

KC Robotics Team

FIRST FRC Team 1553/FTC Team 208

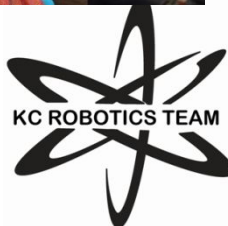
Student/Parent/Guardian Meeting

September 18, 2018



Welcome!

- Returning team members
- Possible new team members
- Mentors
- Parents



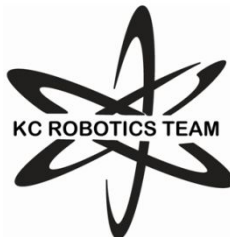
Agenda

- Introductions of Mentors
- Team Handbook
- Mission
- FIRST Robotics
- Policies
- Involvement
- Communications
- Meeting Dates and Times
- Safety
- Registration
- Get to Know Me Form
- Financial
- Competitions
- Photos / Videos
- Classwork / Assignments
- Refreshments
- Non-Profit
- Mentors
- Questions



Introductions of Mentors

- Name
- Occupation/Employer
- Number of Years on Team



Team Handbook

- The team has a handbook that provides detailed information concerning the team, team policies, and team activities.
- It includes information we are discussing tonight and additional items.
- It has been updated for this season.
- It is available through the Documents page of the team website.

KC Robotics Team Handbook



FTC Team 208/FRC Team 1553
2018-2019 Season

www.kcroboticsteam.org

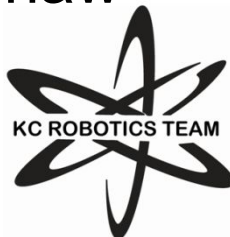
Mission

Inspire Kershaw County students in 7th through 12th grades to become leaders through participation in mentor based FIRST[®] robotics programs that build science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, and communication and leadership abilities.

The team works to fulfill its mission through participation in two FIRST robotics programs.

FIRST = For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology

Open to any student living in or attending school in Kershaw County (public, private, home).

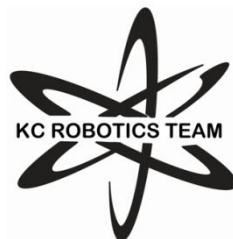


FIRST Robotics

FIRST was founded in 1989 by Dean Kamen. Their 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.

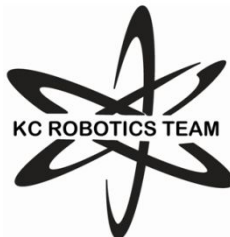
We participate in two FIRST programs:

- FIRST Tech Challenge[®] (FTC)
- FIRST Robotics Competition[®] (FRC)



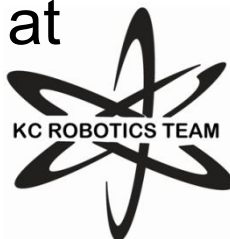
FIRST Robotics

- FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC)
 - Students in 7th to 12th grades
- FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC)
 - Students in 9th to 12th grades
- Each program has a new challenge each year.
- Learn more about these programs at our website or at the FIRST website: www.firstinspires.org



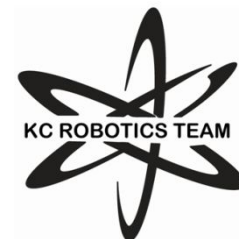
Policies

- Follow Kershaw County School District (KCSD) policies, FIRST, and KC Robotics Team rules.
- Breaking a rule or policy, not participating, or having a failing grade could mean removal from the team.
 - Grades to be checked periodically.
- Mentors are all background checked and register as volunteers with KCSD.
 - KCSD employees do not have to register as volunteers.
- We limit the number of students on the team to 30 students. This is to ensure we have a proper student/mentor ratio at our meetings and events. We may have to limit further depending on mentoro availability.



Involvement

- We have many ways students can be involved with the team.
- Many of those opportunities do not involve the actual building of the robot.
- Examples:
 - Awards, communication, drive team, electrical, marketing, mechanical, photos/videos, programming, team mascot
- All students are expected to be active participants in team activities and not just using the team activities as social time.



