

2022-23 UC CEAS  
12lb Combat Robotics Senior Design Team  
BAKA BOT

Senior Design Proposal submitted to the  
Department of Mechanical and Materials Engineering  
College of Engineering and Applied Science  
University of Cincinnati

in partial fulfillment of the  
requirements for the degree of

Bachelor of Science

in Mechanical Engineering Technology

by

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April 2023

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## **Problem Statement**

Our team will design and build a 12lb combat robot to compete in a 2023 NHRL Competition. This project will be advised by Dr. Janet Dong. The competition requires competitors to build a robot that must disable opponents while protecting itself from attacks from said opponents. In addition, working with parameters that satisfy safety standard, weight, and cost. Through the engineering program at The University of Cincinnati, our team has the knowledge and experience to properly plan, build, test, and compete our BAKA BOT at the 2023 NHRL Competition on May 6th.

## **Research**

### **Background of the Problem**

In May of 2023, there will be a combat robotics competition hosted by the National Havoc Robot League (NHRL) in Norwalk, Connecticut. NHRL gives anyone the opportunity to form a team of 1 to 4 members to design and build a 3lb, 12lb, and/or 30lb combat robot that will compete in a tournament consisting of 3-minute rounds. The UC Combat Robotics Club is well known to compete at this event because prior students have built and competed their robots that they built for the club or for their senior design capstone project. Our BAKA BOT will be competing in the 12lb weight limit class. For this competition, some rules consist of having the robot be remote radio controlled, certain battery assemblies are required, and no hydraulic or combustion weapons are allowed. The rounds are also judged on three criteria: aggression, control, and damage. If no robot is defeated, it will come down to the judge's decision. For more details on the rules of the building competition, see Appendix A (63). The University of Cincinnati and the UC Combat Robotics Club have given our team the opportunity to use this competition as our senior design capstone project.

### **Applicable Standards**

Combat robotics technical regulations are outlined by Norwalk as Appendix A (63) in the references of our paper.

### **State of the Art - Frame**

A combat robot's frame and armor are one of the most important aspects of the design considerations. It's extremely important to start with this and attempt to make it adaptable as it

will develop and change over time with further developments. It is the main line of defense, storage for the drivetrain, support for the weapon, main source of weight where weight is limited, and much more. Typically, a few designs have proved successful in professional and college competitions which we will examine here.

### **Wedge Frame**

One of the most common and easily designed frames, the wedge frame offers a simplistic but effective design. Wedge frames can be used as the weapon themselves but are commonly equipped with another weapon for additional damage. The main goal of the wedge is to be able to push and manipulate the competing robot into the boundaries of the arena or wherever the team would like. Scraping from underneath the opposing robot leaves it vulnerable and can at times even flip it rendering the victory to the wedge frame robot. However, this frame requires the driver to be skilled in driving to prove effective. It is also ineffective against another robot with a wedge design. Despite that a wedge design is possibly one of the best options in terms of simplicity and effectiveness for our purposes. [5][6]



*Figure 1 – Hydra (2021) Battle Bots [10]*

### **Full Body Spinners Frame**

Full body spinners are more complicated but offer a certain wow factor for competitions and more importantly the judges. As a frame it is always circular with a weapon that rotates around the circumference of the frame. With a constantly spinning weapon, its best defense is its offense. Whenever another robot attempts to attack a spinner robot it is almost guaranteed to take damage. Therefore, the driver doesn't have to be skilled to produce effective damage. However, this robot can quickly become self-destructive if a frame is not extremely strong. It is also

difficult to design a sound spinning frame and it is next to impossible to repair or add other features. In a competitive scene where quick repairs/swaps may need to be made in between fights, a spinning frame may not be a viable option. [3][7]



*Figure 2 – Captain Shrederator (2021) Battle Bots [8]*

### **Box Frame**

A box frame is a straightforward compact design capable of equipping most weapons. As the frame is a box it can adopt features from other frame designs and still be heavily armored. The largest design consideration is the armor. A large portion of the overall weight should be dedicated solely to its frame as the armor requirements are going to add the main source of weight. It is vulnerable from 3 directions and therefore needs to be able to take a beating. Most of the components will be tucked into the interior and will be hard to damage by another robot. [1][5]



*Figure 3 – Minotaur (2021) Battle Bot [9]*

## Armor

Armor, while not immediately thought of as the most important aspect of the design, it is potentially one of the most vital aspects to the design. It must be able to defend the frame of the robot which provides the main support for the entire robot. Not only does it need to defend against several types of different weapons, but it also needs to be able to absorb the force from its own weapon. According to Newton's third law of motion, whenever one object exerts a force on another object, the second object exerts an equal and opposite on the first. Therefore, we need to consider the force we are exerting on other robots and act like we are exerting it on ourselves. [11]

### Armor: Tank Armor

There are different methods of tank armor compositions that allow for extra defense that is worth mentioning. Sloped armor is what it sounds like, instead of a 90-degree vertical plane, it sets the outside armor at an angle to increase the horizontal width of the plating. This provides extra protection from impacting forces. In our case, slopping the outside armor is advantageous to save weight while simultaneously increasing the width of the plating. [12]

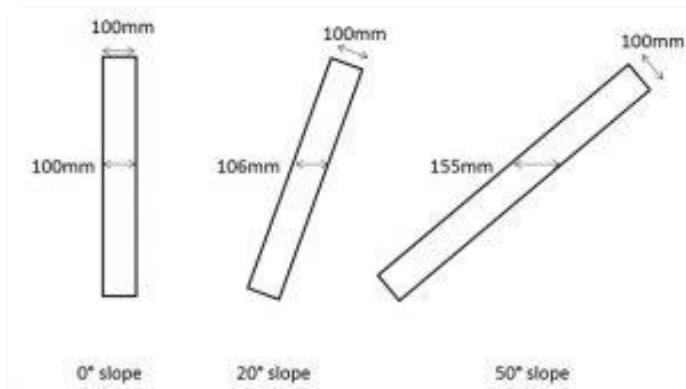
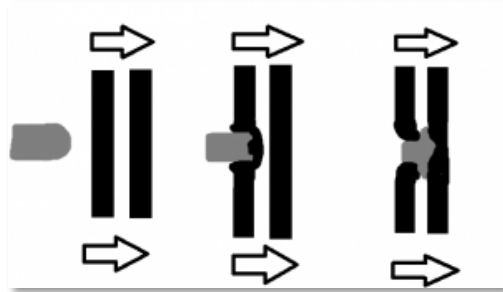


Figure 4 – Sloped Armor [12]

Another armor configuration method is spacing a second layer of armor to reduce the shockwave from the initial impact. This causes the impact to lose momentum and overall damage to the frame of the vehicle. A second layer would increase weight but does not necessarily need to be metal. For BAKA BOT, a composite material could be layered onto the outside to embrace the initial impact shock and reduce damage from each impact. [12]



*Figure 5 – Spaced Armor [12]*

### **Common Material Types in Combat Robots**

An ideal material type for armor needs to be lightweight but also provide a high level of hardness and toughness. It needs to be able to cover up and protect weak and critical positions within the drivetrain. Most likely, the front of the robot will need to be more heavily armored due to the nature of the fight. The most common armor material is aluminum, titanium, steel, and Lexan. [13]

Steel is one of the best materials in terms of protection for dollar purchasing. It is also one of the best materials for weapon designs as it is a very hard material and must be harder than the opponent's armor to actually do damage. Steel is also an extremely easy material to mill and weld. However, steel is also very heavy. For only a square foot of quarter inch of 1018 grade it weighs just over 10lbs. While one of the most common materials used in framing, it is very heavy and must be taken into consideration for the overall design. [3][13]

Aluminum is also a great material for defense but is generally more expensive than other metals. While more expensive, it is also extremely lighter, a square foot of quarter inch of 6061-T6 grade weighs in at 3.53lbs. These huge weight savings make it the material of choice for most robots. Furthermore, it is easy to machine but more difficult to weld. Despite this, aluminum will likely be the main armor for our robot. [3][13]

Titanium alloy is the hardest of the three metals at a Brinell hardness number of 334. It has been gaining popularity among the higher budget builds in the professional scenes. The main problem with titanium is the expense because it is stronger than aluminum and also lighter than steel. It is the middle ground between aluminum and steel. It is also difficult to weld and machine. While not the most apparent option, it should be considered further in the concepts. [2][13]

Lexan is a high-grade form of polycarbonate manufactured by GE. While not a metal, it still provides a high amount of penetration protection and is lighter than aluminum. The flexibility of the material proves to be a good shock absorber. However, it is very expensive and is weak to cutting weapons. [13]

UHMW is an extremely tough plastic with high abrasion and wear resistance used in the previous years “DOOMBA” build. It is easy to fabricate and provides a durable surface that is also commonly used in guards or bumpers. UHMW creates a shock layer wherever it is layered making it a prime selection for BAKA BOT. [4][15]

## **State of Art – Weapon**

### **Vertical Spindle Weapon**

The vertical Spindle weapon is the most common and effective weapon used in combat robotic competitions. Its power is sourced on batteries, electric motors, etc. The weapon creates vertical movement that damages the competition’s robot with any hit. However, the effectiveness of the hit varies depending on the size and sharpness of the blade. During Battle Bot season 1-5, the Nightmare’s robot had an appearance showcasing its vertical spindle weapon with spinning discs [16]. This design has changed every year, but the performance of the robot has always been at the top for the vertical spindle weapon category. The advantages of using a vertical spindle weapon are the that it can damage the opponent from a wider range and the hits are more accurate. If wanted to be more powerful, multiple vertical spindle weapons can be added. The disadvantages of using this type of weapon are that it has to be made out of a strong material like steel and the weight of steel or materials like such can cause an issue with the materials for the frame and armor to be under the 12lb weight limit. [17]



*Figure 6 – Nightmare [16]*

## **Bar Spinner Weapon**

Bar spinner or horizontal spinner weapon is a spinning weapon that rotates horizontally. This type of weapon is different from any spinning weapon as the shape is different. In most competitions, this weapon is shaped as a long rectangle or trapezoid with serrated/blunt tips for damage. One can think of this weapon's design as a lawnmower blade. The advantages of using a bar spinner weapon are that the weight for this is smaller than the vertical/disc spinner weapon. The weight is distributed better. If the size and power is balanced with the frame, there is a lower chance of getting flipped over by an opponent. The disadvantage of this weapon is that it is closer to the ground which can cause the robot to struggle to move on the arena. Since this type of weapon has to be dense, it would ultimately be heavier than the vertical spindle weapon option. [17]



*Figure 7 – Tombstone [18]*

## **Spinning Drum Weapon**

The spinning drum weapon is a steam roller shaped weapon. During the Robot Wars, this weapon was the most uncommon, but it became more popular after Suicidal Tendencies, Blade, and Challenger 2 at Series 3. This weapon usually rotates vertically. The performance of the weapon depends on the speed and power of the weapon. Son of Whyachi used this type of weapon on Battle Bot season 3 and 5. During season 3, this robot won the final match. The advantages of using a weapon type like this is that based on the Battle Bot competition data, this type of weapon has won different matches for the heavier weight limits. The disadvantage of this weapon is that to do any damage to the opponent, the robot has to be very close to the other robot. [18][19][20]



*Figure 8 – Son of Whyachi [19]*

## **State of Art – Drivetrain**

### **Wheel Drive Methods**

**2-wheel drive** is seen a lot when building smaller robots. These types of robots are a lot more agile, allowing them to quickly turn in place with little energy wasted. This is possible because each wheel is independent from the other. So they can spin in different directions to turn, or drive in the same direction to move forward/backwards. A professional robot example of a 2-wheel drivetrain is the Black Dragon (see *Figure 9* below). Their design has 2 wheels near the back and the front drags on the ground. This is done on purpose because when the weapon spins upwards, the reaction force when the weapon hits another robot is the front of the robot being pushed downwards. So having the front touching the ground allows the robot to be rigid and prevents the frame from bending/breaking. Another advantage of using 2 wheels is allowing the team to have more weight to work with in other aspects of the robot like the weapon. Wheels can weigh a lot, so when weight is a limit factor, using 2 wheels is a lot more efficient. [22][25]



*Figure 9 – Black Dragon [22]*

**Multi-wheel drive** is another popular option that is used in combat robotic competitions. This wheel configuration includes robots with 3 or more wheels. Normally robots have either 2

or 4 wheels, but there have been some robots that have had 3 or 6 wheels. This setup is more so used with bigger robots that weigh more needing more stability. An example of a 4 wheeled robot is Whiplash (see *Figure 10* below). It had a flipping weapon that required its base to be very sturdy and it weighed a lot, so 4 wheels was the best for this design. The main downside for 4 wheels is that the wheels take up a lot of the weight of the robot. So if the robot is under a weight limit, multi-wheeled drive may not be the best. Although, an advantage is that if one wheel is damaged, the robot can still function with one less wheel. Being able to drive around is huge in these competitions because that means your robot is still alive. Other advantages include being able to move faster in straight lines to gain more momentum, more stability, and it provides more tractions.[23][25]



*Figure 10 – Whiplash [23]*

### **Drivetrain Assembly**

**Chain drive** is a good way of transmitting a powerful mechanical force to the wheels. This method is a cheap assembly that works well if maintained correctly. It uses a sprocket gear mounted onto the motor shafts and the wheel axles. Their main advantage is that they can exert a lot of power from the motors to the wheels all while being easy to replace/fix if the chains were to break. This is similar to bicycles. The main downside to this method is the chains require constant lubrication or else failure can occur. Also, chain drive requires more space within the robot's body. Lastly, the parts needed to use the chains, like the sprockets, can be very heavy. [25]

**Belt drive** is a very popular method used in competitions. This method is similar to chain drive but is a lot more lightweight. This system works by transmitting power through the use of a

belt and pulley system instead of a metal chain and sprocket. This setup is very efficient which helps the motor's health from being overloaded. This is because the belt can slip if overloading were to happen. No lubrication is required but the belt material can break more easily than chains. Belt drive can also take up a lot of space within the robot's body. [25]

**Gear drive** consists of several gears directly intersecting each other to transmit power. Depending on how many gears are used, the motor power can be increased or decreased with the use of gear ratios. This drivetrain is the strongest and most reliable. Because the assembly is all metal and everything interlocks with teeth, there most likely won't be any failures. The main disadvantage of this method is that it can be very heavy and difficult to design perfectly. [25]

**Motors** on combat robots are usually outrunner motors. These motors are very compact and powerful when compared to other motors. Outrunner motors consist of a stator with coils and a rotor with permanent magnets attached to a ring or sleeve. The UC Combat Robotics Club recommends using these motors. This is because they produce more torque for the same volume size compared to inrunner motors. Inrunner motors have magnets that are usually attached to a shaft that rotate on the inside of the starter coil. This system is not as powerful as outrunner motors. In addition, because of the setup of outrunner motors, the outside shell spins too so that gives the builder more possibilities to where they can attach belts. For the compact size and mechanical power needed, outrunner motors are great for combat robots. [26]

**Hub motor wheels** are an alternative method that combines the wheels and the motors to become one component. This eliminates extra mechanical parts needed for a motor tension assembly. This setup has a brushless motor inside of the wheel that rides on a shaft. These wheels are normally used on electric skateboards. A con of these is that the initial torque is not the most powerful but because they are intended for people standing on a skateboard and riding it at reasonable speeds, these hub motor wheels can easily drive a 12lb robot. The main advantage of these is they will save a lot of weight and money. In addition, repairing the drivetrain setup will then become as easy as sliding the wheel off and sliding on a new one. [27]

**Jake drive** is the last assembly that will be mentioned. This assembly was brought to our attention by the UC Combat Robotics Club. It implements a custom molded wheel that has a ring and sun gear part of its shape on the inside. The motor and its gear are then slid between the ring and sun gear teeth which then allow the motor to have direct contact with the wheel. This saves

weight by reducing the volume of the wheel, belts or chains are not needed, and it eliminates the gear on the wheel that is used in other assemblies. The con of this setup is that it can be unreliable at times. This direct contact with the motors and wheels can make the robots travel at very fast speeds and it is more inclined to break.

### **End User**

Our team will create and design a 12lb combat robot funded and sponsored by the University of Cincinnati. It will then later be put to the test in the 12lb weight class where our team will drive and fight the combat robot. The fight will be filmed and uploaded to the internet for future reference and interest. By these specifications, the end user is the BAKA BOT design team, the University of Cincinnati, combat robot hobbyists, and future University of Cincinnati Combat Robotics teams.

### **Summary of Research**

Our team will be constructing a 12lb combat robot to take to the NHRL competition next spring on May 6<sup>th</sup> representing the UC Combat Robotics Club. The robot will be put in competition against several other robots in a tournament style competition consisting of 3-minute rounds. BAKA BOT must follow the 12lb regulations set by Norwalk and will be judged on several criteria. One of the most important aspects to winning is constructing a strong frame with armor for extra protection. There are several different mainstream frame designs used in professional competitions that have proven to be effective. These include the box frame, wedge frame, and spinner frame. Each frame also comes with its own armor material. Steel, aluminum, titanium, Lexan, UHMW are all common material types in the professional setting. While there are advantages and disadvantages to each frame design and armor option, it is worth exploring concepts from each aspect. The most likely option will be to create a hybrid of several materials and frame configurations for our final combat robot.

