

Ratchet Rocker Robotics Team 1706

New Student Trial Period

Purpose of the Trial Period

The Ratchet Rocker Robotics Team 1706 is excited to offer students the opportunity to participate in our team through a trial period. This trial period allows students to:

- Explore the different aspects of robotics, including design, building, programming, scouting/strategy and business/media.
- Meet current team members and mentors.
- Determine if FRC robotics is a good fit for their interests and schedule.
- Learn about the commitment and expectations of team membership.

In order to participate in the trial period, students must first complete the following items.

1. [New Student Application](#)
2. Attend a New Student and Parent Orientation Meeting
3. Parent Permission Form signed at the Orientation Meeting

Timeline for Summer Trial Period

- Application due by TBA.
- New Student and Parent Orientation TBA@ 6pm- student and parent will get a tour of the facility, learn about the basics of the robotics program and talk about the requirements of the trial period. At the end of the orientation students will get their photo taken and receive their new student name badge.
- Students may start attending off season meetings throughout the summer on Mondays and Wednesday from 5-8pm.
- New students may not attend the IRI (Indiana Robotics Invitational) in July with the team.
- If a student decides that they are not interested in continuing with the team the need to inform the business office by emailing info@team1706.com
- If a student completes all of their training opportunities and shows consistent participation while at meetings, they will be invited to join the team and can continue attending throughout the fall.

Timeline for Fall Trial Period

- Application due by August 25
- New Student and Parent Orientation Sept 3 @ 6pm- student and parent will get a tour of the facility, learn about the basics of the robotics program and talk about the requirements of the trial period. At the end of the orientation students will get their photo taken and receive their new student name badge.
- Students may start attending off season meetings throughout the fall on Mondays and Wednesday from 5-8pm.
- New students may not attend the Roboteer Rumble in October with the team.

- If a student decides that they are not interested in continuing with the team they need to inform the business office by emailing info@team1706.com
- If a student completes all of their training opportunities and shows consistent participation while at meetings, they will be invited to join the team.

New students and their families are encouraged to attend and/or volunteer at GRC (Gateway Robotics Competition) in STL October 10-11. More information to follow. This will be your first opportunity to attend a competition to see the culmination of the team's training and work in action.

Student Expectations for Trial Period

- Attend as many scheduled meetings, training and activities as possible.
- Complete your shop safety training in a timely manner.
- Shadow experienced mentors and students by watching and asking questions.
- Actively participate in activities that are offered, and stay until the task or activity is completed.
- Communicate any questions or concerns to team mentors or student leaders, including what opportunities are available for you to participate.
- Respect team members, mentors, and equipment.
- Keep your phone out of sight unless it is needed to communicate with your family or to research robotics related information.
- Keep safety in mind at all times:
 - No earphones
 - Always wear close toed shoes. (no Crocs)
 - Use safety glasses when appropriate.
 - Follow all team rules and safety guidelines.

Joining the Team

Any student who has been invited to join the team will need to complete the following things in order to officially join the team for the 2026 season by November 3. Any invited student who has completed these items by October 13 can attend Roboteer Rumble in Tremont, IL Oct 24-25 with the team, if they are in good standing*. Many of the listed items can be found at <https://www.team1706.com/2025-registration>

1. Team Registration Form
2. Meal Preference Form
3. Both the student and one or both parents will need to register with FIRST and complete the consent and release forms.
4. Read the team handbook and sign the acknowledgement form.
5. Pay team dues \$190
6. Attend the required team parent meeting November 19th at 6pm.

Official Team season will begin December 1 with meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5-8 until Kickoff. Kickoff will be Saturday January 10 from 9-5. After Kickoff the team will meet Monday- Thursday 5-8 and Saturdays from 9-5.

*In Good Standing- Students who are trying to attend as many meetings as possible, are trying to complete their trainings, participate in any projects or activities during meetings, are demonstrating Gracious Professionalism and Coopertition while working, and are maintaining appropriate grades during the school year are considered "In Good Standing."