



**<sup>1</sup>Cortechs Robotics  
Team 5511  
Student Membership  
Handbook**

2016-2017

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# Welcome

Welcome to Cortechs Robotics Team 5511. As a team member, you are a self-motivated individual who has a passion for the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, business, marketing and community service.

This handbook is your source of information about the Cortechs Robotics team, their supporters, and families. It is a living document and a work in progress. This handbook will be your introduction to the world of FIRST Robotics and Team Cortechs Robotics.

# Introduction

Cortechs Robotics Team 5511 is a year-round, student-led organization of highly-motivated high school students who participate in FIRST which stands "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology." FIRST is a nonprofit organization founded by Dean Kamen in 1989.

FIRST Robotics Competition, or FRC, is a FIRST program known as the Varsity Sport for the Mind. FRC combines the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and technology. FRC teams are challenged to raise funds, participate in community service, design a team "brand," hone teamwork and leadership skills, and build and program robots to perform prescribed tasks against a field of competitors. High school students work in collaboration with professional mentors who volunteer their time, talents, and industry experiences.

At the FIRST FRC kickoff event, during a Saturday in January every year, our team along with thousands of other high school teams around the world will be given a build challenge and have 6 ½ weeks to design, build, and program a 100+ lb robot to compete and form alliances with other team robots in district and regional competitions.

## History and Background

Located in the Research Triangle Park region in North Carolina, Cortechs Robotics is an FRC team that was formed October 2014 through a partnership of two veteran FRC members. Cortechs Robotics is a community-based team with members joining from several area high schools. The inaugural team began with 11 members and the team had the unique opportunity to participate in NC THOR, an off-season event. Cortechs was the first rookie team to attend this pre-season competition. The team was the highest ranked rookie team at the NC Regional competition in 2015, winning the "Highest Rookie Seed" award and the prestigious "Rookie All Star" award. This award allowed them to compete in the World Robotics Competition in St. Louis in April, 2015.

During the second season (2015-16), the team participated in NC THOR. FIRST NC switched to the District model and our team participated in two NC district events. The team was awarded the Xerox Creativity Award at the NC-Campbell University/Johnston Community College Event. This award "celebrates creativity in design, use of component, or strategy of play".

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Cortechs Robotics was the District Event Winner at the NC- Guilford County Event. The team qualified to compete at the FIRST NC State Championship.

# Guiding Principles

## FIRST Mission Statement

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

## Cortechs Robotics Mission Statement

We are a year-round student-led, community based robotics team working in collaboration with professional mentors in enhancing educational opportunities for high school students interested in combining their passion and interests in the STEM fields with professional business practices within a fluid culture of and gracious sportsmanship

## Expanded Mission Statement

Cortechs Robotics strives to empower and inspire students of all ethnicity and socioeconomic levels to become leaders in business, science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields. Team members are committed to representing the critical thinkers and innovators of the future workforce.

Our team is comprised of a diverse group of high school students who are passionate about hands on, real life learning. We believe very strongly in our mission and we are dedicated to sharing our knowledge and inspiring underserved students in the surrounding communities through partnerships with schools and community groups.

## Founding Principles

- Student-Led Team collaborating with professional Mentors
- Dynamic Learning Environment that fosters individual growth of student members

## Cortechs Robotics: Tenets

- “Let’s Build a Robot”

Team members disregard distractions and have a focused demeanor on the tasks at hand. When taking an action, members will remember the team’s end goal: a built robot. Every aspect of a FIRST team is important (business, marketing, community outreach), but all team members harmonize in a way that will make the robot building a success.

- Unity

When disputes arise, members act in the best interest of the team. We have one image to the outside world, as represented in our conduct and the robot we build. Your actions define the team. Ego is less important than the good of the team. Hold a concern for every one of your teammates that is obvious to anyone watching. Cortechs is a family.

- Professionalism

*“The skill, good judgment, and polite behavior that is expected from a person who is trained to do a job well.”* (Merriam Webster). Ego, emotions, adversarial relationships, and thoughts of personal glory are not significant in a professional environment. Good communication skills, active listening, responding in a timely manner, self-control, self-discipline, a quiet competence, consistency, and reliability are all valued on the team.

