



Hats & Glasses

Created by Game Designers as an activity for the *FIRST* Robotics Competition at Home Challenge: Game Design Competition



The Activity:

Main Takeaways:

- 1) Understand the differences you see in your role versus your perspective
- 2) Communicate with teammates

Hats: Your Responsibilities

- What “roles” do you bring to the table?
 - Think about what roles you feel responsible to represent on your team.
 - What do you want people to “trust” you with when you wear this hat?
 - “Hats” are likely tied to your position on your team.
 - **These are things you are responsible for on your team.**

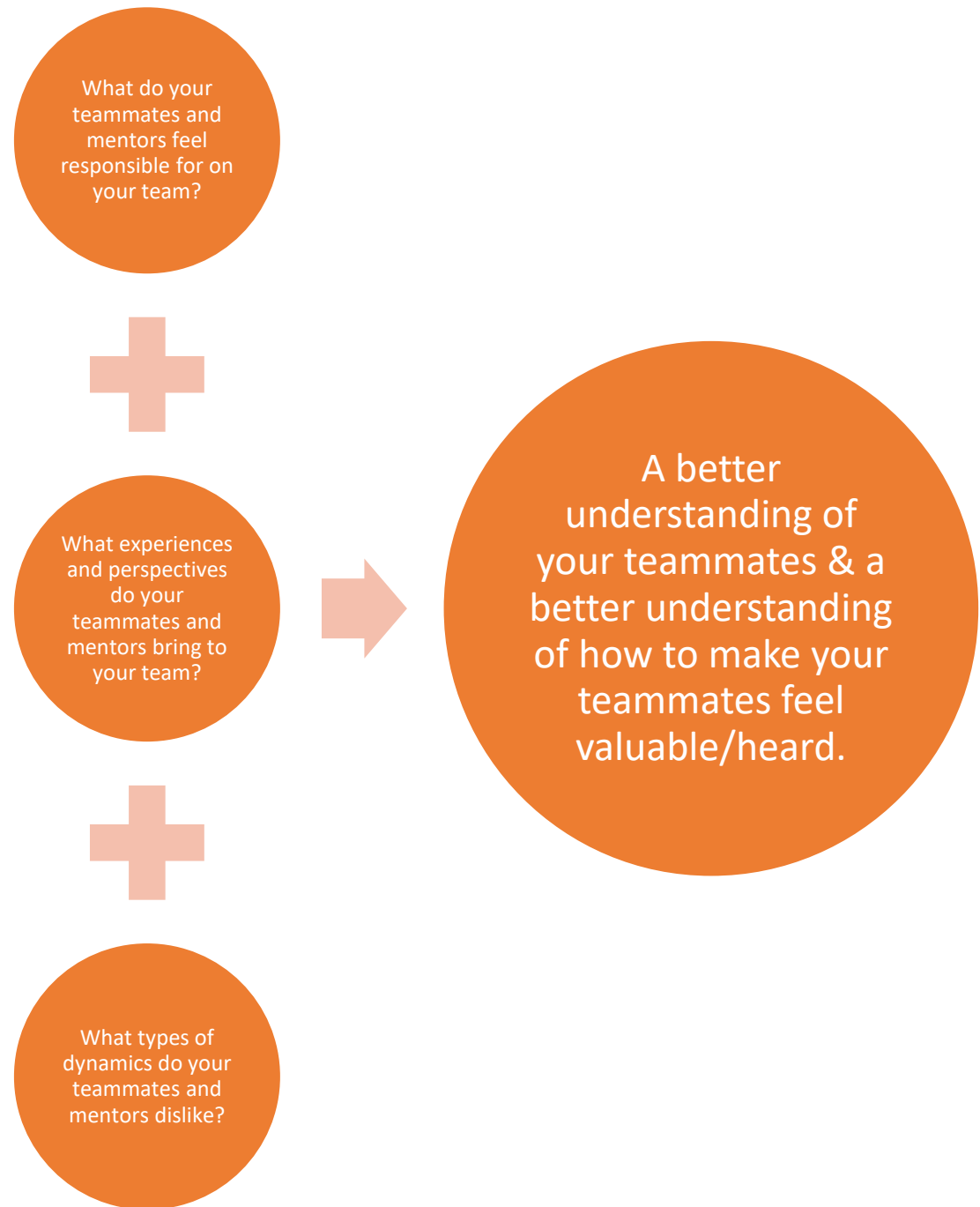
Glasses: Your Experiences


- What “perspectives” do you bring to the table?
 - Think about what perspectives (gained from experiences) you use to form your opinions.
 - **These could be things that you feel passionately about but may not be ultimately responsible for on your team.**

Sunglasses:

- What type of dynamics do you dislike?

The Hopeful Outcome






Ground Rules – Generating Content Examples

1. Be honest with yourself
 - Hats & Glasses are not the same thing:
 - Hats – roles you are responsible for
 - Glasses – perspectives you have
2. Be thorough
 - Try to use this opportunity to explain your background to your teammates
 - Include at least 1 hat, 1 glasses, & 1 sunglasses



Ground Rules – Sharing Content Examples

1. Assume positive intent
 2. Be open-minded
 3. Trust that teammates have thought about the activity & their responses
 4. Understand that people may have the same hat or glasses to you, but it doesn't mean you will have the same opinion.
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Examples of Hats and Glasses

Hats Examples – roles on your team

- Team Captain/President/CEO
- Lead Mentor
- Outreach Mentor
- Scout
- Award Submitter
- Electrical Team Member
- Programmer
- Spirit Captain

Glasses Examples – life experiences

- Work experiences
- Hobby experiences
- Education (including specific classes)
- Personal life (being a sibling, parent, spouse, etc.)

