

# The Robette Roundup

April 2022



**Our mission is to inspire girls of all ages to incorporate STEM into their lives and to revolutionize the perception of women in STEM.**

## Upcoming Events

### **End of Year Banquet**

Mon May 16th

We will celebrate our accomplishments from this season

### **Summer Camp**

Mon-Thur Aug 1st-11th  
for interested students  
new to the school or team

Plus many more outreach  
events coming up soon!

The Robettes had our second and last competition for this season, the North Star Regional in Minneapolis last month - April 6th-9th. The team had tons of fun!

After attending the Northern Lights Regional in Duluth, we knew what to expect and worked very well together as a team. We had some great matches and worked hard doing some repairs on the fly. We got to meet the Dean of the Science and Engineering department at the University of Minnesota, danced in the stands, and cheered on everyone.

Thank you to everyone that visited & cheered us on in person and via livestream.. We really appreciate the support that makes attending these competitions possible!



*A Special Thanks to our Sponsors:*

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*Visitation School*



Team Website: [www.therobettes.com](http://www.therobettes.com)

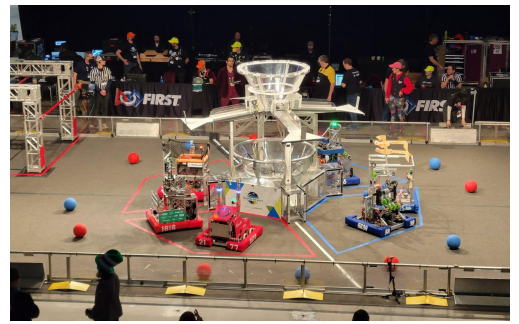
Team Email: [2177@therobettes.com](mailto:2177@therobettes.com)

Team Twitter: [@therobettes](https://twitter.com/therobettes)

## What is **FIRST: RAPID REACT**?

Remember back at the beginning of January at Kick-Off? Teams around the world learned about RAPID REACT!

In this year's game, two alliances must prepare cargo for transport! Each alliance, composed of three robots, must collect & shoot cargo (oversized tennis balls) into a high or low goal. At the beginning of a match, human players can also attempt to shoot cargo. Another challenge for robots is to climb on four bars of various heights up to nearly 8 ft. Since robots cannot extend mechanisms above five and a half feet, they must traverse across the rungs to get to the highest one.



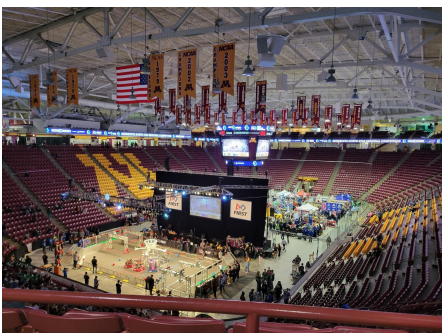
## What we learned from Northern Lights:

In Duluth, many of the cargo we shot would bounce out of the high hub goal (~20% scored for 2pts). We switched strategies to shoot in the low goal (80%+ scored for 1pt). Between competitions, we reduced spin on our shooter by adding a second wheel. This allowed us to shoot into the high goal with minimal cargo bouncing out at North Star!

After Northern Lights, we spent a lot of time driving and shooting. Programming fixed an issue that had been causing us to drive very slowly. The robot got speedy which means our driver needed quicker reaction times! The drive team went to the MURA practice field 5 times during the month break.

We also learned how fun and inspiring it is to talk to other teams, so we were much more motivated to visit lots of pits at North Star, including some of the teams we met previously.

We also prepared for in-person judging, everyone had to be ready to answer questions about the team & robot!



*“What’s your favorite thing about competition?”*

*“Build a closer connection with your team.”  
-Kayla*

*“Being able to be with other people who love robotics as much as I do.” -Megan*



## Thursday Summary

We started off strong by being the first team to finish inspection! We got in a bunch of great practice matches, especially with a code fix that made our shooting much more consistent! We practiced scouting (aka collecting data about teams' performances) with 3 friend-teams: 2491 NoMythic, 2339 Technocrats, & 2450 Wind Chill.

## Friday Summary

We had a long day on Friday, playing in both the first and last matches of the day. We continued to play consistently and improve throughout the day. We presented to judges, talking about our team and our robot for their consideration for a variety of awards. Before competition, the team practiced public speaking skills and answering possible questions we might be asked. At night, we used scouting data to consider what teams might work well with us in a potential play-off alliance.

All our drive practice paid off — The drive team's effectiveness at lining up to shoot was so good that someone thought we were using a vision system!

## Saturday Summary

Since we played so many matches on Friday, our Saturday morning was relatively quiet, and our main driver even got to scout. We continued to talk to other teams and make friends. While we were not picked for an alliance, we had a blast cheering on our friend teams!

We also got the Imagery Award for our team aesthetic. Both of our nominees became finalists for Dean's List, a very prestigious award for leadership and the only individual award in FIRST. Keep reading on to the next pages to learn more about these accomplishments!



# Special Insert: Dean's List Finalists!



## At the North Star Regional, two Robettes were recognized as Dean's List Finalists!

Dean's List nominees are "great examples of current student leaders who have led their teams and communities to increased awareness for *FIRST* and its mission while achieving personal technical expertise and accomplishment."

Every year, all teams select up to two students as their Dean's List Semi-Finalists. Mentors write nomination essays for these students, and each nominee is interviewed by a panel of judges. Then two Finalists are chosen at each regional competition.

**Megan O.** was recognized as a Finalist for her effective approach to talking to potential sponsors, as well as the technical knowledge & love of all things-mechanical. She has been a wonderful addition to the team after transferring to The Robettes this year.

**Mairin O.** was recognized as a Finalist for her leadership on The Robettes as our only captain during our rebuilding this season. She led the team's fall retreat (focusing on SMART goals), taught everyone about scouting, and helped rookies find their roles.

These two had the opportunity to attend a celebratory lunch at FIRST World Championships in Houston with other Finalists.





## Student Spotlight: Mikayla O. '23

I'm the safety captain on our team. My favorite parts about being safety captain are talking to other safety captains, learning about the safety programs of other teams, and helping my team and other teams be safe!

I won the Safety Star of the Day award twice: once at Northern Lights and once at North Star. I had so much support from my team!

I loved walking around the pits and talking to every safety captain I could find. It was a huge learning experience and super enjoyable too. I even helped out a newer team with their safety program! It was a very unique experience to teach a newer safety captain about my safety program and what I know!

## Safety Star

At competitions, Safety Captains talk to each other about their team's safety programs and then vote for who they would like to be Safety Star of the Day.

On Friday, our Safety Captain Mikayla was the Safety Star!

### Interview link →

<https://kstp.com/kstp-news/top-news/u-of-m-hosts-high-school-robotics-competition/>



This weekend, the University of Minnesota hosted the FIRST regional robotics competition at Mariucci and Williams arenas.



## Imagery Award

This award celebrates attractiveness in engineering and outstanding visual aesthetic integration of machine and team appearance.

*"It's so hard to pick just one team for the Imagery Award, but this year's recipient does it in a very bright 'fashion' From their choice of uniform to their machine's aesthetic – they stood out from the beginning.*

*You can't miss them in the pit, you can't miss them on the field, and this team's theme is truly original.*

*For these reason, we award the 2022 Imagery Award to The Robettes"*

We are honored to take home this award!

