Off-Season Events FAQ 2022

Off-Season Event FAQ

When is the 2021 - 2022 Off-Season Period?

The 2021-2022 Off-Season Period is between April 24, 2022 and the date specified for each program (FIRST LEGO League – August 2, 2022, FIRST Tech Challenge - August 31, FIRST Robotics Competition - December 31). Note that while the Off-Season Period for FIRST Robotics Competition extends through December, any equipment borrowed from FIRST Headquarters in Manchester must be received there not later than November 11. This means any Off-Season Events taking place after that will not have access to official equipment.

What is an Off-Season Event?

An Off-Season Event is defined as a gathering that utilizes FIRST program content for which there is a participation fee or sponsorship funding. This could include competitions and summer programs and includes all FIRST programs globally. Off-season team activities such as no-fee scrimmages, open houses, and other non-paid activities are not considered to be Off-Season Events.

Who can host an Off-Season Event?

Off-Season Events must be planned and supported by a Host Organization (ie. FIRST Partner Organization, FIRST Program Delivery Organization, local school/district, youth serving organization, team 501(c)3, etc.). They cannot be hosted by an individual or unincorporated group.

What considerations should my organization make before planning an Off-Season Event?

Host Organizations should consider such topics as:

- Compliance with local COVID-19 protocols for in-person gatherings
- Appropriate level of insurance
- Youth protection measures
- Data protection measures
- Adherence to state/local tax regulations

FIRST LEGO League Opens have a twelve month+ application process. 2022 Open dates have been finalized. If interested in hosting an Open in 2023 or later please contact kvachon@firstinspires.org or firstlegoleague@LEGO.com

What actions need to be taken by a FIRST Robotics Competition Off-Season Event Host Organizations?

Off-Season Event Host Organizations will be asked to submit an Off-Season Event Notice via an online form to FIRST HQ beginning March 15. The form will be shared with the local Program Delivery Partner and will collect basic information about the Hosting Organization, Off-Season Event details, and registration details as well as confirm the following:
• Hosting Organization compliance with local COVID-19 protocols for in-person gatherings
• Acknowledgement of Right to Cancel by FIRST in cases of emergencies and other extraordinary situations.
• Consideration for conducting the event with the appropriate level of insurance, youth protection measures, data protection and adherence to state/local tax regulations as determined locally.

Hosts borrowing equipment from FIRST HQ will be required to complete and sign an updated Off-Season Event Agreement, which is available in the FIRST Resource Library.

**Will Off-Season Event Host Organizations be able to borrow FIRST Robotics Competition field and equipment from FIRST HQ?**

Yes, Hosts borrowing FIRST Robotics Competition equipment from FIRST HQ will be required to complete and sign an Off-Season Event Agreement, which is available in the FIRST Resource Library. All FIRST Robotics Competition equipment loaned out by FIRST HQ must be received by FIRST HQ by November 11, 2022.

As in prior seasons, the agreement will require insurance of $1M+, indemnification for FIRST HQ, and a FIRST Technical Advisor, as well as include COVID-19 protocol, Right to Cancel, and equipment return deadline agreements. There is no fee to borrow the equipment, but the borrower is responsible for all transportation fees and other incidental expenses.