

March 23rd-25th 2017

The Ninja Munkees attended the FRC OKC regional in Oklahoma City. There we were able to compete with our robot "Mecha-gnome". On Friday we competed in most of our practice matches, and ended up with an OPR (Offensive Power Rating) in the top 5 ranked teams. While qualifying matches were being held, a large portion of our team watched and "scouted" each match. This gave us valuable data that we were able to utilize Friday night when formatting a strategy and ranking other teams in the order we wanted to pick them.

On Saturday morning the Ninja Munkees advanced to the point of being an alliance captain. Because we were in eighth place we were able to pick both of our alliance partners without risk of them being picked before we chose them. We chose teams 5013 (Trobots) and 5437 (Rocky Balboabots). With these teams we were able to create and follow an efficient strategy for collecting and depositing gears, as well as climbing the airship. We then advanced to the quarterfinals with our alliance partners.

The Ninja Munkees advanced to the quarterfinals where we competed against the top ranked alliance. This alliance consisted of teams 2352 (Metal Mayhem), 2341 (Sprockets, who were on the same alliance with us in Lubbock), and 2795 (Ohm's Claw). We played three matches, which were all very close, and ended up winning the first one and losing the next two. Each match could have been won by either alliance if they had been able to score one more gear or if the last robot had been able to climb.

While the Ninja Munkees did not win, we did compete well. There were a number of things that, if they had been slightly different, would have allowed us to win. However, the point of FRC is not to win, but to learn. I believe that the Ninja Munkees learned a lot this year, and will be even more competitive in the future.