

Botball Educational Robotics Program

Botball teaches students skills in science, technology, engineering, math and project management by using robotics in an environment that transcends the classroom.

Botball Season

Botball programs run in the spring beginning with a two-day workshop for the adult team leader and 2 guests (students or mentors). At this time team leaders learn to use the components in the Botball Kit, the IC programming language, and the current game challenge. Then team leaders take the standardized Botball Kit back to their students, who have about seven weeks to design, build, and program a pair of autonomous robots. During the 7-week building period, teams document their engineering process online.

IMPORTANT DATES:

New England Regional Botball Workshop:
January 23-24, 2009

University of Massachusetts Lowell - Olsen Hall

New England Regional Botball Tournament:
March 28, 2009

University of Massachusetts Lowell - Cumnock Hall



Tournament Day

Each team has the opportunity to show off their original robots during the morning seeding rounds followed by the exciting head-to-head double elimination rounds in the afternoon. The human team members do not control the robots during the 90-second game - all bots must start, operate, and stop all by themselves.

To register your team or for more information: www.botball.org or email: info@kipr.org

Botball Educational Robotics Program

Getting Started

HOW TO REGISTER

www.botball.org

How to establish your team

Botball provides the flexibility for you to organize your team as you wish. In the past we have seen schools organize teams with anywhere from 5-30 students. Some schools use Botball as part of a specific class project, while others use it as an extracurricular club at the school. Some students who may not do well in traditional classroom situations have done extraordinarily well in this program, including students from continuation schools. Botball has also been used quite successfully as content for a middle school ESL program (particularly with girls), and some of these students have gone on to the local science and math magnet school. How you organize Botball and select students is up to you.

Getting Started

Botball programs run in the spring starting off with a two day hands on Educator Workshop. At this time teachers will learn how to use all the components in the Botball Robot Kit, how to use it to support their current curriculum, or how to use it in conjunction with curriculum and activities from our website. Teachers then take their official Botball Robot Kit back to their students. The student teams will have about seven weeks to design, build, document and program an original team of autonomous mobile robots to compete in the regional Botball Robot Tournament. The regional Botball Robot Tournament is open to the public. We encourage family, friends, and the general public to come and cheer on their teams. Student teams get to show off their robots during the seeding rounds, which are followed by an exciting double elimination tournament.

Botball is a fun, highly engaging process that can also be used to teach leadership, teamwork, time management, organization, design, and other topics. We will provide you with necessary programming languages and applications. At the conclusion of the activities, participating schools keep their robot equipment and software licenses. Many teachers use the kit to enhance lessons, hold school-wide robot tournaments, or organize a robotics club.



To Find out More Information

Please Visit: www.botball.org or call (405) 579-4609



For More Information
on Botball: www.botball.org

Botball Scholarship Policy

The Botball Scholarship Policy applies to teams requesting funding directly through Botball. Teams receiving funding through other companies or organizations need not participate in this process.

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Policy Statement

KISS Institute actively recruits corporate sponsors in an effort to keep registration fees down and to provide financial assistance to potential Botball teams. Scholarships are limited and depend on available sponsors. We do not guarantee that we will be able to offer scholarships in all regions where Botball tournaments are held, nor do we guarantee that teams receiving scholarships in previous seasons will receive funds again or in the same amount.

In an effort to include as many schools as possible, it is our policy to give scholarships in small amounts to several schools rather than large amounts to few schools. In addition, new teams will typically receive priority.

We expect that teams will develop their own strategies for funding Botball and will apply for Botball scholarships for no more than three consecutive years.

All scholarship awards are given in the form of a fee waiver.

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Criteria for Awards

Scholarships will be awarded in amounts no greater than \$2,000. Awards will be based on competitive evaluation of applications using the following criteria:

1. Previous requests for scholarships, and obligations met
2. School/teacher's educational goals
3. Plans for using the robot kit after the tournament
4. Number of students participating
5. Plan to recruit students for your team
6. Planned outreach efforts
 1. For returning teams: ie. recruit/mentor a new team from a different school
 2. For new teams: effort to provide community outreach (ie. demonstrations/presentations at school or public events)
7. Demonstrated effort to raise funds
 1. Returning teams should also include a plan for raising funds in future years

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Scholarship Recipient Requirements

- Recipients are expected to use funds to jump-start their program and develop separate funding sources for future years.
- Recipients must sign a scholarship agreement and return it no later than one week prior to your regional workshop. If the agreement is not received in our office by the deadline, the scholarship cannot be provided.
- Teams new to Botball must have at least one educator or adult mentor participate in both days of the Botball Educator's Workshop.
- Teams (*a teacher and a minimum of two students*) must attend and check in at the tournament even if they are not prepared to enter a robot in the competition. If your team will not be entering a robot in the competition, you will be required to notify KISS Institute 5 days prior to your regional tournament. If a scholarship team does not attend the tournament, the team will be responsible for payment of the entire registration fee. Furthermore, the team will not be eligible for funds in future years.
- Teams are required to pay the balance due on their registration fee at least one week prior to the regional workshop.

