

Letter to coaches at Einstein and Hopper Championship Tournaments
Email Attachment

Congratulations on advancing to the Einstein or Hopper Illinois *FIRST* LEGO League Championship Tournaments! We know this last couple of weeks has been a busy time for many of you. So, take a deep breath and remember that your kids and you have already learned a lot. The tournament is a chance to display that, and enjoy seeing how other teams have solved some of the same problems that you encountered.

There will NOT be a coaches meeting at the tournament.

We ask that all coaches read this email in its entirety.

Items 9,10 and 11 are items for coach action

We will hold a webinar/conference call on Thursday January 10^h at 7PM Central time to answer any questions coaches have on the information in this letter.

Einstein/Hopper Championship coach Q&A

Thu, Jan 10, 2019 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM CST

PREFERRED: Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/613627965>

ALSO AVAILABLE: You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(786\) 535-3211](tel:+17865353211) Access Code: 613-627-965

First GoToMeeting? Let's do a quick system check: <https://link.gotomeeting.com/system-check>

We have compiled the following important pieces of information to help make your tournament day smoother. Please read this immediately as there is some time critical information in this email.

1. Post-season events

Illinois has two slots at World Festival in Detroit for the Into Orbit Dynamics season. The Champion's Award winner from Hopper and Tesla Championship tournaments will receive an invitation to World Festival. The winner of the Einstein championship will receive an invitation to the LEGOLAND US Invitational in California. We have other post season invitations that will be offered to teams winning second and third place Champion's award as well as some other top awards.

2. Tournament Location

The Hopper and Einstein tournaments will take place on Saturday, January 19, 2019 and Sunday, January 20, 2019 at Elgin Community College, 1700 Spartan Drive, Elgin, Illinois 60123.

3. Schedule

(These times are subject to change. Please see [Illinois State Championship Tournaments](#) for current schedule of events.)

7:15 AM	Doors Open/Practice Tables Open/Concessions Open
7:15 AM – 10:00 AM	Teams can proceed directly to pit tables (some are assigned in Building J and some in Building H). One coach should check-in your team prior to your first scheduled activity (interview /practice run) in Lobby of Building J
8:15 AM – 11:45 AM	Project, Core Values, Robot Design Interviews Building F
9:45 AM – 11:30 AM	Robot Performance – Practice Round Matches (scheduled) Head Referee, Dee Karabowicz available for Q&A at competition tables before and after your scheduled team practice time
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Lunch Served (Teams eat lunch between other activities)
12:00 Noon	Two team representatives line up for Spirit Parade
12:15 PM – 12:45 PM	Opening Ceremony
1:00 PM	Project Callback schedule posted at Information/T-shirt Table in Building J Lobby (and Building H Pit entrance)
1:00 PM – 1:45 PM	Robot Performance Round 1 Matches
1:30 PM – 3:00PM	Callback interviews Building F
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Team photo and pick up medals – Room F100/F102 (teams pick time)
1:45 PM – 2:05 PM	Robot Performance Table Break
2:05 PM – 2:50 PM	Robot Performance Round 2 Matches
2:50 PM – 3:30 PM	Robot Performance Round 3 Matches
3:00 PM	"Team Spirit" voting closes
3:30 PM – 4:15 PM	Robot Performance Round 4 Matches
4:00 PM	Concession Stand Closes
4:15 PM – 5:00 PM	Alliance Exhibition Round – Participating teams
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM	FLL Closing Ceremony

