



## REGIONAL COMPETITION FAQs

The MATE ROV Competition [Gray's Reef Southeast Regional](#) is a qualifying event for the World Championship. Student teams from across Georgia and the southeast compete in three classes of skill level (SCOUT, NAVIGATOR, RANGER) with their custom-built robots to complete complex underwater mission simulations to restore our ocean through sustainable practices like maritime aquaculture, renewable energy, water quality monitoring, and climate studies.

### COMPETITION TIMELINE

- Communications Reports – digital file submission (technical reports, spec sheets, SID, optional JSA, optional Corporate Responsibility)  
**FINAL DUE DATE: Apr 26, 2024**  
[SUBMIT FILES HERE](#)
- Safety Inspections – onsite inspection of ROV systems  
**SCHEDULED: May 3, 2024 5pm - 8pm, May 4, 2024 9am - 12pm**  
[REQUEST A TIME SLOT HERE](#)
- Engineering Interviews – onsite team interview with ROV  
**SCHEDULED: May 4, 2024 9am - 4pm**
- Marketing Posters - onsite display of marketing materials (easel required)  
**SCHEDULED: May 4, 2024 9am - 4pm**
- Product Demonstration - onsite demonstration of ROV in water challenge  
**SCHEDULED: May 4, 2024 9am - 4pm**
- Awards Ceremony  
**SCHEDULED: May 4, 2024 4am - 5pm**

### COMPETITION VENUE:

Chatham County Aquatic Center, 7240 Sallie Mood Drive Savannah, GA 31406



## TEAM REGISTRATION:

Instructors ([Team Coaches](#)) are required to register and pay the fee for team participation, and team members ([Students & additional mentors](#)) to register (for free) and join the team. This process includes authorizing the participation waivers (media, liability, etc) for which a parent or legal guardian will need to complete if the participant is under 18 years of age. A confirmation email will be sent in follow-up to verify registered participation.

## VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION:

[Volunteers and Judges](#) are also required to register for participation. This process includes authorizing participation waivers (media, liability, etc) and also requires individuals to conduct a background screening which MATE will provide. A confirmation email will be sent to verify your position and provide more information once registered.

## VOLUNTEERS AND JUDGES

See below for a brief description on roles and responsibilities. Additional resources for each role are provided (ie. scoresheets, videos) and will also be discussed at the orientation meeting.

- An in-person competition orientation will be provided on **TBD** at the Gray's Reef Ocean Discovery Center (**STAY TUNED!**)
- An in-person orientation will be provided on **May 3rd** (6PM) at the Chatham County Aquatic Center and is recommended for Mission Judges and Pool Deck Coordinators
- Check-in for your shift on Saturday, **May 4th** (8AM) at the Registration table (Chatham County Aquatic Center) and be sure to complete an onsite survey before the end of the day.

## DECK, A/V, TIMEKEEPER, RUNNER

There are a variety of other support positions available including Deck Coordinator, A/V Support, Timekeeper, Check-in/Registration, and Runners that are all integral to the success of the event. These position tasks will be discussed at the orientation meetings.



## VIDEO EXAMPLES

The 2021 MATE ROV Competition Gray's Reef Southeast Regional [livestream video](#) provides a visual orientation to the ROV mission stations, with camera views on deck and underwater on the obstacle course. Enjoy this narrated livestream featuring MATE Executive Director, Jill Zande, and Cathy Sakas with Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary Foundation.

This year's mission props and tasks were discussed in detail during these recent MATE Facebook Live demonstration events with team Q&A. Learn more about the props, how the teams are to interact with them, and how they are scored in the mission demonstration with these videos:

[RANGER/PIONEER/EXPLORER](#) and [SCOUT/NAVIGATOR](#)

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## SAFETY INSPECTIONS

All teams are required to pass a Safety Inspection prior to attempting their Mission Demonstrations (SCOUT, NAVIGATOR, RANGER) on **Saturday, May 4th**. Safety is a priority and student teams will be offered up to three attempts to pass the inspection.

### References:

- RANGER-class [Safety Tutorial](#), [initial](#) inspection, [onsite](#) inspection, [non-ROV device](#) inspection, [laser](#) inspection
- SCOUT & NAVIGATOR-class [Safety Tutorial](#), [initial](#) inspection, [onsite](#) inspection, [non-ROV device](#) inspection, [laser](#) inspection (NAV)

## COMMUNICATION REPORTS

All teams are expected to submit documentation that details the 'Company, product, team, and organization' that they are representing. These documents provide competition Judges and officials with the necessary information to determine who a team is and how well they function together as a small business.



References:

- ALL CLASSES: Company Spec Sheet ([scoresheet](#))
- ALL CLASSES: Corporate Responsibility ([scoresheet](#)) - optional

## ENGINEERING INTERVIEWS

Engineering interviews will be scheduled with teams during the day of **May 4th**. Interview panel judges will be provided with their scheduled interviews, once confirmed. Teams will join the Judging Panel and present their vehicles and provide details about the engineering design process that the team undertook to build the ROV. They should introduce their team and describe the teamwork along with the solutions implemented to perform the mission tasks.

See this example [interview with Sea Life Technologies](#) and subsequent judges Q&A. This ROV team went on to win top score on their RANGER-class Engineering Interview at the World Championship event.

References:

- NAVIGATOR/RANGER-class ([scoresheet](#), [rubric](#))
- SCOUT-class ([scoresheet](#), [rubric](#))

## TECHNICAL REPORTS

All technical reports (RANGER, NAVIGATOR, SCOUT) are due from teams by April 26th. These team reports will be provided to the Technical Reports Judge after that date to score and be completed by May 4th.

References:

- RANGER-class ([scoresheet](#), [supplemental](#))
- NAVIGATOR-class ([scoresheet](#), [supplemental](#))
- SCOUT-class ([scoresheet](#), [supplemental](#))

## MARKETING POSTERS

All team Marketing Posters (SCOUT, NAVIGATOR, RANGER) are due in-person on May 4th. These documents will be displayed for the Marketing Poster Judges to score that day.



#### References:

- All classes reference this [instructional Prezi](#).
- RANGER-class ([scoresheet](#))
- NAVIGATOR-class ([scoresheet](#))
- SCOUT-class ([scoresheet](#))

## MISSION DEMONSTRATIONS

All teams will participate in scheduled Mission Demonstrations (SCOUT, NAVIGATOR, RANGER) in-person on Saturday, May 4th at Chatham County Aquatic Center.

Teams have two attempts to complete the Mission Demonstration for best score.

#### References:

- RANGER-class ([scoresheet](#), [video fly-thru](#))
- NAVIGATOR-class ([scoresheet](#), [video fly-thru](#))
- SCOUT-class ([scoresheet](#), [video fly-thru](#))

## AWARDS

An awards ceremony will be held following the scoring of all competition components on Saturday, May 4th.

For additional information, contact the MATE ROV Competition Coordinator -

**Regional Coordinator:** Jody Patterson, [jody.patterson@mtsociety.org](mailto:jody.patterson@mtsociety.org)

**MATE ROV Competition** [Gray's Reef Southeast Regional](#)

**Hosted by:** National Marine Sanctuary Foundation

**Sponsored by:** NOAA Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary, Georgia Southern University

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