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Scholarship Review Dates

Apply by the initial review date of **November 03, 2008** to receive early confirmation of a scholarship award.

If funding permits, additional awards may be made three weeks prior to each region's Botball Educator's Workshop. We cannot guarantee that funds will be available for each regional tournament, so you are encouraged to establish your own sources of funding. KISS Institute Scholarships are designed for teams who have tried to raise their own funds but fall short of the full registration fee.

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Application

The 2008 scholarship application is [available online](#). Once you have completed the form, you should receive a confirmation email providing you with your scholarship confirmation number within 2 business days.

If you do not get a scholarship confirmation number, please contact us at scholarships@kipr.org or call Marci Corey at 405-579-4609.

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2009: Botball Scholarships -
 Apply Online only - www.botball.org
 Use below to prepare for
 online application



OFFICE USE ONLY	
Date Rec'd	_____
Confirmation #	_____
Approved for	_____
Sponsor	_____
Agreement Sent	_____
Agreement Rec'd	_____

2008 Botball® Scholarship Application

School/Team Name:		Date Submitted:	
Check One: <input type="checkbox"/> Middle School <input type="checkbox"/> High School <input type="checkbox"/> Other		Botball Region:	
Adult Team Leader:			
Team Leader Email:		Team Leader Phone:	
Person Completing this Form (if different from above):			
Amt. Requested Last Year:	\$ _____	Amt. Awarded Last Year:	\$ _____
		Amt. Requested This Year:	\$ _____
New team this year?		New team leader this year?	

A. Describe your specific educational goals for the Botball program.

Some examples include (but are not limited to): Students will use sensors to automate machine responses. Students will organize time management to meet goals.

B. How do you plan to use the robotics equipment after participation in the Botball tournament?

C. What is the estimated number of students participating on your Botball team? _____

How do you plan to recruit students?

Describe any plans you may have for recruiting girls and/or minorities for your team.

D. Planned Outreach Efforts

In this section the review committee is looking for community outreach efforts you are planning or have accomplished using Botball robots and/or Botball robotics equipment. **Some examples of community outreach might include** (but are not limited to) demonstrations for community or school organizations, presentations at other area schools, public events, etc.

*1a. For **returning** teams: Tell us about any community outreach accomplished last year.*

*1b. For **returning** teams: Tell us about any planned community outreach activities for this year.*

*2. For **new** teams: Tell us about planned efforts to provide community outreach.*

E. Demonstrated Effort to Raise Funds

KISS Institute works to raise funds to cover scholarship awards, as well as our tournament costs. Therefore, we value the efforts of teams who work to raise funds for their own Botball program. We ask that scholarship applicants provide information outlining fundraising efforts using the grid below. ***Applications omitting this portion will not be considered.***

Potential Donor	Funding Requested (include date and amount)	Status of Request* (approved, pending, declined)
Principal		
School District		
PTA		
Title I Funds		
Professional Development Funds		
Materials Funds		
Local Education Foundation		
Grant		
Grant		
Corporate Sponsor		
Corporate Sponsor		
Student Fundraiser		
Other		
Other		
Other		
Other		

* Indicate status at time of scholarship application submission. KISS Institute may ask for an update on any pending funding requests before making a final funding decision.

Please review the following when completing the scholarship application process:

1. **If you do not get a scholarship confirmation number within 2 business days then we did not receive your scholarship application.** Please email scholarships@kipr.org or call Marci Corey at 405-579-4609 for assistance.
2. In order to officially receive a Botball scholarship your team must be registered for the current Botball season. Visit www.botball.org to register your team.
3. Thoroughly review the scholarship recipient requirements listed on our website. You will be accountable for meeting each of the stated requirements.
4. Take a few minutes to visit with your school administration about your team's participation in the Botball program and encourage their support.