



Team Application 2017-18

Student Name: _____

Introduction

Techno Wolves FRC Team 5518 is a fourth-year robotics team. Our mission statement is: "To enrich the minds of high school students by promoting an innovative learning experience with our community – such as local businesses, schools, and mentors – via the exploration of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) through the exposure of robotics and business management principles." Even if you are still unsure about joining the team, please share information about Techno Wolves and its website (<http://technowolves.org>) with your parents/guardians. If you would like to know more about the team, please email any questions to tw5518@technowolves.org.

FIRST Overview

FIRST (For the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is a nonprofit organization founded "to transform our culture by creating a world where science and technology are celebrated and where young people dream of becoming science and technology leaders." Founded by Dean Kamen and Woodie Flowers in 1989, *FIRST* seeks to promote a philosophy of teamwork and collaboration among engineers and encourages competing teams to remain friendly, helping each other when needed, expressed through its values of *Gracious Professionalism* and *Coopertition*.

The mission of *FIRST* is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build STEM skills, inspire innovation, and foster well-rounded life skills including self-confidence, communication, and leadership.

FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC)

Starting from 1992, *FIRST* has allowed high school students to actively participate in robotics. FRC is "the varsity sport of the mind" where teams are given six weeks to build a robot based around to a seasonal game that typically starts in the first week of January. After this "build season" has ended, teams compete with other local teams and advance if their robot does well. North Carolina and many other regions follow the district model in which each region is split into several districts. Teams are required to attend at a minimum of two of district events. If teams

collect enough ranking points from the first two district events they attend by winning matches and gaining awards, they advance to regional championships and then world championships. Currently, there are a total of 6,771 FRC teams worldwide.

Member Responsibility

Eligibility

To be eligible to join the team, a student must:

- Be of high school age (14-18 years)
- Maintain an unweighted GPA of at least a 2.5
- Have a good behavioral standing with his/her school
- Vow to be devoted to the team and its mission
- Be able to meet several times during the week
- Be ready to learn new things without hesitation

Remember that being eligible does not automatically mandate a member to be accepted on the team.

Requirements

To remain a standing member of the team, a student must:

- Complete all necessary registration with the team and *FIRST* including paying the team dues
- Wear the appropriate dress code to team meetings and events
- Attend all compulsory meetings and necessary meetings during Build Season
- Send a notice if will be absent or tardy to any of the meetings – three consecutive unexcused absences will result in a parent-student meeting per the [Consequences](#)
- Show respect and demonstrate appropriate behavior (e.g. productivity, safety) at all team meetings and events
- Regularly check and respond to his/her team messages as needed
- Participate in at least four outreach or fundraising events sanctioned by the team

Failure to meet these requirements will result in action outlined in [Consequences](#) by the team leadership and/or Booster Club.

Dress Code

At team meetings, everyone must wear close-toed shoes and safety glasses if they wish to be in the workshop area at ALL. At competitions, the team members must wear the current team competition t-shirt and preferably khakis (though not required) in addition to close-toed shoes and safety glasses in the Pit area. At the Robot Unveiling Ceremony, all students and mentors are expected to wear semi-professional or professional clothing with a preference of dark pants,

a white dress shirt, and a red or dark tie. However, at any other team events, wearing the team shirt and close-toed shoes should be fine unless determined by the team's leadership.

Individual Costs

Although sponsorships and fundraising efforts are essential in reducing the team's expenses, members will still have to devote some financial responsibility if he/she wishes to join the team. The team annual budget starts at \$35,000 and can range as high as \$50,000 depending on the number of students on the team and how far the team progresses in competitions. A team must cover competition fees (\$2,500 per district event and \$5,000 for state championship), robot fees (maximum of \$4,000 for a competing robot), tools, transportation for the robot and members, and other team events such as the Robot Unveiling and End-of-Season Celebration. Costs will fluctuate in accordance with gasoline prices, inflation, and competition locations.

