

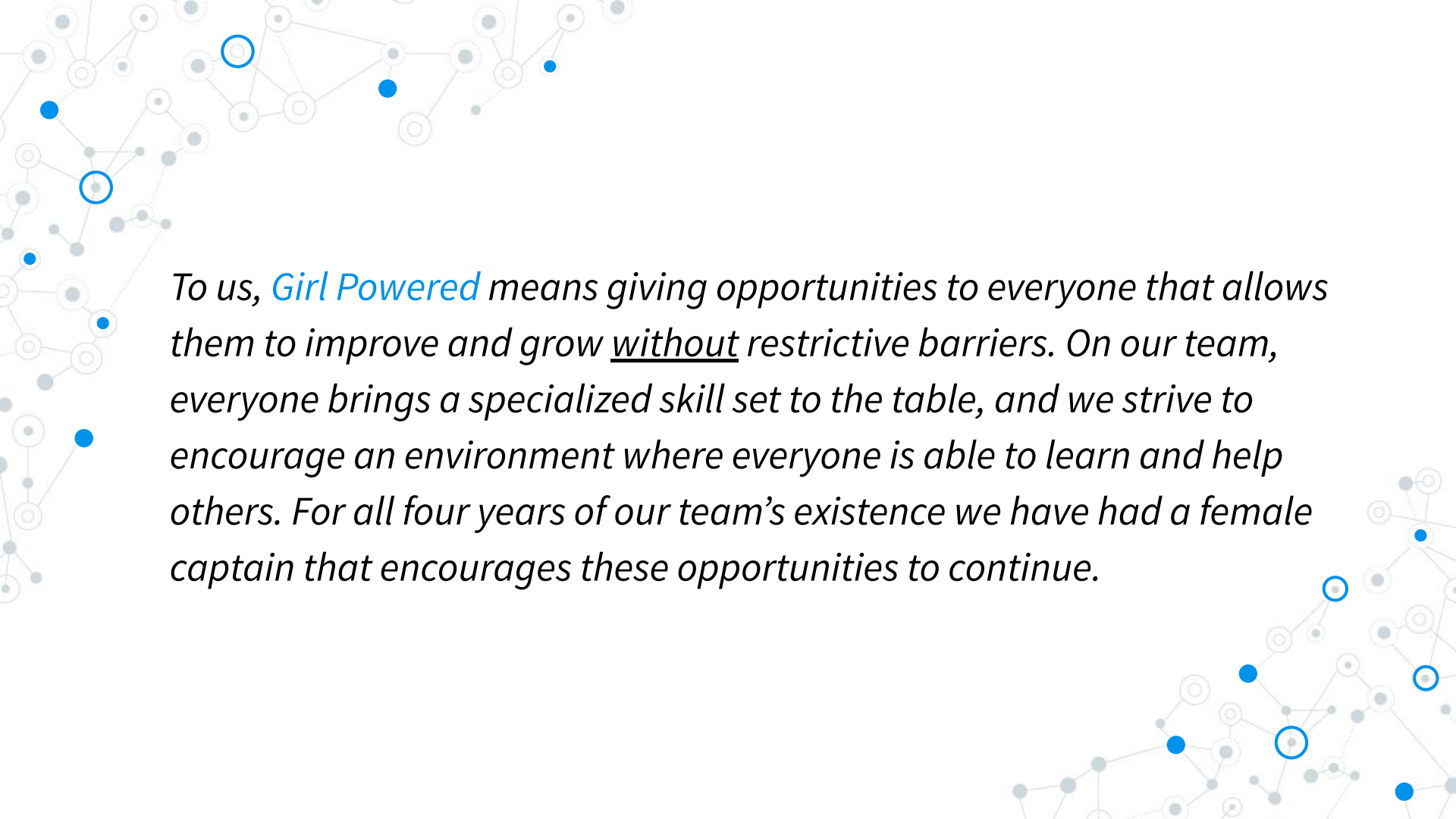
A decorative network diagram in the top-left corner, consisting of a series of interconnected nodes and lines, resembling a molecular or digital structure.

Girl Powered

Redefining the Future of STEM

**Presented by
Team 97052A: Cyber Shock**

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A decorative graphic consisting of a network of interconnected nodes and lines, resembling a molecular structure or a social network. The nodes are represented by small circles, some of which are highlighted in blue. The lines are thin and gray, connecting the nodes in a complex, web-like pattern. The graphic is positioned in the top-left and bottom-right corners of the slide, framing the central text.