The weapon type that we decide to use will depend on our frame design of the robot. Since we're competing in the 12lb combat robot at the Norwalk competition, the design, size, and weight of the weapon has to fit all the standards mentioned on the Appendices section of this document. Since most of the weight will be from the frame and armor, the options of material for the weapon are more limited. We can base our options for the weapon based on the performance during the BattleBots competitions and on the survey for current and past BattleBots competitors

that we will be conducting later this semester. Based on the research and discussions with my team, the best approach is the vertical spindle weapon as it's not dense, less expensive to manufacture, and is potentially better performing than the 2022 UC's *BattleBots Doomba's* weapon design.

The type of wheel setup and drivetrain assembly is very important in combat robotic competitions because being able to drive around means your robot is still alive. Reviewing all the pros and cons of everything, our team will be utilizing a 2-wheeled hub motor system. These were chosen because we have a 12lb weight limit. So only using 2 wheels will help us use more weight in the frame and weapon. In addition, we are using a single vertical spinner weapon. So similar to Nightmare mentioned before, the front of our robot needs space to be touching the ground to help with the reaction forces for when our robot hits another robot. In addition, hub motors were chosen because it's a very lightweight solution eliminating any additional assembly needed for a motor. Atom #94 (see *Figure 11* below) is a good example of the general setup our BAKA BOT will look like but with only one blade and hub motor wheels. [27]



*Figure 11 – Atom #94 [27]*

## **Quality Function Deployment**

BAKA BOT created a customer survey to prioritize various features to maximize customer satisfaction. From the sample size of 41 responses gathered, the team created a House of Quality with the engineering characteristics ranked and weighted based on the results from the survey. Upon completing the House of Quality (shown below), the team was able to rank the product objectives for future research.

### **Customer Features**

- Total Costs
- Ease of use
- Weapon Design
- Weapon Size
- Weapon Motor Speed
- Total Weight
- Maneuverability
- Cool Design
- Safety

### **Engineering Characteristics**

- Price in USD (\$)
- Repair time (minutes)
- Vertical or horizontal direction (weapon)
- Length of the weapon
- Revolutions per minute (rpms)
- Battery life (minutes)
- Weight (pounds, lbs)
- Number of wheels
- Color/theme

### **Survey**

Reference Appendix B (67) for survey template.

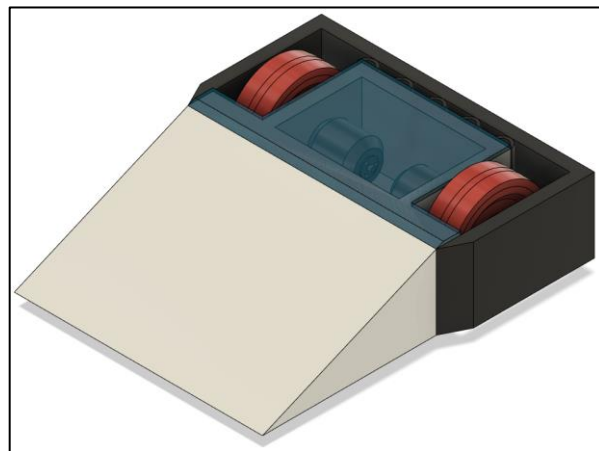


## Design Concepts

Three frame and armor concepts were 3D modeled based on the research in engineering characteristics, state of the art, and HOQ results. These concepts will help us determine the type of robot to finalize, develop, and eventually take to competition. They may not be the eventual production style robot but will help us gauge the one we want to go with.

### Design 1: Wedge Frame

Our first concept is a wedge frame. Sitting at about 25 degrees, the ramp is meant to flip the opponent over rendering their entire robot useless. The overall length of the robot sits around 13 inches with the ramp taking up 7 inches of that space. It is 10 inches wide to cover a large area and to be able to incase the wheels behind a layer of shock loaded UHMW. This also leaves enough room for large wheels, electronics, and drivetrain motors. At only 3 inches in height, the compactness of the design should allow for our robot to easily bully other taller robots. A thin layer of clear plastic will then secure on top with screws for easy access to parts. The ramp will likely be made of hollowed-out steel, while the structure of the frame will be made of aluminum 6061. Due to the simplicity of the frame, the driver should have an easier time attacking the opponent while maintaining a safe defense from any side.

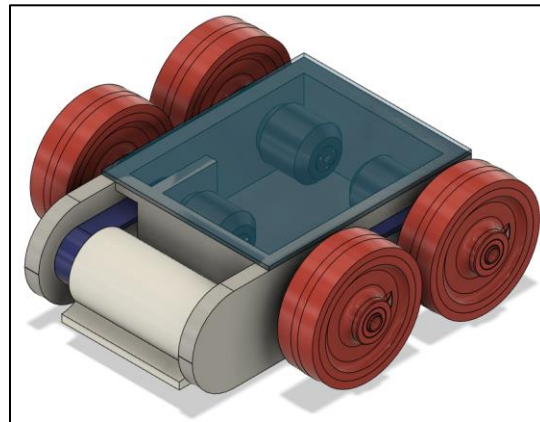


*Figure 13 – Wedge Concept*

### Design 2: Box Frame with Drum Spinner

Our second concept design is a box frame equipped with a drum spinner. Equipped with 4 wheels, this concept should be able to move very quickly. There is one motor on each side driving a pulley system to act as the driving force for the wheels. There is then an internal motor near the front with a cutout space for another pulley to drive the weapon. Since the drum spinner

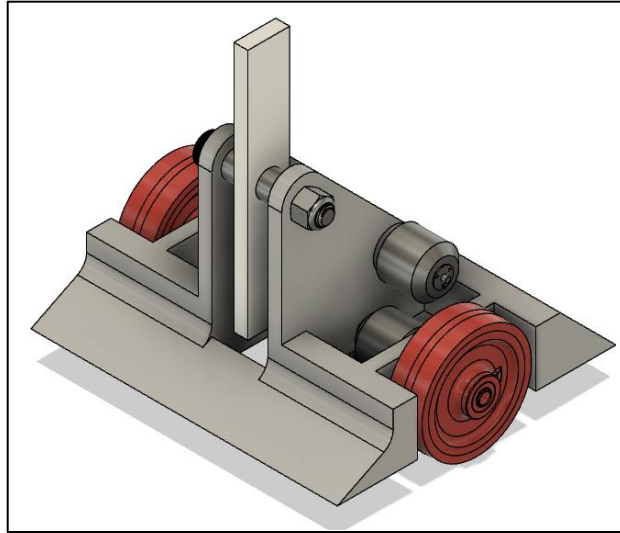
is likely to be made out of hollowed steel, it will act as not only a large weapon but an extremely strong shield. Like concept one, there will be a thin layer of plastic held in with screws for easy access to the electronics on the interior. The main weak area of this design is the back of it. There is nothing to defend itself from the rear so the driver should be aware of this and have plenty of practice maneuvering the robot before the competition.



*Figure 14 – Box Concept*

### **Design 3: Hybrid (Box with Wedge)**

Our third design is a hybrid of the first two concepts with space equipped with a vertical spinner. Sitting at nearly 12 inches wide and 10 inches in depth, this concept should act like a tank, slowly moving toward the target with the weapon constantly faced towards the opponent. It has space for direct drive motors on either side in a compact area. The main weapon shaft is driven by a pulley and belt to keep the fragile parts of the weapon concealed from any outside force. The weapon will be made out of steel and the frame out of aluminum 6061. With wedges on both sides of the robot, the driver can approach the opponent from either side and deal large blows to their robot. However, the side is extremely weak, so the driver needs to be cautious in their approaches to the opponent.

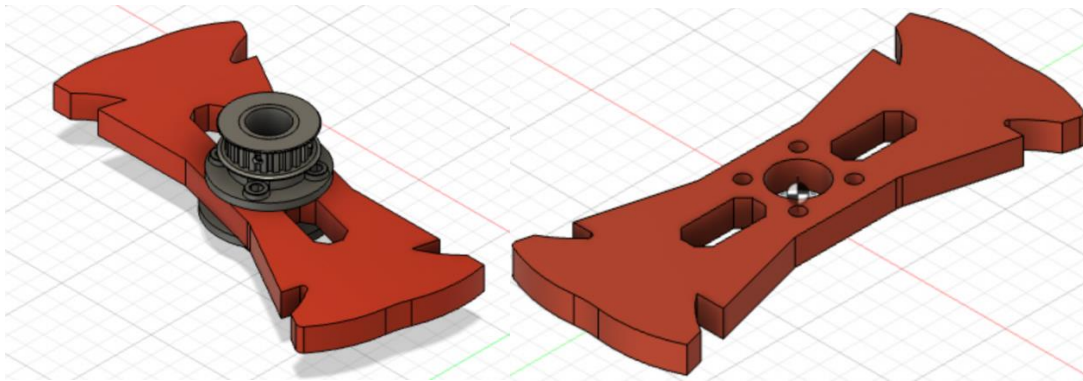


*Figure 15 – Hybrid Concept*

#### **Design 4: Weapon Concept 1**

In this concept, the weapon can be for vertical or horizontal position. However, this design is targeted as a vertical weapon. The weapon has a length of 8 inches and thickness of 0.5 inches. The weapon has extrusions that allow the driver to hit the opponents hard without sacrificing damage to the blade. The blunt endpoints are on both extremes of the weapon because if the robot gets flipped over, we still want the weapon to be able to deliver a blow. The weapon has a 3/4-inch shaft that connects to a bronze sleeve bearing. The bearing is fixed with two different hubs that go on each side of the weapon. Both hubs are secured by socket head screws and locknuts. Next to one of the hubs, a timing belt pulley is attached to the bearing. The purpose of the belt pulley is to connect to the belt and weapon motor, so that the weapon can freely rotate.

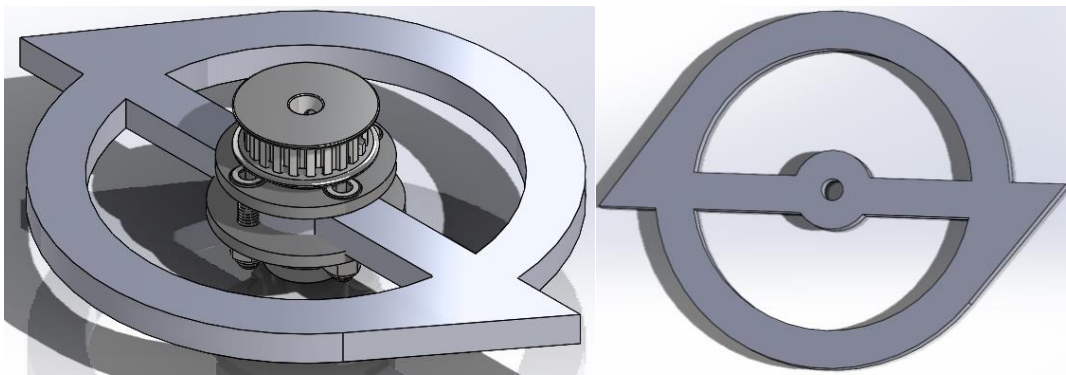
This concept is inexpensive but could be potentially difficult to manufacture, as there are 3 holes and sharp extrusions. The disadvantages of this design will be making sure that the CNC or water jet program is perfect so that there are not multiple trials of creating this part. Creating sharp corners on the inside of the weapon as on the ends can be complicated. It also does not have an aggressive rake angle so impacts may not be able to dig into the opponent's armor.



*Figure 16 – Weapon Concept 1*

### **Design 5: Weapon Concept 2**

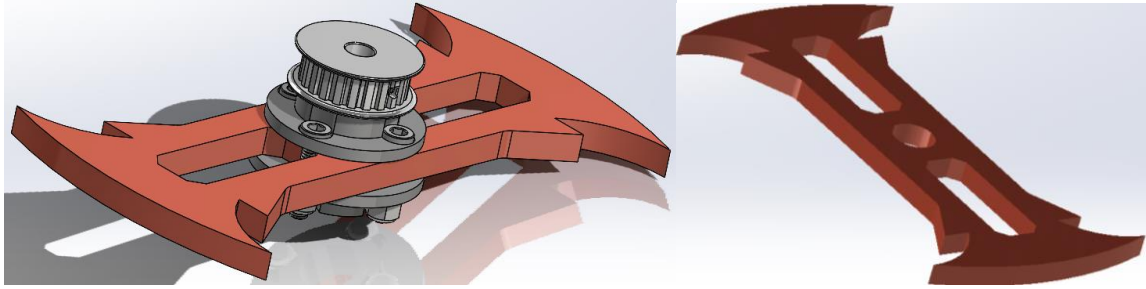
In this concept, the weapon's design is for a horizontal weapon robot. The weapon design is based on a circle with 2 ends for optimal hit. This design has various drawbacks as it's a horizontal weapon. Based on the customer surveys and communication with UC Combat Robotics Club, our BAKA BOT team will look into vertical weapon designs only. The diameter of this weapon is 10 inches, which is longer than concept 1. The design is unexpensive and easy to manufacture but doesn't have the final qualities we are looking for.



*Figure 17 – Weapon Concept 2*

### **Design 6: Weapon Concept 3**

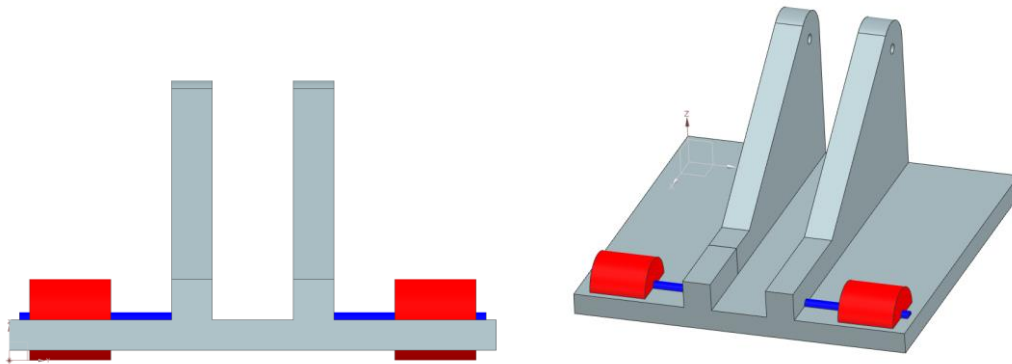
This concept is targeted for a vertical weapon direction, but it can be used for horizontal direction too. This concept is more expensive than concept 1 and 2 due to the complex geometry it could be difficult to manufacture. The disadvantages of this design will be ensuring that the manufactured part matches the CAD model. Furthermore, since this weapon has such an aggressive rake angle, it will take an extreme amount of damage during the battle and will most likely chip and or break.



*Figure 18 – Weapon Concept 3*

### **Design 7: Drivetrain Concept 1 – Hub Motors**

*Figure 19* below shows hub motor wheels and how simple they are. For this drivetrain assembly, all that is needed is a shaft (exactly the same size as the shaft on the truck of a skateboard) to mount the wheels on. Then all you need to do is secure the wheels down and plug it into an esc and battery.



*Figure 19 – Hub Motors Visual – Back and 3D View*

### **Design 8: Drivetrain Concept 2 – Belt/Chain Drive**

*Figure 20* below shows the assembly of what a belt or chain drivetrain would look like. The red cylinders are the wheels, the green cylinders are the motors, the blue cylinders are the shafts for the wheels to ride on, and the black cylinders are the gears for the belts or chains (not shown) to drive on. In addition, there will need to be a tensioner added to the assembly (not shown). This is needed to make the chain or belt tight. This could be avoided by having the motor move in the horizontal direction and the user can pull the motor back to tighten the belt or chain.

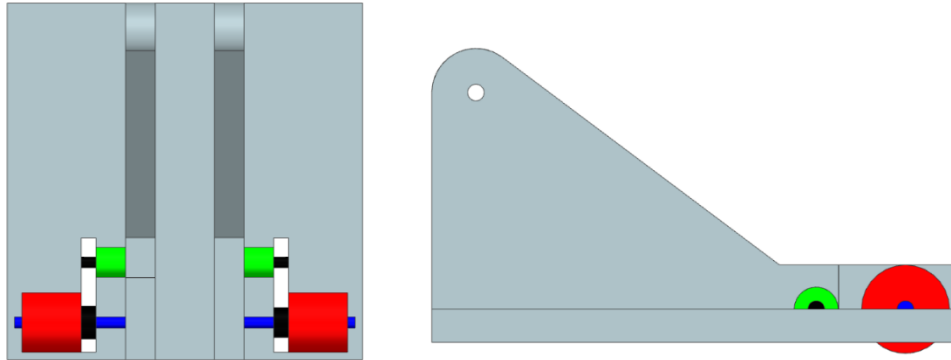


Figure 20 – Belt/Chain Drive Visual – Top and Side View

### Design 9: Drivetrain Concept 3 – Gear Drive

Figure 21 below shows the drivetrain setup of a gear assembly. The red cylinders are the wheels, the green cylinders are the motors, the blue cylinders are the shafts for the wheels to ride on, the black cylinders are the gears attached to the wheels, and the purple cylinder is the gear attached to the motor. The two gears interlock each other with their teeth. This eliminates the belt or chain mentioned in concept 2.

