alliance Selections?	Out of consideration to mentors/chaperones/parents. This makes it more user friendly.
REC FOUNDATION	Promotional	How does a coach sell parents about the educational benefits to joining a team?	Talk to other EPs. This will be discussed further within the week.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX IQ	Are there plans to start a Jr. VEX IQ team line? Entry Level.	There were talks for this. Nothing will come out within this year. Ideas have been thrown around that are VEX-related and HexBug-related.
VEX	Zip Ties	What is the reason behind not using zip ties in VEX IQ?	There can be a huge advantage for one side. It is not allowed, products are being worked on that will accommodate for things such as cable management.
REC FOUNDATION	STEM Education	Is there any current research for involvement in STEM-related fields and robotics throughout a student's lifetime or educational career?	There are some older studies that we pull from. We need new/more data. Two groups have expressed interest in creating a study
VEX/REC FOUNDATION	Marketing	What TV/radio marketing strategies has VEX/REC considered for the near future?	Although we do produce products for the market, Hexbug markets them. The first two weeks of the release for Star Wars will have a VEX commercial.
VEX	Products	How will the radio sensor work for autonomous?	The radio sensor is not legal for competition use.

REC FOUNDATION	Skills Only Competition	How can an EP go about hosting a Skills Only Competition?	Event Partners can create a skills only event the same way they can create a regular event within RobotEvents.com.
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Day Two

REC/ VEX	Category	Question	Answer
REC FOUNDATION	Team Registration	Is there any way to register for an event as "team 123", and then later decide on which team letter(s) (123A) will actually attend? Current methods of contacting the RSM are cumbersome to change.	Currently there are no plans. This will be something teams will have to contact the Regional Support Manager for.
VEX/ REC FOUNDATION	Hardware Cost	What is the cost of a VRC field?	The perimeter is \$799 retail, but available to Event Partners for \$599. The field tiles are \$225, and the VEXnet sySTEM is \$149.
REC FOUNDATION	State Championships	Please describe how the process works to decide how many teams at each event qualify for state championships. How far in advance will Event Partners know what teams will qualify for state championships?	You can work with your Regional Support Manager to determine this, it depends on capacity, how many qualifying events and Event Partners are in the state, and then looking at the size of each event in the state.
REC FOUNDATION	Guidebook	Could we use tournament manager to autofill events, schedules, supporting Docs, and program bios into the Guidebook App?	This is our first time using Guidebook. It is a third-party sySTEM that has a high cost attached to it. We will look further into its capabilities. But this won't happen this season.
VEX	Athletic Association	Is VEX Robotics included in an official activity recognized in any state athletic association?	This has been a topic in some states. We have not come to a final decision yet.
VEX	ROBOTC and PLTW	If VEX and PLTW are working to implement VEX Robotics to elementary age students, why doesn't the ROBOT C license file from PLTW include graphical?	We can pass it on, but this is the kind of feedback ROBOT C is looking for.
REC FOUNDATION	Community Teams	Does the REC Foundation have any data on how many teams are community teams that aren't affiliated with a particular school?	We don't have exact numbers but we're trying to improve our data. Some of our groups that batch register teams can skew data. There are plenty of community teams though.

