

Sponsor Update!

03/05/2022

The Thunder Chickens

www.ThunderChickens.org



What's Cool at the Coop?

Ever since the release of last week's update of the newsletter, the chickens have been busy with finishing the highly technical parts of the robot. Working on wiring and constructing motors has been a fun task. Many advancements have been made to get the robot ready for the competition.

As the build season comes to a close, students have been hard at work fixing minor issues with the drive base. The mechanical department has been wrapping up their main tasks and recently gave the robot to the electrical department.

The electrical department has finished wiring up the shooter, pneumatics, and the drive base. Thanks to the programming department, we were also able to run the shooter without fail.

While wiring the robot, the electrical department encountered several issues. The biggest issue was dealing with

the spacing for all the electrical components. We have been used to all the electrical components being in one area. This year's robot, however, had its electrical space split into two areas, which divided the electrical components.

Another major issue was dealing with the placement of the climber. The team has been trying to get the motors to cooperate with the spark motors, as well as the chains that will assist in raising and lowering the climbers. The final task of the electrical department is organizing the wires in the robot for easier access, which will be done at a later time.

The drive team is currently being assembled by our lead drive mentor, Donovan Whitehead. Tryouts for the robot driver, operator, and human player will start on 3/11 and 3/12.

The programming department, led by our CEO Noah Vermuelen, has re-

cently finished the logic systems of the robot that will operate the motors and the shooter, and is waiting to test the code for both climber arms.

We are also very proud to announce that we are now one of the ambassadors for m.e. FIRST. This organization advocates for providing the necessary products for women in robotics. They are paving the path for women in STEM.

This week, immense progress for the robot has been made. After all our efforts, we can finally test the robot on the field! Us chickens are pumped and



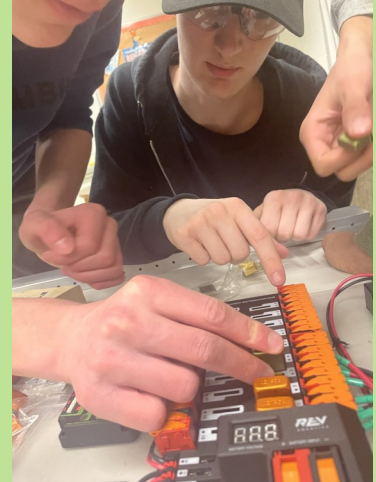
The Chickens are Excited For....

With our first competition nearly two weeks away, we went around and asked our team the big question: **“What are you most excited about during competition season?”**

“Excited to see the environment and general vibe of the competition, as it is my first one.” — Nicholas Tripi

“We get to see our hard work in action.” — Shiv Kadakia

“I am excited to wear the chicken suit!” — Dani Mazurek



“Team bonding!” — Ariana Ogoy

“Going to the competitions to learn more about the other robots, and how their design process differed from ours.” — Monica Nicovic

“I’m excited about the upcoming competition, what we are seeing gives me reason to be optimistic” — Jeff Kausch (Mentor)

“I think we will have one of the most effective shooters this season” — Domenic Moraccini (Mentor)

“I’m really excited to meet the other teams in person this season”

Our Competition Schedule:

Event	Dates	Location
Saline District Event	March 26 & 27	Saline High School
Macomb District Event	April 1 & 2	Macomb Community College
Michigan State Championships	April 14 – 16	Saginaw Valley State University
FIRST World Championships	April 20 – 23 (assuming we qualify)	George R. Brown Convention Center Houston, Texas

As of now, the public is invited to attend competitions in person. If you'd like to join us, please contact Alex Lecea (alececa@gmail.com) and we will arrange for a tour!