

October 5, 11:10 p.m.  
Good evening,

Firstly: Please read the FLL Season Update carefully and let me know if you have any questions.

HELLO FLL FAMILY!

Our Board of Directors met the other night and agreed to make a change regarding State Championships. For the Final Representative Competition, to determine the team who will represent Idaho and earn the ONE ticket to the World Championships in Houston in April, please adhere to the following revisions.

**Here's the updated plan:**

All teams are encouraged to video record their Innovation Project presentation. You will upload your 30-minute YouTube video link using this form by midnight MT on January 1, 2024. No late entries will be accepted.

<https://forms.gle/5qQ7eGeCaiCiKn73A>

The Judges will be a group of individuals who are not associated with competing teams for this final competition.

These Judges will:

- view the submitted YouTube videos of the South State Champion and the North State Champion
- take into consideration the highest match score, and
- the Core Values scores these two teams earned during their respective State Championship events as recorded in the Official Judging Spreadsheet.

Please try to answer as many of the questions from the FIRST Judge Questions sheet during your presentation as you can. The FIRST Rubrics will be used for scoring. (Please see attached pdf files)

**The total video MUST NOT go over 30 minutes. Timer will begin when the students begin to introduce the team and conclude when the students end the presentation with 'Thank You'.**

**Video must be one continuous shot, front-facing camera angle with all presenting students in the frame. You will not be given additional scores on visual quality, editing or special and visual effects additions. This is a content-only video depicting exactly what happens in the Judging Pod at competition.**

K-I-S-S "Keep It Simple Sweetie": Cell phone on a tripod on a table. Smiling faces on the students.

**Order of video:**

Team introduction (suggested 2 mins)

Innovation Project Presentation (suggested 10 mins)

Robot Design (suggested 10 mins)

Core Values (suggested 5 mins)

Team conclusion (suggested 3 mins)

There should be ample time between now and January 1 to organize and practice. This can be an awesome opportunity for your students to practice, watch their presentations and improve before scrimmages and competition. This process also allows you to record, delete and re-record to submit the very best final version on this form for your team. It should be a more relaxed option since they will be in their home territory and familiar surroundings with a little less stress.

***Both teams will be contacted no later than February 14<sup>th</sup> with the decision.***

## FAQs

- **ALL IDAHO TEAMS ARE INVITED TO COMPETE AT STATE COMPETITIONS.**
  - Here's the link to register for Scrimmages and State competitions.  
<https://forms.gle/7ttyGof3LSRdrEuc7>
- **From your email, I understand that sanctioned scrimmages are run like a qualifier for the State competition.**
  - Correct. All will begin at 9:00 a.m. local time and run exactly like previous qualifiers: 1 scheduled practice match, 3 scheduled competition matches and a scheduled 30-minute Judging session for teams to “practice” and get feedback from the judges at the end of the event.
  - Schedules will be available at team check in on the day of the scrimmage.
- **Is it a must to join a scrimmage before registering for the State competition?**
  - No, but an amazing opportunity to practice, meet/make new friends and get feedback on your Innovation Project prior to State Competition.
  - You can attend any and all scrimmages that fit your schedule statewide – NO MATTER YOUR LOCATION. Since we aren't doing Qualifiers, you aren't relegated to compete in your local area. It's an awesome chance to see the state, bond as a team, make new friends and practice for State.
  - You MUST be a paid and fully registered team with FIRST.
  - You MUST register to participate in a Scrimmage. No teams will be allowed to just show up and walk on.
  - If you register and are unable to attend after all, please email Brenna at [fillpartner@firstidahorobotics.org](mailto:fillpartner@firstidahorobotics.org) or Lisa at [llallissskogsberg@firstinspires.org](mailto:llallissskogsberg@firstinspires.org). There are many steps to organizing an event schedule and a team not showing up sends things into chaos.
  - Here's the link to register for Scrimmages and State competitions.  
<https://forms.gle/7ttyGof3LSRdrEuc7>

- **For logistics, what do we need to bring to the scrimmage besides laptop, robots, standby LEGO parts? Will there be a guide for logistics?**
  - Treat this as a qualifying event without the cost of registration and trophies. It is a dress rehearsal for State.
  - Anything you normally bring to a Qualifier is appropriate for a Scrimmage.
  
- **What is needed from scrimmage to get qualified to enter State competition?**
  - Scrimmages are NOT QUALIFIERS this season. ALL IDAHO TEAMS ARE INVITED TO COMPETE AT STATE COMPETITIONS.
    - All teams south of McCall will compete in the South State Competition on January 13<sup>th</sup> at Lowell Scott Middle School in Boise.
    - Those teams north of McCall will compete in the North State Competition on January 20<sup>th</sup> at River City Middle School in Post Falls.
    - You MUST be a paid and fully registered team with FIRST.
  
- **Are all teams invited to participate?**
  - Yes! All teams can participate in any scrimmages statewide.
  - ALL teams are invited to compete at a State Championship in their area.
    - Teams south of McCall will compete in the South State Competition on January 13<sup>th</sup> at Lowell Scott Middle School in Boise.
    - Teams north of McCall will compete in the North State Competition on January 20<sup>th</sup> at River City Middle School in Post Falls.
  - All teams are strongly encouraged to do a video submission for the Final Determination Invitation to World Championships.
  
- **Will the in-person competition be only robot game?**
  - Nope, the in-person competition will be exactly like it has been in the past, as stated in the original outline for this season's events back in July. Each team will have 1 practice match, 3 competition matches and a 30-minute in-person Judging session at the State Competition.
  - Match and Judging session schedules will be available shortly before the event.
  
- **Is the January 1st deadline for the video submission correct? That date is before the winners of the state competitions are determined.**
  - Yes, this gives your team time to compile a script and practice, Practice, PRACTICE! before submitting their very best video for final consideration if your team is the State Champion of your event.
  - It allows for time to verify that the videos can be viewed and organized on our end before the stress and countdown for the State events really comes into play for all of us.
  
- **Is the video presentation only for the Champions of the North and South State Competitions?**
  - It is for ALL competing teams across Idaho. As stated in the initial release of update, this will allow your teams an opportunity to practice during the season. Record as many times as you want, watch, rerecord and submit ONLY THE BEST SINGLE-SHOT video you have by the deadline of January 1, 2024 at midnight MT.
  - The Final Determination judges will only view the videos of the South State Champion and the North State Champion along with the highest match score and the combined Core Values scores from each State event.

- **Currently we are working on using Google slide to present an innovation project/engineering progress. For the team presentation, what are the available methods to present?**
  - There will not be any projectors available for scrimmages. You can certainly bring a laptop to sit by the Judges as you run through your presentation.
  - Keep in mind the video submission for teams who want to be considered for the Final Determination Invitation to World Championships in Houston. If you have a slide deck or video presentation, you'll need to be able to move the camera so that the screen is visible in the video.
  
- **Do you recommend that we start practicing recording the YouTube video even if we are not fully completed?**
  - That depends upon your students and your timeline. You may start as early as you want to get the students used to tone, volume and staying in front of a camera. Think of this as a way to incorporate the arts into your lessons for this season.