REC FOUNDATION	Team Growth	On the “Team growth by program” slide can you include FLL data? It is the same/similar age group as VEX IQ and should be represented.	We will probably break that chart out next year with similar programs.
REC FOUNDATION	Professional Development	Does the REC Foundation have plans to offer professional development credit for teachers who mentor or coach teams?	Right now we’re focusing on developing the certification program to a sustainable point. But we’re also working on teacher training professional development. But no, we currently don’t offer credit.
REC FOUNDATION	Guidebook	Are we able to use the Guidebook App for our events?	There is a free version available but it is limited in its download use.
VEX	Tools	Have you made a tool for VEX IQ assembly and disassembly?	No, it’s a tool-less kit. They don’t have plans.
REC FOUNDATION	Marketing	How are you going to let people know what “REC” stands for?	We currently have internal plans and development ideas to improve this problem.
REC FOUNDATION/ VEX	Raised Fields	Can we purchase raised fields similar to the ones at Worlds?	The platforms at the World Championship are overly engineered. They are too heavy and expensive. The staging you see at most convention centers are available elsewhere.
REC FOUNDATION	Disabled Players	Students with disabilities; vision, height, mobility have issues competing on the fields at Worlds. Has the REC Foundation considered accommodating special needs at Worlds?	We set up all of the accommodations we can. We’ve lowered the platforms of the fields. This is something the Game Design Committee considers.
REC FOUNDATION	Workshops	Can you charge for workshop/camp events?	Yes, just like regular events.
REC FOUNDATION	Target Model	Can robotevents.com use an exact target model to promote events to people who were targeted by the event planner?	Brad went into some of the capabilities and limitations. We understand the desire, but there are some challenges.
VEX/ REC FOUNDATION	Printed Parts	When will/can we print robot parts for our VRC Robots?	VEX U teams can include 3D printed parts.
REC FOUNDATION	Alumni	Does REC have a plan for an alumni network to maintain contacts with students who are now in the workforce?	Yes. We are internally discussing in the next few weeks. The first Beta will be this year.
REC FOUNDATION	Instructions	VEX IQ instruction sets for more design than what is currently on the website?	VEX has come out with a few designs, and they plan to create more. Numerous designs are available on the web.

REC FOUNDATION	Skills Scoring	Will there be any changes this year to ensure Event Partners actually report accurate skills scores?	We did increase the minimum amount of teams to hold a Skills Only event, and there does have to be multiple schools attending. We do even ask teams to send in a video if there is suspicion.
REC FOUNDATION	Design Award	Could you consider naming the Design Award, if it will continue being about design process, the Design Process Award, or the Engineering Process Award?	One issue we might have is that we already have a consistent naming convention. We may look into this.
REC FOUNDATION	Trophies	Can World Championship winners purchase additional trophies? Would schools keep them?	We have seen an increasing rate of parents wanting to purchase more, but the World Championship trophies are custom. We will look into this. Ask Paul.
REC FOUNDATION	Match Schedule	Is there the ability or plan to push or post the [Match] schedule (specific to the team) online or in an app?	We have this functionality with VEX Via.
REC FOUNDATION	Multi-State Events	Would it be possible to build tournaments featuring teams from multiple states? Provided enough teams from each state participate.	We already give this flexibility to states if they want to work together and agree to do it. We have been trying to create more options for this.
REC FOUNDATION	Worlds feedback	Is feedback available for teams that had interviews at the World Championship?	With the amount of data yielded and time constraints we cannot offer this for this year's World Championship. Starting next year it might be possible.
REC FOUNDATION	Regionals	Do you have any plans for midseason regional competitions?	We have groups that do this, it is more of a regional thing. If teams don't have to travel far we could push this. But if you rely on many teams to come overnight, you don't want to burn out teams.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX IQ League	Can a VEX IQ league event be held on a Friday night?	Contact your regional support manager or Mike Martus. There is definitely time with VEX IQ to get these matches in fast.
REC FOUNDATION	EP Summit Host City	Why is the EP summit typically in Texas?	We have been looking at possibilities for an EP summit in Louisville. Along with California. The issue with these are prices and flight availability.
REC FOUNDATION	EP Summit, Advanced	Has there been talk of a more advanced EP summit?	We have talked about this, such as a longer summit with different days with different levels of Event Partners. Maybe the first day could be for new EPs and veteran topics can be covered in the later days.

REC FOUNDATION/ VEX	VEX VIA	How do you use VEX VIA at an event? What are the latest news and features?	We will develop training modules covering these topics.
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Day Three

