

www.roboroos.org.au

**WELCOME TO
EXCITING
SEASON OF NEW
EVENTS**

**CLUB
DATES / UPCOMING
EVENTS**

**FRC & FTC Training
nights**

Tuesdays 18:30 - 21:00

The University of Adelaide,
Ingkarni Wardli (Level 2 Room
218)

FTC Event

University of Adelaide,
Mawson Lakes, SA

For General public

2 pm - 6 pm Sat, 16 Nov
9 am - 1 pm Sun, 17 Nov

For participating teams

8 am - 8 pm Sat, 16 Nov
8 am - 1 pm Sun, 17 Nov

FLL Events

**FLL Golden Grove
Regional**

8 am to 5 pm Sat, 2 Nov

Pedare Christian College
12-30 Surrey Farm Dr,
Golden Grove SA 5125

FLL Evanston South Regional

8 am to 5 pm Sat, Nov 10

Trinity College
Alexander Ave,
Evanston South, SA 5116

**FLL National
Championship**

8 am to 5 pm Sun, Nov 24

Melbourne, VIC

Student Robotics Club of S.A. Inc

RoboRoos

Newsletter

UNLEY COUNCIL GRANT EVENING 2019

On Thursday 26 of September this year, the club was invited to attend an Unley Council evening acknowledging grant recipients of this and last year's grant season. Kara and myself were lucky to attend as representatives of the club for the grant we received allowing us to involve our mentors in communications training.

Held at the Unley Town Hall, the evening had representatives from a range of varying community organizations in attendance. We all enjoyed presentations from the local community school, sports groups and even an Italian Folk Choir. As an attendee, I was amazed by the variety and effort of some of the community groups as well as some of the incredible activities and events occurring in a reasonably small council area.

During the presentation, each grant recipient was introduced to the attendees. KJ and myself were asked to elaborate on the success of the FLL teams and the efforts of our club in general. Council members congratulated the RoboRoos on our efforts and seemed to regard us highly for the work we do in developing the engineering and teamwork ability of school-aged students.

Upon the conclusion of the presentation section of the evening, we were able to talk to some of the council members and other representatives. They seemed quite appreciative of the work we do and are interested in attending some of our events and competitions to gauge a better idea of the extent of our contributions. Community members also showed interest in involving themselves and their families in the teams as well.

The evening was, overall, quite positive and KJ and I found a great opportunity to reflect on the community contributions of our club as well as appreciate the work of the Unley Council in providing a close community environment in their area. We are very grateful for the generosity of the Council in organizing and running the night as well as providing us with these grants to allow us to continue to run as successfully as we do.

Sara E.

FROM THE NEW CAPTAIN

Hiya!

I'm KJ, and I am the team captain for this season. I was the vice-captain last year, and it was super rewarding for me, and I hope the season was super satisfying for the team as well! I have been involved with FIRST since

2015, when I did FLL with my school, and I started FRC in the 2016 season. I have been involved with FTC since we began with

the team, and I mean this year we are building at my house, and the two lead mentors are my family, so I pretty much live and breathe FTC. I don't think FTC is mentioned less than five times a day around me.

With us securing the home for the FRC build, it's going to be a fantastic season. The new home opens up more time for us to be there, more space for us to have, and more space to drive practice. The work we are currently putting into less robot-based activities is fantastic too. We have been filming instructional "FRC 101" videos for our YouTube channel to help support teams that don't have access to other teams and resources. We have also been working on ways to promote STEM education, especially in educating girls about the possible careers and creating connections, and our work with

supporting FTC growth in South Australia. All of this work is aimed at empowering students to achieve them, supposedly impossible, and creating opportunities for everyone and anyone to make their dreams realized.



Over the FRC build the goals we settled on as a club were more based around having students build their robot and having heaps of fun along the way. So, having fun is super important to the majority of our team. To have fun, I'd say pool parties are a must every couple of weeks after a hard day of work.

I've been involved in FIRST for 5 years, and it has provided me with so many opportunities, and I can't wait to give back to everyone by being captain. Here's to the 2020 season, Infinite Recharge, and all the seasons after it.

-- Kara J.

"This year we are building at my house, and the two lead mentors are my family, so I pretty much live and breathe FTC"

FROM OUTGOING CAPTAIN

Hi Everyone,

This will be my last address as the outgoing Captain and is my chance to share a bit about my experience as the Captain of the 2018–19 season. It was both an honor and a responsibility to play the role of Student Captain. On the one hand, it served as recognition of my credibility, ability to lead and the progress I had achieved in my STEM learning. While on the other, it was a big responsibility because I was able to take charge of the betterment of our entire team and ultimately drive the direction we chose for the year as a Team and Community.

