



**Welcome to the
2012-2013 *FIRST*[®] LEGO[®] League
Northeast Ohio District Tournament
at The University of Akron**

FAMILY INFORMATION PACKET

Welcome and Congratulations to you and your child's FLL team! We are thrilled to be able to host this qualifying tournament, and we thank you for being a part of this experience!

In order to give you and your child the best possible experience, this document will explain some of our policies and give you some information that will make your experience and your child's team experience ones you will remember for a long time.

TEAM ONLY AREAS:

As you know, *FIRST*[®] LEGO[®] League is a child and team driven program. Through FLL, teams are empowered to decide on their own direction, their own solutions, and their own problem-solving strategies. Children learn to become independent thinkers with advanced teamwork and critical thinking skills.

Coaches are those indispensable guides and role models, but the kids are the ones who do the work. Because of this fundamental philosophy, we do have "**Team Only**" areas, where teams can focus on the competition with minimum adult interaction and influence. In this way, the team takes responsibility for their problem-solving and their successes. Our judges are able to see and visit with the kids, to hear and see what they have learned, and to communicate with them authentically. For this reason, our Pit and Judging Areas are closed to the public. Up to two adult coaches/mentor plus their senior partner may be with the team in these "Team Only" areas. Parents are welcome

in the competition area as spectators, but will not be allowed at the tables. We thank you in advance for your understanding and respect for this policy.

JUDGING SESSIONS:

Your child's team will be judged in three areas (Project, Robot Design and Core Values), during a pre-assigned judging time. You can find a copy of the tournament schedule, including both judging and robot performance, on the University of Akron District Tournament page of the Ohio FLL website at: <http://goo.gl/3tNIR> or in the University of Akron District Program Book, which is available at the Information Desk located on the 3rd floor of the Student Union near the west stairs. A final judging schedule will also be given to teams when they register on Saturday, January 12th.

Parents and family members may not travel with the team into the Team Judging areas.

HOSPITALITY:

We apologize for any inconvenience in advance, but at this time outside food is **not permitted** in the Student Union. We have work hard this year to ensure a variety of economical options are available. The following food/drink vendors will be open during both days of the tournament:

- Zee's Market – 1st Floor
- Union Market – 2nd floor
- Ohio Burger Company – 2nd floor
- Subway – 2nd floor
- Starbucks – 2nd floor

Teams are encouraged to pre-order lunch for Sunday, January 13th as we anticipate a large crowd for the event. A pre-order form can be found at the end of this document.

PIT AREA:

This area is open only to team members and two coaches/mentors. Pit areas are located in rooms 308, 310, 314 and 335 on the third floor of the Student Union. There are Pit managers who will assist teams in the Pit areas and practice table sign-ups.

TEAM COMMUNICATIONS:

We recommend that you make arrangements with your team in advance for down times when you can all meet. For instance, you might all want to meet for lunch during a long break in the team's schedule. You also might want to spend some time watching parts of the robot competition together. If you prepare for these times in advance, it will make the day less confusing.

BASIC SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY, JANUARY 12:

8:00 AM – 12:00PM: TEAM REGISTRATION

Your child will be expected to be on-site sometime between 8:00 AM and 11:00 AM. Your coach will instruct you when you should arrive. You may park in any of the lots indicated on the map in the packet. Handicapped spaces will be enforced.

See Map and parking instructions at the end of the packet

9:00 AM – 1:00PM: JUDGING SESSIONS

Teams will be judged on three different aspects of FIRST LEGO League: Core Values, Robot and Project. These sessions are NOT open to the public.

This year to help with the overall learning process of the teams, two adults composed of any combination of team coach, mentor or senior partner may join the team during judging sessions. We hope that by involving the coaches, mentors and senior partner in this process they will be able to provide greater feedback to their teams, explanation of judging results, opportunities for learning, and increase the overall enjoyment of participating in FLL. Adults are expected not to interfere with the judging process, and must remain in designated areas. **Absolutely no audio or visual recording is permitted in the judging rooms.** Coaches, mentors and/or the senior partner may be asked to leave the judging session at any time. This is at the discretion of the judges for any specific room.

SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 13:

7:30 AM: PITS OPEN

8:00 AM: ALTERNATE JUDGING

9:00 AM: OPENING CEREMONY

Join us for the Opening Ceremony at this time. This hour long ceremony officially opens the event. We will start with a parade of teams— be there to cheer your team as they enter the competition area!

10:00 AM: PRACTICE ROUNDS

10:45 AM: ROBOT PERFORMANCE BEGINS

The three official robot rounds will begin at this time in the competition area. Refer to your program book, which will include the robot performance schedule for the day, to see your team in competition. There will be seating in the competition area, and the scores will be displayed prominently on large screens. Your team will be announced by a play-by-play announcer and the robot run will be projected onto the big screen.

11:30 AM: LUNCH

There will be a 30 minute lunch break. Please remember that no outside food is allowed in the Student Union.

12:00 PM: ROBOT COMPETITION ROUNDS CONTINUE**1:30 PM: PITS OPEN TO PUBLIC**

The pits will open for tear-down and load-out immediately following the end of Round 3. Feel free to assist the team in removing all of their tournament materials and in cleaning up the pit area in preparation for the Closing Ceremony.

2:30 PM: CLOSING CEREMONY

Teams will be recognized for their achievements – every team member will receive a medal, and trophies, the University of Akron District Ambassador Semi-Finalists, and coach awards will be distributed during this celebration. Please refer to the Program Book for a complete list of the awards that will be presented.

OHIO STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT INVITATIONS:

The FLL University of Akron District Tournament will advance EIGHT (8) teams to the Ohio State Championship Tournament on February 9 & 10, 2013. Champion's Award criteria will be used to advance the top EIGHT (8) teams and TWO (2) ambassador semi-finalists will advance, even if the ambassador semi-finalist teams are not in the top teams at this event.

A FINAL NOTE ABOUT GRACIOUS BEHAVIOR

In FLL we embrace the value of "Gracious Professionalism™". Please be gracious observers of this FLL experience. Poor behavior on the part of family members can impact a team negatively with the judges.

Thank you for allowing your child to participate in this powerful, empowering program. You have to be incredibly proud of your child's growth over the course of this tournament season! These teams inspire us as well!

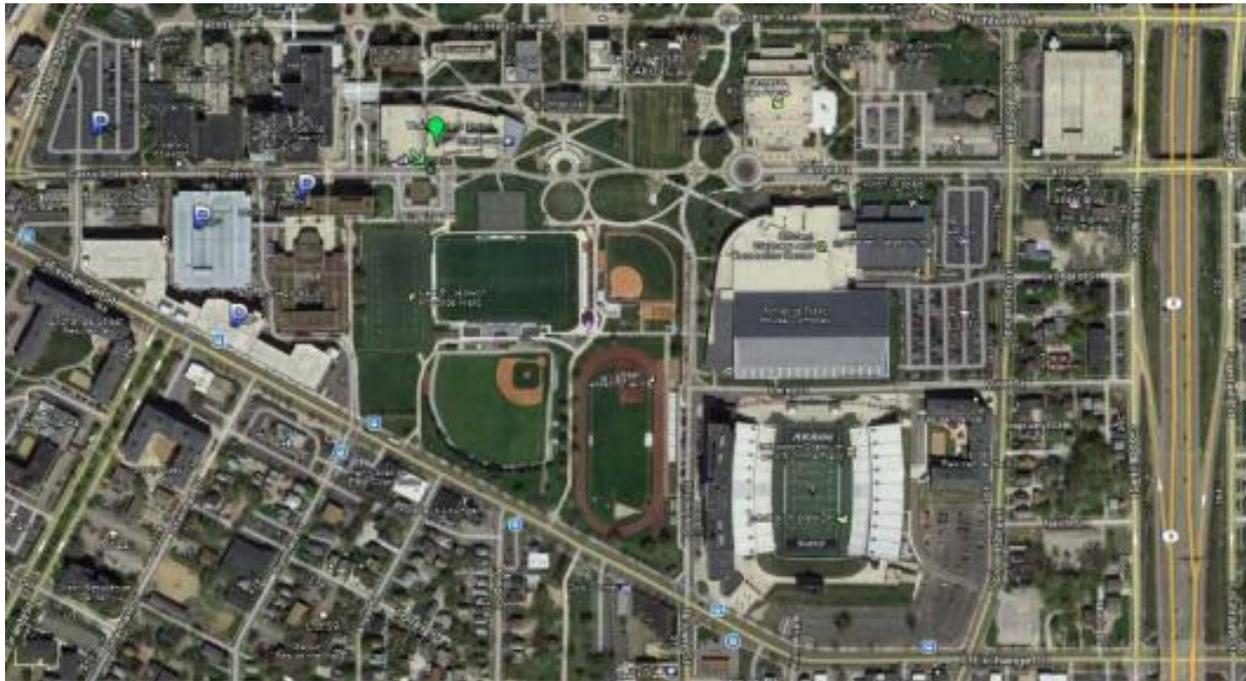
HAVE FUN!!

