

FIRST Robotics Competition Team 1317 Digital Fusion



Please read the information on these pages to understand the commitment involved in joining FRC Team 1317.

The biggest commitment is during the six-week build season starting with kick-off on **Saturday, January 5, 2019**. During build season, we'll meet at The Point at Otterbein University (60 Collegeview Rd., Westerville) Monday-Thursday (6pm to 9pm) and Saturday (9am to 6pm) with occasional meetings (especially in the last week) at the PAST Foundation to use the mock field there. In the first several weeks of the season, students should plan to attend all sessions unless other arrangements are made with the coaches. Stop-build day is **Tuesday, February 19, 2019**.

In the weeks following stop-build, the drive team and programmers will continue to meet with intermittent help from others until the weekend of the competition. Competitions are held throughout March at various locations. These events are from Thursday-Saturday. We usually attend competitions in Ohio (usually Dayton or Cleveland).

Note that the team participates in outreach and other events throughout the year. Students are expected to participate in at least one outreach and one off-season competition. We hope to qualify for the World Championship (Detroit, MI, usually in April, 3-day event) and WOW Championship (Otterbein, usually in May, 1-day event). We also attend a local 1-day event in either June or September. Also, prior to and after the start of the build season, we plan to have training classes approximately once per month. Attendance is required unless other arrangements are made with the coaches.

Parents are expected to help with the team. There are many technical and non-technical areas of service. A list of parent jobs will be provided at the first meeting. Also, two parents are needed every meeting to help supervise the students. Parent supervision will be divided equitably based on the number of families. A sign-up sheet will be available.

Digital Fusion depends on funding provided by students and sponsors to cover the team expenses such as travel costs, registration fees, and building components. Thanks to the efforts of coaches, money from grants has minimized the amount paid by students. **The team activity fee for the 2018-19 season is \$100 per student. Need-based scholarships are available.** (Note that there are additional costs such as for T-shirts and travel/accommodations for tournaments. Please contact a coach for details.) Since the cost of participation is subsidized, each family is expected to help with all team fundraising. Some corporations will provide grants for an employee's volunteer hours, which has been one source of funding. Please check with your employer. Also, the team is operated by a non-profit corporation so all donations are tax deductible.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS (All forms will be available at www.dfweb.org.)

- Application Form filled out and signed. **Must be completed by parent/guardian AND student.**
- Student Contract - Signed
- Parent/Guardian Contract - Signed
- Essay: All applicants need to submit a **typed** essay (200-400 words).
 - *New students:* address how you learned about FIRST and why you want to participate.
 - *Returning students:* address skills that you could bring to the team, what you hope to learn from the team, and how you plan to contribute to the overall success of FRC Team 1317 and the mission of FIRST.

Application must be e-mailed by midnight, **Saturday, August 18, 2018** to dhedges@insight.rr.com. **Please be sure that it is complete because all requested information is important.** The team size will be limited based on needs of the team and coach/mentor support. Being a member of the previous year's team is no guarantee of a place on this year's team. Applications will be reviewed by a committee made up of team coaches. Students will be notified by e-mail of their acceptance to the team by **Saturday, September 1, 2018**.

Once accepted to the team, you will be notified of the first meeting, **which will be in September**. At that time, additional paperwork will be due. The final off-season competition is later that month. Details will be provided. If you have questions, contact Mrs. Hedges at dhedges@insight.rr.com.

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2018-2019 APPLICATION (To be completed by parent/guardian AND student)

Student Information (to be completed by the student)

Name: _____

School Name: _____ District _____

County _____ **2018-19** Grade Level: ___ Freshman ___ Sophomore ___ Junior ___ Senior

Date of Birth: (Month/Day/Year): _____ Gender: M F

Do you have a job/activity that will conflict with the build season? If so, explain (specifying days of week at issue)

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Text OK? Y N

Email: _____

Please tell us about yourself. (Interests, Hobbies, Experience, etc.)

Will you commit to the build season? Y N

*New Students: How did you hear about Digital Fusion? _____

Robotics Information (to be completed by the student)

	FLL	FTC	FRC	Other types of robotics programs
# years involved				

Please complete the chart. STEM = science, technology, engineering or math.

	None at all	Very low	Average	Above average	High
What is your level of interest in any STEM subject?					
What is your level of ability in any STEM subject?					
What is the likelihood you will pursue a career in a STEM field?					

Career(s) that interest you: _____

Parent or Guardian's Information (to be completed by parent). We must be able to reach you.

Parent/Guardian 1 Name: _____ Home #: _____ Address same as student? Y N

Cell #: _____ Email: _____ Work #: _____

Parent/Guardian 2 Name: _____ Home #: _____ Address same as student? Y N

Cell #: _____ Email: _____ Work #: _____

Employers for all parents/guardians: _____

Job title for all parents/guardians: _____

Please list any engineering or business experience you have that could help the team (see categories on next page): _____

Will one of you commit to the build season? Y N Name of person committing to this: _____

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Contribution/Areas of Interest (to be completed by student)

Every student should expect to participate in one area of each category below. In each category (A, B, and C), rank your preferences with 1 being HIGHEST. Do not leave any blanks.

