



## NC FLL Challenge Tournament Day Details

*Note: The following information is subject to change based on the tournament location. In the event changes are made to a specific tournament schedule, all registered teams will be notified via email using the email address provided on the event registration form.*

### **Postponement Cancellation Notice**

In the event of inclement weather and/or other unforeseen circumstances that prevent a NC FLL Challenge tournament taking place as scheduled, tournaments will be rescheduled for a later date. If a reschedule date is not feasible, teams will be selected to advance to the State Competition by random lottery selection. All details regarding inclement weather will be posted on the website and will be emailed to all coaches.

### **Team Check-in for all tournaments is at 7:15am on the day of the tournament.**

In order to check-in, Coaches will need to know their team number (assigned by *FIRST*). Parking, Facility, and check-in locations are unique to each location and will be communicated via email prior to the tournament day.

### **Tournament Schedule**

The official tournament schedule will be distributed via email to coaches 1 - 2 days prior to tournament. The schedule will include all activities planned for the day of the tournament, including each team's assigned morning practice table runs, Judging sessions, and afternoon Robot Performance run time slots. For questions regarding the tournament schedule on tournament day, please visit the information table or pit administration.

### **Things you should bring to the tournament**

- Robot
- Box in which to carry your robot, and/or cart to transport items from the parking area
- Laptop or other computer
- Power strip and Extension Cord
- Spare parts
- Extra batteries



- Project presentation materials (Teams MUST bring everything they need. No video, audio, or other presentation materials will be provided.)
- Team banner (if desired)
- Bag lunch or lunch money
- Umbrella, Jacket, etc. in case of inclement weather

*Note: Pre-order lunches may be offered based on the event location. Information regarding pre-order lunches will be via email if it is an option for your specific tournament location.*

### **Housekeeping Rules**

- Please bring what your teams need and ONLY what they need.
- Absolutely no running, no profanity, no smoking. Please respect the property at all times.
- Know your team number: Everything is scheduled and called by team number.
- In the event of an emergency, please contact the pit administration or information table immediately. We strongly suggest that coaches provide their individual cell phone number to the families of their team members.
- Allowable parts and software: At any time during the tournament, the judges and referees may inspect robots to determine if they comply with the allowable parts and software rules as stated on the Official FLL website.
- Accommodations for persons with special needs: Please contact the tournament director as soon as possible if anyone attending the tournament with your team requires special accommodations.
- Teams must be fully registered prior to the event in order to compete. There will not be any on-site registration.

### **Weather**

Coaches are responsible for their teams being prepared for inclement weather of any kind (jackets, umbrellas, a box for robot and/or presentation items, etc.). Please keep this in mind, as you prepare to transport your items from to and from the parking lot. In the event that inclement weather prevents safe travel to the tournament site, all teams will be notified via email and the website regarding the weather contingency plan for their tournament. This may include rescheduling the tournament to a later date.



## **Parking**

Signage for FLL Tournament Parking will be indicated upon entry to the facility. Please come prepared with the proper transportation device (storage case, hand truck, etc.) to transport your items to your pit area. Doors for check-in will not open until the noted team check in time.

## **Team Check-in**

Upon arrival, all coaches are required to check-in their teams at the Team Check-in Table. All teams will be given a packet which will include the following:

- Tournament Schedule/site map
- Team Roster w/Pit Table Assignments
- Name Tags for team members
- Wristbands for Team Members

\*Please be sure all team members are wearing their name tag and wristband.

## **Pit Set-up**

Please review the Team List (provided at check-in) carefully to identify your team's assigned pit location. All coaches with multiple teams will be placed together. Each pit will consist of one table, 2 chairs, and at least one power outlet. Teams are required to provide their own extension cords and/or surge protectors if needed. Please note: extension cords are strongly recommended, as outlets may be located up to 25 feet away from the pit table.

Teams are only permitted to utilize the space provided in their pit area. If a team chooses to bring a private competition table for use only by their team, this must be housed in the allotted pit space. Teams WILL NOT be allowed to set-up private competition tables and/or kit and mat in other parts of the room UNLESS they have agreed to lend NC FLL their Table and/or Kit/Mat (via the online registration form) as a PIT PRACTICE TABLE to be shared by ALL teams in the tournament. Teams will be contacted separately regarding where to drop off these items on Tournament day.

*Note: The sponsor and/or host cannot accept liability for lost or damaged items. Please make sure that someone on your team monitors your team equipment and personal items.*



### **Pit Practice Tables**

There will be 1 – 3 practice tables in the pit area. A signup sheet for each practice table will be located at each table. All pit practice tables will be monitored by volunteers. Pit practice tables will remain open until the last of the afternoon robot performance runs are completed. Questions regarding Pit Practice Table use should be directed to the Pit Administration table located in the pit area.

### *What is the difference between a Morning Practice Run and the Pit Practice Table?*

ALL teams will be assigned time slots for **Morning Practice Runs** to practice on the ACTUAL COMPETITION TABLES in the COMPETITION AREA during the morning of the tournament. Due to the tight time schedule of the tournament, teams must be present at the time of their assigned practice run. Teams who miss their assigned time slot will not be able to repeat it at a later time. The pit practice tables, located in the PIT AREA, are provided to offer additional practice opportunities for teams throughout the tournament day, and should not be confused with the Morning Practice Runs on the tournament schedule.

