

2013 FAMILY INFORMATION PACKET

WELCOME TO THE *FIRST*[®] LEGO[®] LEAGUE DUBLIN ROBOTICS DISTRICT TOURNAMENT!

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 (Senior Solutions Project, Robot and Core Values), during a pre-assigned judging time on the morning of the tournament. You can find the preliminary tournament schedule for each judging session on the Dublin Robotics Tournament page of the Ohio FLL website at: http://edoutreach.wpafb.af.mil/Robotics/media/2012/flyers/dublin_district.html and the **final schedule** will be given to the teams at check in and posted at the event.

Parents and family members may not travel with the team into the Judging rooms or robot competition floor. But there are many activities and demonstrations open to spectators in the **auditorium, cafeteria** and **Jr.FLL Areas**.

AUDITORIUM ACTIVITIES:

- **JrFLL Award Ceremonies**
The Dublin Robotics JrFLL Expo is being held in conjunction with the Dublin Robotics District FLL Tournament. There will be one JrFLL Award ceremony for the JrFLL teams taking place on the competition floor in the morning. Please cheer for these young teams!
- **Opening and Closing FLL Ceremonies**
This is the perfect time to capture the team with your cameras!
- **FLL Robot Rounds**
During the three robot rounds, the robot action on the tables is projected onto the large screen. There will be three official rounds. There will be comfortable seating in the competition area and the scores will be displayed on large screens. Your team will be announced by play-by-play announcers and possibly interviewed.

CAFETERIA ACTIVITIES:

- **Meals and Snacks**
Food concessions will be available in the cafeteria serving coffee and hot chocolate in the morning, and pizza, hamburgers and hot dogs for lunch. The teams are free to eat whenever they have a break in their schedule. You should contact your coach ahead of time if you would like to make arrangements to eat with your child's team.
- **Practice Tables**
Adjacent to the eating area are the robot practice tables. This is a great opportunity to see the teams run their robots up close. You may capture some action shots with your cameras with the flash and auto focusing turned off.

JrFLL EXPO:

A JrFLL Expo is being held in conjunction with the Dublin Robotics FLL District Tournament. Spectators may view the JrFLL posters and project in the JrFLL display area near the Auditorium entrance.

PIT AREA:

This area is open only to team members, senior partners and two coaches/mentors. It is located in the cafeteria. There is a volunteer Pit Guard who will control entrance to the Pit.

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 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:

7:15 am – FLL Team Registration.

Your child will be expected to be on-site between 7:15-8:00. Your coach will instruct the team on when you should arrive. All team members must be present, with signed FLL Consent Forms, when the team checks in.

11:30 – FLL Opening Ceremonies/JrFLL Closing Ceremonies

Celebrate the successes of the JrFLL Teams and cheer for your FLL team as they enter the competition area!

12:45 – Official Robot Competition

The three official robot rounds will begin at this time in the competition area. Refer to the program book for your team's schedule. There is comfortable seating in the auditorium and 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.

4:30 – Closing Ceremonies

Teams will be recognized for their achievements – every team member will receive a medal. Trophies, the Regional Ambassador Award, and coach awards will be distributed during this celebration. Please refer to the program book for a complete list of awards that will be presented.

OHIO STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT INVITATIONS:

The FLL Dublin Robotics District Tournament will advance FIVE (5) teams to the Ohio State Championship Tournament on February 9 & 10, 2013. Champion's Award criteria will be used to advance the top FIVE (5) 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!!