4. Team Drop Off, Parking, Registration and Check-in

- Doors will open for Team registration at 7:15 AM. Teams will have access to the pits at that time. Teams will not be allowed into the building until 7:15AM to allow the volunteers to get set up at the registration desks before they arrive.
- A map of Elgin Community College is located at this link: <http://www.ilfirst.org/fl/fl-events/fl-il-state-tournaments.html>.
- The robot performance competition will be held in Building J which is the "Events Center." Pits will be split between building J and Building H, please check your pit assignment on the Robot Performance and Judging schedules when they are posted. The schedules will be posted on our website no later than three days before the tournament. All judging and team photos will take place in building F.
- For drivers unloading gear and equipment, proceed along Renner Drive and pull into the Chipman Circle to drop off items. **Vehicles parked on Renner Drive even for a short period of time may be ticketed.** You can unload your passengers and materials, and the driver should immediately proceed to park in Lots H or J. **Please do not park in Lot G.**
- Whether your team pit is in Building J or Building H, your team may proceed directly through the entrance doors and proceed directly to your pit table. One of the coaches must go to the check-in desk in the Building J Lobby prior to your first scheduled activity (interview or assigned practice table match).

5. Pits

- Each team is assigned to a color-coded pit table. There are two pit areas this year. The "J" pits are located in the gymnasium, near the Robot Performance competition area. The "H" pits are located in the atrium near the ECC Theater.
- Please do not swap your location or change places within the pits. Judges and volunteers may need to locate your team during the day, based on your pre-assigned pit area, so it is important that we know where to find your team. In past years teams have missed events because we were unable to locate their changed pit location.
- We will be doing an Alliance Round at the end of the day while the judges complete their deliberations. If your team signed up to participate in the Alliance Round you will be assigned a table in the Pit area next to the team that will be your alliance partner. We hope teams will work with their alliance partner throughout the day to enhance their combined performance during the alliance round matches. A schedule of alliance partners will be provided when the schedules are posted.
- Electrical power for charging robots, powering laptops, etc., is not provided at each pit table. Instead each pit area room will be equipped with shared, public "charging stations" to be used for this purpose.
- We suggest that teams bring along an empty, large storage bin that can be placed under your pit table. Having a bin to store additional coats and other personal items will help keep your pit area cleaner and make things less likely to walk off or otherwise be lost. There will be coat racks and hangers available.

- Teams are encouraged to eat their lunches at their pit tables as there is not seating available for everyone near the concession area.

6. Coaches' Meeting

- In order to complete the entire tournament in one day, we **will not** be conducting a Coaches' Meeting at the tournament. All of the information that is generally provided at the coaches meeting is included in this email. We ask that all coaches read this email **in its entirety**.
- We will hold a webinar/ conference call on Thursday January 11th at 7PM Central time to answer any questions coaches have on the information in this letter. Login/Dial-in information is on the first page of this package.
- If you have any questions, you may send them to contactflillinois@gmail.com with the caption 'Coaches' Meeting Questions' in the subject line. If you have last minute table performance questions, Dee Karabowicz, the Head Referee for Illinois will be available for questions during your assigned practice match time at the competition tables.

7. Key Volunteers

Below is a list of key volunteers and their roles at the tournament. If you have questions or concerns and need to speak to one of these volunteers at the tournament, please ask the people at the Information/T-shirt table at the entrance to Building J to contact them for you.

Bob Hubberts	Hopper & Einstein Championship Tournament Coordinator
Sara Lubic	FIRST LEGO League Program Director
Dee Karabowicz	Head Referee
Kyle Blais	Illinois FIRST LEGO League Head Judge Advisor
Doug Weaver	Einstein & Hopper Tournament Head Judge Advisor
Eric Arndt	Facilities Manager & Lead Game Announcer
John Kleinschmidt	AV Manager
Brett Pasternack	Queuing Manager

8. Consent Forms

Team Rosters and Consent and Release forms should have already been completed and handed in at your qualifying event earlier this season. Teams are not be required to bring hard copy consent and release forms or submit new forms for the Championship Tournaments if they have provided them for the qualifying tournaments.

