

# FORT COLLINS ROBOT FIRE FIGHTING CHALLENGE

## What's all this, then?

The Fort Collins Robot Fire Fighting Challenge is an exciting robot contest that's new to Fort Collins. Amateur engineers build robots to navigate a module house, and either put out a candle flame or locate a frightened "baby" hiding somewhere in the house. Various bonuses and penalties apply, but basically, the robot that completes the task in the shortest time wins!

## When and where is this contest?

The contest is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 8, 2008, at the Discovery Science Center in Fort Collins. Watch the web site for details as it gets closer.

## Who can participate?

Anyone! Our contest will be open to kids and adults of all ages. No previous robot experience is necessary. Built your robot out of LEGO, Vex, or odds and ends you find in your garage. All are welcome, and we'll set up divisions as needed to make sure everyone has fun.



Note that if you enjoy our local contest, you may wish to go on to the national event held at Trinity College (Hartford, CT) on April 12-13, 2008.

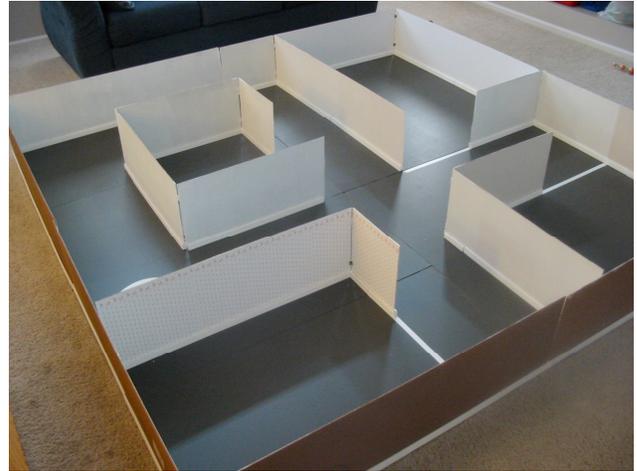
## What are the events?

We'll be having two events:

**1. Fire Fighting:** locate a candle flame in one of the rooms, put it out, and for bonus points, return to the starting position.

**2. Robot Hide & Seek:** locate a doll sitting on a bench marked by a 15-watt heat source and bright white LEDs.

You may choose to enter either or both events.



## LEGO, you say? Really?

Yes, you really can build a competitive bot out of LEGO. However, you're not restricted to using only official LEGO parts; there are some third-party sensors (including a flame sensor) that work with the RCX or NXT controller, and may make your job much easier. You could even use your own electronics on a LEGO chassis, or vice versa. Get creative!

## Whose fault is this, anyway?

The FCRFFC is sponsored by the Front Range Robotics Club, a loose collection of local robot enthusiasts. Our goal is to give people in the area a chance to learn, build, and have fun. And who knows? Maybe your robot will someday evolve into a life-saving product that operates in real homes.

## How much is this going to cost me?

The details are still being hammered out, but the contest entrance fee (if any) will be minimal. Your major costs will be whatever goes into your robot, and that depends on your time, skill, and creativity.

## Where can I learn more?

Watch the FCRFFC web site, at <http://www.strout.net/fcrffc/>. That's where you'll find official rules, registration information, and contact information where you can learn more.