The team will be devoted to raising as much funds as possible to reduce costs passed on to individual members. Student dues cover personal protective equipment (PPE), such as a single pair of safety glasses and gloves, two competition t-shirts, and any other gear necessary like the wolf hat. With student dues, members can expect to individually cover:

- Student dues – dues are broken up in two payments:
 - \$200 due the last Friday of October in the offseason
 - \$200 (may be reduced depending on amount raised) due the last Friday of January in the Build Season
 - Student Scholarship Fund – If your student participates in this program, you may be able to find funding elsewhere for secondary dues
- Personal safety glasses if one assigned is lost (~\$5)
- Parent carpooling – volunteer drivers pay for gas and possible tolls
- Potluck dish and/or supplies for beginning of season team social
- Potluck dish and/or supplies for Robot Unveiling Ceremony after Build Season
- Gifts for mentors and advisors (~\$10), supplies, and/or potluck dish for End-of-Season Celebration
- *FIRST* Events (rough estimates before applying raised money):
 - District Competitions – transportation and lunch (~\$10-\$20 per day)
 - State Championship – transportation, hotel, and food (~\$275)
 - World Championship – transportation, hotel, and food (~\$450)
 - Offseason competition (i.e. THOR) – lunch (~\$10-\$20)

Meetings

Members will be required to attend a minimum number of meetings and outreach events to qualify for Pit Squad, Drive Squad, and team leadership. Attendance requirements, as outlined below, differs among roles on the team:

Offseason – summer (July - August):

- 1 meeting per week for the student body

Pre-Build Season (September - December):

- 1 meeting per week for the student body

Build Season (January - February):

- 3 meetings per week for rookie members
- 4 meetings per week for veteran members

Competitions & End-of-Season (March - June):

- 2 meetings per week for the student body

Communication

Members will be responsible to continuously check various services for any communication regarding Techno Wolves. The team often communicates via email, Google Hangouts, Remind, Slack, and occasionally via text message or call if necessary.

Code of Conduct & Policies

Expectations

All members on the team are expected to serve as role models to other members as well as to the community. Members must demonstrate a positive attitude at ALL times, reliability by coming to team meetings and events on time, and responsibility by helping in cleaning up the workspace while also going beyond to assist others when needed. Additionally, members must show responsiveness and leadership skills in doing tasks to their fullest quality possible when asked by the appropriate lead or mentor. All members are expected to finish their homework before coming to the meeting in order to be focused on team tasks.

The following guiding principles are instrumental in creating a positive and supportive environment for the students and the community. Techno Wolves should be a fun, positive, and safe place for all members of the team.

Gracious Professionalism

Every member of the team is expected to display *Gracious Professionalism* at ALL times as well as promoting the ideals of *FIRST* such as demonstrating:

- A positive attitude
- A clean vocabulary
- A friendly and polite attitude towards all people at ALL times
- Respect for the feelings, opinions, and choices of other members
- Respect for facilities, supplies, tools, and equipment
- Good sportsmanship

Consequences

Members who fail to demonstrate respect towards their peers, neglect to show up to meetings without prior notice, refuse to fulfill their responsibilities and carry out their assigned tasks,

and/or carries out an action detrimental to the environment of the team WILL be issued a warning. Any warnings will be dealt with the following procedure:

1. The first warning will be issued via a written notice to both the member and his/her parents.
2. The second warning will result in a parent-student conference with the coaches to resolve any issue. Depending on the severity, leadership may be considered for dismissal from their position at this stage.
3. Failure afterwards or failure to respond will result in the member's dismissal from the team with a formal notice.

Parent Interest Meeting

The Techno Wolves Robotics Booster Club is hosting a parent informational session on Thursday, August 31st at the workspace (2516 Reliance Avenue, Apex, NC 27539) from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. This meeting is an opportunity for parents and students to learn about the team, meet some of the members, and to ask questions that may arise.

Submitting the Application

The application must be fully completed and turned in by Thursday September 7, 2017. You can turn in the original, hard copy of the application to Mrs. Rue (at the front desk of Wake STEM Early College High School) or Mr. Olech at the workspace (2516 Reliance Avenue, Apex, NC 27539) on Mondays (6:30-8:30pm) and Thursdays (6:00-9:00pm). If you have any issues, please turn in a scanned copy of the application and contact us at tw5518@technowolves.org.

