

# SBM First Lego League Team Sign-Up

SBM students may sign up for the SBM First Lego League (FLL) team and participate in FLL team work sessions after school and during allotted school hours by agreeing to the conditions listed below. Participation in this program is optional. Students may “opt-in” by initialing next to each item and signing below:

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read the attached FLL Core Values together with the definitions of “gracious professionalism” and “coopertition.” I will participate as a team member consistently with these core values.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that only a fortunate few students in Montana get to participate in the FLL program and state championship. The program is a significant financial investment and takes a lot of valuable professional time to put together. Accordingly, I will do my best to get the most out of this special opportunity.

\_\_\_\_\_ One core value of the FLL program is, “We have FUN!” I expect that doing my best work to meet the “Trash Trek” challenge with my team will be fun for me (e.g., doing the research project, designing and programming the robot).

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that my FLL coaches are volunteers who are dedicated to the SBM team and to the “Trash Trek” challenge. I will respect the valuable time and efforts of my coaches and my teammates by staying dedicated and attentive to the FLL challenge and to the vital coach/team dialogue that occurs during work sessions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student’s name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent’s name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

# First Lego League Core Values

The FLL Core Values are the cornerstones of the FLL program. They are among the fundamental elements that distinguish FLL from other programs of its kind. By embracing the Core Values, participants learn that friendly competition and mutual gain are not separate goals, and that helping one another is the foundation of teamwork.

- We are a team.
- We do the work to find solutions with guidance from our coaches and mentors.
- We know our coaches and mentors don't have all the answers; we learn together.
- We honor the spirit of friendly competition.
- What we discover is more important than what we win.
- We share our experiences with others.
- We display Gracious Professionalism<sup>®</sup> and Coopertition<sup>®</sup> in everything we do.
- We have FUN!

## Gracious Professionalism<sup>®</sup>

Dr. Woodie Flowers, *FIRST* National Advisor and Pappalardo Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, coined the term "Gracious Professionalism<sup>®</sup>."

Gracious Professionalism is part of the ethos of *FIRST*. It's a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community.

With Gracious Professionalism, fierce competition and mutual gain are not separate notions. Gracious professionals learn and compete like crazy, but treat one another with respect and kindness in the process. They avoid treating anyone like losers. No chest thumping tough talk, but no sticky-sweet platitudes either. Knowledge, competition, and empathy are comfortably blended.

In the long run, Gracious Professionalism is part of pursuing a meaningful life. One can add to society and enjoy the satisfaction of knowing one has acted with integrity and sensitivity.

## Coopertition<sup>®</sup>

Coopertition<sup>®</sup> produces innovation. At *FIRST*, Coopertition is displaying unqualified kindness and respect in the face of fierce competition. Coopertition is founded on the concept and a philosophy that teams can and should help and cooperate with each other even as they compete.

Coopertition involves learning from teammates. It is teaching teammates. It is learning from Mentors. And it is managing and being managed. Coopertition means competing always, but assisting and enabling others when you can.

**Source:** FLL <http://www.firstlegoleague.org/mission/corevalues>  
<http://www.usfirst.org/aboutus/gracious-professionalism>