







**SPRINGBORO ROBOTICS** is an extracurricular activity that uses the **FIRST® LEGO® League Challenge** program to build student interest in the STEM subjects. **FIRST® LEGO® League (FLL)** is a partnership between the non-profit group **FIRST®** (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science & Technology) and the **LEGO®** company. This program promotes team building, problem solving, creativity, and analytical thinking with a hands-on philosophy that incorporates the **LEGO® Mindstorms™** technology. Students strategize, design, build, program, experiment, test and refine a fully autonomous robot capable of completing pre-assigned missions. Teams also research a predefined scientific subject and develop a presentation on a specific topic in that field. The season culminates with a regional tournament. Top performing teams may be invited to district, state, and international tournaments.

### **Frequently Asked Questions about FLL and Springboro Robotics**

**Q: How old do I need to be to participate in Springboro Robotics FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Challenge program?**

**A:** FLL Challenge is open to all students in 4<sup>st</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> grade whose birthdate is on or after Jan. 1, 2012.

**Q: How often will my team meet?**

**A:** This is up to the team. The most successful teams meet 2 - 3 times a week for about 90+ minutes per meeting.

**Q: How long does the season last?**

**A:** The **FIRST LEGO League** season officially kicks off in August and concludes with a regional tournament in November/December and (if invited) district and state tournaments in January & February. Teams are more than welcome to begin meeting prior to August and/or continue meeting after their last competition. Many teams also attend training and outreach activities in the "off-season" (March - August).

**Q: My child plays with LEGO® all the time. Won't he or she be a natural in Springboro Robotics?**

**A:** Not necessarily. **FIRST LEGO League** is much more than building with LEGO. Construction is just one facet of FLL. Participants spend an equal amount of time programming, researching, and working on their teamwork skills. Additionally, our robot kits use LEGO Technics components which are considerably different than traditional LEGO bricks. The students who enjoy FLL the most are those who like scientific research and work well with others.

**Q: Can I participate in Springboro Robotics if I am in the marching band or play on the football team?**

**A:** Participation in activities other than Springboro Robotics is permitted, however the time commitment of activities like football and the marching band make it very difficult to fully participate on a Springboro Robotics team.

**Q: How do I sign up to be on a Springboro Robotics team?**

**A:** Complete the attached application including the essay questions. Send the application to **SPRINGBORO ROBOTICS, 50 Wilkerson Ct, Springboro, OH 45066** with a check for **\$175** made out to "**Springboro Robotics**".

**Q: Can I be on a team with my friends?**

**A:** The best way to be teamed with your friends is to write their name(s) in the appropriate space on your application.

**Q: What if my child is not selected to be on a Springboro Robotics team?**

**A:** Springboro Robotics has limited resources (coaches, robot kits, practice tables, computers, etc.). Consequently, applicant acceptance is not guaranteed. Priority will be given to coaches' children and applications received before **May 22, 2026**. The program director and coaches have the final say in the selection of the teams. If your child is not selected to be on a team, the participation fee will be refunded in full.

**Q: Where can I find out more about Springboro Robotics and FIRST® LEGO® League.**

**A:** **Springboro Robotics** - [www.borobots.com](http://www.borobots.com)  
**FIRST® LEGO® League** - [www.firstlegoleague.org](http://www.firstlegoleague.org) and [www.firstinspires.org](http://www.firstinspires.org)  
**Ohio FLL** - <http://edoutreach.wpafb.af.mil/ohfll.html>

**Q: What if I have questions that are not answered in this F.A.Q. or on the websites?**

**A:** Questions should be directed to the Springboro Robotics Program Director at [info@borobots.org](mailto:info@borobots.org).