“The biggest take away for me, from my time as Captain, is how proud I am of the students on our team”

The biggest take away for me, from my time as Captain, is how proud I am of the students

on our team. For their ability to think creatively, work together, be incredibly inclusive and understanding, and their commitment to the team, always striving for success. It was gratifying to see how all the students matured and reacted to situations as I pushed them to train hard and helped them realise their goals.

During the training part of the year, I worked hard with fellow students to build skills, team spirit and commitment. I worked on this by leading by example. If I wanted my team members to go for that extra mile, I showed them how it's done; if I wanted consistency with attending training, I would rarely miss a session. I felt our training season was well rounded and imparted skills to the students in communication and STEM areas. I was able to instil the same level of commitment I have to FRC to my teammates.

With everyone in the team committed to their cause, we worked hard together to achieve our goals when the build came around. It was

amazing to lead the design and prototyping weeks of the build and see our goals and designs come together. A significant part of my role was



communication; the key to this is both talking and listening. I wasn't all about giving out instructions and setting out rules for the team members to follow. I encouraged team members to speak up and to get involved. More importantly, listening promotes respect, and when team members know their opinions are valued and respected, it made the process smoother in finalizing our designs. I was amazed at our final product, and how well we stuck to time commitments by the end of the six weeks.

And finally the most significant moment of the season, and the hardest for a captain and team: competition. This year our competition was fraught with challenges, from weather to limit switches I think we had to deal with it all. It was stressful and hard, but we bounced back and still always got on the field and had a great time. My biggest challenge was reminding students much work and progress we had already made to achieve our goals and to convert our weariness into courage. While we didn't see the reward at the competition, when we went back to DDU, we performed on the field and in the Judging room. I can't describe how proud I am.

I can't wait to see how the team continues to develop and work towards our big dreams. Once again, I need to thank the whole team. The mentors, parents, past captains, alumni and the students — a team is only as strong as each of its parts.

Jess Shannon

FROM THE VICE CAPTAIN

Hello Team,

It's great to see the busy team involvement and so many new members at the club in recent months. With the FTC season just starting and the off-season training at its fullest, we are approaching a busy and exciting period for the club. I hope to see the great attendance and involvement be maintained throughout the remainder of this eventful year.

Despite still being a few months away, the FRC build season will come around quicker than we realize and we have already commenced

organizing some plans for the build. The

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management and organization of the team is a crucial factor that can greatly influence the team's success throughout this season. We hope to install a great team spirit and well organized system that will allow each member to have a role and be included throughout the build. For those who haven't been involved in the FRC build season before, this is an exciting and incredibly busy time of the year. I hope you are all as excited as I am. Any theories on the Infinite Recharge game? If you haven't seen the teaser yet, check it out.

There are also a few exciting club social events that will be happening soon to keep an eye out for. Firstly, the annual team LAN party is planned to happen sometime towards the end of the September school holidays. A few emails regarding this event will soon be sent out so make sure you come along. There will be pizza and Minecraft. We will also be having a Halloween party this year as well as a Summer

holiday pool party sometime around Christmas. We are planning on introducing some more new social events



throughout this and next year so keep an eye out for a survey to collect some ideas.

A few key members have been working incredibly hard recently on outreach activities for the new #STEMpoweredGirls initiative. This is important for our chairman's award application for next season. Recently, we have visited a Girl Guides group and done a range of exciting activities such as soldering flashing badges, robot driving and an awesome presentation from Jess, which everyone found inspiring. We hope to keep up this work and spread FIRST's message across the state and hopefully inspire more girls to pursue STEM.

I would also like to congratulate the FTC team on their successful end to last year's season at the Banksia Park High School scrimmage as well as thank the people involved in organizing this. The team is doing a great job commencing the FTC season. Good luck for the state competition!

It's great to see so many new faces and members in all areas of the club. I hope you guys are enjoying being a part of and feel welcomed to the close community of our club and teams.

Keep up the good work,

Sarah E.