## FIRST: Tenets

- Gracious Professionalism™ is part of the FIRST culture that encourages “high quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community”. Fierce competition and mutual gain are not separate ideas. Gracious professionals compete intensely, but treat one another with respect and kindness.
- Coopertition™ is founded on the philosophy that teams can and should help and cooperate with each other even as they compete. Coopertition is learning and teaching among teammates and mentors. You are competing always, but assisting others whenever possible.



# Team Membership

## Benefits of Team Membership

- Learning and engaging in technical, engineering, business, marketing skills and participating in community outreach events
- Work on and master team building and leadership skills
- Experience “real world” problems and solutions
- Join and build a dynamic community
- Supportive, exciting and intense atmosphere
- Qualify for over \$20 million in college scholarships

## Membership Requirements

- Cortechs Robotics is dedicated to providing an environment in which students can learn and develop on their own terms with support from fellow team members and mentors. Standards of participation and expectations are necessary for the continued success of each member and for the team as a whole. In order to build and maintain a strong, committed team community and promote a safe work environment, team members must comply with the following requirements: Team members are expected to attend as many meetings as possible and must attend a minimum of 50% of scheduled meetings and/or business and outreach events during the season from August to April. There will be meetings and team activities during the off-season from May to July and students are expected to remain an active member of the team community. Team Leaders will follow the additional requirements as set forth in the Leader Contract. (Appendix A)
- Team members must agree to comply with the team Code of Conduct, Safety Rules and sign the Student Contract. (Appendix B)
- Team members will work with each other in a positive, constructive way. Members are expected to have a positive attitude and assist other members.

- Members will be responsive and respectful to the coach, mentors and volunteers.
- Team members should take the initiative when they see something they can do. They should not wait to be asked to help.
- Team members will be focused on team success and be ready to work productively at all team meetings. Therefore, members should not spend time during meetings listening to music, playing games, or spending time on their cell phone.
- All members will be thoroughly familiar with the rules of the competition and team goals.

### Time Commitment: Meetings

Time commitment varies depending on the time of year. During the build season from January to April, participation on an FRC team requires many hours of time from students and mentors. Think of robotics as an intensive sport; many students will be spending most of their spare time on building the robot. During the build season, build team members will be meeting approximately 4-5 days every week for at least 3 hours a day. The schedule will depend on the team's progress and what needs to be done. Members will be required to manage their time effectively in order to manage academic and team responsibilities.

During the months from May through July, the team will continue to meet at least 1-2 days a week. This is an important time for fundraising, team growth, training, learning, and individual development. While it is not necessary that students attend every meeting, they must remain a part of the team community.

During the months from August to December, the team will be meeting at least 3-4 days a week. In addition to preparing for the build season, team members will concentrate on fundraising, building sponsor support, planning community events and working on marketing initiatives. These activities will continue throughout the build season as needed.

### Time Commitment: Competitions

FRC build season officially begins in January when teams are tasked to design, manufacture, build, and program a robot to perform that season's challenge under strict rules and guidelines. Cortechs Robotics will compete in at least 2 district events. Based on qualifying matches during the district

events, the team will compete at the State Championships. Award-winning teams will have an opportunity to compete in the FIRST World Championship held in the US in April.

Cortechs Robotics may compete in a minimum of one competition during August-December in order to prepare the team for the season competitions.

## How to Join

We encourage interested high school students to read through the handbook and talk to current team members before applying to the team. Interested students are welcome to fill out an application (Appendix C). After an application is received, the team's student Recruitment Lead contacts the Coach, team Captain, and directors to set up an interview. The interview will include the Coach or Mentor and at least two team members. The interview team then meets to decide if the applicant will be sent an invitation to join the team.

Upon acceptance to the team, students and parents must complete the Student Contract form and a Consent, Release, Hold Harmless; and Permission form (Appendix D).

Membership is limited, with team size left to the discretion of team leadership. Membership will be based on team needs. We wish we could provide these opportunities to everyone, but space on the team is limited.

## Team Fees

Once a new student member is accepted and decides to join the team, a non-refundable \$400 donation is due at the team kick-off event. The money collected will be allocated to cover the registration fee for the District Event competitions, monthly rental of work space and the Parent Booster fee. The team will have to fundraise to cover the expenses of State Championship registration, build materials, tools, machinery and towards building a savings fund for the future. Students are expected to own a team t-shirt and, there will be additional costs of travel, lodging, and food for competition events that are not local.

