

# **2023 Western PA FLL** **Tournament Series and Championship**



## ***Grand Championship*** ***Discussion***

November 2023



Western PA FLL Tournament Series and Championship

# Agenda

- Welcome

- Recap of Season to Date

- Championship Event Details

- Q&A

# Western PA FLL Grand Championship

## Primary Contacts

**Gordon Walton**

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# Western PA FLL Tournament Series and Championship

## 2023 Robotics Season

Just the  
Robot  
Game

### Educational Scrimmages

- 9/30 – BigSTEM Educational Extravaganza (AM)  
*BrainSTEM Barn, Baden PA (PM option will open with demand)*
- 10/07 – SmolSTEM Studious Soiree (AM & PM)  
*BrainSTEM Barn, Baden PA (PM option will open with demand)*
- 10/14 – Prodigious Polymath Party (AM & PM)  
*BrainSTEM Barn, Baden PA (PM option will open with demand)*
- 10/21 – Brobdingnagian Boss Scrimmage (AM & PM)  
*BrainSTEM Barn, Baden PA (PM option will open with demand)*

Just the  
Robot  
Game

### Competitive Scrimmages

- 10/28 – SV Spooktacular Scrimmage (AM)  
*Seneca Valley*
- 11/04 – SciTech Superpowered (AM)  
*Location to Be Finalized*
- 11/11 – USC TeraBridge’s Tournament (AM)  
*Upper Saint Clair High School*
- 11/18 – Aliquippa Ultimate Event (AM & PM)  
*Aliquippa High School*

- Plus:
- Earn LEGOS, and
  - ”Beat the Director”

### Grand Championship

Robot Game  
and All Three  
Judged Categories

December 9<sup>th</sup>  
Aliquippa High School

[www.pafll.com](http://www.pafll.com)

# Western PA FLL Tournament Series

## Scrimmage Recap

Date	Tournament	Type	# of Teams	High Score
11/18/23	Aliquippa PM	Competitive	10	450
11/18/23	Aliquippa AM	Competitive	24	425
11/11/23	Upper St. Clair	Competitive	28	405
11/4/23	SciTech Scrimmage	Competitive	19	270
10/28/23	SV Spooktacular FLL Competitive Scrimmage	Competitive	24	310
10/21/23	Brobdingnagian Bash - PM	Educational	8	400
10/21/23	Brobdingnagian Bash - AM	Educational	14	330
10/14/23	The Prodigious Polymath Party - PM Event	Educational	8	250
10/14/23	The Prodigious Polymath Party - AM Event	Educational	11	240
10/7/23	SmolSTEM PM	Educational	6	180
10/7/23	SmolSTEM AM	Educational	11	225
9/30/23	BigSTEM Educational Extravaganza	Educational	11	165

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# Western PA FLL Grand Championship

## The “Basics”

**Date:** December 9<sup>th</sup> 2023  
**Venue:** Aliquippa High School  
100 Harding Ave.  
Aliquippa, PA 15001  
**Contact:** Gordon Walton  
Tournament Director  
[gwalton@pafll.com](mailto:gwalton@pafll.com)

## General Schedule

Doors Open:	7:00 a.m.
Opening Ceremony	8:00 a.m.
Judge Interviews Begin	8:30 a.m.
Round 1 – Robot Game Begins	8:30 a.m.
Round 2 – Robot Game Begins	10:30 a.m.
Lunch Break	12:10 p.m.
Round 3 of Table Game Begins	1:00 p.m.
Call Back Judging Interviews	2:00 P.M.
Round 4 of Table Game Begins	3:15 p.m.
Clean Up and Prep for Awards	4:45 p.m.
Awards Ceremony	5:00 p.m.

**Note: Teams will receive an electronic schedule of their personal events and locations (with the exception of call back judging) the week of the tournament**

# Western PA FLL Grand Championship

## Championship Challenge Components

### ROBOT GAME

Your team will have three 2.5-minute matches to complete as many missions as possible.



#### Your team will:

- Build the mission models and follow the field setup to put the models on the mat.
- Review the missions and rules.
- Design and build a robot.
- Explore building and coding skills while practicing with your robot on the mat.
- Compete at an event!