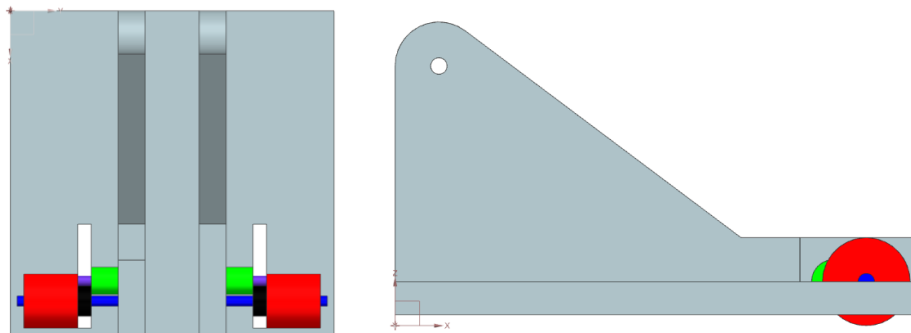
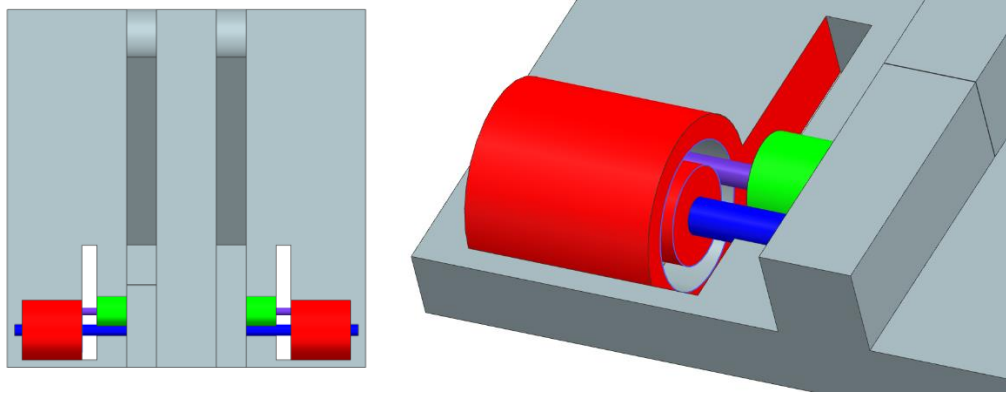


Figure 21 – Gear Drive Visual – Top and Side View

### Design 10: Drivetrain Concept 4 – Jake Drive

Figure 22 below shows Jake drive, a unique kind of drivetrain. This assembly was brought to our attention by the UC Robotics Club. Essentially it uses a custom molded wheel that has a ring and sun gear teeth on the inside of the wheel (teeth not shown). This then allows the motor shaft gear to be inputted into the wheel and spin the wheel directly. This eliminates volume of the wheel, the wheel gear, and any belts or chains. This assembly is very lightweight and is highly recommended by the UC Combat Robotics Club.



*Figure 22 – Jake Drive Visual – Top and 3D View*

## **Final Frame Design**

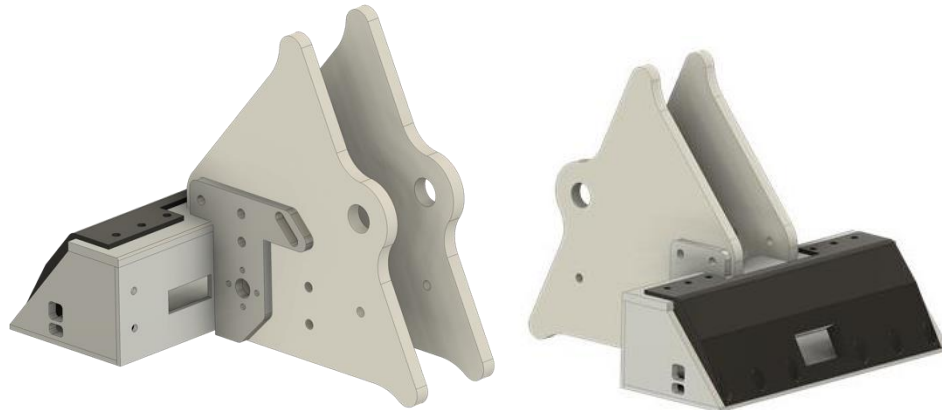
Our final frame assembly consists of several types of materials and fastening. It was also designed to be able to work on its top and bottom in case it gets flipped over. The compartment is made from aluminum 6061. All these parts will then be welded together to create a secure and strong base for our electronics to be stored in.

The uprights and corner armor will be made from UHMW. This material is a sturdy and lightweight option even when compared to aluminum. Previously our uprights weighed near 2000 grams with aluminum but now with UHMW they weigh only 400 grams. An 80% weight reduction. UHMW is also very flexible and has a large elastic region meaning it will most likely not permanently deform under a high impact load. This is perfect for our application of combat robotics. The uprights will then be keyed into our aluminum compartment and secured using mounting brackets with locknuts and nuts.

The last material we are using is thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU). We can use this material in 3D printers and due to the soft nature of the material we can create a hinge cover for the back of our compartment. This creates easy access to our electronics to swap our batteries and make sure all the electronics are connected as we want.

All parts except the TPU hinge cover and the armor will be manufactured by a company called Send Cut Send. They have the capabilities to create all of the parts we need to assemble our robot frame. It is a cheap alternative with quick turnarounds on all of our parts. The only thing our team will have to do is tap a few holes, so the thread is in the correct orientation. The

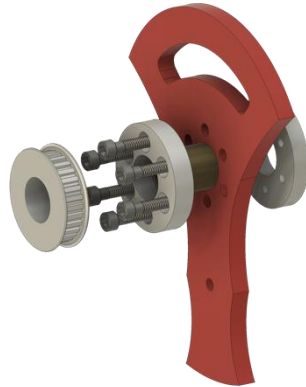
TPU hinge cover will be 3D printed either at the Innovation Hub or on a personal 3D printer. Finally, the armor will be ordered and manufactured by our own team. We can order it as a flat sheet and create a plywood mold for the geometry we designed. By heating up the material it becomes very flexible so we can pound the heated UHMW into the mold with a mallet.



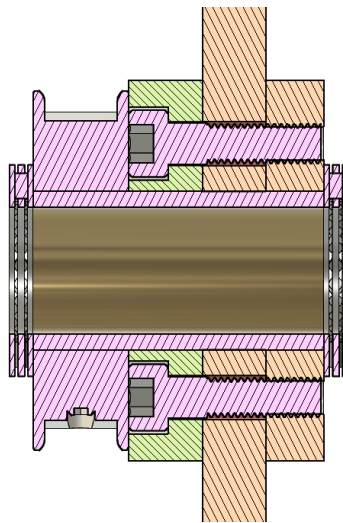
*Figure 23 – Final Frame Design ISO Front and Back*

## **Final Weapon Design**

Our final weapon design consists of a 3/8" AR500 steel weapon with a 9" overall diameter. It will also be manufactured through Send Cut Send, to save time and money in manufacturing costs. This also allows for high precision and accuracy in our part. We chose AR500 because it is highly durable and resistant as it's made of the same material as bulletproof armor. AR500 is also extremely common in the sport. It will be able to deal damage and retain its shape while attacking opponents. The vertical weapon will be driven by one 970Kv brushless motor and a belt pulley. With a 6s LiPo battery, our motor will run a tip speed of 192 mph. For this, our gear ratio is 3:1 with a designed MOI of 3180000 g/mm<sup>2</sup>. All parts will be pressed onto a brass bushing to allow for free spinning motion. Calculations can be found in Appendix C (70).



*Figure 24 - Final Weapon Assembly*



*Figure 25 – Final Weapon Cross Sectional View*

## **Final Drivetrain Selection**

After reviewing the concepts, we considered using for the drivetrain, we decided to go with the electric skateboard hub motor wheels. Two of these wheels will be placed in the back of our BAKA BOT. The unique reason why we chose this drivetrain is because of how durable they are being skateboard wheels and the resulting simplicity that the drivetrain assembly becomes. If a wheel brakes during a match, the maintenance repair steps become as easy as taking off broken wheel, sliding on and screwing down the new wheel, plugging it in, and we are ready to go. In addition, the wheels having hub motors help us save space within our main back compartment for the other electronics.

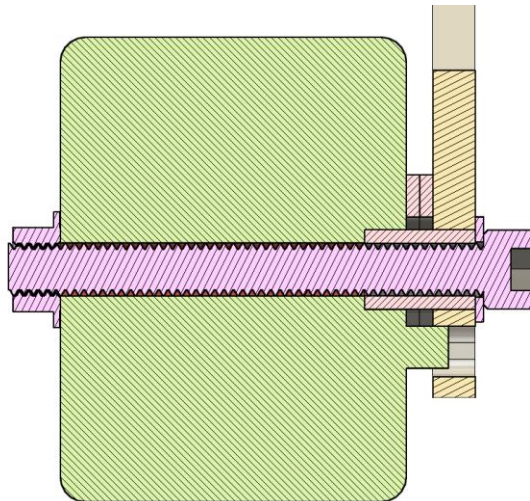
Important specifications of the wheels are that they have a max speed of 1600 RPMs, weigh 1.41 lbs, have maximum current of 12 amps, are made of polyurethane and stainless steel, and have a diameter of 2.76 inches. As seen in our calculations in Appendix C (70), the maximum linear velocity will be 13.12 mph and the frictional torque is 14.9 in-lb per wheel. This is more than enough speed/power to propel our

12lb BAKA BOT around. The ESCs chosen for each wheel will be utilized to manage the speed control with our main remote control.

To use the wheels on our frame, we will be manufacturing a steel locking part. This steel locking part will be on the bolt for the wheel that slides into the square cutout on the side of the wheel (see *Figure 26* as a reference). Using this part is necessary because it will help lock down the middle cylindrical component (the hub motor) to allow the outer component (the actual wheel) to spin.



*Figure 26 – Wheel Assembly Including the Steel Locking Part*



*Figure 27 – Wheel Assembly Cross Sectional View*

## Final Electronics Selection

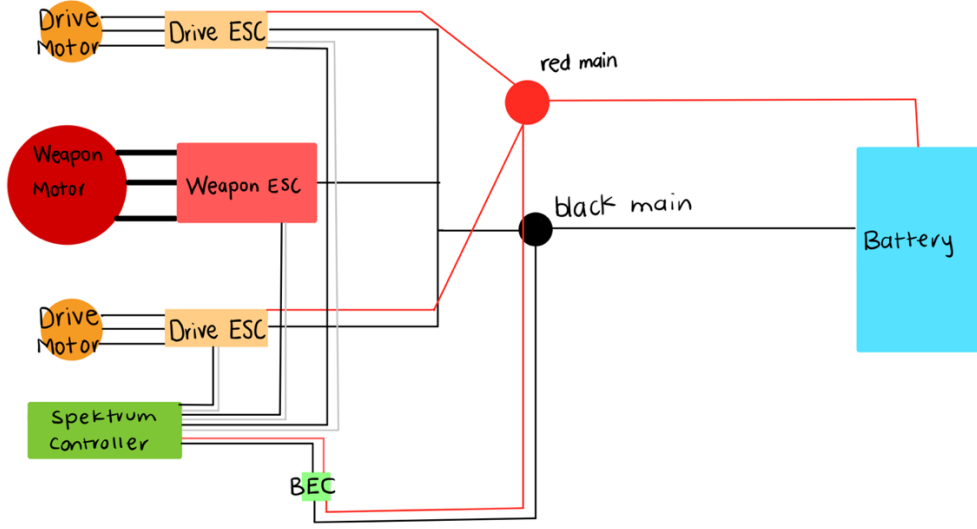


Figure 28 – Wiring Diagram

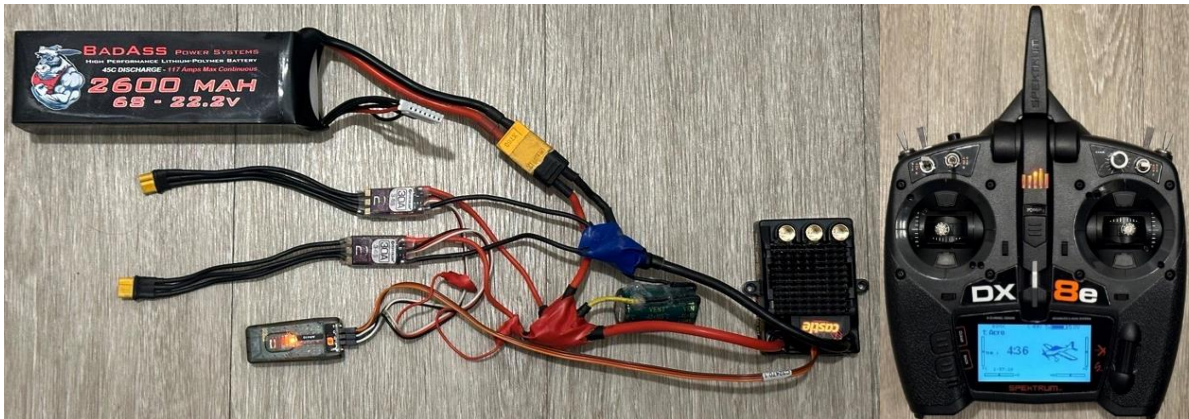


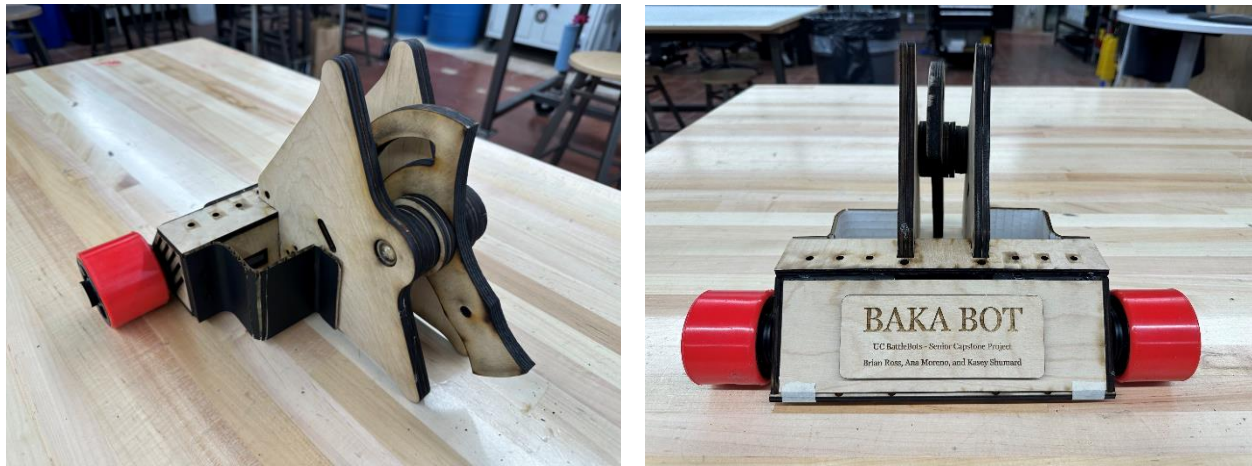
Figure 29 – Connected electronics along with the remote transmitter that will be used to control BAKA Bot.

The weapon system for our robot includes one 970kV Brushless Motor equipped with its own Castle Sidewinder 25.2V ESC. The drivetrain system includes two hub motors with their own drive, Flycolor 30A ESCs. Both systems are powered by a 2600 mAh 6s LiPo battery that will be connected to a spektrum controller and back to the Castle Sidewinder BEC to control BAKA BOT's movement. See *Figure 28* above for a visual map of how everything is connected.

## Model Assembly

Fusion estimates BAKA BOT to currently weigh 11.7 lbs without wiring and connectors. In which the missing 0.3 lbs will be taken up by these wires and connectors. We are under the 12lb weight limit for the competition. After assembling the robot in the future, weight will be

further manipulated to make BAKA BOT combat ready. Our team made a laser cut wooden model at the 1819 Innovation Hub using the files of our 3D CAD model to ensure everything fits together (see *Figure 30* below). The model fit together perfectly so we are confident with the further steps of getting everything manufactured. In addition, this model shows the actual size of BAKA BOT and verifies that it fits in the required size limit of a 36-inch cube.



*Figure 30 – Proof of Concept: Wooden Model*

## **Safety Factors**

To determine the safety factors of our design, we simulated forces on our armor, weapon, and the vertical uprights. These are the front faces components that are most likely to get hit. Looking at the figures below, there are little to no red areas. For the weapon, per our FEA analysis below in *Figure 31*, our weapon will only see minor chipping. This chipping does not represent a functional failure. For a failure, the weapon would have to bend 5/8<sup>th</sup> inches perpendicularly and hit one of the uprights which is very unlikely being that it's made of AR500 steel. With all this in mind, our design has a lot of promise with staying intact after future hits during competition.

It should be noted that with the chaotic nature of combat robotics, our safety factor is extremely unpredictable. The infinite possibilities of weapon types, speeds, impact locations, and frame designs, the opponents we face can deliver an infinite range of impact types. So, the safety factor calculations below are values from a simple simulation of a generic hit or load on our parts.

