



Stronghold



2016 Season *FIRST* Robotics Challenge

The FIRST Robotics Competition annually creates a game to challenge high school students. They develop skills that can be useful for a lifetime. Some skills they develop are strategy skills, elements of teamwork, leadership skills and most importantly, the idea of gracious professionalism. FIRST releases a game reveal video along with other helpful tools on a specified date each year which then begins the 6 week build season. This year's game was released on Saturday, January 9th. The students on Xtreme Heat Team 223 eagerly gathered around the projection screen to see their new challenge.

Stronghold is the name of the game this year and the students, as well as the mentors and parents, are thrilled. Brainstorming immediately began as we travelled to one of our collaboration team's high school, Team 1676 Pascack Pioneers. There, the students were able to perform the game with humans acting as robots in order to develop a better understanding of the rules and play of the game. Afterward, students broke off into groups to discuss priorities that the robot should possess along with an efficient robot design.

On Sunday, January 10th, Team 223 got together to brainstorm as one team. Thoughts were soaring, gears were cranking, and our priorities and goals became clear. In *Stronghold*, "two Alliances of three robots each are on a Quest to breach their opponents' fortifications, weaken their tower with boulders, and capture the opposing tower. Robots score points by breaching opponents' defenses and scoring boulders through goals in the opposing tower. During the final 20 seconds of the Quest, robots may surround and scale the opposing tower to capture it" (Business Wire). Team 223 Xtreme Heat is ready to take on the challenge!

For more information please click on the links below:

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VqOKzoHJDjA>

Manual: <https://firstfrc.blob.core.windows.net/frc2016manuals/FRC-2016-GameManual.pdf>