FTC SCRIMMAGE

BANKSIA PARK INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

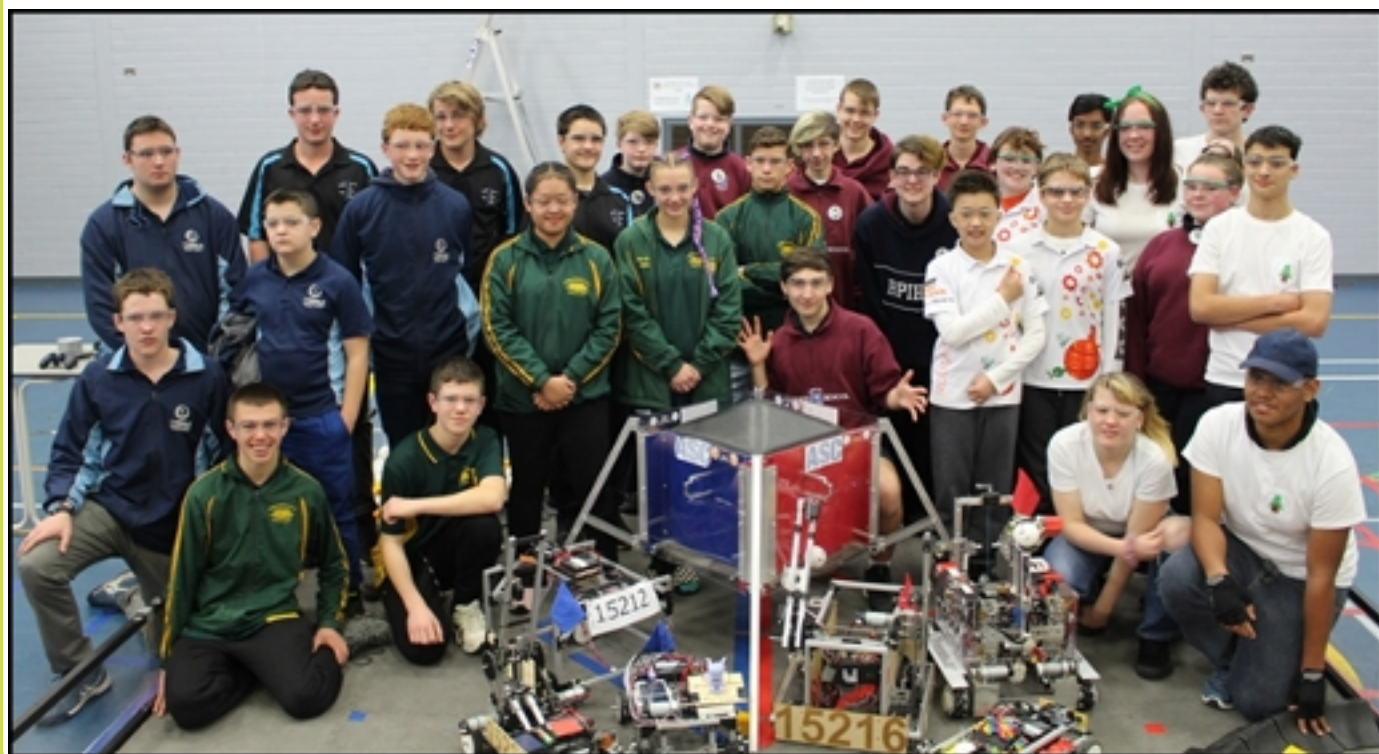
On August 11 this year, a First Tech Challenge scrimmage was held at Banksia Park International High School. As the last SA state scrimmage for the 2018–19 FIRST Tech Challenge season, it was an exciting way to end the busy year as well as a successful final event for our Rover Ruckus Robot, Giroose. The event provided yet another exciting opportunity for the many rookie teams in the state to gain experience in this busy, yet relaxed and enjoyable FTC competition atmosphere.

Despite a few technical difficulties throughout the event, each team participated in at least 9 matches and was able to gain valuable experience in this relaxed competition environment. The day was highly beneficial to each of the six teams involved; Murray Bridge, Karoonda, Tyndale, Mannum, Banksia Park and ourselves, the RoboRoos. It was great to see such a turnout despite the distances

needing to be traveled by many of the teams. We hope to see these and even more new teams thrive in this year's FTC season, FIRST Skystone.

Each team performed exceptionally well and we were proud to have six working robots at the competition. With most teams able to climb or at least push minerals (game pieces), many successful, high scoring matches occurred. Some great performances were seen particularly from Banksia Bots and Karoonda Meteors who deservedly became alliance captains for the finals. As the second robot in Banksia's alliance, the RoboRoos were lucky to be in the winning alliance. However, gaining experience in these scrimmages is the key goal for each of the teams and students involved, which was successfully achieved by everyone participating on the day.

Sara E.



FTC SCRIMMAGE -CONTD

The event was made possible by the generosity of Banksia Park High School which provided the venue in their Gymnasium and STEM block to run the event. The sausage sizzle, run by the school and manned by parents, also provided a successful and delicious lunch for the busy people involved. Furthermore, the initiative of our team members, parents and mentors who organized, set up and ran the event allowed the event to be as successful as it was. Particularly, Jeff Rabone, Jessica Shannon, Rob Zibell and Bryce Simmons, who set up the event and organized refereeing and technical management, which allowed the event to run so smoothly and successfully. A team of judges were also hard at work throughout the day judging presentations from each team to ultimately announce the awards at the end of the day.

