

The Pascack Pi-oneers
FIRST Team 1676
Academic Varsity Letter Application



The Pascack Pi-oneers *FIRST* Team 1676 □ www.team1676.com
Pascack Valley Regional High School District □ 225 West Grand Ave., Montvale, N.J. 07645

Who We Are

- Regional District Academic Competitive Team
- Eleven year FIRST Robotic Competition Team
- Three Time Chairman Award Winner*
- Two Time Regional Engineering Inspiration Award Winner*
- Two Time District Engineering Inspiration Award Winner
- Seven Time Entrepreneurship Award Winner*
- Four Time Regional Winner
- Six Time FIRST Website Excellent Awards
- Nine Time World Championship Qualifier
- World Championship Division Finalists, Semi-Finalists, Quarter Finalists
- Achieved Top 16 Teams, Top 40 Teams, Top 100 in the World



Pascack Pi-oneer Mission Statement

The mission of FIRST Team 1676, the Pascack Pi-oneers, is to combine the fundamental beliefs of FIRST with the desires of our team members to pursue and promote future careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and to provide STEM education for our community. Our goal is to operate as a cohesive team, competing with Gracious Professionalism under the guise of FIRST and developing our students' abilities to conspire, create and develop as individuals and collectively as a team. We strive not only to build a successful robot, but also to master and exhibit the many life-sills necessary to succeed beyond FIRST Team 1676.



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Pascack Pi-oneer Team Philosophy

- The Pi-oneers endorse and expect a high standard of conduct according to the *FIRST* philosophy of *Gracious Professionalism*.*
- The Pi-oneers encourage and promote each team member to reach his/her fullest potential through mentorship and hands-on experiences.
- The Pi-oneers promote leadership through the team structure and opportunities to manage projects and more.
- The Pi-oneers believe in doing their best during competition where winning is a goal, however it does not replace cooperation and helpfulness to others in the heat of a match: *Coopertition*.*
- The Pi-oneers teach responsibility to each other, their subdivision, their team, their school and their district.



Awards Given by *FIRST*

The Chairman's Award "is the most prestigious award given by *FIRST*. It honors the team that best represents a model for other teams to emulate and best embodies the goals and values of *FIRST*".



The Engineering Inspiration Award "celebrates outstanding success in advancing respect and appreciation for engineering within a team's school and community".

The Entrepreneurship Award "celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit by recognizing a team that has developed the framework for a comprehensive business plans to scope, manage, and achieve team objectives".



Gracious Professionalism "is part of the ethos of *FIRST*. It's a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community. With *Gracious Professionalism*, fierce competition and mutual gain are not separate notions. Gracious professionals learn and compete like crazy, but treat one another with respect and kindness in the process. They avoid treating anyone like losers. No chest thumping tough talk, but no sticky-sweet platitudes either. Knowledge, competition, and empathy are comfortably blended. In the long run, *Gracious Professionalism* is part of pursuing a meaningful life. One can add to society and enjoy the satisfaction of knowing one has acted with integrity and sensitivity".



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Coopertition® "produces innovation. At *FIRST*, *Coopertition* is displaying unqualified kindness and respect in the face of fierce competition. *Coopertition* is founded on the concept and a philosophy that teams can and should help and cooperate with each other even as they compete. *Coopertition* involves learning from teammates. It is teaching teammates. It is learning from Mentors. And it is managing and being managed. *Coopertition* means competing always, but assisting and enabling others when you can".



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Justification For Allowing The Awarding Of Academic Varsity Letters, Specifically For Robotics

What is the purpose of an Academic Varsity Letter for competitive academic teams?

To reward students for their accomplishments, level of skill, commitment to the team and their school, and being a public representative of their school and district in a positive respectful manner. These are the same reasons used to support the awarding of athletic varsity letters.

Does robotics fit the Academic Varsity Letter description?

Yes – The events in which the Pascack Pi-oneers compete are open to the public where the robotics team’s actions reflect directly on their school. Their conduct is viewed by people from other schools, the general public spectators, and media who are present.

Yes – The Pascack Pi-oneers expect “gracious professionalism” and sportsmanship in the heat of competition, which is also strongly enforced by *FIRST*.

Yes - The Pascack Pi-oneers expect team members to dedicate themselves to practice and preparation in order to display competence in competition.

Yes – The Pascack Pi-oneers demand that team members create a positive impression of their team, and by extension their school. This impression is made upon others attending events, including many other schools in our county, tri-state area and world.

Yes - The Pascack Pi-oneers expect team members to generate pride in their sport among their own school community and local community.

Yes - *FIRST* Robotics develops many interpersonal skills that are beneficial to the future endeavors of its students. These include leadership, formal and informal presentation skills and teamwork.



Pascack Pi-oneer Varsity Letter Requirements

Draft May 21, 2012

The Pi-oneers feel that any competitive academic team that wishes to be approved for awarding varsity letters have clear criteria for earning the letter. These criteria should be subject to approval by building administration to assure that varsity letters are truly earned and are not awarded capriciously. Our current draft of the Pi-oneer varsity letter requirements follows.

