



FAST FACTS ABOUT THE DALEKS

HCRHS FIRST® Robotics Team 3637

- Team 3637 of Hunterdon Central competes in [FRC](#), the [FIRST®](#) (“For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology”) Robotics Competition, which has been called “the varsity sport of the mind.”
- Team 3637 is nicknamed “The Daleks” after the robot antagonists in “Doctor Who.”
- Formed by a handful of students in 2010-11, Team 3637 has grown to around 70 members this season, due to increased awareness, outreach efforts, Central’s new robotics courses, and strong support from school administration.
- Each year’s robot is conceived, designed, and built by Central students with help from teachers and mentors. The team has two advisors (a teacher and a business professional), and twenty volunteer mentors that include professional engineers, as well as businesspeople who share their expertise in marketing, fundraising, finance, accounting, and community outreach. All these mentors provide expert advice and hands-on instruction, while encouraging the students to take the lead.
- The official “build season” began on January 7, when this year’s new challenge (“STEAMWORKS”) was announced by [FIRST®](#). All FRC teams receive a standard kit of parts from which to build a robot in six weeks. Last year Team 3637 competed in two district events, qualified for District Championships at Lehigh University, and attended World Championships in St. Louis for the first time. The Daleks are scheduled to compete at Bridgewater-Raritan and Montgomery this season.
- Awards won by Team 3637 include the “Rookie Inspiration” and “Gracious Professionalism” awards. Last season, the Daleks won two “Industrial Safety” awards and have recently been named [Runners-Up for this year’s “Safety Animation Award”](#), a nation-wide contest sponsored by UL.
- Team 3637 members have gone on to study engineering at such schools as Carnegie Mellon, NJIT, Princeton, Purdue, RIT, RPI, Rutgers, Stevens, Virginia Tech, WPI, and Yale. Several alumni return during school breaks to help mentor their former team.
- Team 3637 works year-round to promote an interest in STEM in the local community. Outreach efforts have included food drives for the Flemington Food Pantry, an eyeglass drive for the Lions Club’s “Recycle for Sight” program, and LEGO drives for local schools’ LEGO clubs. Team members also help mentor the students in these clubs at Desmares and Barley Sheaf Elementary. Team 3637 has conducted hands-on robotics programs at the Family Success Center and the Hunterdon County Library, and robot demonstrations at Hunterdon Central’s Family Science Night, the Hunterdon County 4H Fair, and Raritan Township Community day. The Daleks participate in “Relay for Life” in support of the fight against cancer, and founded and actively mentor two successful FLL (FIRST LEGO League) teams in Hunterdon County.
- The Daleks are actively seeking team sponsors. Learn more about Team 3637 on its website, www.team3637.com, its [Facebook page](#), or e-mail Team3637@gmail.com for more information.