### INNOVATION PROJECT

Your team will prepare a 5-minute presentation to explain your Innovation Project.



#### Your team will:

- Identify and research a problem to solve.
- Design a solution to the problem that helps others or your community.
- Create a model or prototype of your solution.
- Share your ideas, collect feedback, and iterate on your solution.
- Communicate your solution at an event.

### CORE VALUES

*FIRST*® Core Values will be evaluated during the Robot Game matches and during the Innovation Project and Robot Design presentations.



#### Your team will:

- Apply **teamwork** and **discovery** to explore the challenge.
- **Innovate** with new ideas about your robot and project.
- Show how your team and your solutions will have an **impact** and be **inclusive**!
- Celebrate by having **fun** in everything you do!

### ROBOT DESIGN

Your team will prepare a short explanation on your Robot Design, programs, and strategy.



#### Your team will:

- Identify your mission strategy.
- Design your robot and programs using your work plan.
- Create your robot and coding solution to match your mission strategy.
- Iterate and test your robot and programs.
- Communicate your Robot Design process, your programs, and your robot solution.

# Western PA FLL Grand Championship


## Key Logistics - Judging

- 12 Judging Rooms in the High School
- All Judging is in a single 30-minute Session  
*(bring everything)*
- 1 adult requested to attend classroom-based sessions  
(but must not participate)
- Retain copies of valuable documentation  
(materials provided to judges will not be returned)
- Good idea to arrive early to get organized
- Can wait outside judging area

# Western PA FLL Grand Championship

## Judging – Rubrics

### FLL Rubrics



### Core Values


Team # \_\_\_\_\_ Team Name \_\_\_\_\_ Judging Room \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions**  
The Core Values should be the lens through which you watch the team's presentations. All team members should demonstrate the Core Values in everything they do. This rubric should be used to record the Core Values observed throughout the judging session. Core Values will also be evaluated at each Robot Game with *Gracious Professionalism*® scores, which will feed into a team's overall Core Values rank.

If the team is a candidate for the following Core Values, please check the appropriate box:

Breakthrough  
 Rising All-Star  
 Motivate

BEGINNING 1	DEVELOPING 2
1	2
<b>DISCOVERY</b> – Team explored new skills and ideas.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>INNOVATION</b> – Team used creativity and persistence to solve the problem.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>IMPACT</b> – Team applied what they learned to improve the world.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>INCLUSION</b> – Team demonstrated respect and embraced diversity.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>TEAMWORK</b> – Team clearly showed they had worked together.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>FUN</b> – Teams clearly had fun and celebrated what they had achieved.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>




### Innovation Project

Team # \_\_\_\_\_ Team Name \_\_\_\_\_ Judging Room \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions**  
Teams should communicate to the judges their achievement in each of the following criteria. This rubric should be filled out during the Innovation Project presentation.

**Judges are required to tick one box on each separate line to indicate the level the team exceeds, please make a short comment in the Exceeds box.**

BEGINNING 1	DEVELOPING 2	ACCOMPLISHED 3	
<b>IDENTIFY</b> – Team had a clearly defined problem that was well researched.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Problem not clearly defined	<input type="checkbox"/> Partially clear definition of the problem	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear definition of the problem	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Minimal research	<input type="checkbox"/> Partial research from more than one source	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear research from multiple sources	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>DESIGN</b> – Team generated innovative ideas independently before selecting and presenting a solution.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Minimal evidence of an inclusive selection process	<input type="checkbox"/> Partial evidence of an inclusive selection process	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear evidence of an inclusive selection process	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Minimal evidence of an effective plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Partial evidence of an effective plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear evidence of an effective plan	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>CREATE</b> – Team developed an original idea or built on an existing one with a prototype.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Minimal development of innovative solution	<input type="checkbox"/> Partial development of innovative solution	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear development of innovative solution	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Unclear model/drawing of solution	<input type="checkbox"/> Simple model/drawing that helps to share the solution	<input type="checkbox"/> Detailed model/drawing of solution	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>ITERATE</b> – Team shared their ideas, collected feedback, and included improvements.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Minimal sharing of their solution	<input type="checkbox"/> Shared their solution with user OR professional	<input type="checkbox"/> Shared their solution with professional	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Minimal evidence of improvements in their solution	<input type="checkbox"/> Partial evidence of improvements in their solution	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear evidence of improvements in their solution	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>COMMUNICATE</b> – Team shared a creative and effective presentation of their current solution.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Presentation minimally engaging	<input type="checkbox"/> Presentation partially engaging	<input type="checkbox"/> Presentation clearly engaging	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Solution and its potential impact on others unclear	<input type="checkbox"/> Solution and its potential impact on others partially clear	<input type="checkbox"/> Solution and its potential impact on others clearly clear	<input type="checkbox"/>



