



# Robo-Lions

ISSUE #14  
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FRC Team 2199

## Upcoming Events

Nov 12th - Ramp Riot, Ambler, PA

Dec 3rd - Roar of the Robots

Dec 17th - FTC Qualifier in DC

Jan 7th - FRC Kick-off

Jan 14th - FTC Qualifier

## Promising Off-Season

After making it to the world championships at the end of last year, the Robo-Lions continue to do well by winning the first of their off-season competitions. The Robo-Lions competed in the Battle-O-Baltimore competition on August 13, and amid software and mechanical problems found themselves on the second seeded alliance with partners from both Virginia and Pennsylvania, the three teams battled against 18 more teams some from as far away as North Carolina. By the end of the day the alliance won the trophy.

The team plays in a competition called FRC (*FIRST* Robotics Competition). In which high school students build a robot that competes in a new game each year. *FIRST* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is a nonprofit organization that promotes engineering and creativity among students. This year the game was called Logomotion. On a 27 foot by fifty four foot field, robots as tall as 12 feet high attempt to

hang inner-tubes on horizontal pegs several feet from the floor; the game is competitive but teams practice cooperation which is the idea that one can use gracious professionalism when competing and respect other teams as friends as well as competitors.

In the morning, teams played in seeding matches to determine rank, teams were randomly placed into alliances of three to play the game. The team suffered some easy to fix software errors as well as some more challenging mechanical errors, but nothing horrible that couldn't be fixed either by the Robo-Lions or a friendly student from another team. The team had great luck in partners during the seeding matches at the Battle-O-Baltimore, ending the morning high enough to be chosen for the second seeded alliance. In the afternoon the competition moved on to the elimination rounds, and, amid loud music, and a distracting atmosphere, the drive team drove

to the best of their ability helping the alliance to win match after match. In the end the alliance eliminated the last competitors and won the competition.



Left: Team members pose for a photo at the Battle O Baltimore Competition

Contact us:  
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## FTC Update

Our partner team, FTC team 4991, started out their rookie year this year. The team kicked off its new competition during the second week of school, and has been working to build a bowling robot ever since. FTC sands for *FIRST* Tech Challenge and it incorporates the metal robots and complex programming of FRC with the smaller robots and team sizes of the middle school level competition. It works as a middle step between the two competitions. This year is the team's rookie year but they have many veteran members of other competitions like the captain, Alex Elliott, who has worked with the Robo-Lions for three years, and was one of the founding members of the middle school teams in this area. The team is building a robot that will play in a game involving bowling balls, milk crates, and a host of other fun things. The team looks forward to the competitions later this year.

*Above: team members prepare for the Battle O Baltimore at a team member's house.*

*Below: team members pose after winning the battle of Baltimore*



## Summer Activities

The team continued to stay active, even during the summer. Some activities included:

1. Summer reading kick off
2. Presented to lions club
3. Presented to the applied physics lab
4. Participated in national night out
5. Sponsored a team in the freedom area relay for life
7. Continued to look for space to work in this winter



## More Robotics Information

**Liberty Robo-Lions:** [www.robolions.org](http://www.robolions.org)  
**FIRST in Maryland:** [www.mdfirst.org](http://www.mdfirst.org)

**US FIRST:** [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org)  
**BAA:** [www.firstbaa.com](http://www.firstbaa.com)