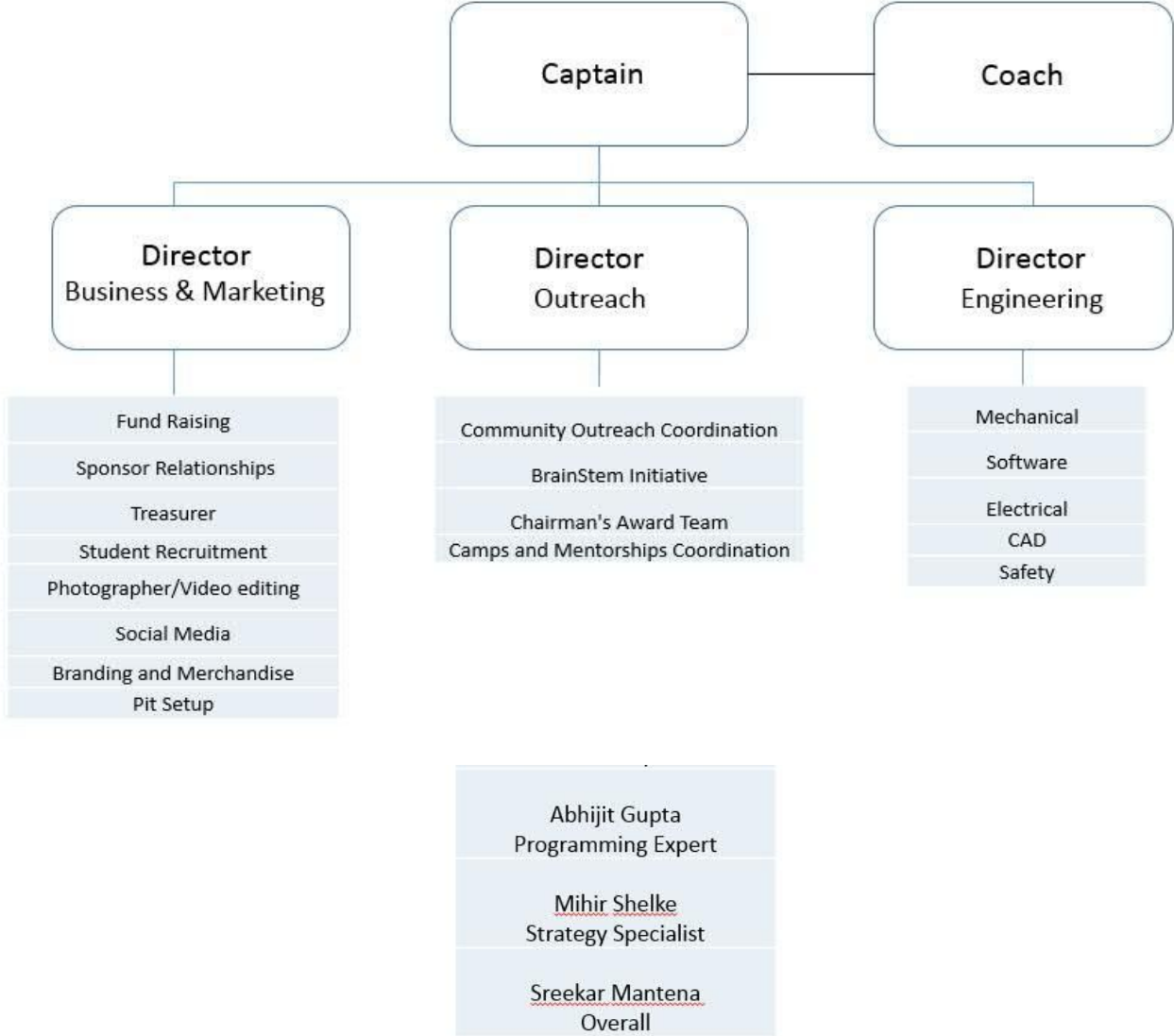
# Team Organization

The 2016-17 team organization is an adaptation of the pyramid structure. The team is led by one captain and is supported by the Director of Business

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and Marketing; Director of Outreach and Director of Engineering. The Captain in conjunction with the Directors and Coach collaborate to ensure the overall success of the team.

In addition, there is a Design Board selected by the Captain in collaboration with the Coach. The Design Board is led by the team captain and includes a lead for Mechanical Design, Programming/ Controls and Strategic Planner.