### Robot Design

Team # \_\_\_\_\_ Team Name \_\_\_\_\_ Judging Room \_\_\_\_\_

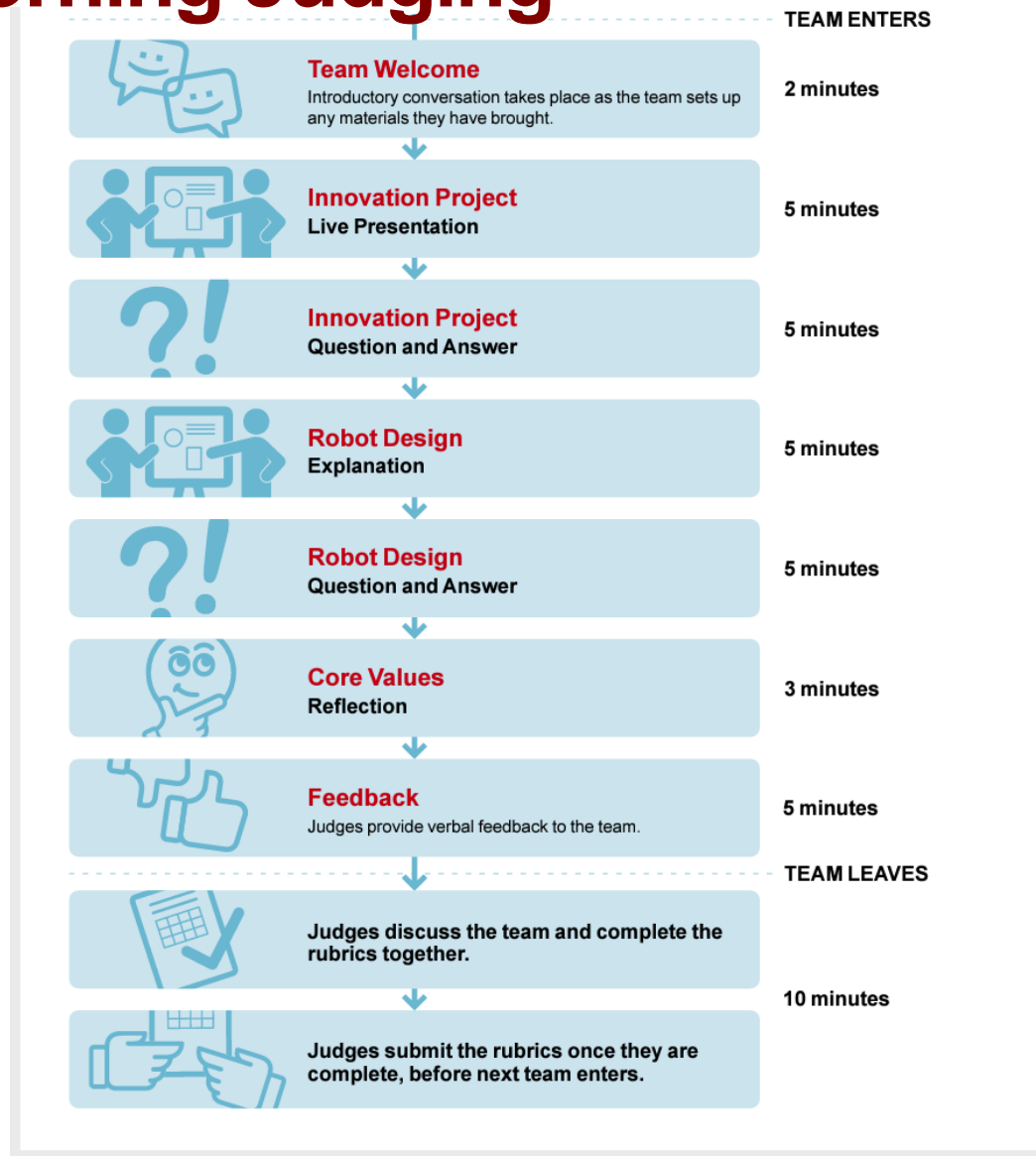
**Instructions**  
Teams should communicate to the judges their achievement in each of the following criteria. This rubric should be filled out during the Robot Design explanation.