1) At least 2 years on the team

- Meeting all team contract requirements
- Attaining satisfactory performance reviews

2) Attendance

- Two FRC tournaments per year or more
- One off-season competition or more
- Meet community outreach/team service hour requirements
- Must be present three days or more during Build Season
- Fulfill Pi-Tech Academy attendance requirements
- Work at FLL Qualifying tournament
- Attend Kick-Off event
- Must participate a minimum of 70% during Pre-Season, Build Season and Post-Season

3) Perform satisfactorily in one of the following roles during the most recent year:

- a) Team CEO or Sub-Division Leader
- b) Lead designer on a robot sub-assembly
- c) Lead designer on a significant robot code module
- d) Lead designer on a significant work product (website portion, scout code portion, animation portion, CAD portion, media portion, award/team sustainability portion)
- e) Lead scout or lead data collector at tournaments
- f) Drive team member
- g) Formal Pit Crew, including safety, batteries, check in-check out and elimination round backup crew



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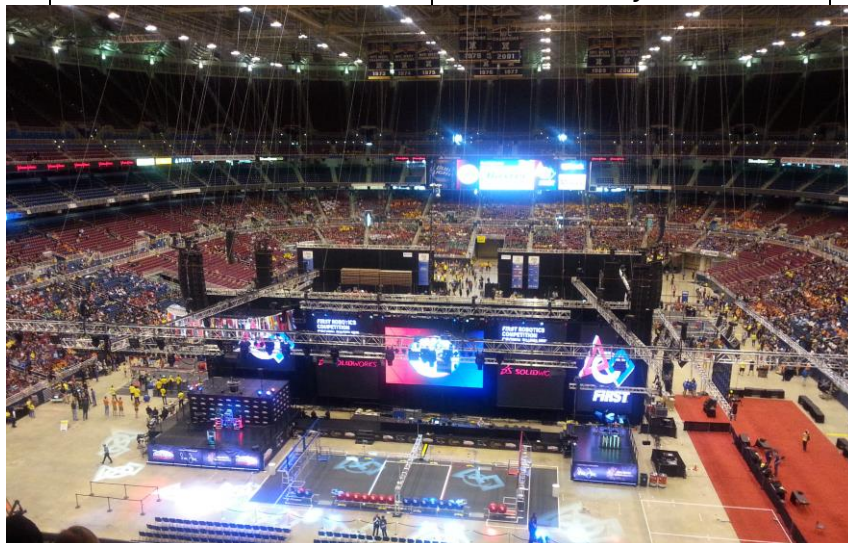
- 4) Alternatives** to 3) for those without formal leadership roles: two years of successfully attaining one of the following accomplishments:
- a) Clear non-leadership contribution in designing a robot sub-assembly or significant work product
 - b) Build Season notebook generation
 - c) Full time tournament Super Scout or draft selection meeting participant
 - d) Other meaningful, significant role that requires a continued effort (multiple days) to accomplish
 - e) Submission of all required paperwork throughout the year on time
 - f) Demonstration of positive attitude and good work ethic
- 5)** File a team application for a varsity letter, which lists how each requirement was met, by May 15 of the year in which the varsity letter is sought to be awarded. The Mentor Board of Directors will evaluate all varsity letter applications and decide which members are given the varsity letter award.



***FIRST* Robotic Teams**

Awarded Varsity Letters In Their School District*

1002 Marietta, GA	2865 Post Falls, ID
1023 Temperance, MI	2867 Elkhart, IN
11 Flanders, NJ	2914 Washington, DC
1147 Elk Grove, CA	2915 Portland, OR
1458 Danville, CA	2928 Seattle, WA
1502 Chelsea, MI	302 Lake Orion, MI
1529 Indianapolis, IN	303 Bridgewater, NJ
159 Fort Collins, CO	3098 Waterford, MI
1675 Milwaukee, WI	3142 Newton, NJ
1718 Armada, MI	3173 Rochester, NY
1730 Lee's Summit, MO	3512 Orcutt, CA
180 Stuart, FL	3641 South Lyon, MI
1810 Shawnee, KS	386 Melbourne, FL
1816 Edina, MN	4141 Santa Ana, CA
1846 Sarnia, ON, Can	4254 Saratoga Spr, NY
1868 Mtn. View, CA	433 Flourtown, PA
1912 Slidell, LA	467 Shrewsbury, MA
1939 Kansas City, MO	4855 South Haven, MI
1972 El Centro, CA	4908 Duxbury, MA*



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1985 Florissant, MO	548 Northville, MI
1986 Lee's Summit, MO	578 Fairport, NY
2025 Barstow, CA	589 La Crescenta, CA
2102 Encinitas, CA	668 San Jose, CA
2137 Oxford, MI	675 Rohnert Park, CA
216 Grandville, MI	811 Nashua, NH
2169 Savage, MN	862 Canton, MI
2177 Mendota Hts, MN	2834 Bloomfield H., MI
2425 Tampa, FL	2865 Post Falls, ID
2612 Waterford, MI	2867 Elkhart, IN
27 Clarkston, MI	2914 Washington, DC
2789 Manor, TX	2915 Portland, OR
280 Taylor, MI	2928 Seattle, WA
2834 Bloomfield H., MI	



*All data as of November, 2014



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