

ATX Robotics Youth Protection Guidelines

ATX Robotics has adopted the following policies for the safety and well-being of its members. These policies primarily protect youth members; however, they also serve to protect Coaches, Mentors, & parents.

Two-deep leadership required at all times. In order to ensure two-deep leadership, a minimum of three volunteers, two of whom are registered with First as mentors, are required to be present for all meetings, trips and outings.

Registered mentors are defined as volunteers who have registered with First, ie completed a background check with First and completed an online-training Youth Protection class.

All other parents not registered as a mentor with First, can still provide supervision at team meetings. ATX Robotics will require parents to periodically attend meetings and provide supervision.

Adult Supervision/Coed Activities

Male and female mentors must be present for all overnight coed trips and outings, even those including parent and child. Mentors are 21 years of age or older and registered with First..

One-on-one contact between adults and youth members is prohibited. In situations requiring a personal conference, the meeting is to be conducted with the knowledge and in view of other adults and/or youth.

Two-deep leadership and no one-on-one contact between adults and youth members includes digital communication. Leaders may not have one-on-one private online communications or engage one-on-one in other digital activities (games, social media, etc.) with youth members. Leaders should copy a parent and another leader in digital and online communication, ensuring no one-on-one contact exists in text, social media, or other forms of online or digital communication.

The buddy system should be used at all times. On small teams it is easy to keep track of all team members during activities or outings. However, when traveling out of town, or as teams grow, the buddy system is a valuable safety measure and is strongly encouraged for all member activities. On outings or out-of-town trips, our team members will be encouraged to have a buddy and stick with that person. Buddies should know and be comfortable with each other, and team members are encouraged to self-select their buddies. Volunteers, leaders, and team members will always work to encourage and create a safe, comfortable environment for all participants.

Inappropriate use of smart phones, cameras, imaging, or digital devices is prohibited. Team members and leaders will use cameras and other imaging devices responsibly.

Appropriate attire is required for all activities. Proper clothing for activities is required. Safety glasses, jeans and closed-toed shoes are required during build meetings in which members are working on constructing robotics or working with tools.