**Judges are required to tick one box on each separate line to indicate the level the team has achieved. If the team exceeds, please make a short comment in the Exceeds box.**

BEGINNING 1	DEVELOPING 2	ACCOMPLISHED 3	EXCEEDS 4
<b>IDENTIFY</b> – Team had a clearly defined mission strategy and explored building and coding skills they needed.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Unclear mission strategy	<input type="checkbox"/> Partially clear mission strategy	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear mission strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Limited evidence of building and coding skills in all team members	<input type="checkbox"/> Inconsistent evidence of building and coding skills in all team members	<input type="checkbox"/> Consistent evidence of building and coding skills in all team members	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>DESIGN</b> – Team produced innovative designs and a clear workplan, seeking guidance as needed.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Minimal evidence of an effective plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Partial evidence of an effective plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear evidence of an effective plan	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Minimal explanation of robot and code's innovative features	<input type="checkbox"/> Partial explanation of robot and code's innovative features	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear explanation of robot and code's innovative features	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>CREATE</b> – Team developed an effective robot and code solution matching their mission strategy.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Limited explanation of their robot and its attachment and sensor functionality	<input type="checkbox"/> Simple explanation of their robot and its attachment and sensor functionality	<input type="checkbox"/> Detailed explanation of their robot and its attachment and sensor functionality	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Unclear explanation of how code makes their robot act	<input type="checkbox"/> Partially clear explanation of how code makes their robot act	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear explanation of how code makes their robot act	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>ITERATE</b> – Team repeatedly tested their robot and code to identify areas for improvement and incorporated the findings into their current solution.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Minimal evidence of testing their robot and code	<input type="checkbox"/> Partial evidence of testing their robot and code	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear evidence of testing their robot and code	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Minimal evidence their robot and code was improved	<input type="checkbox"/> Partial evidence their robot and code was improved	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear evidence their robot and code was improved	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>COMMUNICATE</b> – Team's explanation of the robot design process was effective and showed how all team members have been involved.			

# Western PA FLL Grand Championship

## Saturday Morning Judging



# Western PA FLL Grand Championship

## Saturday Morning Judging

### Determining Callback Teams

Rooms 1-6: Start at 8:30 with teams every 40 minutes until 11:40

Rooms 7-12: Start at 8:50 with teams every 40 minutes until Noon

Start	End	Batch 1 Judges					
		Room 113 Room 1	Room 111 Room 2	Room 110 Room 3	Room 109 Room 4	Room 108 Room 5	Room 107 Room 6
8:30 AM	9:10 AM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
9:10 AM	9:50 AM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
9:50 AM	10:30 AM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
10:30 AM	11:10 AM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
11:10 AM	11:50 AM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A

		Batch 2 Judges					
		Room 106 Room 7	Room 105 Room 8	Room 104 Room 9	Room 103 Room 10	Room 102 Room 11	Room 101 Room 12
8:50 AM	9:20 AM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
9:30 AM	10:00 AM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
10:10 AM	10:40 AM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
10:50 AM	11:20 AM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
11:30 AM	12:00 PM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A

**Item of Note:** Morning judging rooms will NOT have mission tables.

# Western PA FLL Grand Championship

## Key Locations and Logistics

### Callback Discussions:

### Scheduled Interviews and In-Pit Follow-ups

*(Afternoon)*

- Call Back Team List and Schedule Will Be Published During Lunch
- Locations for interviews are TBD but will be provided.
- Scheduled interviews will attempt to minimize conflicts with Robot game. But in event of a conflict, prioritize call backs – we will fit you in at the table.
- Callbacks are a mark of distinction but are not required to win an award.