Sunglasses Examples – dynamics you dislike

- When people raise their voice
- When someone says they will do something, but they don't do it
- When people are late

Kelly Carlson

(student example)



- Hats: My Responsibilities
 - **Team Captain**
 - People can trust that I will do everything to make sure the team is successful
 - Ensure all members feel their contributions are valued
 - Work with mentors & other student leads to ensure our team is set up for success
 - **Award Submitter/Lead & Chairman's Presenter**
 - People can trust that I am aware of deadlines and award submission criteria
 - Ensure our team is educated and prepared to talk to judges
 - **Outreach/Business/Fundraising Lead**
 - Work with mentors and teammates to set up outreach opportunities that focus on promoting FIRST/my team
 - Work with mentors and teammates to set up outreach fundraising opportunities of various scales to ensure our team is meeting our financial goals
 - Maintain the business plan
 - Act as the club liaison to showcase our team (TV production, yearbook, student council, etc)
 - **Robot Builder**
 - Work with our build team lead to ensure our robot is complete and ready for competition
- Glasses: My Perspectives
 - **FRC experiences** – experiences include Drive Team member, wiring the robot, mechanical design for the robot, shop organization, public speaking, and roles listed above
 - **Club liaison** – I work with multiple clubs to showcase our team (TV production, yearbook, student council, theater, dance team)
 - **Female** – One of only a few females on the team
 - **Event volunteer** – volunteer at FLL and FTC events, this allows me to make connections with people in other programs
- Sunglasses: Dynamic's I Don't Like
 - **Don't like saying "it's always been like this"** – I want to work to make my team better which might mean changing how things "have always been done"

Kelly Carlson

(mentor example)



- [Hats: My Responsibilities](#)
 - **FLL Mentor (middle school age team members)**
 - Provide guidance on how to prioritize missions & understand programming logic
 - Assist with all aspects of the project
 - Ensure all students are safe, engaged, feel valued, and are learning new skills
 - **FTC Mentor (high school age team members)**
 - Provide guidance on strategy & mechanical elements of the robot
 - Assist with documentation & record keeping
 - Ensure all students are safe, engaged, feel valued, and are learning new skills
 - Ensure team is set up for success at events so I can focus on being an event volunteer
 - **FRC Mentor (high school age team members)**
 - Provide guidance on CAD, mechanical elements of the robot & field build
 - Provided non-technical guidance (spirit, creativity, awards)
 - Ensure all students are safe, engaged, feel valued, and are learning new skills
- [Glasses: My Perspectives](#)
 - **FRC alumni** (2011 – 2014) – roles included Drive Team, Team Captain, Mechanical Build, Awards, Fundraising/Business Lead, Outreach Lead
 - **FRC, FLL, and FTC Mentor** – mentored multiple FIRST teams in all of the programs
 - **FTA/Field Reset/Game Announcer/Master of Ceremonies** – experience in these roles have given me an understanding of the “behind the scenes” of events
 - **FRC Scholarship Recipient** – I understand how important this program is for kids who are using it to get long-term opportunities
 - **WPI alumni** – Mechanical Engineering college degree
 - **Multiple Work/Club Experiences** – I have worked at multiple companies and have been part of multiple student organizations, so I have seen various types of organizational structures and have good examples of what does/doesn't work.
 - **Female** – Female in engineering has made me think about being the “odd one out”. This perspective helps me think about diversity & inclusion, and the importance of being a role model to students.
- [Sunglasses: Dynamic's I Don't Like](#)
 - **Don't like when plans aren't communicated** – I like to know the plan (meeting days/times/expectations) so I can be as helpful to the team(s) as possible

Kelly Carlson (work example)



- [Hats: My Responsibilities](#)
 - **Mechanical Engineering “Subject Matter Expert”**
 - People can trust my engineering knowledge and knowledge of design feasibility
 - Advocate for Mechanical Engineering Team – specifically feasibility, cost, ease of assembly, assembly robustness
 - **Field-Build Teacher, FTA Teacher, Field Supervisor Support, Event Support**
 - People can trust that I am thinking about “how are we going to teach volunteers about X”
 - People can trust that if I say it should be okay for volunteers it’s because I know I am one of the people responsible for making it okay
 - People can trust that if something fails during the season, I will work to find a solution to fix the issue
 - **Game Design Committee Lead**
 - People can trust I am thinking of the full game design process (from concept through Einstein)
 - People can trust that I am thinking about how this game gets discussed with other departments (marketing, Frank, game animation, etc.)
- [Glasses: My Perspectives](#)
 - **FRC alumni** (2011 – 2014) – roles included Drive Team, Team Captain, Mechanical Build, Awards, Fundraising/Business Lead, Outreach Lead
 - **FRC Scholarship Recipient** – I understand how important this program is for kids who are using it to get long-term opportunities
 - **WPI alumni** – College education was largely project based. I was very involved on campus and gained a lot of leadership and marketing skills. I have a mechanical engineering/mechanical design degree.
 - **Creative Work Experience** – I have creative work experience from working at Disney Imagineering. I tend to think “let’s not say no until it’s proven impossible”. I’ve done a bit of work with compromising creative vs. physics to find innovative solutions
 - **Female** – Female in engineering has made me think about being the “odd one out”. This perspective helps me think about diversity & inclusion
 - **FRC, FLL, and FTC Mentor** – mentored while in high school (FLL/FTC) teams with very small budgets & had no prior knowledge of FTC/FLL. Mentored after college a team in Florida (Mechanical). Mentor my old team remotely (and occasionally in person) with field builds, scholarships, and awards.
 - **FTA/Field Reset** – experience in these roles and working on training material for roles
 - **Planner** – I thrive on having plans/long term goals/timelines
- [Sunglasses: Dynamic’s I Don’t Like](#)
 - **Don’t like when things get “loud”** – my communication style is to shut down when people get loud