REC FOUNDATION/ VEX	Category	Question	Answer
REC FOUNDATION	Referees	How long should we allow the burden of proof for referees?	Two Matches.
REC FOUNDATION	Referees	Should a student ask for clarification instead of an adult?	Yes, the student should be the one asking.
REC FOUNDATION	Referees	Can we have teams sign the tablet scoring to verify?	The tablets do not have a signing function, but students can still review the score.
REC FOUNDATION	Scoring	To quickly score a match, can referees drop the balls into a box and count them?	Sure, you can even create a box specifically to do this.
REC FOUNDATION	Referees	With regards to possession, if a robot sits in the loading zone and a push bot brings it balls, is this legal?	There are always times there is accidental possession, this will be a ruling by referees.
REC FOUNDATION	Referees	If a ball leaves the field can it reenter?	No, it must stay out.
REC FOUNDATION	Inspection	What is pre-inspection?	This is inspection done the night before, it isn't official but allows teams to know if they need changing. It's also great practice for volunteers.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX IQ	Can students hold their joystick buttons so they don't slip while parking in VEX IQ?	The motors will hold themselves even if you don't use the joystick.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX IQ	Can we use the blue flags to denote the scoring zone?	No, that was for Highrise.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX IQ	When the buzzer ends a match, does it stop at the beginning or end of the sound?	Refer to the forums, when the timer hits zero it's the end of the match.
REC FOUNDATION	Game Pieces	If a ball falls and cracks, is it still an official game piece?	You will need to ask Karthik on the forums.
REC FOUNDATION	Placebo Bot	What is a "Placebo" robot?	This is a basic robot that a team can use if they do not have a teammate or their teammate's robot is inoperable.
REC FOUNDATION	Batteries	Why can't we use AA Batteries?	It could give an advantage; we want to standardize the batteries.
REC FOUNDATION	Team Representative	Should we send a team representative if we cannot come to the field for a match?	Yes, if you don't show up it's considered a DQ, with a rep you count as being in the match and will still get points.

REC FOUNDATION	Replacement Fields	Does VEX sell IQ field parts to be used for inspection?	We just use a portion of our main field, VEX is going to put together replacement kits for the tiles though.
REC FOUNDATION	Custom Award Slides	Can we create custom slides?	Yes, the question is if we can automatically create custom slides, I will follow up on this.
REC FOUNDATION	Award Slides	Is there any way we can increase the size of the award slide font?	Currently no, this wouldn't be a great idea unless using the full size award show.
REC FOUNDATION	Award Slides	Is there any way to upload a template?	Currently there is no way to upload a template for awards.
REC FOUNDATION	Guidebook	Is there a possibility to export TM information to the guidebook app?	We don't know what is possible with guidebook yet, we also need to see what is available with VEX via.
REC FOUNDATION	Signage	Can we add queueing signs to the report signs printing option?	Yes, we can add this.
REC FOUNDATION	Alliance Signs	We often print our alliance signs very quickly, sometimes before all matches have been saved. There is some delay.	We are looking into this.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX TEXT	Is the 10 & 20 minute schedule adjustable? (VEX TEXT)	I don't believe so.
REC FOUNDATION	Test Tournaments	Is there a way to set up a dummy tournament so we can test with?	Contact your Regional Support Mangers, they can set something up like this.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX TEXT	Can we use VEX text to auto populate phone numbers from registration instead of doing it on event day?	We are trying to improve the registration sySTEM, but in a situation like this, there may be more confusion than it fixes.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX TEXT	Could you add a phone number option on the team check in screen?	TM isn't what collects the phone numbers, it's the VEX text site. Currently this isn't possible but maybe in a few years we can update this.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX VIA	Can you make VEX via more team centric? As in to say, I am team "123"	This is already possible.
REC FOUNDATION	League Files	League setup for TM is really confusing, is there any way to make it so we don't need to upload a different file every week?	We need to improve this, we only added this feature last year, but we will try and hammer out all the kinks, after this season we will be in a better place.
REC FOUNDATION	Computer Permissions.	Can we create permissions for networked computers? Ex; so they can only configure skills scores.	This has been brought up and we will pass along, we are moving toward this mode. Currently the tablets have this capability.
REC FOUNDATION	Logos	Is there a way to randomize the sponsor logos? It takes forever to loop to get to our sponsors.	A shuffle button will be added to the list, this might be an easy request.

