

Citrus Circuits Fall Workshop Series

Picklist Formation and Alliance Selection

by Hanson Li with Richard McCann "Your robot wins matches, your scouting wins competitions"



Who should be here?

- Teams that are consistently alliance captains
- Teams that could potentially be alliance captains
- Teams that are aiming to be on successful alliances
- Teams that aspire to be alliance captains



What if we're a high-seed captain?

- Top ~1-4
- Look for offensive power in your first pick
 - o Technical capability is a plus
- Look for utility in your second pick
 - Often auto/endgame points
 - Versatility in teleop
 - The higher you seed, the lower your second pick
- Scout!



What if we're a low-seed captain?

- Top ~5-8
- Prepare for all scenarios; game it out
- Look for complimentary strength in your first pick
 - o Pick a robot that can do what you can't do
- Your second pick should fill holes
 - Which alliance captain will you face?
 - You will have a strong second pick
- Scout!



What if we're not seeded high?

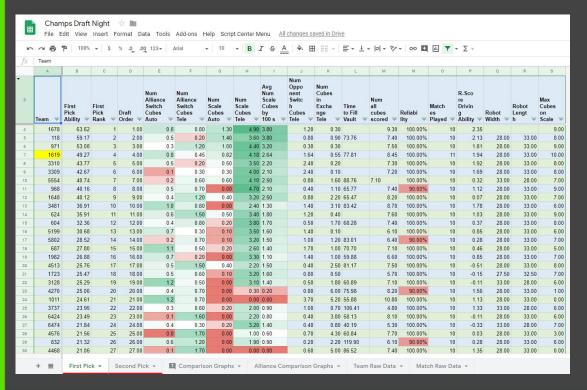
- Talk to the teams that are seeded high
 - Find out their criteria
 - This presentation is an example!
 - Could you be a first pick or a second pick?
 - First pick offensive power (usually)
 - Second pick alliance dependent
 - Understand that any alliance can pick you
- Be cooperative in quals and follow match strategies
- Be reliable and consistent
- Scout!



Picklist Formation



Scouting Data



- Optimized visualization
 - Spreadsheets are great
 - Needs to be set up beforehand
- Spreadsheet formatting
 - Conditional
 - Number
 - Freezing
 - Alternating colors
 - Filters
- See our ScoutingSystems workshop

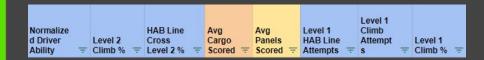
Meeting Logistics

- Who participates?
 - Too many people can lead to unproductivity
- Logistics
 - Visual aids
 - Dinner
- What position are you in?
 - Seeding
 - Predictions/plans
 - Context
- If you have the data to make a picklist, make one!
 - 12th seed or above should definitely make one!



Identify Your Goals



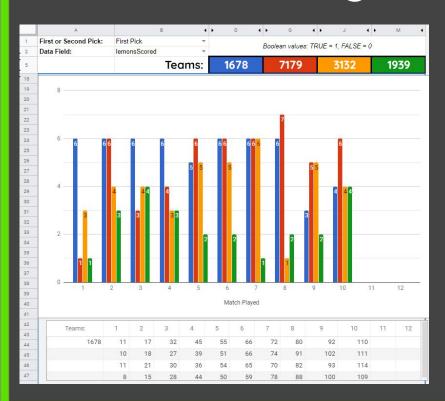




- What are your criteria?
 - Valued attributes/data points
 - o First vs. Second pick
 - o DNPs
 - What is your role?
- List length 24 for regionals, 32 for champs
- Meeting length
 - Sleep is important
- Predict alliances if you're seeded high



Creating an Initial Picklist



- Meeting with known alliance partner
- Grind through the data
 - Scouting data
 - Match videos
 - Graphs/trends
 - Anecdotes
 - Observations
- Discuss, Debate, Decide!
 - Pairwise rankings
 - Pros and cons
 - Play devil's advocate
 - Group consensus
- Maintain productivity



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Your First Draft

- At the end of the picklist meeting, run through the list and make necessary changes
 - Expect to shift teams around the next day
- Prepare questions and observations for the second day of quals



Second Day of Quals



- Ask the questions you had the night before
 - Ask teams to demonstrate abilities
- Rearrange picklist according to observations, and scouting data if possible
- Picklist should not be finalized until rankings are set

Alliance Selection



Alliance Selection



- Be prepared
- Stay in communication!
- Write your picklist on paper beforehand
 - Cross out teams as they become unavailable
 - Don't be that person
- Call scout lead/strategist if something unexpected occurs
- Speak with confidence
 - "Graciously/gratefully accepts"
 - o "Respectfully declines"
- Confer with your partner on your second/third pick

Strategic Decisions

- Strategic Declining
 - Safely done as 1-8 seed, risky at 9-12 seed, not done
 13 and below
 - Be wary of getting blindsided
- "Scorching the field"
 - When it's to your advantage
 - Be prepared if you are scorched
 - Maybe consider accepting



Questions?



Give us Feedback!





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Thank You!