9. Photo of Your Team for Display at State tournaments

We are putting together a presentation to be shown during each of the Championship Tournaments again this year and we would love to have all of the teams represented. If your team would like to be included please follow these instructions:

- Please send ONE picture of your entire team with no added text or effects on that picture
- The picture needs to be in the JPG format only and the highest resolution possible.
- Send your picture to John, our AV coordinator, at jfk1316@aol.com.
- Please include your team name and number and the tournament that you are attending (Einstein or Hopper) in the message.
- Please send photos by 1/13/2019

10. Magical FIRST LEGO League Moments

- As part of the opening ceremony for each Championship Tournament we would like to pick a few teams to tell the audience about "Magical FLL Moments" of this season. We are looking for things that your team is proud of, such as moments that your team came together, or incidents that stood out.
- We only have a short time for this piece of the opening ceremony so we will be choosing only a few teams to share their "Magical FLL Moments". Moments that are tied to the FLL Core Values will be given a higher level of consideration for inclusion.
- If you would like to nominate your team, please send your magic FLL moment written in 25 words or less to FLL-volunteer@firstillinoisrobotics.org by January 13th.
- If selected, you will need to pick ONE of your team members to share the team's Magical FLL Moments during the opening ceremony. We will get back to you a few days before the tournament to let you know if your team has been chosen. If you have a team photo please include that with your response.

11. National Anthem

The tournament organizers would like to invite one team to volunteer to lead the singing of the national anthem at the opening ceremony for each tournament. We ask that coaches apply only if some of their students have been in a choir or music group previously. We invite the whole team to participate, but we ask that the best singers be placed closest to the microphones. Teams that would like to apply must send an email to FLL-volunteer@firstillinoisrobotics.org on or before January 13th with the caption:

“Team # ____ is applying to lead the national anthem at _____”.

A team will be selected by lottery from the group of applicants and will be notified by January 15th.

12. Spirit Parade

- We will have a Spirit Parade in the OPENING Ceremony of each tournament in which **Two** (2) representatives from each team are invited to participate. All teams are encouraged to have two representatives in the parade. Prior to the opening ceremony, between 12:00 and

12:10 each team should send their two representatives to the hallway between Building J and H to join the parade.

- Unfortunately, we do not have room for more than 2 participants per team, so you will need to decide prior to the event which 2 team members will participate
- Team Signs and costumes are not mandatory, but are certainly allowed and encouraged. Bicycles or wheeled vehicles other than handicapped equipment will not be allowed.
- The representatives of all 48 teams will march into the gym to start the opening ceremony.

13. Judging Process

- Team Information Sheet

1. The Team Information Sheet is recommended Teams should bring three copies of a Team Information Sheet so that one copy may be given to the during each judging (Robot Design, Project, Core Values) session. If you choose to submit the team information sheet, we ask that the student team members complete the document. You can download the form under resources at this link:

<https://www.firstillinoisrobotics.org/fll/teams/team-information-for-into-orbit-season.html>

- A core values poster is REQUIRED at all Illinois Championship tournaments for the Into Orbit season. Instructions regarding the size specifications and arrangement of the poster are included here:
<https://www.firstillinoisrobotics.org/assets/media/fll/Core%20Values%20Poster%20-%20Instructions%20for%20Teams%20PILOT%20-%20fillable%20box.pdf> Please note that since Illinois is part of a pilot testing a new core values rubric, the information for the poster is different than what is described in the Into Orbit challenge document. Core Values posters should be displayed in the team pit area when teams are not in judging sessions.
- During Core Values judging, after teams enter the judging area, they will be given 2 minutes to present information on the core values poster to the judges. Teams will NOT be asked to complete a teamwork activity during Core Values judging. The remainder of the Core Values judging time will be for Q& A.
- There will NOT be a robot competition table present for the robot design judging session. Teams will not be asked to run their missions for judges during Robot Design judging but will have 4 minutes to explain their robot design, programming and strategy to the judges. The remainder of the judging time will be for Q&A.
- There will NOT be any callbacks for Robot Design at Illinois Championship Tournaments for the Into Orbit Season. Judges may approach teams later in the day in the competition or pit areas if they have additional questions regarding the team's robot. For this reason, Robot Design judges in the judging rooms will be instructed NOT to hold on to any robot design materials brought into the judging session. After judging sessions, teams should keep any robot design materials in their pit area in case judges have questions later in the day.
- For project, judges will be instructed to start a 5 minute timer once the first person enters the judging room. The team will have 5 minutes from that moment to set up and complete their presentation to the judges. If coaches or family members wish to enter to observe the team, they should enter quietly, after the team has entered.
- Robot Design, Project and Core Values judging will be held in the classrooms in Building F. There will be signage at the front doors and throughout the facility to direct you to Building F. It is the responsibility of the coach to ensure that all team members are at the judging sessions on time.

