Washington FTC Coaches Chat

September 18th, 2025

DECODE

Agenda

- Registration

- Changes for the 25-26 season

- Calendars

Registration

FIRST HQ Registration

- Log in at https://my.firstinspires.org/Dashboard/

  - If you haven't used the new login system you will need to change your password

- Cost is **$325** paid through the FIRST Storefront

- Make sure you have 2 Coaches and that they're going through YPP!

- More information available at https://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/ftc/cost-and-registration

FIRSTWA Registration

- Fill out the FIRST Washington Registration Form

  - Also doubles as the FIRSTWA Grant Application
  - Feel free to submit with approximate demographic information
- Unsubsidized cost is $925 before grants are applied

  - FIRSTWA Grant is expected to lower that to ~$450-500
  - Registration form must be filled out by 9-26 to eligible for a grant
  - Invoices go out in early October
- Available at https://firstwa.org/ftc-registration/

Requirements to be Placed into a League

- We will assign a league to every team that registers with either FIRST or FIRSTWA

- We will not publish your league assignment until you have registered with both FIRST and FIRSTWA

  - Requires payment to FIRST

  - Does not require payment to FIRSTWA

- Deadline is September 26th

Requirements to Play at your Events

- All payments are due before events

  - $325 payment to FIRST through the Storefront
  - Your invoice from FIRSTWA must be secured
    - Will be sent out in early-October
    - Can be secured with a check, credit card or PO from the school
- Reminder: Even if you're not ready to play, you should go to all your events

Changes for the 25-26 Season

Event Type Renaming

Renaming our event tiers to align with FIRST's terminology

- League Meets -> League Meets

- Interleagues -> League Tournaments

- Semifinals -> Super Qualifiers

- State Championship -> State Championship

  - You may also see Regional Championship

Points-based Advancement Model

- Everything a team does well at an event helps contribute to their advancement points.

- Teams will be ranked based on the points they earn at an individual event.

  - Points do NOT carry forward between tournaments

- This model rewards **well rounded teams** who do well with Awards and Robot performance.

Advancement Changes Announcement Blog

FIRST Championship and Premier Event Opportunities

- As announced in the Advancement & FIRST Championship Update blog, the *FIRST* Championship will have 336 *FIRST* Tech Challenge teams this year (up from 256 last year).

- *FIRST* Tech Challenge Premier Events are back and bigger! We have several returning and new locations:

New England Premier Event	**Canadian Rockies** Premier Event @ K Days
Mexico Premier Event	Canada Cup - **Niagara** Premier Event
Michiana Premier Event Presented by GEARS	**İstanbul** Premier Event
Run for the Robots Premier Event	**Western Edge** Premier Event
European Premier Event	**Cowtown Invitational** Premier Event
Chicago Robotics Invitational Premier Event	

Section 6: Awards (A)

- Formal Interviews are now called "Structured Interviews". There is no format change.

- PORTFOLIOS may only include content from Jan 1, 2025 or later. This universal date helps Judges and Teams understand what content can be included in the Portfolio.

- The Motivate Award has been retired. It has been replaced with two new awards: **Sustain** and **Reach**, so we can better celebrate the required and suggested achievements the Motivate Award represented.

- Teams can only receive one Judged Award recognition per event (1st, 2nd, or 3rd). This allows us to celebrate the accomplishments of many teams.

Dean's List Award – New Deadlines!

December 15th, 2025 is the deadline for all Dean's List Award nominations.

Not a change for Washington

Dean's List Award – Important Dates	
September 6, 2025	Nominations open
December 15, 2025	Deadline for all nominations
January 31, 2026	Finalist announced at WA State Championship
May 1, 2026	10 Winners announced at FIRST Championship

Dean's List Changes
Announcement Blog

Season Calendar

Upcoming Non-Competition Dates

- 9/26: Registration Deadline

- 10/1: Home Leagues Announced

- 10/1: Event Preferencing Opens

- 10/8: Event Preferencing Closes

- 10/10: Final League Assignments

- 10/16: Coaches Chat

- 11/20: Coaches Chat

- 12/15: Dean's List Submissions Due

Competition Windows

- November 1st – 23rd: League Meets

- December 6th – 21st: League Tournaments

- January 17th – 18th: Super Qualifiers

  - Maple Valley

- January 31st: State Championship

  - Seattle

Competition Dates

We have not finalized league pairings. Do not assume you will be in the same league, or that each league will have the same League Tournament or Super Qualifier associated with it

If you saw this information earlier this week, some dates have changed

League Meet Event Dates

Full information available online https://firstwa.org/ftc-competition-info/

11/1	11/2	11/8	11/9	11/15	11/16	11/22	11/23
Agnesi	Brattain	Lamarr	Maxwell	Bardeen	Knuth	Agnesi	Brattain
Bardeen	Knuth		Ritchie	Salk	Noddack	Giblett	Maxwell
Giblett	Noddack		Spencer			Hopper	Ritchie
Hopper	Turing					Lamarr	Turing
Lovelace						Lovelace	
Salk						Spencer	

League Tournament Event Dates

Full information available online https://firstwa.org/ftc-competition-info/

12/6	12/7	12/13	12/14	12/20
Feynman	Pasteur	Curie	Hawking	Watt
Mill Creek	*Mill Creek*	*Liberty Lake*	*Snoqualmie*	*Olympia*
		Wu	Tesla	
		Bonney Lake	*Issaquah*	