



It's a Line-up!

Thank you to Kathie Kentfield for sharing this exercise.

Birthday line-up

Starting here on my left, I want you to line up, according to your birthday (just month and day, not year) WITHOUT TALKING. You have three minutes to do this in! So January 1 babies, start here!

OK, now I want you to announce your birthdays and we'll see how well you did! Ah! So we have some people who share a birthday! You have something in common! Was it easy to do this without speaking? Communication is CRITICAL for any team, but especially for a FIRST team! You have a lot of people working on tight deadlines so communicating clearly as well as listening carefully will be important to you this year.

Now I'd like you to do the same thing, lining up without speaking, but in alphabetical order by LAST NAME! Three minutes, start now!

Sound off your names!

Now person on left says his first name, then the next person says all the names up to their own, and their own name, etc. to the end.

OK, for those of you who are veterans of the team, was this easy or hard for you? How about the new people on the team? It's really important that the veterans on the team remember that the rookies may not know all the things you take for granted now, like the FIRST season timeline, the need to meet deadlines, what a competition is like, etc.