



# FIRST Tech Challenge New Jersey Conference & League Structure

# 2022 / 2023 - Current League & Conference Assignments



## League/Conference Assignments

• *Aligning with last year, here are League/Conference assignments based on county of team registration... and Coach Survey responses thus far.*

### **NORTHEAST EDGE LEAGUE**

- **North East Conference: Hudson, Union, North Essex (Caldwell, Livingston, Montclair, Nutley)**
- **South Essex Conference: Bloomfield, Maplewood, Newark, South Orange, West Orange)**

### **NORTHERN LEAGUE**

- **Far North Conference: Warren, Sussex, Passaic, West Bergen (Glen Rock, Ramsey, Ridgewood, Saddle River, Township of Washington)**
- **East Bergen Conference: (Cliffside Park, Cresskill, Demarest, East Rutherford, Emerson, Englewood, Hackensack, Lodi, Oradell, Paramus, Park Ridge, Rutherford, Tenafly)**

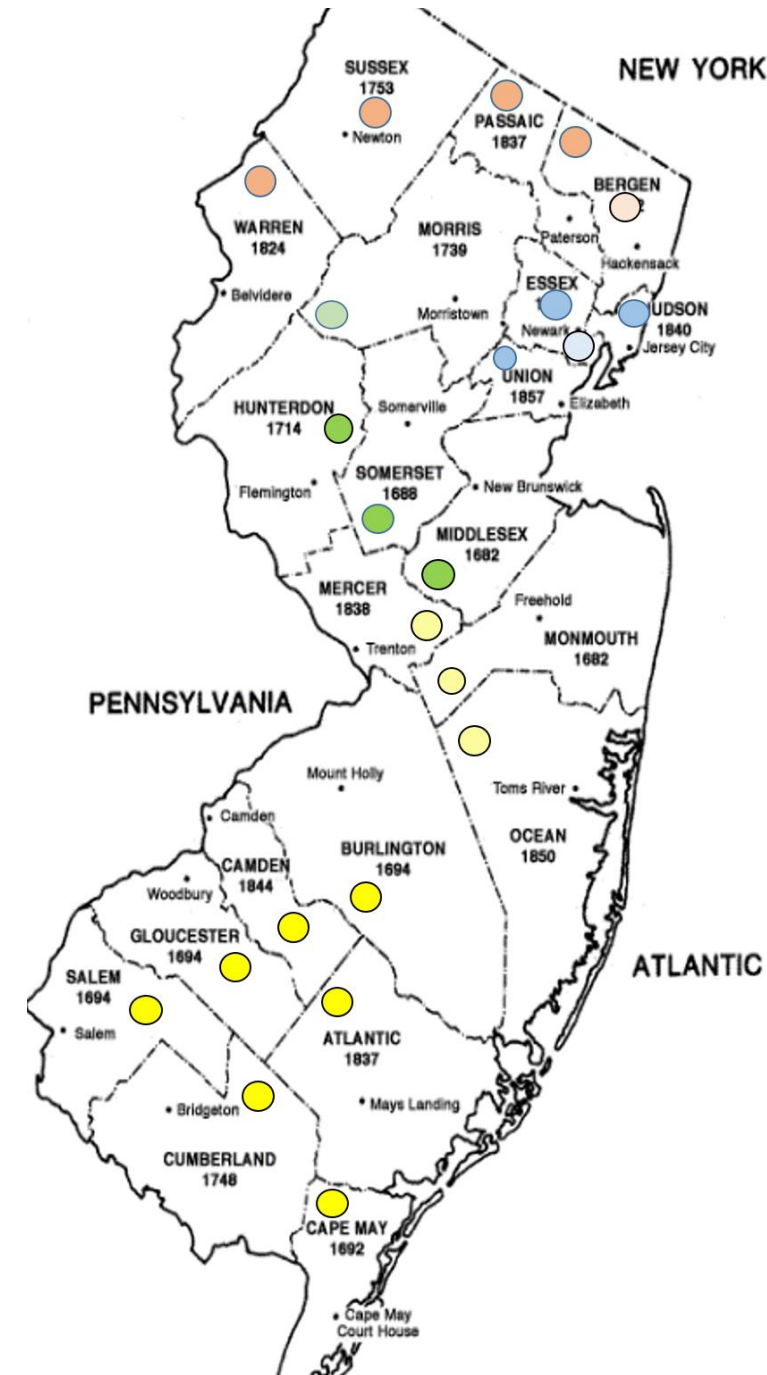
### **UPPER CENTRAL LEAGUE**

- **Central Conference: Hunterdon, Somerset, Middlesex**
- **Morris County Conference: Morris (All)**

