

TEAM 1718

KNOCKOUT NEWS

THE LATEST FROM THE FIGHTING PI



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Welcome back to the Knockout News!

Did You Know?

Fun Fact

At the West Michigan FIRST Robotics District Competition in 2010, The Fighting Pi received 4 out of the 5 awards we were eligible for. These awards consisted of The Regional Chairman's Award, Finalist Award, Coopertition Award and the Website Award!

Thank you!

Thank you to our parents for providing us with meals during every meeting! We appreciate everything you do for us!

News Delivery Change

Knockout News delivery will be delayed until Wednesdays since this will allow us to focus on the Saturday competitions and to recap the weekend's event results.

2nd District Comp

Marysville District, April 5-7
at Marysville HS,
Marysville, MI

What is Scouting?

By Alex Leone

Scouting is one of the most useful things for the robotics team. For scouting we watch matches and take notes. While we don't do this at meetings, at competitions it's one of the most important things. Generally, everyone on the team has to scout with only a few exceptions. We rotate so they don't have to scout the entire match. Even though most students not part of strategy don't see the importance it is vital for winning matches. There are two main reasons for it's importance; one being pit reports. These our reports run to the pits for upcoming matches that show the statistics of our alliance partners and the opposing alliance. They can help to show their weaknesses and strengths, which can be deciders for matches.

The other importance is or our strategy meeting after the first night of qualification matches. This is where we pick our potential alliance partners. Scouting is important here because without it we would have to go purely off memory, and if we did that our team may choose alliance partners that wouldn't work with us and costing the team points in the long run. It also helps us predict future alliance so we can work around them with our picks. Scouting is important for team 1718 and is needed for the best performances at the competitions.

What Is It Like Working On The Controls Team?

By Zach Schember and Joe Nanni

Teamwork is of utmost importance when working on the Controls team. Given the complex nature of the tasks assigned, it is impossible for any one person to both have knowledge on and be capable of performing every task. This is why particular people specialize in various portions of the Controls team to ensure maximum productivity. If one is in need of assistance on a particular type of task, there are set people that are knowledgeable in how to teach and assist someone to perform that given job. Most tasks must be performed in tandem so having a vast pool of knowledge spread out amongst many people is both most efficient and most effective. This ensures that many jobs can be performed at the same time and with the level of quality necessary for the job at hand.

A First Year's First Competition

By Josh Prall-Stankewitz

My first competition was a blast! The competition itself went well for our team and we experienced very few problems. In the stands, the competition was filled with massive letters, pom-poms, and high spirits! For me I tended to sit up in the stands and watch the competition. I would converse with my teammates on what robots we should have on our alliance or what features were interesting. This made up most of my time at the competition. What I did when robots were not playing was collecting buttons, this was interesting because I have never heard of 99.9% of the teams there. In the end, hanging out with my friends and my team made my day.

By Ian Donohoe

My first competition was rather eye opening. I met people who were very outgoing and could talk to others without hesitation, completely tearing down social walls. This made the general atmosphere of the entire competition seem very relaxed, while keeping the whole competitive aspect alive and thriving for the event.

For more team updates, follow us on Twitter @FRC1718, friend us on Facebook at FRC Team 1718: The Fighting Pi, checkout some posts on our Instagram @ Team 1718 or on our website: www.fightingpi.org !

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If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to Contact our head mentor or send an email to our team at team1718@gmail.com

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