



CITRUS CIRCUITS

FEBRUARY 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

Stop Build Day
February 20

Sponsor Open House
February 24

Utah Regional
February 28- March 3

SPONSORSHIP UPDATES

Jupiter
DJUSD
UC Davis
NVIDIA
TechnipFMC

Saturn
IFI

Neptune
First St. Realty - Claire Slotton
UC Davis School of Medicine
UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
UC Davis College of Biological Sciences

Venus
Aerometals
Bright Funds Foundation
DMG Mori
Hill Engineering
M Cubed
SunPower
UC Davis College of Engineering
UC Davis College of Letters and Science
UC Davis Global Affairs
WestCoast Products

Mercury
Far Western Anthropological Research Group
Da Vinci Boosters

Inkind/Other
Markforged
Solidworks
GitHub
Fastenal

LINKS

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facebook.com/frc1678

twitter.com/frc1678

instagram.com/frc1678

youtube.com/citruscircuits

OUR FIRST PRACTICE COMPETITION DURING WEEK "ZERO"

On February 17, our drive team and pit crew will be visiting St. Francis High School in Sacramento for an annual practice day hosted by Team 692 Fembots and 3250 Kennedy Robotics. They invited FRC teams from the area to use their 2018 Power Up field and we will be visiting their facility to see how well the robot operates on a full-sized field. The matches will start at 9:30 a.m. and are open to the public until 6 p.m.

SPONSORS INVITED TO OPEN HOUSE

On February 24, we will be hosting our annual Sponsor Open House! It will be from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in room M1 at Davis Senior High School. The open house will include breakfast and a demonstration of our newly-built 2018 robot. There will also be student-led tours of our machine shop, programming area, and half-sized game field, and an in-depth look into each subteam. Interested sponsors are requested to RSVP to admin@citruscircuits.org by February 17th.

CONFIRMED COMPETITION SCHEDULE

After the Utah Regional in Salt Lake City from February 28 to March 3, Citrus Circuits will be participating in two other Regionals. The second Regional will be before spring break, from March 21-24 at UC Davis in the Pavilion at the ARC. Everyone is invited to attend. Our third and final Regional, Central Valley Regional, will be held for the first time in Fresno on April 5-8. Based on our performance at these competitions, we hope to attend the FIRST World Championship in Houston, TX, on April 18-21.

ALUMNI GIVING BACK

Sophia Stockburger currently mentors team 973, the Greybots, in Atascadero, CA. Sophia was Citrus Circuits' team captain in 2016, after transferring from Bellingham, WA in 2015, where she was on Team 2605 Seamonsters.



When she decided she wanted to mentor a team, the FIRST website showed her that Greybots were the only team near her university (Cal Poly). They just happened to be one of the most successful teams in California, winning the World Championship in 2009 and the Houston Championship last year. (But she still rooted for 1678 in the Houston Finals.)

Sophia works with mechanical assembly, business and media, awards, and general administration on her team. "The thing I enjoy most is teaching and passing my knowledge on to students, and seeing them become enthusiastic about robotics".

One thing that's been challenging her while mentoring has been motivating students, and adjusting to how different from 1678 the team is. One of her goals is changing the team culture by encouraging more student initiative and dedication, and developing high standards for student participation.

Her team is also much smaller than 1678 and, as a result, doesn't focus on outreach quite as much. "While I was on 1678 I learned a lot about team management, getting and retaining sponsors, and conflict management. I've taken a leadership role within the mentors, and I've helped make administrative changes within the team to help things run more smoothly."

In the future, she hopes to help the team grow in size, and increase the amount of student leadership. She also wants to help improve their off-season training procedures and the outreach program.

DYR INFORMATION

We interviewed Janet Liu, a second year member, Lead Strategist, and DYR coordinator, about the growth of the DYR program for the 2018 season.

Q. What was different between the 2016 and 2017 DYR competition season? After 2016, we changed to VEX Robotics for the program. This allowed there to be more resources available in 2017 like new projectors, presenters, and things to make the competitions run smoother. We were able to use an app for referees that allowed the actual matches to be smoother.

Q. What was different between the Citrus Circuit student mentors for VEX IQ teams?

Some of the mentors for VEX teams learned from the camps. This year we also used a system where a new student can shadow an experienced mentor to learn more about VEX IQ.

Q. What will be expected from the 2018 summer camps?

In the 2018 season, students will be exposed to STEM, mostly with VEX IQ. The kit is similar to building with Legos but more challenging and imaginative. The summer camp engages engineering and helps students learn teamwork skills. They will be building and programming the robot and get a glimpse at the competitive side of robotics.

Q. What is the "Girl powered" camp week?

It was Mike Corsetto's (lead technical mentor) idea, to encourage more female involvement in STEM because there have been people saying that there are very few girls participating currently. Parents believe that this will create a safer environment for girls to take risks and will encourage them to get more involved in STEM.