## **Business and Marketing Division**

### Business Team

- Fundraising including grant writing
- Sponsor Relationships (Brochures, Thank you notes, Presentations)
- Updating and maintaining the business plan and budget
- Student Recruitment Process

### Marketing Team

- Branding and Merchandising
- Graphic Design
- Marketing sponsor brands
- Updating Social Media including Website Content
- Photography and video recording
- Pit Design
- Website Content

## **Outreach Division**

- Planning and implementing BrainStem Initiative
- Planning and participating in outreach community events
- Organizing FLL camps
- Planning Chairman's Award Submission
- Planning mentorship coordination

## Engineering Division

### CAD Team

- 3D model the robot outlined by the Internal Design board
- Maintain an updated model of the competition robot
- Design specified custom parts to be used in CNC machinery

### Programming Team

- Responsible for the software of the robot. Example tasks include: programming the different components (controls, motors, actuators, etc.) of the robot.
- Programming visual detection methods
- Updating computers with most recent software
- Maintain Labview software version management and patches
- Implementation and maintenance of Git Hub
- Team Website Maintenance
- Aid and assists build team endeavors

### Mechanical/Build Team

- Building, manufacturing, testing, maintaining the competition robot
- Inventory Management
- Prototyping potential robot designs
- Managing tools, parts, and workspace

### Electrical Team

- Responsible for all the electrical components of the robot.
- Drawing circuit diagrams
- Wiring all necessary electrical components to power and signal, working with sensors and cameras.

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## Safety Captain

- Eliminate safety hazards: cluttered work areas, out-of-date, pre-safety standard, broken, ill-repaired, jury-rigged, otherwise unsafe tools & equipment.
- Substitute change things that aren't currently safe: replace worn bits/blades/cutters/sanding belts/grinding wheels. Replace worn out equipment with newer, safer models. Inspect and repair/replace worn extension & tool electrical cords.
- Administrative Controls devise new safety procedures, install warning signs, operating instructions, develop a maintenance schedule, train people, track training
- Personal Protective Equipment - safety glasses, ear plugs, work clothing, footgear, gloves, welding shields

# Roles & Responsibilities

## Captain

- Ensure team finances are being maintained and tracked
- Support team Directors by offering guidance and insights on tasks such as fundraising, design/build, programming, CAD, community outreach and large-scale team decisions.
- Schedule and conduct “all hands on deck” meetings.
- Lead meetings between department directors, coach and mentors. Approve the individual agendas and schedules of the Division Directors.
- Initiate team votes when required.

## Director of Engineering

- Responsible for the success of this division.
- Schedules meetings. Tracks team member’s action items and communicates progress to captain.
- Provide project management during build season.
- Support team members when needed to ensure their success.
- Keep everything on task and demonstrate leadership. Step into roles that need to be filled.
- Schedules design review sessions.
- Designates specific min-groups to handle specific robot requirements
- Tracks attendance of team members.



## **Design Board**

- Responsible for the design of the competition robot.
- Assigns teams to handle specific project related tasks during build season.

## **Director of Business and Marketing**

- Responsible for the success of this division
- Schedules meetings. Tracks team member's action items and communicates progress to captain.
- Provides project management.
- Supports team members when needed to ensure their success
- Keeps everything on task and demonstrates leadership.
- Acts as the team ambassador/face of the team. A primary point of contact.
- Create and maintain Team Documents (business plan, newsletter, brochures etc.)
- Tracks attendance of team members

## **Team Mentors**

### **Goals and Objectives**

Mentoring is an important and crucial part of an FRC team and contributes to the sustained success of the team. Mentors provide advice, support, and encouragement to the team. On team Cortechs, a mentor's goal is to actively share knowledge and experiences with the team to assist in fostering intellectual growth and team success. Mentors and student team members are equal partners working collaboratively toward mutual and beneficial

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goals. A successful mentor will optimize every team member's learning experiences by:

- Fostering a reciprocal foundation of trust and respect
- Promoting individual thought, ideas, and innovation
- Working with the team captain in developing roles within the team
- Mentoring by employing facilitation process and techniques as outlined in the FIRST Mentoring Guide

## Roles and Responsibilities

The role of mentors on team Cortechs is to be a supporter, motivator, and facilitator. The roles of mentors and student team members evolve over a period of time. The ultimate goal of mentors is to facilitate team members to grow in knowledge and understanding so that they can work independently and are able to teach and guide others on the team. All team mentors are required to read the FIRST Mentoring Guide.

