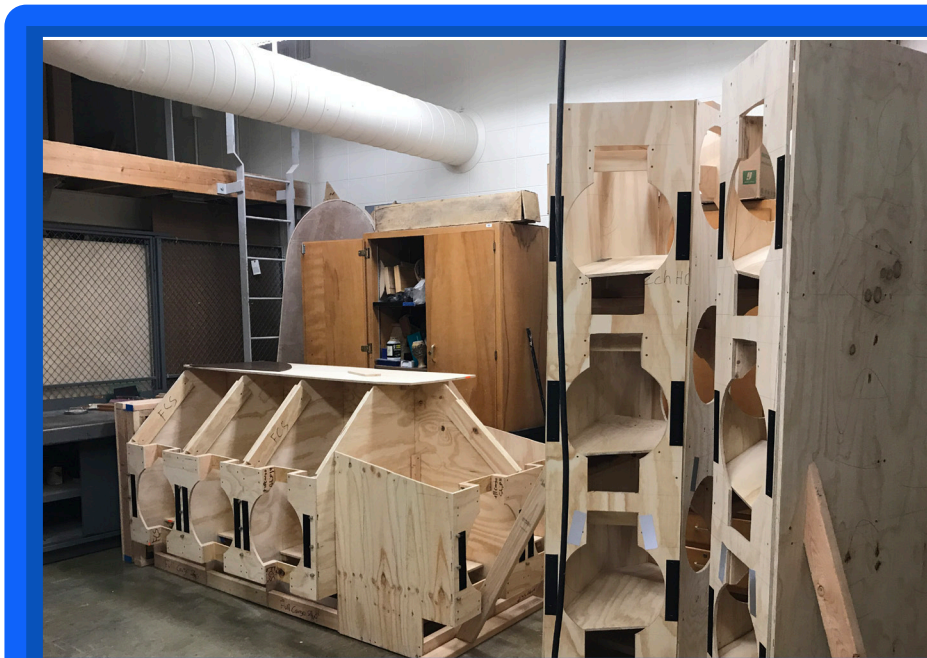


# THE NUTS AND BOLTS

TECHHOUNDS NEWSLETTER - 02/08/2019

## GyanSys Practice Field

The Construction Division has spent the past few weeks of build season designing, building, and assembling the practice field for the 2019 season. The practice field is a mock setup of the DEEP SPACE official playing field with a scaled-down version of the driver stations, game obstacles, and game pieces. Driver stations and game obstacles, such as the rocket ship and cargo ship, were built from wood while official game pieces for the cargo and hatch panels were provided by FIRST. All of the components of the practice field were officially assembled on Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup> and the field will



*Over the past few weeks, Construction has been building practice field parts.*

be put into use starting week 6 of build season. The practice field is used to host driver practices before and during the competition season. At driver practices, both the leadership team and the design team assist and participate in driving skill development and strategy sessions. These sessions also allow members of the Programming and Electrical Division to fine-tune autonomous programs and maintain electrical wiring on the robot, ensuring the robot functions well. The practice field is in the warehouse in the back of the GyanSys, Inc. building. GyanSys, Inc. is a local IT consulting firm and a Signature Sponsor of TechHOUNDS. They provide an ideal example of the various types of non-monetary support the TechHOUNDS can receive from local businesses. The team would like to thank GyanSys for their flexibility and their provision of an excellent resource.

### CONTACT US @

[techhounds868@gmail.com](mailto:techhounds868@gmail.com)  
or visit [techhounds.com](http://techhounds.com)

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Stop Build Day**

02/19/2019

**Robot Reveal & Open House**

02/19/2019

**Women in Techology Workshop**

03/02/2019

**Tippcanoe Event**

03/23-24/2019

**Center Grove Event**

03/29-30/2019

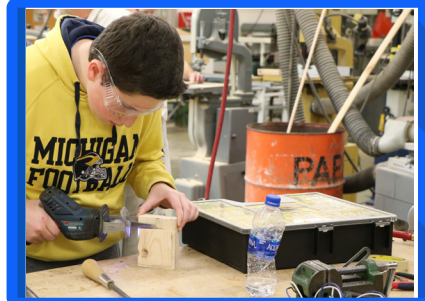
# TechHOUNDS Siblings

With our large team size, there's no doubt that the TechHOUNDS fosters a family of FIRST. Here's a quick look at a few of the siblings on our team!

