

# QUASICS ROBOTICS CLUB

## Monthly Newsletter

(January 2017)

### January's events:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 FRC Kickoff
8 FRC Brainstorming Session	9	10 FRC Meeting	11 FRC Meeting	12	13 FRC Meeting	14 FRC Meeting FTC Qualifier
15	16	17	18 FRC Meeting	19	20 FRC Meeting	21 FRC Meeting
22	23	24 FRC Meeting	25 FRC Meeting	26	27 FRC Meeting	28 FRC Meeting
29	30	31 FRC Meeting				

(Note: individual team meetings are scheduled weekly and are not listed above; FRC build season meetings are listed, due to frequency.)

### Upcoming events:

- FRC Week 0 scrimmage - Saturday, February 18th, 2017
- FRC Stop Build Day - Tuesday, February 21st, 2017

(The team calendar is available at "<http://quasics.org/index.php/outreach/>".)

# Announcements

## **Steamworks Is Here!**

If you haven't seen the game reveal for the FRC game this year ("Steamworks"), [check it out!](#) Kickoff for build season was on Saturday, January 7th, 2017.

## **FIRST STRONGHOLD Lego Set!**

Please help to make an Official LEGO® set for FIRST® STRONGHOLD become a reality! Two members of FRC Team 810 ("The Mechanical Bulls"), from Smithtown, NY, USA, created a FIRST STRONGHOLD set using LEGOs, and have started the process to turn it into an official LEGO set that could be purchased! Go [here](#) to vote.

Please note that you need to make an account to vote, but it takes less than a minute to make one. Please also make sure that you leave a comment indicating what team you're from when you vote, as the six teams providing the most votes will have their team standard featured in the set!

## **Save the date!**

Here's some major FRC milestone dates to keep in mind over the next few months:

<b>Week 0 Scrimmage</b>  (We put the robot on the field for an unofficial scrimmage with other local teams.)  Sat, Feb 18th 11am - 4pm	<b>Stop Build Day</b>  (Also known as "Bag & Tag Day": All work on the hardware must stop.)  By 11:59PM Tue, Feb 21	<b>Greater Pittsburgh Regional</b>  (Qualifying competition at the Convocation Center at Cal U.)  March 16-18	<b>Championships</b>  (World Championship competition in St. Louis. Must qualify at Pittsburgh to advance.)  April 25-29
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## **General FRC Build Season schedule**

The FRC Build Season is 45 days of pure robot-building joy! It's also the busiest time of the Quasics season. In general, team leadership plans to have the FRC team meet 4 days per week during the Build Season, which begins with a bang on Kickoff day (January 7) and concludes by midnight on February 21. Our four meeting days are planned to be Tuesday (evening), Wednesday (evening), Friday (evening) and Saturday (afternoon). Week to week, a meeting night could change one way or the other but this is our general plan. We will stick to it as best we can!

## **Follow us on social media!**

Be sure to Like our [Facebook](#) page, and follow our [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#) accounts!

## December Events

December 3, 2016  
FTC Pittsburgh Qualifier

The Quasics FTC program participated in their first Qualifying Tournament on December 3 at Pittsburgh Science and Technology Academy. 5526 played very well in Velocity Vortex, winning 4 of their 5 qualifying matches and finished the day ranked #4. Quasics captained the #4 Alliance alongside 4149, Terabytes.



December 9, 2016  
“Hour of Code” at Carmalt Elementary

Coach Healy was invited to lead an “Hour of Code” event for all of the K-3 students at Carmalt Elementary School in Pittsburgh. He brought in one of the FTC robots to show off to the kids, as well as some of the hardware being used to prototype this year’s digital lighting for the FRC robot, and then helped them to learn how to write programs on the school’s iPads using “Scratch Jr.”

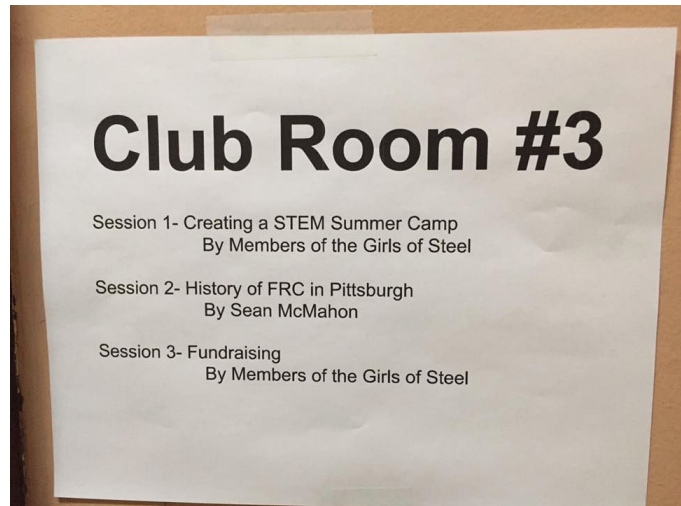
The kids had a lot of fun (as did Coach Healy :-), and Quasics has been invited to come back in force to demo our robots for the kids in the Spring.



December 11, 2016  
SHARP FRC Workshops

Members of our FRC team were invited to Sarah Heinz House on December 11 for a day of FRC workshops. This event was hosted by the teams, for the teams. Presenters (including our own Coach Sean) discussed technical and non-technical areas of FRC in 15 different workshops.

The day was capped off by billiards and dodgeball tournaments for the students, as well as a coach's meeting with our Regional Director.



December 16, 2016  
VEX Qualifier at Sarah Heinz House

Both of the Quasics VEX teams participated in their first Qualifying Tournament on December 16. Forty teams played in this VEX Starstruck, our largest ever. 9656A finished 2-5-0 with a rank of #38. 9656B finished 3-5-0 with a rank of #24.

Both VEX teams will compete again on February 24 at North Allegheny High School.



December 17th, Quasic holiday party!  
We had a great party open to anyone who could come. Everyone had a great time playing injustice and mortal combat, and it was a great time for everyone to relax and have fun instead of stressing out about a robot that needs worked on.