- Be on time. In order to get 48 teams into a one-day tournament, we squeezed schedules very tight. Please be on time. If you miss your scheduled judging session we may not be able to re-schedule it.
- While waiting in the halls for your judging session it is very important that teams be as quiet as possible to avoid interfering with other team's sessions.
- Coaches/Parents/Families will be allowed into the judging rooms but must do so quickly, must remain quiet, and must enter and leave with the team. Latecomers will not be admitted. Judges will be starting a 10 minute timer when the team enters the room so coaches/parents/families who do not move quickly may reduce the amount of time the judges have with the team. Videotaping is allowed, but flash photography is not allowed as it may distract the teams or judges. Please make sure all cell phones are set to silent or turned off prior to entering the judging rooms. Judges retain the right to ask any disruptive audience members to leave the room.
- It is a standard practice for teams showing Gracious Professionalism to thank and acknowledge each judge by shaking hands with the entire team. While this is appreciated, it does detract from the time judges have available to discuss and score the teams following the judging session. For this reason, we want teams to know that this is not necessary and ask teams to refrain from this practice.
- All judging sessions will be completed before the Opening Ceremonies.
- Callbacks: Teams that are in contention for Project awards may receive a callback. Teams will present their projects to judges in the Project callback room and then answer questions. Coaches and families will not be allowed in the callback sessions. A list of teams who are called back will be posted at 1:00PM at the Information / T-shirt Table in building J and near the outside lobby entrance to building H. It is the team's responsibility to see if they are called back, and to be at the indicated location on time. Callbacks will be done for Projects only. We do not have callbacks for the Core Values or Robot Design awards. Callback rooms will be posted on the callback schedule, and will all be in building F.
- If you have any questions regarding judging at the championship tournaments, please contact me at kblais@firstillinoisrobotics.org

14. Robot Performance – Practice Match

Each team has been schedule for one practice match on the competition tables at either 9:45,10:15, 10:45 or 11:15. Your assigned times have been coordinated with your judging schedule. This match does NOT count towards awards or official scores, it is a chance for your team (and the referees) to run through a practice match on the actual competition tables with a referee scoring your match. Your practice match has been scheduled on the same table as your 1st competition match. Please arrive at least five minutes before each of your scheduled Robot Performance practice match time at the queuing entrance. This is also a time to bring questions with you for Dee Karabowicz our head referee.