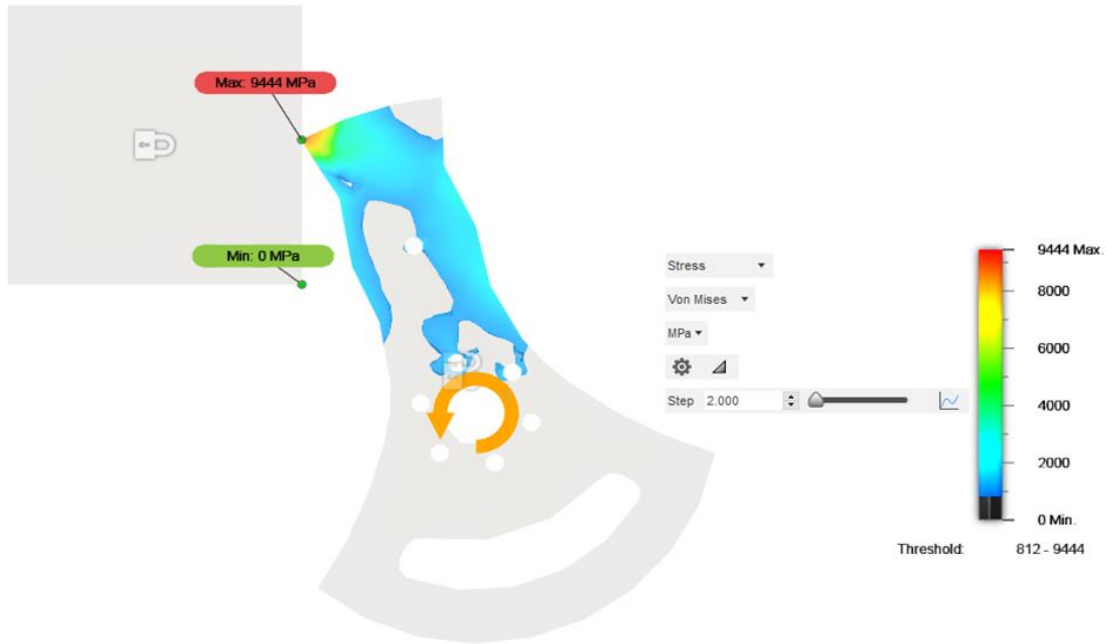


Figure 31 – Weapon FEA Analysis Showing an Impact at its Top Speed

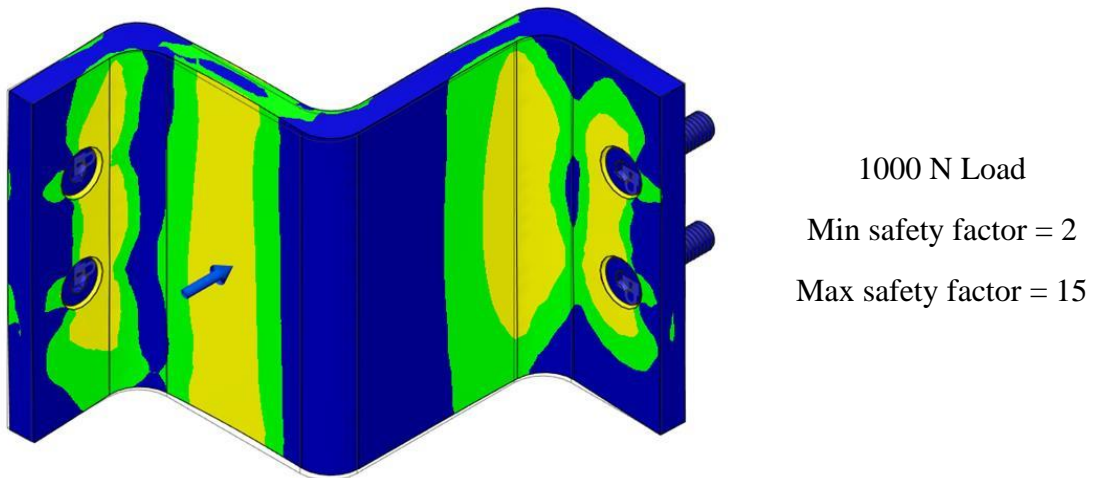
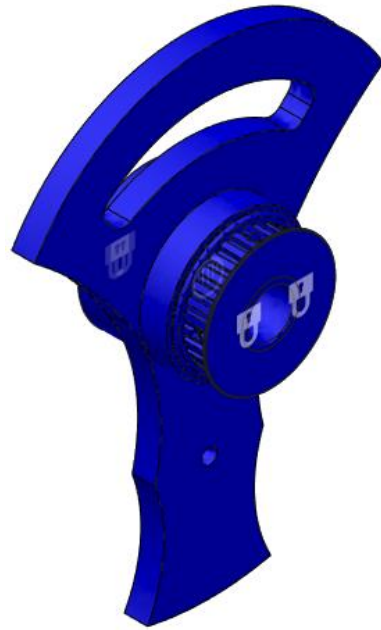


Figure 32 – Safety Factor Impact Test of the Armor



1000 N Bearing Load

Safety factor = 15+

*Figure 33 – Safety Factor Load Test on the Weapon Bearing*

## **Component Fabrication**

As previously mentioned, most of our parts were sent out for professional manufacturing to ensure high quality parts. It helped save our group time, money, quality, and any potential mishaps from our own manufacturing. These parts include the weapon, the UHMW uprights, all chassis aluminum components, and wheel spikes.

However, there are still parts that were too complicated or were unable to be made by send cut send and will be reviewed here. The parts created or modified include both weapon hubs, drivetrain square spacers, drivetrain custom washers, UHMW armor including mold, TPU hinge cover, lengthened weapon motor shaft, both weapon pulleys, and custom weapon forks. All relevant engineering drawings can be found in Appendix F (84).

## **Frame Machining**

From the parts that we sent out for production, none of them had to be machined by our team. Everything was done professionally. The only thing we needed to do was weld the aluminum 6061 together to assemble our metallic compartment. Due to the aluminum's high thermal conductivity, tough oxidized layer, and tendency for burn through we looked to

professional help. An experienced machinist walked us through prep work, different welding seam options, and set up.

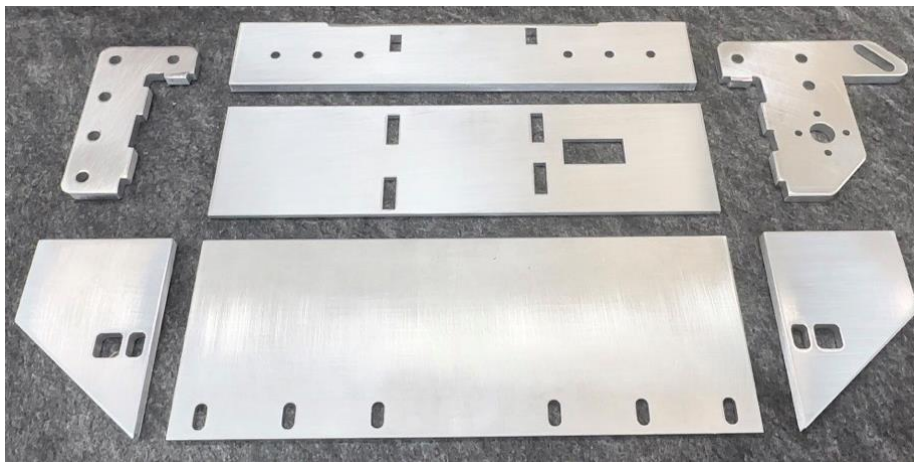
To start we cleaned the outer layer of the aluminum with sandpaper and Acetone to get rid of the outside oxidized layer of the aluminum. This helps provide a cleaner and stronger weld. Once all of the aluminum was cleaned and prepped, Mr. Cokley walked us through how he planned on welding the compartment together. Once the plan was established, we down the initial set up for welding. Before the TIG welder was even turned on, we used a torch to eliminate the moisture from the aluminum. Moisture in a weld can cause hydrogen to be absorbed into the weld metal ultimately reducing the welds strength and potentially causing a failure. Finally, Mr. Cokley welded the final product together while showing us exactly how to do so. The welding process took an entire weekend to complete and we couldn't be happier with the result.



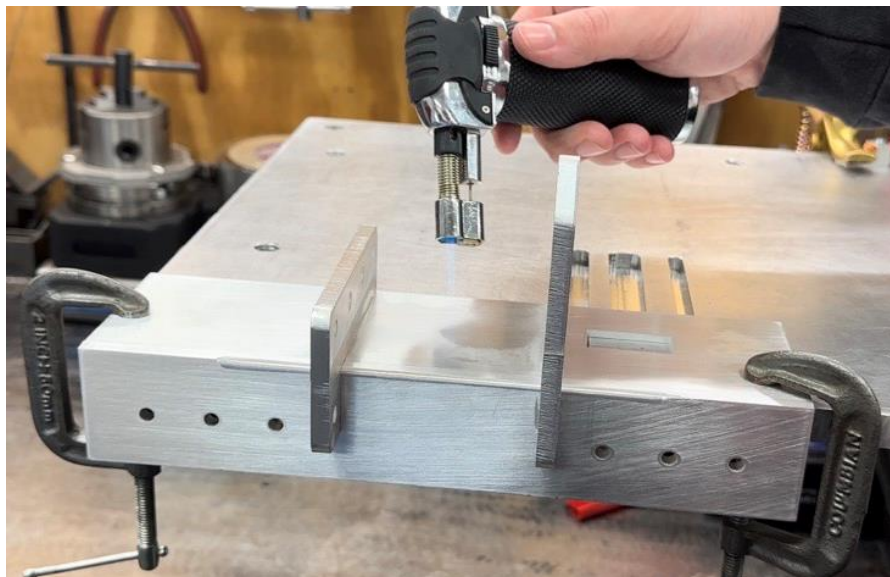
*Figure 34 – Sanding down the oxide layer*



*Figure 35 – Cleaning parts with Acetone*



*Figure 36 – Cleaned parts*



*Figure 37 – Removing moisture*



*Figure 38 – TIG welding*



*Figure 39 – Clamped setup to ensure no offsetting during the welding.*



*Figure 40 – Final product*

## Drivetrain Machining

For the most part our drivetrain design was plug and play. We expected to be able to machine one part (square spacer) and drive perfectly. However, after testing the drivetrain when installed on the frame of our robot, we realized we needed to create some custom washers to fit onto the hub of our wheels but around the wiring connecting to the electronics. Both parts were manufactured at the victory parkway campus.

There were several steps to creating the square spacer necessary to operate our drivetrain. Using a mill, we took a piece of 0.5" x 0.5" square steel stock and machined down the edges to match the inner dimensions of the wheel square. We then stood the stock up on its long edge to drill a 5/16" hole down the entire piece. Then we cut our part per length on the horizontal band saw. Finally, using the belt grinder, we rounded the edges and made it a perfect fit.

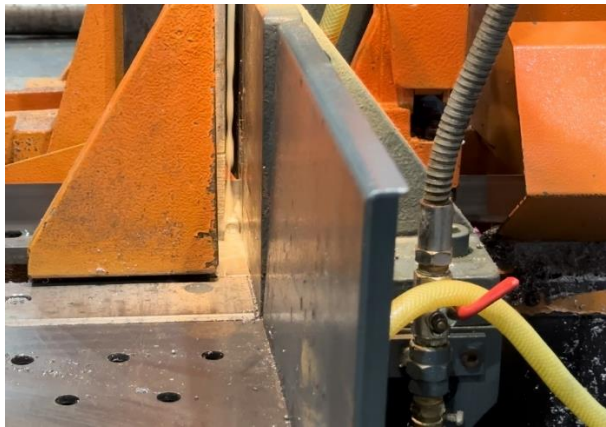
The custom washers were relatively easy to produce. We bought standard washers with the correct outer diameter of 1.25". At victory parkway, we then punched the correct inner diameter of 0.625" on the center of the standard washers. Finally, we used a vertical band saw to cut out a section of the washer to make room for the wire.



*Figure 41 – Milling outer edge for correct width/height and to ensure it's perfectly flat.*



*Figure 42 – Drilling 5/16” hole*



*Figure 43 – Cutting stock to length*



*Figure 44 – Rounding the edges*



*Figure 45 – Punching washer for correct ID before cutting on the vertical band saw.*

### **Weapon Assembly Machining**

Manufacturing parts for our weapon assembly was our biggest task. It had the most parts with the most complexity. We machined a brass bushing, two pulleys, and two weapon hubs from scratch.

To create the weapon hubs, we used cylindrical aluminum stock with an outer diameter of 2.25". On the lathe, we drilled and reamed a 15/16" hole to be able to fit onto the brass bushing. Then, using the CNC mill, we programmed the mill to drill press six M6 clearance holes the entire length of the cylindrical stock at a 1.5" diameter. Keeping the same programming, we drill pressed counter bores into the same side to create room for the screw heads. Afterwards, we used a tapping bit to create threads for a secure connection when assembled. Finally, we took the part back to the lathe and cut sections to the correct lengths.

Our other main components (pulleys and bushing) were simpler to make as they only required one process per part. Our pulleys both were drilled out using the lathe to match the correct diameter of the shaft/bolt they were attached to. The small pulley to 5mm and the large pulley to 15/16". We had to use metric on our small pulley due to the preassembled weapon motor using metric units. For the bushing, we used the lathe to cut it down to the correct length. It came in a stock size of 2" and we machined it down to 1.72".



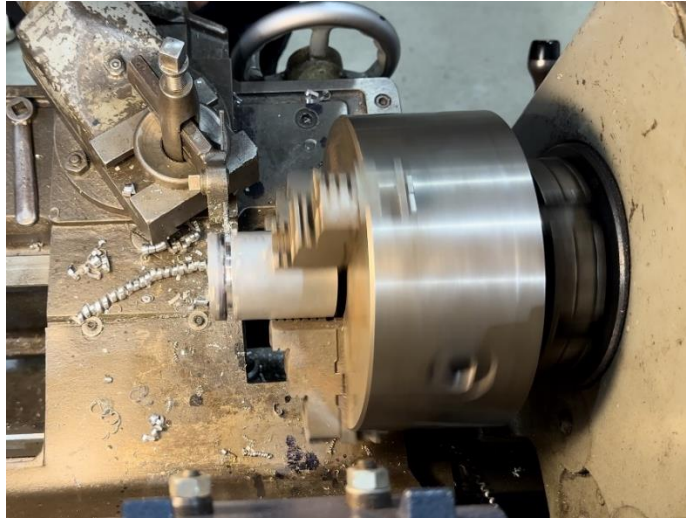
*Figure 46 – Drilling out and reaming 15/16” Hole*



*Figure 47 – CNC drill pressing screw holes and counterboring for screw heads*



*Figure 48 – Tapping for M6 Screws*



*Figure 49 – Cutting hubs to designed length*



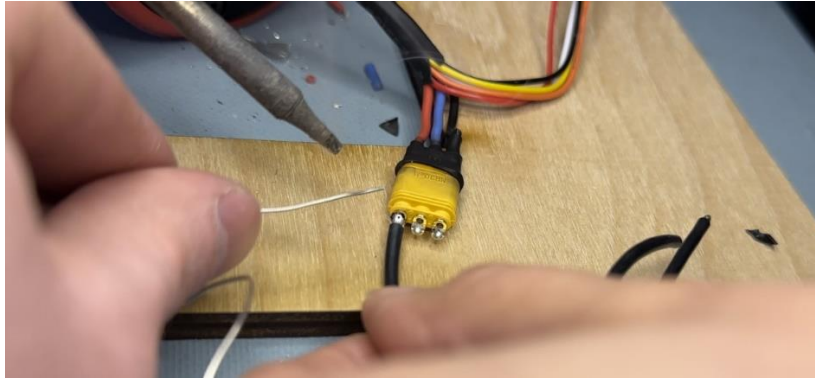
*Figure 50 – Drilling on lathe for correct ID on pulleys*



*Figure 51 – Final press fit assembly*

## Soldering the Electronics System

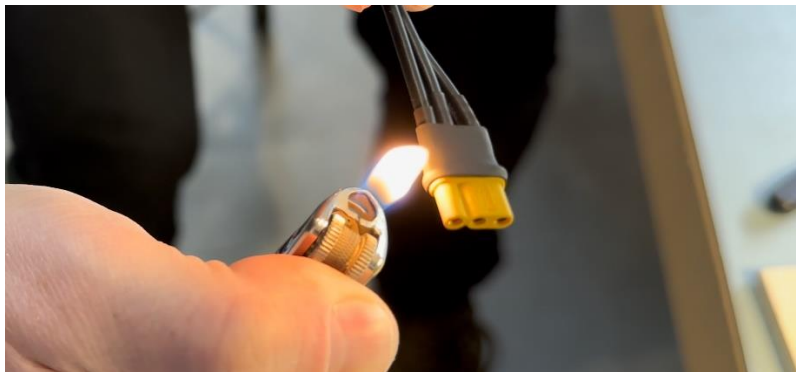
Our team utilized the soldering table at the 1819 Ground Floor Makerspace to solder all our electronics. This process only took one day. The drivetrain ESCs and the hub motor wheels all needed new connectors/plugs. The weapon ESC and weapon motor needed new connectors as well. Once everything was soldered and had the correct connectors/plugs, BAKA BOT is now capable of operation.