REC FOUNDATION	Logos	Could we strategically integrate the sponsor logos into the award slides?	That makes sense, we will try to evolve the displays to help you promote groups helping you locally.
REC FOUNDATION	Fundraising	We invited a local business to show them what the kids were doing. This worked incredibly well.	Absolutely, plan from the beginning of the school year that you want to go to worlds, if you can get a company to come by to an event you will have much better chance to see results.
REC FOUNDATION	Fundraising	By holding an event we can raise money with registration fees, is there anything that can guide us through this?	Try contacting your Regional Support Manager for a walkthrough. Some schools use concessions or a raffle to raise money.
REC FOUNDATION	Fundraising	Fundraising is difficult late in the year, local businesses set aside money every year. Try to get to them early, and don't give up if they say no.	Invite them to your event, do anything in your power to get them there.
REC FOUNDATION	Fundraising	I host a summer camp, we ask local businesses to use their facility and we raised a lot of money this way.	We are definitely going to build on this and come up with more options to make this available.
REC FOUNDATION	Safety Document	There is a challenge in creating adequate checks and balancing what is necessary. Largely we depend on the community and organizations to provide us a level of security.	There are definitely lots of grey areas about what you want to do, and what is realistic.
REC FOUNDATION	Safety Document	I worked with a rescue squad, and we were told not to use code words in an emergency situation.	This document is a best practice of things that have worked in different groups. We worked very carefully on the wording to make sure we didn't mandate this.
REC FOUNDATION	Safety Document	When I saw safety I thought less about child predator and more about students getting hurt, such as charging cords where they run a bunch from every outlet.	Great addition.
REC FOUNDATION	Youth Protection	In a male dominated event we need to make sure that students are not feeling harassed and know who to go to if something happens.	We are trying to get as many safety nets as possible. We need to make sure we have a team meeting so kids know where to go.
REC FOUNDATION	Contact List	Maintain a registration list with contact information for volunteers.	We are working with our devs on a future version of RobotEvents that has this functionality.
REC FOUNDATION	Contact Database	You should use a volunteer database that does background checks	We are trying to stay away from this being mandated from us.

REC FOUNDATION	Volunteer Signup	Could we use a workshop page as a volunteer registration page for our event?	That's a good workaround but we need to have a user friendly way to have them sign up for your even. We will look into this.
REC FOUNDATION	Safety Officer	Having a safety officer such as policemen or firemen, and knowing allergies would be great to include.	This would be great for any event. Even having a nurse too.
REC FOUNDATION	Mandated Documents	If this is posted online then many may believe we HAVE to use it. Some will use this against us.	This is something we evolved into "best practices" instead of policy or guidelines. We want to make sure it isn't mandated.
REC FOUNDATION	Children's Information	Should there be something about protecting any children's email addresses to not give them out?	This is included in the general not publicizing information. But we can add this note to be clearer.
REC FOUNDATION	Appropriate Actions	I would encourage coaches to talk to team members about what is appropriate, especially with high school students.	We need to let them know what is appropriate, this is about promoting a positive environment.
REC FOUNDATION	Participation Consent Forms	The VEX participant consent form asks for the children's information. How long are we required to keep these forms?	Retain from publicizing. This is a legal contact. You need that information, just because you have it, doesn't mean using it unless there is an emergency. It should say to provide mentor information. We will change this if true. I would personally keep it for the entire season.
REC FOUNDATION	Bullying/ Harassment	Can we add horseplay to the bullying topic?	We don't want to start policing how students let out energy at an event, once its unsafe and people can get hurt then it isn't appropriate.
REC FOUNDATION	Special Ed Modifications	Regarding testing, what modifications are in place for special ed mods we can follow?	Since these certifications are not requirements they do not allow additional time, most industry certifications do not allow this. Unless required. This is something we would like to add though.
REC FOUNDATION	Certifications	How many students have gone through this and passed?	We have had 300 students earn certification, our pass rate is above 90%
REC FOUNDATION	Certifications	Is this high school specific?	No, middle schools take this. They are designed with 150 hours of instruction. Universities are even looking at this.
REC FOUNDATION	Certifications	Have you consulted with PLTW to see what their certification covers?	We went through 5 years of creating this, we looked at the PLTW curriculum, but this was designed with what a student will need to know after being in a

