

SAULT STE. MARIE
#1596 THE INSTIGATORS

2024-25
Season Expectations

Students/Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the Instigators! Your student has expressed an interest in participating in this year's Sault Area High School & Career Center Robotics Team. We are an after-school activity and the adult mentors are volunteers. This is our 19th year as a team.

Contact Information

Please read this document fully and [return the completed signature/contact page by October 8, 2024](#).

Students/Parents/Guardians/Mentors will be added to the 1596 group e-mail and will be expected to know in advance what, when, etc. – in other words...*read your email*. Students will also be added to a text group.

Social Media

Student members and families are encouraged to follow TEAM 1596!

- Website: [FRC Instigators 1596](#)
- Twitter: [@FRC1596](#)
- Instagram: [frc1596](#)
- Snapchat: Instigators 1596
- Facebook: [Frc Instigators](#)
- YouTube: [Instigators 1596](#)
- FIRST Robotics Competition: [Team 1596](#)
- Blue Alliance: [Team 1596](#)

Team Commitments

Funding: A financial commitment of \$100 is assessed for each team member. This team fee is non-refundable and due in full by December 1.

- At least one partial payment, e.g. \$25, is due by November 1st.
- Sault Tribe members that qualify under the Youth Development Fund Criteria can qualify to have half of their robotics fee paid for. Link: <http://www.saulttribe.com/15-membership-services/education/2469-sault-tribe-youth-development-fund-criteria>

Time: Most students will be expected to expend about 50-100 hours throughout the season. Attendance will be monitored, and the students who expend little effort or do not attend meetings may be asked to leave the team. If you need to check whether or not your student is attending, call or text me, Jeanne Shibley, at 906-630-1707.

Pre-Season: Meetings will start out once a week directly after school to determine goals and roles. We will try to keep the time-frame to 2 hours for these. This is our time for team-building and discovering our interests and learning new skills. Timing will be flexible as we work out a suitable schedule.

Kick-off: **Saturday, January 4, 2025** is the big “game reveal” when teams find out the challenge and game details. The team will meet following the reveal to begin brainstorming.

Build Season: From the moment the game has been revealed the team will be focused on the design, build, and programming of a robot. Work continues through competition season as we fine-tune the robot.

Competition Season: From March-April there are District Event Competitions each weekend (Thursday-Saturday), then State of Michigan event (aka State’s) in April at Saginaw Valley State University, followed by FIRST Championship in April at Houston. **We will travel to two District Events: one in Escanaba and the other at LSSU.** Our standings will determine if we advance from districts.

Meeting/Room Work Expectations:

Students are expected to attend and participate in meetings.

These are an opportunity for veteran students to share knowledge and adult mentors/coaches to get to know the students through training. The more time they spend in the robotics room, the more they will learn about the whole U.S. FIRST Robotics process, upcoming travel competitions and become part of the team camaraderie. The team will meet throughout the academic year. Saturdays are included during build season.

Expectations when in Robotics/Drafting rooms: Please check-in when you arrive. Once you come into the room you are there for the robotics team's goals. Respect others, be productive, clean-up after yourself, and follow safety rules. Please check-out when you leave.

Consequences: If a student violates any of the expectations, the following actions will take place:

- 1) An adult mentor will speak to the offending student member.
- 2) A scheduled Parent/Mentor/Student meeting will take place.

If a similar situation arises between a student and a mentor, another adult mentor will be involved in the process.

Fundraising

The team fee, expenses for building a robot, promoting the team, supplying the room, meeting snacks, team gear and travel to competitions are extensive. **We need to raise \$15,000-\$20,000 annually.**

Efforts include a mass mailing to sponsors/personal/family/friends for donations.

Volunteering

Volunteering is an attribute of our team. The Instigators have volunteered at various community events, presentations at local schools, Bayliss Library and more. Please encourage your child to participate in the volunteer opportunities within our community.

Competitions and Travel

When it is time to organize the team for competition travel, it is our goal for all team members to attend the competitions. All students who go will ride with the team and will be expected to stay with the team and on site for the competition duration. Our points earned at the two District competitions determine if we travel to the State's Competition. Then all points earned determine if we travel to FIRST Championship.

Students are not allowed to drive, only parent(s) or mentor(s); no college-aged mentor can drive a high school student.

Immediate action will take place if a student breaks a Sault High & Career Center Handbook rule or TEAM 1596 Expectation at a competition; a parent will be located/called. Depending on the infraction, discipline will occur, including possible revoking of travel privileges or removal from the robotics team.

Homework/Grades

Students can work on homework before the meeting starts.

Students can seek assistance from teachers/tutors, or even robotics team members. Students are required to have an overall grade of a C for current classes in order to participate at competitions.

Overall SAHS & CC Attendance and Discipline

Team 1596 follows the SAHS & CC Student Handbook for attendance and behavior.

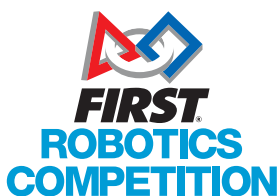
Parent Roles

We ask parents to:

- **Register at firstinspires.org, then register your student with our team.** We cannot add your student to the team roster until this has taken place. If the student is 18, he/she will need to complete a Youth Protection application.
- Assist in the robotics/drafting rooms
- Sign up for a Saturday lunch during the build season

- Drive/Chaperone to/at competitions
- Join in with Fundraising/Marketing/Public Relations/Your Professional Skills as a Mentor

Your time is appreciated when assisting! If you plan on mentoring and will be in the robotics room with students, or if you plan to assist with driving to competitions, you must file an online “Consent Form” and complete the Youth Protection Program at firstinspires.org. We will need a copy of your Driver’s License if you help with driving. The school also has an authorization form for a background check to submit.



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Signature/Contact Form

Please complete and return this form by October 8, 2024.

We have read the TEAM 1596 2024-25 Expectations and understand that we are responsible for its contents.

Student: (print name) _____

(signature) _____

E-Mail: _____

Cell number: _____

Parent/Guardian: (print name) _____

(signature) _____

E-Mail: _____

Cell number: _____