A. Robot-related

	Rank all from 1-4	Student (experience/comments)
Mechanical		
Electrical		
Programming		
3D modeling		

B. Business-related

	Rank all from 1-6	Student (experience/comments)
Marketing/PR		
Corporate fundraising		
Soliciting meal donations		
Administration		
HR		
Other business skill		

C. Other

	Rank all from 1-8	Student (experience/comments)
Computer animation		
Updating websites		
Creating videos (music videos, promos, etc.)		
Using social media (promoting the team)		
Writing grants		
Writing business plan		
Writing essay or skit		
Acting in a skit		

Student (optional): Provide additional comments to clarify participation interest or experience:

For Coaches only:

Payment Y N \$ _____ Added to Teamsnap Y N Added to Slack Y N

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PARENT/GUARDIAN & STUDENT CONTRACTS

Parents/Guardian & students: to ensure that everyone understands the responsibility and commitment needed to participate, please read this contract together and sign both parts. KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Parent/Guardian Contract

I understand that the coaches and mentors volunteer a significant amount of time and effort to provide a rewarding experience for the team and that this team does not have the typical support structure or the resources of a school-supported team. Therefore, as a parent of a team member,

_____ I agree to sign up and actively participate in needed support tasks.

_____ I agree to actively chaperone meetings. (Parent supervision will be divided equitably based on the number of families.)

_____ I agree to volunteer or cheer at competitions.

I also understand that communication is vital to respect our volunteer coaches and our teammates and to stay abreast of needs. Therefore,

_____ I agree to communicate regularly through Teamsnap and Slack (or whatever communication tools the coaches indicate). This includes **DAILY** checking emails and updating meeting attendance in TeamSnap. **ALL ABSENCES REQUIRE ADVANCE NOTICE.**

_____ In case my child is unable to attend with less than 24 hours' notice, I will make sure that either my child or I will call or text Mr. Queary as soon as possible.

_____ I also agree to make every effort to have my child arrive and depart on time for every meeting.

_____ I have read the student contract and understand the commitment my child is making. **Specifically, I understand that dismissal from the team may result from repeated infractions.**

Signature of parent/guardian _____ Date _____

Printed name _____

Signature of parent/guardian _____ Date _____

Printed name _____

IMPORTANT: PARENTS/GUARDIANS & STUDENTS, PLEASE CONTINUE TO THE NEXT PAGE for the student portion of this contract.

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Student Contract

Students, please initial each item to which you can honestly agree:

I understand that I will be part of a team. For the benefit of the team, I will:

- _____ encourage my teammates' input rather than make decisions unilaterally.
- _____ cheerfully participate in tasks where I am assigned even if they are not the tasks I desired.
- _____ cooperate on whatever solution the team chooses, even if it is not my first choice.
- _____ try not to waste my or anyone else's time. I will stay on task and focused and I will not distract others.

I also agree to do the following:

_____ keep my event availability up-to-date in TeamSnap. **ALL ABSENCES REQUIRE ADVANCE NOTICE. If unable to attend with less than 24 hours' notice, I will call or text Mr. Queary as soon as possible.**

_____ stay in **CONSTANT** communication via TeamSnap and Slack (or whatever communication tools the coaches indicate). This includes **DAILY** checking emails.

_____ be on time to each meeting.

_____ keep my work areas clean and organized, especially at the end of each workday.

_____ keep my hands to myself: off others and off their belongings.

_____ stow electronics during team meetings unless they are needed for research or programming.

_____ dress appropriately.

_____ work as a team rather than exclusively working with one or two others unless authorized by a coach to do so. I will also not wander off the build site or competition premises without express permission to do so.

_____ read the game manual and understand it is my responsibility to ensure all design decisions and parts are within the game rules.

_____ behave respectfully toward others (including coaches, mentors and parents) at all team meetings and tournaments and treat all materials and build spaces with respect.

_____ observe shop safety by wearing appropriate safety equipment. I will not use any power tools I have not been trained to use. Any unsafe behavior or horseplay in the shop may result in loss of shop privileges.

_____ I understand that the coaches and mentors are guiding us through a specific design process. Therefore, I agree to follow the design process and understand that some final decisions will be made by the coaches, as they help us to develop the skills to make those decisions ourselves. I understand that if I have any concerns or issues, I will take them to the coaches. I will not complain about the coaches or undermine the coaches' authority.

_____ **I agree that if I violate any of the terms above, coaches may – at their discretion – ask me to leave the meeting in which I exhibit the negative behavior. I understand that repeated infractions may result in removal from the team.**

Signature of team member _____ Date _____

Printed name _____