

Q&A

VIQC 2021-2022: Pitching In

Tagged: RSC7

Welcome to the official VEX IQ Challenge 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 VIQC **Pitching In** 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 VIQC Pitching In rules questions.

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 - 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

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RSC7 Can drivers move freely around the field during driver skills match?

7-Jan-2022

RSC7

Hello,

In RSC7, it states that "During a Programming Skills Match, Drivers may move freely around the Field". We are wondering if teams can also move freely around the field during a Driver Skills match or at least switch between driving stations? Sometimes it is hard to see the other side of the field when only staying in one driving station.

Best regards, 6699B Unicorn Puncher

Answered by committee

No, this would not be legal. The full text of RSC7 includes the following note, which applies specifically to this question:

Note: This rule only applies to Programming Skills Matches. Driving Skills Matches are still governed by <G18>, especially for strategic violations.

Driver skills-driver movement

12-Nov-2021

RSC7

RSC7 states "During a Programming Skills Match, Drivers may move freely around the Field, and are not restricted to the Driver Station when not handling their Robot." Can we get clarification on the word around. Does this mean the student can grab the robot to move it, but must walk around the board to the next starting position or can a student walk across the board?

Answered by committee

Does this mean the student can grab the robot to move it, but must walk around the board to the next starting position

Yes, this is what it means.

or can a student walk across the board?

Walking on the Field is never permitted in any situation, including while doing an RSC7 re-positioning.

Also - as quoted, RSC7 only applies during Programming Skills Matches. Driving Skills Matches are still governed by <G18>, especially for strategic violation.

Starting positions in RSC7 "Handling Robots during a Programming Skills Match"

28-Jul-2021

RSC7

For RSC7 "Handling Robots during a Programming Skills Match". Is the robot allowed to reset to any of the 8 starting positions regardless where the robot started at first place? In such case, team could gain strategic advantage of using this rule for programming skills only.

Answered by committee

Please review the [Q&A Usage Guidelines](#) before posting, specifically point 3, "Quote the applicable rule from the latest version of the manual in your question". Often, you'll find that by quoting the rule, you'll answer your own question.

RSC7 is partially quoted below, with a portion bolded for emphasis.

<RSC7> Handling Robots during a Programming Skills Match. A Team may handle their Robot as many times as desired during a Programming Skills Match.

a. Upon handling the Robot, it must be immediately brought back to **any legal Starting Position**.

There is no requirement in RSC7 for the Starting Position to be the same one in which they began the Match. Therefore, this would be legal.

"Tether bot" Programming Reset

17-Jan-2021

RSC7

The rule:

< RSC7 > Handling Robots during a Programming Skills Match. A Team may handle their Robot as many times as desired during a Programming Skills Match. a. Upon handling the Robot, it must be immediately brought back to any legal Starting Position.

My question: A team has a robot with a tether, cord, or a series of connected pieces that would allow them to have their robot on one side of the field with some small part of the robot on the opposite side of the field. Can they reset the bot with a very small part of their bot in the starting position, with the robot on the other side of the field?

There is a similar Q&A (<https://www.robotevents.com/VIQC/2020-2021/QA/707>), but all of the pictures have part of the original footprint of the robot in the starting position.

Answered by committee

The phrase "brought back to any legal Starting Position" is not explicitly defined. When a word or phrase is not explicitly defined in the Game Manual, a dictionary definition generally applies, alongside G3, to form a Head Referee's judgment call per T1.

The dictionary definition of "bring" is:

"take or go with (someone or something) to a place."

G3 states:

When reading and applying the various rules in this document, please remember that common sense always applies in the VEX IQ Challenge.

T1 states:

"The Head Referee has ultimate authority on ruling decisions during the competition."

It is very unlikely that a Head Referee would make a judgment call during a Match that a "tether" would satisfy the phrase "brought back", i.e. "take something (a Robot) to a place". The answer provided in Q&A 707 was intended to provide some leeway to Teams and Head Referees during a typically hectic interaction. Q&A 707 could simply be summarized as, "Robots do not need to be completely confined to the initial starting volume during a G17 or RSC3 handling."

However, we are not going to explicitly define a percentage, a measurement, or other strictly objective limitation; it would be impossible to issue a blanket ruling that would satisfy all hypothetical Robot designs or Match contexts. This is the intent of the final sentence in Q&A 707:

We would advise Teams to err closer to the side of Figures A, B, and D, in the interest of making it abundantly clear to the Head Referee that you have returned to the Starting Position.

<RSC7> RESETTING Robots during a Programming Skills Match (Clarification of G4 Question)

7-Dec-2020

G4 RSC7

This question was asked and answered, but I need some clarification please.

"G4 839A 2 weeks ago Rule G4 Pre-match setup states that at the beginning of a Match, each Robot must meet the following criteria: 1. Only be contacting the Floor and/or the field perimeter; 2. Fit within an 11" x 19" (279.4mm x 482.6mm) area, bounded by the Starting Positions; 3. Be no taller than 15" from the Floor. Rule R5 restates similar conditions. Rule RSC1 states standard rules apply in most cases. All rules and scoring from previous sections apply to the Skills Matches, unless otherwise specified.

