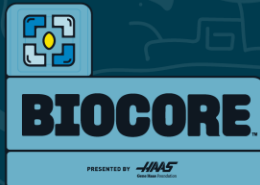


FRC 2026-27 Team Briefing



Kevin Ross
Founder, FIRST Washington
FIRST National Advisory Board
kevinro@firstwa.org



Adrienne Collins
Program Director
FIRST Washington
acollins@firstwa.org



Eric Stokely
Senior Mentor
FIRST Washington
stokely@firstwa.org



FRC Season 2026-2027

- Upcoming Calendar of important deadlines
- Upcoming Calendar of Workshops and Events
- Preferencing
- District status update
- Participation Fees

2026 FRC Deadlines and important dates



- 9-24-26 9:00 am First FRC event preference system opens
- 9-24-26 9:00 am Kickoff Registration Opens
- 10-1-26 9:00 am First Preference system closes
- 10-5-26 5:00 pm *FIRST* Washington Grant Application Closes
- 10-15-26 9:00 am Second FRC Event Preference Window Opens
- 10-22-26 9:00 am Second FRC Event Preference Window Closes
- 10-29-26 9:00 am District 3rd play and unrestricted Regional registration opens
- 11-5-26 9:00 am Inter-district registration opens
- Wk Nov 9: Invoices sent out to the contact listed on the FIRSTWA registration form.
- 11-17-26 9:00 am All event registration closes (Registration secured with FIRST)
- 12-4-26 FIRST Washington Invoices Secured so can pick up kickoff kit



2026 FRC Calendar of Workshops

- Watch your future PNW FRC email blasts for details
- FRC Coaches Chats
 - Oct 29
 - Nov 19
 - Dec 17
- Workshops
 - No workshops scheduled at this time, feel free to host one!

Off Season Events



- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 10-3/4-26 | OR Girls Gen & FIRST Chance by FRC 1425
Wilsonville HS, in Wilsonville, OR |
| 10-10/11-26 | Bordie Charged by FRC 2412
Sammamish HS in Bellevue, WA |
| 10-17/18-26 | WA Girls Gen by FRC 2046
Tahoma HS, in Maple Valley, WA |
| 10-24/25-26 | Block Party by FRC 2910
Henry Jackson HS, in Mill Creek, WA |
| 12-19-26 | Bunny Bots by FRC 1540
Catlin Gable HS, in Portland, OR |



Pro Tips for Preferencing

- **You MUST have two adult mentors pass the YPP program BEFORE you will be allowed to preference for your first event.**
- **Do this NOW!**
- **DO NOT change mentors between your first and second registration or they may not get through the YPP process.**
- **If you need to change mentors, wait until after you register for your 2nd event.**

Event Registration

- Starting September 24, you will have one week to enter your ranked event preferences for your **first** event only
 - Assignments are done by lottery
 - It gives you no advantage to enter your event preferences early. Relax! All entries before 9 am 10-1-26 will have the same chance. (We recommend you have your preferences submitted by Wednesday)
- If you select your home event, you will be given that preference (no need to select any additional events as a back up)
- If you select an event other than your home event, you will be subject to the outcome of the lottery.
- Remember, you are only guaranteed your home event during your **first registration window**. If you don't choose it at that time, it opens up to anyone else who did and there may not be room in that event come second registration.

Event Registration continued...

- If you pick an event other than your home event, there is a VERY good chance you will initially end up on the waitlist initially when events are posted.
- I will work with FIRST Staff will work to move everyone off the waitlist by the end of the day on Monday.
- I will reach out to teams still on the waitlist after FIRST HQ has made all of their adjustments
- Please do not reach out to me before Tuesday afternoon (Oct 6) if you end up on a waitlist. I will be working with FIRST to get everyone moved off and will not respond to emails asking about waitlist status until after I have finished working with FIRST



2026 PNW FRC Kickoff Locations

Venue	Where
Auburn High School	Auburn, WA
Everett High School	Everett, WA
Oregon State University	Corvallis, OR
Skyview High School	Vancouver, WA
Wapato High School	Wapato, WA
West Valley HS	Spokane Valley, WA

Kickoff Location Selection opens on September 24, 2026

Some things to note:

- You will now enter your kickoff selection on the storefront as you go to check out
- If you select MySite, your kit will not ship until **after** kickoff and you will be responsible for the shipping charges. **Once you have checked out and secured your registration, this can not be changed!**



2026 PNW FRC Event Calendar

Venue	Where	When	Week
Clackamas Academy (CAS)	Oregon City, OR USA	Mar 4-6, 2027	1
Kentridge High School (KRH)	Kent, WA USA	Mar 12-14, 2027	2
Wilsonville High School (WIL)	Wilsonville, OR USA	Mar 12-14, 2027	2
SunDome (SUN)	Yakima, WA USA	Mar 18-20, 2027	3
Sammamish High School (SAM)	Bellevue, WA USA	Mar 19-21, 2027	3
Oregon State Fairgrounds (OSF)	Salem, OR USA	Mar 25-27, 2027	4
Glacier Peak High School (GPK)	Snohomish, WA USA	Apr 2-4, 2027	5
Bonney Lake High School (BLK)	Bonney Lake, WA USA	Apr 2-4, 2027	5
PNW District Championships	Portland, OR USA	Apr 14-17, 2027	7

About Third Plays



- Third plays cost \$1,000 and do not count for points
 - You can still win awards at third plays, but no points
 - Your 3rd play is the 3rd event **you compete at**
 - Registration opens 10-29-26
- You have the option of doing a third play in another district
 - Registration opens 11-5-26
 - These are assigned last after all inner district plays have been assigned
 - Inter-district plays do not qualify for any awards or points
 - Inter-district play does not affect the chronological order of your events
- You have the option of doing a third play at a Regional Event
 - Registration opens 10-29-26
 - You will pay the full cost of an additional Regional (\$4000)
 - Regional play does not qualify for points
 - You can receive SOME awards at a Regional
 - You may not qualify for Championships in Houston from a Regional Event



Status of the FRC District

- We expect to have 126 teams this year
 - We have 1 confirmed rookie
- We are holding 8 district events
- District Championship will be at Veterans Memorial in Portland, OR April 14th – 17th, 2027



Changes to the PNW District participation fees

There will be 2 separate registration fees this year

- FIRST Registration (\$6500)
 - Needs to be secured with FIRST by 11-17-26
 - Can be secured by check, PO, credit card, sponsor letter
 - If you are securing by PO, allow extra time for processing
 - Grants on your FIRST dashboard may be applied to lower it
- FIRST Washington Registration (\$5500)
 - Will receive an invoice the week of November 9
 - Can be secured by check, PO, credit card
 - Grants on your FIRST dashboard may not be applied to lower it
 - FIRST Washington and ORTOP grants will **not** be applied this year (grant funds will be sent directly to you)

FTC/FRC Team Support Programs

UW Mentorship Program:

Get paired with a mentor from the UW ECE program. Students earn college credit for volunteering. Mentors work both in-person (greater Puget sound area) and remotely. Runs during the Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters. [Link to Interest Form](#)

Mentor “Office Hours”:

Let us know if your team would be interested in a drop-in “office hour” program for as needed mentor support. [Link to Data Collection Form](#)

General Questions are now welcome

- Ask us anything you need help with!