*Figure 52 – Soldering example showing the wheel to ESC male/female connectors.*



*Figure 53 – Soldering example showing the addition of eyelet connectors.*



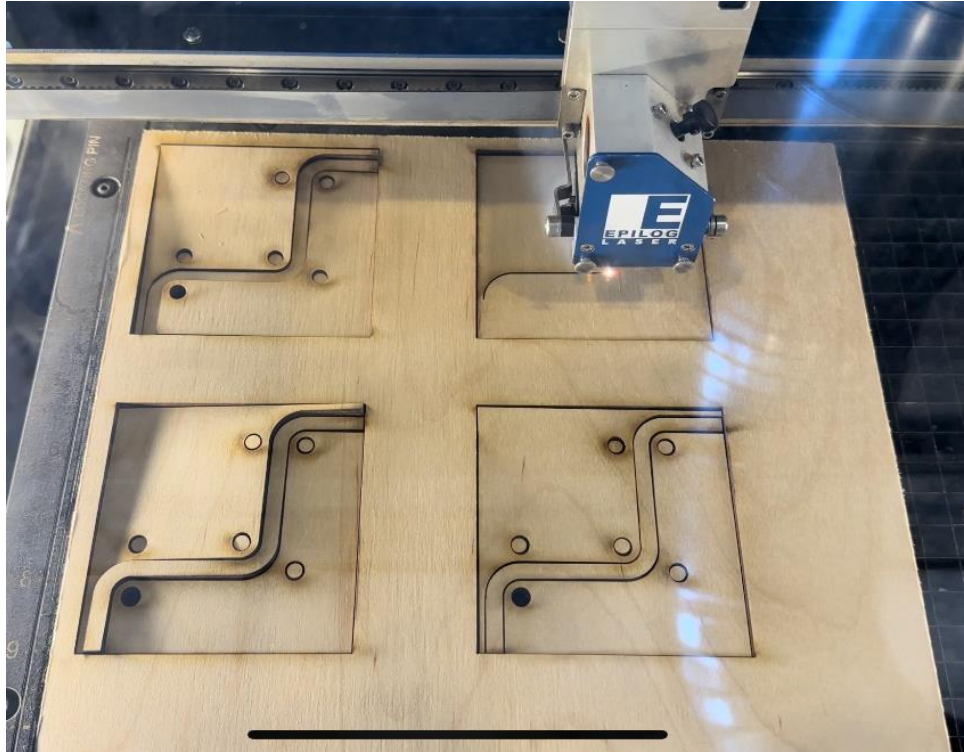
*Figure 54 – Heat shrinks were used to ensure strength and safety within the system.*

## Other Fabrication

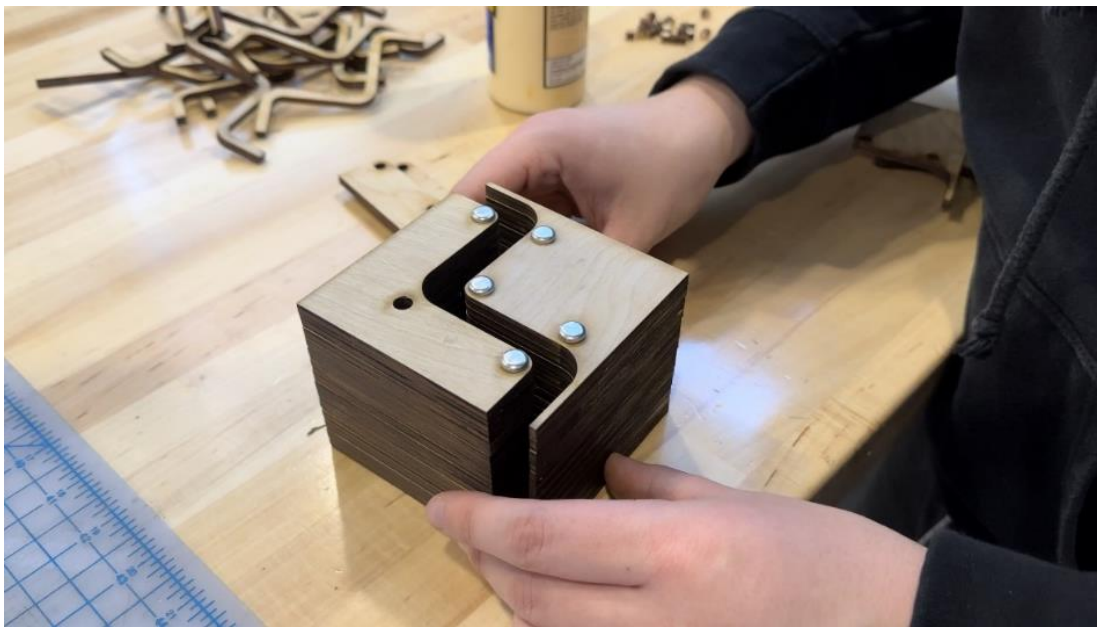
Our last fabricated parts include our armor/armor mold, our extended weapon motor shaft, and the upright forks. To protect our motor, we needed to mold UHMW armor to fit around the outside of the motor. We exported DXF files from fusion to import into the computers at the 1819 Ground Floor Makerspace to create laser cut layers for our mold. We then used pins to align all of the layers and glue them together with wood glue. Once the glue was done drying, we took the UHMW stock we had and placed it in an oven at 260 degrees Fahrenheit for an hour. The melting point for UHMW is 270 degrees. So, we purposely made the material as close to a liquid without becoming one, so it was easily formed in the mold. We were able to easily push and clamp it into the mold as seen below in *Figure 57/58*. After about 10 minutes in the mold, we took our newly formed armor over to VPC. Finally, we used the vertical band saw to cut off the excess material and drilled holes for mounting. See *Figures 55 – 59* below for reference.

The weapon motor shaft on the ordered motor was too short for our assembly requirements. Therefore, we had to take apart the brushless motor and swap out the stock shaft for a longer one. The shaft we used was a 4140 hardened steel with a length of 89.5 millimeters overall, which was perfect for our application (see *Figure 60*). A dremel was used to shave down flat spots for the set screws within the motor and pulley.

The last part we created was our handcrafted weapon forks (see *Figure 61*). These polycarbonate spring loaded forks were hand cut on the vertical band saw and drill pressed. The forks allow us to ram into our opponent and scoop them off the ground into our weapon.



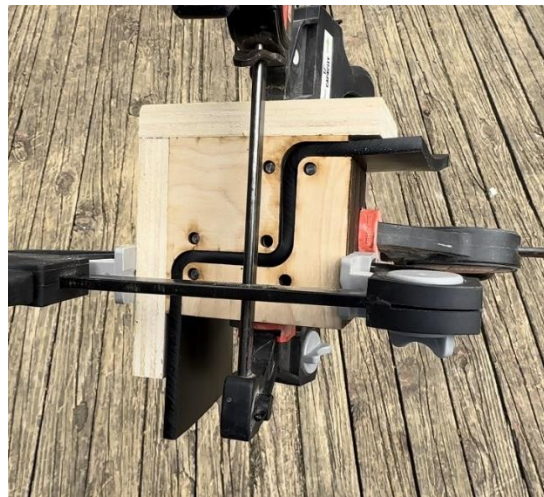
*Figure 55 – Laser cutting mold layers*



*Figure 56 – Assembled mold*



*Figure 57 – Pressing UHMW to desired shape at 10 degrees below its melting point.*



*Figure 58 – Clamped UHMW for cooling*



*Figure 59 – Cutting off excess material before drill pressing holes for connection points with the uprights and chassis.*

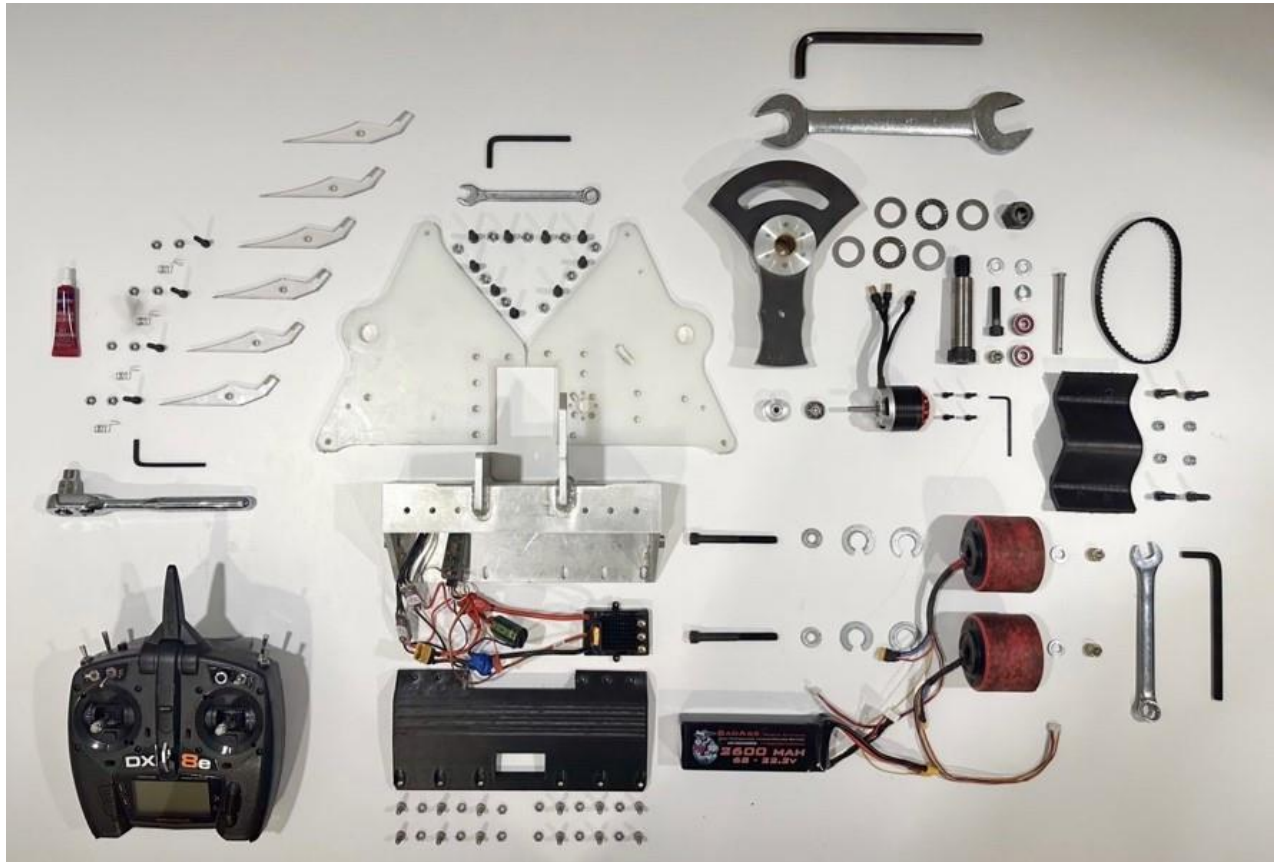


*Figure 60 – Extended weapon motor shaft*

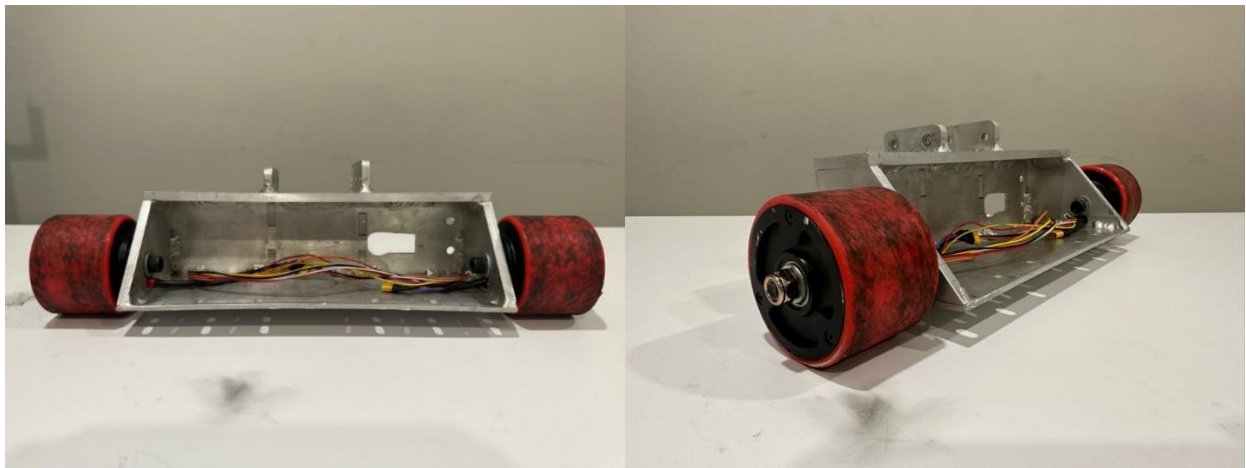


*Figure 61 – Hand cut polycarbonate forks using a vertical band saw and drill press.*

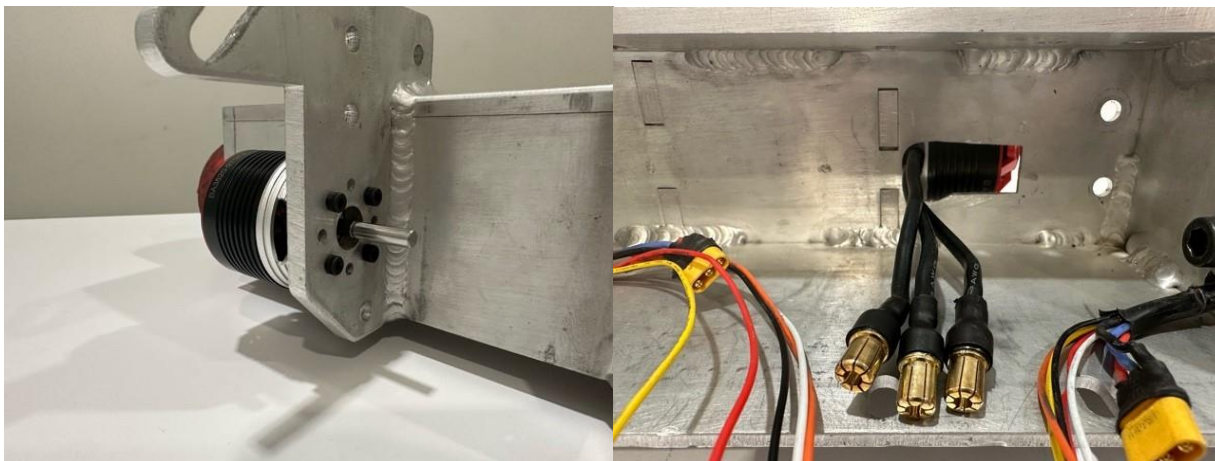
## Assembly Steps and Process



*Figure 62 – Step 0: Layout of all the parts/tools needed for BAKA BOT.*



*Figure 63 – Step 1: Attach drivetrain to chassis.*



*Figure 64 – Step 2: Attach weapon motor to chassis.*



*Figure 65 – Step 3: Attach first upright to chassis and slide on weapon motor shaft bearing.*



*Figure 66 – Step 4: Attach weapon motor armor.*



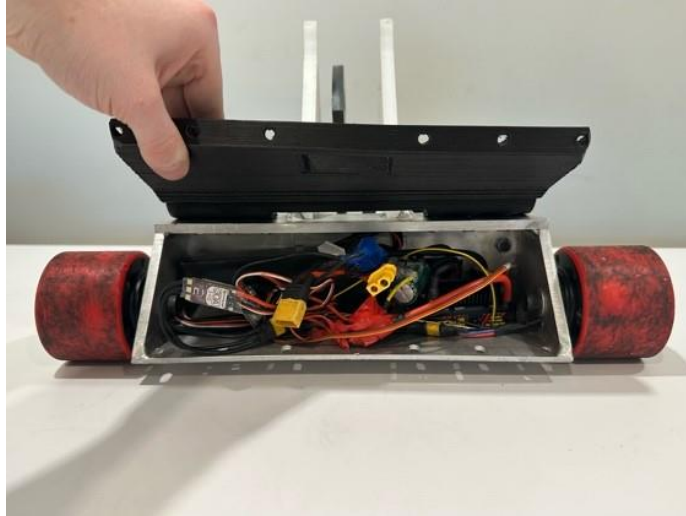
*Figure 67 – Step 5: Attach weapon assembly.*



*Figure 68 – Step 6: Attach second upright and weapon safety lock pin.*



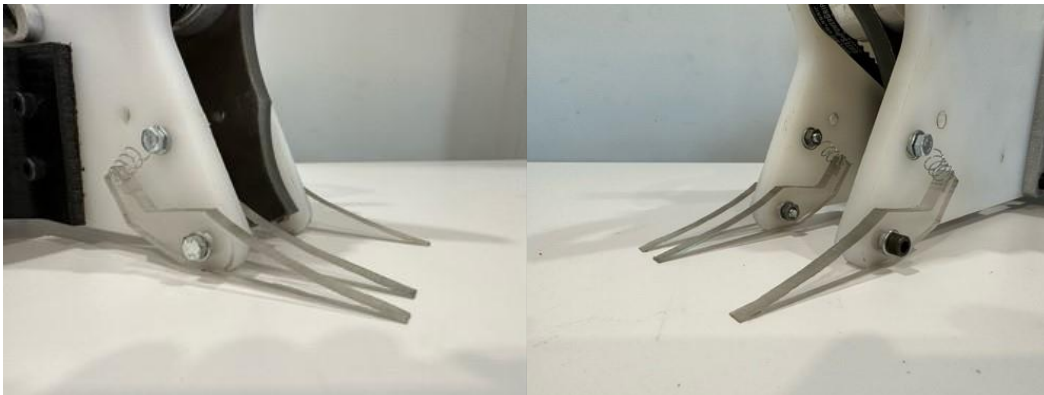
*Figure 69 – Step 6: Attach electronic backing.*



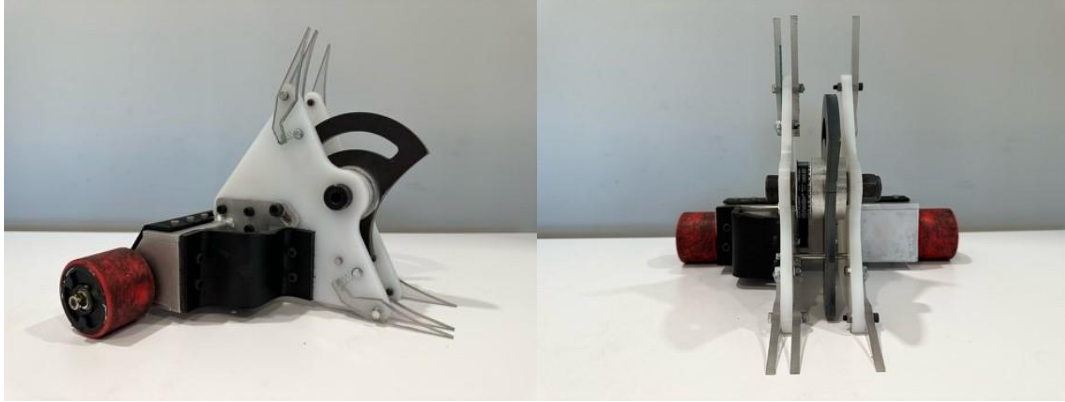
*Figure 70 – Step 7: Insert and plug in electronics.*



*Figure 71 – Step 8: Tighten down backing and have battery plug sticking out for easy access.*



*Figure 72 – Step 9: Attach 6 spring loaded forks on the top and bottom of the uprights.*



*Figure 73 – BAKA BOT fully assembled.*

## **Testing Plan**

Since the Norwalk competition is after graduation, testing is extremely important during the 2023 Spring semester. Most of the testing will be completed in conjunction with the UC Combat Robotics Club. Upon completion of manufacturing and assembly, we will perform several tests to see how our robot holds up to our calculations and in future fights.

