

# Team Sustainability Reward

Azra Vural

## What is the Team Sustainability Award?

The Team Sustainability Award honors the plans, strategies, and practices developed by an FRC team to ensure its long-term existence and stability. This award does not focus solely on a team's success within a single season. Instead, it emphasizes the team's robust structure, member training, sponsor relations, and community impact, all of which contribute to the team's continued presence and growth in the future.

## Qualities Sought in a Team to Earn the Award:

### 1. Team Continuity

Maintaining team continuity is one of the key prerequisites for the Team Sustainability Award. This criterion requires that the team consistently participates in competitions over a number of years, demonstrating an ongoing commitment to FRC.

Furthermore, the team should function as a dynamic and continuous entity—regularly recruiting new members while maintaining communication with alumni.

### 2. Financial Sustainability

Financial sustainability refers to the effective management of a team's resources to preserve its long-term existence. Teams are expected to sustain relationships with sponsors, secure new supporters, and manage their budgets in a planned and strategic manner.

### 3. Knowledge and Experience Transfer

Knowledge and experience transfer signifies the process of passing down the technical knowledge, experience, and culture of the team to new members within the FRC community.

This is often achieved through senior team members mentoring newer ones, with the goal of ensuring that accumulated knowledge and culture are not lost but instead integrated and expanded through each generation of members.

### 4. Community and Mentorship Relations

A team's sustainability depends not only on its internal structure but also on the connections it maintains with its surrounding community. Teams are expected to uphold relationships with their schools, sponsors, local communities, and other FRC teams.

Supporting rookie teams, volunteering at events, and increasing public awareness of FIRST all fall within this category.

### **5. Upholding First Values**

For a team to achieve long-term sustainability, it must embrace and uphold FIRST's core values. Acting with a sense of excellence and collaboration ensures that the team maintains a culture of respect, cooperation, and sharing both internally and externally. Therefore, preserving FIRST's values is also a significant factor in this award.

### **Events Where the Award is Presented**

- District Events
- Regional Competitions
- District Championship Divisions + District Championships
- FIRST Championship Divisions