



Team Information Packet

Comfort Unearthed FLL Qualifier
January 20-22 (Judging)
January 24 (Robot game/Awards)
Comfort Middle School
Comfort, TX



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Comfort Unearthed FLL Qualifier

FIRST® LEGO® League Challenge Qualifier

Tournament Date, Time, Location and Contact

Date: January 20-22(Judging) January 24(Game and awards)

Time: 7:30am-3:30pm Saturday, January 20

Location: Comfort Middle School Comfort, TX 78013

Tournament Contact: Michael Young

Michael.young@comfortisd.com or 903-340-2926

Game Day Schedule

| Time | Activity |
|----------|---|
| 7:30 AM | Team Check-in & Pits Open |
| 8:15AM | Coach Meeting |
| 9:00 AM | Opening Ceremony (Open to the Public) |
| 9:30 AM | Practice Round thru 1 st official Round (Open to the Public) |
| 12:00 PM | Lunch Break |
| 12:30 PM | Official Robot Rounds Continue with 2 nd and 3 rd Rounds (Open to the Public) |
| 2:40 PM | Robot Game Ends |
| 3:15 PM | Closing Ceremony and Awards (Open to the Public) |

Parking

Please review the parking map to be sent with this packet. Please share it with your parents and bus drivers. We are located in a residential area and care must be taken not to park in or block driveway areas.

Food

- Available at an on-site concession stand. We will offer snacks and drinks as well as lunch options.
- Lunches can be preordered for easy pick up. All lunch preorders are due by Thursday.

Dress

Dress for all teams is casual. We encourage your team to adopt a fun and unique team identity, which allows others to understand something about your team, your engineering experience, or your Innovation Project. Remember to **HAVE FUN!**

Team Size

The maximum number of children on your team is 10. All members of your team must be between the ages of 9 and 14 years (in the United States, Canada, and Mexico), or between the ages of 9 and 16 years outside North America. For the upper limit, no



student can be older than 14 years of age (or 16 years of age outside North America) as of January 1 of the Challenge year.

Team Check-in

Team check-in will run from 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM.

Coaches must submit the following for their teams to the team check-in volunteers:

- **Team Roster (for United States and Canadian regions):** Download your team roster from the Team Registration System, print a copy, and bring it to team check-in. Staple additional [FIRST® Consent and Release Forms](#) to the Team Roster for any team member or coach who does not have an electronic consent form on file. A *FIRST* Consent form is required for every team member, coach, and mentor who will be with the team during the competition day.
- **Team Roster forms your FIRST in Texas Account**

Your team will receive the following at Team Registration:

Team Wrist bands: One wrist band will be provided for each team member and two coaches. Your team will only receive two coach bands, even if your team works with more than two coaches and mentors. Your team will need to decide what two adults will be spending the day with the students. **NOTE: At least one adult coach is required to supervise the team at all times during the tournament.**

- **Schedule of Events and/or a Program Book:** Your team will be provided with information about the tournament day, including a competition schedule as part of this guide. You will receive an electronic copy and printed copy.

Pit Area

The Pit is where your team will spend most of the time. This is where you will work on your robot and programming. This is also the area where you can enjoy downtime with your team, get to know other teams, see their robots, and find out about their Innovations Projects. Your team will have access to:

- One standard-sized table
- At least 8 chairs
- Electricity – Charging stations will be set up in the pit area. **DO NOT BRING OR USE EXTENSION CORDS in the pit area.**
- We recommend that you bring the following for your team to have in the Pit Area:
 - A bin or large bags (like trash bags) to store personal belongings, like coats, under your table
 - Your robot and all your robot supplies (attachments and additional building pieces)
 - Your laptop computer and power cord
 - A box or small bin to carry your robot and attachments to and from the competition area. You must unload all your equipment onto the table at official matches.
 - Games (there will be long periods of downtime – bring some small games that the team can play when things are slow)

Some Pit Area Rules for you to keep in mind:

- **Coaches should refrain from handling the robot, attachments or the computer.**
NOTE: If your team encounters technical difficulty, let someone at the tournament know so that the officials at the event understand why a coach might need to handle a robot or work on the computer.
- **No practice tables or mats are allowed in the PIT area!!!! No exceptions!!!!**
- **PIT AREA IS CLOSED TO PARENTS!!!!!!!!!!**

Practice Table Rooms

We will have four practice tables with a mat and models.

