



Feb 22, 2011

Dear North American FLL Operational Partners:

FLL Southern California is thrilled to invite you to submit a team to compete in the

FIRST[®] LEGO[®] League Body Forward

North American Open Tournament

LEGOLAND[®] California

Carlsbad, California

May 21-22, 2011

The first-ever FLL North American Open will take place over 2 days.

Friday	Arrival in Carlsbad
Saturday, May 21	8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Opening Ceremonies Robot Design and Project Judging Robot Performance: Timed Practice Round in competition theatre
Sunday, May 22	8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Robot Performance: 3 Rounds Core Values: Judging Closing Ceremonies
Saturday-Sunday	Team Party: Full admission to LEGOLAND, LEGOLAND Water Park, SEA LIFE™ Aquarium See www.legoland.com for details of rides, shows, and attractions. Free time will be built into each team's schedule on both Saturday and Sunday

Each FLL Regional Partner across North America is encouraged to choose a team to represent your region at the North American Open. Registration and tournament details follow below.

We hope your team will be able to attend. We look forward to meeting them and to the fantastic tournament in Carlsbad in May.

Best regards,

Lynn Crockett
FLL Operational Partner, Southern California
Education Programs Manager, LEGOLAND California



**FIRST LEGO League
North American Open
FAQ's**

REGISTRATION

How many teams will compete?

The field will be 76 teams, invited from each region across North America.

How does a team participate?

1. Partners, please choose a team.
Your Regional Champion, if not attending World Festival.
Your Champion runner-up, OR
An overall competitive team
2. **Team fills in information at <https://gofll.usfirst.org>**
Click Events, Advanced Search-Southern California, Search, Scroll to bottom of page.
3. **Team calls LEGOLAND California Reservations at 760-438-LEGO** to confirm participation.
Be ready to submit tournament fee payment for team members and at least one coach.
Family and Friends may be added later. One form of payment is required for all persons attending with a team.
4. **FLL Regional Partner lists** team name, number, region, and regional partner's name on the google doc at www.legoland.com/northamopen . (If you have confirmed your team by email by Feb 22, disregard this step)

Can more than one team per region enter the North American Open tournament?

On March 14 we will open the registration to multiple teams per region.
Additional teams follow the registration process above. We will keep them in the queue until March 14, when we will accept teams on a first-come, first-serve basis for completed registration and payment.

If your team has travel arrangement concerns and needs to be approved earlier, please email lynn.crockett@legoland.com . Several additional teams have been pre-approved, which has been communicated to them.

When is the deadline for teams to register?

Partners and teams are encouraged to register as soon as possible.
On March 14 we will open the registration to multiple teams per region.

Registration will remain open until the field is full at 76 teams, or until April 8, 2011, whichever comes first.

COST

What is the cost to attend the North American Open?

Tournament tickets are \$50 per team member and \$60 per coach/family/friends. Up to three coaches may be designated. There is no limit on the number of family and friends who may attend.

What does the cost include?

Tournament tickets include tournament participation and two-day full admission to all rides and attractions of LEGOLAND, SEA LIFE Aquarium, and the LEGOLAND Water Park, all on site.



FIRST LEGO League North American Open FAQ's

SCHEDULE OF THE DAY

When will the schedule for the day be available?

The schedule will be available when the field is full, or on April 8, whichever comes first.

Teams will receive a master schedule and an individual schedule.

Teams should plan on a competition day from about 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Saturday, and 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Sunday.

Free time will be built into each team's schedule each day.

Do all teams have the same entry time at LEGOLAND?

Teams will be divided into "Early Entry" and "Later Entry." Early Entry teams will compete in their three rounds of play and judging, and then vacate the Pit area.

Late Entry teams will leave equipment and materials outside the Park until their Pit area is vacated by an Early Entry team. Late Entry teams will be free in the morning to explore and enjoy LEGOLAND. At the scheduled time, Late Entry teams will pick up their materials and set up in the Pit area. They will then compete in their rounds of play and judging.

The difference between the entry times for Early and Late Entry is about 45 minutes to 1 hour.

All teams, spectators, family, and friends will be scheduled to enter in time for the Welcome Opening Ceremony.

Do the spectators/family/and friends enter LEGOLAND at the same time as the teams?

On Saturday, spectators, family, and friends will all enter the Park in time to attend the Welcome Opening Ceremony.

On Sunday, spectators, family and friends will enter the Park at 9:45 a.m. when the Park Opens. Some team members and coaches may have an Early Entry time.

What will spectators/family/and friends do if only their team and coaches enter early?

The Park gates will be open to The Beginning area, which includes a coffee shop, "The Marketplace," and First Aid.



**FIRST LEGO League
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JUDGING

What rubrics will be used for the North American Open?

