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FRC 2026-27 Team Briefing



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FRC Season 2026-2027

- Kickoff this season
- Third Plays
- Participation Fees
- Roundtable

Be sure to register for a kickoff location!

- **EVERY team** needs to register for a kickoff
  - Even if you aren't attending a kickoff, most teams want to pick their kit up at a kickoff site.
  - You need to select the kickoff in order to have your kit shipped there.
  - Unless you truly want to be a my site, make sure the "ok to ship kit" button is toggled off
- All kickoff locations will have a viewing party
- *Teams can choose to just pick up their kit at a kickoff location and not watch the video*
  - *Please communicate with your kickoff coordinator if you only plan to pick up your kit*
  - *Make sure to fill out a surrogate form if you are not sending one of your 2 lead contacts to pick up your kit*
- *If you enter an address other than a kickoff, your team will be charged shipping for their kit.*
  - *If you choose this as your option,* ***your kit will not ship until after kickoff and will arrive 1-2 weeks after kickoff***

2027 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 closes on November 17, 2026

Oregon teams: The sales tax issue has been fixed (no WA or OR teams will be charged sales tax) so please register for the Skyview kickoff if that is where you want to pick up your kit.

About Third Plays

- In district third plays cost $1,000 and do not count for points
  - You can still win awards at third plays, but no points
  - For registration, your 3rd play is the 3rd event you register for. For points, your 3rd play is the 3rd event you compte at.
  - Registration opens 10-29-26
    - Offering free 3rd plays at SunDome
- Out of district third plays cost $1,000 and do not count for points
  - 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 registering for 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
- Teams will secure their registration for any 3rd plays, Inter District and Regional event on their dashboard.

Changes to the PNW District participation fees – *FIRST* Registration

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 with PO, allow extra time for processing
  - Grants on your FIRST dashboard may be applied to lower it
- Registration is secured through your firstinspires dashboard
  - Demo checkout

Grant Adjusted Estimates for Teams

Grant-Adjusted Estimates for Teams

FIRST Robotics Competition Teams that need an estimate reflecting awarded grants in order to request a purchase order from their school or organization, are invited to complete **this form**. Please allow 3-5 business days for processing. Once completed, an estimate will be emailed to the team contact listed on the form from *FIRST* School Engagement.

Changes to the PNW District participation fees – *FIRST* Washington

- 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)
  - Needs to be secured by Friday, December 4

PNW FRC Mentor Meetup

Sun, Dec 6th starting at 12:00pm at the FIRSTWA Fieldhouse in Kent

Two panel discussions with Q&A

- **Panel 1: Improving Reliability in the Electrical System**
- **Panel 2: Workflow Efficiency: From Concept to Finished Robot**

- Informal roundtable after the panel discussions

Water, soda and snacks provided. Welcome to bring own drinks

21+ only

More details can be found in the FIRSTWA FRC Blog sent out on Tuesday

Sign up using this Google form

Contact Darren Collins dcollins@tahomasd.us with questions

Have your students & parents join our mailing list

- To keep updated as to what is happening in the PNW FRC World
- So you don't have to remember to relay important information!
- The information is more community based (social events, workshops, outreach opportunities, scholarship opportunities, internship opportunities)

You can sign up from our blog page here: https://firstwa.org/frc-blog/

General questions are now welcome

- Ask us anything you need help with!
- Chat with your fellow coaches to collaborate/commiserate