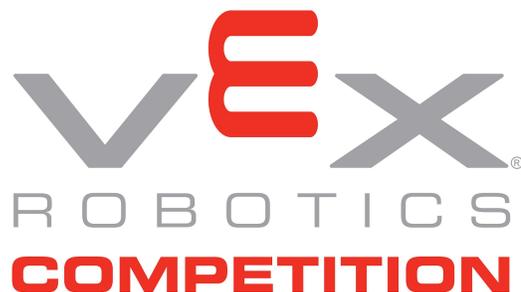




As a team that mainly consists of girls we decided to do this online challenge to think about what girl power actually means. For us, the phrase girl power in robotics means- being inclusive. To elaborate on that, it means ensuring everyone is accepted and respected. In our team, gender does not matter as long as you are willing to show teamwork and sincerity. Contrary to the common thought that the field of robotics is male dominated, our team has an objective to ensure that girls don't feel intimidated by it. Hence our team is welcoming and respectful of everyone.

Everyone in our team matters and has an equal say. We allow everyone on the team to vote on and discuss ideas before taking actions. In addition, we also make sure that everyone gets to choose their roles in the team based on their strengths and weaknesses. Our team empowers its members to try each role, whether it is builder, programmer, notebooker, online challenge manager, researcher etc. before finalizing on one. In our team, we respect each other's thoughts and decisions so that everyone feels heard. When trying different roles on the team we discuss the obstacles and try to help each other with them. Even when we are not at our best, we get together and ask someone or just meet up to think it out together. Every meeting is not only for robotics but after sometime it becomes a place to learn alongside friends. We also meet outside of school often to work on the robot and get to know our teammates better. Our team makes sure that everyone feels included and respected. As much as we would like to say girl's power rule, we also embrace learning and respecting other boys in our robotics class.





By having diverse perspectives and personalities we understand each other better and learn more about how we view different things. Sometimes people call our team the “ All girls team” since out of our 5 members 4 are girls. It is often mind blowing to see how less girls there are at tournaments. It can also be hard sometimes, being the only group that consists of girls. However, being on the team together and working with each other makes up for it. Something that we have learnt is that the bond among teammates is one of the things that helps in success. Not only in Robotics but in almost any field. If our team was not as close as we are now I can assure you that even if we made the best robot then it would not be as enjoyable.

One of my biggest role models in life is Malala Yousafzai. She is an amazing activist for female education. Role models teach you important life lessons whether they are family, friends, celebrities or anyone else. Malala Yousafzai taught me that anyone and everyone has the right to learn. We all know that girls can make a huge impact in the world. All we have to do is motivate them to go for their passions. In conclusion, In our team we accept everyone and encourage people, no matter their gender, to join Vex.

“ No struggle can ever succeed without women participating side by side with men. There are two powers in the world; one is the sword and the other is the pen. There is a third power stronger than both, that of women.” - Malala Yousafzai
