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Asia Pacific Open Championship

UNEARTHED 2026 Team Event Guide

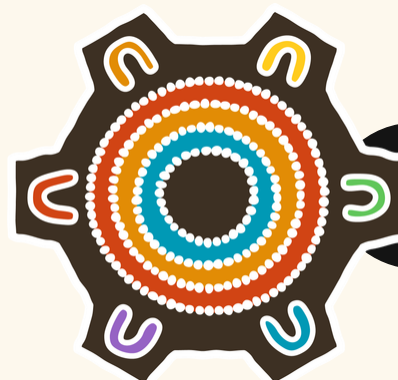


Version 1.5 | May 2026



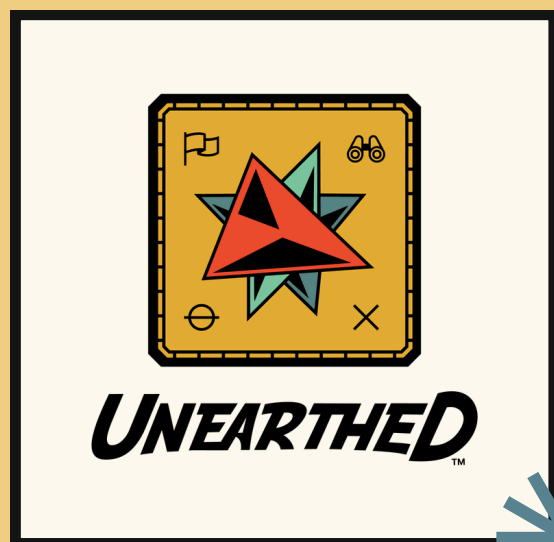


G'day mate!



FIRST Australia and Macquarie University proudly welcome all teams, coaches and guests to the 2026 Asia Pacific Open Championship. This is an official FIRST event.

We have teams from over 28 different countries attending this event. Friendly Coopertition® and Gracious Professionalism® will be at the heart of this competition.



This event is part of the 2025 - 2026 UNEARTHED season.

In addition to the tournament, we hope to share with you some of our beautiful country and culture and in return learn about yours!

Let the games begin!





Asia Pacific Open Championship

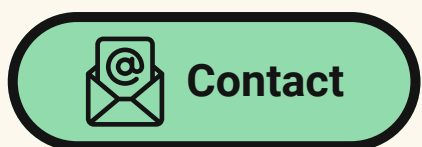
At a glance



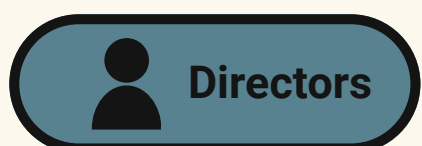
Thursday 9th – Sunday 12th July 2026



Macquarie University – Wallumattagal Campus,
Balaclava Rd, Macquarie Park NSW 2109



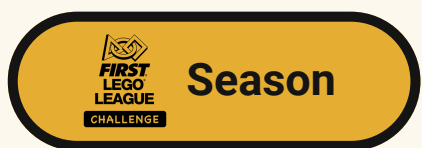
FIRST Australia FLL Team
Email: fll@mq.edu.au



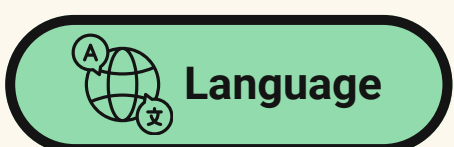
James Dwyer (FLL Program Lead, *FIRST* Australia)
William de Lima (Manager, *FIRST* Australia)
Ciaran Treatt (FLL Program Support Officer, *FIRST* Australia)



<https://www.firstaustralia.org/first-lego-league-apoc>



UNEARTHED 2025 – 2026 UNEARTHED™



The official language of the event is English. This means that all presentations and reports must be written in English, and all communication with judges, referees, volunteers and crew will be in English. Teams may bring a translator to the event to assist with communication, including during the judging session. Please see the Accessibility section for more information.





Getting event ready:

Team checklist



REGISTER AND PAY

All teams, including team members, coaches and any supporting staff must be registered and paid for via the official payment portal ([click here](#)) by Wednesday 20th May. Please reach out if you require any assistance in registering your teams.



TRAVEL LOGISTICS

Passports, visas, flights and accommodation

Please ensure you have all your documents, including flights, accommodation and travel details, arranged for your team's attendance at the Asia Pacific Open Championship. The team at *FIRST* Australia are able to assist teams with a visa support letter if needed. Please submit your team's visa information to the [support letter Google form](#) and the team will reach out to your lead coaches with an official support letter as soon as possible.



CONSENT AND RELEASE

All paid participants must complete and provide a [FIRST Australia Consent and Release form](#). These forms must be submitted at team registration on Thursday morning.



PARKING PERMIT

Free parking is available for all attendees in the general parking zones of Macquarie University campus. A parking form will be sent out closer to the event.





CULTURAL NIGHT REGISTRATION

Don't forget to submit your team's proposal for the Cultural Night showcase! Please submit your team's activity via the **Cultural Night Team Proposal form** ahead of the deadline on **Wednesday 17th June**.



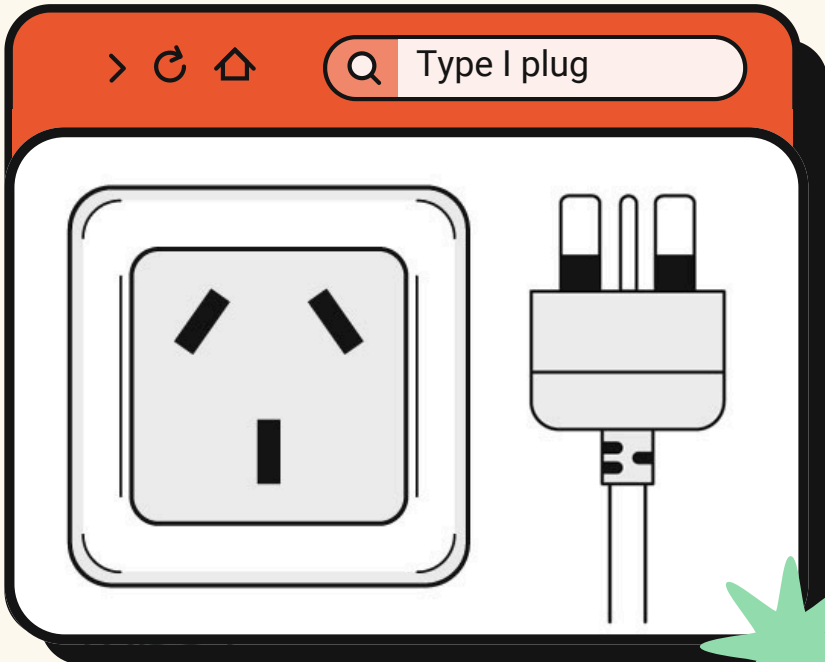
COACHES AWARD NOMINATION

Whilst "kids do the work" here at *FIRST*, we know that attending an international event wouldn't be possible without the hard work and dedication of the team coach. Teams can show their gratitude for their coaches by ensuring they complete the Coaches Award Nomination Form. Please check back for further details closer to the event.



POWER ADAPTERS

- **Power:** Australian electricity runs on 220-240V and 50Hz. Please make sure your electronics accept 220-240 volts (V).
- **Plug adapter:** The Australian plug or socket type is I, which is the plug with three flat pins in a triangular pattern (see diagram opposite).





