

The FIRST Robotics Challenge (FRC) World Championships were held Wednesday, April 19 through Saturday, April 22, 2017 in Houston, Texas. Over 1390 teams from 39 countries competed in this event. The estimated total attendance was 65,000 people.

In order to even be allowed to participate, teams must earn their spot by:

- 1. Performing well and/or winning district events (each team participates in 2). Top teams are then invited to regionals.
 - a. The CTEC Robotics Team (6445) finished 4th after qualifying rounds in their first district event and earned the "Highest Seed Rookie" award.
 - b. CTEC won their second district event outright as well as the "Rookie All Star" award and the "Highest Seed Rookie" award, which immediately qualified them for the PNW Regional Event.
- 2. Accumulating enough points to be in the top 30 out of 168 teams in the PNW Region.
 - a. CTEC Robotics ended up ranked 22 out of 168 teams following regionals, qualifying them for the FRC World Championships in Houston.
 - b. They also won the "Highest Seeded Rookie" award at the PNW Regionals.

At the Houston World Championships:

For the FRC World Championships, there were 6 divisions for qualifying rounds. Over the course of 2 days, the CTEC Robotics team competed with and against teams from all over the US, Brazil, Mexico, Australia, Israel, and many other nations. Of their 10 matches, they finished 8-2. They were the 4th seed in their division out of 67 teams. The next highest rookie team in that division was 26th. The CTEC Robotics team made it all the way to the quarterfinal round, an extremely impressive accomplishment for a rookie team. This is a testament to the hard work, teamwork, and strong skills that the CTEC Robotics team displayed.

The robot performed flawlessly, the students worked very well as a team both on and off the field and we couldn't have been prouder of them. Very few rookie teams even qualify for the Pacific Northwest Regionals. We got to the highest level (World Championships) in the first year! This experience allowed them to see what is possible and they look forward to continuing to improve and build an even stronger team for the future.