

Indiana State FIRST Lego League Award Overview

The 2003 FLL International Awards represent the true values and focus of FLL internationally. Children, regardless of what country they are from, or what type of tournament event they compete in, will be judged using this group of awards, ultimately leading to a recognized standard of excellence for all FLL teams.

Award Categories

The 2003 FLL Awards are divided into four main categories:

1. **Technical**
2. **Team Performance**
3. **Special Recognition**
4. **Judge's Awards**

Each of the four categories contains several individual awards. All tournament organizers are required to present the Technical and Team Performance Awards; other award categories are presented at the discretion of the organizers. The Technical and Team Performance Awards along with a new component FLL Values are used to determine the **Director's Award** candidates. (For more information on FLL Values and the Director's Award, please see below.) In addition, all state tournament participants receive a FLL Medallion to signify his or her accomplishments, both on and off the Competition Field

Detailed Award Descriptions

Technical Awards (25% of Director's Award)

A winning design is predicated on three distinct elements: innovative design, robust design, and programming elements; which in conjunction with one another, make a robot and its team of designers, programmers, and builders stand out. State tournaments may choose to award a single Robot Design Award or break the Robot Design Award into three separate award categories. At the Indiana State Tournament technical awards will be given in the three distinct areas listed below:

- **Robot Innovative Design Award**
 - This award is presented to the team that best demonstrates its ability to use a creative design, component or unique strategy of play for the most original approach when solving the Challenge missions.
- **Robot Robust Design Award**
 - This award is presented to the team that best demonstrates its understanding and application of sound mechanical principles, producing the most solid consistent, and dependable robot.
- **Robot Programming Award**
 - This award is presented to the team that understands and applies sound programming principles, creating an effective and efficient program to run the robot.

Robot Performance Award (25% of Director's Award)

This award is based on the score the team achieves on the competition field. Each team in the Indiana State Tournament will have 3 rounds of robot performance and the best score of these rounds will be used to determine the team that wins this award.

Team Performance Awards

Research Presentation Award: (25% of Director's Award) This award is based on the quality of the research, innovative solutions, and creative presentation that best reflects an in-depth understanding of the various scientific disciplines and issues involved with the Challenge Research Assignment. The three criteria that are examined by the judges are:

- **Research Quality** – The use and understanding of diverse resources used to formulate an in-depth and thorough explanation of the teams' point of view and solution to the Research Assignment.
- **Innovative Solution** – Thought provoking and innovative resolution, including how and why it was chosen.
- **Creative Presentation** – An imaginative, creative presentation demonstrating the team's research and solution.

On the day of the tournament, each team will have 5 minutes to present its research findings to the judge panel. There are endless possibilities and creative ways to present the Research Assignment such as skits, formal presentations, and demonstrations to name a few. Judges will also look for the team's ability to have more than one or all team members participating. Look for how the team does the following:

- Clearly and accurately outlines and understands all aspects of the problem
- Addresses the potential impacts if the problem is not resolved
- Captures the judges' attention with the presentation
- Presents the solution, using robotics technology, and shows how it assists in resolving the problem
- Shows creativity and innovation in its solutions

Teamwork Award: (25% of Director's Award) Team work is the key ingredient in the success of any team. The teamwork award is presented to teams that demonstrate extraordinary enthusiasm and spirit, exceptional partnership, and the utmost respect to its own teammates and in its support and encouragement of fellow teams. The team receiving this trophy demonstrates the following:

- Confidence, energy and enthusiasm
- Problem solving skills
- Understanding and respect of others
- Team interaction and group dynamics

Judges will meet each team at the designated time on the schedule for an informal discussion of how they have

Judge's Awards: (These awards do not contribute to the determination of the Director's Award)

Rookie Award: Recognizing a new team that rises above and beyond first year expectations. Judges examine the major scores of rookie teams across many categories to determine which team has shown excellence over all.

Against All Odds Award: This award is given to the team that rises about the worst situation and improvises, adapts, overcomes and still makes a respectable showing. Teams are asked to submit a request to be considered for this award plus a one page description summarizing the experiences that make them eligible for this award. These short summaries are read by the judge. The judge will also interview each team in making a determination of the winner.

Team Spirit Award: This award recognizes the team that is the most enthusiastic. Judges will observe teams throughout the day noting their spirit in cheering for their team mates and supporting the efforts of other teams as well. A positive attitude and expression of respect for other teams is also a component of this award. Judges will also consider recommendations from judges in other categories for this award.

Judge's Award: This is an optional award at the discretion of the competition director and is reserved for teams that don't quite fit a specific award category; however, they are deserving of recognition for their unusual performance.

Director's Award

Director's Award Overview: The Director's Award is the most prestigious award that any team can win. Teams considered for this award are those that perform well in all of the major award categories.

Key Elements: The Director's Award encompasses the four key elements of the Technical and Team Performance Awards – Robot Design, Robot Performance Score, Research Presentation, and Teamwork and a new area of consideration – FLL Values – which honors the team's understanding and practice of the true meaning of FIRST and FLL.

FLL Values: The FLL experience is more than building robots or attending competitions. The FLL experience begins with the robot, but the most important element defines how the team members unite to form a team and how the program impacts each member as an individual and as a team member. The Director's Award celebrates the ultimate success of the FIRST mission and FLL Values. It measures how the team members inspire and motivate others regarding the accessibility, excitement, and the wonders of science, technology and engineering while demonstrating respect, encouragement and continued gracious professionalism. The winning team receives the honor of serving as a valued role model for the FIRST and FIRST LEGO® League Program.

Weighting of Elements: The components of the Technical and Team Performance categories are weighted equally, using the FLL Values as the final determining factor of the winning team of this award.