

Date: March 9, 2017

Subject: Email #3: *FIRST*® LEGO® League World Festival at the *FIRST*® Championship – Houston – Judging

Dear World Festival Teams:

We are excited to welcome you to the *FIRST*® LEGO® League World Festival at the *FIRST*® Championship in Houston, Texas, USA on April 19 – 22, 2017! Below is information that may be helpful to you and your team as you plan your trip.

Items in **green** are specifically for teams **outside** the United States and Canada.

Items in **blue** are specifically for United States and Canadian teams.

Items in **yellow** require action by ALL teams.

This is the 3rd email blast for the *FIRST*® LEGO® League World Festival at the *FIRST*® Championship in Houston. If your team has recently registered and missed the previous email blast, you will be able to view archived PDF versions [here](#).



Judging

Your team will be judged in a Judging block. Your team will move from one Judging session, to the next Judging session, to your final Judging session during a single, 55-minute time block.

- Each Judging session is fifteen (15) minutes, and your team will have five (5) minutes between Judging sessions.

- Each Judging area will be enclosed by tall pipe and drape and these areas will not be soundproof. Multiple teams will be judged in the same general area, so we ask that teams modify any presentation style that might interfere with Judging sessions in your area. For instance, singing loudly or playing musical instruments can interfere with other teams and their presentations. We ask that you make quieter presentation choices.
- Translators are welcomed and encouraged for teams that do not speak English to communicate with the judges during the question and answer portion of each Judging session.



Project Judging

- You will be required to present your Project presentation during the first five (5) minutes of your Judging session. The five (5) minute time limit includes your setup.
- The Judging area will have a few chairs – otherwise, the space will be open. The judges will have a table, and you may set a poster board on the table for the judges to see. Projectors will not be provided in judging rooms. You will be required to provide all support equipment if you need to enlarge the Project Presentation (i.e. a PowerPoint Presentation).
- Presentations must be in English, and they must be live presentations. Pre-recorded video presentations are not permitted. **NOTE:** You will be presenting in a small area to two or three judges, so a PowerPoint presentation can be shown right from your laptop computer screen that can be placed on the judges' table. We recommend simple, low-technical presentations, which require less support and are less likely to fail during your Judging session.
- Project judging will use the updated Project rubric that has been piloted during the season. The updated rubric has an increased focus on the process of developing the Project and includes these changes:

- Sources of Information more clearly reflects the need for quality and a wide variety of sources. Teams must consult professionals in fields relating to their topic at the Accomplished and Exemplary levels.
- Review Existing Solutions has been combined with Problem Analysis and Innovation. Teams are still expected to review and analyze existing solutions.
- When teams are describing their Team Solution, they are expected to describe how it solves the problem.
- The new Solution Development criteria includes the Implementation criteria. Teams should explain how they developed the solution, considered and narrowed alternative solutions, evaluated and improved the solution they chose, and assess feasibility and implementation factors.



Core Values Judging – Core Values Poster - REQUIRED

- Your team will be required to complete a surprise teamwork activity during the first five (5) minutes of your Core Values Judging session.
- Your team will have two (2) minutes to present your Core Values Poster (located at the following link: <https://firstinspiresst01.blob.core.windows.net/fill/animal-allies-challenge-guide.pdf> on page 4) which is required for Core Values Judging at World Festival. The following eight (8) minutes are reserved for the judges to ask your team questions.



Robot Design Judging - Robot Design Executive Summary – REQUIRED

- In Robot Design Judging, your team will find a practice table with the *FIRST* LEGO League ANIMAL ALLIESSM mat and field for your team to discuss your design process and game strategy with the judges.
- You will be required to give a four (4) minute Robot Design Executive Summary (located at the following link on page 25:
<https://firstinspiresst01.blob.core.windows.net/fll/animal-allies-challenge-guide.pdf>)
- Your team will have the opportunity to answer the judges' questions for the remainder of your time in the Robot Design Judging session.

Please see the reminders below – they are still important!

Reminders:

- **Deadline: World Festival Team Registration and Payment – March 24, 2017 – Action REQUIRED**
- **Consent and Release Forms – Due April 3rd - Action REQUIRED**
Please email your team's signed Consent and Release forms - English version can be found [here](#) and Spanish version [here](#) to fllwf@firstinspires.org no later than April 3rd, for all outside United States and Canadian teams and for **any team member or coach from the United States or Canada that does not have an electronic version on file with FIRST.**
- **Traveling Abroad? – Action May Be Required**
Teams traveling from outside of the United States and who need assistance to secure visas should contact us as soon as possible. Email fllwf@firstinspires.org to get individualized official letters if needed to help speed the visa process along.

Email the additional *FIRST* Consent forms to fllwf@firstinspires.org by April 3rd, 2017.

As always, please direct your inquiries to fllwf@firstinspires.org.

Go Teams!

With High 5's and Admiration,
WF Team Support