## Jacob and Noah Carroll (Robot Ops)

**Jacob:** It's pretty interesting to work with my brother. It's good to see he likes the same things I do and we can both bond over TechHOUNDS together. It's a good experience for the both of us.

**Noah:** It's cool to learn from Jacob. Because we are in the same division, he helps me a lot and guides me. When I'm not sure how to do something, I know that I can ask him for help. We work very well together.



Top: Jacob works with a mentor during a preseason meeting.  
Bottom: Noah uses a reciprocating saw to cut wood.

## Jiwhan and Minjeong Kim (Programming/Electrical, Construction)

**Jiwhan:** Since my sister and I are in totally different divisions, we do completely different things at meetings. But when we are on the way home from meetings, I'm always amazed that my sister and I both enjoy the same nerdy things. It feels pretty awesome.

**Minjeong:** I joined TechHOUNDS because my brother always came home late after meetings last year and I was curious to find out what TechHOUNDS is. Because we are both in completely different divisions, we don't really interact that much, but I'm glad we can share something in common.



Mingjeong (Right) and Jiwhan (Left) discuss their divisions' progress after a meeting.

## Anastasia and Allyson Schmitt (Programming/Electrical, PR)

**Ana:** I enjoy having my twin on the team because we can always talk about how different our divisions are. Ally and I generally work very well together, although we occasionally disagree on some small things. I encouraged Ally to join the team because she enjoys design.

**Ally:** I feel as though I have discovered a different side of my sister through TechHOUNDS. It has taught me what she did last year and what her division is doing this build season as well. Ana has been a good reason to learn more about TechHOUNDS, and it has really opened some new doors to try new things.



Anastasia (Left) and Allyson (Right) pose for a picture before a meeting.

# MEET OUR TEAM

A weekly showcase of the members & mentors who make our team tick.

## WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO JOIN TECHHOUNDS?

I joined TechHOUNDS so that I could learn how to program and learn new languages to program with. I also joined because it's an activity that would look good on a college résumé.

## SO FAR, WHAT'S THE MOST INTERESTING THING YOU'VE LEARNED?

I never knew how to program before I joined the team, so I have been learning a lot of Java.



**Johnathan Ryan**  
ROOKIE

## WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO DOING?

I'm looking forward to going to competitions and having fun while I'm there.

## WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU LEARNED FROM TECHHOUNDS?

Some of the most important things I've learned are project management skills and how to complete delegated tasks. I've learned to be self-sufficient and to work with others in a team.

## ANY WORDS OF ADVICE YOU HAVE FOR ROOKIES?

One thing that I would tell rookies is to get involved, and do more than just the basic responsibilities of their division. That really helps you try to branch out and learn different things.

## WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM TECHHOUNDS THAT YOU WILL BE TAKING TO COLLEGE?

I will definitely be bringing some leadership skills that I learned along the way as well as practical knowledge of completing projects on the team.



**Sam Burroughs**  
4TH YEAR

## WHAT DOES BEING A MENTOR ENTAIL?

Being a mentor means being someone who helps out and teaches the kids.

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT BEING A MENTOR?

I like teaching. Specifically, I enjoy figuring out the problems and teaching the kids to figure the problems out for themselves.

## WHAT IS YOUR PROFESSION?

I am a software engineer. I work at Beckman Coulter.



**Mr. Du**  
MENTOR

## NOTE:

**Due to weather-related closures during week four, we do not have any division updates. Be sure to check next week's newsletter for updates. Thanks!**

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