### **SOUTHERN LEAGUE**

- **Upper South Conference: Mercer, Monmouth, Ocean**
- **Deep South Conference: Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Gloucester, Cumberland, Salem**

- Team Leagues geographically mapped, based on previous year's team population.
- The intent is to minimize driving time to the largest degree possible
- **Blue – Northeast Edge League**
- **Brown – Northern League**
- **Green – Upper Central League**
- **Gold – Southern League**



# Season Event Planning

## **Non-Competition Events**



## **Kick Off / Game Reveal (Live In-Person Event This Year!)**

- Includes Game Reveal, Season Schedule Updates & Registration Instructions, New Challenge Q&A

Livingston High School	Saturday, September 10 <sup>th</sup>
Hightstown High School	Saturday, September 10 <sup>th</sup>

## **Southern NJ Workshops**

- Includes multiple day-long tracks very similar (but not identical) to the Northern NJ Workshops at Kean.

Moorestown Friends School Moorestown, NJ	Saturday, Sept 24 <sup>th</sup>	Site Confirmed! Still Seeking Presenting Teams
---	---------------------------------	---

## **Practice Days**

- Includes in-person review of Game with Q&A, hands-on tinkering of first robot build efforts, Help.
- May include additional training on the robotics hardware and programming for newer team members.

Practice Day – Northern NJ	Saturday, October 15 <sup>th</sup>	Site Pending Confirmation
Practice Day – Southern NJ	Sunday, October 16 <sup>th</sup>	Site Pending Confirmation
Practice Day - Central NJ	Saturday, October 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Highland Park High School, Highland Park

## **Post-Reveal Outreach ←Great Outreach Opportunity for your team!**

- FTCNJ has been invited to set up a FIRST Tech Challenge area within this very large event.
- Looking for help with demo, driving zones, etc. Contact FTCNJ if interested in participating.

“Raritan Valley Science & Technology Showcase”	Saturday, October 1 <sup>st</sup> and Sunday, October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bridgewater Commons Mall Two-Day Event
---	--	---



# Season Event Planning

## **Competition Season**

# League Tournaments & State Championship



EVENT	Event Host	Conference	League	
League Tournament	Delbarton School Morristown, NJ	Morris	UPPER CENTRAL	Sat: Feb 4
League Tournament "Perfect Swarm"	Bayonne High School Bayonne, NJ	North East Conference	NORTHEAST EDGE	Sun: Feb 5
League Tournament "Rock Slide"	Glen Rock High School Glen Rock, NJ	Far North	NORTHERN	Sat: Feb 11
League Tournament "Snow Day Showdown"	Hightstown High School Hightstown, NJ	Upper South	SOUTHERN	Sun: Feb 12
League Tournament	Payne Tech Newark, NJ (final approval pending)	South Essex	NORTHEAST EDGE	Sat: Feb 18
League Tournament	Kean University Union, NJ	Central	UPPER CENTRAL	Sun: Feb 19
League Tournament "Southern Freeze"	North Burlington Cnty Middle School Columbus, NJ	Deep South	SOUTHERN	Sat: Feb 25
League Tournament "Robo-Wrangle"	Emerson High School Emerson, NJ	East Bergen	NORTHERN	Sun: Feb 26

- Every fully registered team is automatically invited to the end-of-season League Tournament of their Conference.
- It is through these League Tournaments only that a total of 48 teams will advance to the FTC New Jersey State Championship.
- **State Championship being held on Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at Morris Knolls High School, Morris Knolls, NJ**



EVENT	Event Host	Conference	League	
League Meet (~24 Teams) Optional Practice Judging	Liberty Science Center Jersey City, NJ	Far North	NORTHERN	Sat: Jan 7
League Meet (~24 Teams) "Bear'ly 2023"	Pingry School Basking Ridge, NJ	Central	UPPER CENTRAL	Sun: Jan 8
League Meet (~24 Teams) Optional Practice Judging	Host Site pending		NORTHEAST EDGE	Sat: Jan 14
League Meet (~20 Teams)	EHT P.A.L. Facility Egg Harbor Township, NJ	Deep South	SOUTHERN	Sun: Jan 15
League Meet (~24 Teams) "Robo-Tussle" Optional Practice Judging	Chatham High School Chatham, NJ	Morris	UPPER CENTRAL	Sat: Jan 21
League Meet (~24 Teams)	Blairstown High School Blairstown, NJ	Far North Conference	NORTHERN	Sun: Jan 22
League Meet (~24 Teams) Optional Practice Judging	Host Site pending		SOUTHERN	Sat: Jan 28
League Meet (~24 Teams)	Host Site pending		NORTHEAST EDGE	Sun: Jan 29

