



VEX LONG BEACH: MCBRIDE HIGH SCHOOL TOURNEY #2

January 13, 2018

Another day, another VEX competition! On Saturday, January 13th, the 'Dox headed to McBride High School in Long Beach for a VEX competition, and this time, with two of our VEX teams competing: 599A, led by Brian Lee and 599C, led by Ian Gascon.

Anticipation was in air as people started to get prepared for the first qualifying match. Throughout the day, both 599A and 599C worked diligently on improving their respective robots after every match, as well as heading to the practice fields to test autos and get more driver practice. Both teams also talked to judges about the designs of their robots and their process of building and designing for the robots to function at their best.

At the end of the competition, team 599A emerged as tournament champions (their second regional win!) in an alliance with team 1351K, Killer Instinct. Team 599C also did very well in the competition, having made it into elimination matches and also winning a Design Award (due to their excellent engineering notebook)! Overall, it was another successful day for the 'Dox and they all looked forward to their next competition. Who rocks? Dox rocks!



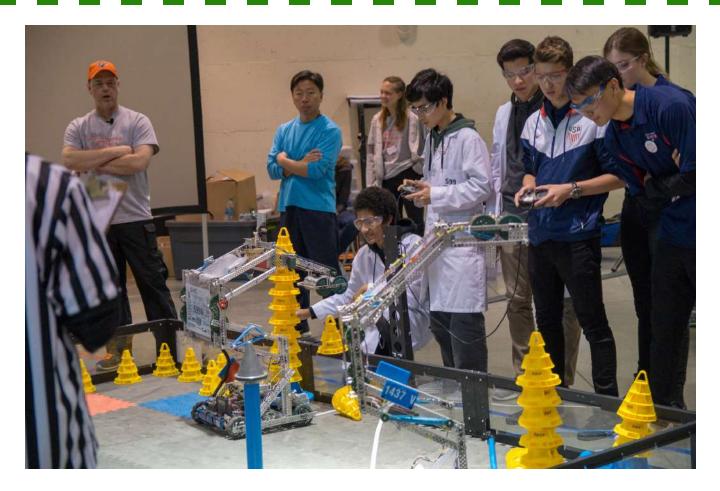


VEX IN THE VALLEY VALENTINE DAY

February 10, 2018

It was an exciting day for the Robodox team on Saturday, February 10th. On this day, the 'Dox headed out to Holmes Middle School for their fifth VEX competition of the season. This time, VEX teams 599B and 599C were here to compete, and for team 599C, they hoped to qualify for the VEX State Championship at this competition. Both teams meticulously prepared their robots prior to the competition, spending approximately 20 hours or more a week in both programming and mechanical design, as well as working on their engineering notebooks in hopes of earning the Excellence Award. As the competition started, the 'Dox immediately sprang into action, beginning to scout in both the pit and during matches. The tournament was fast paced; the pits buzzing with motor noises and verbal discussions coming from all teams; the air filled with adrenaline, as all the teams spent their energy trying to make their robots work and function efficiently.

Midway into the competition, both VEX teams were interviewed; being asked about the creativity of their design and significance of the structural components of their robots. Their effort into doing so led to 599B's robot winning the Design Award (GO DOX!). In addition to winning this award, team 599B made it to semifinals while 599C made it to finals. This accomplishment thus boosted further more motivation for our VEX teams, making them more ecstatic and determined to do well at the VEX State competition.



VEX CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

February 24, 2018

Congratulations to the Robodox VEX team 599A for winning the 2018 VRC California State Championship in Pomona! Their win at this tournament on February 24 grants them a qualification for the VEX World Championship in Louisville, Kentucky on April 25–28. It was a truly exciting event, full of drama. Teams 599A and 599B both participated in the state competition after winning regional events. Both teams showed strength throughout the qualification rounds, making changes to address hitches in their matches. A Team landed in rank 23 and B Team landed in rank 36 at the end of qualifiers. Both were picked for playoff alliances, with A team being picked by the third seed alliance of 7209X, the Eagles, from the Excelsior A.M.E Academy in Victorville, and 2496V, Robopatties V, from Beckman High School in Irvine, and B team being picked by the eighth seed alliance of two Patriot Robotics teams, 1437V and 1437X from Viewpoint High School.

599B started off the quarterfinals as a backup for 1437V and 1437X as they took a tough loss to the first seed alliance. 599B subbed in on the field for the second match, which ended in a close score. Unfortunately, a Disqualification was called on 599B's blue alliance, resulting in elimination from the tournament. While this call was controversial and later was disputed, B team members Omeed, Uyen, and Qusai showed good sportsmanship in congratulating the opposing red alliance. 599A fared better in the playoffs. They achieved scores above 100 points in both quarterfinal matches in a 2-0 run leading to the semifinals. However, a big twist occurred. Investigation into the first seed alliance led to their disqualification due to a rule violation, meaning that 599A's semifinals were actually the true tournament finals. Crazy! 599A lost the first match of the semifinals, but they weren't down yet. Their alliance posted scores of 110 and 134 in the next two matches to take home the trophy and banner! Brian, Ian, Sami, and Alison posed for celebratory pictures as Robodox members at the event could not contain their excitement. It all culminated in the awards ceremony. 599B took home the Design Award in no small part due to their outstanding engineering notebook, and 599A and 599B both did a great job at this event and we wish good luck to 599A at VEX Worlds!