			program for 150 hours. This meets their standards and exceeds them. This is about concepts that you would learn in any engineering course.
REC FOUNDATION	Snarky Volunteers	I have very capable volunteers, but they can be rude. What do I do?	Not all volunteers will be perfect, try to put people in the best position for them, knowing their skillsets and social skills. If somebody is being flat our rude they should not be in that position. Teach your volunteers to be calm and polite.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX Worlds Feedback	If you want us to continue on with the VEX platform, VRC should have been closer to the VEX U area.	This is something we are trying to logistically figure out.
REC FOUNDATION	Distance and Communication	We never got to see a single high school match as a middle school. We also had problems with the distance and not getting information relayed to us.	The facility learned from us this year, this was a learning experience for them. The rest of it is pretty much everything we are trying to improve for next year.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX Worlds Feedback	We have to split the world championship. They need separate areas with incentives to visit each area.	We agree but there are some things we can't replicate. Some things need to be in specific areas, we want to reduce walks and help areas. We have to make a decision and be comfortable what we have to give up.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX Worlds Feedback	In the middle school area, we had to walk a ways to actually compete, could we open the arena on the middle school side? We also missed cool VEX photo areas.	We can add more photo opportunity places. We can communicate better with our pit admins and see if we can make any layout changes.
REC FOUNDATION	Travel Problems	Thunder over Louisville will happen again at worlds, we didn't get back to our hotel until 2am.	We tried to communicate as best as we could that those that didn't get back by 8:30 would have trouble getting back. We will try and make this more clear with the city and our hotel partners.
REC FOUNDATION	Guidebook	It would be great if we had an information concentrator.	We are looking at the guidebook app. We want our information concentrated.
REC FOUNDATION	Field Platforms	Some of our kids are shorter than the platforms, our kids couldn't see the game. Even if you give them a camera angle to see with that would be great.	We will pass this information along to the game design committee.

REC FOUNDATION	Practice Fields	Are there plans in place for the practice fields this year?	We know we messed up the practice pits, we were very disappointed in ourselves. We can manage this better and make it more convenient. We need a much more detailed and thought out plan.
REC FOUNDATION	Number of Rounds	The round robin wasn't as compelling as coming down to as a finale would have been.	We had too many teams in the VRC high school division for a four division setup. We went with a 5 division setup. The feedback we got this year was better than previous years. It's a challenge we are trying to figure out. Getting 10 rounds per team is important to us.
REC FOUNDATION	Saturday Matches	We loved getting to play two matches on Saturday. It made it worth staying those extra days.	Our guideline is that teams MUST do two matches on Saturday. A lot of teams are going to be done and not making it to the playoffs, we don't want them to think they are only going to play once on that day.
REC FOUNDATION	Divisions	Having four fields in the Science Division, broken into two subdivisions, you can do 120 team divisions.	I see what you're saying but then you lose the announcing portion, they would be announcing over each other and nobody would know what they're talking about when overlapping like that.
REC FOUNDATION	Volunteers	I was prepared to bring students to volunteer, in Anaheim they got discounted hotel rates, are there any plans to have this for Louisville?	Not really, the Anaheim situation was a unique thing we did one year. We have some key volunteers that we get a discount. But in general no. We would have to double or triple the entry fee for the event. Financially we cannot support that. We don't want to charge a \$3,000 to \$5,000 entry fee.
REC FOUNDATION	Three Fields at VEX Worlds	I thought the three fields per division worked really well. This was a huge improvement. I really enjoyed the queuing monitors on the field too. I want these at the lower level.	Great feedback, the three fields makes a huge difference. Some people can't see the map because it isn't obvious, but once you play it, three fields lets you play more matches in the same amount of time.
REC FOUNDATION	Practice Fields	I noticed this year it was a free-for-all at the practice fields, we didn't have a queuing system and some teams were there all day.	We are painfully aware and that cannot happen. We had practice fields that did not have volunteers at them.

