

# Novi Townhall Meeting Agenda

Agenda topics have corresponding slides in the PowerPoint.

## Welcome and Introductions

### What is *FIRST*?

- For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology
- A 501c3 created in 1992 by inventor Dean Kamen
- A progression of robotics programs, starting in early elementary, that allows the student to keep moving up to a new challenge all the way through high school.
- *FIRST* Robotics is about much more than the mechanics of building a robot or winning a competitive event. It is about the partnership among people who are part of the *FIRST* community and the impact on those who participate.
- Share “More Than A Robot” Video

### About Frog Force, FRC Team 503

- Our team began in 2001. Frog Force has strong connections to our community. Our primary sponsor, Magna Seating, has been in support of our program since the beginning. Their support is so much more than money – over the years they have provided us with mentors, build space, and resources. Members of Frog Force have also received internships because of this relationship.
- In FRC, the Chairman’s Award represents the spirit of *FIRST*. It honors the team that best represents a model for other teams to emulate, and which embodies the goals and purpose of *FIRST*. It remains *FIRST*’s most prestigious award. Frog Force is honored to have earned a world record 9 Regional Chairman’s Awards.

### Novi Robotics and Novi Educational Foundation

- In 2012, *FIRST* Team 503 announced the formation of the Novi Robotics Boosters, or NBot for short.
- Through an innovative partnership with the [Novi Educational Foundation](#) (NEF), NBot enables sponsors to connect with *FIRST* teams within the Novi School District.
- Making connections:
  - Many local industries would like to support a program such as *FIRST*, but don’t know how to get in touch with teams, especially at the FLL and FTC level where there can be more than one team in the district.
  - Seeking sponsorship is often a challenge for teams, especially at the JrFLL/FLL/FTC levels, that do not have tax exempt status or aren’t affiliated with a non-profit organization.
- With NBot, sponsors can make tax exempt donations to NEF because of their non-profit status. The Novi Robotics Boosters then distributes donations to officially registered *FIRST* teams. NBot can also take advantage of educational grants for STEM programs by applying for them through NEF’s grant writing arm.
- By expanding the sponsorship base in our local community, Team 503 is making *FIRST* accessible to more students, and promoting the exciting opportunities of pursuing a future in STEM fields.
- NBot does not place students on teams nor do we serve as main/alternate contact for teams; we provide the forum through which parents and students can come together to form teams
- NBot provides mentorship to Novi teams.

### *FIRST* Family

- *FIRST*: National organization provides program information and team registration.
- *FIRST* in Michigan: Administers the *FIRST* Family of Programs in our state.
- Nbot: Frog Force support for Novi robotics teams

## **FIRST Progression of Programs**

- *FIRST* is more than robots; *FIRST* is creating the next generation of innovators and leaders.
- *FIRST* students have earned scholarships, internships, and admission to prestigious universities directly attributed to being involved in the program
- Other benefits:
  - Communication skills, teamwork, confidence, learn about themselves and discover their unique aptitudes and abilities
  - Build a professional support network starting at age 6
  - Make the connection between curriculum and real-world application
  - Hands on experience in future fields of study or career choices

## **Overview of Programs**

- JrFLL / FLL / FTC / FRC - brief overview of each; include age/grade range, season, team size, equipment, costs, time commitment, parent roles

## **Coach Roles**

- Every parent expected to take an active role in mentoring team
- No experience necessary
- Cover examples of parent roles on team

## **Introduce Demo-ing Teams**

### **Announce Team Formation Meeting**

- Meeting the following week
- Program specific information
- Allows families to come together and form teams.

## **Team Demonstrations**