



TEAM 1678 CITRUS CIRCUITS

NOVEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

CITRUS CIRCUITS CO-HOSTS SUCCESSFUL CAPITAL CITY CLASSIC

On October 22-23, Citrus Circuits co-hosted an offseason competition with teams 3859 Wolfpack Robotics and 2073 Eagleforce at Cosumnes Oaks High School in Elk Grove. Our lead technical mentor Mike Corsetto acted as the General Manager, and many of our team members, both new and old, worked as volunteers to help run the event.



Capital City Classic was an opportunity for us to assist and encourage other teams in all aspects of FIRST, from the technical components to the fundamentals of professionalism. In order to enhance the friendly and educational atmosphere, we hosted a series of workshops concurrent with the competition to teach teams both the technical and soft skills encountered in FIRST robotics competitions. These workshops covered a wide range of topics including mechanical design, robot programming, machining/prototyping, fundraising, scouting development, public relations, leadership, and strategy. Students and mentors from 35 teams attended the workshops.



We also loaned our practice robot to Team 299 Valkyrie Robotics, a rookie team from Cupertino who had no robot nor prior competition experience. Valkyrie Robotics was able to get some first-hand competition experience using our robot, including substituting in on our alliance for the last match of the finals.

GETTING READY FOR ANOTHER MADTOWN THROWDOWN

On November 11 and 12, we will compete in Madtown Throwdown, an off-season competition in Madera hosted by Team 1323 MadTown Robotics. We are extremely excited to test out all three of our robots simultaneously in one competition, including our new minibot.

We started building our newest Stronghold robot, which we have dubbed "Minibot," over the summer. This robot is smaller than our usual designs, coming in at just 20 inches



by 19 inches, and will debut at Madtown Throwdown. It contains a turret, catapult, and a smaller drive base. The turret has 180°-degree rotation capability, and carries the catapult on the top. The catapult is designed to have an adjustable shot, have a stop length, and be able to easily scoop boulders. Another feature is its vision tracking, which allows it to make both high and low goals.

Madtown Throwdown will also be the first competition with our full travel team of 32 people, including both new and experienced team members who will test their skills in scouting, driving, and repairing the robot. This is always a great opportunity to train new team members and help them gain valuable experience in preparation for competition season in the spring.

BIG TURNOUT FOR PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT



Thank you to all the parents who came to our Parent Information Night, where we discussed the goals for the coming year and how parents can support the team. The night started off with parents breaking up into groups to explore each subteam, and meet the leadership and mentors for each group. Afterwards, the parents and members of the team took a break and gathered outside for a barbeque and potluck, followed by a presentation from Captain Bryton Moeller and Vice-Captain Kelly Ostrom, and a demonstration of our 2016 robot.

With plans for an increased travel team in 2017, along with the expenses associated with a team membership of over 90 members, Citrus Circuits is asking for expanded parent support, both through financial pledges and by providing lunches during build season (see menu planning suggestions below), and help in transporting our expanded travel team.

THIRD ANNUAL WISTEM SEMINAR ON NOVEMBER 5

On November 5 from 1-5 pm, we will be hosting our third annual Women in STEM (WiSTEM) seminar. The event will be held at the DMG Mori auditorium in Davis, 3805 Faraday Ave. At the event, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) advocates will speak about their past and present experiences in their field and their hopes for the future. The goal of the event is to inform the community about the opportunities for women in STEM and increase awareness of the struggles women can face in those careers. If you're interested in attending, please bring your friends and family. For more information, go to <http://www.citruscircuits.org/wistem.html>.





THANKS FOR FEEDING OUR TEAM!

We have over 90 students committed to the team this season, and that's a lot of hungry teenagers to feed. That is why once our build season starts in January, we're counting on parents of both new and returning students to provide food to feed 25 people at least twice during the season. For weekends and holiday Mondays, we are asking parents to bring enough to feed 25 active teenagers so they are replenished enough to continue a day of hard work on our robot.

Food suggestions included with the request to sign-up this year includes such simple items as sandwiches, hot dogs, tacos, nachos, pizza, and pasta, or any other dishes you would like to share with the team, especially an option with protein. Sides can include salads, fruits, chips, and desserts. Please make sure to include drinks, but we are asking parents to not bring packs of bottled water in order to reduce waste. In addition, parents are reminded to refrain from bringing products with common allergens in them, such as peanuts and shellfish.

Thanks to all the parents that have signed up so far, and to parents Kerry Wilmerding and Genifer Little for coordinating the meals for this season!

2017 SPONSORSHIPS

For the 2017 season, we already have a total of 12 confirmed sponsors. Our early success this season in confirming sponsorships is due in part to our new sponsor retention program protocol, where all members of the team are assigned to contact and follow-up throughout the year with potential sponsors. So far, our sponsors and their contribution level include:

- UCD Chancellor's Office: Jupiter
- NVIDIA: Jupiter
- FMC Schilling Robotics: Jupiter
- UCD College of Agriculture and Environment: Neptune
- UCD Division of Social Sciences, College of Letters and Sciences: Venus
- UCD College of Biological Sciences: Neptune
- UCD College of Education: Neptune
- UCD School of Medicine (Human Health Sciences): Neptune
- UCD School of Veterinary Medicine: Neptune
- UCD College of Engineering: Venus
- UCD Global Affairs: Venus
- UCD Extension: Mercury

Thank you to all of our new and continuing sponsors!