PARKING

No permit is necessary in marked parking lots. See

Google Map Link: The link provided below can be used to generate directions using Google Maps.

<http://goo.gl/maps/1916O>



Student Union



Parking



Drop-Off

DIRECTIONS

From the North, Taking I-77

Follow I-77 south to the Wolf Ledges/Grant Street exit and turn left at the second light onto Grant Street. Turn Right onto E Exchange Street. Turn left at the intersection of E Exchange and Sumner. The parking decks will be on your left.

From the North, Taking Route 8

Exit at Buchtel Avenue. Turn right onto Buchtel. Turn Left onto Spicer. Turn Right onto E Exchange. Turn right onto Sumner at the intersection of E Exchange and Sumner. The parking decks will be on your left.

From the South, Taking I-77/Route 8

Exit at Buchtel Avenue/Carroll Street. Turn left onto Buchtel. Turn left onto Spicer. Turn Right onto E Exchange. Turn right onto Sumner at the intersection of E Exchange and Sumner. The parking decks will be on your left.

From the West, Taking I-76

Follow I-76 eastbound and exit onto Wolf Ledges/Grant Street. Turn left at the second light onto Grant Street. Turn Right onto E Exchange Street. Turn left at the intersection of E Exchange and Sumner. The parking decks will be on your left.

From the East, Taking I-76

From the East, follow I-76 west into Akron. Exit to Route 8 north. The first exit off Route 8 is Buchtel/Carroll. Turn left onto Buchtel. Turn left onto Spicer. Turn Right onto E Exchange. Turn right onto Sumner at the intersection of E Exchange and Sumner. The parking decks will be on your left.



Union Market - Lego Tournament Jan. 12th & 13th, 2013
Pizza Pre-Order Form

\$12.00 for 16" Large pizza (cheese or pepperoni)

Name of responsible party and/or team: _____

Cell phone number: _____ E-mail: _____

Day / Date for Pick Up: _____

Pick-up time*(between 10:30am – 1:30pm): _____

16" Large Pizza - cut into 8 slices (choice of cheese or pepperoni)

Number of Cheese Pizzas _____

Number of Pepperoni Pizzas _____

Union Market will also have a special price for a fountain drink and cookie with any food purchase for \$1.99 per person.

Please Note: * Pizza orders are available from 10:30am-1:30pm.
Pick-up must occur within 20 minutes of stated pick-up time or order may be void. Plates, silverware and napkins will be provided.

Please e-mail this form to cantoni@uakron.edu or deliver to Union Market on the second floor of the Student Union by 4pm, January 10th, 2013