Communication

- Email is the primary communication to team members.
- Team email address is kcroboticsteam@gmail.com.
- Each student and at least one parent/guardian of each student is expected to have an email account and provide that email address to the team so those addresses can be added to the team email list.
- Students are expected to regularly check that email address for team related communications.

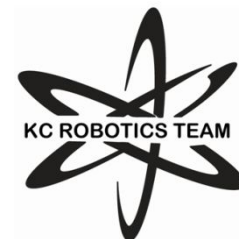


Communication

- The team also uses the Remind app to send quick updates.
- You can find the Remind app in your favorite app store and at www.remind.com.

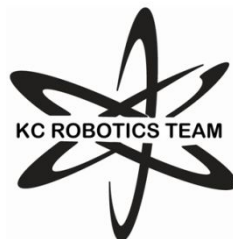


- You can sign yourself up to our group. Search for @kcrob.



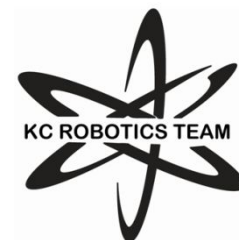
Communication

- The team has its own website: www.kcroboticsteam.org
- The team calendar is available at that website.
- The calendar is a Google based calendar. That calendar is a public calendar. Search for KC Robotics Team.
- The team has Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram accounts.
 - Search for KC Robotics Team and Like/Follow us.
- During the season our social media group sends regular team updates to these accounts.



Meeting Dates and Times

- Team meetings in the Fall will be on Tuesdays afternoons from 4 to 6. That day and time works for most everyone.
- The team calendar will show all meeting dates.
- Meetings are held in the robotics room unless otherwise stated.
- Starting in January team meetings will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays (4pm to 6pm) and Saturdays (8am to noon).
- We understand every student will not be able to attend every meeting. But regular participation is expected.



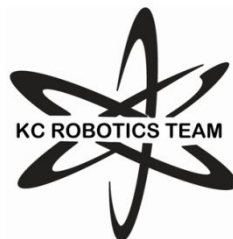
Meeting Dates and Times

Camden Students

- Usually there are several students that come from Camden.
- It's suggested students consider carpooling to make it easier for parents / guardians.

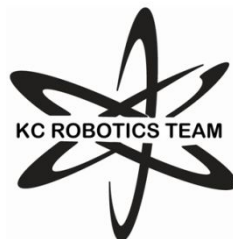
Lugoff-Elgin Middle School Students

- We will have to work with Lugoff-Elgin Middle School students on where they are to go from the end of school until the start of our meeting.



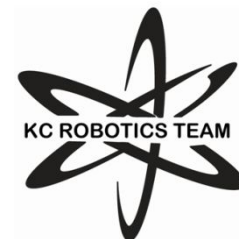
Safety

- Safety of our team members is very important.
- We use tools and equipment that can cause serious injury.
- Students are not allowed to use tools unless the student knows how to use the tools properly.
- Students have to follow our team rules.
- Team rules are posted in the team room and are available online in the Documents portion of our website.



Team Registration

- A Member Information form is required for each student.
- A link to the form is on the Documents page of the team website.
- Complete that form as soon as possible.
- Each student will be required to register with FIRST.
 - Information will be shared on how to do this.
 - A parent/guardian will need to register first.
 - Students will register once the parent/guardian has registered.



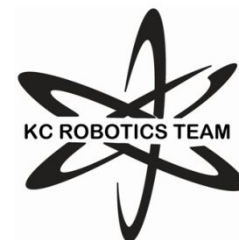
Financial

- There is a team fee for students.
 - \$100 for middle school students
 - \$150 for high school students
- Team fees are due by November 1.
- Team fees include team shirts
 - One shirt for middle school students
 - Two shirts for high school students



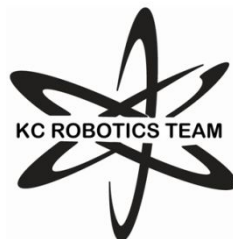
Financial

- The team will have some fundraisers throughout the year. Last year we did a spaghetti dinner and silent auction.
- Students are expected to pay for their own robot competition travel expenses. This includes their meals, fuel for vehicles, and portion of a hotel room for overnight trips.
- Costs about events will be shared well in advance of those events.