*To us, **Girl Powered** means giving opportunities to everyone that allows them to improve and grow without restrictive barriers. On our team, everyone brings a specialized skill set to the table, and we strive to encourage an environment where everyone is able to learn and help others. For all four years of our team's existence we have had a female captain that encourages these opportunities to continue.*

Building Upwards

97052A formed late October of the Starstruck season, with an entirely rookie team of two girls and two boys. With little to no experience with VRC, they used the Starstruck season to gather more knowledge about the competition itself, and plan for growth in upcoming years.





We even won the Design Award during the Turning Point season, and competed in the State Championship for the first time.

Throughout the **In the Zone** and **Turning Point** seasons, we were able to build bigger and better robots, gaining new skills along the way.



Expanding our Base



After finishing our **Turning Point** season, we had expanded to a team with 4 girls, double from our first year. With such growth, it was necessary to expand to a second team. Our original team of four broke into two teams, gaining members that expanded our numbers to 15 people.

From the start, we've strived to create an all-inclusive experience focused on learning

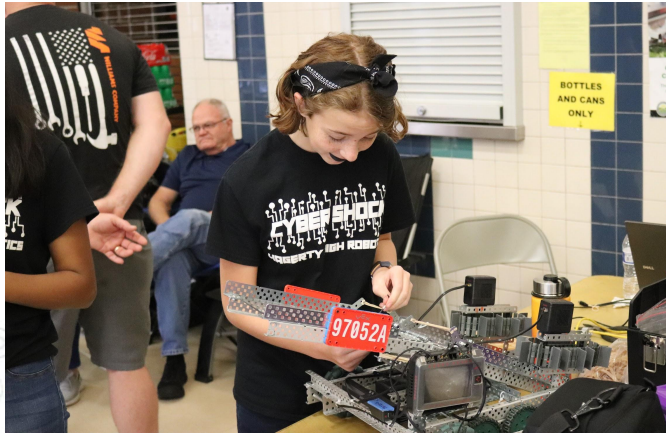
And encouraging new members, regardless of personality, gender, or experience level. Even now as there are more people working in different subcommittees, members can float around and build up new skills on different topics.

Who We Are

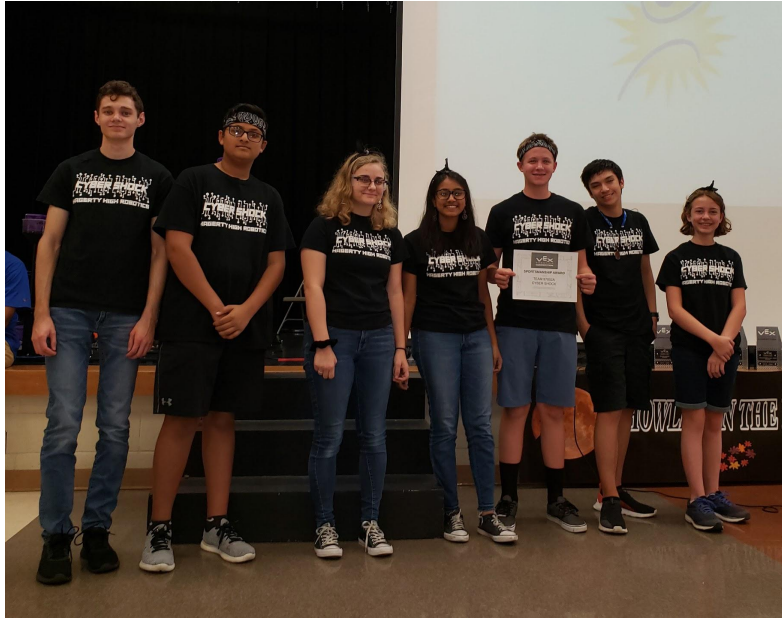


Our team prioritizes the ability to expand, and our members have often chosen to begin their robotics experience with one speciality, and change to another.

For example, (pictured on the left) our technical writer Sharika first started only focused on notebook, but over the past season has expanded her skills to include hardware, under the mentorship of our previous captain Katie (Pictured right).



A Noticeable Disparity



Even though our team always strives for inclusivity, we quickly began to notice a gender disparity in STEM. Whenever we went to local Tournaments or spoke to other teams, we realized that there was a general lack of girls competing in VEX. But it does not have to be this way. This was a issue that we wanted to change, starting from a young age, so we began a Girls in STEM initiative.

Brainstorming a Change

With the goal of inclusivity in mind, we began to brainstorm how to do our part in ending the gender gap in STEM. After reaching out to the local Oviedo library, we began to set the plans to hold a series of workshops for **young girls** focused on STEM and robotics.



Building a New Future

Today, in an effort to make the future Girl Powered, we have held two workshops and plan to host more in the next few months.

Our first workshop introduced the basics of building, and we were overjoyed to see so many girls interested in the process of robotics.




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Redefining the Future of STEM

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