### **Judging Sessions**

Core Values, Technical and Project Judging Sessions will begin at 8:30am. All teams are expected to attend all judging sessions as assigned on the tournament schedule. All judging rooms will be equipped with an electrical outlet. Teams are responsible for providing their own projectors, projector screens, extension cords and/or surge projectors. All set-up in judging areas must comply with *FIRST* Lego League guidelines. Judging sessions are closed to spectators and coaches. Parents: Please kindly remind parents that they will not be permitted to attend Judging session with their teams. However, they are more than welcome to take a seat in the competition area to view morning practice runs and afternoon Robot Performance runs. School Tours will be available to parents in the morning.

Judging Results: All teams will receive a carbon copy of their Judging Rubrics at the tournament. Judging Rubrics will be available for pick up after the awards ceremony in the check-in area.



*Note: Depending on the venue, students may have to walk to a separate building to participate in judging sessions. Please plan to protect teams (umbrellas, jackets, etc.) projects and robots in case of inclement weather. A cart to transport items is highly recommended.*

### **Morning Practice Runs – in the COMPETITION AREA**

Each team will have two opportunities to practice on the main competition tables on the morning of the tournament. 10-minute time slots will be pre-assigned. Please reference the tournament schedule regarding your team's table run schedule. All tables will be monitored by the tournament Referees. Coaches, parents and young adult mentors will not be permitted in the competition area during table runs at any time.

Coaches in the competition area: Coaches are NOT permitted at the competition tables with their teams during Robot Performance Runs at ANY time during the competition. This includes scheduled morning practice runs.

### **Lunch/Food Options**

- Bring your own lunch: All teams are welcome to bring their own bag lunches
- Pre-order lunches may be available based on each venue. If this option is available for your tournament, you will be notified in advance.
- A concession stand may be available during the tournament.
- Various fast food options are located within 5 – 15 minutes of the venue. Please keep in mind you will have a limited amount of time to leave and eat, if you choose to do so. Pre-ordering lunch or bringing your own lunches is encouraged.

*Note: Pre-order lunches are not required.*

### **Opening Ceremony**

The opening ceremony will last approximately 45 minutes. We encourage teams to bring banners or poster boards displaying their team name and number as we complete a 'team role call' during the ceremony in the form of the team parade. Please keep you teams together. There will only be a couple of minutes between the conclusion of the Opening Ceremony and the beginning of the Robot Performance Runs. If you are one of the first/second teams to compete in the table runs, please plan bring your robot with your during the parade.



### **Afternoon Robot Performance Runs**

- Each team will have three opportunities to compete on the competition tables. Please reference the tournament schedule regarding your team's table run schedule.
- Coaches are NOT permitted at the competition tables with their teams during Robot Performance Runs at ANY time during the competition. This includes scheduled morning practice runs.
- All teams are required to follow all rulings associated with this year's challenge.
- Laptops are not permitted in the competition area during the afternoon runs.
- Coaches, parents, and young adult mentors are NOT permitted to enter the competition area or approach the competition tables during the tournament. Robot performance problems encountered during practice runs and competition runs may only be corrected by the registered team members.
- Teams are NOT permitted to touch the playing field, movable pieces, or the robot at the conclusion of the round. All team members will be required to stand back, away from the table while the referee scores the round. Teams who remove their robot or touch the playing field before scoring is complete may not receive proper credit for the affected mission (s).
- Team members will be invited back to the table by the referee to review their scores before they walk away. Teams will receive a carbon copy of their robot performance scores following each round. A team initial will be required once the team and referee agree on the scores.
- Disputes regarding team scores should be communicated to the head referee in a civil and respectful manner. Coaches, parents and team members are not permitted to approach the scorer's table. Individuals, who do not observe this rule, will be directed to speak with the tournament director.
- Ruling changes, made by *FIRST*, may take place at any time as we get closer to the tournament date. It is the responsibility of the Coach and team members to check the *FIRST* website regularly to review any ruling changes. A copy of the current rulings will be posted in the competition area at the tournament.

*Note: FIRST may post Robot Game Updates at any time at <http://www.firstlegoleague.org/challenge/robotgameupdates>*



## **Team Queuing**

Please note the site map provided in your team's check-in packet. All teams will flow through the team queuing area into the competition area according to the tournament schedule. Questions regarding the team queuing traffic flow should be addressed to the Team Que Volunteers or Head Referee.

## **Gracious Professionalism**

As we ask all children to practice Gracious Professionalism at all FLL events, we are asking our coaches, volunteers and parents to set the example for their team members. All are expected to 'encourage high-quality work, emphasize the value of others and respect individuals and the community'. A Team Comment form will be available at the information table.

NC *FIRST* LEGO League adheres to the core FLL values in the honor code found in your team manual. Tournament judges will take these values into consideration as they evaluate teams. If you wish to bring any activities (positive or negative) to the attention of tournament officials, complete a team comment form and submit it immediately to the head referee, the head judge, or the tournament director. Extra comment forms will be available at the information table.

## **Pit Clean Up**

Immediately following their final table run, ALL teams are required to return to their assigned pit table and begin packing up all team/personal items. Teams are required to clean up ALL trash in their pit area prior to leaving for the day.

## **Awards Ceremony**

The following 1<sup>st</sup> place awards will be distributed at the conclusion of the regional tournament:

- Champions Award
- Robot Performance
- Mechanical Design
- Programming
- Strategy and Innovation
- Presentation
- Innovative Solution
- Research
- Teamwork
- Inspiration
- Gracious Professionalism