

Period 3: Lessons Learned

NoHo Botball

Team 19-0199

Experience Gained

The Botball Club at North Hollywood High School has taught our team members many lessons and skills useful for not only robotics but life in general. During our meetings, we not only learned how to program and troubleshoot but also how to work with servos and motors that may not always have equal power. Many of our team members also learned how to build robots with size and material restrictions efficiently. Team members learned how to work with different kinds of people, and how to work through problems civilly and peacefully. Our team gained the knowledge and patience that a person will need to be a successful team member, student, and person.

Documentation Process

With the documentation process, we, as a team, learned to use our time more efficiently and organize ourselves. By having a set schedule and certain goals/tasks, we were able to use the time we had to the best of our ability. Making sure we obtained all the information for mechanical documentation helped most of our members have a better understanding of how the robot works. This process could help them in the future with cataloging parts in machines and understanding complicated mechanisms.

Surprises

The Botball experience was a very unique environment compared to regular clubs and classes. All members are valued as equals and everyone's idea are respected and considered more than in many other clubs. How kind and helpful everyone has been towards each other also was a surprise. The complexity of the programming was a major surprise for team members who were just learning how to code. The comradery between us was a surprise to both new members and seniors. Even through stressful times during the meeting, people remained civil and calm.

Advice for Future Teams

Advice that we would like to pass on to future teams would be to make sure that your time is managed well. Procrastination is not your friend, don't do it no matter how tempting it seems. It is important to make sure that every team member is doing work that is beneficial to the whole team, whether big or small. All ideas should be listened to,

from new and old members alike. One person should not be doing all the work, instead, we should work together as a team.