

# ***PARENT INFORMATION***

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*CRyptonite Robotics: FRC Team 624*

## Introduction

Team 624 is one of the more than 3,000 robotics teams that make up the global organization called FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). This is a rapidly expanding program that reaches hundreds of thousands of students each year. The members of CRyptonite Robotics learn to design and build a robot to tackle challenging problems. Not only do members learn mechanical and engineering skills, they also learn valuable skills such as teamwork, communication, and leadership. For much more detailed information, please refer to the Team Handbook, which can be found on our website at [www.team624.org](http://www.team624.org) by logging in with your student's account and navigating to: "Members and Parents" → "Resources and Forms."

## Areas of Involvement

There are multiple areas in which students - and parents - can be involved. These include:

- Robot Construction and Pit Crew
- Drive Team
- Public Relations
- Website & Digital Media
- Scouting & Strategy
- Safety
- Outreach
- Press Release
- Travel & Transportation

among others. Team 624 is always looking for more parent and mentor involvement to allow our students to get the absolute most out their experience in robotics. Please contact Steve Henderson at [shenderson@slb.com](mailto:shenderson@slb.com) with any inquiries about becoming a mentor.

## Time Commitment

Team 624 is a team with a year-round robotics season, with competitions and activities that take place outside of the *FIRST* competitions between January and April. CRyptonite Robotics is more than a club; it is truly a team. Many students are involved in other extra-curricular activities outside of robotics and are more than capable of finding the right balance between each club, organization, or team, as well as school.

## Financial Commitment

Team 624 travels to three regional events between March and April, and will potentially attend the *FIRST* Championship competition in April. Each student and mentor must pay their own way (flights, hotel rooms, meals, etc.) for each of these competitions. Dates and locations are TBD. The team will compete in Houston, which will require a minimal cost. In addition, each student and mentor is required to wear the team uniform at each competition, consisting of one green t-shirt, one black t-shirt, one black polo, black pants, steel toe shoes, and safety glasses, all to be purchased by the student and mentor. Both the black t-shirt and polo have not been changed and are the same as last year.



## A note about build season

*FRC* build season begins the first weekend in January and lasts for six weeks. This is Team 624's busiest time of the year, and there will be both students and mentors working tirelessly every day to ensure the robot is in peak condition for competition season. It is important to check in with your student during this time to know that they are in good academic standing. Even though there will be build activities every day during build season, students are not required to be at each event. Academics should be the top priority for every student!

## Required Activities

For each student to attend regional and championship competitions, they must complete the list of required team member activities. These activities include (but are not limited to) putting in hours of build and public relations, along with being in good academic standing with the school, paying all fees, and a mentor sign-off of participation.

## Communication

Team 624 sends lots of information about meetings, build, competitions, etc. through email, and each student is responsible keeping track of their email. There is also lots of important information on the website, including the team calendar. You can find us at [www.team624.org](http://www.team624.org).

## Financial Contribution

The team's success depends on generous donations from parents, sponsors, and businesses. Your tax-deductible donation will help pay for the purchase of robot parts and materials, tools, and competition related expenses. Donation avenues are through individual contributions, matching funds from an employer, in-kind donations, or corporate sponsorships. Please contact Larry Gros at [lrgros@outlook.com](mailto:lrgros@outlook.com) if you wish to donate, or if your corporation has interests in contributing.