15. Robot Performance Competition Process

- Please arrive at least five minutes before each of your scheduled Robot Performance match times.
- Only team members participating in the current Robot Performance run, and up to two coaches will be allowed into the queuing area.
- The team will check in and enter the queue located at the south end of the Robot Performance area. There will be a sign located there, which will show what match is currently checking in. Brett Pasternack is leading the volunteer team responsible for checking teams into this area.
- During registration you will receive a laminated sign with your team number and name. Please bring this with you to each Robot Performance run. This sign will be hung at the competition tables during to match so that the team can be easily identified. Don't forget to take this with you at the completion of each match. (These signs will be used only for the Robot Performance events, and is not needed for the other judging activities.)
- Per FIRST LEGO League rules only two team members at a time are allowed right up directly at the competition table during the Robot Performance runs. If the team is changing operators during a match, only those team members participating in the Robot Performance run are allowed to be in the queuing area, and near the table (inside the pipe and drape).
- Once at the competition tables, the rotating team members (not currently running the robot) must stand back from the table so that only two are directly at the table at any one time. The team must ask the referee where they should stand to queue up and rotate in.
- Up to two coaches will be allowed near the table (inside the pipe and drape), but please remember that coaches are there only for moral support, and should not interact with the robot or referee.
- After the 2 ½ minute match, the team should stay at the table.
 - The referee will speak only to the team members, and not the coaches during the scoring activity. For teams that rotated during the match, the last two team members at the table will be treated as representatives for the team for the scoring process.
 - Please remind your team members to be respectful of the referees if they have any questions about points awarded/not awarded during the scoring process.
 - It is acceptable to request that our Head Referee, Dee Karabowicz, make a ruling if there is an exceptional circumstance during the scoring process. Please be aware that the decision of the Head Referee is final.
 - No "instant replays" will be considered, even if video evidence can be presented.
 - The scoring will be done electronically, and barring any wifi connection issues, the scores will be available to the team while still at the table.
 - Please remind the team members to be mindful of not accidentally taking any table elements with them at the end of the match. The referee and/or table-re-setter will let the team know when they are free to go, and only after all table items have been returned.

16. Alliance Exhibition Round

In spirit of Coopertition we are going to have an "Alliance Round" again this year. This activity is going to directly involve the teams that signed up for it in the registration process. This activity will be held AFTER the official *FIRST* LEGO League table performance competition has been completed, it will be for FUN and TEAM BUILDING only, and will have ZERO impact on the actual competition and awards.

Here is how this is going to work:

- Prior to the tournament teams will be paired according to their finishing position in the table performance during their qualifying tournament, with the team with the highest robot score in qualifiers paired with the 48th place team, 2nd with 47th, etc.
- We ask that in the spirit of Gracious Professionalism ALL team participate.
- Alliance round schedule and team pairings will be posted a few days prior to the tournament. Teams working together in the alliance will have their pit tables next to each other as well.
- For each of your 4 matches, your alliance partner will be scheduled on the same competition table as your team either immediately before your match or immediately after. Alliance partners are encouraged to watch some of your alliance partners matches to help think about an Alliance strategy.
- There will be one alliance round of competition on the tables, following the same rules of the Robotics Performance we have been using all day with the following variations:
 1. The pairs of teams will work together on a single table, as an alliance.
 2. The allied teams will make alternating runs on the table using their own robots. Each time a robot returns to base, or is rescued, the other team's robot must make the next run.
 3. Four team members (two from each team) will be allowed at the table at one time. Teams can switch out operators if they so choose.
- Just as with the rest of the tournament, those team members not directly participating in this event must stand outside of the pipe and drape around the competition area.
- Teams are encouraged to discuss strategy as it fits in their team schedule during the event. "Strategy" would consist of the order of the runs (which team's robot goes on the first run), which missions each robot will attempt, and in what order the missions should be attempted. Qualifying teams are encouraged to contact their alliance partner to discuss their strategy. Teams may also want to share programming ideas and try something new with their robot for the alliance round.
- The Alliance round will start immediately after round 4 is complete for all teams.
- At the completion of the events, the scores will be tallied for the teams and the victors will be announced during the closing ceremonies. There will be no trophy for this alliance event. The prize is the experience and Alliance Event bragging rights!

17. Medals and Team Pictures

We would like to have a full set of team photos of all teams. We also would like to present your team with participation medals. Medals and Team photo's are available between 1:30 and 3:00 in Building F, rooms F100 or F102. **IT IS YOUR TEAMS RESPONSIBILITY TO PICK A TIME AND GO TO GET YOUR MEDALS AND PHOTOS.** If your team has a callback interview please proceed to the callback interview as a priority over your team photo and go to the photo area as your schedule permits. Teams with callbacks and table runs fully occupying you during this timeframe can have one adult (coach or parent) stop in the photo area and talk to the photographer about an alternate time.

