FIRST®

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FIRSTWA FTC Coaches Meeting

October 13th, 2026

Agenda

- Registration Reminders
- FIRSTWA Invoices and Payments
- Individual Award Submissions
- Advancement Timelines
- What to expect at League Meets
- State Championship Hotel Block Update
- Season Calendar

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FIRST TECH CHALLENGE

Registration Reminders

Registration Reminders

- Make sure you're registered with FIRST HQ
  - https://ftc-events.firstinspires.org/2026/region/USWA
- Make sure your team is "Event Ready" according to FIRST
  - Requires that your team has two coaches, both of which who have passed YPP
- If you are having issues with registration
  - Email customerservice@firstinspires.org
  - Let us know here at FIRSTWA (ftc@firstwa.org)

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FIRSTWA Invoices and Payments

FIRSTWA Invoices and Payments

- Invoices were sent out October 6th
- Payment is due to FIRSTWA by October 16th
- If you don't think you've received your invoice, or are experiencing issues with anything related to this process, please let us know ASAP by reaching out to ftc@firswa.org

FIRSTWA Grants

- Everyone who is receiving a grant at this time received a grant notification today (October 13th)
- Additional funding may be sent out in future rounds
- Granted funds are not an invoice reduction
  - Teams are still required to pay the $925 FIRSTWA registration fee
- Please contact acollins@firstwa.org and/or accounting@firstwa.org with any questions on how funds will be handled

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Individual Award Submissions

FIRST Leadership Award

- Each team can nominate two students for the FIRST Leadership Award.
- Nominees must be high-school Sophomores or Juniors
- Nominations are due by **December 15th, 2026**
- Nominees will be interviewed in January, and the FIRST Leadership Award Finalists for Washington will be announced at the State Championship
- Full information is available at https://www.firstinspires.org/resources/library/ftc/leadership-award

Compass Award

- *The Compass Award recognizes an adult coach or mentor who has given outstanding guidance and support to a team throughout the year and demonstrates to the team what it means to be a Gracious Professional.*
- Judged at the State level, winner announced at the State Championship
- Nominations are due by **January 16th, 2027**
- Teams create and submit a 40-60 second video for their nominee
- Full criteria available in the Competition Manual, Section 6.5.2
- Submission Form: https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/01a117d349f67292b44f42d7b787479a

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Advancement Timelines

Local Advancement

- Prerequisites needed to finalize advancement numbers between League Tournaments, Wildcard, and State Championship
  - Finalize the number of teams within each league (Done!)
  - Finalize the event capacity for the Wildcard Tournament
  - Finalize the event capacity for the State Championship
- As soon as we have advancement numbers for our events ready we'll publish them
  - Advancement numbers to State will be visible on FTC Events page
  - Advancement numbers to Wildcard will be published on FIRSTWA

Championship and Premier Event Advancement

- Key Dates
  - November 16th: FIRST snapshots the registration numbers within each region
  - November 30th: FIRST publishes advancement slots for each region
- What we already know
  - FIRST Championship is remaining at 336 teams
  - Washington team count is slightly down from last year (185 -> 170)

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League Meets: What to Expect

What happens at a League Meet?

- Arrive and check in with your team roster
- Set up your pit table/space
- Go through inspection
- Receive your randomized Qualification Match schedule
  - Will have 6* matches per team
- Play your assigned matches, cheer for everyone
- Take a break for lunch before or during Qualification Matches
- Pack up, clean up, and go home

What do you need to bring to your League Meet?

- Team roster (printed from the FIRST Dashboard)
- Safety glasses
- Robot and batteries
- Tools and repair supplies
- Everything required to drive the robot
- Power strip (in case you need more than 1 outlet)
- Extension cord
- **Safety glasses**
- Patience and Gracious Professionalism

Important Reminders for League Meets

- You do not need to bring your engineering portfolio or other judging materials to league meets
    - Exception being if your league meet is doing mock judging, but this is event-specific
- Even if your robot isn't done, please come to the event. The community and volunteers are more than happy to help out
- League Meets are not "practice events" or "scrimmages". Your ranking at the start of the League Tournament is based on your best 10 League Meet matches
- League Coordinators are reaching out with event-specific information (schedules and other details).

