Smile and be friendly

* Hi, my name is Jordan Shands-Sparks, and this is my brother Connor Shands-Sparks. We are part of the River Valley Robotics Team in Lakeside, California.
* Our team is open to all grade levels, which at our school is 7th – 12th grade. Connor, who is a senior, is our only returning Botball team member. Everyone else is new to robotics and the majority of our team are 7th graders.
* We divided our team in two groups, with one team working on the robot with a claw, and the other team working on a robot that would sweep the poms.
* Everyone helped with the robot build, with one student volunteering to act as the mechanic. Connor, the senior on the team acted as the advisor’s assistant, and helped with programming and troubleshooting.
* We voted on all strategy and used trial-and-error for robot design.
* Our team has two pairs of siblings, who often fought when working together. The team decided that it would be better to separate them onto different teams.
* As a new team, we decided to start with a simple design, and work on goals that would complete one task at a time. We divided up the labor according to what people thought they did best. (When we sat and talked about the presentation, and this question came up, out mechanic Thomas said, “Everybody did what they were good at.” And we all agreed.)

Thank you for your time