

Q&A

VRC 2023-2024: Over Under

Tagged: SC2

Welcome to the official VEX Robotics Competition Question & Answer system, where all registered teams have the opportunity to ask for official rules interpretations and clarifications. This Q&A system is the only source for official VRC Over Under rules clarifications, and the clarifications made here from the Game Design Committee (GDC) are considered as official and binding as the written [Game Manual](#) itself.

Please review the [Q&A Usage Guidelines](#) before posting. This system is only intended for specific VRC Over Under rules questions.

- For event, registration, or other competition support questions, please contact your [REC Foundation Manager](#).
 - For VEX technical support, contact support@vex.com or sales@vex.com.
- For game questions, suggestions, or concerns outside of specific and official rules questions, contact GDC@vex.com.

1800: catapult manually

29-Nov-2023

SC2

can you pull back your catapult manually while loading<S1>

Answered by committee

Please review the [Q&A Usage Guidelines](#) before posting, specifically point 2, "Read and search existing Q&As before posting." We believe [Q&A 1778](#) addresses your question; if it does not, please feel free to rephrase and re-submit.

1365: Robot Skills Clarifications

5-Jan-2023

SC2 RSC1 RSC2 RSC3 RSC4 RSC5 RSC6

<RSC7>Here are a couple of questions regarding running teams during a skills match. As per the update on November 1, teams are supposed to be disqualified for coming into contact with anything outside of the field during endgame.

1. How do we mark team as *disqualified* during a skills match? As of December, Tournament Manager does not include an option to disqualify a team during a skills match. The definition of disqualification says that "A Team that receives a Disqualification in a Driving Skills Match or Programming Skills Match receives a score of zero (0) for that Robot Skills Match" Do I simply modify their score to be zero on everything?

2. Also, does the definition of breaking the field perimeter include the top of the field walls, or only the outside? (Would a team be in violation of S2 if a part of their robot is touching the top of the field wall, but not the outside perimeter?)
3. How strict are we supposed to be regarding the expansion rule before endgame (e.g., 18" exactly or 18" +/- 1")? Many teams may have intake rollers that break 18" during operation. There were also some teams with string that would sway outside of the 18" during driving. (One team also had a piece of metal partially detach and stick outside of 18"). Should we keep a sizing tool at the skills field to show teams what part of their robot would violate the 18" rule during operation?
4. Being able to eyeball the size of a robot on the field is slightly subjective and might cause problems with newer volunteers. What is the best method for teaching them how to spot a violation?
5. Finally, how do we resolve a dispute of a robot going oversize and entering endgame early? Depending on how strict we are supposed to be with the expansion limit, this will be a point of conflict. As per the manual, "The Head Referee has final authority regarding all Robot rules". Is this only for the designated Head Referee for the event, or does this include everyone that has been certified as a Head Referee by REC?

Answered by committee

Thank you for your questions.

1. How do we mark team as *disqualified* during a skills match?

The Scorekeeper should record a score of 0 for the Skills Match.

2. Also, does the definition of breaking the field perimeter include the top of the field walls, or only the outside? (Would a team be in violation of S2 if a part of their robot is touching the top of the field wall, but not the outside perimeter?)

Rule [<S2>](#) specifies that a Robot that comes in contact with the outside face of the Field Perimeter is in Violation of the rule. It does not address or include the top edge of the Field Perimeter.

3. How strict are we supposed to be regarding the expansion rule before endgame (e.g., 18" exactly or 18" +/- 1")?

Any horizontal expansion beyond 18"x18" prior to the Endgame is a Violation of rule [<SG4>](#), including swaying or dragging strings, flexible intakes that cause the Robot to expand beyond 18" while intaking a Disc, and partially detached Robot components that protrude or drag beyond the 18" size limit. When determining the correct penalty, the Head Referee must consider the clauses and Violation Notes of [<SG4>](#) as well as any steps the Team takes to remedy the Violation. Having a sizing tool available to the Head Referee at the Field is always a good idea.

4. Being able to eyeball the size of a robot on the field is slightly subjective and might cause problems with newer volunteers. What is the best method for teaching them how to spot a violation?

If your Head Referee and Scorekeeper Referees are available to help with Robot Inspection, it can provide hands-on experience and understanding of Robot sizing.

5. As per the manual, "The Head Referee has final authority regarding all Robot rules". Is this only for the designated Head Referee for the event, or does this include everyone that has been certified as a Head Referee by REC?

The Head Referee for the event (or, in the case of an event with multiple Head Referees, the Division or the Match) is the one person with final authority regarding all Robot rules and Match play. Other Referees may provide information about what they saw during a Match, and may advise the Head Referee as requested, but all rulings are

| based on the judgment of the Head Referee and must be made by the Head Referee.

1340: Expansion Over White Support Beam

10-Dec-2022

SC2

<S2>Can your string launcher go over the white support beam without touching the basket? The game manual says that the white support beam is not part of the high goal.

Answered by committee

Thank you for your question. Rule <SG5e>, which still applies during the Endgame period, specifically makes this contact illegal (the pertinent section of the rule is presented in bold text below for emphasis):

Robots may not contact the High Goal, Discs which are Scored in the High Goal, **or the horizontal supporting structures directly underneath the High Goal**. This rule applies at all times, regardless of Alliance / High Goal color.

All Violation Notes for rule <SG5> also apply. An intentional, strategic, and/or Match Affecting Violation should be considered a Major Violation, and repeated Minor Violations may escalate to a Major Violation at the Head Referee's discretion.