Applicant Information

Student Contact

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

School: _____ Year of Graduation: _____

Parent/Guardian Contact

Parent/Guardian #1:

Name: _____

Email: _____ Primary Phone: _____

Employer/Profession: _____ Would Like to Help with Team:

Parent/Guardian #2:

Name: _____

Email: _____ Primary Phone: _____

Employer/Profession: _____ Would Like to Help with Team:

Emergency Contact

Name: _____

Primary Phone: _____

Health Information

Insurance

Name of Insurance Company: _____

Address: _____

Insurance Company Phone #: _____

Policy Holder Name: _____

Member or ID #: _____ Policy/Group #: _____

History

Allergies: _____

Chronic or Recurring Illness: _____

Medications: _____

Additional Information

Licensed Physician: _____ Primary Phone: _____

Name of Dentist: _____ Primary Phone: _____

Preferred Diet (circle one): None Vegetarian Vegan Kosher Halal

Authorization

This health history form, including prior pages, is correct and accuracy reflects the health status of my student to whom it pertains. I hereby grant permission to provide routine health care, administer prescribed medications, and seek emergency medical attention for my son or daughter. I agree to the release of any records necessary for insurance purposes. I give permission to the Techno Wolves Robotics Booster Club (TWRBC) to arrange necessary related transportation for my child. In the event that the contact(s) listed above or I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the adult mentor selected by the team to secure and administer treatment, including but not limited to hospitalization for the person named above.

Release

There are inherent risks in participating in team events, including risks in the construction of robots, in working with electrical connections, traveling to and from events, and participating in

public competitions. These risks also include the risk of bodily harm (including, without limitation, death or similar traumatic injury) and property damage or loss. Being fully cognizant of the risks of participating in an event, I hereby accept those risks. Except to the extent due to the gross negligence or willful misconduct of Techno Wolves Robotics Booster Club (TWRBC) and to the fullest extent permitted by applicable laws, I HEREBY WAIVE AND RELEASE ANY CLAIMS OR CAUSES OF ACTION which I may now or hereafter have against the TWRBC arising in connection with my participation in any team event, presentations by the Techno Wolves at any time during the year and/or arising from unofficial *FIRST* programs and events offered by others. I hold harmless the TWRBC, against all claims resulting from such participation, including, without limitation, bodily injury, claims for compensation, defamation, invasion of privacy, or other infringements or violations of any personal or property rights whatsoever. I understand that this form involves a release of legal rights.

For students under the age of eighteen (18) years listed above: *"I hereby consent and agree to the above as the child of the Parent/Legal Guardian whose signature appears above, in which case 'I,' 'me,' and 'my' as used herein shall refer to the said minor."*

Permissions

Personal Information

The Techno Wolves will need to share personal information with other members of the team (i.e. cell phone numbers and email addresses). This information needs to be shared when attending activities or exchanging information among team members.

Please check ALL THAT APPLY below:

I give permission to Techno Wolves to share my STUDENT'S cell phone number and email address with members of the team.

I DO NOT give permission to Techno Wolves to share my STUDENT'S cell phone number and email address with members of the team.

I give permission to Techno Wolves to share the PARENT'S or GUARDIAN'S cell phone number and email address with members of the team.

I DO NOT give permission to Techno Wolves to share the PARENT'S or GUARDIAN'S cell phone number and email address with members of the team.

Photo Release

The Techno Wolves and associated organizations (e.g. sponsors) may use photographs, videos, or other media publications to promote the team throughout the season. These publications may be used on the team website, newsletters, presentations, or any other form of publication created by the team and acquainted organizations. They may also be used by the news media providing coverage of the team aired on television.

If you are not eighteen (18) years of age, your parent/guardian must complete the following:

"I hereby grant permission to Techno Wolves, its associated organizations, and news media to take photographs and videos of my child, as well as insert and/or reference them in presentations. Furthermore, I authorize the use of such media without inspecting or approving the finished media project."

Social Media

I ALLOW my child to use social media as part of Techno Wolves.

Transportation

Throughout the season, the Techno Wolves will have team meetings and events that may require your child to have an alternate mode of transportation to be present at one of these events. Some events, such as FRC Championship in Houston, TX, require commercial transportation (travel bus, plane, etc.). If the parent/guardian or the student prearranges another

mode of transportation, a signed notice of acceptance must be provided to the team by the parent/guardian.

Students driving themselves to an event must arrive on time at the start of the event and cannot leave the event early without authorization of the coaches or agreement prior to the event.

Please check ALL THAT APPLY below:

I allow my child to ride with an adult mentor of the team.

I allow my child to ride alone to local events ONLY with another student member of the team (state ALL or specify a list): _____

I allow my child to drive themselves to team events.

I DO NOT allow my child to ride with an adult mentor of the team or other student of the team and will provide my own timely transportation.