Remember to be gracious professionals when using a Practice Table:

- Follow your practice room/table schedule
 - Practice tables will only have large dual locked models. You will need to provide your own “loose model field set pieces”.
 - Be mindful of your time and other teams’ needs.
 - Practice table time slots are limited to 10- and 12-minute periods according to the schedule.
 - Reset the Practice Table for the next team.
 - Make sure you check that you do not take a mission model from the table.
 - Offer help to teams that may need it!
- **Practice Room Area IS CLOSED TO PARENTS!!!!!!!!!!**

Coaches’ Meeting

The Coaches’ Meeting will be held in the **Competition Gym Area at 8:15 AM.** At least one team coach should attend this meeting. Make sure that another coach or mentor is assisting the team to set up their pit area during this time. At this meeting, your team’s coach will have the opportunity to:

- Meet the Tournament Director
- Meet the Head Referee
- Understand the flow pattern through the competition area
- Ask Robot Game questions.
- Ask any other tournament-related question

Judging

Will be done virtually on Tuesday thru Thursday evenings by team selected slots.

Please make sure to review [the rubrics](#) with your team prior to coming to the judge slot. The following outlines what you can expect in each of the judging session.

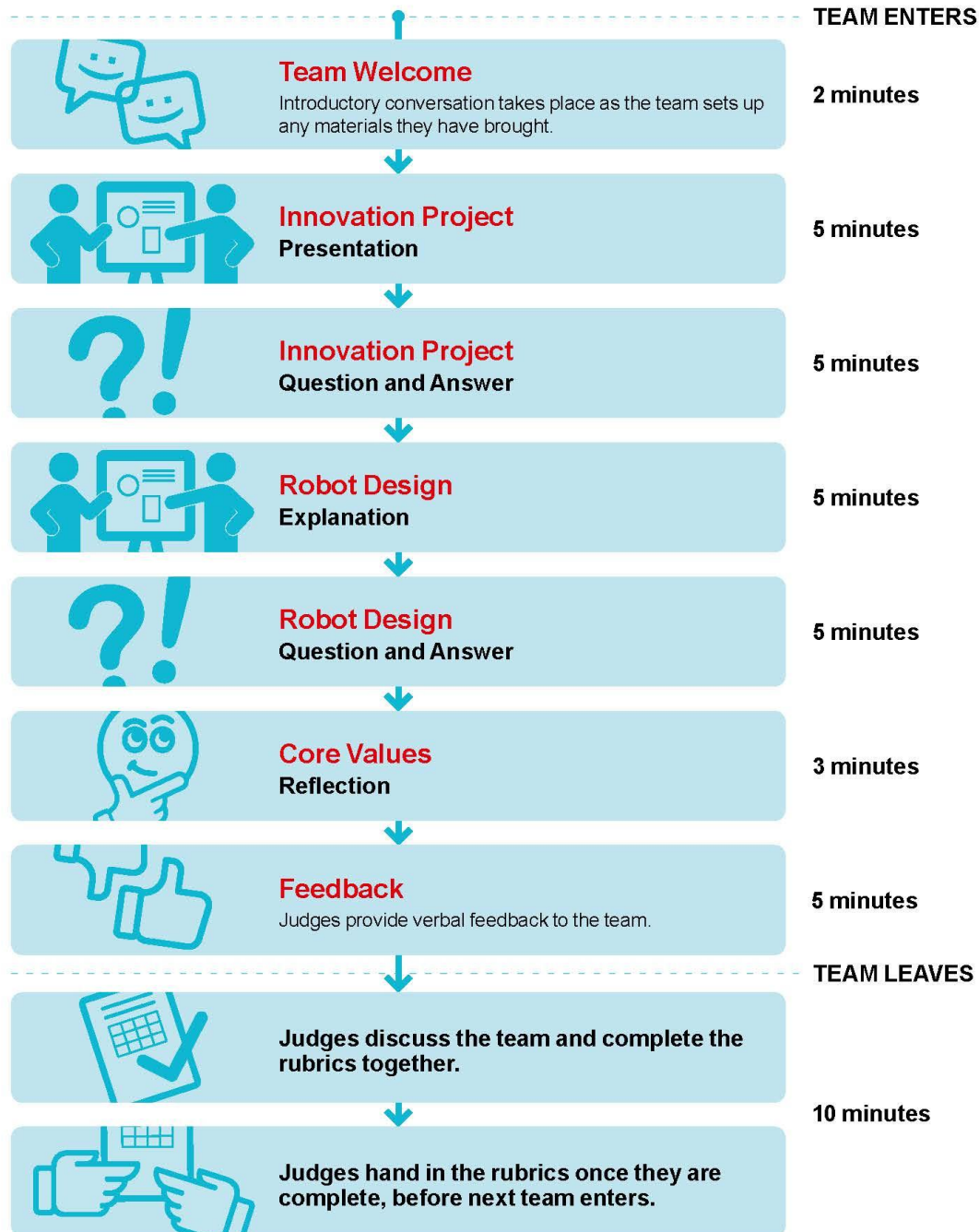
Judging questions should be directed to Joseph Beckman, Judge Advisor.
joseph_beckman@hotmail.com