While watching videos of previous fights both professional and amateur, we noticed all robots fighting a vertical spinner get launched into the air. This height range is anywhere from a few inches to several feet in the air. This leaves a lot of robots extremely damaged or even knocked out of the fight. To test this, we will perform a 5 ft drop test with a variety of different angles to understand the damage that our BAKA BOT might endure during the fights. This will give us the opportunity to make final changes to reinforce any weak areas in the frame structure.

We will be testing the speed and start up time of the weapon by bolting the robot frame down and recording the full speed of the assembly. For safety reasons, this will be done from a safe distance to ensure nobody is hurt during the process. The test will prove our assembly can handle the forces of the weapon speed and prove our start up time calculations.

We will be driving the full robot assembly in UC Combat Robotics testing cage in Victory Parkway Campus (VPC). This gives us a safe way to practice maneuvering with the weapon engaged so we can hit objects such as wood.

To ensure our confidence in the performance of BAKA BOT at NHRL, all team members will practice driving the robot around prior to our competition to ensure we are all experienced

operators. This will be done with the weapon assembly disengaged (weapon belt not attached) for safety reasons. The best driver will then be determined to ultimately fight the robot at NHRL.

Finally, during one of UC Combat Robotics Club meetings, we will have a professional combat robot competitor test our robot. Owen Cokley has tested previous UC Combat Robotics capstone projects. He has experience with a variety of robots, weapons, drivetrains, and fights. Owen has developed several highly competitive robots and will give his expert opinion on BAKA BOT. The testing consists of rules compliance, internal inspection, function test, weapon test, drive train test, match up analysis, and overall score. Refer to Appendix E (73) to see the testing form.

### **Testing Procedures**

*Drop Test* – For this test, we dropped BAKA BOT multiple times at a height of 5 ft. We dropped it at different angles to see how the robot would behave and if any parts would disassemble or get loose.

*Weapon Test* – We performed a weapon test in an empty parking lot. For safety reasons, the robot was secured to the ground so it couldn't move, and we stood a safe distance away. Then we tested the weapon speed and time to get to the tip speed of 192 mph.

*Driving Test* – After completing the circuitry needed for the drive train, we drove BAKA BOT around VPC. The club has a wooden test arena to practice driving the robots around. This wooden floor is similar to the one at the NHRL competition on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

*Owen Cokley Test* – Owen has been supervising our testing procedures and filled out his UC Battlebot 12lb testing form. This form determines if a UC Combat Robotics Club robot is acceptable to compete, represent the club, and ultimately give insight to how it will hold up in competition.

### **Testing Results**

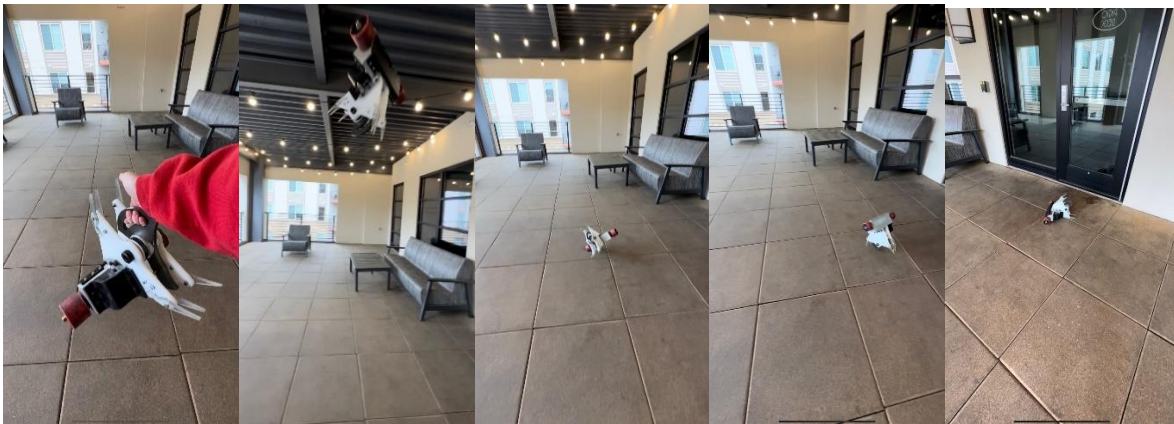
*Drop Test* – BAKA BOT held itself together throughout all the falls and throws. No parts or components got loose or disassembled. We did not observe any structural damage to be concerned with, therefore no reinforcements were made. See *Figure 74* for an example of BAKA BOT being dropped.

*Weapon Test* – Before a full spin up was conducted, we tried to freehand spin the assembly and noticed a lot of resistance. This was due to the weapon hub and pulley rubbing

against the UHMW uprights which caused a significant amount of friction. To counteract this, we added thrust bearings to either side of the assembly. This solved our friction problem and allowed free spinning motion. Once fully ran with the motor, the weapon was able to reach the designed tip speed of 192 mph with a 0.45 second start up time.

*Driving Test* – All 3 team members practiced driving BAKA BOT on the wooden test arena. After driving it a couple of times, we realized that the wheel was bottoming out of the frame and locking up. Therefore, we made custom washers so that the wheels can run smoothly. The rubber on the wheels doesn't give BAKA BOT a lot of friction force to push opponents. Our team is looking into adding spikes to the chassis side outer diameter of the wheels to help BAKA BOT dig into the wooden arena floor to stand our ground when pushing opponents.

*Owen Cokley Test* - The ranging score for the UC Combat Robotics 12lb testing form is from -320 to 150 points. Anything above zero is a robot approved to compete. BAKA BOT scored 104 points, so we are approved to compete at NHRL and will represent the UC Combat Robotics Club well.



*Figure 74 – Throwing BAKA BOT 6 feet high on a floor similar to plywood.*

## **Project Management**

### **Preliminary Budget**

An initial budget of \$1,200.00 USD was thought to be provided by UC's Combat Robotics Club and is how we made our preliminary budget. An exact bill of materials and full project budget is itemized in Appendix D (72).

Item	QTY	Cost Per	Total Cost
Weapon ESC	1	\$53.00	\$53.00
BadAss 3515-1130Kv Brushless Motor	1	\$65.99	\$65.99
Receiver	1	\$5	\$5.00
AR500 Steel – Weapon	2	\$50	\$100.00
Aluminum 6061 Frame	1	\$200	\$200.00
Batteries	2	\$70.00	\$140.00
Wheel with Hub Motors	4	\$60.00	\$240.00
Wheel ESCs	2	\$21	\$42.00
Belt Tensioner	1	\$20.00	\$20.00
Belt	3	\$30.00	\$90.00
COTS Parts	1	\$250.00	\$250.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$1,205.99</b>

*Figure 75 – Preliminary Budget*

### **Actual Budget**

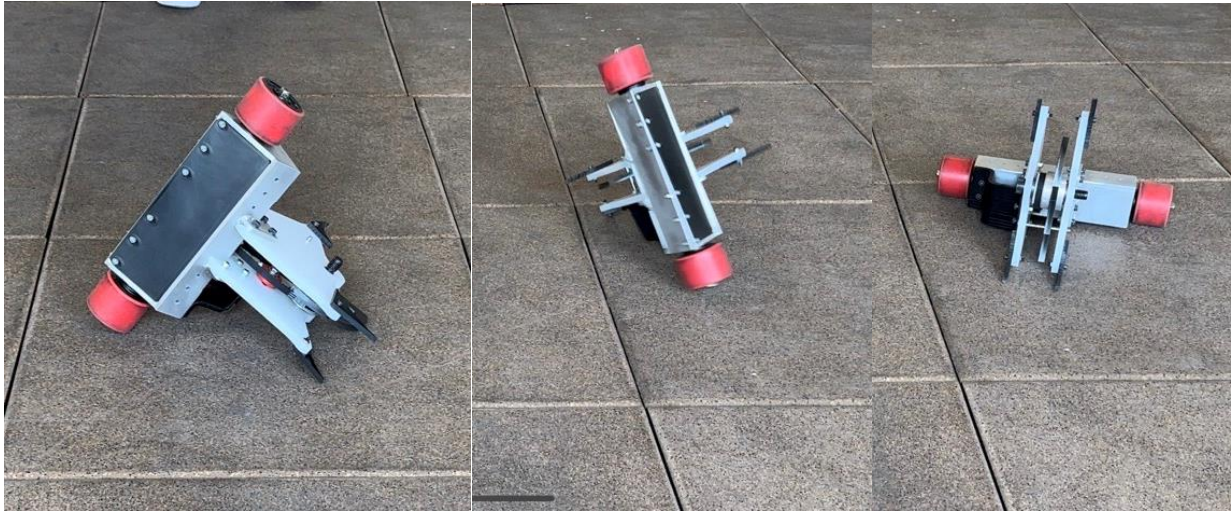
After being fortunate enough to receive a sponsorship with Toyota TMMK for \$1,500.00, the UC Combat Robotics Club also provided \$500.00. Our final budget is \$2,000.00 USD. Most of this budget was utilized. BAKA BOT itself ended up costing roughly \$1400, and we used the remaining money for spare parts and to fix unforeseen problems. The budget at the time of this report is \$30.54. The full bill of materials with expenses, vendors, and descriptions are laid out in Appendix D (72).

### **Key Milestones**

Our team has also created a time schedule for different tasks to accomplish before the construction of our combat robot. The Gantt chart helped keep us on track and delegate work based on individual team member strengths. The chart also kept track of important dates and deadlines to ensure we were ready for the CEAS Tech Expo and our May 6<sup>th</sup> NHRL competition

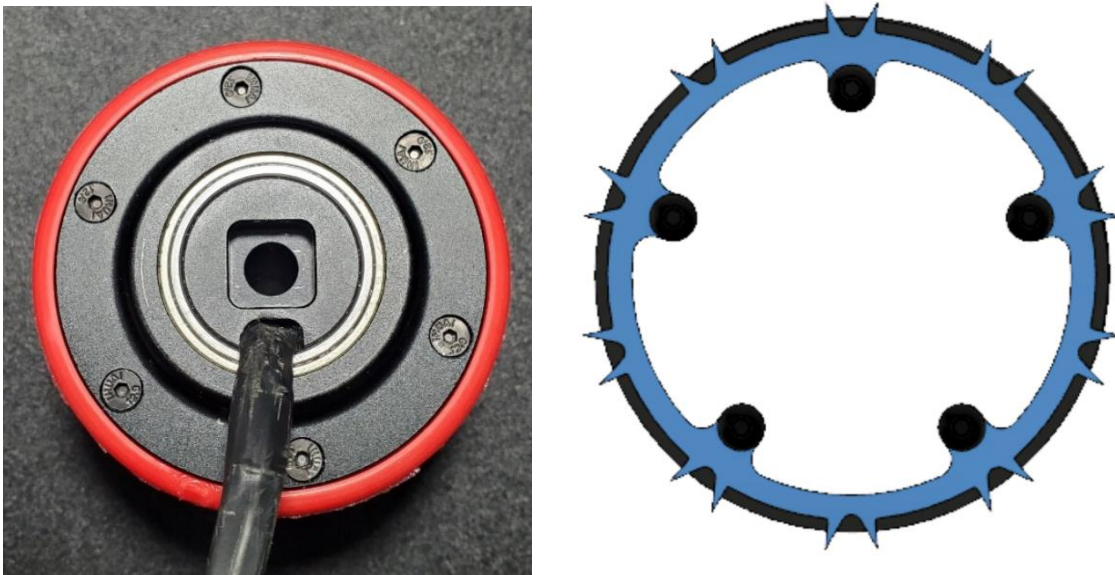






*Figure 78 – Triangle of Death and BAKA BOT spinning out of it*

The last future consideration that we will be trying to add before the competition is spikes on the chassis side of the hub motor wheels. These spikes will stick out past the outer diameter of the wheel. This will then help give BAKA BOT dig into the floor for better traction on the wooden arena to help us stand our ground when pushing opponents. The spikes will have a 5-degree rake angle with a 60-degree relief angle.



*Figure 79 – Spike design example that we will be customizing to fit our hub motor wheels*

## **Lessons Learned**

### **Use Cloud-Based CAD Software**

Fusion 360 was used within our team. This cloud-based software helped with the team members working remotely at home. We had access to the files at any location and each team member could update parts/assemblies seamlessly. It was such a game changer not having to worry about access to parts or if it parts were on their latest revisions. Our team would constantly log into Fusion to check dimensions on assemblies. It kept us on our feet and prepared at all times.

### **Create a Meeting Schedule and Stick to It**

Pick a method of virtual communication, such as Microsoft Teams, and use that to track all conversations and files made. Be sure to create and follow a schedule. Order parts as soon as possible because that waiting period caused us to be behind schedule at certain times. Even if you feel like there is nothing to do that week, still meet up and discuss it. You may just end up getting ahead of schedule or bonding with your team.

### **Use Uniform Hardware**

We recommend trying to use the same type of nuts and bolts for every assembly to make the assembly process simpler and easier. Stick to the metric or the imperial system. It causes too much confusion if you are constantly switching units. Pick a screw head type and stick to that. That way you can simplify your tooling. Try to use the same thread type across your robot so nuts are universal. In other words, simplify your whole system. There is no need to complicated things.

### **Prepare For the Unknown**

Overall, the manufacturing process reveals the imperfections from the CAD model and the design phase. When actual parts and prebuilt assemblies are finally in hand, you start to realize how the design could be improved. Ideally, you have worked with all parts before and have experience in the project you are working on, but you do not. Coming up with a robot completely from scratch is a difficult process that hopefully has many iterations before the final product is satisfactory. Not everything goes as planned, and your timeline should have wiggle room for it. You need time to adjust your design and fix any imperfections. Not only that but multiple people should review CAD assemblies at several instances throughout the design of the

project. Therefore, mishaps can be caught before being produced. It ends up costing you more time and money than you planned for, be ready.

### **Make Combat Robotics a Passion Not Just a To-Do List**

If you make your senior design capstone one of your passions, you will enjoy your time significantly more. It won't just become something you are forced to do but rather something you care about and look forward to doing. You will also start to involve yourself in a deep and rich community full of interesting ideas. Advice and resources from others are a very crucial aspect of your capstone, it should be utilized every step of the way.

### **Conclusion**

Creating a combat robot within 2 semesters for our senior design project was fun but not an easy task. BAKA BOT was designed, built, and now combat ready for the NHRL competition on May 6<sup>th</sup> in Norwalk, Connecticut. The robot weighs 11.8 lbs, so we are under the 12lb weight limit for our specific competition. In addition, BAKA BOT meets all safety requirements under the UC Combat Robotics Club and the NHRL rules. Despite not having competed yet, we believe our robot will be a dark horse at the event. This project has been a huge success with solving our problem statement by planning, designing, building, and testing BAKA BOT. Each team member played a big part in all aspects including time management, great leadership, and practical engineering.

