

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.