



### **Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion**

Drone Soccer is an equal opportunity activity for all and can increase enrollment of underrepresented populations in aviation and STEM by engaging boys and girls at a pivotal age (12+).

### **Highest Engagement Per Dollar**

Comparable robotics programs can cost between \$5,000 and \$25,000 annually for a middle/high school level team with a single robot, leaving many students on the sidelines. Ask us! CNY Drones founders have years of experience in robotics. It is an expensive undertaking. Total program costs for US Drone Soccer are half that --- with even lower recurring costs, and full engagement of every student in hands-on learning.

### **Professional Grade Repairable Drones - at an affordable entry point!**

Drone soccer kits are not cheap toys or hobby products. US Drone Soccer products are made from high-performance drone racing components that are durable and repairable. The drones are compatible with drone racing and first person-view (FPV) upgrades and therefore, can relate to and be used for other drone projects. CNY Drones technical support volunteers are well-versed in this drone class.

### **Safe Investment**

Premium quality, high performance components are completely modular and repairable with low recurring costs. Professional arenas are manufactured in the USA and come with a lifetime warranty. Arenas are also usable to provide safe flying space for other drone activities. More portable practice arenas are also available to provide even more program flexibility. Unlike traditional robotics, there's no additional field elements to be purchased for single season use. The rules & playing field remains the same from season to season.



## **Liability**

Safe, indoor, netted, FAA compliant. All students receive an FAA TRUST certificate. Competitive students receive an Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) membership that includes important pilot and event insurance. CNY Drones operates as an AMA Model Aviation Student Club, with AMA members as volunteers and affiliations to other AMA clubs. Most CNY Drones Planning Committee members are also FAA Certified Commercial Drone Pilots.

## **Ease of Adoption with Regional Technical Support**

Technical support is available to teams, classrooms, and camp providers who are unfamiliar with drone technology. CNY Drones provides ongoing mentorship and is available as first-line support for any issues that arise with equipment and/or game play within our Region (NY/NJ). As instructors and/or staff turns over, CNY Drones is available to help train new staff and provide connections to potential short-term replacement staff. Our volunteers have experience running STEM events, from single day programs to camps and will share their knowledge to ensure programs are set up for the greatest impact.

## **Student Impact**

US Drone Soccer is also an international team sport, exposing students to the path towards high paying careers enhanced with the skills learned through traditional team athletics. US Drone Soccer and CNY Drones recognize that foundational experiences in drone technology can help shape student's aspirations from aviation to space exploration.

CNY Drones is in the center of the State - in the backyard of the New York State UAS Test Site and Corridor. CNY Drones has strong ties to SUNY Polytechnic Institute as well as Mohawk Valley Community College, home to one a 2-year degree program in Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS). As RPAS and related technologies expand, CNY Drones' support system will help introduce students to educational and employment opportunities through a connected community of educators and industry professionals.



### **Underserved Student Engagement**

US Drone Soccer understands that many families will be happy to purchase drone equipment for their students, but core to the US Drone Soccer mission is engaging underserved students who may not have the same means. Through US Drone Soccer, CNY Drones assists in offering guidance to area organizations that may wish to subsidize underserved student participation. CNY Drones founders have a history of working with Central New York underserved student groups. Ideas for reaching underserved communities will be shared by US Drone Soccer headquarters and other growing regions.

### **Tie to Technology Education Programs**

US Drone Soccer products and training programs were developed to meet the specific needs of today's technical education programs and explosive job growth. Drone Soccer is a thrilling e-sport / STEM-sport program that emphasizes teamwork, critical thinking, and familiarizes students with real-world industrial skills in engineering, programming, manufacturing, and operational flight testing. US Drone Soccer's goal is to illustrate career pathways in partnership with industry, school districts, and universities. Students can progress through Drone Soccer from middle school to high school, collegiate, and international competitions as representatives to the World Air Sports Federation.

CNY Drones has a 6-year history of providing AMA club drone technology demonstrations, workshops, teacher and student training and drone competitions for students ages 12 to 18. (Visit <https://www.cnydrones.org>). CNY Drones founders have a longtime relationship with the New York State Technology and Engineering Educators Association (NYSTEEA), as annual presenters at the Fall Technology Conference and members. Nearly 10 years of experience in student robotics easily translated to flying robotics in 2016 and is now focused on U.S. Drone Soccer growth. Connections to technology educators and regional technology companies assists CNY Drones in growing student interest in STEM.