Time management was the hardest aspect that we had to manage. It was a success due to all the members working when needed. We met at least two times a week and even more during our last semester. We all had our general roles with what was needed to be done, but when times became stressful, everyone was always open to give their time and help each other. Having managed our time efficiently, it was crucial to our success at the CEAS Tech Expo. We ended up winning 3 awards: MET Best of Expo 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, MET Best Poster Award, and MET Best Team Dynamic.

Great leadership was demonstrated by every team member. We didn't designate one specific person to be the leader. This allowed us to be closer as a team and have a mentality that everyone is accountable for all aspects and deadlines. Our team did a great job splitting up the robot into its different departments and working together to pick a final design. Then when it

came to fabrication, we always worked together. This not only resulted in a great team dynamic and product, but it also resulted in everyone having fun throughout the whole senior year duration. If our team had not connected as easily so soon, our project would not have been as successful.

Practical engineering methods that we all learned from The University of Cincinnati and our co-ops helped guide us on the right track with designing and building BAKA BOT. Starting in Senior Design I, research and initial concepts jumpstarted our project. Then Fusion 360 was selected as our main CAD software to use. This allowed us to have a cloud giving easy access to all members to work on the CAD designs. Then Senior Design II started, and we began finalizing our concepts by using laser printers at the 1819 Ground Floor Makerspace to test our concepts before manufacturing the final design. Once our wooden model met our satisfaction, manufacturing BAKA BOT began. Senior Design III consisted of us all working at the VPC workshop for a countless number of hours. All this time was spent fabricating BAKA BOT in an efficient and precise manner. Initially, working so hard with our design concepts allowed our team to easily assemble BAKA BOT in the end. The only aspect that held us back from building our robot was waiting for parts to be shipped and delivered. So, apply everything that we have learned through our 5-year CEAS program, the engineering portion of the project was the smoothest and the most fun.

Through the course of this whole project, our team showed pristine time management, great leadership/team dynamic/accountability, and quality engineering. These principles allowed us to always be confident in every step of our project resulting in a well-built robot that should do very well in competition. We are excited to represent The University of Cincinnati and the UC Combat Robotics Club in Norwalk, Connecticut. We are very proud of the outcome of the project, and we are ecstatic to see BAKA BOT destroy the competition at the NHRL 12lb weight class competition on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.



*Figure 80 – BAKA BOT*

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## **Appendices**

### **Appendix A (Industry Standards):**

#### **Bot Design Rules**

From NHRL

Here are our updated bot design rules. These will take effect starting at our May 2022 competition.

#### **Differences from previous ruleset**

- All bots, including sportsmen, must have an active weapon (exceptions: meltybrains and thwackers are allowed).
- The non-wheeled bonus for the 30lb class is now +15 lbs.

#### **Weight**

All bots must be at or below their maximum weight listed below at the start of the fight. Any cameras or recording equipment on the bot does not count towards the weight. All bots can qualify for two additional weight bonuses, as defined below.

#### **Non-Traditional Movement Bonus**

A weight bonus for non-traditional motion systems. Traditional (usually wheeled) motion systems are generally defined as a locomotion system that operates primarily through angular momentum of the component touching the ground, but also includes any system that uses unpowered rotating objects (wheels, drums, rollers, ball bearings, etc.) as a means of friction reduction. Any motion system that does not meet this definition qualifies for the weight bonus. In the event of a multibot, only the heaviest bot needs to be non-wheeled to get the bonus.

#### **Multibot Bonus**

An entrant consisting of multiple independent bots qualifies for a weight bonus. Every bot in a multi bot must have active control and be able to influence the fight. In 12lb and 30lb entrants, the maximum weight of any single bot cannot exceed 110% of the normal bot weight. Only the heaviest bot needs an active weapon; see “Weapon” section below for further details. If your

configuration does not rely on a multibot for a weight bonus, you may choose to run with or without that multibot for each fight.

Weight Bonuses

Weight Class	Non-Wheeled	Multibot	Absolute Maximum
3lb	+2 lbs	+1 lbs	6 lbs total
12lb (including Sportsmen)	+6 lbs	+3 lbs	19 lbs total*
30lb	+15 lbs	+8 lbs	53 lbs total

\* 12lb and Sportsman bots cannot fully take advantage of both weight bonuses at the same time.

## Size

3lb and 12lb Sportsman bots must fit into a 30 x 30 x 24 inch cube at the start of the fight.

12lb and 30lb bots must fit into a 36 x 36 x 36 inch cube at the start of the fight.

Bots can expand or contract to any size during the fight, so long as they can start at this size. Multibots must all fit and start the fight within this cube together.

## Weapons

**All entrants** must have a weapon system operated independently of locomotion that can contact or impact the opponent (known as an active weapon). Meltybrains (bots that can show controlled movement while spinning rapidly) and thwackbots (bots that attack with a hammer on an unpowered arm, using inertia from driving) are exempt from this rule. Only the heaviest bot in a multibot needs an active weapon.

**Sportsmen** are not permitted to have a conventional horizontal or vertical spinning weapon (with the exception of saws). Rotary lifters are allowed, so long as they do not do damage like a conventional spinning weapon.

**All weapon systems** must have a lock that stops their actuation. Weapons that move must have a lock that stops movement in all directions. Weapons that fire or shoot must have a physical means of blocking firing and blocking the expulsion of a projectile.

**Flame and heat** based weapons are allowed and encouraged at NHRL, including low- and medium-power rocket motors. Flame weapons should self-extinguish within 30 seconds of losing contact with the transmitter. 3lb bots are allowed up to 6 ounces of fuel. 12lb, 12lb sportsman, and 30lb bots are allowed 12 ounces of fuel. Fuel storage canisters must default to the closed position if damaged or removed from the bot.

Projectile weapons cannot exceed speeds of 150 miles per hour.

Weapons that primarily act by **obstructing visibility** (e.g. smoke grenade or fog machine) are not permitted. Weapons that produce smoke or fog as a by-product of their attack (e.g. rocket motors) are allowed.

**Electrical and shock weapons** such as tasers and cattle prods are not permitted, nor are electrical weapons that purposefully block radio signals.

Any weapons that result in **harm to those outside the cage** (lasers, strobe lights, excessively loud noises) are not permitted.

## **Modular Bots**

Modular bots are permitted at NHRL. Modular bots are robots that can change offensive or defensive features depending on who they up against in the tournament. Repairs and replacing broken components of your robot don't count as a modular robot.

No more than 50% of the weight of a modular bot can change between configurations. A configuration cannot cause a bot to gain or lose the non-traditional motion weight bonus. If you bring spare robots, your modules must be interchangeable between spares.

Like all other bots you still need to bring it to the green room in its final ready state. You can only bring entries you intend to fight into the green room. Swapping of modules or bots at the cage is not allowed.

If your configuration does not rely on a multibot for a weight bonus, you may choose to run with or without that multibot for each fight. Adding, removing, or swapping multibots counts towards the maximum configurable weight of a modular bot.

## **Spare Bots**

Bringing exact copies of your bot is allowed. In order to count as the same bot spares must be as close to exact copies as possible. All copies must pass safety before competing. If you are bringing spare modular bots, all spare bots must be able to use any module.

## **Design Restrictions**

**Entanglement devices**, defined as “a component of the bot that is designed to be entangled in the rotational or moving parts of the opponent,” are not permitted.

**Liquids** expelled from the bot are not permitted. Liquids used as a fuel source are allowed. Liquids expelled from the bot that become gaseous shortly after leaving the bot and/or before hitting the opponent are allowed.

**Combustion-powered bots** are allowed and encouraged. Combustion engines may be manually started during load in, assuming they do not cause the weapon to move. Electrically started engines are also allowed.

**Fabric, foam, and other ablative armor** are allowed.

**Electrical systems** cannot exceed 60 volts for 3lb bots, and 72 volts for 12lb and 30lb bots. Your bot should be designed to be powered on in the cage for up to 3 minutes before the start of your match.

**Batteries that are charged inside the bot** are permitted if the bot measures less than 11 x 8 x 6 inches.

If you are unsure if your bot design is in violation of the rules or not, please email us (<mailto:hello@nhrl.io>)! We’d rather see new and interesting bots fight than disqualify them.

**Appendix B (Survey):**

**Q1 – With a weight limit of 12lbs at our Battle Bot competition, distribute the concepts below that are needed for a combat robot in percentages on how you think we should prioritize them. (Please have the percentages add up to 100%)**

**Frame/Armor Design**

10% 15% 20% 25% 30% 35% 40% 45% 50% 55% 60% 65% 70% 75% 80% 85% 90%

**Weapon Design**

10% 15% 20% 25% 30% 35% 40% 45% 50% 55% 60% 65% 70% 75% 80% 85% 90%

**Drivetrain Design**

10% 15% 20% 25% 30% 35% 40% 45% 50% 55% 60% 65% 70% 75% 80% 85% 90%

**Q2 – What weapon do you think would be the most effective in a 15lb Battle Bot competition?**

Vertical Spinning Blade      Horizontal Spinning Blade      Drum Spinner      Flipper

Why?

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**Q3 – If you chose a spinning blade in Q2, how long do you think it should be?**

3 – 5 inches      6 – 8 inches      9 – 10 inches      N/A

**Q4 – For the weapon speed, how fast do you think the weapon should spin?**

200 – 239 rpms      240 – 279 rpms      280 – 319 rpms      320+  
rpms

**Q5 – How many wheels would be best on a 12lb combat robot?**

2      3      4      5+

**Q6 – Which drivetrain assembly do you think would be the most successful for a 12lb combat robot?**

Gear Drive    Chain Drive    Belt Drive    Hub Motor Wheels

**Q7 – How would you prioritize the concepts below when building a successful combat robot?**

(1 = Lowest Priority, 5 = Highest Priority)

Total Cost	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Ease of Use (Repair)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Weapon Design	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Weapon Size	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Motor Speeds	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Total Weight	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Maneuverability	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Cool Design	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Safety	1	2	3	4	5	N/A

**Q8 – How much time is a reasonable amount (in minutes) for the BAKA Bot team to take apart/access the internal components of the robot to do maintenance? (Ease of use/repair)**

2 – 3 minutes                  4 – 5 Minutes                  6 – 7 Minutes                  7 - 8 Minutes

**Q9 – How important is the color/theme of the robot to you?**

- 1) Unapplicable
- 2) Somewhat Important
- 3) Neutral
- 4) Important
- 5) Crucial

**Q10 – What is the least amount of money you think you would need to build a 1<sup>st</sup> Place 12lb combat robot?**

\$500-\$999                  \$1000 - \$1499                  \$1500 - \$1999                  \$2000+

## Survey Results (41 responses)

(Only showing the majority answers)

Q1 – Frame/Armor Design [30%], Weapon Design [40%], Drivetrain Design [30%]

Q2 – Vertical Spinning Blade (33 responses)

Q3 – 6-8 inches (30 responses)

Q4 – 240-279 rpms (24 responses)

Q5 – 2 Wheels (25 responses)

Q6 – Belt Drive (29 responses)

Q7 –

Total Cost [5] (35 responses)

Ease of Use(Repair) [3] (26 responses)

Weapon Design [5] (25 responses)

Weapon Size [4] (29 responses)

Motor Speeds [4] (31 responses)

Total Weight [4] (36 responses)

Maneuverability [3] (25 responses)

Cool Design [2] (29 responses)

Safety [4] (25 responses)

Q8 – 4-5 Minutes (33 responses)

Q9 – Unapplicable (16 responses), Somewhat Important (16 responses)

Q10 – \$1000-\$1499 (29 responses)

## Appendix C (Calculations):

### Weapon Motor Parameters:

- Motor KV Value = 970 RPM/Volt
- Max Continuous Power = 2000 Watts
- Max Continuous Current = 90 Amps
- Driving Gear Pulley = 10 teeth
- Driven Gear Pulley = 30 teeth
- Weapon Diameter = 9"

### Weapon Speed Calculations:

$$\text{Motor RPM} = 970 \frac{\text{RPM}}{\text{Volt}} * 22.2\text{V} = 21,534 \text{ RPM}$$

$$\text{Weapon RPM} = \frac{10 \text{ teeth}}{30 \text{ teeth}} * 21,534 \text{ RPM} = 7,178 \text{ RPM}$$

$$\text{Weapon Tip Speed} = \frac{9 \text{ in}}{12 \text{ in}} * \pi * 7,178 \text{ RPM} * \frac{1 \text{ mile}}{5280 \text{ ft}} * \frac{60 \text{ min}}{1 \text{ hr}} = 192.09 \text{ mph}$$

### Battery Parameters:

- Capacity = 2600 mAh
- Voltage = 22.2 V
- 6S LiPo Battery

### Battery Calculations:

$$\text{Estimated Battery Life} = \frac{2600 \text{ mAh Battery Capacity}}{32000 \text{ mA Load Current}} = 0.081 \text{ hrs} = 4 \text{ minutes}$$

### Drivetrain Parameters:

- Motor RPM = 1,600 RPM
- Wheel Diameter = 2.76"
- $\mu_{static} = 0.9$  (rubber and wood)

Drivetrain Calculations:

$$\text{Wheel Circumference} = 2.76 * \pi = 8.66''$$

$$\text{Linear Velocity} = 8.66'' * [(1600/60)/12] = 19.24 \frac{ft}{s} = 13.12 \text{ mph}$$

$$\text{Wheel Load} = \frac{12 \text{ lbs}}{2 \text{ wheels}} = \frac{6 \text{ lbs}}{\text{wheel}}$$

$$\text{Friction Force} = 0.9 * \frac{6 \text{ lbs}}{\text{wheel}} = \frac{5.4 \text{ lbs}}{\text{wheel}}$$

$$\text{Wheel Friction Torque} = \frac{5.4 \text{ lbs}}{\text{wheel}} * 2.76'' = 14.9 \frac{\text{in-lb}}{\text{wheel}}$$

