

# TEAM 1718

# KNOCKOUT NEWS

THE LATEST FROM THE FIGHTING PI



Volume 12

Issue 1

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Welcome back to the Knockout News!

## Did You Know?

### Kickoff

The game this year is called Destination: Deep Space. Following the space theme, many space themed pieces are being used on the field.

### To the Mentors

The students of team 1718 would like to thank all our wonderful mentors for inspiring us to strive to be a greater person.

### To the Parents

The Fighting Pi would like to especially thank all of the wonderful parents that donate their time and money to feed and support us on and off the season.

### Welcome New Team Members

The Fighting Pi would like to formally welcome any and all new Fighting Pi team Members, here's to a great new season.

### Newsletter Release Change

The Newsletter will pick back up with weekly updates.

## Becoming Strategy Captain

By: Alex Leone

I joined team 1718 my freshman year in 2018. I first joined the electrical team where I learned a lot. I learned how to do electrical stuff, but more importantly for the position, I'm in now I learned how to collaborate and saw how leaders guided masses of people. Around bag day, however, something caught my attention that had not before, the subsection strategy. Before this, it hadn't been a big appeal, but by discussing the matter with a former student, he finally convinced me to join. This was a game changer in my FRC career and I had to learn about a whole new subsection of the team. This part of the team involved how the game works, the rules of the game, and knowing what robots stood out amongst the rest. Even though this seemed easy I spent the next few months of the season trying to wrap my head around all the processes and what my role on strategy would be for the remainder of the year. Since it was only me and my captain on this particular part of the subsection it was a lot of hands-on learning. This end of the season preparation consisted of doing, watching and learning so the next year when I was likely to be nominated captain, I would be prepared for the new challenge and the obstacles I would have to overcome. By the end of the season, I was running most of the major responsibilities that had to do with strategy. I knew that if I was picked for captain, I would be able to fulfill my duties to the team. When I was nominated, I knew that everything was on me and I was happy to accept the role as strategy captain.

## How I Got Involved

By: Sandro Petrovski

I initially heard about the robotics team during an assembly given to incoming freshmen at the end of my 8th-grade year. Programming, engineering, and problem-solving have always been enjoyable to me, so I decided to join. The electrical team was the most attractive to me because it required both wiring and programming. My first impressions are all positive. Everyone's incredibly friendly and it was very easy to make

friends within the first month. The members of the team can be quite humorous at times, but we all know when we need to be serious and focus. Both the mentors and captains are very patient with new members and ensure that we know and understand what we need to so we can work efficiently with the team.

## Shaped By Experiences By: Joshua Prall-Stankewitz

Last year, I joined Team 1718 The Fighting Pi and it was an amazing experience. This year, I think I'm prepared for the game and the challenges we'll face in it. I understand the basics of how the team functions and have made many friends who will help me when I can't figure out what to do. One year of experience in CAD and being taught how to operate equipment and follow guidelines will help me along my adventure this year. I now know how to simply make drafts/prints so that the mech team (manufacturing side of the team) can read them and make accurate parts for the robot based off them. I can't wait to see what robot we make, and all the robots we'll see in this year's game.

For more team updates, follow us on Twitter @FRC1718, friend us on Facebook at FRC Team 1718: The Fighting Pi, checkout some posts on our Instagram @ Team 1718 or on our website: [www.fightingpi.org](http://www.fightingpi.org) !

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