Things You Should Know – Changes for this Season

Calculating Scores and Rankings:
There have been major changes to the way scores and rankings are calculated, for both remote and traditional competitions. Please be sure to read the following sections of the respective manual that applies to your region:

      Section 3.4 – Competition Definitions
      Section 5.0 – Calculating Scores and Rankings

General Rules:
 Improved the wording of the robot maximum starting size rule (<RG02>)
Recommendation for teams to **add their team number anywhere on the alliance markers**. This allows field personnel the ability to return alliance markers that might be left on the playing field. (<RG05>)
Changed rule <RG07> to address "detached robot parts" in place of the more limited "launching robot parts
Changed rule <RG08> to address "propelling game scoring elements" in place of the more limited "launching game scoring elements"

Mechanical Rules:
    Replaced the COTS game elements restriction with "COTS scoring elements," "team manufactured replicas of COTS scoring elements," and "navigation images" in the current season game and scoring element rule (<RM06>)

Electrical Rules:
    Emphasized that exactly one robot main power switch much control all power provided by the robot main battery pack (<RE01>)
    Added electromagnets to the partial list of electronics that are not allowed (<RE17>)

Team Scoring Element Rules:
- Added a Team Scoring Element color requirement (<TE01>)
- Changed the Team Scoring Element size constraints (<TE03>)
- Added the intent of the Team Scoring Element team number rule <TE04>

Inspection Rules:
- Added the requirement that the driver station and robot controller software must pass field inspection before being used in a match (<I08>)
- Added the requirement that the driver station and driver station carrier must pass field inspection before being used in a match (<I09>)
- Deleted the "Qualification Matches" inspection rule from the previous season to remove rule duplication
- Added an inspection rule for team supplied elements (<I10>)
- Deleted the "Qualification Matches" inspection rule from the previous season to remove rule duplication

Driver Station Rules:
    Updated the driver station carrier rule (<DS07>) to clarify that only one (1) driver station carrier is allowed at the playing field and the driver station does not function as a robot cart

Software Rules:
    Updated the allowed software system versions (<RS03>)