The venue:

Macquarie University

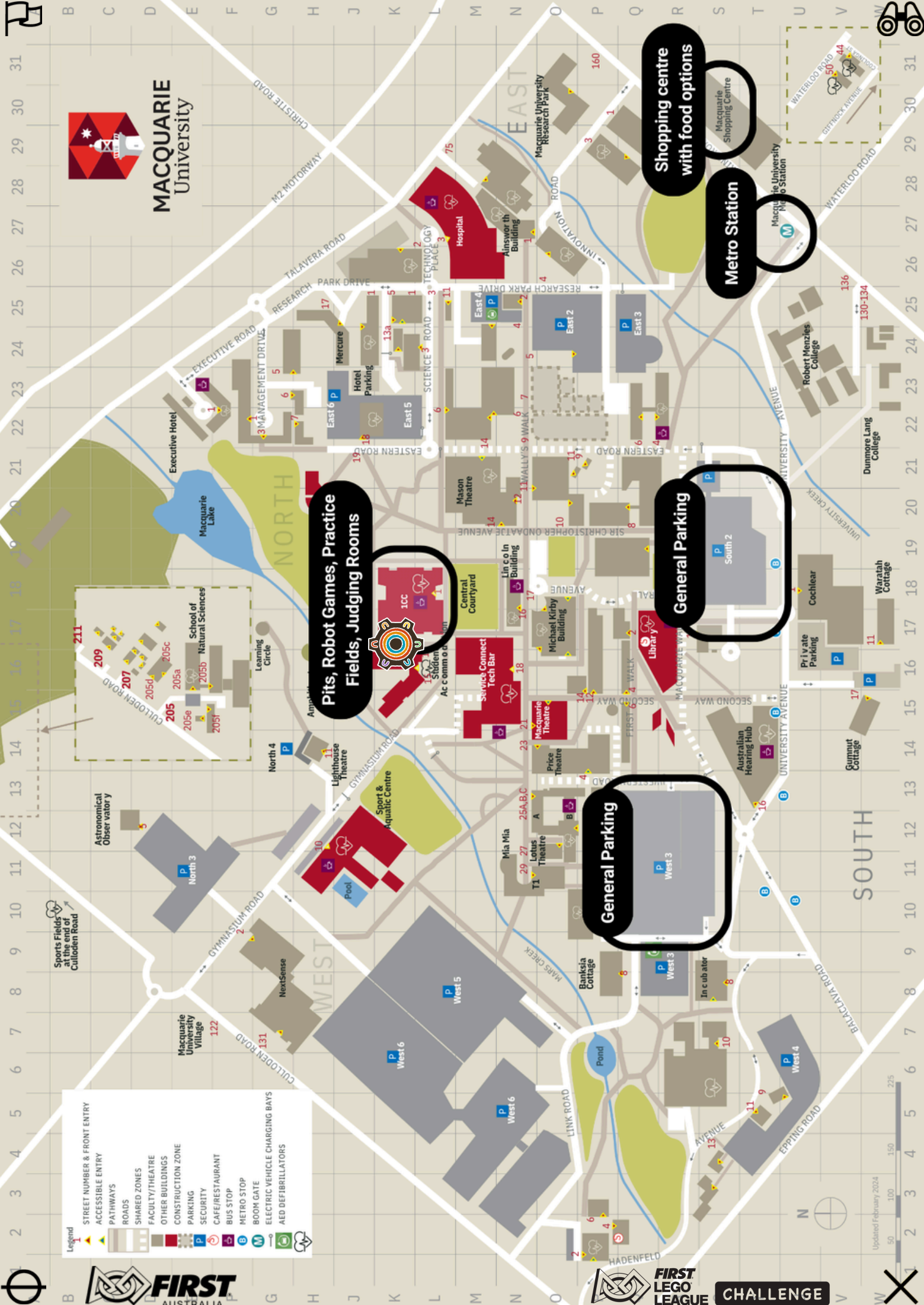
The 2026 *FIRST* LEGO League Asia Pacific Open Championship will be held at Macquarie University - Wallumattagal Campus in sunny Sydney, Australia.

Macquarie University recognises the custodianship of the land on which our campus is situated – the Wallumattagal clan of the Dharug Nation – and pays respect to their Aboriginal Elders past, present and future. Macquarie University acknowledges the important contribution of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to our University and respects and takes pride in the knowledges of the world's oldest continuous living cultures.

The team pit areas, robot games, judging sessions and team activities, including Cultural Night, will take place in and around **1 Central Courtyard**. All locations are marked on the **campus map** on the following page.

The Opening and Closing Ceremonies will take place at the **Michael Egan Hall** (located underneath 1 Central Courtyard). Please keep an eye out for our friendly volunteers who will be happy to direct you!





Legend

- 1 STREET NUMBER & FRONT ENTRY
- ACCESSIBLE ENTRY
- PATHWAYS
- ROADS
- SHARED ZONES
- FACULTY/THEATRE
- OTHER BUILDINGS
- CONSTRUCTION ZONE
- PARKING
- SECURITY
- CAFE/RESTAURANT
- BUS STOP
- METRO STOP
- BOOM GATE
- ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING BAYS
- AED DEFIBRILLATORS



Pits, Robot Games, Practice Fields, Judging Rooms

General Parking

Shopping centre with food options

Metro Station

General Parking

Updated February 2024



The teams: **Directory**

Looking for a particular team? Search no further!

All teams competing at the 2026 Asia Pacific Open Championship can be found in the following directory. The pit maps (Pit A and Pit B) are included in the following pages.



APOC Team #	Team Name	Country	Pit
2601	Crash Rovers	South Africa	A
2602	Buderim Circuit Crew	Australia	A
2603	Ancient Diggers	New Zealand	A
2604	Techy T-Rex's	Canada	A
2605	EAC GroundBreakers	Australia	A
2606	Chicks Before Bricks	Australia	A
2607	Luminosa Aurora	Japan	A
2608	YAMANASHIGAKUIN-TAKERUS	Japan	A
2609	New Zealand Kiwi Blackbots	New Zealand	A
2610	Hakuna Matata We Lego	Sweden	A
2611	Radiant	Chinese Taipei	A
2612	Huntsman	Malaysia	A





APOC Team #	Team Name	Country	Pit
2613	Zion-X Assassins	Malaysia	A
2614	Jaguares Landáu	Mexico	A
2615	HNI Blackbots	New Zealand	A
2616	GEEK CANAÃ	Brazil	A
2617	Thinking Inside the Box	USA	A
2618	AC Institute	Australia	A
2619	Strg+R(obotics)	Austria	A
2620	Cybercore	Chile	A
2621	ArchaeoNova WSHN	Vietnam	A
2622	GarsControl Senior	Germany	A
2623	Rocky Team Franklin	France	A
2624	WSHN.NUMITROCO	Vietnam	A
2625	Abyss Unearthed Explorers	Philippines	A
2626	RoboRelix	United Arab Emirates	A
2627	The Griffin Bots	France	A





APOC Team #	Team Name	Country	Pit
2628	Hawks Mechanics	Honduras	A
2629	Flamingo Rhapsody 2.0	Australia	A
2630	Beam Bots	USA	A
2631	Project Bucephalus	Australia	A
2632	Dobby's Sock	Australia	A
2633	Robocoe	Brazil	A
2634	InvestigaTorres	Mexico	A
2635	SmegoBots	Greece	A
2636	Gandialab Team	Spain	A
2637	Top Class	South Korea	A
2638	NP3	South Korea	A
2639	PHOENIX BOT TEAM	Türkiye	A
2640	RZ81	China	B
2641	INVENTIFORCE	Romania	B
2642	Pixel Pi-oneers	South Africa	B
2643			B





