When it all Started

We are a team of 10 fifth grade girls with a female robotics coach. Last season was the first year for 8 of the girls on the team and we made it all the way to the World Vex IQ Championship in Louisville, Kentucky. Over the summer, our coach informed everyone that we would continue as an all girls team, and we would be adding two new girls, Lorena and Caroline. More girls...more power!

When we hear the phrase Girl Powered, we think girls can do anything if they work together.

Our team's approach to robotics is reflected by Christ giving us strength and wisdom to overcome all things. Also, we can inspire other girls to do robotics and to do anything they aspire.

We have pushed ourselves to inspire other teams to do better. At competitions, we share our ideas with other teams so we can learn from each other. We are a diverse group of girls that all have different strengths and weaknesses. During the season, each person specializes on an aspect of the competition so TOGETHER we can accomplish better outcomes.

Everybody on the team takes part in designing and building the robot. Currently, we are on our 10th robot iteration.

Everybody takes part in programming. Our main programmers are Ilysa, Kaitlyn, and Sara.

On journal everyone definitely contributes so our varied personalities can come through on the page using photographs and commentary. It important because it is our team's strength. We have won two state bids this season, because of the strength of the work in the journal.

Since we are a team of girls, we have better chemistry. This is because we can relate to the same circumstances. We can also give each other better motivation because of our diversity.

Our STEM role model is Katherine Johnson. She was born on August 26, 1918. She lived in White Sulfur Springs, West Virginia. She was hired for NACA (later called NASA) in June 1953. She retired in 1986. She graduated college when she was 18 years old. She is currently 100 years old. In NASA she worked as a mathematician and a physicist. She is our role model because she was the reason that NASA launch their first rocket into space. Katherine studied how to use geometry for space travel and we hope to do that too. She has inspired other young women and has inspired us as well.

Driving at competitions is the most nerve-wracking part of the day. The pressure is on you to score as many points as possible to earn the maximum amount of points. We practice ALL THE TIME! We even come in on Teacher Work Days to hone our skills. Our coach lets us come in pajamas so we can be comfortable as we improve our driving skills.

This year, our school hosted a Vex IQ Qualifying Competition for the first time. We planned a fun day of robotics while sharing our driving strategies and cheering on the other teams. Many of the other school's coaches told us that our event was the BEST event they had attended! It was awesome sharing our school and our passion for robotics with the community.

In addition to working on the robot, driving skills, programming, and journal, we needed to complete a STEM project for additional potential awards. The topic this year was mathematics, so we decided to teach students about math using Sammy as she traveled the United States and the Dominican Republic. We created a budget, estimated costs, added/subtracted/multiplied/divided our way through various scenarios to keep within the budget. When all the math was complete, we created a video to help other students LOVE math through Sammy's travel adventures.

The season started with a summer camp at our school using a basic Flex robot, and it blossomed into two State bids and finishing 8th place in the Skills category. Together we grew by listening to each other's ideas and celebrating our diversity. We embrace being strong, intelligent girls that can problem solve at a moment's notice. Robotics taught us life-long skills.

As a team, we are empowering each other to maximize our strengths which allows us to reach our maximum potential. We are working hard to reach the Vex IQ World Competition again this year, so our new teammates can enjoy the experience.