REC FOUNDATION	Parking	My parents drove in each day, and they were really inconsistent about having to pay for parking or not paying for parking. It's minor but annoying.	This is something we talked about with the facility. They expanded on it and told us that every team will get one free parking pass next year that needs it. We will include more information in advance of VEX Worlds and include it with hotel information.
REC FOUNDATION	Parking Passes	Our group drives in. We would like to not have our parents doling out eight dollars after driving their own vehicles, as an organizer can we buy these parking passes in advance? We have a large group.	We will look at the logistics of that. We will bring that up with the facility and see what the availability is. We can try and figure out an efficient way to do this.
REC FOUNDATION	Team Party	The bumper cars kept breaking down. Other rides got stuck too. The food was great though.	The owner of Kentucky Kingdom mentioned this. He made it clear they were re-opening, and didn't have any veteran employees. The good news is that they are running for this whole year and will be much more experienced. They have huge events, and that park is used by some big corporations, and if it doesn't do a good job, it reflects on the city. The visitors bureau really cared about them doing a better job.
REC FOUNDATION	Team Party	I think if you ask a lot of kids they didn't mind the lines so much, the back got crazy because the kids were having a party in the line. The kids enjoyed a lot.	Mostly kids seem to have a blast, but as adults we could have been more efficient.
REC FOUNDATION	Team Party	The kids had a good time but they also did well at Worlds, but we were really tired and didn't stay long, but then we got stuck downtown.	You left at 9 p.m.? We said it during the finals that if you left by 8:30 you would be fine, but if you left by 9 p.m., you would be in trouble. We tried to make this clear that there would be travel issues. And with the team party we could do the party on a Thursday or Friday night but we do it on Saturday because we assumed it's better to have tired kids on a non-event day morning.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX Worlds Event Pricing	My issue is how we look at pricing structure, if you look internationally we are paying 10 thousand dollars more for these events than most. There	It's a valid question and an unfortunate thing. It's more convenient for people in driving distance and less for people flying in. It would be very difficult

		<p>is also scheduling difficulties like extra nights at the hotels. Kentucky is really hard to get flights to. Something to consider would be changing some of the price structure for teams encountering much higher costs. This is something that changes the level interest within a community. I know this is hard, and could be interpreted as asking local teams to subsidize non-local teams. Is there a way for teams with high travel cost to have reduced registration?</p>	<p>for us to make sure we have proof. We aren't staffed to do that. If our event fee was \$4,000 or \$5,000 then we would think about subsidizing, but we have a fee that's less than a thousand. This is already pretty low. Everything has a cost, even Kentucky Kingdom, that isn't free, it has a cost. If we had more funding, then we could subsidize this. Right now a tiered entry fee is impossible for us. But we have those talks, with the city and the airport. The city can try and improve the capacity of the airport. This can decrease costs and make it more affordable.</p>
REC FOUNDATION	Inspection/Scheduling	<p>Our party enjoyed the entertainment value of the finals, but there is a collision with everything you are trying to squeeze in and the park at the end. We understand that all of the extra inspection might take up a lot of time, maybe we could start this earlier to solve some crunch time? We could start earlier with inspection/re-inspection.</p>	<p>We try to have one less day that teams can miss school. We do the half-day on Wednesday so that teams that are flying have time to adjust to the time zone. In terms of Saturday finals, it actually ran on time, we just started really late. It was according to schedule but we had a technical issue. Once we started it actually ran on time. If we started when we wanted to we would have been done by 6 p.m. We have been cutting things out of the finals but we need to just start on time. We are adamant that all teams play twice on Saturday morning though. So, we cannot start playoffs until around noon. If teams don't want this we can change it.</p>
REC FOUNDATION	Team Cap	<p>What was the team cap this year?</p>	<p>VRC had 450. 200 VEX IQ, VRC middle was around 150, VEX U was 56. If we get to 1,000, do not that will be it. There is no more space. It will be at least 850, but can approach 900 or 1000.</p>
REC FOUNDATION	Scholarships	<p>There are a lot of scholarships out there, if somebody could take and put all these together that would be very helpful.</p>	<p>These are all on the roboticseducation.org website. But scholarships are a great idea and a parents would even go.</p>

