

# SuperNOVA FIRST Robotics Competition Team

## Parent & Student Agreement 2024-2025

Welcome to SuperNOVA Robotics! Joining our FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) team means becoming part of a dedicated group that values innovation, teamwork, and hard work. Like a sports team, being on a robotics team requires commitment and responsibility. To ensure that all team members contribute meaningfully and have a rewarding experience, we require that each family carefully review and agree to the following contract.

### Attendance and Participation

1. **Attendance Requirement:** Team members are required to attend at least **75% of all scheduled practices** to be considered in "good standing" on the team.  
Roughly 72 hours of practice based on an 8 week build season.
2. **Practice Schedule:**
  - **Saturdays:** 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
  - **Sundays:** 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
  - **Fridays:** 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM (as needed, based on sub-team requirements)
  - **Virtual meetings** held during the week on discord as needed.
  - Additional or extended practices may be scheduled as necessary to ensure readiness for competitions.
3. **Excused Absences:** Students may be excused from a practice or event if prior arrangements are made with the coach. Students with ongoing conflicts are expected to clear these with the coaches at the start of the season.
4. **Focus and Engagement:** Team members are expected to stay engaged and focused on team activities during meetings. Time spent on unrelated activities (e.g., phones, homework, video games, non-FIRST robots, or non-participatory behaviors) will result in an **unexcused absence** for that meeting.
5. **Punctuality and Presence:** Students who consistently arrive late, leave early, or disappear for extended periods may be marked with an **unexcused absence**. Active, meaningful participation is expected from all team members.

### Team Responsibilities

1. **Contribution:** Each team member is expected to take on specific tasks and complete them in a timely and responsible manner. Individual contributions are critical to our collective success.
2. **Teamwork:** Members are expected to support, respect, and collaborate with teammates, mentors, and coaches. Conflicts should be addressed respectfully and promptly.
3. **Safety First:** All members must adhere to safety guidelines at all times. This includes wearing appropriate safety gear (closed toe shoes, safety glasses in the shop), handling tools responsibly, and following all safety protocols to ensure a secure working environment.
4. **Clean-Up:** Building robots is messy work, and all team members are responsible for helping maintain a clean workspace. Students will not be excused from practice until the entire shop and classrooms are cleaned up and everything is put away. If a student needs to leave early from practice, they must clean up their work area and ensure it is not left for a teammate to handle.

## Code of Conduct

1. **Behavior Standards:** All team members must adhere to the **Prince William County Schools (PWCS) Code of Behavior** during all team practices, events, and competitions.
2. **Team Respect:** Members are expected to treat each other with respect and work collaboratively with teammates, coaches, and mentors to achieve team goals.

## Financial Responsibility

1. **Activity Fees:** There is an **annual activity fee of \$100** per student to support team operations and resources.
2. **New Member Apparel Package:** All new members purchase an **apparel package for \$80**, which includes two team polos and one team t-shirt, that can be reused from year to year.
3. **Additional Apparel:** Optional apparel items (e.g., jackets, hoodies) may be available for additional purchase.
4. **Travel Fees:** Each student will be responsible for covering their costs (hotels, food, transportation) associated with overnight travel for competitions. This will be announced once logistics for each trip are finalized.

## Competition Commitment

1. **District Events:** Competitions span **2 to 3 days** and generally follow this schedule:
  - **Friday Evening:** Setup (drive team only)
  - **Saturday & Sunday:** Full competition days from approximately 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM.
2. **District Championship:** This event requires a three-day commitment.
3. Due to space, chaperone availability, and budget constraints, not all team members may be able to attend every overnight event. The travel team will be selected based on members' roles on the team and their level of participation and attendance.

## Reasons for Removal from the Team

The following are reasons for removal or dismissal from the team for any period deemed appropriate by the team coaches and mentors:

- **Safety Violations:** Willfully endangering themselves or others.
- **Code of Conduct Violations:** Violating PWCS Code of Behavior or other team rules.
- **Attendance Violations:** Failing to meet the attendance requirements to remain in good standing, including repeated unexcused absences..
- **Disrupting Team Activities:** Repeatedly causing distractions that impact team productivity or focus.
- **School Attendance:** No longer attending school within the Prince William County School District.
- **Non-Participation:** Failing to actively participate during team practices, meetings, or events.

## SuperNOVA Parent/Student Agreement

By signing below, both parent/guardian and student agree to adhere to the team's attendance, participation, responsibility, and behavior standards, as well as the financial responsibilities outlined above. We acknowledge that commitment to the team is crucial for individual growth and the team's success.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_