The new FLL Pilot rubrics will be used. They are attached. For teams who have not used the new rubrics--the new rubrics do not affect a team's preparation. "Teamwork" has been changed to "Core Values."

There are some differences in the Awards structure that FLL has piloted; this is still under review by FLL. For example, Robot Design and Robot Performance may be combined for 1/3 of the Championship score, with Project at 1/3 and Core Values as 1/3.

Does a team need to create a new Project or Robot?

Teams use their Body Forward Project and Robot.

How will the logistics of Judging work?

Robot Performance will be judged by Referees in three rounds of play. The best of three scores will be the team's score. Ties will be broken by the team's second highest score.

Core Values will be Judged with a scheduled interview with Judges at the team's pit table.

Robot Design and Project will be judged in scheduled presentations/Q&A. A two-person judging group will see teams in a Judging area near the Pit tables. Teams will have about 5 minutes to present and about 5 minutes Q/A.

Callbacks In the categories of Robot Design and Project, about 16 teams in each category will be called back to the Judges so that additional Judge see their Project. Callback judging will be done on Saturday early afternoon. Teams not called back will be finished earlier.

PRACTICE TABLES and PRACTICE ROUND

Will Practice tables be available?

Four ½ tables will be available for teams as needed in the Pit area. Gracious professionalism is appreciated in sharing time. Teams will compete in two heats, so less teams need the practice tables at any given moment.

Can teams bring their own practice table and field set up?

Yes, but teams are encouraged to use the available practice tables. Teams will be allowed to set up their own field based on space available in their Pit area.

What is the Practice Round?

Teams will have a scheduled 2 ½ minute round on a competition table in the competition theatre. The round will be timed, but not refereed. Spectators will be allowed to observe the practice round.



FIRST LEGO League
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FAQ's

ACCESS : PIT TABLES, JUDGING AREAS, and COMPETITION THEATRE

Who may enter the Pit table with the team?

Only team members and coaches will be allowed in the Pit area. Team members and coaches will have wristbands. Think baseball dugout...

Teams need to plan ahead for supervision of team members and materials. Up to three coaches may receive wristbands.

No cutting or sharing of wristbands is permitted. LEGOLAND staff check wristbands at doorway to assist each team in having a positive experience and space enough to operate.

Please respect this fire code restriction and show gracious professionalism.

Mentors, siblings, family, and friends will be encouraged to watch their team during Opening and Closing Ceremonies, Practice Round, Robot Performance, possibly during Judging if space permits, and during free time.

Who can enter the Judging area with the team?

At least one coach and a videographer, if desired, will be allowed in the Judging tents. As space allows, we may permit additional spectators in the judging tents.

Who may enter the Competition theatre?

All spectators will be able to watch the robot performance rounds and practice rounds, as well as the opening and closing ceremony. We will have two guest speakers at the ceremonies. The tournament is co-sponsored by ViaSat and LEGOLAND.

Judges will work in teams of two, and the rubrics, with any comments, will be returned to teams after the tournament. Referees and Judges are experienced in FLL, and most if not all have judged hundreds of FLL teams in regional Championships and other tournaments.

When can teams get to their Pit table?

Teams will be divided into "Early Entry" and "Later Entry." Early Entry teams will compete in their three rounds of play and judging, and then vacate the Pit area.

Late Entry teams will leave their equipment and materials outside the Park until the Pit is vacated. They will be free to explore and enjoy LEGOLAND. At the scheduled time, teams will pick up their materials and set up in the Pit area. They will then compete in their rounds of play and judging.

It is TBD whether a staging area will be available in the LEGOLAND parking lot, or whether teams will need to keep their materials in their vehicle or hotel. All recommended hotels are within 1 mile or walking distance of LEGOLAND.



AWARDS

What Awards will be given?

Every participating team will receive individual medals, awarded by Core Values Judges at the end of the third round of Robot Performance.

Awards will be given in Champion--North American Open, Robot Performance, Robot Design, Project, Core Values, and Judges' Awards. About twenty+ trophies will be awarded in these categories.

MEALS

What are the arrangements for meals?

Teams are on their own for meals. Restaurants and carts throughout LEGOLAND serve healthy options.

Teams may purchase \$50 gift cards to LEGOLAND restaurants at a 15% discount, in order to reduce their cost of food. Discounted gift cards must be purchased in advance by phone. There are 8 restaurants in the Park, all with healthy options. Tournament tickets are valid for 2 days full admission to all LEGOLAND rides and attractions, as well as admission to the LEGOLAND Waterpark and the adjacent SEA LIFE Aquarium. Parking is free on Sat

and Sun. Regular Park hours are 10 am - 5 PM; each team's schedule of judging will be structured so that they have several hours of free time each day to enjoy the Park.