18. WiFi Access

The tournament organizers are using the Elgin Community College WiFi to do the table and judge scoring. Please ask your team members to refrain from using this ECC WiFi so the signal remains strong for the organizers.

19. Weather Contingency Plans

The tournaments will be held unless Elgin Community College closes the facility. In the unlikely event that we have to cancel one or both of the tournaments, you will be notified by email, and a notice will be posted on our website at this link: <http://www.ilfirst.org/fl.html>

We will not be able to reschedule the event.

Please use your best judgment about whether to travel in inclement weather. If you are not able to attend, please notify us by email to contactflillinois@gmail.com and by phone at **847-508-4995**.

20. Schedule Posting

Please be on time for all of your judging and table events. Schedules for these will be posted at least three days before the event on our website. We have very little flexibility in our schedule.

21. Food for Teams

- The concession stand will be open from 8AM to 4 PM.
- The full menu will be posted by January 12th at this link: <http://www.ilfirst.org/fl/fl-events/fl-il-state-tournaments.html>.
- Food is to be eaten at the table in your pit area. There are a few tables in the area immediately outside the concession stand for spectators and visitors so please do not take over one of these tables for an extended period of time.

22. Team Spirit Award

There will be a voting form for the Team Spirit Award at the team check-in table in Building J and Building H. The winner of the Team Spirit Award will be determined by the teams attending the tournament. Each team may vote for up to four teams and cannot cast a vote for themselves. Team Spirit voting forms must be returned to the Information/T-shirt table in Building J by 3 pm.

23. Rolling Carts

Rolling carts are allowed for the Project and at the Robot Performance tables. Teams will be provided a table for their robots and attachments at the competition table stations. Teams may use non-marring wheeled carts not larger than 18 inches wide, 36 inches deep and 36 inches tall.

Please note that the pits will be very crowded and there will be limited space to store the carts.

24. Power

Power will be available in the judging rooms. Teams must bring their own projector and screen if it is required for their project, and must use part of their presentation time to set up.

Teams will not have power at their individual pit tables, but charging stations will be available in the pit areas.

25. Private Field Set Ups

No private field set-ups will be allowed anywhere in the building so please leave your field set-ups at home. We provide practice tables for team use but, similar to the qualifiers, teams are required to bring all of the mission pieces that are not fastened to the table with Velcro.

26. Feedback

Feedback forms will be emailed within a week to the address of the coach listed on the registration form for the championship tournament. In compliance with a directive from *FIRST*, there is no ranking or numerical score given to any team.

27. Binders

Teams should not plan on leaving any information with judges beyond a team information sheet. If a team has information in a binder they should show information contained in it during the presentation or Q&A time.

28. Items for Sale at the Information/T-Shirt Table

- Into Orbit State Championship t-shirts are available for sale only at the championship tournaments at \$20 per shirt. The t-shirt design is available for viewing at: <https://www.firstillinoisrobotics.org/assets/media/fil/FLL%20INTO%20Orbit%20Championship%20Shirt.pdf>
- We will also have custom Into Orbit FIRST LEGO League Illinois Mini-figure characters available for \$10 each for purchase only at State Championships.
- FIELD SETUP KITS - We will have a limited number of field set-up kits from the Into Orbit season for sale at the T-Shirt Table. The cost is \$75. Kits are “as is” and may not be complete if pieces go missing or are damaged during the event.
- Payments for all of the above items can be made with cash, check or credit card. All proceeds are used to help defer the costs of running the FIRST LEGO League program in Illinois

29. LEGO Play Area

We will have a LEGO play area and ask coaches to tell their teams and parents two things:

- The LEGOs are for their use during the event only and should not be removed from the premises.
- We ask parents to encourage the children using the play area to keep the LEGOs on the play area tables, as the floor of the play area tends to get increasingly cluttered with LEGOs as the day progresses.