Autonomy at Team Activities

Techno Wolves may attend activities requiring out-of-town or out-of-state travel that may or may not require an overnight stay in a hotel. Hotel stays will consist of multiple students of the same gender per room with/without adult supervision in the room.

I DO allow my child to stay in a hotel room without adult supervision in the room.

I DO NOT allow my child to stay in a hotel room without adult supervision in the room.

Mentor Supervision

The following activities require adult mentor permission prior to performing the activity. Please check ALL THAT APPLY below:

I allow my child to walk within a venue at which the team is attending an event without adult supervision BUT with a minimum of at least two members.

I allow my child to walk or travel to a store, restaurant, and/or hotel near a team event with adult supervision.

Use of Equipment

Techno Wolves team members may need to operate power tools, which is supervised by the adult mentors, based on student skill level. Members must adhere team safety protocols, such as wearing closed-toed shoes and safety glasses at all times.

Please check ALL THAT APPLY below:

I allow my child to operate hand tools (hammer, wrenches, screwdrivers, files, etc.)

I allow my child to operate power hand tools (drills, saber/jigsaws, circular saw, etc.)

___ I allow my child to operate tabletop power tools (chop saw, band saw, drill press, etc.)

___ I allow my child to operate machine tools (mills, welders, plasma cutter, power press brake/shear, etc.)

Additional Release

The mentors cannot be held liable for any action taken by your child against the permission or advertisements of them. If your child fails to ask permission for activities, violates team rules, or ignores the guidance of the team leadership or mentors, the parent/guardian will be notified and the child may be returned home at the parent's/guardian's expense. However, everyone must still adhere to the *FIRST* Youth Protection Program guidelines.

Student Assessment

Miscellaneous

Have you been a part of any of the FIRST programs? (circle as applicable)

FLL Jr.

FLL

FTC

FRC

Team/Year(s):

Recommendations

In order to become a member of Techno Wolves, you have to submit two recommendations with the application by September 7, 2017. One has to be from a teacher and the other one can be from anyone in the community who is not a family member. The recommendations must highlight some of your qualities and explain why you would be an ideal candidate to be committed to the team. Recommendations can be submitted either as a separate attachment to this application or via email to tw5518@technowolves.org. If you have issues meeting the deadline, you can too contact us at this email. **Returning members do not have to submit recommendations.**

Write-up

To become a member of Techno Wolves, you also have to submit a write-up of why you would like to join the team. This write-up must not exceed 500 words and should be attached as a page to this application. It is highly advised to be completed with quality (i.e. reviewed and typed, free of grammatical errors, demonstrates creativity). Make sure to include any prior leadership experience in the school, community, etc. **Returning members do not have to submit a write-up.**

Acceptable Use Form

Techno Wolves provides its members with the ability to access its services/tools either via their own devices or through Techno Wolves property. These services are sometimes needed to allow members to accomplish tasks as a requirement to be part of the team.

These services include but not limited to:

- Internet
- Communication (e.g. Email, Slack, Google Hangouts)
- Productivity Tools (e.g. Cisco Spark Notes, Trello, Google Drive)
- Social Media (e.g. Instagram, Facebook, Twitter)
- Software (e.g. SolidWorks, GitHub, WordPress)

Members may not be permitted to use these services for inappropriate uses. Such uses include:

- Attempting to change configurations without consent
- Using language that promotes bullying or hurting others' feelings
- Placing a virus or intentionally disrupting others' network performance
- Accessing inappropriate materials (e.g. gambling, pornography)
- Posing as a detriment to Techno Wolves and others' reputation

In addition, members may also not use Techno Wolves services for too much personal or leisure time, such as playing games. This is done to ensure members stay focused on the team's tasks and the team does not surpass its monthly internet usage allowance.

My parent and I have read the policies outlined above and have included our signatures below to promise I will use Techno Wolves services appropriately.

Statement of Commitment

I have read the entire application with my parent/guardian and understand what is expected of my parent/guardian and I in order to participate as a member of Techno Wolves.

_____	_____	_____
Student Name	Student Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Name	Parent/Guardian Signature	Date

Term

Although the Techno Wolves 2017-18 season formally starts on June 1, 2017 and ends May 31, 2018, this application – including the consent, release, and permissions – become effective on the date of signing this document and is valid for one year unless either a revised consent form is received, a request to withdraw from the team is received, or the student is removed from the team.