At a glance: **Schedule**

Thursday 9th July

Friday 10th July

8:00 AM

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

12:00 PM

1:00 PM

2:00 PM

3:00 PM

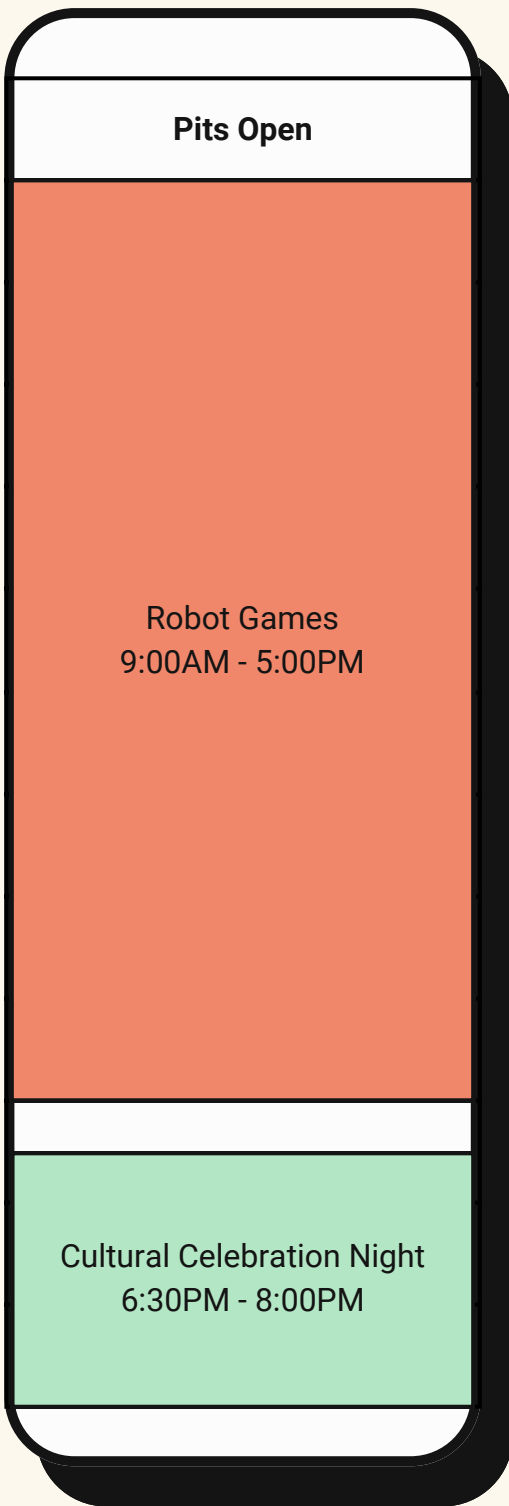
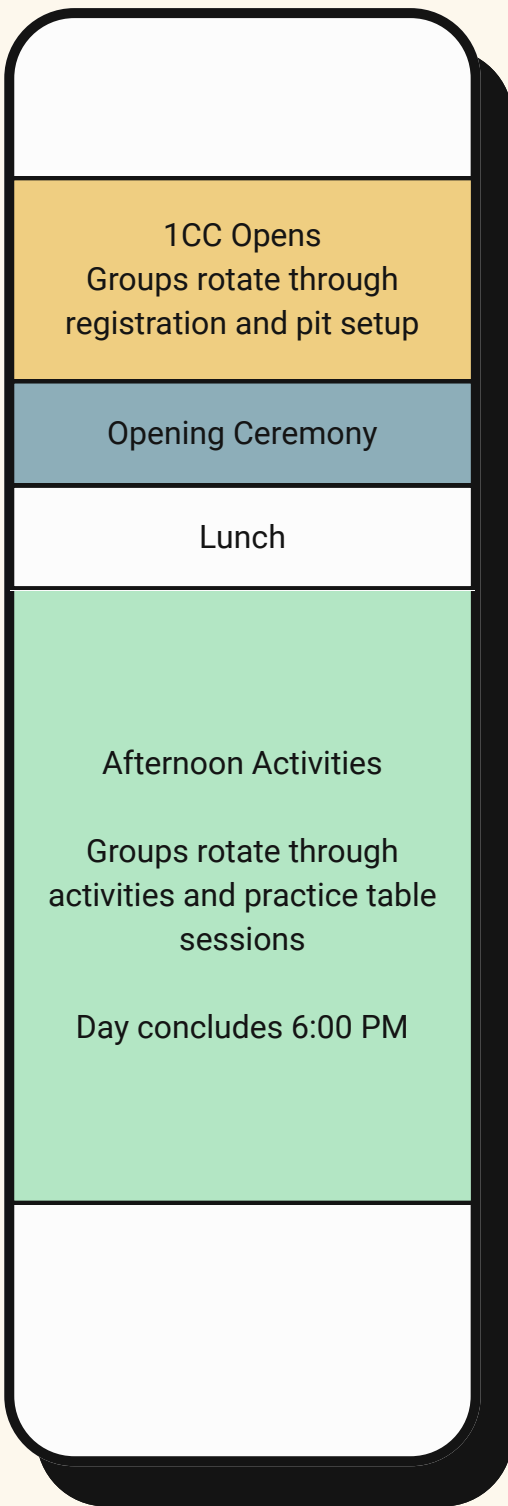
4:00 PM

5:00 PM

6:00 PM

7:00 PM

8:00 PM





At a glance: **Schedule**

Saturday 11th July

Sunday 12th July

8:00 AM
9:00 AM
10:00 AM
11:00 AM
12:00 PM
1:00 PM
2:00 PM
3:00 PM
4:00 PM
5:00 PM
6:00 PM
7:00 PM
8:00 PM

Pits Open

Judging Sessions
9:00AM - 3:00PM

Team Alliance Challenge
preparation throughout day

Travel to Sydney Harbour

Sydney Harbour Boat Cruise
6:00PM - 9:00PM

Pits Open

Team Alliance Challenge
Playoffs

Closing Ceremony 1:00PM
Michael Egan Hall

Tournament concludes -
teams bump out





Thursday

9th July



CHECK-IN

Check-in and pit setup will take place at **9am** on **Thursday 9th July**. Teams will arrive at **1 Central Courtyard** and make their way to the check-in desk at **Level 1**. Our lovely volunteers will then direct teams to their check-in room. Check-in will be done on a rotation between three groups. During check-in, teams will submit all their participant consent forms and receive their team pack, including APOC merchandise and access to team schedules. For more details regarding check in, please see the **registration page**.

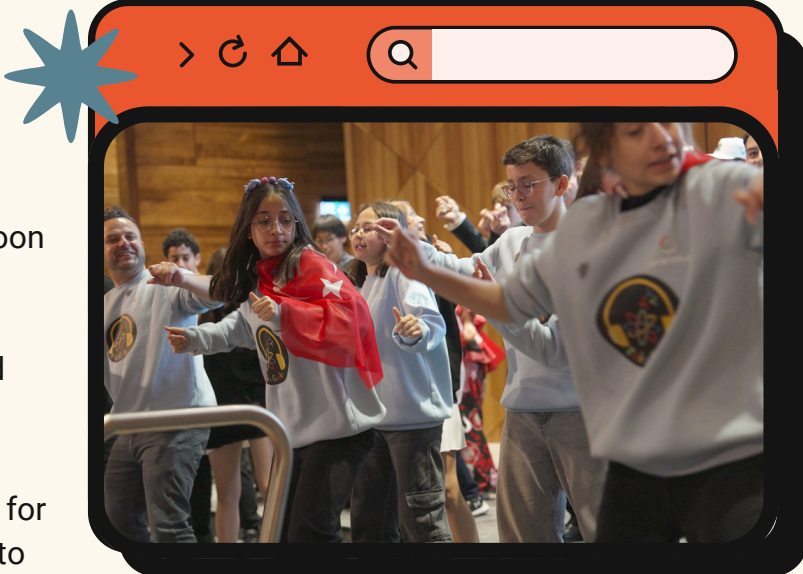
OPENING CEREMONY

The Opening Ceremony will take place at **11am** in the **Michael Egan Hall** and will include a Welcome to Country ceremony. Now the competition can get underway!

ACTIVITIES

Get ready for an afternoon full of fun, energy and surprises! This year's afternoon activities will include a **mix of entertainment and team challenges** designed to bring everyone together and celebrate the spirit of APOC.

