



2012 FLL Thunderhawks Regional

Sponsored by

TOYOTA P&G



AN INITIATIVE OF
TIME WARNER
CABLE



&



2012 *FIRST*® *LEGO*® LEAGUE THUNDERHAWKS REGIONAL

PARENT/FAMILY INFORMATION

WELCOME TO THE *FIRST*® *LEGO*® LEAGUE THUNDERHAWKS REGIONAL!

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. Through FLL, 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/mentors 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 night before the tournament. You can find a copy of the tournament schedule, including both judging and robot performance, on the Thunderhawks Tournament page of the Ohio FLL website at: <http://edoutreach.wpafb.af.mil/Robotics/media/2012/flyers/thunderhawks.html> or displayed at the event near the spectator entrances to the gymnasium.

Parents and family members may not travel with the team into the Team Judging areas. You are free to wait for the team in the Lakota East Freshman School Cafeteria.

PIT AREA:

This area is open only to team members and two coaches. It is located on the southside of the Gymnasium.

CONCESSIONS

There will be food concessions available in the cafeteria, which will open at 8:30 AM and remain open until 3:00 PM, serving coffee, donuts and muffins, beverages, hot dogs, chili dogs, walking tacos and snacks. All proceeds support our local robotics programs.

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 THE DAY:

FRIDAY

4:30 PM: TEAM REGISTRATION Begins

Your child will be expected to be on-site 30 minutes before their first scheduled judging session. Your coach will instruct you when you should arrive on-site.

You will come in through the main entrance.

We will have light snacks available for those wanting to purchase items.

5:00 PM – 9:20 PM: JUDGING SESSIONS

Judging sessions are closed to the public.

SATURDAY

7:30 AM: PITS OPEN

8:30 AM: OPENING CEREMONY

Join us for the Opening Ceremony at this time. This 1 hour ceremony officially opens the event. We will start with a Parade of Teams – be there to cheer your team as they parade onto the Competition Floor!

9:40 AM: ROBOT PERFORMANCE BEGINS

Robot performance begins with a practice round, so that the teams can get the feel of the competition environment. There will be no breaks in the action, and the three official rounds will immediately follow the practice round. There will be ample seating in the competition area, and the scores and robot performance will be displayed prominently on large screens. Note: Your team will be announced by a play-by-play announcer.

12:00 PM: LUNCH BREAK

Teams are encouraged to eat together in the cafeteria. Concessions will be available at the event.

12:30 PM: ROBOT PERFORMANCE RESUMES WITH ROUND 3

1:30 PM: ELIMINATION TOURNAMENT BEGINS

A just for fun single elimination tournament between the Top 16 Performing Robots will be conducted. This is our way of bringing a little bit of the FRC Competition to the FLL World. NCAA style bracket pairings will be used.

1:30 PM: PITS OPEN TO PUBLIC

The pits will open for tear-down and load-out starting at 1:30 PM. 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.

3:00 PM: CLOSING CEREMONY

Teams will parade in once again to open the closing ceremony. Teams will be recognized for their achievements – every team member will receive a medal, the trophies, the Thunderhawks Regional Ambassador Award, Volunteer Award and Coach Award will be distributed during this celebration. Please refer to the Program Book for a complete list of the awards that will be presented.

iSPACE DISTRICT TOURNAMENT INVITATIONS

The FLL Thunderhawks Regional will advance six teams to the iSPACE District Tournament on January 12, 2012. Champion's Award criteria will be used and the ambassador team will advance, even if this team is not in the top 25% of 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!