30. Gracious Professionalism

One of the hallmarks of *FIRST* and *FIRST* LEGO League is the quality we call *Gracious Professionalism*. It means treating yourself and others with respect. We ask that all of you keep that principle in mind as you go through the day. Your behavior will set the tone for your team, and judges will take poor behavior into account when determining the awards.

Please speak to your team, and their parents, and ask that they do not litter, and show consideration to the other teams and to the volunteers. All coaches and parents are responsible for the behavior of their team members and siblings of team members. The staff at Elgin Community College have requested that there be **no running on the upper track at any time** and we ask that you speak to your team members and parents to make sure everyone is aware of this rule.

Remember that the kids do the work and make the decisions. We do not expect to see coaches at the computer or repairing the robots.

In the spirit of full disclosure we want all of you to know that Core Value judges do spend time walking through the pits, the practice tables and the competition area. These observations are part of the core value assessment in addition to the activity you have already completed.

31. It's about the kids. The expectation is that while the team is anywhere at a tournament that the entire effort is by the kids – this includes handling the robot, picking the robot up, directing which program(s) are tested and/or any other similar activity. Coaches/mentors that are seen as directing the team's effort and/or handling the robot could have a core values issue raised to the Judge Advisor.

32. Stickers and other handouts

We realize that many teams enjoy passing out items to other teams and spectators throughout the day. In previous years many of the teams have passed out stickers which often end up attached to the walls or the floor at the end of the tournament. It is extremely difficult and time consuming to remove these items and we therefore ask teams **not** to bring any stickers to the tournament. We also ask that teams not hang posters or signs from doors or walls at the championship tournament.

We also ask that teams consider the appropriateness of any other handouts at the tournament such as bouncing balls that may bounce onto the robot performance tables during a table performance match.

33. Practice Tables

One area that can be a bit stressful is teams waiting for practice tables. We have a volunteer assigned to each pair of practice tables who will maintain a waiting list for that pair of practice tables. We have eight practice tables and have a five minute time limit to insure everyone has a chance to use the tables. Our volunteers will let you know when your 5 minutes is over. Please be respectful of the volunteer's instructions.

Teams can have their names on the waitlist of different tables at the same time, but only once on any given list at a time. As soon as a five minute session is over at a practice table, the teams can again add their name to the bottom of the wait list for that same table.

Practice tables are closed during the opening ceremony. In the spirit of Gracious Professionalism, we ask that all teams stop using practice tables during the opening ceremony and attend the opening ceremony.

A practice table provides only the items fixed to the playing table surface. **Your team MUST provide any pieces that are not dual-locked to the mat for use at the practice tables.**

34. Housekeeping

- Please take all of your belongings with you when you leave at the end of the day.
- **Teams are responsible for cleaning up their pit tables by placing remaining items in garbage cans or recycling containers.**
- After the Einstein tournament, please clean up your pit area completely and leave it as you found it for the team that will be assigned to that pit for the Hopper tournament.
- After the Hopper tournament, please clean up your pit area and fold up the table cloth and leave it on top of the table before you leave.
- Remember that many of the volunteers have to return to the facility the next day to do another tournament and we would like to send everyone home as soon as possible after the closing ceremony. Our volunteers should not have to pick up garbage, etc in the pit area before they leave for the day.

35. Demonstration Opportunities

Throughout the year there are demonstration opportunities for your teams to show their robots and/or presentations between now and next year's challenge. These opportunities will be communicated via the yahoo group or coaches email list. **If you think you might be interested in these please keep your robot together.**

36. We Need Your Help!

If any of your team members, coaches and parents are able to stay after the Hopper closing ceremony, we would really appreciate any help we can get with tear down.

37. And in Closing ...

We hope you encourage your friends and neighbors to attend the tournament. The event is free and open to the public.

Thank you, again, for all that you do to inspire students in Illinois.
You are an awesome bunch and we look forward to seeing you next week!

FIRST Illinois Robotics
FIRST LEGO League Planning Committee