Judging Session Flowchart

Teams should demonstrate Core Values in everything they do. The judges are excited to see how they show **teamwork**, **discovery**, **inclusion**, **innovation**, **impact**, and **fun** as they present their Innovation Project and Robot Design work.

This is the team's time to shine, so try to settle their nerves and encourage them. Please make sure they don't leave anything in the judging room, including any documentation, when they leave.



Opening Ceremony

At **9:00 am** join us for the Opening Ceremony! This is a fun celebration to open the spectator portion of the event and will occur after your judging sessions are complete. The ceremony will begin with introduction of teams – bring your team banners or signs (if you have them) and your team spirit! After this ceremony, you will be ready to tackle the Robot Game!

Spectators

The Robot Game is free and open to the public. Please remember to respect the team-only areas – the competition floor area (the area where teams queue and compete) and the pit area.

Robot Game

Your team is responsible for knowing and understanding the *FIRST* LEGO League Challenge Robot Game. All of the game documents can be found on the [FIRST LEGO League website](#).

You are required to know the following for the robot competition: Field Setup, Rules, Missions, and Robot Game Updates.

Housekeeping: Please help our custodial staff by picking up all trash and cleaning your pit area at the conclusion of the contest.

Coaches: Two coaches will be permitted to join the team on the competition floor, but you must stay behind the line with the team and refrain from actively directing the team during the game. Please do not touch or handle the robot or attachments during this time. Consider yourselves spectators with the best spot in the house to watch the game.

Your team will participate four (4) times at the Tournament Tables – the Robot Game will begin with a Practice Round. The purpose of the Practice Round is to give your team the opportunity to experience the queuing process, competition timing, and of course, to get rid of some of those nerves. This Practice Round is just that – a practice – and it does not count, even if this is the best score your team has at this tournament. Your Robot Performance score is the highest score your team achieves out of the three official rounds.

NOTE: Remote controls are not allowed anywhere at this tournament (This includes Smartphone applications that enable you to control your robot remotely). Bluetooth may not be used. Your team could be disqualified if you are found remotely controlling your robot anywhere during the competition or if your Bluetooth is enabled in the competition area!

