

COMMUNITY NEWS



Oshkosh's Wave Robotics returned home as champions from the Indiana Robotics Invitational, July 19-21 in Indianapolis. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Wave Robotics takes first at 'all-star' game

By Tom Lyga

Reader submitted

Oshkosh's Wave Robotics returned home as champions from the Indiana Robotics Invitational, July 19-21 in Indianapolis. Wave Robotics' students and mentors seeded fifth in the qualification rounds and drafted teams 1114, Simbotics from St. Catharines in Ontario, Canada; team 4334, Alberta Tech Alliance from Calgary, Alberta, Canada; and team 245, Adambots from Rochester Hills, Mich., to be part of an "alliance."

The IRI is considered to be the "Pro Bowl" of FIRST and features 70 of the top teams from over 2,200 in North America. This year's game, Rebound Rumble, tasks teams partner in a three-robot "alliance" and compete against another alliance. Points are scored by shooting foam basketballs into three different leveled hoops. They score bonus points if one, two, or three of the allied robots can close the match by balancing on a teetering platform.

"This program gives students a leg up in both the college and job market and produces the type of young adults that companies are looking to hire," says Jake Fischer, a mentor from Oshkosh Corporation.

One of the perks for winning the IRI is an automatic invitation, along with its alliance members, for the Wave Robotics team to come back next year to compete again.

The Wave Robotics team consists of about 50 students from Oshkosh North, Oshkosh West, Lourdes Academy and Omro high schools in addition to several home-schooled students.

Wave Robotics will have open student registration starting on Aug. 15 and are looking for adult mentors who are talented in science, engineering, math, science, and business to volunteer with the program.

For more, contact Tyler Olds, director of Wave Robotics at TylerOlds@WaveRobotics.com, or see <http://www.waverobotics.com> or <https://www.facebook.com/waverobotics>.