- Inspire students in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics
- Employ the facilitation process and techniques as outlined in the Team Mentoring Guide
- Create and establish an environment of open, honest and positive communication within the team
- Along with team leaders, maintain process focus
- Encourage student team members to be actively engaged in team goals, productive work, and meaningful activities. Encourage student team members to take risks, invent and innovate
- Demonstrate trust and respect for every team member and their ideas
- Create a team culture of accountability and student team member leadership
- Ensure that team members are working safely and legally

## **Mentor Roles**

### Coach

- Assist in conflict resolution among student team members, mentors, and parents
- Collaborate with team captain and group directors to organize, plan, and set team goals
- Head of table at executive decision making meetings
- Final say and vote on team decisions
- Collaborate with student team members to maximize productivity and efficiency
- Fill in mentor roles that are vacant

### Build Mentor(s)

- There must always be at least one present during the design, build and programming build season
- Inspire, motivate and promote innovation
- Share industry knowledge and experience
- Maintain and ensure a safe working environment by enforcing safety rules
- Promote a collaborative relationship with students team members

### Business, Marketing, Community Outreach Mentor(s)

- Assist in fundraising by working collaboratively with student team members
- Share industry knowledge and experience
- Create a professional business work environment
- Ensure students are always working within the bounds of the legal system

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## Consultants and Contributors

- Assist the team on specific project related tasks when needed.
- Mentor rules apply.

## **Parents**

The Cortechs team culture is to always encourage student team members to develop, mature and prepare them for their autonomy in the professional and adult world. To help with this, parents are requested to remember that their teen student is transitioning into a new phase of life. Student team members are grateful for parental support and assistance in allowing their student to be successful in their continued growth.

Parents may be asked to help the team by organizing food/snack schedules or assist in tasks as they arise.

# Code of Conduct

*When you are operating as a member of the team, remember you are representing Cortechs. Abide by the tenants of Gracious Professionalism and respect at all times your teammates, adults, and members of other FIRST teams*

- Voice your ideas and opinions respectfully. Value the ideas and opinions of others and seek to understand their perspectives.
- Participate appropriately and actively in decision making and support fully the decisions of the team.
- Be accountable and responsible for the tasks and duties assigned to you. Update the team leaders on status of tasks.
- Attendance at team meetings is a priority. To continue on the team, members are required to participate in a minimum of ½ team meetings. Communicate to your team leaders when you will be missing a meeting.
- All student members must read the FIRST “Team Safety Manual” found on the FIRST website. Be responsible and conscientious in the use and maintenance of equipment, parts, and tools. Be safe and use tools properly, wear protective eyewear and closed toe shoes when in the work space.
- All students must participate in keeping the work areas clean and organized, particularly at the close of each day. This is critical for safety and productivity.
- Abide by rules and requests of organizers of FIRST events and wherever we are operating as a team.
- Cursing or use of vulgar, profane, or obscene language is prohibited.
- Do not wear explicit clothes to team meetings or when representing the team. Presenting a bodily appearance or wearing clothing which is disruptive, provocative, revealing, profane, vulgar, offensive or obscene, or which endangers the health or safety of the student or others is prohibited. Examples of prohibited dress or appearance include, but are not limited to exposed undergarments; sagging pants; excessively short or tight garments; bare midriff shirts;

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strapless shirts; attire with messages or illustrations that are lewd, indecent or vulgar.

- No student shall possess, use, distribute, sell, possess with intent to distribute or sell, or conspire or attempt to distribute or sell, purchase, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, anabolic steroid, other controlled substance, any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, fortified wine, other intoxicating liquor, drug paraphernalia, counterfeit substance, any unauthorized prescription drug, or any other chemicals or products with the intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration, euphoria, or of otherwise altering the student's mood or behavior. The proper use of a drug authorized by valid medical prescription from a legally authorized health care provider shall not be considered a violation of this rule when the drug is taken by the person for whom the drug was prescribed.