- Each League has a Saturday and a Sunday option from which to choose.
- It is FTCNJ intent to offer Practice Judging at one event in each League on Saturdays in January.
- Coaches may make their event selections on Sept 12<sup>th</sup> (i.e., the Monday following the Sept 10<sup>th</sup> Kick-Off / Game Reveal).
- Competition venues are announced via the weekly Newsletter and will be reviewed one more time at the Kick-Off FTCNJ on Sept 10<sup>th</sup>



# Period #2

# November / December Competitions



EVENT	Event Host	Conference	League	
League Meet (~24 Teams)	Ridgewood High School Ridgefield, NJ	Far North	NORTHERN	Sat: Nov 19
League Meet (~24 Teams)	Host Site pending		UPPER CENTRAL	Sun: Nov 20
League Meet (~24 Teams)	Host Site pending		NORTHEAST EDGE	Sat: Dec 3
League Meet (~24 Teams) "Southern Scuffle"	Williamstown Middle School Williamstown, NJ	Deep South	SOUTHERN	Sun: Dec 4
League Meet (~24 Teams)	Host Site pending		UPPER CENTRAL	Sat: Dec 10
League Meet (~24 Teams) "Cliffhanger"	Cliffside Park High School Cliffside, NJ	East Bergen	NORTHERN	Sun: Dec 11
League Meet (~24 Teams)	Clearview High School Mullica Hill, NJ	Deep South	SOUTHERN	Sat: Dec 17
League Meet (~24 Teams)	Scotch Plains - Fanwood High School Scotch Plains, NJ	Northeast	NORTHEAST EDGE	Sun: Dec 18

- Each League has a Saturday and a Sunday option from which to choose.
- It is recommended that teams plan to participate in one Meet in each of three periods (if possible) but teams are free to choose fewer, if they wish.
- Conversely, teams may submit bonus requests when registering and potentially participate in 1 or 2 more official Meets.



EVENT	Event Host	Conference	League	
League Meet (20 Team Cap)	Don Bosco Prep High School  Ramsay, NJ	Far North	NORTHERN	Sat: Nov 5
League Meet (~24 Teams)	Host Site pending		UPPER CENTRAL	Sun: Nov 6
League Meet (~24 Teams)	Howell High School  Howell, NJ	Upper South	SOUTHERN	Sat: Nov 12
League Meet (~24 Teams)	Westfield High School  Westfield, New Jersey	Northeast	NORTHEAST EDGE	Sun: Nov 13

EVENT	Event Host	Conference	League	
League Meet (~16 Teams)  Halloween W/E Saturday	Host Site pending		NORTHEAST EDGE	Sat: Oct 29
League Meet (~16 Teams)  Halloween W/E Sunday	Bergen Catholic High School  Oradell, NJ	Far North	NORTHERN	Sun: Oct 30
League Meet (~16 Teams)  Thanksgiving W/E Saturday	Grace Church Community Center  Randolph, NJ	Morris County	UPPER CENTRAL	Sat: Nov 26
League Meet (~16 Teams)  Thanksgiving W/E Sunday	GSJS Program Activity Center  Farmingdale, NJ	Upper South	SOUTHERN	Sun: Nov 27

- These are additional official competition opportunities for teams that are:
  - (a) able to have their robot ready to compete in early or
  - (b) are able to compete on one of the two “holiday” weekends.
- Teams are strongly encouraged to come out early, compete, learn, and improve.



# Outreach Opportunity

October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Raritan Valley Science & Technology Showcase**

