MISSOURI CANCELLATION POLICIES FOR 2019-2020

The Planning Committee secures the venues for events. Venues are donating the space so there is no expectation that they would hold another weekend in reserve or reschedule events for us. We appreciate all their support of the FIRST Tech Challenge program.

Venue hosts make the decision to cancel an event based on their policies and their site conditions. This could be based on weather forecast or any other public safety issue. We expect them to consult with the Committee but the decision is theirs. They pass the decision on to the Planning Committee and we pass it on to teams via email, texts/calls and social media postings.

Individual teams must make the decision to travel if an event is not cancelled. We understand that school district policies may impact your team’s ability to participate (no school on Friday, no travel on Saturday). Please keep in mind that your safety is more important than robotics!

We sincerely hope that all events can run as scheduled. We (teams and volunteers) all put a lot of effort into this program and we want to experience the competitions.

CANCELLATION OF QUALIFIER(S)

We have ONE Back-up Date scheduled for Qualifiers on each side of the state.

- 2/1 – West Conference (covers Knob Noster, Belton and Drury)
- 2/8 – East Conference (covers SLU, STLCC – FV, SEMO and Oakville)
- The Back-up Qualifiers each have a max capacity of 36 teams.
- No decisions about rescheduling will be made until after all Qualifier dates on that side of the state. (1/25 for West and 2/1 for East)
- Do not assume that if your Dec. Qualifier is cancelled you will attend the Back-up - just keep the date available.

If only one Qualifier is cancelled, all affected teams will be scheduled for the Make-up Qualifier.

- A 24 team Qualifier cancellation would change the Back-up to 24 teams with 4 advancements.
- A 36 team Qualifier cancellation would run the Back-up as 36 teams with 5 advancements.

If more than one Qualifier is cancelled, another layer of procedures must be followed to determine how to advance/reschedule teams.

- Each Qualifier has a number of teams assigned to advance directly to state (4 or 5).
- The Make-up Qualifier has a max capacity of 36 teams and 5 advancements.

Example:

- A 24 and a 36 team Qualifier are both cancelled
- 60 teams would like to play but there are only 36 slots at the Back-up
- There are 9 advancement slots to State Championship to be filled.
NEW procedure to be implemented

- All teams from the cancelled Qualifiers are ranked based on their Meet scores.
  - Teams who did not play any Meets cannot be ranked.
  - Teams selecting to play in only one Meet will be at a disadvantage.
- All teams must provide verification of their Engineering Notebook as a way to take into consideration that some of the advancement slots are for Judged Awards. This is not a judging process.
  - Teams are asked to create a 60-90 second video with at least one student showing an overview of the Engineering Notebook and that it includes the 3 required sections; Engineering Content, Team Information and Team Plan.
  - See the Engineering Notebook Guide (pg. 4) and the Self-Assessment Form (pg. 12) at https://www.firstinspires.org/sites/default/files/uploads/resource_library/ftc/engineering-notebook-guidelines.pdf
  - This is not a fancy video, no extra points for graphics, lighting and sound effects. Just shoot it with your cell phone.
  - We will post a sample video to the Team Portal on www.stlfirst.org
  - Send the video to FTC@stlfirst.org by the requested deadline.
  - Teams who cannot/do not provide verification of their Engineering Notebook will be pulled from the rankings.
- We know that 36 teams will play at the Make-up Qualifier and that will advance 5 teams. Remember, this procedure is only in place when more than one Qualifier is cancelled.
- The number of advancement slots above 5 will advance directly to State Championship.
- The top teams on the rankings with Engineering Notebook verification are designated to fill the direct advance slots.
- The next 36 would be scheduled for the Back-up Qualifier.
- The remaining teams would not get to attend the Back-up Qualifier.

Example Continued:

- The 60 teams are ranked based on their Meet scores.
- One team did not play at Meets, so we now have 59 teams ranked.
- Two teams failed to turn in Engineering Notebook verification, so we are down to 57 teams.
- The top 4 teams advance directly to State Championship.
- The next 36 teams play at the Back-up Qualifier for the 5 advancements to State Championship.
- The remaining 17 teams do not get a Qualifier Make-up but may still advance to the Conference Qualifier.
CANCELLATION OF A CONFERENCE QUALIFIER(S)

The 36 teams scheduled for the Conference Qualifier would follow the same NEW procedure listed above (Meet score rankings and Engineering Notebook verification) for the Qualifiers.

CANCELLATION OF STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

This is a hard situation to even imagine. Due to the timing and size of the event, reschedule is not an option. Unique procedures would be followed for advancement to FIRST Championship in Houston.

- Half of the advancements would come from the pool of Inspire Award winners at Qualifiers and Conference Qualifiers. Random drawing from this subset.
- The second half of the advancements would come from the Meet rankings in order.

CANCELLATION OF MEETS

Meets are a different category of issues. There are so many more of them. In most cases, the teams aren’t travelling as far and the cancellations risks are more localized. The Meet site host (school district or other building) determines whether to cancel. Meet host would notify Committee who would post on website and social media. Meet host would notify the individual teams. Timing (how much time left in season), venue availability and insurance requirements will determine if Meets can be rescheduled. Affected teams would be notified of possibility for reschedule ASAP.

If a Meet is cancelled and unable to reschedule, all Teams will have their other Meet score doubled.

If a Meet is cancelled and can be rescheduled, all originally scheduled Teams are invited to attend.

- A minimum of 6 teams is required to run an official Meet.
- If a minimum 6 teams can’t attend, the Meet is again cancelled and all teams have their other Meet score doubled.
- If 6 or more teams can attend, they play for rankings.
  - Any teams unable to attend still get their other Meet score doubled.

Teams who have both Meets cancelled would not have any Meet scores to double and thus would not be eligible for any process using Meet scores for rankings.