



HOW TO START A *FIRST* LEGO League Team

.....for the 2011 *FIRST*® LEGO® League Season

***FIRST*® LEGO® League (FLL) is very exciting program for kids 9 – 14 years old where....**

“what you discover is more important than what you win”.

Parents, teachers and school administrators and community group organizers are encouraged to form teams on their own. To find existing teams needing team members you can register with the national *FIRST* TEAM UP! matching service at www.usfirst.org. We also suggest contacting the school office or ask if a FLL team is at the school and how to involve your child. ORTOP does not place team members onto teams or give out existing coach contact information.

Here are suggestions to help you get started.

Every team needs an adult coach over the age of 18. The coach is responsible to:

- a. **Recruit 3 – 10 kids** to be on the team. Kids slightly younger than 9 are ok. Kids must be 14 years of age on January 1, 2011 or younger to participate.
- b. **If possible, enlist one or two other adults to help you** manage the team as assistant coaches or technical mentors.
- c. (Optional but suggested) **Register and attend ORTOP Adult Workshops.**
Workshops begin in June and end in Sept. <http://www.ortop.org/fll/res.htm#work>
- d. **Register the team with *FIRST*® LEGO® League** <https://gofll.usfirst.org> and order the equipment: The annual Field Set-up Kit and NXT Robot. National Registration begins in early May and ends the last week of September or when FLL runs out of registration numbers for the USA.
- e. **Find a meeting place:** classroom, basement, community center space, etc.
- f. **Register the team to participate in a December Oregon Qualifying Tournament organized by ORTOP**
Tournament Reg opens in early October. www.ortop.org/fll
- g. **Facilitate weekly (or more frequent) team practices** from Sept – December. The team works on building and programming the robot to solve the mission challenges. Researches the project topic, shares it with the community and prepares a 5-minute Project presentation for the qualifying tournament.
- h. **Bring your team to a qualifying tournament in December.** Tournaments will be held in the Portland Metro area, Hood River, Albany, Bend, McMinnville, and LaGrande. New for 2011 - Medford
- i. If your team does really well, it will be invited to one of two Championship Tournaments on January 2012.

Q&A:

WHAT IS *FIRST*®? *FIRST*® stands for For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology. It is an international non-profit education foundation located in Manchester, NH. *FIRST*® creates the FLL Challenge www.usfirst.org. Students in 56 countries around the world participate in FLL every year.

WHAT IS ORTOP? Oregon Robotics Tournament and Outreach Program is a program of the Oregon University System. ORTOP is volunteer-driven with a one person staff. It is funded from grants and donations from corporations. ORTOP implements the FLL program in Oregon. www.ortop.org

Additional Questions? Email questions@ortop.org or call 503-725-2920



FIRST® LEGO® League at a GLANCE (in Oregon) for 9 – 14 year old students

2011 Timeline for FIRST® LEGO® League / “Food Factor: Keeping Food Safe”	
May 2	National Team Registration Open for FIRST LEGO League and materials order submitted. A team registration is for a maximum of 10 students. NXT Robot Kits ships upon payment
mid-August	LEGO® Education ships “Food Factor” Challenge materials to teams
Sept 5 th	2011 FLL Challenge released –Teams begin to solve <i>Food Factor: Keeping Food Safe</i>
Late September	National FLL registration closes when Field Set-up kits are sold out
Early October	Registration for a ORTOP Qualifying tournament in Oregon
December 3,4,10,11	20+ Qualifying Tournaments held in Portland Metro area, Bend, Albany, Hood River McMinnville and La Grande. New sites for 2011 TBD
January 2012	Intel Oregon FLL Championship Tournament held in Hillsboro, Oregon

FREE ORTOP Workshops for Adults Schedule and Registration at http://www.ortop.org/fll	
June – September Portland Area	Free ORTOP Workshops offered for adults to learn how to be coaches and mentors. Held in Portland Metro area.
Outside of Portland	If there is interest, ORTOP will hold Extended Saturday workshops in Southern, Eastern and Central Oregon (one per location) during the summer.
Workshop I – Introduction to FIRST® LEGO® League, ORTOP and LEGO Robotics	
Workshop II – Coaching and Mentoring Techniques	
Workshop III – Robotics Techniques	
Workshop IV – All Day Extended Saturday – combines Workshops I, II & III	
Each workshop includes some aspect of learning to build and program an NXT Robot as well as the aspects of the tournament elements and procedure/paperwork details.	