# Concept Plan : Raritan Valley Science & Technology Showcase (FTC Area)



## Notes:

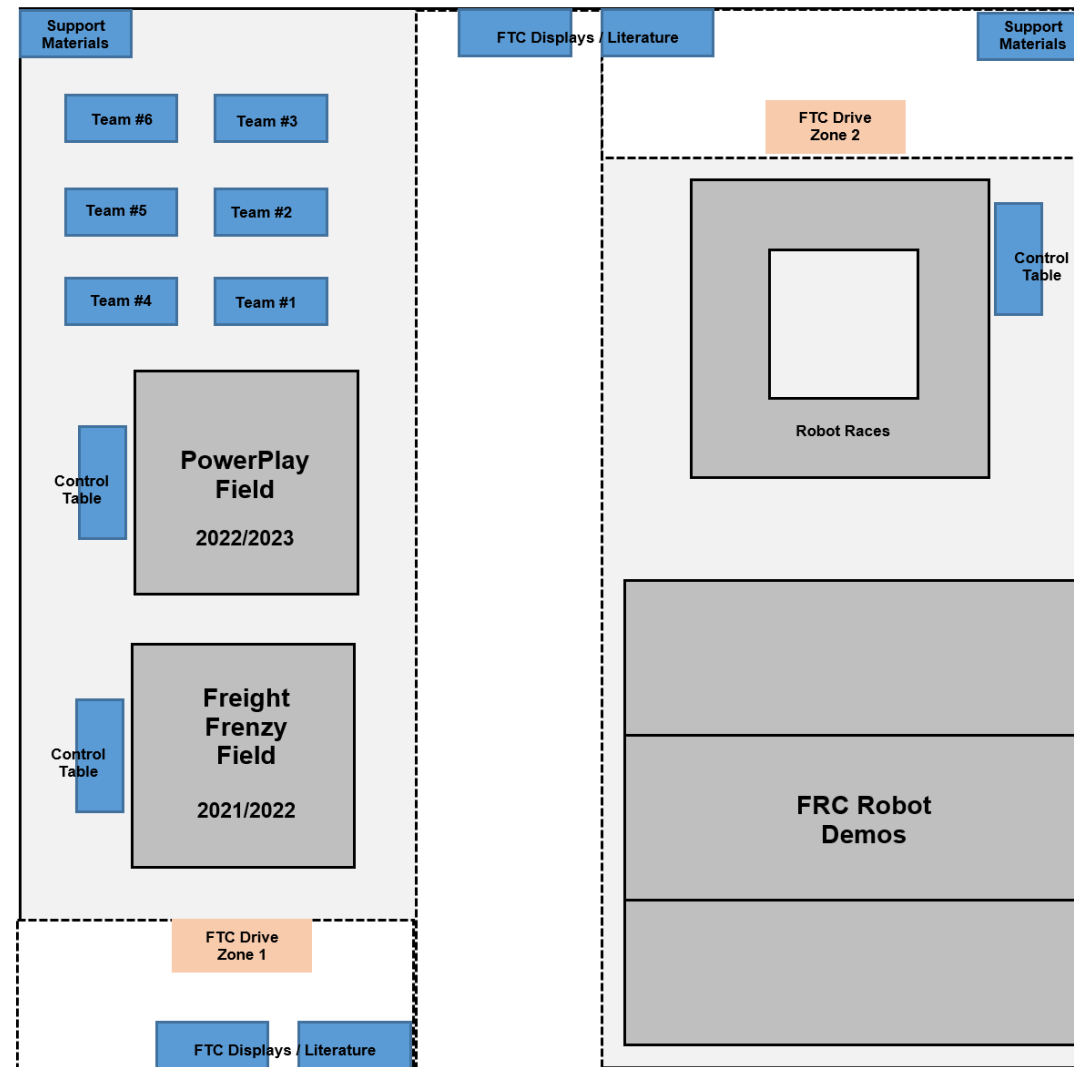
- 10' wide Aisle down center of area for spectators (in safe white zones only)

## Left Side

- FIRST / FTC Info immediately inside door
- Spectators can watch Freight Frenzy robots, assuming teams with last year's robots...
  - ...otherwise Mall Youth can drive a "jersey-bot" on the Freight Frenzy Field while standing in the safe "Drive Zone 1" area.
- Current FTC teams will be debugging their new robots on the official PowerPlay field. First time for many.
- Six tables for teams to tinker on this year's bots. Senior teams are on Tables #1, #2, #3 to answer spectator questions
- Extra table for Support Materials.

## Right Side

- FRC Area is 25' x 25'
- Expanded FTC Field is 16' x 16' with walled empty space in the center to simulate a racetrack.
- Spectators find FTC literature at the entrance to the Drive Zone 2 area.
  - Mall Youth face the field and drive their robots around the track.



58' wide x 57' deep

## Second Floor Showcase Tables

- In addition to all that is shown to the left, there will be 2-3 FTC teams located with other FIRST Programs in a common area on the second floor.
- Those teams will talk about FIRST, and FTC to raise interest and direct people to visit the FTC area (at left) located on the first floor of the mall.
  - A team that volunteers to help out may likely spend time in multiple areas of the FTCNJ exhibition.