

Skills Ontario 2026 Robotics Q and A Document

Updated: September 30, 2025

A. General

A.1- What is this document?

This document is a supplement to the competition scope that answers specific questions teams may have about ambiguities in the scope. This document supersedes the current version of the scope found on www.skillsontario.com.

A.2 – What is the Mail list?

The mail list is the fastest way to receive information about the competition. It is recommended that at least 1 team member or coach should be receiving email updates. Email dan.kurz@dsb1.ca to be added to the mail list.

B. The Court

B1. The scope says the hallways are 22" wide. Appendix A has them at 21 1/4 inches. What is correct?

Hallways are 21 1/4" wide. Appendix A will be taken as correct if there are any discrepancies between it and the scope.

B2. Pieces FE3 and ECU15 have different sizes on the drawing from what is in the cut list. What is correct?

The drawings are correct. FE3 should be 4"x6", ECU15 should be 5 1/4" x 6".

C. Game Play

C1: If the autonomous bot knocks something over after the switch is flopped, can the team lose points?

No. The switch flip determines the end state of the game. Which is what is scored.

C2: Does “reaching over walls” include breaking the interior vertical plane of a wall, but not fully crossing it?

Yes, no part of a team’s entry may break the vertical plane formed by the inside (or outside) edges of any walls.

D. Robot Design

D1: If a robot separates into two parts, while remaining connected with a wire is this acceptable?

Yes. All parts of a robot must be in continuous physical connection for the entire match to be considered one robot.

D2: Are teams allowed to transfer pieces between robots. For example, could a "trailer" attached to 1 robot at the start of the match be attached to the another robot part way through?

No. See Question D1 and rule 3.3.6 in the scope.

D3: Rule 8.6.4.2 in the scope says “Laser devices are not permitted”. Does this include time of flight sensors or other classroom safe distance sensors that technically use lasers?

This rule is in the scope to prevent teams from using lasers that are distracting or dangerous. The NTC has ruled that commercially available, unmodified distance sensors that use class 1 lasers are permitted for sensor use only. Note: Teams must provide documentation during inspection showing that their device is rated as class 1. For more clarification about a specific product reach out the technical chair at dan.kurz@dsb1.ca.

E. The Skills Ontario Competition

E1. Do competitors need to wear safety glasses this year?

Yes. Everyone in the robotics area must wear safety glasses at all times during the competition.