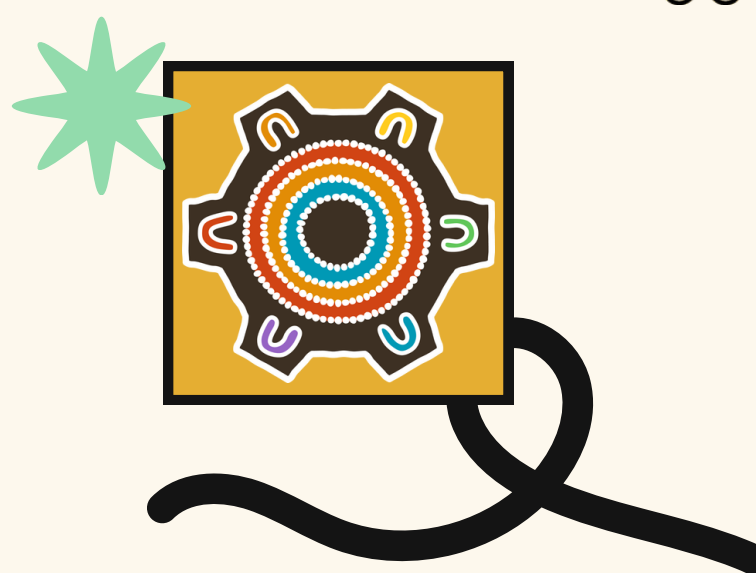
From high-energy performances to interactive games, there'll be something for everyone to enjoy. Teams will be split into three groups based on coloured wristbands and will rotate through the activities. **More details to come** – but rest assured, it's going to be a night to remember!





Friday

10th July



COACHES MEETING

The Coaches Meeting will take place at **8:15am on Friday 10th July**. All teams must send at least one adult team representative to the Coaches Meeting. Here, coaches will hear from our National Judge Advisor, Mel Blake, and National Head Referee, Fred Westling. Coaches will have the opportunity to ask questions and clarify matters relating to both the robot game and judging process.

ROBOT GAMES

All Robot Games will take place on **Friday** from **9:00am – 5:00pm**. Teams will be provided with a digital schedule that will include 1 practice round and 3 game rounds. For more information on the difference between practice and official rounds, please see the Robot Games section.

Teams must be present at the competition table 10 minutes prior to their round! Coaches are permitted to join the team on the competition floor, but will have to stand outside the marked area. No active directing from coaches is permitted. Practice tables will be located on Level 1 of 1CC. Please abide by the practice table rules.

CULTURAL NIGHT



Did somebody say BINGO?
 While teams are exploring each other's cultures, we encourage you to have a good old Aussie yarn and find out more about them. Learn to say hello, recognise their flag or find it on a map. Mark it off your Bingo card and once you are complete, bring it back to Pit Admin to claim your prize.

You've experienced the wonders of Australia, now it's time to share with us a little bit about your culture! A song, a dance, some food, a game – each team will have the opportunity to share something about their country with other teams.

For more information, please see the Team Activities section.





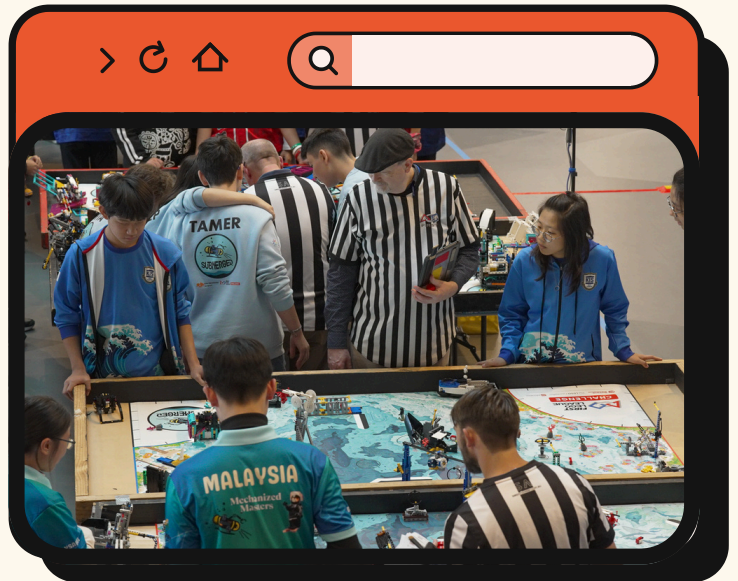
Saturday

11th July

JUDGING

All judging will take place on **Saturday 11th July** between **9:00am and 3:00pm**.

Judging will be conducted as per the official *FIRST* LEGO League rules. Each team will have a 30 minute judging session to present their Innovation Project, Robot Design and Core Values. Teams can review the [Judging Session Flowchart here](#).



TEAM ALLIANCE CHALLENGE

When you are not preparing for or participating in your judging session, join your alliance team as you develop a two-team game strategy for a Robot Game never seen before! Each team will be paired with another competing team for the Alliance Challenge. Teams will receive their alliance team information ahead of the event so that teams have a chance to get to know each other and share their experience in the season so far.

HARBOUR BOAT CRUISE

Bring your best clothes and your dancing shoes. It's time to party!



Dance the night away or kick back and relax as we celebrate the end of the official competition and judging portions of the Asia Pacific Open Championship with a **leisurely boat cruise around Sydney Harbour**. Make friends with other teams, capture memories in the green screen photo booth and request your favourite songs from the DJ as you enjoy the scenic harbour and complimentary food and drink.





Sunday

12th July



TEAM ALLIANCE CHALLENGE PLAYOFFS

It's time to put your Innovation, Engineering and Core Values to the test! In this challenge, teams will be paired with another participating team to work together on a Robot Game challenge never seen before. Teams will work together on **Saturday 11th July** to develop their game strategy and will put their skills to the test in the **Team Alliance Challenge Playoffs** on **Sunday 12th July**. For more information about the Alliance Challenge, please see the Team Activities section.

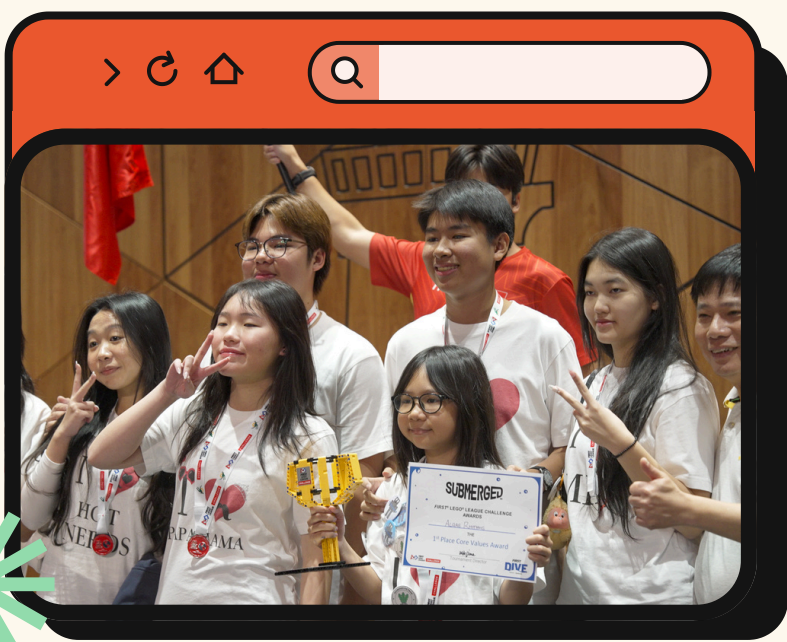
CLOSING CEREMONY

After four full days of fun, games and friendship, it's time to hand out the Asia Pacific Open Championship trophies.