# Western PA FLL Grand Championship

## Saturday Afternoon Callback Judging

Callbacks are Separated by Category

Two rooms for each callback category:

Start	End	Robot Design A	Robot Design B	Innovation Project A	Innovation Project B	Core Values A	Core Values B
		Room 113 <small>WNO Mission Table</small>	Room 111 <small>WNO Mission Table</small>	Room 107	Room 106	Room 102	Room 101
<b>2:00 PM</b>	2:07 PM	1	2	3	4	49	50
	2:07 PM - 2:15 PM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
<b>2:15 PM</b>	2:22 PM	5	6	7	8	51	52
	2:22 PM - 2:30 PM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
<b>2:30 PM</b>	2:37 PM	9	10	11	12	53	54
	2:37 PM - 2:45 PM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
<b>2:45 PM</b>	2:52 PM	13	14	15	16	55	56
	2:52 PM - 3:00 PM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
<b>3:00 PM</b>	3:07 PM	17	18	19	20	57	58
	3:07 PM - 3:15 PM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
<b>3:15 PM</b>	3:22 PM	21	22	23	24	59	60
	3:22 PM - 3:30 PM	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A

**Item of Note:** Afternoon judging rooms WILL have mission tables.

Judging will be scheduled to NOT conflict with game matches, but if a conflict exists, please prioritize the judging sessions.



# Western PA FLL Grand Championship

## Robot Game

- Four official rounds
- Time in-between to make some refinements
- Final ranking based on highest of four rounds



# Western PA FLL Grand Championship

## FLL Championship Awards



### **Champions Award** (1<sup>st</sup> Place, 2 Runners up)

Celebrating team that most embodies the FIRST LEGO League Challenge experience, by fully embracing our Core Values while achieving excellence and innovation in Robot Performance



### **Robot Design & Programming Award** (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Place)

This team uses outstanding programming principles and solid engineering practices to develop a robot that is mechanically sound, durable, efficient and highly capable of performing challenge missions.



### **Innovation Project Award** (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Place)

This team utilizes diverse resources for their Innovation Project to help them gain a comprehensive understanding of their problem, have a creative, well-researched solution and effectively communicate their findings to judges and the community



### **Core Values Award** (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Place)

This team displays extraordinary enthusiasm and spirit, knows they can accomplish more together than they could as individual, and shows each other and other teams respect at all times



### **Robot Performance Award** (1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Place)

This award celebrates a team that scores the most points during the Robot Game. Teams compete in up to Four 2.5 minute matches and their highest score counts

# Western PA FLL Grand Championship

## Key Logistics

### Volunteers:

**Appreciate teams providing volunteers** (Sat)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080848A8AB2FA6F49-45823186-2023#/>

### Pit Area *(Friday after 8:00 and Saturday):*

#### Aliquippa Gymnasiums

- 8 Foot Tables!
- Cluster of 6 tables
- Power outlet close by

### Robot Game Area:

#### 6 Competition Tables in the Alumni Gymnasium

- “On-Deck Area” for next 6 teams
- 4 team members up to the table

### Practice Tables:

#### 14 Practice Tables in the Gymnasium

- 5 minute blocks per team
- **Bring Your Own Moveable Parts** *(Mark and and keep track of them)*
- Please reset tables when completed

### Concessions / Food:

**Concessions available for purchase at Gym**

**Pizza is available for Pre-Order at:**

<https://forms.gle/Zeoqy1tNm77MzT9KA>

# **Western PA FLL Grand Championship**

## Post Season

**Multiple Post Season  
Opportunities**

**PA State Wide Competition**  
in February/March to Determine Teams  
That Will Represent State at World Festival  
and Other Major US OPEN Tournaments

# Western PA FLL Grand Championship

Make Sure You Bring...

- Print Out of Team Roster from FIRST Inspires Dashboard showing consent authorization
- Team robot, batteries and spare parts
- Computer and charger
- USB Cable
- Power strip
- Any materials the team will use for your various judging sessions
- Team Pit area decorations (optional)
- Fun, inexpensive items to trade with other teams (optional)



# Final Thoughts...

- All Volunteer Event
- Lets Focus on Keeping This a Fun Event for the Kids...

**You are an inspiration to them**

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