Mentor and Coach Roles

*FIRST®* Tech Challenge and *FIRST®* Robotics Competition

Mentors and Coaches are individuals from all backgrounds and disciplines who work with students to share their knowledge and guide them through the season. Many Mentors contribute on a weekly basis during competition season, or support the team with subject matter expertise on an as needed basis. Teams may have additional or more specialized roles or a combination of roles as needed. In addition, Mentors help to foster the idea of *Gracious Professionalism®* and have the students do as much of the work as possible.

### Sample Mentor/Coach Roles

**NON-TECHNICAL:**

**Project Management Mentor**
- Provides an overview of project management concepts for team
- Guides the team throughout the project life cycle

**Scholarship Mentor**
- Assist to educate students, Mentors and parents regarding scholarship opportunities available to *FIRST* students
- Coordinates applications for student/Mentor nominations for awards

**Marketing Mentor**
- Provides a basic overview of Marketing concepts
- Assists students with development and implementation of a Marketing Plan in coordination with the development of a Business Plan

**Finance Mentor**
- Assist the team in preparing a Business Plan, financial planning/budget for the season
- Organize and assists with fundraising efforts

**TECHNICAL:**

**Robot Programming/Software Engineering Mentor**
- Assist team members with writing code to control robot in C++, Java, Robot C or LabVIEW (depending on program)
- Maintains process focus

**Electrical Engineer Mentor**
- Assist team with wiring the robot’s power and signal system
- Assist and instruct the team members in the electrical and electronics systems on the robot

**Mechanical Engineer Mentor**
- Provides assistance with design and construction of the robot
- Advise students on the safe use of tools and safety procedures

*FIRST®* Tech Challenge season run from August – April
*FIRST®* Robotics Competition season run from October – April

For more information about mentoring or coaching, contact mentorcoach@firstinspires.org