

I started in a small team of four at an all girls' school during the Cleansweep season. The greatest impression my mentor – a biology teacher – had on me was that he drew inspiration from his area of expertise and applied it to robotics. I learnt about building integrity and interacting with others of different ages. I also had the opportunity to use AutoCAD and learn how to program.

Changing schools mid-way through the Round Up season was difficult. Luckily robotics was a common topic with my new team – it saved me from awkwardness, especially as male interaction was limited at my previous school. This team operated differently to my previous one. They did not derive their robot design ideas from insects, but as an evolution of a previously existing robot's mechanism.

The experience of going to the 2012 World Championships allowed me to see the most dedicated teams. There, I learnt the importance of scouting and communicating. Inspired by others, I took up the challenge of becoming a driver this season.

Starting from an all girls' school gave me confidence in a male dominated technology world, allowing me to continue as the only girl on the team. Since I enjoy problem solving involved in the VEX games, I see robotics as the beginning to my future career in engineering.

By combining my experience from both my teams, I can say that even though this season is my last, I am certain that it is going to be my best.