*If a student fails to abide by the team code of conduct, for the benefit and safety of this individual and the rest of the team, Cortechs Robotics reserves the right to terminate the student's membership without refund.*

# Safety

- Members will abide by the FIRST Safety Manual and the Cortechs's official Safety Manual.
- Members will respect all wishes of the Safety Captain. The Safety Captain will design a comprehensive tool safety and certification process.
- When the team is operating, there must be at least one mentor present in the work space at all times (including non-build meetings).
- All members working in the workspace shop shall be wearing safety glasses at all times if power tools are being used. Long hair must be pulled back and closed toe shoes must be worn. No long, dangling jewelry should be worn. This includes hooded sweatshirts with strings.
- Only students that have completed the safety course are authorized to use power tools. There is a separate safety check-off process for each power tool.
- All students must know the location of the fire extinguisher and safety kit.
- Mentors must complete the FIRST background check.
- At no point should two unrelated members (mentors or students) be alone together, unless explicitly permitted by student's legal guardian.

# Appendix A: Leadership Contract

## By signing this form I verify the following:

I will maintain a professional standard which will be a model for all students to follow. This includes but is not limited to: refraining from improper language and talking behind others backs, respectful demeanor, confidence, attendance, and integrity.

I will represent the team in a positive way at all team events and wherever I wear a Cortechs Robotics team shirt. I will exemplify the team's founding tenets at all team events and wherever I wear a Cortechs Robotics team shirt.

I will be thoughtful, empathetic, caring and respectful towards other members and mentors, especially in high pressure and stressful situations.

I will frequently check email and other means of correspondence in order to respond to and approve time sensitive materials.

I understand that there will be work outside of regular meetings that could require a lot of time. I will complete these tasks to the best of my ability. Work will be exact, thorough, and fully committed to. I recognize the tasks and responsibilities outlined for my duty are only a bare minimum from which further tasks and duties will grow.

I will consider the future of the robotics program and foster partnership with students who may be future leaders. To the best of my abilities, I will remain a part of the team for the entirety of the season.

## Core requirements summary:

- 85% attendance (rough estimation—due to change from duty to duty)
- Dedication outside of meetings
- Role model to students
- Respectful and clear communication

## Cortechs's Tenets of Success:

1. Let's build a robot—Every aspect of the team should harmonize in order to make robot building as successful as it can be.
2. Professionalism—Ego, emotions, adversarial relationships, and thoughts of personal glory are not significant in a professional environment.
3. Unity—the team is a family, community. Individual ego is less important than the good of the team and arguments or fights arise to act in the best interest of the team. Failure to comply or meet any of the requirements outlined in this document gives the current coaches and mentors reasonable grounds for demotion. This is a living document.

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Print Student Name

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Student Signature

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# Appendix B: Student Contract

## By Signing this Form, I verify the following:

- I have read the student handbook in its entirety and fully understand the responsibilities and rules of participating on this FIRST Robotics Competition team.
- I understand and agree to adhere to the Code of Conduct.
- I will treat the team coach, mentors, team members and community members with respect and in a professional manner.
- I will attend at least 50% of scheduled meetings and/ or team outreach and business events. It is my responsibility to inform the responsible director or captain if I will not be able to attend a scheduled meeting.
- I understand that my attendance and active participation at meetings, events, and build season, determines my eligibility of going to regional competition(s) and the World Championship.
- I have read the safety guidelines in their entirety and will maintain all rules diligently. I will hold myself and teammates to a high standard of safety at all times. I will respond immediately to requests made by the safety captain.
- I will maintain a valid email address that will be used for team communications. It is my responsibility to check my email daily for team correspondence and communications through team systems.
- I am responsible for maintaining passing grades in all academic endeavors. In the event that I do not have all passing grades, I will notify the team coach and excuse myself from team events in order to catch up.
- I am willing to be a volunteer at local FIRST events in order to spread and grow the FIRST message. I understand these events may include mentoring other FRC/FTC/FLL teams.
- I understand that I may be asked to hold the position of team director or team lead. If accepted, I will to the best of my ability carry out the necessary duties. If responsibility is misused, it is the captain's prerogative to demote me.
- I understand Gracious Professionalism and can describe the concept to someone else. I agree to act with Gracious Professionalism in all that I do while a member of this team. I agree to act in a responsible and honorable manner whenever I wear any team logo outside of a meeting.

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Student's Name [Print]

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Student Name [Signature]

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Date

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# Appendix C: Application to Join

## Cortechs Robotics Team Application

Welcome to Cortechs Robotics! In order to be considered for our team, please fill out the application to its entirety.