When you call 760-438-LEGO, our reservations team will email you hotel info. Two of the preferred hotels are within walking distance of the Park; two others are less expensive, about a mile away. They will also ask you to submit payment for team members and at least one coach to confirm your participation. Family, friends and others may be added in the coming weeks.

The final schedule will be developed as we fill the field. A master schedule and an individual team schedule will be mailed and emailed to teams, as well as the judging rubrics--everyone will be mostly familiar with these.

HOTELS

Teams are responsible for their own hotel reservations. Four hotels are recommended and are expecting FLL reservations. See below.



FLL Open North American Tournament May 21-22, 2011 Hotel Planning

Please contact a hotel directly to make your reservation. Please try to reserve 60 days in advance.
Please mention FIRST LEGO League to obtain the special rates below.
Have a credit card ready. Payment will be made directly to your hotel of choice, at the end of your hotel stay.

PLAN TO ARRIVE IN CARLSBAD NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MAY 20TH.
COMPETITION STARTS EARLY MORNING SATURDAY, MAY 21ST.

Four Carlsbad Hotels

Sheraton Carlsbad 5480 Grand Pacific Dr Carlsbad, CA 92008
Reservations can be made by phone @ 1-800-444-3515, email @ priorityres@sheratoncarlsbad.com

Please reference First LEGO League group rate or using hyperlink:
<http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1101147277&key=973C9>

King room: Single Occupancy -\$159 | Double Occupancy - \$159 | Triple Occupancy - \$179 | Quadruple Occupancy - \$199
Q/Q room: Single Occupancy -\$169 | Double Occupancy - \$169 | Triple Occupancy - \$189 | Quadruple Occupancy - \$209

Included with this reservation: Complimentary parking and shuttle within a 5 mile radius of the hotel. Shuttle to front gate of LEGOLAND Back gate access for spectators beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Cancellation Policy: One night's room and tax NON-refundable deposit required at time of booking.

Grand Pacific Palisades 5805 Armada Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92008

Reservations can be made by phone 800-725-4723 or email at priorityres@gpresorts.com

Please reference **FIRST LEGO League Group Rate** when making reservations. Full Link:

https://secure.netbookerng.com/hseoptx_UZ/hseoid_5449564.html?&refurl=.grandpacificpalisades.com&begindate=05/21/2011&enddate=05/23/2011&promocode=FLL&mode=mini&autosearch=true

King room: Single Occupancy -\$129 | Double Occupancy - \$129 | Triple Occupancy - \$139 | Quadruple Occupancy - \$149

Q/Q room: Single Occupancy -\$139 | Double Occupancy - \$139 | Triple Occupancy - \$149 | Quadruple Occupancy - \$159

WAIVED GUEST SERVICE FEE –All rates subject to 10% occupancy tax and \$1.00 state and city assessment fee

Rates are subject to availability

Included with this reservation:

Shuttle within 5 miles of property, based on availability

Private access to LEGOLAND for spectators beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Ocean view adult Pool – Kids Pool with water park – Resort fee waived for attendees.



FLL North American Open May 21-22, 2011 Hotel Planning

Please contact a hotel directly to make your reservation. Please try to reserve 60 days in advance.

Please mention FIRST LEGO League to obtain the special rates below.

Have a credit card ready. Payment will be made directly to your hotel of choice, at the end of your hotel stay.

PLAN TO ARRIVE IN CARLSBAD NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MAY 20TH.
COMPETITION STARTS EARLY MORNING SATURDAY, MAY 21ST

Carlsbad by the Sea Resort (formally Holiday Inn Carlsbad) 850 Palomar Airport Road Carlsbad, CA

Phone 800-266-7880

Call hotel direct for reservations and mention **LEGOLAND tournament**.

Single Occupancy

\$99.00

Double Occupancy

\$109.00

Triple Occupancy

\$109.00

Quadruple Occupancy

\$109.00

Included: Complimentary Full American Breakfast. Complimentary shuttle to LEGOLAND.
Cancellation Policy 48 hours
Hotel website is <http://carlsbadhotelbythesea.com>

Ramada Inn by the Sea Carlsbad 751 Macadamia Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92009
Phone 800-266-7880 Call hotel direct for reservations.
Please mention **FIRST LEGO League tournament at LEGOLAND** to get this group rate.

Single Occupancy Standard \$85.00
1 Bedroom suite with queen bed and sofa sleeper \$99.00
1 Bedroom suite with 2 queen beds and sofa sleeper: \$109.00
2 Bedroom suite with 2 bedrooms with 2 queen beds and sofa sleeper: \$159.00

All Rates include complimentary parking and full American breakfast.
Cancellation Policy 24 hours
For more information go to the hotel website at www.ramadacarlsbad.com