Strike Bots Outreach

Maker Faire

According to the Calgary Maker Faire website, "Maker Faire is a gathering of fascinating, curious people who enjoy learning and who love sharing what they can do."

This was our second year having a booth at Maker Faire show off FIRST robotics and get people interested in STEAM. Unlike our first year, this year we had enough space to have a full FTC field for our robot to drive on.

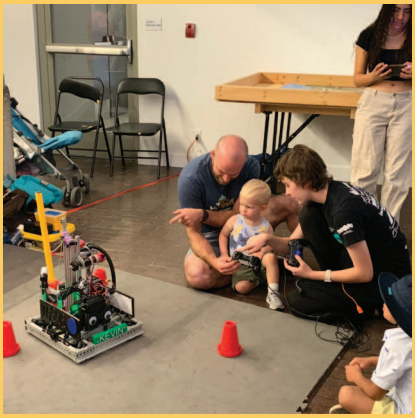
We let people drive our robot around and try to place cones on a few junctions. This gained the interest of many kids and adults. We both directed them to the ATAA website and suggested they explore FIRST teams and programs in their area.

Beakerhead

According to the beakerhead website, "Beakerhead is an extraordinary movement that sparks curiosity, fuels imagination, and ignites collaboration between art, science and engineering."

Like Maker Faire, this was our second year having had a booth at Beakerhead to show off FIRST robotics and get people interested in STEAM. There wasn't room for a whole field, but we still had room for a few tiles and junctions. Because of this, we didn't want the kids controlling the chassis in case they drove into anybody, but we still let them control the elevator and claw.

At a few points, we had a whole line of kids excitedly waiting for their turn to drive. If they were interested we told them about FIRST robotics and our program, as well as directing them to the FLL and FRC areas which were also run by our organization, ATAA.



Helping Other FTC Teams

Emily is a youth mentors her school's teams: STS Robotics 18444 and 20168. She helps by suggesting ways to solve a problem, helping brainstorm ideas (including by sharing ideas our team came up with), clarifying rules, and lending parts from our team, such as a distance sensor for their autonomous code.

Because of her help, they've had their best season so far where in their most recent competition as of writing this, they ranked 12th (Senior) and 18th (Junior)! She also plans on bringing our robot in to show them for more ideas in the future.

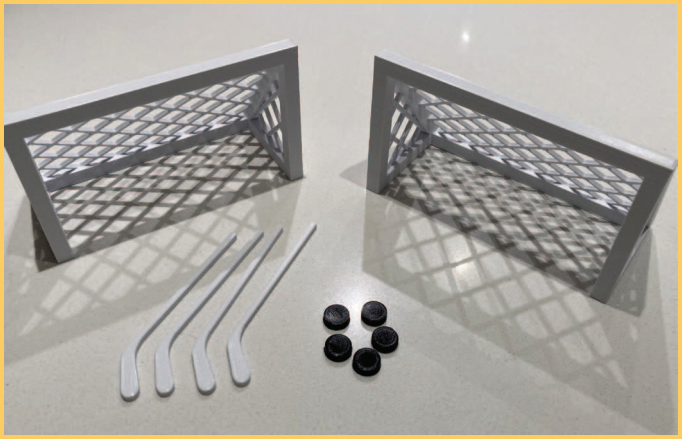
We hosted a programing training course before the season started for the mentors of the Calgary Girls School team Killa-Bytes (22315) so the mentors were better able to help their team with programming for the upcoming season.

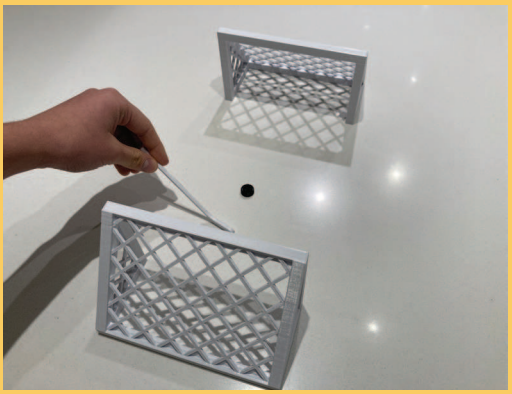
There are also a few other teams we talk to and help a bit such as the three other team in our build space, Hyper Droid (10015), CIA (16595), Uncivilized Mecha Monkeys (23468). We talked a bit with the FLL team CHEEZdEms (56552) who Emily met at worlds last year because they were considering starting an FTC team and wanted some advice.

3D Printed Nets

A speech language pathologist with Pediatric Community Rehabilitation reached out and requested we design a 3D printed net for them. They use toys to encourage younger children to speak but they aren't able to use any mini nets found in stores because the fabric-like net material isn't washable.

So, we designed a fully 3D printed set of nets, hockey sticks, and pucks for them to use. Along with the nets, we included pamphlets about first and our team inside the box so they could learn about FIRST, and encourage their patients to join a FIRST team if they are interested. Since the initial request, we have continued to print the design for other workers at the workplace.





Social Media + Website

This year, we decided to make an Instagram account and website for our robotics team so we could reach out into the community more. We post on our Instagram every week about what we did each session, and our website has information about FIRST, our team, outreach, and past seasons.