

Team Information

Tournament check-in begins at 11:00. See the Stepan Tournament Layout for the location of your team table.

Teams will have from 11:00 to 12:00 to get light sensor readings at the tournament tables.

RCX and IR towers should be set for short range transmission. It is advisable to keep the team robot sheltered when not in use to protect its programming.

There are 2 practice tables available for 4-minute practice rounds. Teams will be responsible for supplying their own loops, barrels and housing and bundles to practice with.

The tournament will consist of 3 rounds of competition, and scheduled times for the judging for technical and research awards. Team members should make themselves available at their team tables at all times for the judges, with the exception of being ready for a tournament round, technical judging, or research presentation. Due to the small space available for technical judging and research presentation areas, a limited number of spectators will be allowed.

Video or flash photography will not be permitted during the competition, which could possibly interfere with the robotic programming.

Penalty Loops may be located out of the market place allowing easier access for the referees.

A concession stand will be available this year, selling drinks, and prepackaged foods. Please feel free to bring in snacks. Pizza and soda will be available at the end of the tournament for the teams.

The Tournament Competition Rounds

- Teams will be given 1 minute set up time at the competition table to prepare any elements within home base.
- Only 2 team members will be allowed at the tournament table at any given time while the robot is in play.
- Teams will only use elements at the tournament tables. No previously prepared elements will be allowed.
- Team members can ask the referee to pick up the robot for them.
- Referees will score the table at the end of the 2 1/2 minute round.
- No Protests will be allowed.
- Prior to the competition, if there is a unique situation that a team questions as to being allowed at the tournament table, please contact Dan Hummel at 574-262-7172.

The SPIRIT of FLL

The following has been taken from the Q and A from Scott Evans at FIRST on a subject that has been asked frequently.

“The referees enforce the letter of the text, and the scores are based strictly on results. In fact, some teams will place pretty high in performance using unsavory techniques. One CAUTION, however---though the referees can't record ethics or intent, the JUDGES are consumed with them. There are about a dozen awards at a tournament, and 10 of them have nothing to do with points on the field. A strategy that smacks of deceit might take your team straight out of the running for several of them. **The judges care as much about the process as the outcome.** They want to see gracious professionalism, and they will reward teams who understand that in life, "defeating your opponent is not the same as winning".”

For more information on other table element questions, please go to

<http://www.firstlegoleague.org/sitemod/design/layouts/default/index.asp?pid=10390>