

Saunders Catholic Schools Robotics Team Qualifies for National Robotics Tournaments

The Cavalry Robotics Club, hosted by Saunders Catholic Schools, is an exciting club where students learn and apply concepts in science, technology, engineering and math (also known as STEM). Activities vary by age group starting with the 5th grade all the way up to High School and is based on the VEX Robotics platform and materials. Cavalry Robotics teams take their robots to tournaments to compete with robots from other schools and clubs. This year the club also added a Drone program and several teams competed in Drone Competitions in Nebraska.

Bishop Neumann, St. John Nepomucene and St. Wenceslaus Catholic School students participated in the Cavalry Robotics Club and competed in ten Robotics & Drone tournaments this year. They capped off the season by qualifying for the U.S. Create Open National Tournament and the VEX World Robotics Tournament. Unfortunately, they will not be able to participate in the national tournaments due to the Corona Virus. But, in the just the fourth year of the Robotics Club, they received many awards and trophies.

The club competed in 203 matches in ten tournaments this year and ended with an overall record of 111-90-2. The Robotics Club had eight teams, 23 members spanning from seven Middle School teams to one High School team. One Middle school team was the Runner-Up Champions at the Nebraska State Robotics Tournament, qualifying them for the VEX World Championship. Another Middle school team was the Skills Champion at the Alfonzo Davis tournament, qualifying them for the U.S. Open. This team was also a Semi Finalist at the Nebraska State Tournament. Other awards:

- 3rd place at Omaha North
- 5th place at O'Neil
- Judges Award at Benson
- Amaze Award at DC West
- Ka-Kaw Spirit Award Winners at DC West
- 9th at McMillan

The Cavalry Robotics Club is managed by Marv Weise and Theresa Barger and coached by volunteer parents. The St. John's Men's Club in Weston donates the facility that is used for practice and building the robots. The Cavalry Robotics Club was founded in 2016 with the assistance of the Flavin Fund grants from the Diocese of Lincoln and private donations.

Bishop Neumann Jr. Sr. High School, St. Wenceslaus School and St. John's School are located in Saunders County, just outside of Lincoln and Omaha. The schools are supported by parishes in and around Wahoo, NE and including these parishes: St. Joseph in Colon, St. Mary in Davey, St. James in Mead, Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Plasi, St. John in Prague, St. Vitus in Touhy, Ss. Mary and Joseph in Valparaiso, St. Wenceslaus in Wahoo and St. John Nepomucene in Weston.