

All teams are required to adhere to the following Team Support Definitions in their Chairman's Award submissions and during their Chairman's Award interviews.

Team Support Definitions

Started (a *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. / *FIRST* LEGO League / *FIRST* Tech Challenge / *FIRST* Robotics Competition team) - A Team has **Started** a team if they have met one of the following requirements:

1. Funded or sourced funding (i.e. grants or sponsorship) of at least 50% of the team registration fee.
2. Made the team aware of *FIRST* and/or the specific program and assisted the team with the official registration process.

As well as

3. The **Started** Team would agree that the **Starting** team did provide this level of support.

The intent of this definition is to make it clear when a team is responsible for bringing a new group into a specific *FIRST* program. Keys here are helping with funding OR introducing the new group to *FIRST* and helping them get registered as a team in their specific program. Cases where one team has **Started** another team will be rare. Cases where one team has **Mentored** or **Assisted** a team through their initial phases are very valuable, however they are distinct from **Starting** a team.

Mentored (a *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. / *FIRST* LEGO League / *FIRST* Tech Challenge / *FIRST* Robotics Competition team) - A Team has **Mentored** a team if they have met all of the following requirements:

1. Providing consistent (at least once a week during the lead up to competitions (e.g. *FIRST* Robotics Competition Build Season) communication, either in person or via phone/email/video conference, to the **Mentored** team helping with technical or non-technical *FIRST* program specific issues.
2. The **Mentored** team would agree that the **Mentoring** team did provide this level of support.

Examples of **Mentoring** a team include, but aren't limited to:

- Team A regularly sends students to a nearby school to help their *FIRST* LEGO League team(s) with their robot design and project presentations.
- Team A sends an email to Team B asking for advice on future robot design. The two teams email back and forth over a period of time exchanging questions and answers.
- Team A meets Team B at a competition. Team B expresses concern their team is struggling to keep the team going and is looking for help. The two teams live far away from each other, but over the next year, they exchange many emails, they video chat a few times during the off-season and even meet in person.

Examples of not **Mentoring** a team include, but aren't limited to:

- Answering a single email question.
- Inviting a team to your shop so they may make parts on your machinery.
- Hosting a team in your build space during inclement weather when they are unable to access their own facilities.
- Giving a robot part to another team.

Assisted (a *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. / *FIRST* LEGO League / *FIRST* Tech Challenge / *FIRST* Robotics Competition team) - A team has **Assisted** a team if they have met all of the following requirements:

1. Providing communication, either in person or via phone/email/video conference, to the **Assisted** team, helping with technical or non-technical *FIRST* program specific issues, OR providing funding and/or supplies to the **Assisted** team.
2. The **Assisted** Team would agree that the **Assisting** team did provide this level of support.

Assisting a team is a form of **Mentorship**, however it does not require the long term or consistent communication that is a defining characteristic of **Mentorship**. It is expected that all *FIRST* Robotics Competition teams are constantly assisting their fellow *FIRST* teams, and it is not necessary to try and document or count all the instances of **Assisting** that your team has participated in.

Examples of **Assisting** a team include, but aren't limited to:

- Answering a single email question.
- Inviting a Team to your shop so they may make parts on your machinery.
- Hosting a Team in your build space during inclement weather when they are unable to access their own facilities.
- Giving a robot part to another Team.

Provided Published Resources (a *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. / *FIRST* LEGO League / *FIRST* Tech Challenge / *FIRST* Robotics Competition team) – A team has **Provided Published Resources** to a team if they have met all of the following requirements:

1. The team has created resources designed to aid teams with technical or non-technical *FIRST* program specific issues.
2. The resources have been published or presented publicly (e.g. presented at a conference, published on a team website, etc.).

Many *FIRST* Robotics Competition teams have created a wealth of resources that benefit numerous teams. This kind of assistance is enormously valuable to our community and is heavily encouraged. However these acts do not meet the definition of **Mentoring** since they lack consistent communication involved in mentoring. In an effort to recognize and encourage these important efforts, the definition of **Provided Published Resources** was created. We encourage teams to continue these efforts, as well as documenting the impact they have had by monitoring things like team attendance at conferences, number of page views/downloads, etc.

Examples of **Providing Published Resources** include, but aren't limited to:

- Team A creates and publishes a scouting database compiling statistical data from competitions, and the database is downloaded and used by other Teams
- Team A creates and gives a presentation on *FIRST* Robotics Competition fundraising to an audience of 15 local *FIRST* Robotics Competition and *FIRST* Tech Challenge teams.
- Team A develops and publishes a mobile app that contains *FIRST* LEGO League tutorials, and the app is downloaded and used by *FIRST* LEGO League teams
- Team A creates and publishes *FIRST* Robotics Competition drivetrain video tutorials on YouTube, and videos are watched and used by *FIRST* Robotics Competition teams

Event Support Definitions:

Ran (a *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. / *FIRST* LEGO League / *FIRST* Tech Challenge / *FIRST* Robotics Competition event) - A Team **Ran** an event if they have met all of the following requirements:

1. Team members are involved in the majority of the planning of the event.
2. Team members are involved in the majority of the on-site event execution, or have arranged for and are supervising the volunteers to handle the majority of the on-site event execution.

Running an event essentially means that this event would not be possible without the efforts and actions of the given team. The team in question must be responsible for the majority of the work that goes into the event.

One example of **Running** an event is:

- Team A act as the majority of the planning committee for an *FIRST* LEGO League event, and team members recruit and train the event volunteers.

Hosted (a *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. / *FIRST* LEGO League / *FIRST* Tech Challenge / *FIRST* Robotics Competition event) - A Team has **Hosted** an event if they have met one of the following requirements:

1. The event takes place at a team facility
2. The event takes place at a facility arranged for by the team

Hosting an event occurs when a team opens one of their own facilities or arranges for a facility to allow for an event to occur. Often teams will Run and Host the same event, but these terms do not have to be necessarily linked.

Assisted (a *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. / *FIRST* LEGO League / *FIRST* Tech Challenge / *FIRST* Robotics Competition event) - A Team has **Assisted** an event if they have met any of the following requirements:

1. Team members are involved in some part of the planning of the event.
2. Team members are involved in some part of the on-site event execution (i.e. Team members have volunteered at the event)

Teams **Assist** events by helping with the planning or execution of the event. This is less encompassing than Running an event. It is expected that many *FIRST* Robotics Competition teams will **Assist** with events through their normal actions, and it is not necessary to try and document or count all the instances of **Assisting** that your team has participated in.

Examples of **Assisting** an event include, but aren't limited to:

- Having a few team members volunteer at an event
- Having a few mentors serve on a large planning committee for an *FIRST* Robotics Competition district event