

Coaches Update 9.12.08

Hello 2009 FLL Indiana Coaches:

(IMPORTANT NOTE: If you are not a coach, please pass this email on to your FLL coach(es) and ask that they contact me with a direct email address)

Welcome new coaches to Indiana FLL and welcome back to all veteran coaches!!

It is wonderful to see so many familiar names and know that you are out there doing the great work you do to energize your teams, organize them and train them in all of the technology skills that will create valuable learning and success. Those of us coordinating and working on the tournaments have the greatest admiration for you since YOU are the ones that make the difference!!

In this email:

1. Newcomer Information
2. Qualifying Tournament Registration Information
3. World Festival and International Open

1. Newcomer Information: Fort Wayne Orientation and NXT Software Help Session

Orientation:

IPFW will host an orientation for new and potential FLL teams. Please share this information with anyone who is interested in becoming a team, seeks further information, and is near Fort Wayne. See the Indiana website for details under Newcomer Information: www.etc.ipfw.edu/fll

NXT Help Session:

IPFW and Science Central are collaborating to host an introductory session on NXT software.

Place: Science Central, Fort Wayne

Day: September 29

Time: 4:00-5:30

Instructors: A big thanks to Greg and Kitty Bellis of the ZBOTS, last year's Championship team for leading this session. Orientation for newcomers on general FLL information is immediately before at 3:45.

Limited space, first come/first serve: one coach and one team member only from a team

Bring a lap top with software if you have one and your robot with some basic attachments/sensors.

Free but sign up by contacting spirac@ipfw.edu

2. Qualifying Tournament Registration: Mark your calendars for October 13- October 24

All Indiana teams planning to compete in Indiana tournaments must register for the Qualifying Tournament of their choice via the Indiana Championship website during the time period listed above. www.etc.ipfw.edu/fll

6 Tournament choices (you may only attend one): Purdue, Purdue Calumet, IU Northwest, IUPU Columbus, Indiana Tech/Science Central, and ETHOS in Elkhart. See website for details regarding dates, locations, etc.

Information on registration procedures for 2008 tournaments will be sent in a future update and posted on the website.

48 TEAMS WILL ADVANCE TO CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT AT IPFW ON December 13

3. World Festival and International Open

Indiana will advance one team to either the World Festival in Atlanta or the International Open in Ohio. This is based on a lottery done by the FIRST organization. This selection has not been officially announced yet.

Last year's team, ZBOTS from Fort Wayne attended the International Open which was held in Minnesota. Congratulations to Greg and Kitty Bellis and their team for a great performance!

Indiana will also nominate one team as an FLL Core Values Team. All nominations are reviewed by FLL staff at FIRST and a group of teams (10-20) internationally will be invited to the World Festival based on that nomination.

Last year Central Space Lab One from Kokomo was nominated from Indiana and they were also chosen by FIRST to be invited to the World Festival. Congratulations to Jim McCarter and his team!

This year, the Indiana FLL State Committee comprised of all Indiana tournament directors and the Championship Head Referees and Judge Advisor have chosen a procedure for this FLL Core Values nomination process. Each Qualifying Tournament and the Championship Tournament will be nominating an FLL Core Values Team from their tournament to the State Committee. All nominations will be reviewed and from those nominations a team will be chosen.

More on this process later as we get closer to tournament time.

Best of luck as you work with your teams from all of the Indiana Tournament Directors and staff!

Carol Dostal
FLL Indiana Partner

Carol Dostal
Director of Outreach Programs
College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science
Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne
2101 E. Coliseum Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46805-1499
(260)481-6905
dostalc@ipfw.edu