The Paladin Post: December 3, 2015

Help Needed – Please let me know if you can assist with any of these tasks.

1. Parent chaperones for the robotathon – we have two shifts and would like 4-6 adults per shift: 6PM to midnight and midnight to 6AM.
2. Trailer driver for NYE - The team will be doing a demo at the New Year's Eve ball drop function at the library (in conjunction with the CTAC event). Trailer needs to be downtown by 5pm and then taken back to the school at 9pm.
3. Parent volunteers to help with the returnable can drive on December 19. There are three shifts – 9-11; 11-1; 1-3 at both D&W and Oleson's. Parent just stays at the table at the store and helps answer questions.

News from the Coaches:

- Open House Demo CANCELED, too many other commitments to get a full crew together for the demo tomorrow night.
- Which Wich was a success! Thanks for sharing the information and inviting your friends. Thanks Which Wich!
- All students should be registered on STIMS for the team. If you haven't completed the registration process yet, please do so now. If you have questions, please give me a call. Problems with this site are normal – there are issues every year. Please call so I can help you through it. Students we are waiting on: **Cam, Ivan, Kassie, Joe.** https://my.usfirst.org/stims/Login.aspx
- Pay to play and first payment ($100) for team dues should be paid. The final $75 of team dues is due January 6. There are fund raising opportunities to help cover the cost of the team fees. See Mr. Ochs for information. Pay to play fee is due to the school administration office.
- All team meetings scheduled each Wednesday afterschool @ 3:15, ending time varies with the agenda. We will be working on mock kick-offs the next few meetings which will go a bit longer. Check the calendar for other meeting dates/times.
- THANKS to the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation as they just awarded us our $5,000 technology upgrade grant. We will be purchasing a camera, four laptops (2 for G3; one for programming and one for drive station); 7 tablets for scouting and the accessories needed to keep the equipment safe.
- Team shirts and logo wear order form will be available at the next Wednesday meeting. Logowear order will be due back – with a check on December 16.
- Please like us on Facebook and follow us on twitter: @paladins3618 or https://www.facebook.com/petoskey.paladins.3/

News from Team Leaders:

Graphic Design: new logo has arrived – please notice the header! Thanks team. They are now working on updating business cards and flyers for our returnable can drive.

Media: Working on the introductory video for YouTube. We're also getting a system for photo storing set up.

Scouting: finished the system which was used at the off-season event, and is working to create a method to scout with tablets.

Marketing Team: Worked on and finished the press release for the fundraising event at Which Wich. Now working on press releases for the conference and robotathon.

Website: Continuing towards their goal of moving the Paladin's website to a new platform. We are going to be showing kids how to use Squarespace and assigning kids to pages. They also are working on moving the Petoskey Robotics site.

Chairman's Team: Chairman's decided on the theme for this year's presentation (Monty Python). We got some costumes for the interview. They are beginning to plan the essay and video portions of the application.

Electronics: Electronics will be watching videos on sensors and working on the Frisbee robot.

CAD Practice: working on the sytrofoam shredder for Mr. Bailey

Important Dates:

Robot a Thon – December 12, 2015 – December 13, 2015: Mandatory. During the day on Saturday the team attends conference sessions, many of which are presented by students, with teams from all over. After dinner and throughout the night, the team attends more sessions and participates in team building activities. Robotathon ends at 6am Sunday morning.

Returnable Can Drive: Saturday, December 19: D&W and Oleson's. SAVE your cans and ask your neighbors to save their cans – bring your returnables to either grocery store on Saturday and the team will process the cans for you.

New Year's Eve Demo: Thursday, Dec. 31, 5:00 – 9:00 pm, Petoskey Robotics will join with the Petoskey District Library in the joint New Year's Eve celebration downtown. The teams will be demoing the robots and the 3D printers during this celebration.

Kick Off: January 9, 2016: Mandatory: hosted at the Boyne City High School in the morning and then the team comes back to PHS; plan for Paladins to be busy all day; new game presented and then spend the afternoon strategizing back at PHS; Game play decision is made on **January 10th** – plan for another all-day session.

Build Season: January 9, 2016 – February 23, 2016.

Quick Build: January 16: Paladins host a quick build session for rookie teams to come get assistance putting together a chassis.

Bag and Tag: February 23, 2016: Robot must be bagged and tagged by this date and can only be brought out with special permission. Team and parent spirit/competition meetings begin.

Standish-Sterling District Competition: March 3-5, 2016: Mandatory: Drive/Pit Team goes down Thursday, for two nights and the majority of the team goes down on Friday morning for one night. Arrive home late Saturday evening.

Midland District Competition: March 17-19, 2016: Mandatory: Drive/Pit Team goes down on Thursday for two nights and the majority of the team goes down on Friday morning for one night. Arrive home late Saturday evening.

State Championship: April 13-16, 2016: Mandatory (if we qualify): Drive/Pit Team goes down on the 3rd for two nights and the majority of the team goes down on Friday morning for one night. Arrive home late Saturday evening.

Inclement Weather Policy:

a. If there is a school weather closure or there is just bad weather, team mentors will decide if they will be having their meeting. They will then let the team leaders know, and team leaders will inform their team members. Mentors may consult with Mr. Ochs before making their decision to hold a meeting.
b. If the weather is severe and parents do not want their child to attend a meeting, it is expected that he/she will contact one of three people – Mr. Ochs, team mentor, or team leader. Mr. Ochs will send out a Remind101 and attempt to update the team calendar by noon of a snow day – please check it! http://paladins.petoskeyrobotics.org/calendar-6/

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