Participant Code of Conduct

The MATE ROV Competition is about student learning. A vital component of that is the ethical and respectful conduct of all who participate. The MATE ROV Competition Participant Code of Conduct includes these standards to create an amazing competition experience in-person and in remote environments without the threat of defamation and intolerance, bullying and harassment, lewd behavior, or the display of offensive content:

- **Above all else, safety first** – the MATE ROV Competition experience should be safe and welcoming for all competitors, judges, volunteers, and guests. Do not disclose, use, or disseminate the personal identification information of yourself or another person without their permission. Sharing personal information about your fellow participants without their consent - including gender, religion, age, marital status, race, sexual preference, alternate account names, and real-world location beyond what is provided by them, is not allowed.

- **Be kind** – everyone has worked hard and sacrificed to participate; honor that. Do not bully, harass, intimidate, or threaten other participants, staff, or other spectators. Any language that is meant to defame or injure another user will result in an immediate disqualification from participating on all MATE ROV Competition video conferencing platforms (VR, Zoom, Teams, etc....) and determination as to whether the participant will be allowed to return.

- **Be responsible** – you are here to represent your company, your club, your sponsors, your school, your country. Do not engage in or promote any practice that is unethical or violates any law or competition rule. Do not infringe on copyright, license, trademark, patent, or other intellectual property rights. Do not post any content that is obscene or explicit, violent, defamatory, disparaging, illegal, or that promotes or communicates messages that may reflect negatively on the goodwill of the MATE ROV Competition.

- **Be respectable** - maintain maturity and professionalism at all times. We expect that online users will choose a Username and/or First/Screen Name that is free of inappropriate terms. Ensure that you are not violating normal real-world personal space while within VR environments. Harassing behavior will result in a disqualification and subsequent determination as to whether the participant will be allowed to return.

- **Show respect for differences**: We are an international program with thousands of people from all regions of the planet, we ask that you show the respect you would want to receive from others. As a community enriched by this multi-cultural environment, there will be no tolerance for bigotry regarding any participant's race, nationality, spiritual beliefs, physical abilities, or sexual orientation.

- **Follow the MATE ROV Competition rules.**
- **Adhere to the Microsoft Altspace VR Terms of Service.**