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For Immediate Release

SWPA BOTSIQ TO HOST 13th ANNUAL ROBOTICS COMPETITION APRIL 13-14 AT CAL U

PITTSBURGH (April 6, 2018) – Southwestern Pennsylvania BotsIQ (SWPA BotsIQ), a gladiator-style robot competition for high school students, returns to California University of Pennsylvania’s Convocation Center on Friday, April 13 and Saturday, April 14 for the 13th annual competition.

Friday’s opening ceremony begins at 9:05 a.m. followed by bouts at 9:30 a.m. Saturday’s opening ceremony starts at 8:45 a.m. and bouts begin at 9:05 a.m. In addition, a STEAM Showcase will be held Saturday, April 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the second floor of Cal U’s Convocation Center, where businesses and organizations will exhibit STEAM opportunities. The Intermediate Unit 1 Mobile Fab Lab will also be onsite. All events are free and open to the public.

Approximately 1,000 SWPA students from over 60 schools will compete in the finals competition. Students spent the school year building a 15-pound robot. During the process, they gained technical skills in manufacturing, machining and welding, as well as soft skills by working in a team environment.

“BotsIQ is a unique program,” said Michel Conklin, BotsIQ executive director. “Not only does it provide students with an exciting, hands-on experience, but the program was designed to meet industry’s needs for a trained workforce.”

BotsIQ addresses the region’s skills gap by sparking student interest in STEM careers and preparing them with the skills needed to be successful in the workforce.

For more information about SWPA BotsIQ and the upcoming competitions, visit www.botsiqpa.org.

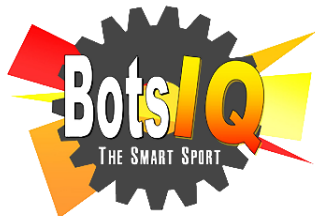
About Southwestern Pennsylvania BotsIQ

Southwestern Pennsylvania BotsIQ is a manufacturing workforce development program of the Pittsburgh Chapter National Tooling & Machining Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. The program is affiliated with the National Robotics League and is managed by New Century Careers. Faced with an aging manufacturing workforce, The Pittsburgh Chapter National Tooling and Machining Association (NTMA) spearheaded efforts to bring a national student robotics program to the region. Local manufacturers and educators joined forces to launch BotsIQ with just six schools in 2005. SWPA BotsIQ is 10 times its original size and boasts its own fan base and alumni returning to lend support as volunteers. More than 5,000 students have participated in the program since its inception.

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www.botsiqpa.org



Follow teams in your area through these helpful links:

Dates and approximate times of your team's bouts (bout time is three minutes or less):

Competition bracket livestream:

<https://challonge.com/BotsIQ2018Finals>

SWPA Bots IQ Finals Day 1: Friday, April 13

<http://cupmediasite.passhe.edu/Mediasite/Play/5c8493e8884246a9a7f5757efde386171d>

SWPA Bots IQ Finals Day 2: Saturday, April 14

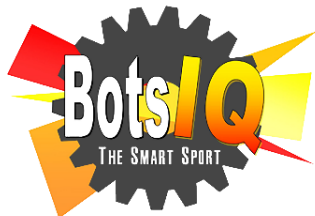
<http://cupmediasite.passhe.edu/Mediasite/Play/4b2704407d924b588b85348e443ed15b1d>

2018 Participating Schools

- Admiral Peary AVTS
- Avonworth High School
- Baldwin High School
- Beaver County CTC
- Bedford High School
- Belle Vernon Area High School
- Bishop Canevin High School
- Brentwood High School
- Butler Senior High School
- California Area High School
- Canon-McMillan High School
- Carmichaels High School
- Central Valley High School
- Chambersburg Area Career Magnet School
- Charleroi Area High School
- Chartiers-Houston Jr./Sr. High School
- Clairton High School
- Connellsville Area High School
- Deer Lakes High School
- Derry Area High School
- Eastern Westmoreland CTC
- Elizabeth Forward High School
- Fox Chapel Area High School
- Frazier High School
- Freedom Area High School
- Greater Johnstown High School
- Greater Latrobe Senior High School
- Greene County CTC
- Greene County Homeschoolers
- Greensburg Salem High School

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SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA



Hempfield Area High School
Highlands High School
Holy Family Academy
Lincoln Jr./Sr. High School
Mon Valley CTC
Moniteau High School
Mt. Pleasant Area Sr. High
Norwin High School
Penn Hills High School
Penn-Trafford High School
Pine-Richland High School
Pittsburgh Brashear High School
Pittsburgh Science and Technology Academy
Plum High School
Punxsutawney High School
Ringgold High School
Riverview High School
Seneca Valley Sr. High School
Serra Catholic High School
Somerset County CTC
South Allegheny High School
South Fayette High School
South Park High School
Southmoreland High School
Sto-Rox High School
Trinity High School
Union High School
United Jr./Sr. High School
West Greene High School
West Mifflin High School
Western Area Career & Technology Center
Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf
Woodland Hills High School
Yough High School
YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh

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