



Honor Code

We, team _____, the _____

Believe that exemplary behavior is just as important as technical expertise.

Believe that excellence on and off the field cannot be achieved without excellent sportsmanship.

Believe that we should honor the spirit of competition by competing as earnestly as possible but always balanced by fair play.

Believe that volunteers and tournament officials should always be treated with respect, even if we disagree with their judgment or ruling.

Believe that teammates, coaches, tournament officials, opponents, team members, and opponents coaches, should all be treated with respect.

Believe that treating teams, opponents, or alliance partners, as we would like to be treated, is required for us to attain exemplary behavior.

Because of our beliefs we pledge to conduct ourselves in the following fashion:

Disputes will be handled in a calm and civil manner. Disputes will be initiated and led by team members with adults interjecting only when necessary or asked.

We will make every effort to be present at all matches, and are aware that arriving for matches on time is solely our responsibility. We will never leave an alliance partner to play the match alone, without us present. If our robot is not working, we will always send a representative to stand with our alliance partner during a match.

We will never lie about the status of our robot. If it is broken we will tell the truth to everyone that asks. If operational, we will tell everyone the truth about that as well. It is clear that lying about the status of our robot to some, but not others, might enhance our chance of getting on a preferred alliance. But winning a trophy is not worth sacrificing our character.

We understand that the adults on our team, be they mentors or coaches, are never to work on, or program, our robot during a tournament. All students understand that success or failure is theirs and theirs alone. The only exception that we will make is if, for very young teams, we do not have the strength to remove a stripped bolt, or where there is a safety concern.

We also understand that as adults, we will facilitate but never dictate. We guide, teach, and encourage. However, at the end of the day, all aspects of the challenge should be left up to the students. From robot design, to strategy and alliance selection, we will offer input and never dictate.

As adults, we understand that not only will we not work on or program the robot during a tournament, but we will work to make sure even the appearance of impropriety is removed.

We will never collude to throw a match, as this is a deep insult to our alliance partner. "Winning" in this way is not really winning at all. One cannot truly win while at the same time sacrificing their character. We will always do our best on the field.

We understand that no Honor Code can cover every behavior, but will always strive to treat others, as we would like to be treated.

We understand that this **voluntarily Honor Code** sets a very high bar of personal behavior and embrace it willingly. We will strive to behave consistent with these high ideals. We understand that unlike other rules this Honor Code, will not, cannot, be enforced by tournament officials. Rather it is enforced by the strength of our character. We encourage all other teams to voluntarily adopt this Honor Code as well, but we will behave consistent with it, regardless of other teams' behavior. As such, we have all signed below, both adults and students, and we proudly display this Honor Code at all events we attend.

Honor Code – Signatory Page

Coaches/
Mentors:

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Students:

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Honor by Design – Embrace it!