REC FOUNDATION	Summer Camp Summit	Would the REC Foundation consider putting a summer camp together for mentors/teachers/coaches to get some hands on experience and training in the middle of the country along the lines of the EP summit? This would be a way to share best practices and interact with other cultures.	That is an interesting idea. There would have to be demand though, willing to spend the time and money. That's good, and will be in our notes. We can survey this to see who would be interested.
REC FOUNDATION	Seminars	If you are going with new seminars, could you integrate it beyond robotics, further than the competition?	Absolutely, that's a great idea. Some others mentioned holding a student scouting session, almost encouraging teams to scout for the next three days and to understand the alliance selection process. I can see value in a seminar for that week.
REC FOUNDATION	Engineering Notebook	I teach with an engineering notebook, but it really is hard to get kids to get them to do it. It would be good if you showed some good examples of notebooks and some bad examples. We don't really get feedback from Judges all the time.	Yeah, we can do something specific or overarching, even a STEM research project for VEX IQ. I could see that.
REC FOUNDATION	Women's Apparel for VEX Worlds	If they don't have women's shirts, then will you make it a priority? We would definitely like to have those at VEX Worlds. We didn't have any say in our apparel last year but we will next year. We will be able to enhance and improve this?	If they don't have women's shirts, then we will make it a priority that they should. We would definitely like to have those at the world championship. We didn't have any say in our apparel last year but we will next year. We will be able to enhance and improve this.
REC FOUNDATION	Design Award	The Design Award is a secondary thing to most students. I don't think they think about it until VEX Worlds, but the engineering process and Judging interview is really the tell-all about whether or not the students really put in the work. So maybe consider adding more weight to that? You may have a team or two who get a Worlds spot because they were champions and then win a division because a parent built the robot.	We have tried to address the areas that we have more control over. We have been strengthening the guidance we give to Judges. Give them the guidance and let them know, if they talk to the students and no students know how the robot works or tell the Judges their coach/parent built it. We have been very clear, don't give them anything, they are ineligible to get an award. They have to know it's not just because a Judge thinks that, we need to be better than that. But if the

			Judges agree and KNOW, if they talk to the kids and they don't know anything and there is no notebook, or observed that it's always been adults working on the robot with no students, don't give that team any award. There are other programs they can enter.
REC FOUNDATION	Adults Building Robots	We want to caution if you suspect that a robot is adult-built. I make my high school students go and mentor our elementary programs. Our elementary programs to go competitions and we get that adults are building some robots, but it's often actually just mentored students who have been doing this for years. Our robots blow the competition out of the water. Get to know the teams and people there.	The Judges can figure it out over time. There are some amazing robots out there that anybody in this room would watch and have doubts. You would be surprised sometimes. Sometimes those amazing robots are actually done by the kids. That is the risk of this whole conversation. Don't discredit those kids.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX Professional League	What about VEX Professional?	We might start an event for parents out there who can't keep their hands off the robot.
REC FOUNDATION	More VEX U Events	I would like to see more tournaments for VEX U, we only get one chance a year to play. Maybe a regional but more state-based.	That's a misconception. They don't have to only play one game. There aren't enough places for them to play, most teams don't get started because they don't have enough money to fly. An area might have only one or two teams and they have to recruit other teams, and they won't start unless they can see the tournaments. We need groups of schools/teams to start together. Eight teams at a VEX U event is the same as a 16 team VRC event. We would love to see more VEX U events. It can be a 5-6 team event, and the teams can even host it.
REC FOUNDATION	VEX U at VRC Events	Is there any way for a VEX U team to register for a VRC event?	Tournament Manager will support a skills run for VEX U with VRC. We are still working on making the postings properly. The VEX U teams cannot register for an event, but their skills scores can still be recorded and uploaded.

<p>REC FOUNDATION</p>	<p>STEM Panels at VEX Worlds</p>	<p>Would you consider having an expert panel discussion. You could have maybe an astronaut, physicist, a Nobel Prize winner, etc... Different professionals in the STEM field.</p>	<p>How about having a panel of some STEM Hall of Famers come do a panel? Or maybe some alumni students? I could see us even doing a panel on Women in STEM, to empower them or go home and get their friends to do this next year.</p>
<p>VEX</p>	<p>Karthik</p>	<p>Can we have Karthik attend the EP summit next year to discuss rulings?</p>	<p>We will look into it.</p>