The Closing and Awards Ceremony will take place in the **Michael Egan Hall** underneath 1 Central Courtyard. Please make your way to the hall upon the completion of the Alliance Challenge Playoffs and get ready to cheer each other on as we celebrate all your hard work throughout the season!

For a complete list of all awards we will be handing out at the 2026 Asia Pacific Open Championship, please see the Awards section.


Thanks for competing!








Season Enrichment Day: The Big Biodiversity Quest


Event overview: Monday 13th July

 Monday 13th July 2026

 8:30am – 4:30pm

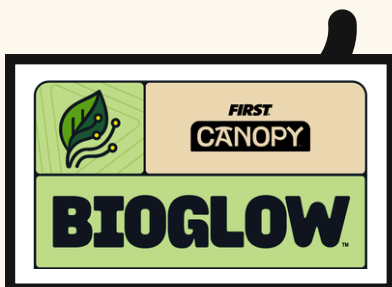
 Macquarie University, Sydney

 \$30 AUD per person (on top of initial APOC registration)

 Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will all be provided at no additional cost

What can I expect?

- Students gain a valuable head start on developing ideas for their 2026-2027 Innovation Projects
- Explore how science, technology and innovation can help protect and strengthen our natural world
- Teams rotate through a series of interactive, hands-on experiences led by Macquarie University researchers and STEM leaders
- Activities may include exploring frog ecosystems and disease, experimenting with autonomous boat technologies, engaging in design thinking challenges and investigating biodiversity through robotics and field-based learning
- Dynamic experiences such as a biodiversity scavenger hunt and “Speed Date a Scientist”, providing direct access to researchers and industry experts



Stay an extra day after the excitement of APOC 2026 and dive into next season’s challenge before anyone else!

The Big Biodiversity Quest is a full-day enrichment experience for students attending FLL APOC. Designed as a launchpad into the upcoming *FIRST* Canopy season, this event will give students a valuable headstart on developing ideas for their Innovation Projects ahead of the August season launch.





Centred on *FIRST* Canopy, a bold biodiversity-themed challenge, students will explore how science, technology, and innovation can help protect and strengthen our natural world. Across the day, students will rotate through a series of interactive, hands-on experiences led by Macquarie University researchers and STEM experts.



Activities are designed to spark curiosity, build understanding, and generate real-world problem-solving ideas. These may include exploring frog ecosystems and disease, experimenting with autonomous boat technologies, engaging in design thinking challenges, and investigating biodiversity through robotics and field-based learning. Students will also take part in dynamic experiences such as a biodiversity scavenger hunt and “Speed Date a Scientist”, providing direct access to researchers and industry experts.

The Quest showcases Macquarie University’s leadership in environmental science and sustainability – ranked in the Top 10 in Australia, ranked 50th globally in the 2025 Times Higher Education Impact Rankings (aligned to the UN Sustainable Development Goals), and ranked 6th in the world in the 2025 QS GEO Rankings (and Australia’s best campus). Through experiencing Australia’s rich biodiversity first-hand and engaging with world-class researchers, students gain deeper insight into STEM, conservation, and sustainability pathways, inspiring future study and careers across science, engineering, and environmental fields.

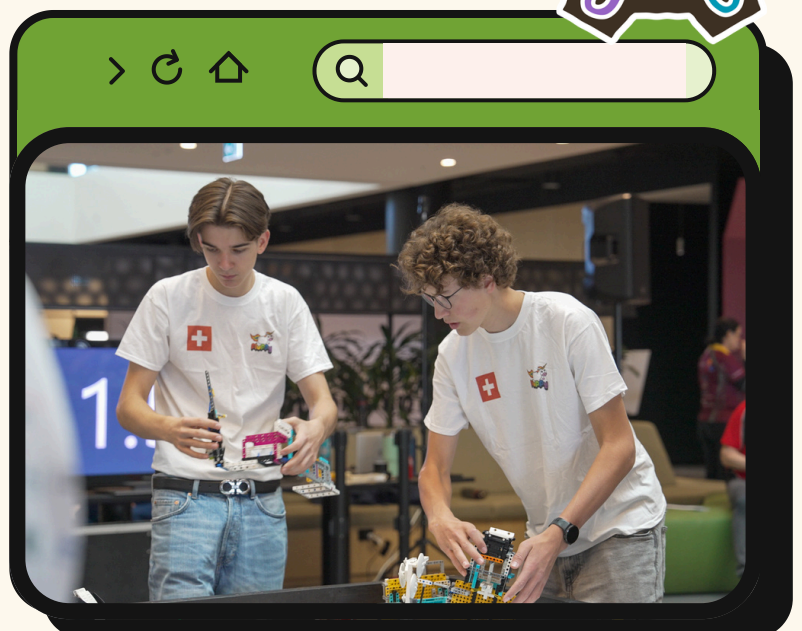
Why take part?

- Get a head start on next season’s Innovation Project!
- Extend your team’s season learning beyond the competition
- Engage directly with university researchers and STEM professionals
- Experience Australia’s unique learning environments
- Strengthen teamwork, creativity, and critical thinking
- Inspire future study pathways across science, engineering and related fields



Register now!

Register via the Payment Portal:
<https://payments.mq.edu.au/FLLAPOC2026BIODIVERSITY>



CHALLENGE





Key information:

Team registration



CHECK-IN

Team check-in will take place from 9am, Thursday 9th July on Level 1 of 1 Central Courtyard, Macquarie University.

Teams will be allocated to one of three groups and rotate through registration and pit set-up from 9am on Thursday morning. **Please keep an eye out for communications from the *FIRST Australia* team closer to the event with your team's group information and start time.**

At check-in, teams will submit their team consent forms for all paid participants. Teams will then receive their team pack, which will include the following for all paid participants:

- Event T-shirt (one per participant)
- Event pin (one per participant)
- Coloured wristbands
- Digital access to team's event schedule via the 2026 Asia Pacific Open Championship event app

Following check-in, teams will have a chance to set up their pits ahead of the Opening Ceremony and afternoon activities.

WRISTBANDS

Each paid participant will receive a coloured wristband as part of the team pack.

This wristband must be worn throughout the event and is the individual's entry into multiple event activities. Please ensure you have your wristband on at all times, as anyone not wearing their wristband will be refused entry. Your team's wristband colour will also determine the times and locations of event activities that your team attends.





The Tournament



ROBOT GAMES

All Robot Games will take place on Friday 10th July.

Each team will be allocated one practice round and three official rounds. Your highest score will be used to determine your ranking for the Robot Performance Award.

Robot Games will be overseen by our Australian National Head Referee, **Fred Westling**.

JUDGING SESSIONS

All Judging Sessions will take place on Saturday 11th July.

All teams are expected to present to the judges in the official language of the event (English), or provide their own interpreter.

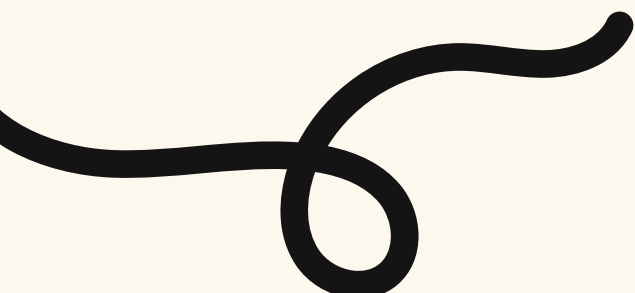
Judging at the Asia Pacific Open Championship will follow the FIRST LEGO League Official Guidelines. Judging sessions will follow the standard 30 minute Judging Session Flowchart. Teams should prepare to share with the judging panel their Innovation Project, Robot Design and reflect on how they have demonstrated the FIRST Core Values this season.

The judging process will be overseen by our Australian National Judge Advisor, **Mel Blake**.

Timing

All teams are required to make their way to the judging check-in desk at least **10 minutes prior** to their scheduled judging session.

