

2023-2024 Student Leader Handbook



Robot Casserole

FIRST Robotics Competition Team 1736

www.robotcasserole.org

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[HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT](#)

[SPECIFIC LEADERSHIP ROLES](#)

[BECOMING A STUDENT LEADER](#)

[LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES](#)

[TEAM LEAD MEETINGS](#)

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

This handbook communicates the role of a Student-Leader on the team. It supplements the student handbook and team description documents.

Thank you in advance for participating in leading the student body of the team!

THE ROLE OF A STUDENT LEADER

Leadership In FIRST

FIRST's mission and vision are student focused - the goal is not actually to produce a robot, but rather facilitate positive outcomes in students through the experiences of building a robot in a team environment.

No team can function without leadership, whether it be formal or informal.

Leadership at Casserole

To ensure each student can achieve their highest level of learning, Casserole seeks to engage members of the student body to augment the mentor team, directing and leading the day-to-day activities of the team.

Casserole's student leadership has historically been fluid. While we hope to formalize it over the years, we do expect student leaders will continue to need to be flexible and fluid to changing requirements.

There are a few qualities we always ask each student leader to demonstrate:

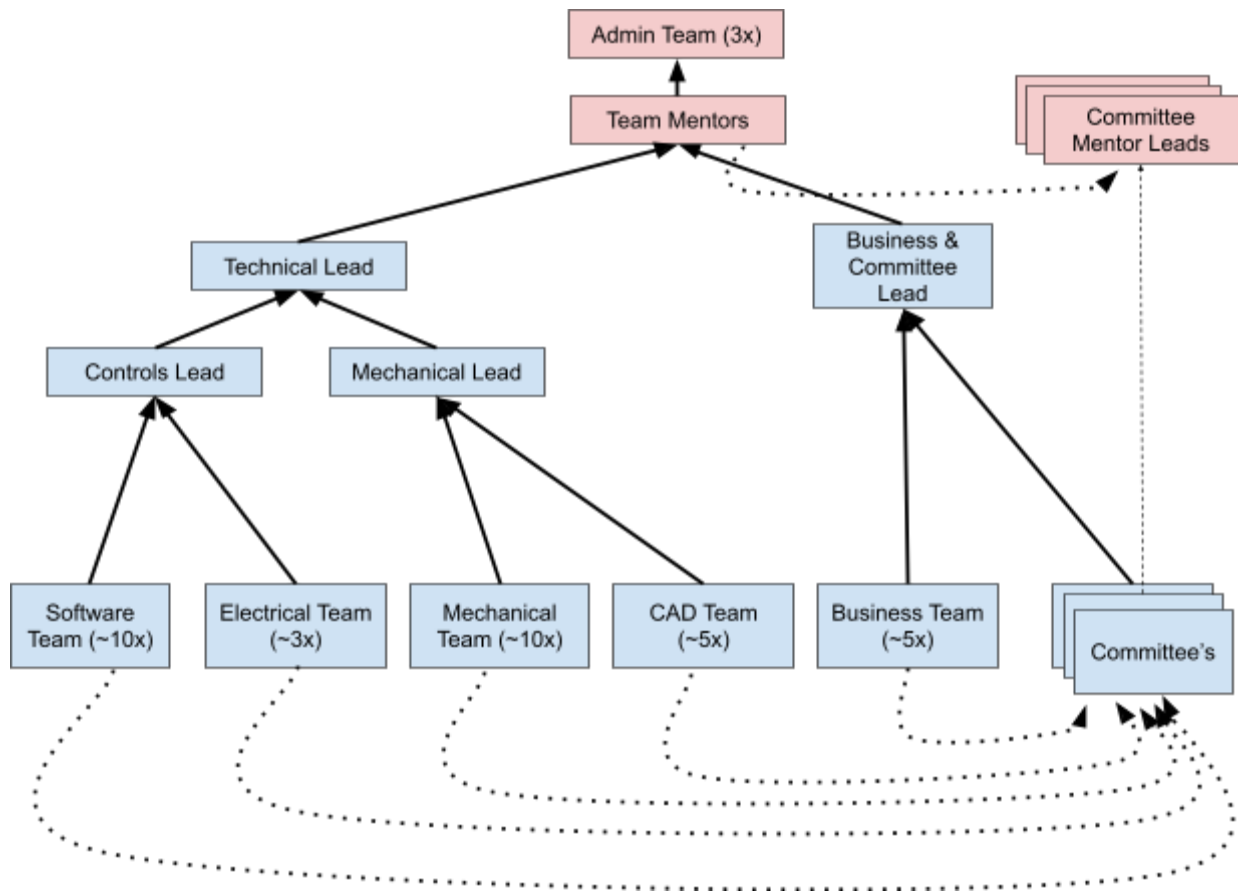
- Be an excellent role model for fellow students
- Prioritize clearing the roadblocks others face over executing tasks yourself.
- Share your knowledge and ideas freely
- Demonstrate curiosity, enthusiasm, and good communication skills
- Be open to new ideas. Be patient, separate good ones from bad ones, and drive for people to comprehend your reasoning whenever asked.

SPECIFIC LEADERSHIP ROLES

Three Named team lead roles will be available for the 2023/2024 Season

- **Technical Team Lead**
 - Primary design & execution oversight for the integration of all aspects of the robot build.
- **Mechanical Team Lead**
 - Primary design & execution oversight for the mechanical and CAD aspects of the robot build
- **Controls Team Lead**
 - Primary design & execution oversight for the electrical and software aspects of the robot build
- **Business & Committee Team Lead**
 - Primary responsibility for all committees and their deliverables, as well as general business team activities

Students, mentors, and leads will be as follows:



Mentors will retain primary responsibility for the integration of technical & non-technical aspects on the team. In future years, we see this role potentially being filled by a student.

BECOMING A STUDENT LEADER

Leadership roles will be open to any interested student who has completed a full season with the team, including offseason training, build season, and at least one competition. Students who are interested should discuss it with a mentor, either informally during normal team meetings, or potentially during dedicated 1-on-1 meetings.

Mentors will nominate multiple students for each team lead position. Then, the returning students will select the leaders by [rank-choice voting per role](#). Roles will be filled in the following priority:

1. Technical Team Lead
2. Business & Committee Lead
3. Mechanical Team Lead

4. Controls Team Lead

This should ensure that each elected leader was selected for the first role that most students would like to see them in. Additionally, it should ensure that at least 50% of the voting student population would support them in that role.

We will be targeting the completion of this process by **early July**, so that interested/elected students may plan their other school activities accordingly.

LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

- Run the start-up meeting for all regularly-scheduled team meetings
- Participate in a regular meeting with the mentor team
 - See below
- Work alongside mentor team to:
 - Establish & Communicate team priorities
 - Divide tasks into manageable chunks, and distribute to students
 - Ensure each student has something to work on
 - Actively clear any roadblock a student has to getting work done
- Be a primary point of contact for raising student issues to the mentor group, if the student is not comfortable coming straight to the mentors

TEAM LEAD MEETINGS

Student team leads will participate in dedicated time with the mentor team.

- Offseason - 2x/month - Tentatively - every other thursday at meeting start, half hour
- Build Season - 1x/week - Tentatively - Wednesdays halfway through meeting, half hour
- At least 1/2 of meeting time should be no-agenda, bring up any topic that comes to mind
 - Named agenda items will be started by the mentor team, but eventually transitioned to student leads.