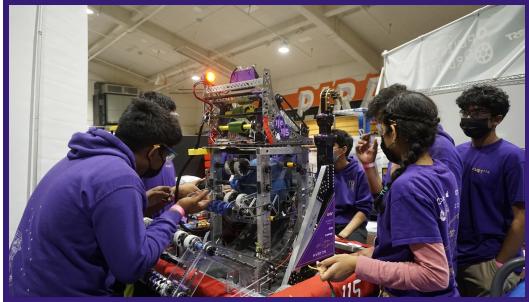


October 2022 Newsletter

After months of preparation and learning, MVRT took their famed bot to compete in the CalGames! Hosted in Pittsburgh highschool, MVRT members attended the competition on Saturday, October 8, and Sunday, October 9.



Due to the location of the event, being a 1.5 hour drive away, many members woke up early in the morning at around 4:30 AM just to compete! Regardless of his tiredness, George Gino excitedly states, “I’m so excited, for Cal, competitions are one of my favorite things about robotics and being able to go back into one was super exciting [...].”

True to his word, members reflected great thrill in watching the competitive matches, scouting at the event, pit speaking, and making quick robot fixes. The first couple of matches proved to be difficult for the team, but, MVRT jumped back in performance the next day. Lara Vaidya reflects her pride in the team’s performance, exclaiming, “Saturday took some time for us to get up to our potential in terms of shooting, but as our team does, we adapt and problem solve to reach our goal in the end, and Sunday was so good even though we didn’t win as much, our robot performed as we wanted it to.”

Many exciting events were happening for all members within the team. Scouters were analyzing matches, those with the media pass were focused on taking important footage, those in pits were hard at work fixing the robot, the drive team was constantly preparing for each match, and awards speakers were reciting their lines to impress the judges! Kathryn Foo, a WRRF speaker, explains the hard work the awards team has put in leading up to CalGames. She expresses, “The Founder’s Award requires a lot of work [...] our main focus for this competition was making sure that we had [the speech] down and making sure it sounded the best it could be.”



Sunday proved to be a vital day, as after two long days of matches played, the time came for the awards ceremony.



MVRT won the Founder's Award, which required a speech, essay, and interview submission. The stands erupted with cheers from our team, reflecting our true ecstasticness! The awards team exchanged hugs of pride and our team all congratulated each other. We are so proud to receive this award as the hours of work truly proved to be beneficial.

After the thrilling experience at CalGames, members took a week break from robotics to prepare for rookie trainings! MVRT hosted their annual rookie trainings, starting on October 21, where veteran members of the team introduced the rookie members to each division.

Different from prior years, our team focused on implementing project-based training to effectively increase the engagement level of the rookies. Vincent Zhao expands on the trainings for software, stating, "Software plans to teach the basics of robot code and slowly move on to aspects of control theory and the usage of different sensors."



All in all, October was filled with important activities, from offseason competitions to welcoming in the new members of our team. We are so excited to work with our rookies even more into the future and further welcome them into our robotics family. Thank you to all of our members, parents, alumni, and mentors for the constant hard work and support given to MVRT! We could not have won the Founder's Award without you!