



FLL Robotics Team Application

What is First Lego League?

FIRST LEGO League is a robotics program, which is designed to get children excited about science and technology -- and teach them valuable employment and life skills. In FLL, teams learn both through what we do (the Robot Game and the Project) and how we do it (the FLL Core Values). Through the Robot Game teams build and program an autonomous robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS EV3 technology to score points in 2.5 minute matches on a themed playing field. Through the Project, teams explore an actual problem that today's scientists and engineers are trying to solve, develop an innovative solution to that problem (either by creating something that doesn't exist or building upon something that does), and share their findings with others. Throughout their work on the Robot Game and the Project, teams are guided by the FLL Core Values to build teamwork skills and make this a great experience for everyone involved.

The **FLL Core Values** are the cornerstones of the FLL program. They are among the fundamental elements that distinguish FLL from other programs of its kind. By embracing the Core Values, participants learn that friendly competition and mutual gain are not separate goals, and that helping one another is the foundation of teamwork.

- We are a team.
- We do the work to find solutions with guidance from our coaches and mentors.
- We know our coaches and mentors don't have all the answers; we learn together.
- We honor the spirit of friendly competition.
- What we discover is more important than what we win.
- We share our experiences with others.
- We display Gracious Professionalism® and Cooperation® in everything we do.
- We have FUN!

Events

There will be a qualifying event on a Saturday in November. The event will be held in the Saratoga area. More information to come!

Robotics Team Information:

- Our regular team meetings will be held in the HP Room
- We will be meeting every Wednesday – right after school from 2:10-3:10. Students can sign up for the late bus if needed.
- The coaches for the team are Mr. Bizan and Mr. Siletti

Application Process

To help us make our decision regarding student selections for our team, please complete the following questions and comments with a short answer for each response. (There are 4 total questions). Please attach this to your completed Team Member Application on a separate sheet of paper - you may type. In addition to this writing sample, there will be other measures, such as report cards and a teacher survey that we will consider in selecting a team member.

Return to Mr. Bizan no later than Monday, September 19th
(Please use a separate sheet of paper!)

1. *What does teamwork mean to you?*
2. *Give an example of a time in your life where you have used the skill of problem solving to overcome challenges or to accomplish a goal.*
3. *Give an example of a project you have completed individually or with a team.*
4. *There are many roles and responsibilities that need to be filled by the members of the team in order to have a successful season. Read through the list of possible team roles and responsibilities listed below and then write a paragraph summarizing how you think you would be able to excel in one or two of these roles.*

Team Roles and Responsibilities:

- Researching – Gather information about the Challenge theme, related real-world problems and existing solutions. Invite professionals to share their knowledge with the team.
- Community Sharing – Consider who in the community might be impacted by or interested in your team’s problem and arrange to share your findings with them.
- Presenting –Design a creative presentation to show the judges your team’s work on the Project.
- Strategy Analysis – Analyze the robot playing field and formulate various methods for accomplishing the missions. Lead the effort to establish a consensus on the final strategic plan and think about risks and rewards of different strategies.
- Building – Make decisions about building and work to form consensus on the mechanical design of the robot among team members.
- Programming – Make decisions about programming and form consensus on programming for the robot.
- Project Management – Get everyone focused, make sure everyone’s ideas are heard, find compromises, and keep everyone on schedule with a timeline.
- Marketing – Design and create the team logo, T-shirt, or banner. Write a press release and contact the local media to increase public awareness of the team and how the team benefits from the FLL experience.
- Documentation – Record and document the entire team’s thoughts, actions, failures, and successes throughout the FLL season in a journal, scrapbook, storyboard, video, or other form you can display at events. During the season, these records help the team organize information for decision making. At events and tournaments, these are an excellent way to showcase the team’s activities, teamwork, and spirit for judges and event attendees.

Once all applications have been turned in, only the students chosen for the FLL team will be notified on Tuesday, September 20th. Our first team meeting will be on Wednesday, September 21st!

This is year one for a Robotics Team at LGES. We are excited to offer this program and hope there is potential to expand it the following year!

Mr. Geoffrey Bizan, NBCT
High Potential
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