



January 2019

Dear Community Partner:

The MAYHEM teams had a great year in 2018! In the fall, our *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> LEGO<sup>®</sup> League (FLL<sup>®</sup>) team, Mindstorms Mayhem, won the 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Champion's Award and 1<sup>st</sup> Place Robot Performance at their qualifying event. Additionally, they had the top robot performance score at the 2018 NH State Championship. Mechanical Mayhem, our *FIRST* Robotics Competition (FRC<sup>®</sup>) team, earned Finalist and Innovation in Control awards at our first district event, Winner and Excellence in Engineering awards at our second district event, and the Creativity Award at the New England Championship. The team also ranked 18<sup>th</sup> in the Darwin Division at the World Championship and were chosen by the 7<sup>th</sup> ranked team for the elimination rounds. Mechanical Mayhem is the only New England team with a current 10-consecutive-year streak of qualifying for the World Championship!

On January 5, 2019, the new FRC game, DESTINATION: DEEP SPACE, was announced! Mechanical Mayhem was ushered into a demanding but exciting six-week build season where students diligently design and construct a competitive 120-pound robot. In addition to technical roles, students write award submissions, give presentations, and edit video. Mechanical Mayhem is registered to participate in two 2019 district tournaments: Granite State District in Salem, NH, on February 28-March 2, and Pine Tree District in Lewiston, ME, on April 4-6.

International *FIRST* programs such as FLL and FRC give students the opportunity to experience STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) through exhilarating competition. Students develop teamwork and problem-solving skills as they build and operate robots to meet engineering challenges. FLL teams, designed for students aged 9-14, are presented with the challenge of developing an autonomous LEGO robot, researching a real-world issue, and innovatively presenting that research. FRC teams, designed for high school students, are also presented with a similar challenge, but they acquire their own funding and make more use of professional engineering tools such as CAD and programming software.

Because *FIRST* emphasizes partnerships with professional engineers and business mentors, the program can be a life-changing, career-molding experience for our students. We are thankful for the support of our sponsors who make these enriching programs available. In 2005, MAYHEM was organized to offer the *FIRST* experience to homeschool students who otherwise would not have the opportunity. Now, entering our 15<sup>th</sup> year, Mechanical Mayhem has grown to include home, charter, and public school students from eight southern NH communities. The MAYHEM robotics program has graduated a number of seniors who have gone on to study engineering at respected universities like the Air Force Academy, Stanford, Purdue, Carnegie Mellon University, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Cedarville, Northeastern, and Tufts.

Taking advantage of the terrific opportunities provided by *FIRST* requires a significant financial commitment. A minimal yearly FRC team budget is about \$15,000: \$9,000 in registration fees and \$6,000 for robot parts, transportation, and all other costs. Competing at the World Championship Event would cost another \$15,000: \$5,000 for registration, and approximately \$10,000 for transportation and lodging for the team.

We need your help! Because *FIRST* Robotics invests in the future, we invite you to partner with us to help prepare the next generation of outstanding employees and community leaders. All contributions to MAYHEM's 501(c)(3) non-profit organization are tax-deductible. All sponsors' business logos are displayed on our sponsor banner and website. For contributions over \$500, we will display your logo on our robot, and for contributions of \$2,500 or more, we will display your logo on our team shirts as well as our robot.

For more information, please see these websites: <http://www.mayheminc.org/> and <http://www.firstinspires.org/>

Thank you!

MAYHEM Youth Robotics Teams  
89 Stable Road  
Milford, NH 03055  
603-672-5150  
info@mayheminc.org