

[RoboCup] Final Newsletter before the Competition

Hello everyone!

RoboCup 2026 will start next week and we're all very excited to see everyone again! To ensure that everything goes well, we've compiled some important information below. As always, if you have any questions, please reach out to the TC or OC and we will do our best to help.

See you soon!

Discord

To ensure that you always receive the latest information during the competition, please join the official RoboCup discord server [0].

Schedule

You can find the official schedule for RoboCup 2026 here: [1]. The venue will be opened for competitors from 7 am to 11 pm and for visitors from 10 am to 5 pm. June 30th and July 1st will serve as setup days to get yourselves familiar with the environment and prepare your robots. The robot inspection and referee training will also take place during these days. The competition itself takes place from July 2nd to July 5th. Detailed game schedules will be announced on site.

When you first arrive at the venue, you will need to collect your credentials from the registration desk. For this purpose please remember to bring your confirmation of registration and identification documents for each team member. If you are arriving in the morning of the first setup day, keep in mind that most people will want to collect their credentials at that time, so you might need to wait a bit.

Visa and Immigration

Depending on your region, you might need to fill out a K-ETA [2], e-Arrival Card [3] and/or Q-Code [4] prior to your departure. Please ensure that you have all necessary documentation before your trip. Information on countries that need to submit a Q-Code can be found here: [5]. The Q-Code can be submitted up to 7 days before arrival, the e-Arrival card can be submitted up to 3 days before arrival.

There will not be any special immigration and customs process for RoboCup participants. Delays at the airport are therefore likely, especially if you are traveling with robots.

Posters

Every team is encouraged to bring a physical poster highlighting the team's contributions. The goal of the posters is to share your contributions with other teams within the league.

The posters will be placed inside the team area.

Format: Preferred A3 format. (A4 and similar US formats are also accepted.)

Best Poster Award: the best poster will be awarded with a certificate.

Robot Inspection

A mandatory robot inspection will take place during the setup days. Sheets will be available on site for teams to sign up for inspection. Each team is required to bring every unique robot platform to inspection, identical robots do not need to be inspected. Teams that use a standard platform also need to bring their robots to inspection to ensure that no modifications were made or that all modifications adhere to the rules. Robots that did not pass inspection are not allowed to participate in any game. Reinspections are possible at any time upon request. If a robot is modified significantly during the course of the competition, it needs to be reinspected before it is allowed to participate in any further games.

During robot inspection, we will also inspect the teams jerseys again, especially for those teams that did not submit their jerseys prior to competition. For this purpose, please bring one sample of each jersey design to the inspection.

As part of the robot inspection, we will ask you to participate in a voluntary fitness test with your robots. Participating in this test is not mandatory and there are no repercussions for failing the tests. However, we would hope that most of you would still participate in this test as it helps us to collect valuable data on the state of the league, which in turn allows us to make informed decisions on rule changes such as field sizes or game durations. In future years, this test may become mandatory. The fitness test consists of three parts:

- Walking Speed
- Fall Recovery
- Kick Accuracy

You may attempt each of these challenges up to three times, the best result is recorded. Detailed rules can be found here: [6]. If you are unable to or do not want to complete any or all of these tests, please inform the inspectors during robot inspection. In total, the inspection plus fitness tests should take no more than 30 minutes.

Booster Robot Pool

We have received from Booster the latest regulations for their robot pool:

"Teams bringing the required number of robots (2 K1 or 1 T1) to the event are eligible to receive the remaining robots necessary for their games from our robot pool. During the Swiss system part of the tournament we will provide the robots necessary that your team can play full Foundation matches (a total of 3 robots including your own). For K1 we'll be able to provide enough robots to field full 5 robot teams from the quarterfinals onwards. Robots undergoing repair are only eligible for replacement by a pool robot if necessary to avoid not being able to field a full team. Robots will be available for pick up at least 30 minutes before your scheduled game and must be returned within 15 minutes after the end of your game. Depending on the number of robots brought to the event by the teams, we might be able to assign some robots to teams for longer periods of time to reduce the time pressure to set up the robot right before the game. We will provide more details during the preparation Days.

Don't forget to bring a form of ID, which will be used as deposit to pick up your robots!

Each team using Booster robots is eligible to pick up charged batteries for their match. These batteries have to be returned after each match. Teams that rented batteries through our battery rental offer will have those batteries available throughout the competition.

We will have a Booster Clinic at the event where you can drop off robots for repairs. The clinic will be open during the normal venue opening hours for participants and is located behind the large size team area. Since the walking distance from the middle size team area is quite significant, there will be another smaller staging area closer to the middle size team area. We will create a channel on the Robocup Discord to make it easier to manage repairs of your robots.

NAO Clinic

There will be a Maxtronics NAO clinic providing support and repairs for the teams that use NAO robots. If possible, please send the serial numbers and potential repair needs for your NAO robots. This will make sure that the necessary parts can be packed.

Contact:

Maxime Nicolaus

Silvia Coradeschi and Gerhard Kraetzschmar Awards

Nominations for the Silvia Coradeschi and Gerhard Kraetzschmar awards have been extended until June 30th.

The Silvia Coradeschi Award is awarded to honour female graduate students and post-doctoral researchers for their distinguishing research and leadership in the RoboCup community.

The Gerhard Kraetzschmar Award is awarded to honour RoboCup members with an outstanding record of service in one or more of the RoboCup Leagues.

If you want to nominate a person for either of these awards, please follow the instructions here: [7].

Streaming

An official RoboCup stream will be available at [8]. Please spread the word. We also need some assistance with commenting games. If you are interested in this, please reach out to us.

[0] <https://discord.gg/r33Vkhwu6>

[1] <https://2026.robocup.org/schedule/>

[2] <https://www.k-eta.go.kr/>

[3] <https://www.e-arrivalcard.go.kr>

[4] <https://qcode.kdca.go.kr/qco/index.do?lang=en>

[5] https://qcode.kdca.go.kr/qco/bbs/BD_selectBbs.do?

q_bbsDocNo=20260526165403635&q_pagePerPage=10&q_pagingEndNum=10&q_clsfn=2&q_pagingStartNum=1&q_rowPerPage=10&q_currPage=1&q_bbsSn=1016

[6] <https://github.com/RoboCup-HumanoidSoccerLeague/HSL-Rules/blob/main/HSLFitness-Tests.pdf>

[7] <https://2026.robocup.org/participants/award/>

[8] <https://www.twitch.tv/robocupofficial>