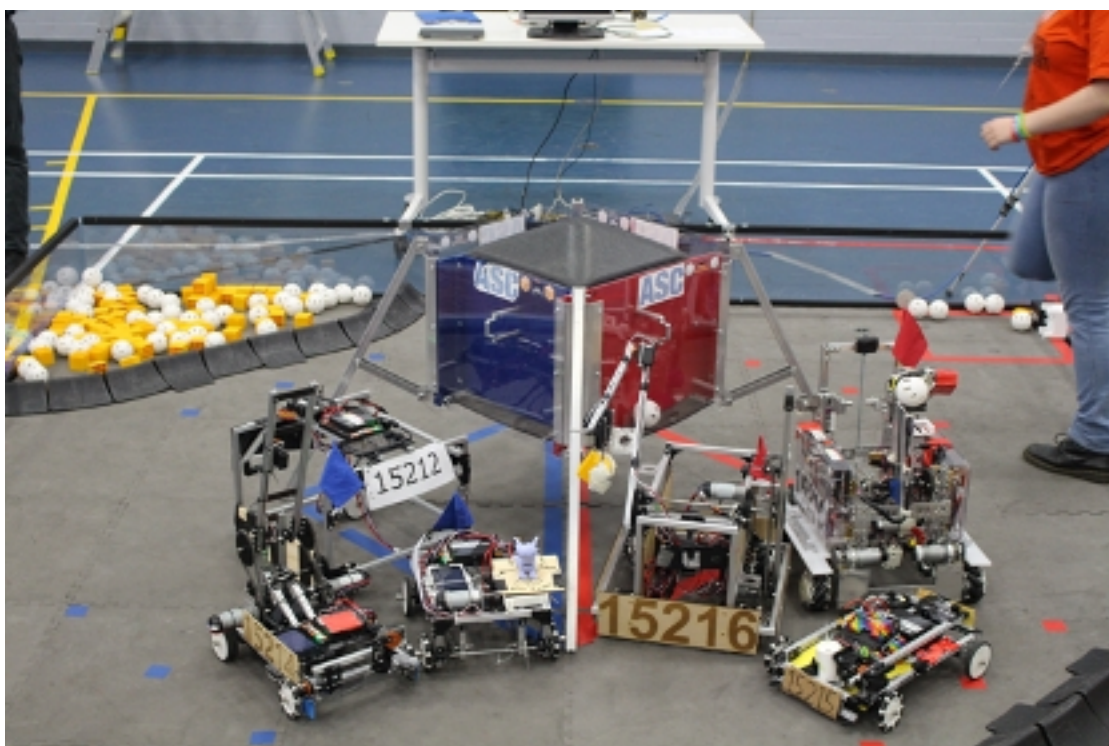
An introduction from the school principal, Mr Coulter, and speech from Dr Richard Harvey MP, Member for Newland, the local member of Parliament, were great presentations. It is also a testament to the work of the team and

Banksia Park High School to have these respected individuals interested in and appreciating the work we have done.

The awards ceremony was a great way to conclude the event in which each of the teams were presented with winning or runner-up alliance awards as well as judges awards that had been decided on throughout the day. The RoboRoos were lucky to win an award for our programming and autonomous software. Banksia Park deserving took home the most respected of the judge's awards, the Champion's award, for the work they have done as a school team in their outreach efforts and generosity in spreading the FIRST message in SA through hosting the scrimmage.

The day was a great success and great way to end the Rover Ruckus season thanks to the efforts of our team and Banksia Park International High School, with all teams involved gaining great experience and, more importantly, having a great time.

Sara E.



2019-2020 SEASON



FIRST **RISE**, powered by Star Wars: Force for change!

This time around teams are "... setting out to inspire citizens of the galaxy to work together, strengthening and protecting the Force that binds us and creating a place where collaboration and collective wisdom can elevate new ideas and foster growth. Together, we RISE".

The RoboRoos can barely wait to get stuck into next season's games and continue growing and creating our community under this new theme!

CITY SHAPER



INFINITE RECHARGE



SKYSTONE

PRESENTED BY Qualcomm





HOPPING INTO ENGINEERING



Who are the RoboRoos?

We're a community group, FIRST® Robotics Team and so much more—including South Australia's first FRC team.

The team's purpose is to excite young minds about STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), by using a common interest: Robots.

As part of this, students get real industry experience, with help and guidance from dedicated industry professionals as mentors. It circumvents the age-old circle of being unable to get a job due to lack of experience.

Part of our ethos is to maintain a gender balance, which we continue to strive for and achieve.

Contact us at: roboroos@roboroos.org.au

SPONSOR RECOGNITION

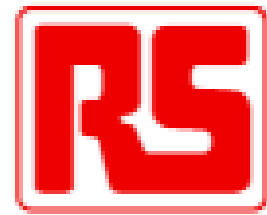
The Club works with every sponsor and supporter to understand their motivations, expectations and desired outcomes from supporting us, and we understand the need to meet those expectations. We have a number of ways of physically and digitally recognizing support. We are happy to discuss other means of recognition (including anonymous donations) on a case by case basis.

SPONSORS - THANK YOU

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