

## Sustainability

- Why is Sustainability important
  - When a team dies it removes opportunities from students
  - Sours FIRST in the eyes of sponsors, schools, mentors, parents, and students
- How to run a sustainable team
  - Finding money
  - Recruiting students
  - Finding mentors
  - Building a community
- Sustainable robot design
  - Reuse of unmodified COTS parts
  - Reuse of scrap material
  - Reusable fasteners over disposable fasteners
    - Rivets v. Bolts
    - Tape/Glue v. Velcro
  - Utilizing KOP elements
    - Kitbot
    - Wheels
    - Boxes
- Using “Green” to make green
  - Green Energy is a buzzword, utilize this
  - Sponsors love to say they are supporting alternative energy education
    - Offseason project: Build a battery charger using alternative energy production (wind, solar, human, etc)
  - Judges love to see the creative use of alternative energy by teams. They are usually big and showy too.
  - Downside, initial cost COULD be prohibitive. Contact companies to see about them donating the hardware.