The judging check-in desk is located on **Level 2, 1 Central Courtyard** at the top of the stairs, near the elevators.





Logistics: HDMI display

Each judging room has access to a projector to display information on-screen.

- Connection to projector screens is via HDMI.
- Teams are required to provide their own device and cable to present.
- It is recommended that teams who will be utilising the screens gain access to the judging room prior to Saturday to test the connection. Please notify **Pit Admin**, who will advise you of a suitable time to gain access.

Accessibility: Additional support and sunflower lanyards

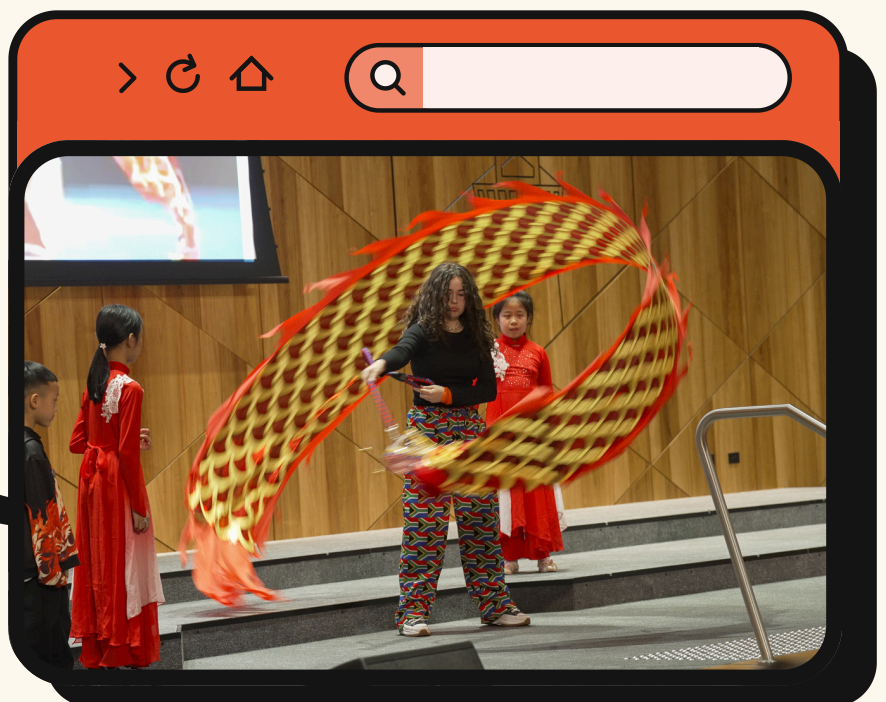
If you have team members with additional support needs, we recommend that you provide this information to *FIRST* Australia at team registration so that the appropriate judges can be advised and make accommodations where necessary.

Please submit a document outlining the relevant support needs to the volunteers at team check-in on Thursday 9th July. *FIRST* Australia has two template documents that you may like to use, or teams are welcome to produce their own:

- **Additional Needs Letter – Template 1**
- **Additional Needs Letter – Template 2**



In addition to the suggested document, we will have **Hidden Disabilities sunflower lanyards available at team registration and Pit Admin.** The Hidden Disabilities sunflower lanyard is a simple tool for you to voluntarily share that you have a disability or condition that may not be immediately apparent.



CHALLENGE





Asia Pacific Open Championship

Awards



CHAMPION'S AWARD

1st, 2nd and 3rd place

This award celebrates a team that embodies the *FIRST* LEGO League Challenge experience, by fully embracing our Core Values while achieving excellence and innovation in Robot Performance, Robot Design and the Innovation Project.



CORE VALUES AWARD

1st, 2nd and 3rd place

This team displays extraordinary enthusiasm and spirit, knows they can accomplish more together than they could as individuals, and shows each other and their fellow teams respect at all times.



INNOVATION PROJECT AWARD

1st, 2nd and 3rd place

This team utilises diverse resources for their Innovation Project to help them gain a comprehensive understanding of their problem, have a creative, well-researched solution, and effectively communicate their findings to judges and the community.





ROBOT DESIGN AWARD

1st, 2nd and 3rd place

This team uses outstanding programming principles and solid engineering practices to develop a robot that is mechanically sound, durable, efficient and highly capable of performing Challenge missions.



ROBOT PERFORMANCE AWARD

1st, 2nd and 3rd place

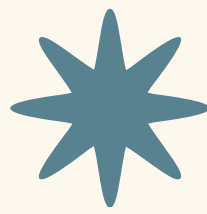
This award celebrates the team that scores the most points during the Robot Game. Teams have a chance to compete in at least three 2.5-minute matches, with their highest score counting for the award.



COACH AWARD

Coaches and mentors inspire their teams to do their best, both as individuals and together. Without them, there would be no *FIRST* LEGO League. This award goes to the coach or mentor whose leadership and guidance is clearly evident and best exemplifies the *FIRST* Core Values.

JUDGES' AWARDS



Engineering Excellence Award x 2

This award celebrates a team with an efficiently designed robot, an innovative project solution that effectively addresses the season challenge, and Core Values evident in all they do.





Breakthrough Award x 2

This award celebrates a team that made significant progress in their confidence and capability in at least one of the core areas of *FIRST* LEGO League.



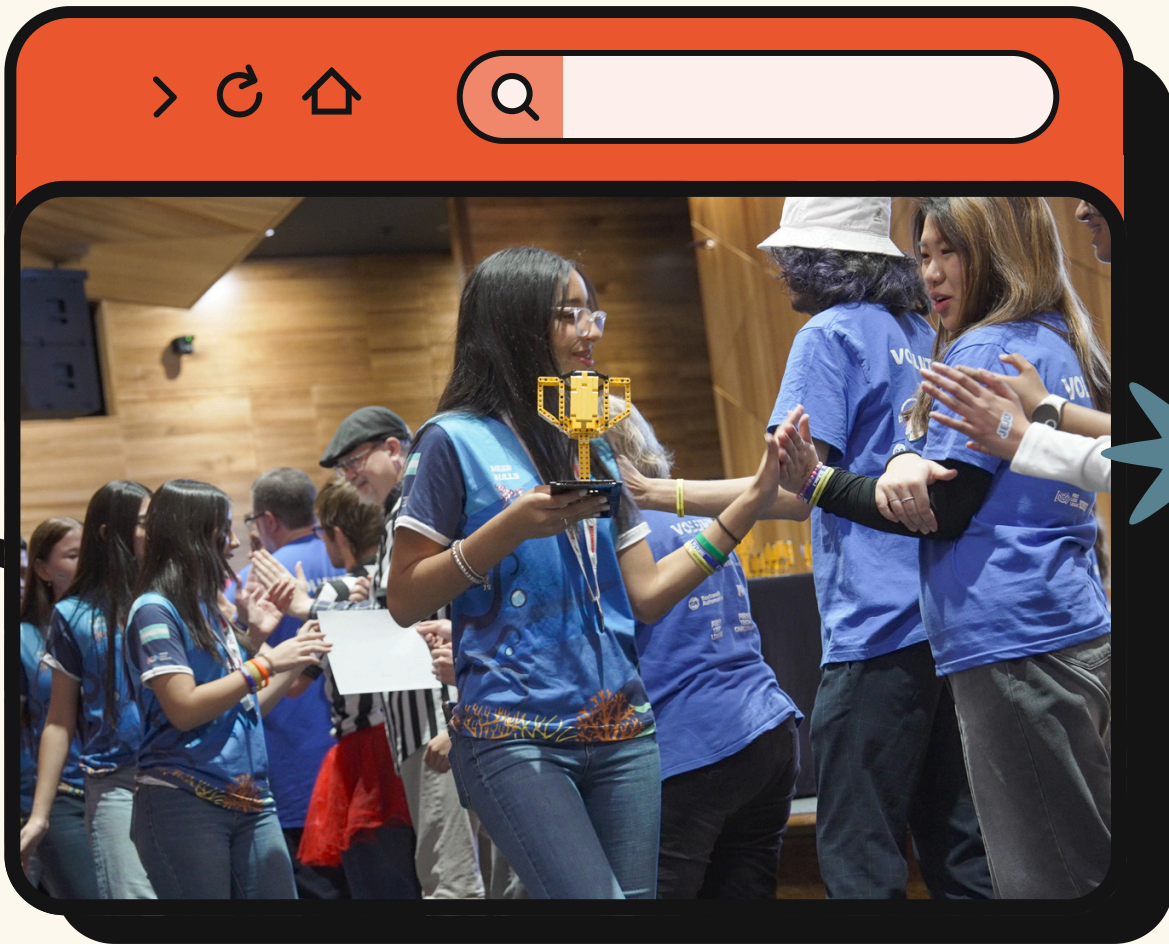
Rising All-Stars Award x 2

This award celebrates a team that the judges notice and expect great things from in the future.



