Indiana Tournament System: Questions and Answers

Question: Who makes the tournament confirmation decisions?

Answer: The Indiana tournament committee comprised of the Indiana Affiliate Partner will work closely with QT directors in making confirmations.

Question: What criteria will be used for confirmations?

Answer: One criterion is confirming teams into their first choice if at all possible. However, this may not be possible due to the limitation on tournament size in various locations. A second criterion will be the order of application (first come, first serve) as was used in the past. A third, important, criterion is to provide the best service to the most teams. This may involve consideration of the following: teams with the same coaches attending the same tournament, teams attending events at locations nearest their “home” location, teams needing to be at a local event if they are an elementary school with travel restrictions or a school with financial restrictions, teams that are sponsored by or are from a hosting QT organization (i.e. school system hosting event). Confirmations will be aimed at best serving all teams and will not be based on any bias or friendship or any other similar consideration.

Question: How many teams will advance to each Championship?

Answer: 68 teams will advance from 13 Indiana Qualifiers to the 2 Indiana Championship Tournaments based on the Qualifying Tournament which teams attended. 44 teams will advance to the Northern Indiana FIRST LEGO League Championship held at IPFW (the past location of the Indiana Championship) and 24 teams will advance to the Southern Indiana FIRST LEGO League Championship held at the University of Southern Indiana or USI in Evansville.

Question: What determines the Championship location which an advancing team attends?

Answer: This is a tentative answer which may change if it is impacted by the number of teams that attend each qualifying tournament. Based on last year’s attendance, the tentative plan is as follows: The tournaments that may be advancing teams to the Northern Indiana Championship (IPFW): IU Northwest, North Central Indiana (NCI), GEARS, E3 Robotics, Ivy Tech Northeast, Huntington, Kokomo City of FIRSTs, Northern Indiana Wawasee, Purdue. The list of tournaments that may be advancing teams to the Southern Indiana Championship is: Purdue Polytechnic in Columbus, Indy South, Indy Northwest Pike, and Bedford Battle of the Bots.

IMPORTANT: This advancement tournament list is subject to change depending on qualifier attendance. The goal will be to meet the 44/24 team count at the respective championships. During the application process, coaches will be asked to indicate if they are willing to attend either championship if it is necessary to make alterations in the above list to achieve the team maximum at each championship. Please discuss this with your teams prior to the tournament application process.

Question: What national/international events will teams attend after winning their championship?

Answer: The Championship Teams at both the Northern and Southern Indiana Championship will advance to the World Festival in 2018. This may change in subsequent years depending on the invitations from FIRST LEGO League. Runner up teams from each Championship may also be invited to a national or international events. Teams are responsible for expenses to the next level of competition. If possible and depending on state wide sponsorships, the championship teams may receive registration fee support for the World Festival.