



## FIRST Team Paragon Kickoff 2013 Update

Welcome to Kickoff 2013! Ultimate Ascent is the name of the game and FIRST Team Paragon couldn't be more excited to move forward into the next 6 weeks. FIRST released the game at 10:30 this morning and countless eyes were glued to the screen in anxious anticipation.

## Farmington Kickoff



Two of our students and a mentor attended the Farmington kickoff and gave 4 rookie teams extra parts to supplement their kits. The FIRST teams were 4557 Xavier High School, 4572 Joel Barlow High School, 4628 Crosby High School and 4512 Hamden High School. There they watched the broadcast with numerous other teams from the area and discussed some basic strategies while waiting to receive our kit of parts.



## The Game

While some of the team was watching the feed at Farmington, the rest of the team was gathered at the new build site anxiously awaiting the release of the game. Ultimate Ascent is played on the standard sized field, with two towers in the middle of the field. The game is played with three teams on either alliance working to shoot Frisbees into numerous goals placed strategically on either side of the playfield and atop the towers. The end game involves the robots hanging or climbing the towers, with more points being scored for greater height. For more information regarding how the game is played, please view the FRC published video here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wa5MGEZnr0>

## Brain Storming



Following the kickoff video, the team broke up into smaller groups, comprised of both rookie and senior members of the team. These groups aimed to create different strategies and potential robot designs. The team has done this for numerous years and has always enjoyed this as being an introduction to build season.

## Quotable Thoughts from the Team:

### ON THE GAME:

Matthew (Freshman): It's pretty cool. The climbing is going to be hard, but I'm excited for the Frisbee throwing.

Philip (Freshman): It's what I expected.



James (Freshman): Are they kidding?

Danny (Junior): It's going to be easy because we can use simple concepts solve the problem/play the game.

Mark (Junior): Really?!?

### CHALLENGES:

James (Freshman): All the new rules are going to be tough to learn and master.

Nick (Senior): Getting the Frisbee to fly straight.

Mark (Junior): It's going to be a pain considering the size limitations and what the team feels we need to accomplish.

### EXCITED FOR:

Will (Senior): Super enthusiastic about joining the international community of FIRST.

Andrew (Alumni): I can't wait to see what other teams come up with and how they rework past ideas. I'll be anxiously anticipating the updates, much like the one you're reading right now.

Julie (Senior): Couldn't have asked for a better game for my senior year!

Mark (Junior): So pumped to be back on the team!



That's all for Now we need to go build! Tune in for weekly updates regarding our build process!

### Upcoming Events

Suffield Scrimmage – February 16<sup>th</sup>

Ship the Bot! – February 19<sup>th</sup>

WPI Regional – March 7-9<sup>th</sup>

Hartford Regional – March 28-30<sup>th</sup>