



Oregon Robotics Tournament and Outreach Program

*“Celebrating Ten Years of Opening Doors
to the Worlds of Science and Technology for Oregon’s Youth”*
www.ortop.org

Dear ORTOP FIRST LEGO League Coach:

Thank you for organizing and coaching an FLL team during the 2009 Smart Move season. The robots and research projects were impressive and the teamwork amazing. Thank you for dedicating so many hours to your teams to facilitate their FLL experience. ORTOP is looking forward having you participate in our 10th anniversary season this fall.

The **theme for 2010 is “Body Forward™: Engineering Meets Medicine.”** Teams will explore surprising new technologies in the cutting-edge world of Biomedical Engineering to discover innovative ways to repair injuries, overcome genetic predispositions, and maximize the body's potential, with the intended purpose of making happier and healthier lives possible for everyone. We are preparing resources and contacts to assist our teams with this new and exciting research project challenge.

Last year Oregon dropped 11% in FLL participation. We’d like to reverse that trend and we’re asking your help. **We’ve discovered that many rookie teams in 2009 got started because an experienced coach or mentor encouraged a friend, colleague or another parent to start a team.** *There is nothing more effective than personal contact from people who know the program.*

What a coach can do:

- Speak to a colleague, teacher, principal or another parent at your child’s school or your place of employment about starting a team. See www.ortop.org/fll/overview.htm for assistance.
- Schedule a slot on the PTA/PTO agenda at a local school.
- Speak with someone you know in a community organization such as Boys and Girls Clubs, Girl Scouts, 4-H, etc.
- Invite a few interested adults and kids to a FLL try-it evening to give others a hands-on experience.

What a team can do*:

- Make a presentation to classmates in the target age group (4th – 9th grades). This can be done in the classroom, as a lunch presentation, at a community center or at spring school event.
- Hang up ORTOP flyers in their community: library, community center, school, community bulletin boards.
- Arrange to have your team staff a booth at a community event such as a spring science fair, street fair or summer community event. Demonstrate a robot and talk to attendees about FLL.

As you talk to potential coaches and mentors, you can refer them to the following resources:

- Our web site — www.ortop.org/fll Color flyers available for download or email.
- How to start a team documents: <http://www.ortop.org/fll/overview.htm>
- Free workshops — <http://www.ortop.org/fll/res.htm#work>
- Call 503-725-2920 or email questions@ortop.org

Sincerely,

Bruce Schafer
Chair, ORTOP Planning Committee

Cathy Swider
ORTOP Project Administrator

*** We’ll add your team’s FLL Number to a LEGO brick on our ORTOP 10th Birthday Cake for each “promote FLL” activity.**



ORTOP is a program of the Industry Affairs Department of the Oregon University System
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