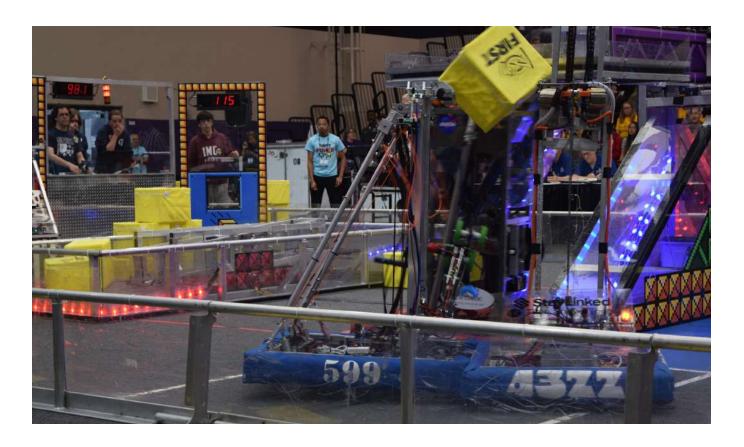


FRC LA REGIONAL DAY 1

March 15, 2018

The Robodox show up at the front gate of school at 5:30 sharp. Everybody is eager to get to the first FRC Power Up competition. We have been working tirelessly on "Emma" for the past 9 weeks and we are about to watch its very first performance. After a brief roll call, everybody enters into the bus and settles down for a 2 hour drive to the venue. As we get to the venue, we first set up shop.. At the competition, there were 5 jobs. There was the drive team, scouters, pit scouters, RFAS (robot first aid station) and pit workers. The drive team has been working tirelessly, pondering different strategies and spent countless hours programming and practicing with the robot. The scouters then analyze every match and record data from how the other robots at the venue are performing. Scouters spend their whole day recording data to help with alliance picking and coming up with strategy for the future matches. Pit scouters then walk around the pit asking different teams about their robot. These questions are designed to help us with strategy, so we can win matches.

Then, there is there RFAS. The robot first aid station is a very unique thing about our team. Not many other teams have done this and this station was the cause for us winning the second most gracious professionalism awards in the world. The robot first aid station is a booth where other teams will come to us and tell us their problem and we are the ones who will help them solve their problem. For example, one team needed a certain type of screw. We then walked around the pit asking other teams for that certain type of screw. Pit workers are then the ones who fix up the robot when something needs to be changed. They are also the ones who do system checks. System checks are when the robot is checked before every match so it can do what it needs to do. If it cannot perform as planned, the drive team will come up with a different strategy to ensure that the game will go in our favor. The first day was a practice day. We got to first test our robot on a real field. Almost everything went to plan which is truly amazing. We get back to our hotels and have pizza for dinner. Then, we are all planned to go to bed at 10:30 so we can have enough rest for the long day the following day.



FRC LA REGIONAL DAYS 2 & 3

March 16, 2018

At last, the first real day of competition was upon us. The qualifying matches were going to begin today and Emma's first match was about to commence. The pits and stands were abuzz with energy and excitement as countless students were preparing for their upcoming matches. Scouters analyzed every game with precision, the RFAS ran around the pits in attempt to help struggling teams, and the pit crew spent countless hours on our prized possession, Emma.

March 17, 2018

Today was the last day of competition. Today was also the day for alliance pickings and final matches. After a weekend full of hard work, the Robodox ended up at quarter finals. At the end of the competition, there were several awards given out and we were happy for them, standing up and clapping whenever a team got an award. This has been an amazing first competition. We will make sure that we improve at our second competition. 'Dox rocks!



FRC AEROSPACE VALLEY DAY 1

April 5, 2018

It's 5:30 in the morning but the Dox are brimming with excitement. The team has been working tirelessly to build the best robot we can and today's the day the Aerospace Valley Regional starts. Once everyone was ready, the team boards the bus and prepares for a long journey to Eastside High School. At the venue, the Robodox set up the pits and prepared our robot for some practice matches before the main event. Meanwhile other members set up the Robot First Aid Station, or RFAS for short. The RFAS is essentially one of many services that the 'Dox have been providing during FRC competitions where we help other competing teams find any parts they urgently need. This RFAS for this competition was run in collaboration with team 5012 Gryffingear. After practice matches, the team retired to our rooms.



FRC AEROSPACE VALLEY DAY 2

April 6, 2018

Day 2 of Aerospace Valley Regional begins with breakfast at 6:15 and preparations for official matches. At first the 'Dox were struggling, losing several consecutive matches and placing last on the rankings, but eventually we recovered. After 55 qualification matches, the 'Dox end the day ranked 28th. Day concluded with a parade of all the mentors from every team and Mr. Paulson, one of our beloved mentors, receiving the Woodie Flower Finalist Award. The team celebrated by cheering, hugging, and shedding tears. It was a wonderful way to end the day!



FRC AEROSPACE VALLEY DAY 3

April 7, 2018

Today was the last day of the Aerospace Valley Regional and the team was determined to give our 100%. As qualifying rounds continued, the 'Dox pulled a miracle, jumping from rank 28th all the way up to 15th. The robot our team invested their blood, sweat, and tears into performed almost flawlessly. Everything from driving to supporting another robot while lifting itself off the floor worked without a hitch. The qualifying matches ended with the Robodox ranked 18th. All that was left were alliance selections and elimination rounds. The top 8 teams were given the opportunity to request 2 other teams to join their alliance to compete in the elimination rounds. The Robodox, team 599, and Triton Tech, team 6072, agreed to form an alliance with the 6th rank alliance TiGears, team 4470. Together we competed fiercely but ultimately lost in the quarter finals. Despite being a bit discouraged by our loss, the 'Dox had a lot of fun and made precious memories we will surely never forget. This was the last FRC competition the seniors of our team will be able to compete in. And thus, many team pictures were taken to commemorate and thank them for all their hard work and guidance. It was an exciting season and we won't forget any of it.

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