



FIRST **TECH** **CHALLENGE** *BENELUX*

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022

Topics for today:

- **FTC Playground during Christmas Holidays**
- **FIRST® LEGO® League regional finals**
- **League Meets 2022, POWERPLAYSM**
- **FTC Podcast**
- **FTC Benelux Powered By Haas – Gene Haas Foundation**

FTC Playground during Christmas Holidays

This season we offer teams the opportunity to come to Eindhoven to practice on our FTC field at the workshop of Team Rembrandts. The second FTC playground will be organized during the Christmas Holidays on January 3rd, 2023. There will be FTC Alumni present to help teams with all their questions.

If you want to join this afternoon and work on your robot with other teams, make a lot of practice rounds and fun, you can sign up by filling out the form below.

Please note: only 8 teams can join, participation is in order of registration.

[Sign up form FTC Playground](#)

FIRST® LEGO® League regional finals

Outreach is an important part of FTC. A team can highlight this and develop activities in various ways. For instance, giving a demo during open days at school or a science festival, presenting at a company, sharing experiences with *FIRST* teams from other countries, etc.

We think it is very important to show the continuous learning line of *FIRST*. In the Benelux, about 750 teams are currently participating in the *FIRST* LEGO League. A large proportion of these teams have little or no familiarity with FTC and it is time to change this.

At several FLL regional finals, FTC teams will organize demos or a scrimmage. By talking about and showing what FTC is all about, we will convey our enthusiasm and increase interest in FTC from both students and teachers. Instructive for the FLL teams and an extra opportunity for FTC teams to work together on their robots and run practice matches.

Last Friday 16 December, team members from team Gentlebotz and team Orange together with FTC Benelux promoted FTC at the Zeeland regional final in Terneuzen. There was a lot of interest and we expect the first Zeeland team to be formed next season.

In January/February, teams will be present at the FLL regional finals in Tilburg, Breda and Limburg, among others.

For the FLL regional final in Breda on 4 February 2023, we are still looking for some teams to help. The regional will take place at the Avans Hogeschool in Breda.

Will you help us get the FLL teams in West Brabant excited about FTC? With enough teams, we can even make it a scrimmage.

If you are interested, send an email to Irene to sign up your team: irene@ftcnetherlands.eu

League Meets 2022, POWERPLAYSM

Almost all teams have played their first League Meet. The League Meets took place in Eindhoven, The Hague and Hasselt (Belgium).

It was great to see all the teams in action with their robots. Robots with amazing designs, which often worked well, but sometimes not quite yet. During the League Meets, improvements were made and teams shared their knowledge and helped each other. What a vibe and fun!

We are proud of all the teams, a great group of students and coaches who all want to work hard to get the best out of their FTC experience.

We are looking forward to the next League Meets in January and especially to the adjustments made to the robots and portfolios. The League Meets are scheduled on January 14 (Bladel), January 21 (Zeist) and January 28 (Delft).

See our [website](#) for more information.

Which 28 teams will qualify for the Benelux Championship on February 11?

At the moment, team 10183 - F.R.O.G. Frog Robots Of Germany is at the top of the ranking.

Click on the button below for an overview of the ranking.

[Ranking FTC Benelux](#)

[FTC Podcast](#)

Did you know that we recently launched a FTC podcast?

In this podcast initiated by Ronald Scheers, team members from different teams talk about their team and FTC journey. What did they learn, what are they proud of, how did they design and build their robot, the importance of sponsors, outreach and so much more.

There are already 12 episodes available and more will follow next year.

[Listen to the FTC Podcast](#)

[FTC Benelux Powered By Haas – Gene Haas Foundation](#)

We end this newsletter and the year 2022 with great news!

We're beyond thrilled to proudly present the fact that the Haas – Gene Haas Foundation is powering our FTC Benelux Championship. Through their commitment we're able to level up the FTC in the Benelux to another level.

Besides being our title championship sponsor they'll be facilitating numerous FTC teams in the upcoming season. Details of this will be shared at the championship but we'll mostly working together in order to grow our program in a sustainable way.





See you all next year

Ron - Nicolle - Ronald - Irene - Bas - Roel