Motivate Award x 2

This award celebrates a team that embraces the culture of *FIRST* LEGO League through team building, team spirit, and displayed enthusiasm.





Fun and friendship:

Team activities



AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES AND PRACTICE ROUNDS

Thursday 9th July 1:00PM – 6:00PM

Following the Opening Ceremony on Thursday 9th July, teams will take part in a mix of entertainment and team challenges designed to bring everyone together and celebrate the spirit of the Asia Pacific Open Championship.

From high-energy performances to interactive games, there will be something for everyone to enjoy! Alongside the activities, teams will also have the opportunity to take some time on the practice tables and prepare for a full day of Robot Games on Friday.

Teams will be split into three groups based on their coloured wristbands and will rotate through the activities.

CULTURAL NIGHT

Friday 10th July 6:30PM – 8:00PM

In the spirit of Gracious Professionalism and celebrating the diversity of the global *FIRST* community, teams are invited to participate in the APOC Cultural Celebration Night – a cherished tradition that brings teams together for a vibrant exchange of music, movement, storytelling, costumes and more.

This interactive evening is a highlight of the APOC experience and a unique opportunity for students to connect with peers from around the world in a night of friendship and fun.

Once your team has signed up to perform or present in Cultural Night, you will have the opportunity to share something unique about your country or culture through a short main-stage performance. Inspiration includes:

- Music or movement (e.g. traditional or modern dance)
- Storytelling or spoken word
- Traditional costumes or props





Performance guidelines



- Each performance should be **no more than 2 minutes long**.
- Content must be suitable for a family-friendly audience.
- Performances must take place on the main stage in front of all teams.
- AV equipment and a large screen will be available for video or audio playback.
- Teams must supply their own instruments, props or music files.
- If multiple teams are attending from the same country, we encourage collaboration. You can see team names and countries on the Directory page and reach out to FIRST Australia for coach contact information.

A full performance schedule will be shared at check-in and on the event app.

How do I submit my team's proposal?

Please fill in the following Google form ([link](#)) before the deadline on Wednesday 17th June. FIRST Australia staff will get in contact to confirm that your performance proposal has been approved.

SYDNEY HARBOUR BOAT CRUISE

Saturday 11th July 5:00PM – 10:00PM

Back by popular demand, we will be embarking on an exciting boat cruise around Sydney Harbour to celebrate the end of the official tournament days of the Asia Pacific Open Championship! Kick back and relax, grab a bite to eat or dance the night away with your new friends from around the world.

Teams will load onto buses according to their wristband colour and will **depart from West 5 carpark at 5:00PM**. Please keep an eye out for our friendly volunteers, who will usher teams to the awaiting coaches.

Dinner and non-alcoholic drinks will be included.

Important times to note:

- **Meet at West 5 carpark to load onto buses: 5:00PM**
- **Buses depart Macquarie University: 5:15PM**
- **Buses arrive at Sydney Harbour wharf: 6:00PM**
- **Boat cruise departs: 6:30PM**
- **Boat cruise returns to wharf: 9:30PM**
- **Buses back to Macquarie University depart Lime Street: 9:40PM**
- **Buses arrive back at Macquarie University: 10:25PM**



CHALLENGE





TEAM ALLIANCE CHALLENGE

Preparation: Saturday 11th July (all day)

Playoffs: Sunday 12th July 9:30AM – 11:30AM

Gracious Professionalism and friendly Coopertition are at the heart of everything we do at *FIRST*. What better way to display these Core Values than with a friendly Team Alliance Challenge?

In the Alliance Challenge, teams will be paired with one other team at the event to compete in a 2v2 UNEARTHED Robot Game like never before. You will receive the challenge on Saturday morning, and have the day to prepare whilst Judging Sessions are going on.

Alliances will be allocated a modified game table to work with their alliance, develop their game strategy, code and test their robots, practice their Gracious Professionalism and friendly Coopertition and, above all, have fun. Teams are **not required** to rebuild or alter their robots for this challenge – we encourage working together to come up with a strategy based on what each robot can already do!

After a day of practice and preparation on Saturday, alliances will be put to the test in the Team Alliance Challenge Playoffs on Sunday 12th July.

TEAM PIT AREAS

Each team will be allocated a dedicated pit in one of two pit areas.

The dimensions of the team pit areas are as follows:

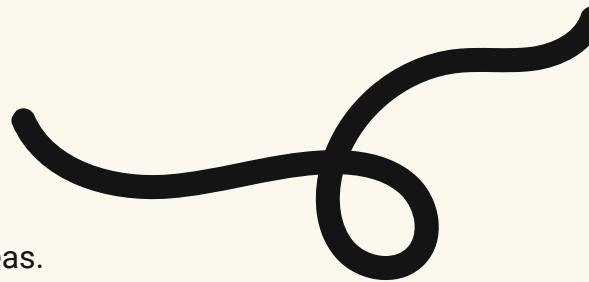
- Each team pit will be **2 metres by 2 metres**.
- There is a **height restriction of 2.2 metres**.
- **Please note that some pit areas may be impacted by hanging light fixtures.**

Each pit area will also have a small examination table allocated to the space.

Teams are encouraged to decorate their pit using team colours, posters, streamers, balloons, etc – feel free to get creative. We look forward to seeing what you will do!

PIT BINGO

To help teams get to know each other, *FIRST* Australia have put together Pit Bingo sheets. Grab a sheet from Pit Admin, chat to your fellow teams to see who fits in each category, and bring your completed sheet back to Pit Admin for a prize!





At the event:

Accessibility and support

TEAM TRANSLATORS

Can my team bring a translator or interpreter with us into the Robot Game and Judging Session?

Yes! As the official language of the event is English, this means that all presentations and reports must be written in English, and all communication with judges, referees, volunteers and crew will be in English. We understand that this may be difficult for some team members, so teams may bring a translator to the event to assist with communication, including during the Judging Session.

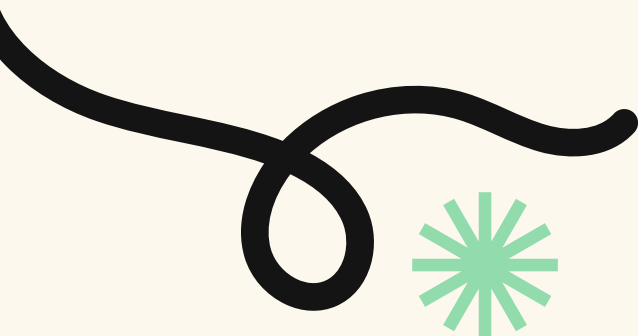
We kindly ask teams to provide an interpreter or translator that is not a direct coach of the team. For example, a travelling parent or supervising teacher that did not coach the team during the season is acceptable.