Financial

- Costs for the FTC program are approximately \$2,000.
 - \$1,000 in registration fees
 - \$1,000 in parts and miscellaneous items
- Costs for the FRC program are approximately \$8,000.
 - \$5,000 in registration fees
 - \$3,000 in parts and miscellaneous items



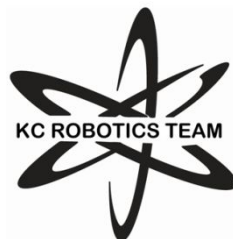
Supporters

- We welcome financial support from individuals and businesses in our community.
- We write and usually receive some grant money each year.
- As part of our fundraising we will require each student to contact a certain number of businesses in the area and request financial support for the team.



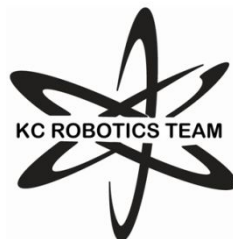
Competitions

- The FIRST FTC robot competitions will be a league format.
 - Four leagues in South Carolina. We are part of the Capital Area league.
 - There are three league matches we can attend. Scoring from league matches provides ranking for league playoffs. These are after school or on a weekend.
 - Two leagues have a league competition. Top 12 teams from each league competition compete in South Carolina Championship.
 - Two teams advance from the South Carolina Championship to the World Championship in Houston TX.
 - Students are responsible for their own costs for hotel, food, and portions of travel expenses.



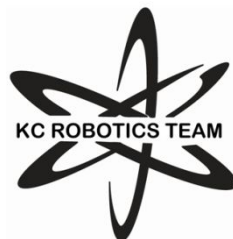
Competitions

- The FIRST FRC robot competition will be February 28 through March 2 at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center.
 - This will be an overnight trip from Wednesday through Saturday.
 - We will travel after school on Wednesday and return late on Saturday.
 - Students responsible for their own costs for hotel, food, and portions of travel expenses.
- We also have one off-season events at Dreher High School on Saturday October 20. This is a one day event.
 - We will use last year's robot for this competition.



Photos / Videos

- We plan to take pictures and videos of the team throughout the year and use those pictures and videos in our social media and news articles..
- A photo consent form must be completed for each student and signed by a parent/guardian of that student.
 - Complete that tonight if possible and turn in before you leave.



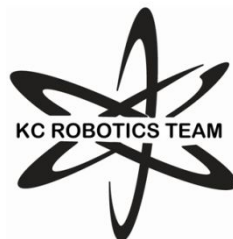
Classwork / Assignments

- Students are responsible for all classroom assignments they may miss due to robot team activities.
- Students may not have any failing grades.
 - This may be checked periodically during the school year.
- Students can occasionally use some team meeting time to complete school work.



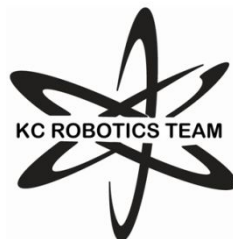
Refreshments

- Students are ALWAYS hungry after school.
- Parents/guardians are welcome to provide snacks and drinks to share.
- Students may also bring items only for themselves.



Non-Profit

- The robotics team is a non-profit organization and is registered as a public charity in South Carolina.
- All donations to the team are tax deductible.
- We love cash but also can use services, materials, equipment, etc.



Mentors

- The team could use some additional mentors.
- You don't need to be a technical expert – there are lots of non-technical items to be done.
- Let me know if you are interested in helping.



Questions?

Turn In: Photo Consent
Complete Online: Team Registration Form

