Frequently Asked Questions about the *FIRST* LEGO League Global Innovation Award presented by Disney

FIRST may amend this FAQ at any time.

1. **When will the Global Innovation Award presented by Disney be held in 2020?**
   June 7-9 in Orlando, Florida at the Contemporary Resort and World Showplace Pavilion in Epcot. Teams should plan to arrive by the afternoon of the first day for a coaches meeting and evening Team Welcome. Subsequent two days will be full day activities and workshops. The Awards Ceremony will be late afternoon/early evening the 9th.

2. **I received the Global Innovation Award nomination at my regional Championship event. What do I do next?**
   Your coach will receive a communication from fllinnovationaward@firstinspires.org as soon as your local *FIRST* LEGO League Partner submits your team name to us. This communication will have instructions on how to find the submission portal; we do not make this information public and only share it directly with nominated teams. The submission portal will require you to create a username; this must be done by an adult 18 years of age or older.

   The team must submit (in English) their solution and supplemental materials no later than March 23, 2020. All teams will receive a notification in mid-April (around April 18th) if they are among the top 20 teams chosen to be Semi-Finalists. All nominated teams will receive judge feedback via e-mail by early May. We also identify 4 ranked alternate teams—and yes, although rare, it has happened that they have been asked to participate and attend the Global Innovation Award Ceremony in June.

3. **Is there a registration fee for the Global Innovation Award?**
   No, there is not an event fee to register/attend the Award if you are one of the top 20 Semi-Finalist teams. Teams are responsible for their travel, accommodation, and most meals (some meals/snacks provided).

4. **How will the Global Innovation Award winners be selected?**
   We ask experts in engineering, product development, and this year's Challenge theme to judge submissions. Every submission is reviewed by multiple judges. No personal information that would cause bias is given to the judges (team name, ages, gender, or team location) during judging. This judging process is managed both by *FIRST* staff and an experienced *FIRST* LEGO League Judge Advisor.

5. **Do I have to have a patent to make my submission?**
   No, but we strongly encourage your team to file a provisional patent application for your invention in your home country. The twenty (20) Semi-Finalists' solutions will be profiled on the website and may get local or national publicity, therefore your team should make every effort to protect your idea. You can get more information in the Guide to Applying for Patents document under the Award and Patent Resources area.

6. **Who judges the Global Innovation Award presented by Disney?**
   Many employees from our Global Innovation Award sponsors judge, including engineers and Challenge theme experts. If you have expertise related to the Challenge theme, product development, entrepreneurship, or innovation and are interested in helping judge the Global Innovation Award nominees, please contact us at fllinnovationaward@firstinspires.org for more information by February and to submit an application to judge. We make every effort to keep judging groups balanced with different types of experts in each group. This virtual commitment is approximately 5-7 hours.

7. **What will my team have to submit for the Global Innovation Award?**
   The Global Innovation Award criteria mirrors the Innovation Award portion of the Project Rubric, with a few expansions. Your team will need to write answers (typically no more than 500 words each) on the following:

   Problem Identification (Part One) – Overview
   What problem is the team trying to solve? Why did the team choose this problem?

   Problem Identification (Part Two) – Detailed Description
   What is the solution and how does the solution work? *(Include relevant details.)* How does it solve the problem the team chose?

   Innovation
   How does the solution solve your identified problem in a new way and/or improve on existing solutions in a meaningful way? *(Responses might include descriptions of existing solutions, unique value offered by the team solution, and who benefits from it.)*

   Solution Development
   How did the team develop the solution? *(Explain what process was used to narrow, evaluate, and verify the solution. What steps did you follow?)*

   Implementation
   How would the solution be implemented? What factors did you consider (cost, materials, manufacturing, market research etc.) to determine feasibility? *(Responses might include applicable analysis and/or professional corroborations.)*

Your team will be required to submit a one-page supporting document. One page is considered (8.5" x 11" or A4) ONLY as judges have limited time to evaluate. We recommend including visual support documentation, such as a schematic, diagram, chart, photo(s), or anything the team decides help illustrate a criterion. Further prototype documentation or other details are also welcome. We cannot guarantee judges will visit external websites, blogs, or other included links.

The Global Innovation rubric is posted in this Award and Patent Resources section. All team questions can be directed to fllinnovationaward@firstinspires.org.