



**Intel Oregon *FIRST* LEGO League  
2009 Championship Tournament  
presented by Rockwell Collins**

Saturday, January 16 & Sunday, January 17, 2010  
Liberty High School  
21945 NW Wagon Way  
Hillsboro, OR

January 2010

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The *FIRST* LEGO League (FLL) and the Oregon Robotics Tournament and Outreach Program (ORTOP) are pleased to invite you to the Intel Oregon *FIRST* LEGO League 2009 Championship Tournament. For the past 8 to 12 weeks, your youngster has been a member of an engineering team designing, building and programming a LEGO robot to meet the Smart Move Challenge. This year's Championship Tournament will be held at Liberty High School on Saturday, January 16 and Sunday, January 17, 2010. We hope you will be there to cheer on your youngster's team. The purpose of this letter is to let you know what to expect at the tournament.

**Your child's team # is \_\_\_\_\_ and their team name is \_\_\_\_\_.**

The team is scheduled to compete on: **Saturday, January 16 or Sunday, January 17 (circle one)**

**Who can come to the event?**

We will have 60 teams each day at the Championship Tournament. This year the tournament will be open to the public from 9:30am-3:00pm. Anyone can watch the table competition during this time.

**Parking & Directions**

Please see the attached map to Liberty High School.

**When and where will my youngster's team compete?**

Your youngster's team will compete in the Robot Performance Competition in the gymnasium. In this competition, their robot negotiates the Smart Move Challenge Board -- the same competition table you may have seen at team practice sessions and the qualifying tournament. Their team will have 3 turns on the table competition table.

In addition to the Robot Performance Competition, each team will attend three 10-minute judging sessions – a robot design interview, project and teamwork. These sessions will allow the judges to ask questions about the teamwork, robot design and research aspects of preparing for the tournament. Due to space limitations and to allow the teams to do their best, parents will not be permitted into the robot design interview or teamwork interview but are permitted to attend their team's Project Judging Session.

A detailed competition schedule will be distributed to coaches and posted on the ORTOP web site a few days prior to the tournament. At the tournament competition schedules will be posted and handed out as flyers. If you know your youngster's team number you can easily find out when their competition rounds are scheduled. Competition begins at 9:30 am and ends about 2:30 pm. This will be followed by pre-award event at 3:30pm and the awards ceremony about 3:45 pm. The day should conclude by 5:00 pm.

We are allowing adult family members to view their team's Project Judging Session. Access is limited to a maximum of 2 adults per team member (no children). Adult family members should meet as a group at the "Families-of-Teams" table outside the Judge's Hallway on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor five minutes prior to your team's presentation time. You will be directed to stand behind the team allowing you to listen but not have an advantageous view for cameras or camcorders. You will be asked to observe the same rules as coaches: no talking and no gesturing. After the presentation and interview you will exit back into the general public area.

At a different time during the day, a panel of robot design judges and teamwork judges will interview your child's team. Family members are **not** invited to these interviews.

**How long is a Robot Performance round?**

Each team will have three Robot Performance rounds on the Challenge tables. Each round is 2 ½ minutes long. You can come down out of the bleachers to the table to have a closer view but please stay behind the flags or line as instructed! Cheer your child’s team and the other teams!

**Can I take pictures of the competition?**

Photographing is permitted with restrictions. No cameras with infrared devices or infrared flash or lighting or ultrasonic zoom lenses will be allowed because it may interfere with the robot’s programming.

**Can I stay with my youngster's team during the day?**

No. The teams will spend much of their day in a “pit area” to prepare their robot and practice for the robot performance rounds and judging sessions. The pit area will be limited to team members, coaches, mentors, and tournament staff. It will be accessible only to those wearing team ID tags and wristbands.

**Where can guests eat lunch?**

The commons area outside of the gym will have tables available for guests. We encourage team members to bring sack lunches. There will be a concession stand open for the tournament this year. There are also several restaurants located in the shopping center just south of Hwy 26 on Cornelius Pass Road.

**Do I need to be there all day?**

No. It’s a long day. Opening ceremonies will start at 9:00 am. Closing ceremonies begin at about 3:30 pm. Check the schedule to find out when your youngster's team is competing and then come and go as you please. While parents are free to come and go, we expect teams and coaches to stay inside the tournament site for the entire day. The schedule will be released three days prior to the tournament. Ask your child’s coach when the team will compete.

**How can I help?**

We welcome you to volunteer for our event. We assure you that volunteering will not prevent you from seeing your youngster's team compete. If you can volunteer for even part of the day as a Day of the Event Volunteer, please sign-up at <http://volunteer.ortop.org> In the comment section include your child’s team # or Team name. Our volunteer coordinator Tammy Whitlock will assist you. Parents and others closely associated with teams cannot volunteer as judges or referees.

**Final Thoughts**

If you have a young guest with you, make sure he or she stays with you at all times. Look out for teams carrying their robots to and from competition areas. Please be polite and cheer for all of the teams participating. More than a competition, this is a fun, educational, learning experience.

Your youngster's coach should have discussed a "FLL Core Values" for tournament day. Ask your youngster what is expected of him or her and encourage them to abide by the rules.

We look forward to seeing you at the tournament. Please route any questions through your youngster's coach.

Sincerely,



Cathy Swider  
FLL Operational Partner, Oregon