



TWO ROBOTS, ONE SEASON

This year we have decided to build two robots, one for practice and one for competitions. According to Programming Lead Caleb Smith, “the main reason we’ve decided to do this is because all the good teams do it.” However, this is not the only reason or even the best reason to build two robots. About 45 days after the game’s release, we have Stop Build Day. On this day we have to physically bag up the competition robot, which means we can’t run any code or test any modifications. By building a second robot that’s a duplicate of the first, we have a platform where we can still test our autonomous code and allow our drivers to practice. Using this method allows us to continually improve on our robot up to and between competitions.

THE NUTS AND BOLTS

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 20:

Stop Build Day

March 24 & 25:

Plainfield District

March 30 & 31:

Tippecanoe District

April 13 & 14:

State Championship

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MEET OUR TEAM

A WEEKLY SHOWCASE OF THE MEMBERS & MENTORS WHO MAKE OUR TEAM TICK.

ROOKIE



JIWHAN KIM

Why did you join TechHOUNDS?

I wanted to be in a “cool techy club” so at the beginning of the year I joined some similar clubs. I’m only spending time on TechHOUNDS now.

What have you liked about the team so far?

I like the communication structure. It works so well when Robot Ops makes the robot while Electrical works on wiring and everyone communicates what’s going on.

How has TechHOUNDS exceeded your expectations?

The sponsorship process and our relationships with other companies are fascinating and make me feel like I am part of a real company.

What do you do?

I help out a lot with leadership and Programming, Electrical, IT and PR.

Why did you become a mentor?

I became a mentor because I went through this program when I was in high school. It opened a lot of doors for me in college and beyond so I wanted to give back.

How long have you been a mentor?

I’ve been a mentor for seven years.

What do you hope to contribute to the team and students?

I hope to help students learn to think critically and prepare them for life after high school.

MENTOR



MR. RYKER

4TH YEAR



ERIK PETERSON

What has TechHOUNDS taught you?

TechHOUNDS has taught me how to be self-reliant and to ask better questions. It’s like a real workplace where you have to ask questions and rely on yourself for the step-by-step process.

What’s your favorite part of TechHOUNDS?

I’m able to do something hands on and get to further my experience in STEM rather than only learning a theory or only working on short term projects. I get to test my abilities for free thinking and become a better engineer.

What is one thing you wish you knew as a rookie?

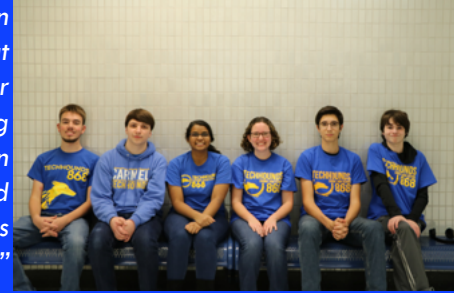
In my freshman year, I broke two tapping bits in the span of 15 minutes. I make mistakes just like everyone else and I wish I could’ve gone into this experience with what I’ve learned.

DIVISION UPDATES



"Our robot starting to drive, the elevator design is working and our bumper team is hard at work."
-Derek Fronck

ROBOT OPERATIONS



"Electrical's been soldering our breakout boards for the motor controllers, mounting our encoders on the drivetrain, and preparing our batteries for competitions."
-Megan Singer

ELECTRICAL



"This week in construction we finished painting the electrical cart, battery cart, and robot cart. We have been in a constant struggle this week with both lexan and the battery box drawer."
-Marcus Ford

CONSTRUCTION



"This week in PR we have continued work on laser cutting cups. We are also working on two new banner designs and we will wrap up the week with two videos."
-Bryce Castle

PUBLIC RELATIONS



"We finished the frontend of the scouting system, got the scouting system improved and almost finished the new website."
-Austin Hartman

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES



"In programming we have completed the majority of our subsystem code and made good progress with generating our motion profiles for autonomous mode."
-Caleb Smith

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