No laptops or pads are allowed in the gym by teams or spectators!!!! No exceptions!

Make sure you are ready to compete at least ten (10) minutes prior to your scheduled robot round. Remember to respect the referees and the other teams – and **HAVE FUN!**

Awards

Descriptions of *FIRST* LEGO League Challenge awards can be found at Firstinspires.org
The following awards will be presented at this tournament:

- Champion's Award
- Core Values Award
- Innovation Project Award
- Robot Design Award
- Robot Performance Award
- Coach/Mentor Award (1 or 2)
- Engineering Excellence Award
- Breakthrough Award
- Rising All-Star Award
- Motivate Award
- Some of the major awards may have 2nd and 3rd place awards depending on tournament size and at the discretion of the host.

Extra Awards by Host

We will award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place medals for all team members for the following:

Best Team Pit Areas- We are looking for the best decorated team pit areas that show their team spirit, team identity, team journey, and project development. Be creative and make it look awesome. Our Judge advisor will be making pit inspections along with others to help decide.

Best Team Spirit- We are looking for the best team with the most team spirit at our contest. We are looking for great shirts, hats, banners, chants, excitement, energy, etc. Our volunteers will take note of your team throughout the day and vote on who are top three are to recognize.



Championship Advancement

Current event size as of this writing is 23 teams, so 33% or 7-8 total teams from this tournament will be invited to advance to the Central FIRST LEGO League Regional Championship to be held in February based on Champion's rank (Top 7-8 overall placements by combining the core judged areas and robot game placement.)

What is Gracious Professionalism®?

Gracious Professionalism® is part of the ethos of *FIRST*®. The idea and phrase are found throughout *FIRST*, but no one has been a stronger champion than *FIRST* Executive Advisory Board Co-Chair & Distinguished Advisor, Dr. Woodie Flowers. “*Gracious Professionalism* is a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community. With *Gracious Professionalism*, fierce competition and mutual gain are not separate notions. Gracious Professionals learn and compete like crazy but treat one another with respect and kindness in the process.”

We expect all team members, volunteers, coaches, and families to behave as Gracious Professionals.

Tournament Cancellation Policy

“The Comfort FLL qualifying tournament will be canceled or delayed due to causes and conditions beyond the tournament organizers’ control, including, but not limited to inclement weather, acts of nature, government restrictions, and/or any other cause beyond the tournament organizers’ control. Please refer to local news and radio for current county advisories. If the event must be canceled, it will not be rescheduled, and advancement to the Central *FIRST* LEGO League Regional Championship will be determined by lottery of teams registered for this event.”

Competition Day Checklist

| | Team Roster for teams competing in United States and Canadian regions |
|--|---|
| | Robot, attachments, extra parts |
| | Fresh batteries/spare batteries/rechargeable battery charger |
| | Computer and battery (if available) and power cord |
| | USB download cable (Bluetooth use is NOT permitted at the tournament) |
| | Loose mission model pieces |
| | Box to carry robot to competition field |
| | Provisions for lunch (check with tournament director for options) |
| | Bin to hold personal and team items (coats, games, etc.) to fit under pit table |
| | Project judging materials, props, and displays |
| | Graphics demonstrating programming strategy for robot design judging |
| | Team games or activities for downtimes (optional) |
| | Team banner or poster to carry for ceremonies or for pit space (optional) |
| | Team giveaways (optional) |

Wi-Fi access is super limited in our building. We have a very limited guest wi-fi. The password is comfortrules@TEXAS. I highly recommend you bring your own hot spot for stronger, more reliable wi-fi service.

Extras:

We have outdoor eating areas and game areas during lunch and downtime for you to enjoy. (Weather permitting)

Our second gym will house our inflatable obstacle course for team fun! It will be open around lunch thru the start of awards. Shoes, glasses, jewelry, and any other potential sharp objects must be removed prior to getting on. Only two students are allowed on at one time. Adults can also participate but be advised you are not as young as you used to be.