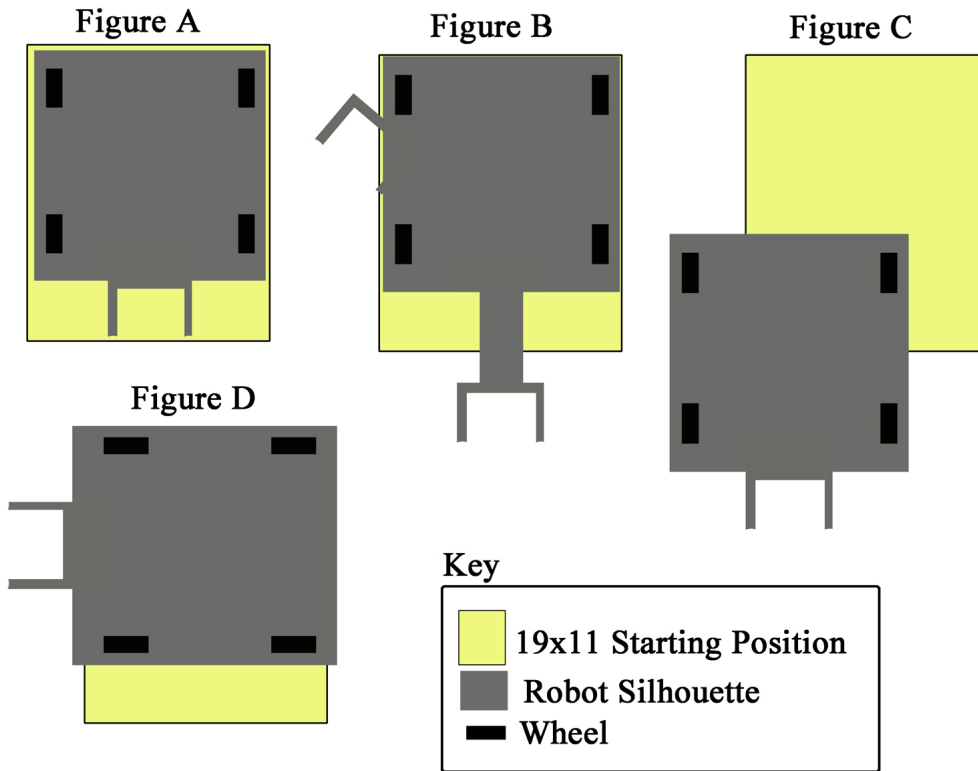
Our understanding of these rules are that the robot must fit within the dimensions specified above at the start of each match in one of the 2 designated starting positions. There are no other rules that states otherwise for autonomous skills matches. However, we were asked to change our autonomous skills routine during our last competition by one of the judges as they stated the robot must fit within the starting dimensions every time we launch a new routine in the starting area. Please clarify if we correctly interpreted that the starting dimensions applies to only the first launch at the beginning of an autonomous skills run or if it in fact applies to all subsequent launches in the starting position.

Answered by Game Design Committee Our understanding of these rules are that the robot must fit within the dimensions specified above at the start of each match in one of the 2 designated starting positions. There are no other rules that states otherwise for autonomous skills matches.

This interpretation is correct.

<RSC7> Handling Robots during a Programming Skills Match. A Team may handle their Robot as many times as desired during a Programming Skills Match. a. Upon handling the Robot, it must be immediately brought back to any legal Starting Position. i. Drivers may reset or adjust the Robot as desired from this position, including pressing buttons on the Robot Brain or activating sensors.

My clarification question; When a team returns their robot to a starting position during a programming skills run, do they have to return it to the 19X11X15 size every time they reset the robot? Or do they have to just have it be the 9X11X15 size the first time they are in the starting position at the start of the match? If they do not have to return to the 19X11X15 size, are all of these positions (A-D, see image) legal when resetting the robot during a robot skills match?



Answered by committee

The definition of Starting Position reads as follows:

Starting Positions – The two (2) designated 11" x 19" (279.4mm x 482.6mm) volumes of the Field where Robots must start the Match. Starting Positions are bounded by the inner edges of the long black lines, outer edge of the short black line, and the inner edge of the field perimeter. See Figure 2 for more details.

RSC7 states that Robots must be brought back to a Starting Position (i.e. the 11"x19" volume where the Robot started the Match). The requirement for a Robot to be completely confined within this volume (i.e. rule G4) only apply during pre-Match setup, as noted in Note 2 of G4.

Therefore, all four hypothetical scenarios in your attached image would be considered legal RSC7 repositioning. With that being said, we would advise Teams to err closer to the side of Figures A, B, and D, in the interest of making it abundantly clear to the Head Referee that you have returned to the Starting Position.

Clarification of RSC7 for programming skills matches

22-Feb-2022

RSC7

I have a question about statement a.i. in RSC7 "Drivers may reset or adjust the Robot as desired from this position, including pressing buttons on the Robot Brain or activating sensors." Does the word "reset" refer to only the physical robot, or are teams also allowed to reset their program, choose different programs, etc during an official programming skills run?

Thank you,

Answered by committee

Does the word "reset" refer to only the physical robot, or are teams also allowed to reset their program, choose different programs, etc during an official programming skills run?

Yes, pressing buttons on the Robot Brain to activate / reset / switch programs is legal.