Welcome and Thank You!

• Thank you for agreeing to serve as a judge for a FIRST® LEGO® League event!

• You were asked to serve as an FLL® judge because we believe that your professional accomplishments make you an ideal role model for the students – as well as the engineers and other professionals – participating in the program.

• In other words, you are a hero, and we are delighted that you could find the time in your busy schedule to assist us in reaching our mission!
• This training covers most of the things you need to know about FLL judging

• There will be some pieces of information that you will have to learn from the Tournament Director Judge Advisor for the event you will be judging
  – Schedules
  – Award listings
  – Other special considerations
  – Robot Design Executive Summary
  – Core Values Poster
FLL Judge Training

Introduction to FIRST and FIRST LEGO League
“To transform our culture by creating a world where science and technology are celebrated and where young people dream of becoming science and technology heroes.”
What is FIRST?

- It’s a competitive *sport*.
- It’s a life *experience*.
- It’s *opportunity*.
- It’s *community*.
- It’s *amazing*. 
...never stops building upon itself, starting at age 6 and continuing through middle and high-school levels up to age 18. Young people can join at any level. Participants master skills and concepts to aid in learning science and technology through innovative projects and robotics competitions, while gaining valuable career and life skills.
✔ Create innovative solutions to challenges facing today’s scientists

✔ Strategize, design, build, program and test an autonomous robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS® technology

✔ Apply real-world math and science concepts

✔ Develop career and life skills

✔ Become involved in their local and global community

What is FLL?
What is FLL?

Helps children, ages 9 to 16*, discover the fun in science and technology while building self-confidence, knowledge and life skills.

“I want to build things nobody else has even thought of yet.”

Charles Peterson, FLL Team Member
(10 years old)

*9-14 in the US, Canada, and Mexico
What Is FLL?

An international program created through a partnership between FIRST and The LEGO Group

**INSPIRES** children, ages 9 to 16*, to participate in science and technology

**ENGAGES** kids in playful and meaningful learning

**Provides** a fun, creative, hands-on learning experience

**Challenges** kids to solve real-world problems using robotics

**Teaches** children to experiment and overcome obstacles

**Builds** self-esteem and confidence

*9-14 in the US, Canada and Mexico
What Is FLL?

How It Works

PROBLEM SOLVING AND CREATIVITY
• Present children with a real-world problem
• New scientific theme each year

TEAMS OF CHILDREN
• Work as a team
• Learn with adults and mentors

DO IT ALL IN 8 WEEKS
• Building, programming, testing, investigating solutions
• Competing with peers in high-energy tournaments
• Presenting solutions to a real-world problem to a panel of judges
The mission of FIRST and FIRST LEGO League is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication and leadership.
FLL Philosophy

• Everyone is a winner
• FIRST LEGO League is designed to be a celebration of achievement
• Judges learn from participants
• Mentors learn from teams
• Students leave wanting more
• It's not about building robots; it's about robots building people
Gracious Professionalism™

Dr. Woodie Flowers, FIRST National Advisor

• Gracious Professionalism is part of the ethos of FIRST
• It's a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community
• Gracious professionals learn and compete like crazy, but treat one another with respect and kindness in the process
Gracious Professionalism

Dr. Woodie Flowers, FIRST National Advisor

• With Gracious Professionalism, fierce competition and mutual gain are not separate notions.
• They avoid treating anyone like losers.
• No chest thumping tough talk, but no sticky-sweet platitudes either.
• Knowledge, competition, and empathy are comfortably blended.
• In the long run, Gracious Professionalism is part of pursuing a meaningful life.
• One can add to society and enjoy the satisfaction of knowing one has acted with integrity and sensitivity.
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 in everything we do.

We have fun.
FLL Judge Training

What is an FLL Tournament?
The Challenge

Theme Changes Every Year

Robot Game
• design, build, test, and program autonomous robots that must perform a series of tasks, or missions

The Project
• conduct research and create an innovative solution to an aspect of the Challenge and present that solution
Prepare. Stay Safe. Rebuild

Through the 2013 Nature’s Fury Challenge, FLL teams will explore the awe-inspiring storms, quakes, waves and more that we call natural disasters. During NATURE’S FURY teams will build, test, and program an autonomous robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS® to solve a set of missions in the Robot Game. They will also choose and solve a realworld problem in the Project. Throughout their experience, teams will operate under FLL’s signature set of Core Values.
FLL is known around the globe not only for what we do (the Robot Game and Project), but also how we do it, with Core Values at the heart. Our judging materials and process reflect these three equally important aspects of FLL.
The Season

- Working in teams of up to 10 kids and guided by at least one adult coach, team members have about 8 weeks to:
  - Build an autonomous robot that will, in 2 minutes and 30 seconds, complete pre-designed missions
  - Analyze, research, and invent a solution for the Project assignment, and present it to their community

Students conduct energy audit at SICSA
• The culmination of all that hard work for many teams is participation in an FLL event
• FLL events are much like sporting events!
  – Referees monitor and score the robot game
  – Judges meet with teams in Core Values, Project and Robot Design sessions
  – Teams earn awards and trophies
  – It’s a pumped-up environment with music and excitement, and there is a ton of cheering
Teams Have a Chance to Compete and Show What They’ve Learned

- A celebration of the teams’ accomplishments during the season
- The Tournament is about giving children a unique and stimulating experience
- Learn the value of teamwork
- Bring the FLL Core Values they learn back to their communities
- Everyone has fun!