We have learned that Boy Scouts make great robotics students. They have a strong moral foundation, a willingness to help others, and take responsibility and initiative. They are role models. This is Nick Brown. As a referee in 8 FLL and FTC events, an elected student officer on our team, and a Life Scout, Nick is a leader in FIRST and in his community. His genuine nature and passion for FIRST make him an easy leader to follow.

Nick has been a dedicated 1511 member since his freshman year. Whether it's doing over 200 hours of robot build, managing team communications and structure, setting up for Rally, our Week 0 event, helping to organize 9 community service events this year or demonstrating the robot to the large crowds at the Greentopia EcoFest, Rochester Red Wings Baseball Game and ImagineRIT spreading FIRST to thousands! He has run demos at Boy Scout and Cub Scout Troops to recruit for FIRST. Spending a cumulative 40 hours promoting FIRST on stage at the NYS and Monroe County Fairs, Nick has become a terrific public speaker, taking the mic to explain FIRST and our robot to the large crowds.

He also encourages his teammates to take lead in the design process, asking for their opinions. Nick works with students to organize fundraisers, community service and robot demos to help them run smoothly. This teaches them to become proficient in running events on their own. Nick created a Google Docs system to send event info directly to Leadership to make event approval easier for all students. Because of this, 1511 has organized 9 new events to spread FIRST to a wider audience, over 30 this year!

His leadership and technical skills have developed immensely over the last 3 years. He helps create our pre-Build curriculum and leads team meetings, directing both students and mentors in activities such as an egg drop to teach the engineering design process. He worked with 2 students to create a FIRST-like game for a 4-week long mock Build Season. He improves his skills, attending Leadership Boot Camp, learning presentation and self-improvement skills. He has also learned time management, stating that "being on the team has ignited my drive to get work done when it matters." These skills will be used as he earns his Eagle Scout rank this summer.

Nick is technically proficient, using many machines and tools, fabricating robot parts like sensors and wiring jaguars. He took a CAD training course this past summer and is able to troubleshoot robot issues.

He always has the team's best interest at heart, directed by his moral compass. He realized a key student requirement was missing from the Team Handbook. Although it meant more work, he pointed it out to the mentors to be corrected. During our Leadership meetings, he's not afraid to point out issues, asking analytical questions to help his fellow leaders think through important decisions. Nick also keeps an open mind to new ideas.

He's not afraid to show his spirit for FIRST and 1511, sporting red camo face paint at events. He goes from cheering on the sidelines to graciously shaking opponents' hands to keeping his cool during competition. These are some of the many reasons he was selected as Pit Scouter and for drive team. He showed a tremendous example of gracious professionalism last year when a high-ranked team wanted to select us in Eliminations. Nick realized we wouldn't be the best choice so he used his scouting data to recommend more fitting teams. He even helped improve their robot by bringing a 1511 mentor to help.

Commented [1]: he's at 174 now. Most likely will hit 200

Commented [2]: possible cut

Commented [3]: the same 9 mentioned above?

Commented [4]: no, but we might want to make clear so it's not confusing to the judges

Nick

Nick's not just about robots and Scouts. He has been on Stage Crew and Uptown Express Men's Choir for 3 years. He's able to maintain a 96 GPA while taking 1 Honors and 3 AP courses. He says FIRST has solidified his plans to attend college.

He plans to volunteer in FIRST and mentor, using the skills he's learned on 1511, such as strategy, design and leadership. He is upstanding young man and will be a major contributor to any community, including FIRST.

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