In the Judging Session, the interpreter or translator must directly translate the judges' questions and the team's responses, and not alter the responses or prompt the team members in any way. They must be a neutral party in the judging room.

Teams may also bring an interpreter or translator to the Robot Game tables to assist with communication with volunteers and referees.

Does the team translator need to register and pay to participate?

Yes, the team translator or interpreter will need to register and pay as a participant at APOC to ensure they are able to attend all the activities alongside the team.





STUDENTS WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

If you have team members that require additional support, we recommend you **provide this information** to the *FIRST* Australia team **at team registration on Thursday 9th July** so that the appropriate judges and volunteers can be advised and make accommodations where necessary.

We have two template documents you may like to use to inform us of additional needs, or you may produce your own:

- [Additional Needs Template 1](#)
- [Additional Needs Template 2](#)

Hidden Disabilities sunflower lanyards

In addition to the suggested document, we will have **Hidden Disabilities sunflower lanyards available at team registration and Pit Admin**. The Hidden Disabilities sunflower lanyard is a simple tool for you to voluntarily share that you have a disability or condition that may not be immediately apparent.

BUILDING AND CAMPUS ACCESSIBILITY

Both **1 Central Courtyard** (where the pits, Robot Games and Judging Sessions will be located) and the **Michael Egan Hall** (where the Opening and Closing Ceremonies will take place) are **fully wheelchair accessible**, including bathroom facilities.

There is wheelchair accessible parking available in the West 3 and South 2 carparks. Routes around campus and to the Metro station and Macquarie Shopping Centre are also accessible.

The Macquarie University accessibility map can be found here: [Campus accessibility map](#)

Quiet and sensory rooms

We will have both a quiet and sensory room available during the event for anyone who needs a brief respite from the hustle and bustle of APOC. These will be marked on the official 1CC map provided in the team pack and at Pit Admin, as well as on the event app.





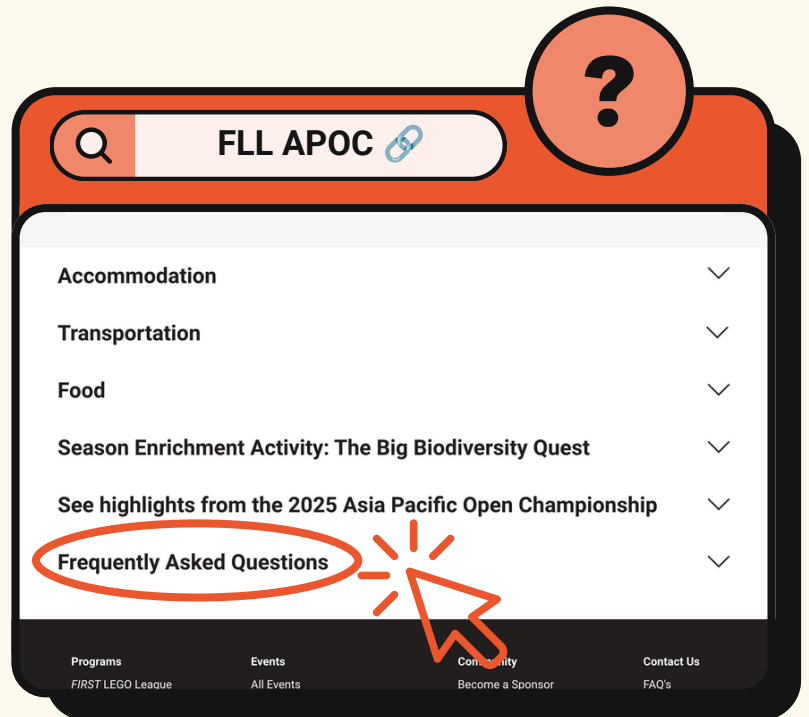
Need more information?

FAQs and contact

Looking for accommodation, transportation or food options? Have a question this guide hasn't answered?

The **FLL Asia Pacific Open Championship** page of the *FIRST* Australia website has all the information you need to know ahead of the competition, including:

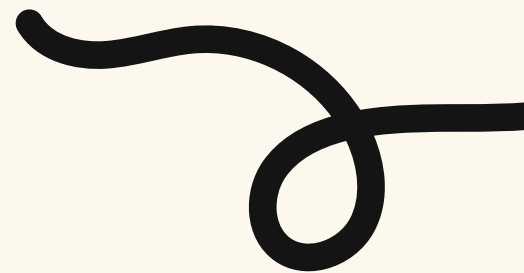
- Accommodation options
- Transport options
- Food nearby the venue
- Season Enrichment Day
- Frequently asked questions



Visit the **FIRST Australia website** here: <https://www.firstaustralia.org/first-lego-league-apoc>

Answers to our FAQs can also be found in the following pages.

Keep an eye on your inbox, as the *FIRST* Australia team will be in touch with important updates and information in the lead-up to the event! This will also include our handy event app and Discord server for communication throughout the tournament. As always, teams are welcome to email fll@mq.edu.au with any questions.



CHALLENGE





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

In addition to our website, our most frequently asked questions about the 2026 *FIRST* LEGO League Asia Pacific Open Championship can be found below.

Visit the *FIRST* Australia website here: <https://www.firstaustralia.org/first-lego-league-apoc>

Q When teams register for APOC, do all participants need to register at the same time?

It is easier for us administratively if all team members do register at the same time. However, we understand this is not always possible - you can add additional team members in separate registrations closer to the event after the initial group is registered.

Please note that if participants register too late, we cannot guarantee correct sizing or availability of APOC shirts. The current deadline for registration is Wednesday 20th May.

Q Do parents/siblings usually attend? Can spectators attend?

Lots of parents and siblings do attend the competition, and spectators are always welcome to join the fun. Come and cheer on the teams that have worked so hard to make it to the Asia Pacific Open Championship!

The event is open to the public and any spectators (parents, family, other accompanying persons) may attend the event for free. **However, only paid participants are able to join the additional activities, such as the Sydney Harbour boat cruise.**

Q Can parents/siblings register for the full APOC experience?

Absolutely! We always encourage siblings and parents to enjoy the full APOC experience, including additional activities, by registering as paid participants.

Q Can parents and other accompanying guests pay only for a particular activity they would like to attend?

Depending on capacity, we will sometimes open up the ability to attend a particular activity with a one-time payment on the day. However, these tickets are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. Any tickets will be made available in the last few weeks before the event.





Q Can teams get materials and supplies shipped to the location ahead of time?

Unfortunately, we do not have facilities to receive or store teams' goods before the event. Teams will be required to bring any items they need on the day of the competition or make other arrangements as necessary.

Q What is the set-up for the pits? How much space is there?



Each team will be given a 2m x 2m space in the pits with a small, single-person examination table. There will not be walls between pits for teams to hang things on. The height limit is approximately 2.2m, and some pits may be affected by hanging light fixtures. Please assume you need to bring everything you need to create your space (e.g. canopies, poles, etc).

Q What is the GST applied to the registration cost?


GST (Goods and Services Tax) is a mandatory government tax of 10% on top of the registration price, similar to VAT or TVA. This means that the final price per person comes to \$418 AUD (\$380 + \$38 GST).

Q Do we need a visa to enter Australia? If so, how do we get a support letter for our application?

If you are an international team, your team members will need a visa to enter Australia. Find information about the visa application process and check which visa type you require from the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs here:

-  **Determine which visa you require using Visa Finder:** <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-finder>
-  **Entering Australia overview:** <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/entering-australia/overview>

If your team requires a letter of support for your visa application, please fill in the following Google form:

-  **Visa information Google form:** <https://forms.gle/fxMj1HSmyEa3NvnMA>

Please note that we require this information in the exact format outlined by the template to complete the visa support letter. Make sure to check this information carefully!

Once we have received your visa information, the *FIRST* Australia team will be in contact with an official invitation letter as soon as possible.

