



# PVEF ROBOTICS ROUNDUP 2011



## Welcome to ROBOTICS ROUNDUP!

Robotics Roundup is Pleasant Valley Education Foundation's most exciting technology-based program, in which it provides Camarillo's youth the opportunity to participate in *FIRST* LEGO League. 2011 will be the 4th year PVEF sponsors FLL teams throughout Camarillo.

### FIRST LEGO League

PVEF sponsors teams from public schools in Camarillo. Each team will be formally registered with *FIRST* LEGO League ("FLL"). In 1998, *FIRST* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology), a non-profit organization, and the LEGO Group joined forces to create *FIRST* LEGO League. Now in its 14th year, FLL boasts over 17,000 teams in 56 countries. Thanks to thousands of volunteers and hundreds of companies, universities and professional organizations who support the teams, tournaments and operational partners around the world, FLL has grown steadily over the years, including 57% growth from 2007 to 2010. To find out more visit FLL at <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/fll/>.

The FLL Robotics program is designed to get children excited about science and technology, and teach them valuable employment and life skills. This program is an opportunity for students ages 9-14 to participate in a technology-based after-school activity which includes design, building, testing and programming of autonomous robots to accomplish challenge missions. The activity also includes a project in which the children create an innovative solution to a real-world problem. The project requires research, analysis and presentation. The FLL season culminates in one or more tournaments which give the teams exciting competitive opportunities.

### 2011 Theme:



Can *FIRST*® LEGO® League teams improve the quality of food by finding ways to prevent food contamination? In the 2011 Food Factor Challenge, over 200,000 9-14 year olds from over 55 countries will explore the topic of food safety and examine the possible points of contamination our food encounters - from exposure to insects and creatures, to unsterile processing and transportation, to unsanitary preparation and storage - then find ways to prevent or combat these contaminants. In the Food Factor Challenge, teams will build, test, and program an autonomous robot using LEGO® MINDSTORMS® NXT to solve a set of Food Safety missions as well as research, develop, and share their innovative food safety solutions. Throughout their experience, teams will operate under FLL's signature set of Core Values.

## **Teams:**

- ◆ Teams may be made up of 3-10 students ages 9 to 14. (typically 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades)
- ◆ They will probably meet once or twice a week. They can start meeting in the summer or as soon as they have a robot kit and software.
- ◆ Each team needs at least one coach and an assistant coach and/or mentor. Coaches do not need any technical experience. In FLL the children do all the work.

## **Team Sponsorship Process:**

PVEF will sponsor one (1) team per public school in Camarillo plus at least ten additional teams from the public school pool to be selected via a lottery, if necessary. PVEF team sponsorship will occur in the following order:

1. The only team formed at a school
2. The Principal selects the team
3. From a lottery among teams from the same school
4. From a lottery of unused sponsorships among all unsponsored teams from all schools

Unused PVEF sponsorships will be available if a school does not field a team and as additional sponsorships become available.

One team from each school will have use of the NXT robot kit and software provided with last year's sponsorships. The new teams will be provided a new NXT kit and software.

Sponsorships will be announced on or before May 31, 2011, on the PVEF website [www.pvef.org](http://www.pvef.org).

## **PVEF will provide:**

- \*1. LEGO NXT MindStorms Robot set (NXT set will remain property of PVEF but may be used by school as long as team is participating in FLL. New teams will be provided with new NXT set.)
- \*2. MindStorms software (Teams continuing from 2010 already have software. New teams will receive software with NXT sets.)
- \*3. Field setup kit
- \*4. 2011 FLL registration fee
- \*5. T-shirts for team, coach, mentor
6. Coaches Workshop
7. Robotics Camp
8. Camarillo Qualifying Tournament

(\*Camarillo public schools only. Other local teams are welcome to participate in our workshops, camp and tournament.)



## 2011 PVEF FLL CALENDAR

FLL Online team registration opens and Robot kits begin to ship	May 2, 2011 until September (subject to capacity)
PVEF FLL Informational Meeting	May 3 6:30 P.M. Rancho Rosal MPR
Registration forms due to PVEF	May 27, 2011
PVEF Coaches' Workshop	June 4, 2011 (tentative)
Registration for Robot Camp due	July 15, 2011
Field Setup Kits begin to ship	August 1, 2011
PVEF Summer Robot Camp	August (dates, times & location tba)
Global Challenge released by FLL	September 2, 2011
Challenge Kickoff Workshop	September 3, 2011 10:11 AM - Noon (Camarillo location tba)
Team T-Shirt orders due	September 19, 2011
Team T-Shirts delivery (target date)	October 8, 2011
Tournament applications	Mid-October
Tournament season	November - December
Local tournaments	(Dates and locations tba)
PVEF Camarillo Qualifying Tournament	November 19 (tentative date) (Camarillo location tba)
Los Angeles Region Championship	Date and location tba
FLL World Festival	April 25-28, 2011 in St. Louis, Mo

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More info:

<http://mindstorms.lego.com/>

[www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org)

<http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/fll/>

[www.pvef.org](http://www.pvef.org)

Darren Patnoe    DPatnoe@pvef.org  
444-8875

Carey Smith    csmith1776@yahoo.com  
388-3865



Pleasant Valley  
Education Foundation