Student Cell Phone Number

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Student Name

---

Where do you go to school?

---

Student email address:

---

Gender:

M

F

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade:

9

10

11

12

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Commitment:**

Do you participate in any extracurriculars?

Robotics is a time intensive activity going all year long, we would like to know what other activities you are planning to join while in high school? Please list other clubs, sports, or outside school activities that you will be doing during the school year.

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If the previous question applied to you, please tell us the average number of hours you put into each extracurricular per week; and if possible, for what duration of months does each last.

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**Field(s) of Interest:**

Select all that apply

Business

Marketing

Build

Design

Outreach

Other (please specify):

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Why would you like to join?

FRC is not only about planning and constructing robots , but also about development, business marketing, and community outreach. Tell us why you want to join a robotics team.

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Have you ever been a part of a FIRST team?

If "yes", please specify

Yes

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No

**What can you bring to the team?**

Tell us about all of your skills! If you are joining the team to gain experience, that's fantastic, tell us why you want to learn these skills.

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Anything else?

Tell us something about yourself! This is the time to brag. If you can fly airplanes, or are an international eating champion, let us know! Tell us about your hobbies or interests.

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How did you hear about Cortechs Robotics?

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Questions?

Please use this opportunity to ask any questions about the team.

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**Parent Information**

Parent Prefix:

Mr.

Ms.

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact Name:

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Parent Email Address:

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Parent Phone Number:

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Thank you very much for your application! We will carefully read your responses. If there is anything more you would like to say, contact us at [cortechsrobotics@gmail.com](mailto:cortechsrobotics@gmail.com). We will contact you soon regarding whether or not you have been accepted to Cortechs Robotics.

# Appendix D: Consent, Release, Hold Harmless, and Permission

This form is for Cortechs Robotics and any FRC, FTC, or FLL teams under its direction or affiliation and any individual, student, team member, mentor, coach, teacher, or volunteer involved in a Cortechs Robotics event.

## Meeting Commitment:

By signing below, I acknowledge my son/daughter has my permission to participate and attend meetings held, unless otherwise notified, at the Cortechs work space. Meetings will be scheduled throughout the week in the evenings and weekends depending on the needs of the team. Team members will be required to attend at least 50% of the meetings and/or outside events unless they are a team member (85%).

## Permission to Ride

Cortechs Robotics may have team meetings, events outside of the work space and at competitions. At times, a student may require to travel with someone other than their parents. Please check below ALL THAT APPLY:

\_\_\_\_\_ I will NOT allow my student to ride with a mentor, other parent or other student.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will allow my student to ride with a mentor

\_\_\_\_\_ I will allow my student to ride with another student or parent. List all

specify: \_\_\_\_\_

## Media Permissions

Cortechs Robotics and its 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 Cortechs Robotics and its sponsors. They may also be used by the news media providing coverage of the team aired on the television. Please check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ I give permission to Cortechs Robotics, its sponsors, and news media to take photographs, videos (or to be included in presentations) of my student. Further, I authorize their use without inspecting or approving the finished media product.

2016-2017

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not give permission to Cortechs Robotics, its sponsors, and news media to take photographs, videos (or to be included in presentations) of my student. Further, I do not authorize their use without inspecting or approving the finished media product.

By signing below you acknowledge that the answers you gave to each section above will apply to your child throughout their participation on this FIRST Team. If at any time you change your mind, please complete a new form.

**Release**

There are risks inherent in participating Cortechs Robotics events, including risks in working with electrical connections, machinery and tools, traveling to and from events, and participating in public competitions. These risks include the risk of bodily harm (including without limitation, death) and property damage or loss.

Being fully cognizant of the risks of participating in an event, I hereby assume those risks. Except to the extent due to the gross negligence or willful misconduct of Cortechs Robotics, 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 Cortechs Robotics arising in connection with my participation in any Cortechs Robotics event, presentations by the team, at any time during the year and/or arising from unofficial FIRST programs and events offered by others. I hold harmless Cortechs Robotics, against any and all claims resulting from such participation, including, without limitation, bodily injury, claims for compensation, defamation, or invasion of privacy, or other infringements or violations of personal or property rights of any sort whatsoever.

I understand that this form involves a release of legal rights.

\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name [Printed]

\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name [Signature]

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Name [Printed]

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Name [Signature]

\_\_\_\_\_

Date