

# Sponsorship Letter

2024 Season



## Who Are We?

United by our love for the heat of competition and driven to be the most innovative team in the room, KSU Combat Robotics stands out among the rest. Pioneering new strategies, materials, and designs to gain an edge against those who stick to the meta, we have amassed a team of out-of-the-box thinkers and engineers who strive to tackle challenging problems. After rebuilding over COVID, we have expanded our team by over 200%. This expansion led to the creation of an internal 1.5lb competition to bring our new members up to speed in a low-cost, low-stress environment. With this membership surge, we aim to field two 12lb team bots, two 12 lb members-owned bots, and one 30lb member-owned bot. This expansion has not come cheaply. With estimated travel costs surpassing \$3000 per competition, the core focus of the team is to create lasting relationships with recurring sponsors both locally and abroad.

## 2024 Season Plan

The primary goal of the 2024 season is to continue growing our momentum and retain our membership. Increasing our bot count from 2 to 5 will put a serious strain on our logistics and organizational capabilities. Planning for this, the team has set aside funds to build proper storage, discount uniforms to the new members, and get additional tools as outlined in our budget below. Finding other ways to continue our momentum, we are researching competitions local to Ohio focused on the 3lb space allowing successful designs in the 1.5lb competition to be scaled up and fight publicly for the team.

Secondary goals for the team include building a team 30lb bot, expanding the next 1.5lb competition to the university, and creating best practices to streamline team activities moving forward. Set as a stretch goal, building a 30lb bot has been on the minds of all returning members. But, as the price increases exponentially as a robot's weight increases, this will be focused on only when our budget is met. After realizing how popular the internal competition has become, the team has started planning to open the competition to the wider university allowing an increase in membership and profits from registration fees or other activities held at the event. Finally, the goal of the team's board is to streamline current tasks to allow easy transfer of Officers from year to year and keep the club running for years to come.

## Budget

Below are the general estimated expenses of the team, including but not limited to: travel expenses to and from the competition, R&D costs to upgrade and restore the team's two 12lb robots, repair costs for damage taken at competitions, a general team expense including proper uniforms for new members, new tools, and better organization methods, which is required to be more efficient in the pits and stay in competitions longer by bouncing back rapidly after significant hits.

Travel to competition	\$3,200 (per trip)
Rebuild/Repair 12lb robot post-competition	\$500 (per trip)
Upgrade 12lb robots (estimated)	\$5,000
General Team Expenses	\$2000
<b>Estimated Total for 3 Competition Trips</b>	<b>\$17,100</b>

## Sponsor Tiers

Robotics are expensive, especially when they are designed to destroy each other. Donating to our team is tax deductible, including resources and labor at a fair market value. In return, we can provide advertisement through our pit banner to be seen by other builders along with “NASCAR-ing” our robots in sponsors’ logos to be seen by spectators, both in person and over live streams at specific competitions.

### Supporters

**\$1 - \$499**

Supporters will have their names or companies listed on our pit banner.

### Sponsor

**\$500 - \$2,499**

Unlimited availability. While slots exist, sponsors will receive a small logo on one of our main bots and pit banner. If there is a lack of availability due to design constraints, sponsors will be recognized through the list of names from the previous tier. Sponsors will also have the option to visit meetings to explain their company and advertise available internship opportunities.

### Key Sponsor

**\$2,500 - \$4,999**

Limited to 6 slots per season, Key Sponsors are guaranteed to receive a small logo on all our main bots and pit banner, along with the benefits of previous tiers.

### Major Sponsor

**\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Limited to 2 slots per season, Major Sponsors are guaranteed to receive a medium logo slot on all our main bots and pit banner, along with the benefits of previous tiers.

### Powered By

**+\$10,000**

Limited to one slot per season on a first-come, first-served basis, Powered By Sponsor will receive a large logo slot on all our main bots and, if the main bots require a companion mini-bot, shown on that as well. Powered By sponsors will also have their logo front and center on our pit banner, express thanks at any interview during each competition, and have exclusive access to ask questions to our team throughout the season and receive updates throughout the year, along with the benefits of previous tiers.

## Where and What To Donate

For financial donations, please send checks made payable to KSU-CAE with “Combat Robotics Donation” in the memo field to our advisor at “KSU-Combat Robotics - T.True Advisor / 228A-AEB / Kent State University / Kent OH 44242”. Following these steps will make sure all funds are received directly by our team. For in-kind donations, please contact us via email at [KSU Combat Robotics](#).