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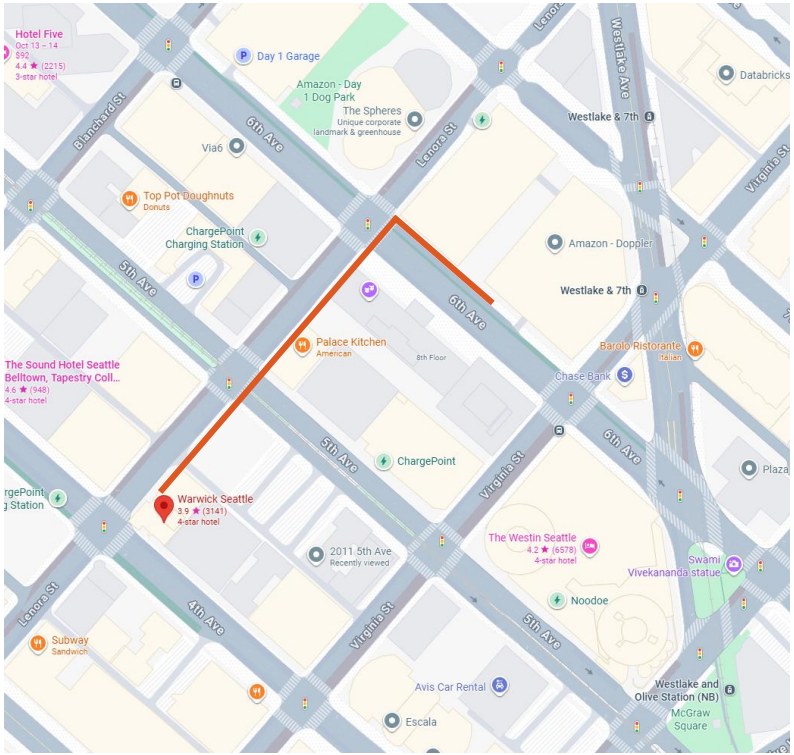
State Championship Hotel Block

State Championship Hotel Block

- Warwick Seattle
- King and Double Rooms for $125/night
- $26/day parking (half off the normal rate)
- Reservable until 2pm on January 20th
- Reservation Link will be available after League Tournaments
- Additional Notes
  - $20 per additional guest over 2 per room
  - Seattle hotel taxes and fees are 18%



FIRST TECH CHALLENGE

Season Calendar

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FIRST TECH CHALLENGE

2026 - 2027 FIRSTWA FTC Season Calendar

- October 6th: FIRSTWA Invoices Sent Out
- October 13th: October Coaches Meeting
- October 16th: FIRSTWA Invoice Payments Due
- October 24th - November 22nd: League Meets
- December 5th - December 13th: League Tournaments
- December 15th: FIRST Leadership Award Submissions Due

2026 - 2027 FIRSTWA FTC Season Calendar

- Early-Mid January: FIRST Leadership Award Interviews
- January 16th: Wildcard Tournament (Maple Valley)
- January 16th: Compass Award Submissions Due
- January 20th: Deadline to reserve a room at the Warwick
- January 23rd - 24th: State Championship (Seattle, Amazon Meeting Center)
- April 28th - May 1st: FIRST Championship

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Event Calendar

10/24	Giblett LM1 Battle Ground	Noddack LM1 Renton				
10/25	Maxwell LM1 Snoqualmie	Ritchie LM1 Edmonds				
10/31	Agnesi LM1 Kennewick	Bardeen LM1 Duvall	Salk LM1 University Place	Hopper LM1 Liberty Lake		
11/01	Spencer LM1 Issaquah	Turing LM1 Bellevue				
11/07	Lamarr LM1 Woodinville	Lovelace LM1 Olympia				
11/08	Ritchie LM2 Edmonds					
11/14	Noddack LM2 Renton	Salk LM2 University Place				
11/15	Maxwell LM2 Snoqualmie	Spencer LM2 Issaquah				
11/21	Agnesi LM2 Kennewick	Bardeen LM2 Duvall	Giblett LM2 Battle Ground	Lamarr LM2 Woodinville	Lovelace LM2 Olympia	Hopper LM2 Spokane
11/22	Turing LM2 Bellevue					

12/05	Feynman LT Mill Creek		
12/06	Pasteur LT Mill Creek		
12/12	Curie LT Kennewick	Watt LT Olympia	Wu LT Bonney Lake
12/13	Hawking LT Snoqualmie		

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Questions