Program Costs when purchased through FIRST LEGO League (prices listed are for the 2010 season and are subject to change)	
FIRST® LEGO® League National Registration (up to 10 students)	\$225*
FIRST® LEGO® League annual challenge Field Set-up Kit (Food Factor) (can be shared by two or more teams at one location)	\$65*
LEGO® Mindstorm NXT Robot Kit with software (reusable each year)	\$420*
* Total Shipping and Handling for a NEW team	\$50
ORTOP Tournament Program Fee	\$75
Materials to build a 4' x 8' competition table for field set-up kit (reusable each year –can be shared by two or more teams at one location)	\$50 - \$75 range
Total cost for a first year team	\$900
Total cost for a returning team	\$400

ORTOP Grants: Application available at www.ortop.org
ORTOP has a limited number of partial grants to cover fees, robot kits or tournament materials to schools and community organizations serving students that meet financial aid requirements based on free and reduced lunch status. Requirements: At least a two year commitment to the FLL program Coach must attend ORTOP workshops if within 100 miles of a workshop location Commit to at least weekly meetings and bringing the team to a qualifying tournament

Web Resources	
Oregon Robotics Tournament & Outreach Program (at Oregon University System)	www.ortop.org/fll
FIRST® LEGO® League	www.usfirst.org
SuperQuest (community partner of ORTOP) Low cost Professional Development Summer Training for teachers in LEGO Robotics & other tech topics	www.techstart.org/superquest.html

2011 FLL Challenge Theme - Food Factor: Keeping Food Safe

Can **FIRST® LEGO® League** teams improve the quality of food by finding ways to prevent food contamination? In the 2011 Food Factor Challenge, over 200,000 9-14 year olds from over 55 countries teams will explore the topic of food safety and examine the possible points of contamination our food encounters – from exposure to insects and creatures, to unsterile processing and transportation, to unsanitary preparation and storage – then find ways to prevent or combat these contaminants.



President Barack Obama learns about FLL at Intel with Oregon's FLL BindleBots team in February 2011.

Intel Oregon **FIRST® LEGO® League** Qualifying Events December 3, 4, 10 & 11, 2011

Visitors are encouraged to attend these events 10:00am – 3:00pm
Confirmed locations / Consult website for specific times

December 3	December 4	December 10	December 11
Evergreen Space Museum, McMinnville	Evergreen Space Museum, McMinnville	Memorial MS, Albany	Memorial MS, Albany
Salmon Creek Elem, Vancouver	Salmon Creek Elem, Vancouver	Hillsboro HS, Hillsboro	Hillsboro HS, Hillsboro
Stephens MS, Salem	Stephens MS, Salem	Mentor Graphics Commons, Wilsonville	Mentor Graphics Commons, Wilsonville
Poynter MS Hillsboro	Mountain View HS, Bend	Catlin Gabel School, Portland	Catlin Gabel School, Portland
The Dalles MS, The Dalles		Wy'East MS, Hood River	Wy'East MS, Hood River
Intel Jones Farm*, Hillsboro		Intel Jones Farm*, Hillsboro	Intel Jones Farm*, Hillsboro
EOU, La Grande		Kids Unlimited, Medford	

Intel Oregon **FIRST® LEGO® League** Championship Liberty High School – Hillsboro – January 14, 2012 Liberty High School – Hillsboro – January 15, 2012

Be part of the action! Volunteer! <http://volunteer.ortop.org>

*Intel Jones Farm tournaments only open to families of teams as visitors.



Tournament & Outreach Program