

The Robette Roundup

March 2023



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

Minnesota 10,000 Lakes Regional
presented by Medtronic
at Williams Arena in
Minneapolis, MN
Mar. 30th-Apr. 1st

Come see us compete in
Minneapolis! Live-streaming
will be available via
[Twitch.tv/firstinspires](https://www.twitch.tv/firstinspires)

The Robettes went to our first competition of the year! We participated in the Lake Superior Regional in Duluth from March 1st-4th with 59 other teams.



Here's a reminder of the game this year: <https://youtu.be/0zpfIsYc4PA>

In CHARGED UP, two alliances of three teams compete to score cubes and cones into their grid to charge up their community. They also score additional points if the robots are fully or semi-engaged with their charging station.

A Special Thanks to our Sponsors:



**Boston
Scientific**

POLARIS®

**John & Vera
Wolf**



Visitation School



Team Website: www.therobettes.com

Team Email: 2177@therobettes.com

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

Lake Superior Regional Competition



2023 LAKE SUPERIOR REGIONAL was memorable. Although we faced many challenges, we persevered, maintained a positive spirit and solved the problems together as a team!

On the first day of competition, we had some issues with the wheels and our driving. The field-oriented swerve was drifting too much, so we pivoted to robot-based driving directions. It was less finicky, but initially caused some driver confusion! The wheel treads are worn over time, which can make it difficult to move smoothly across the field. These challenges did not stop us. After every match, we highlighted the positives and identified problems to improve/troubleshoot. We are proud of the progress we have made and are ready to excel at our next competition!

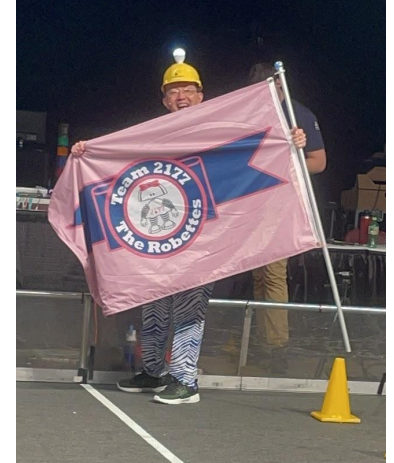
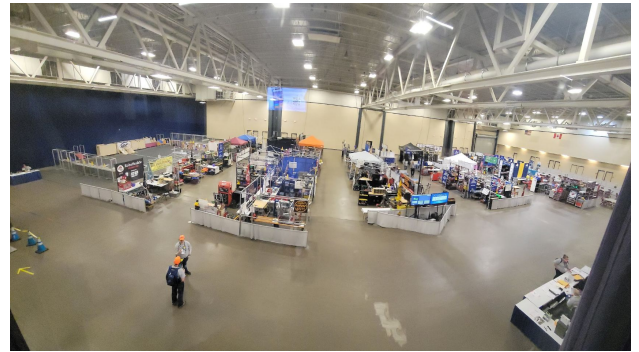
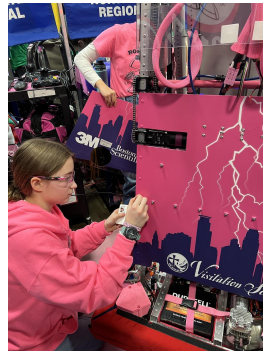
We created a list of successes to celebrate and a (prioritized) list of improvements to make. This will guide the purpose of our meeting before our next competition - the 10,000 Lakes Regional in Minneapolis at the end of March.

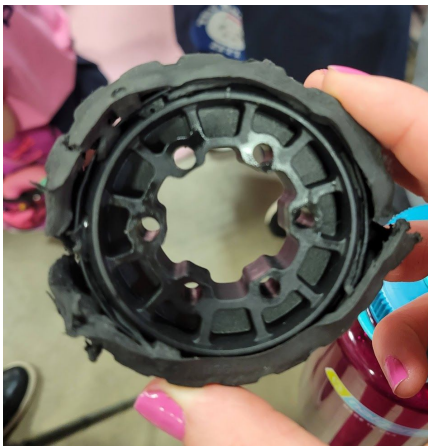


SWEet Eats

The Robettes hosted a SWEet Eats event in Duluth for the first time! We had a great turnout of women from across the Lake Superior and the Northern Lights competitions. The room was so packed we ran out of chairs! Besides the lemonade and cookies, it was a great opportunity to learn more about women in STEM through trivia and get to know each other better.

Special thanks to everyone who came and connected with us! We can't wait to do it again at 10K!



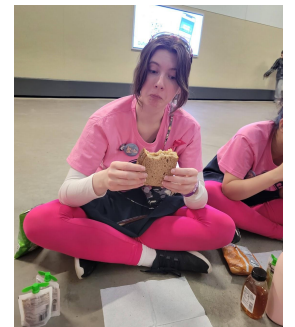


CHARGED UP

CONGRATULATIONS!
You earned a SAFETY DUCK!!

FIRST Safety Managers were impressed with your pit cleanliness and attention to safety so they allowed one of their flock to join your team!
 Give it a name, treat it well, and keep it as a reminder that a tidy pit is a safe pit!

GREAT!



Self Advocacy at Competition

FIRST promotes a culture founded on the ethos of **Gracious Professionalism®** (a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community) and **Coopertition®** (displaying unqualified kindness and respect in the face of fierce competition, teams can and should help and cooperate with each other even as they compete) along with their core values (specifically Inclusion, Teamwork, & Fun) to fosters fairness and respect between teams. Occasionally we interact with teams and/or individuals that are not living out those qualities during the pressure of competition.

After our recent competition, during which our team (amongst others) experienced a series of particularly rude behaviors, we talked as an entire team about strategies that we wanted in place for our upcoming competition. We believe these form a non-exhaustive list of “best practices” for all teams, and would appreciate feedback and/or suggestions from other teams about how they handle confrontations and/or difficult situations. This is structured particularly around pre-match strategy meetings with alliance partners; not to say bullying is exclusive to that situation.

- Suggest hosting the strategy meetings in a neutral/friendly area
- Go into the strategy meeting with confidence
- Prioritize having all three teams’ drive teams present for the same strategy meeting
- Attend strategy meetings as a full drive team
- Practice quick responses to call out inappropriate comments/behavior
- Be ready to be an ally
- Leave/walk away when the situation is out of your control

Escalate as appropriate

- Report to an Adult:
 - Team mentor, yours or a mentor from a “friend” team
 - Event volunteer, particularly pit admin
 - Volunteer Coordinator (Laurie Shimizu, Lori Frisk, or Michelle Maas) or Nicole Schossow Director of First Northland (MN and Dakotas)
- Submit a YPP Concern or Non-Medical Incident Report to FIRST HQ:
<https://www.pavesuite.com/FIRST/PublicPortal/HomePage>
 - This allows you to submit anonymously if desired.
 - This website is easily available via a search engine “FRC Incident Report”
 - Pit Admin also has a QR code.

Did you know?

The game manual includes a footnote on every other page defining Gracious Professionalism as “Doing your best work while treating others with respect and kindness - It’s what makes FIRST, first.”