## Appendix D (Bill of Materials):

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Status	Instructions		School Year	Starting Budget	Current Budget			
1			2022-2023	\$2,000.00	\$30.55			
2	Received	This form is to be filled out by the presidents and the treasurer when a group submits a purchase req to keep track of orders being shipped and ordered. All fields with a *						
3	Ordered	next to them are required to be filled out. When an order status needs to be changed						
4	Processing	just use the fill color tool to match the color of the status. Once a tracking number is						
5	Problem/Cancelled	made make sure it goes in the last column.						
PN#	Description	Hyperlink	Quantity	Price Per Unit	Total	Manufacturer	Vendor	What Sub Assembly and Other Comments
7	70mm 150W 24V/36V Brushless Hub Motor Wheel	<a href="https://www.amazon.com/dp/B078888888">https://www.amazon.com/dp/B078888888</a>	6	\$59.99	\$359.94	MAGT	Amazon	Wheel + Motor
8	3520-970Kv Brushless Motor	<a href="https://www.innov8th.com/">https://www.innov8th.com/</a>	2	\$74.99	\$149.98	BadAss	Innov8tive Design	Weapon Motor
9	91259A846 Alloy Steel Shoulder Screw	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	3	\$11.66	\$34.98		McMasterCarr	3/4" Shoulder Diameter, 2-3/4" Shoulder Length, 5/8"-11 Thread (Qty 1)
10	Flycolor Francy BLHeli_32 3-8S Dshot ESC w/ LED - 30A	<a href="https://www.getfpv.com/">https://www.getfpv.com/</a>	2	\$25.99	\$51.98	FlyColor	getfpv	Motor ESC
11	SPMAR410 AR410 DSMX 4-Channel Sport Receiver	<a href="https://www.spektrum.com/">https://www.spektrum.com/</a>	1	\$34.99	\$34.99	Spektrum	Spektrum	Receiver
12	Flexible TPU Filament	<a href="https://www.prilime.com/">https://www.prilime.com/</a>	1	\$23.99	\$23.99	Prilime	Amazon	Compartment Cover, Electronic Divider
13	BSACBR8BEC Bearings for belt tensioner (pack of 8)	<a href="https://www.amazon.com/dp/B078888888">https://www.amazon.com/dp/B078888888</a>	1	\$20.00	\$20.00		Amazon	For weapon belt tensioner
14	BSACBR88 Bones REDS Skateboard Bearings 8 pack	<a href="https://www.amazon.com/dp/B078888888">https://www.amazon.com/dp/B078888888</a>	1	\$17.95	\$17.95		Amazon	
15	BadAss 45C 2600mah 6S LiPo Battery	<a href="https://www.innov8th.com/">https://www.innov8th.com/</a>	2	\$63.99	\$127.98	BadAss	Badass	Battery
16	010-0139-10 SIDEWINDER 8TH ESC, 25.2V ESC, 8A PEAK BEC, WP	<a href="https://www.castlecreations.com/">https://www.castlecreations.com/</a>	1	\$129.95	\$129.95		Castle Creations	Weapon ESC
17	BadAss 45C 2600mah 6S LiPo Battery	<a href="https://www.innov8th.com/">https://www.innov8th.com/</a>	4	\$4.59	\$18.36		Innov8tive Designs	
18	91090A110 Zinc-Plated Steel Oversized Washer	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$5.67	\$5.67		McMasterCarr	5/16" Screw Size, 0.328" ID, 0.625" OD (Qty 4)
19	95922A112 High-Strength Steel Serrated Flange Locknut	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$5.41	\$5.41		McMasterCarr	Grade 8, Black-Phosphate, 5/16"-18 Thread Size (Qty 2)
20	91251A594 Black-Oxide Alloy Steel Socket Head Screw	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$7.79	\$7.79		McMasterCarr	5/16"-18 Thread Size, 2-3/4" Long, Partially Threaded (Qty 2)
21	95263A360 Alloy Steel Socket Head Screw	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$6.91	\$6.91		McMasterCarr	M5 x 0.8 mm Thread, 14 mm Long (Qty 6)
22	90592A095 Steel Hex Nut	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$4.05	\$4.05		McMasterCarr	Medium-Strength, Class 8, M5 x 0.8 mm Thread (Qty 12)
23	90128A234 Zinc-Plated Alloy Steel Socket Head Screw	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$9.07	\$9.07		McMasterCarr	M5 x 0.8 mm Thread, 10 mm Long (Qty 6)
24	91290A326 Alloy Steel Socket Head Screw	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$18.29	\$18.29		McMasterCarr	Black-Oxide, M6 x 1 mm Thread, 20 mm Long (Qty 2)
25	90591A151 Zinc-Plated Steel Hex Nut	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$3.14	\$3.14		McMasterCarr	Medium-Strength, Class 8, M6 x 1 mm Thread (Qty 2)
26	90576A115 Medium-Strength Steel Nylon-Insert Locknut	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$6.48	\$6.48		McMasterCarr	Class 8, Zinc Plated, M6 x 1 mm Thread, 6 mm High (Qty 4)
27	1277N735 Corrosion-Resistant Timing Belt Pulley	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$13.00	\$13.00		McMasterCarr	XL Series, NO Hub, 3/8" Maximum Width, 7/8" OD, for 3/16" Shaft (Qty 1)
28	6381K182 Multipurpose 60 Lead Bronze Sleeve Bearing	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	2	\$5.78	\$11.56		McMasterCarr	3/4" Shaft Diameter and 15/16" Housing ID, 2" Long (Qty 1)
29	97260A101 High-Strength Steel Nylon-Insert Locknut	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$11.43	\$11.43		McMasterCarr	Class 10, Zinc Plated, M6 x 1 mm Thread, 8 mm High (Qty 4)
30	90128A266 Zinc-Plated Alloy Steel Socket Head Screw	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$9.20	\$9.20		McMasterCarr	M6 x 1 mm Thread, 30 mm Long (Qty 1)
31	97050A304 Alloy Steel Low-Profile Socket Head Screw	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	2	\$1.73	\$3.46		McMasterCarr	Hex with Recess, Black Oxide 10.9 Steel, M6 x 1mm, 12mm Long
32	90370A206 Steel Thin Hex Nut	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$4.43	\$4.43		McMasterCarr	Medium-Strength, M6 x 1 mm Thread, DIN 439B, ISO 4035 (Qty 2)
33	90630A130 High-Strength Steel Nylon-Insert Locknut	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$4.83	\$4.83		McMasterCarr	Grade 8, 5/8"-11 Thread Size (Qty 1)
34	1277N771 Corrosion-Resistant Timing Belt Pulley	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$27.55	\$27.55		McMasterCarr	XL Series, NO Hub, 3/8" Maximum Width, 2-1/8" OD, 1/2" Shaft (Qty 1)
35	91290A305 Alloy Steel Socket Head Screw	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$13.87	\$13.87		McMasterCarr	Black-Oxide, M3.5 x 0.6 mm Thread, 16 mm Long (Qty 4)
36	6484K224 XL Series Timing Belt, Trade No. 140XL037	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	4	\$8.05	\$32.20		McMasterCarr	Timing Belt
37	90358A016 Ultra-Low-Profile Socket Head Screw	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	6	\$4.18	\$25.08		McMasterCarr	Alloy Steel, M6 x 1.00 mm Thread, 10 mm Long
38	90358A019 Ultra-Low-Profile Socket Head Screw	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	6	\$4.95	\$29.70		McMasterCarr	Alloy Steel, M6 x 1.00 mm Thread, 20 mm Long
39	8702K472 Slippery UHMW Polyethylene Bar Black, 4" Wide, 1/4" Thick	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	2	\$25.99	\$51.98		McMasterCarr	Armor Material
40	1610T16 Multipurpose 6061 Aluminum 2-1/4" Diameter	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$16.66	\$16.66		McMasterCarr	Weapon Assembly Hubs
41	2900A358 Hardened Undersized High-Speed M2 Tool Steel Rod	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$7.65	\$7.65		McMasterCarr	Weapon Motor Shaft
42	9614A227 M8 x 1 mm Thread, 40 mm Long	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$11.36	\$11.36		McMasterCarr	Tensioner Bolt
43	90364A101 M8 x 1.00 mm Thread Size Nut	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$8.57	\$8.57		McMasterCarr	Tensioner Nut
44	91166A270 M8 Screw Size, 8.4 mm ID, 16 mm OD	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$5.08	\$5.08		McMasterCarr	Tensioner Washers
45	90156A583 Safety Pin	<a href="https://www.mcmaster.com/">https://www.mcmaster.com/</a>	1	\$5.69	\$5.69		McMasterCarr	Safety Pin for Weapon
46	91290A117 Alloy Steel Socket Head Screw	<a href="http://www.mcmaster.com/">www.mcmaster.com</a>	1	\$10.85	\$10.85		McMasterCarr	
47	91290A328 Alloy Steel Socket Head Screw Black-Oxide, M6 x 1 mm Thread, 22 mm	<a href="http://www.mcmaster.com/">www.mcmaster.com</a>	1	\$13.22	\$13.22		McMasterCarr	
48	4634T32 Multipurpose 6061 Aluminum 6 mm Diameter	<a href="http://www.mcmaster.com/">www.mcmaster.com</a>	1	\$3.04	\$3.04		McMasterCarr	
49	6661K11 Ball Bearing Shielded, Trade No. 626-2Z, for 6 mm Shaft Diameter	<a href="http://www.mcmaster.com/">www.mcmaster.com</a>	1	\$20.06	\$20.06		McMasterCarr	
50	5909K33 Needle-Roller Thrust Bearing for 3/4" Shaft Diameter, 1-1/4" OD	<a href="http://www.mcmaster.com/">www.mcmaster.com</a>	4	\$3.92	\$15.68		McMasterCarr	
51	5909K46 0.032" Thick Washer for 3/4" Shaft Diameter Needle-Roller Thrust Bearing	<a href="http://www.mcmaster.com/">www.mcmaster.com</a>	4	\$1.35	\$5.40		McMasterCarr	
52	5836T13 Tight-Tolerance 4140 Alloy Steel Rod 5 mm Diameter 1 ft	<a href="http://www.mcmaster.com/">www.mcmaster.com</a>	1	\$11.86	\$11.86		McMasterCarr	
53	5972K197 Ball Bearing Open, Trade Number 635, for 5 mm Shaft Diameter	<a href="http://www.mcmaster.com/">www.mcmaster.com</a>	1	\$17.48	\$17.48		McMasterCarr	
54	1277N735 Corrosion-Resistant Timing Belt Pulley XL Series, NO Hub, 3/8" Maximum	<a href="http://www.mcmaster.com/">www.mcmaster.com</a>	1	\$13.00	\$13.00		McMasterCarr	
55	66657 Send Cut Send Quote	<a href="https://app.sendcutsend.com/">https://app.sendcutsend.com/</a>	1	\$284.34	\$284.34		SendCutSend	Weapon, Uprights, All compartment pieces
56	Lows and Misc Purchases		1	\$244.31	\$244.31		Misc	Wheel Spikes, COTS hardware

## Appendix E (Testing Form):

UC Battlebots 12 lb Bot Testing Form 1



# UC Battlebots 12 lb Bot Testing Form

Prepared by: Owen Cokley, RE Combat Robotics

Date: March 21, 2022

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This form shall be used to evaluate a 12lb bot's speculative performance in the case that attending a competition is not available, or as a pre-event check. If used to evaluate a senior design team, interpretation of this form's results shall be left to the relevant faculty member.

Scoring will be broken down into multiple categories:

- **Rules Compliance:** Does your bot break or follow the "12lb Design Rules" document? (General info not covered in following inspections).
- **Internal Inspection:** Does your bot pass or fail the items on the "Internal Inspection Checklist" document?
- **Functions Test:** Does your bot pass or fail the items on the "Functional Test Checklist" document?
- **Weapons Test:** A subjective analysis of a bot's weapon performance in the UC Battlebots Club test cage. Performance should be compared to bots that have previously competed at UC. Possibility for multiple opinions.
- **Drivetrain Test:** A subjective analysis of a bot's drive performance. Performance should be compared to bots that have previously competed at Xtremebots. Possibility for multiple opinions.
- **Matchup Analysis:** A subjective analysis on how your bot would theoretically perform against an array of common designs at Xtremebots. Possibility for multiple opinions.

The following pages will be filled in by a UC Battlebots Club Mentor and returned to teams for evaluation purposes.

UC Battlebots Club Mentor: Owen Cokley

Team Being Evaluated: BAKA Bot

Robot Name: BAKA Bot

**Rules Compliance:**

Are there any rules a team is in violation of?

no rules violations

A "Pass" should be awarded to teams where no rules were broken. A "Minor Fail" should be awarded if rules were broken, but the bot could be altered into compliance within 2 hours' time. A "Fail" should be awarded if a bot is in violation of Xtremebots rules, with no ability to fix the violation within 2 hours.

Pass	Minor Fail	Fail
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**Internal Inspection:**

<p><b>General Inspection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secure covers on all sharp points/edges/corners</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secure restraints for all pinch/motion hazards</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No use of disallowed construction materials</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any restricted-use materials are used correctly</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Internal Combustion Engine</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No stored high-pressure pneumatics</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No hydraulic system</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bot name on exterior in 1/4" or larger letters</li> </ul> <p><b>Electrical Inspection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Master switches mechanically shut off batteries</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Master switches are 2-position &amp; fully-enclosed</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Master switch access requires no parts removal</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access to all switches is outside weapons paths</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Batteries are allowed type (SLA, NiCd, NiMH, Li-on)</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Lithium Polymer (LiPo) batteries are prohibited</b></li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Batteries are mounted securely within chassis</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Battery terminals/connections are insulated</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary electrical terminals are covered/insulated</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All wiring properly installed and insulated</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maximum voltage does not exceed 28 VDC</li> </ul> <p><b>Radio Control Equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uses IFI, FM R/C or allowed custom controller</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> R/C system not AM, pre-1991, or 72MHz</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> R/C system has two sets of crystals</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Custom equipment complies with FCC regulations</li> </ul>	<p><b>Low-Pressure Pneumatic System</b></p> <p><i>&gt; Verify that system is depressurized</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tank is rated for at least 1.5x stored pressure</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tank max volume less than 8 Cu. ft.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tank has pressure-reliefs or blowout plugs</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tank has a shut-off valve</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pneumatic components are correctly rated</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Components are mounted securely within chassis</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Components are undamaged</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Actuators are attached properly</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pressure purge valve to relieve pressure</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Purge and shut-offs are outside weapons paths</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Access for tank filling is safe and stable</li> </ul>						
<p><b>Powered Weapons</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Weapons are not electrical/electromagnetic</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weapons do not use heat, fire or explosive</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weapons are non-fouling and non-obscuring</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weapons/Flywheels are securely attached</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spring-powered weapon has manual safety release</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deactivated weapons pose no hazard to people nearby</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Projectile tether length does not exceed 4'</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than 30 minutes to change modular weapon</li> </ul>	<p><b>External Equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Equipment setup/removal takes less than 2 minutes</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Equipment does not interfere with operations</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Homing/Targeting laser is class II or below</li> </ul> <p><b>Additional Items</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> MultiBot meets all specific requirements</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> StompBot complies with "Walker" requirements</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Any lighting/sound system can be deactivated</li> </ul> <p>Notes:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100%;"> <tr><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td></tr> </table>						

A "Pass" should be awarded to teams where no rules were broken. A "Minor Fail" should be awarded if rules were broken, but the bot could be altered into compliance within 2 hours' time. A "Fail" should be awarded if a bot is in violation of Xtremebots rules, with no ability to fix the violation within 2 hours.

<b>Pass</b>	<b>Minor Fail</b>	<b>Fail</b>
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**Functions Test:**

<p><b>Bot Weight and Appearance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bot total weight is: <u>11.560</u> pounds             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <i>For a MultiBot, weigh segments separately and attach stickers indicating the weights</i></li> </ul> </li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appearance is acceptable</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Name of bot is easily readable</li> </ul>	<p><b>Powered Weapon Systems Testing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <i>Start each weapon system moving</i></li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weapons systems are reliably controlled</li> <li>&gt; <i>Transmitter OFF while weapon is moving</i></li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drive power to weapon systems stops when transmitter is shut off</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spinning part comes to a full stop within 30 seconds after transmitter shut-off.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weapon will not cause damage to Bot</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pneumatics Check</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <del>Pressurize the system</del></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No problems pressurizing</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Verify pressures do not exceed 150 psi</li> </ul>	<p><b>Large Spring Arming/Disarming</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <del>Arm the spring using radio control</del></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Large spring can be armed remotely</li> <li>&gt; <del>Transmitter OFF while spring is armed</del></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No motion or disarming at transmitter turn-off</li> <li>&gt; <del>Manually release the spring</del></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Spring can be manually released in 30 seconds</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No body part in weapon path during release</li> </ul>
<p><b>Activation of Bot</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bot is in full battle-ready configuration             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <i>Verify that Bot is completely deactivated</i></li> <li>&gt; <i>Mount bot on a support that suspends the wheels, tracks or legs in the air.</i></li> <li>&gt; <i>Check that all Master Switches are OFF</i></li> <li>&gt; <i>Turn the transmitter ON</i></li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No bot movement when transmitter turned on</li> <li>&gt; <i>Activate the Bot</i></li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activation requires no more than 1 person</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Person not in weapons path during Activation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Activation can be done within 30 seconds</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No panels/parts removal during Activation</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activation safety is not sequence-dependent</li> </ul>	<p><b>Autonomous Features</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <del>Cycle the transmitter OFF, then ON</del></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Autonomous features start up disabled</li> <li>&gt; <del>Remotely activate autonomous features</del></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Light indicates autonomous features activated</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No erratic behavior during autonomous operation</li> <li>&gt; <del>Shut OFF transmitter</del></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> All autonomous features cease functioning</li> </ul>
<p><b>Motion System Fail-Safe Test</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <i>Move the motion system forward/backward</i></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bot motion control is continuous, not on/off</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reliable control of the motion-producing parts</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion speed greater than 6 inches-per-second</li> <li>&gt; <i>Move the motion system at high speed</i></li> <li>&gt; <i>Transmitter OFF with motion at speed</i></li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drive power to motion system stops when transmitter is shut off.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Deactivation of Bot</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <i>Turn Transmitter ON (if necessary)</i></li> <li>&gt; <i>Deactivate the Bot</i></li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deactivation requires no more than 1 person</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Person not in path of weapons during deactivation</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete deactivation in less than 45 seconds</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No panels/parts removal during deactivation</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deactivation safety is not sequence-dependent</li> </ul>

A "Pass" should be awarded to teams where no rules were broken. A "Minor Fail" should be awarded if rules were broken, but the bot could be altered into compliance within 2 hours' time. A "Fail" should be awarded if a bot is in violation of Xtremebots rules, with no ability to fix the violation within 2 hours.

<b>Pass</b>	<b>Minor Fail</b>	<b>Fail</b>
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**Weapons Test:**

A weapons test should be performed in the UC Battlebots Club test cage in a safe and controlled manner. Make sure to film the weapon test and provide the video to the team being evaluated. If safe, have teams hit an object to simulate a hit more accurately in competition. The primary UC Battlebots Club Mentor should record their thoughts on the following aspects below. If not applicable to the weapon type, skip that segment.

**Spin-up time:**

medium-slow

**Impact energy:**

medium

**Hit consistency:**

large bite

**Recovery time between attacks:**

slowish

**Damage done to weapon:**

none

**Heat from electronics or bearings:**

medium

**Drive performance with weapon on:**

decent, same as off

**Other notes or worries:**

Assign the team a value between 0 and 20, with 20 being the best, of their overall performance. If a robot has no active weapon, this value should be -10 (negative ten). If a robot's weapon stops working during testing, this value should be 0. Gather multiple opinions on this value if desired, and write the value below:

**Weapons Test Value:**

15

**Drivetrain Test:**

A drivetrain test should be performed in a designated flat area at the discretion of a UC Battlebots Club Mentor. Concrete, floor tile, or steel is preferred over asphalt. Set up a series of tests such as an obstacle course, a drag race, pushing a heavy item, and a 12' x 12' simulated arena to evaluate a bot. If a robot uses magnets to increase drive performance, perform an additional test in the UC Battlebots Club test cage to account for this. The primary UC Battlebots Club Mentor should record their thoughts on the following aspects below. If not applicable to the drive type, skip that segment.

**Controllability:**

not too good

**Top speed:**

medium

**Ground clearance:**

low

**Tire wear:**

N/A

**Pushing performance:**

poor

**Other notes or worries:**

Skateboard wheels

Assign the team a value between 0 and 20, with 20 being the best, of their overall performance. If a robot's drive stops working during testing, this value should be -10 (negative ten). Gather multiple opinions on this value if desired, and write the value below:

**Drive Test Value:**

5

**Matchup analysis:**

How would this robot fair against other popular design? The primary UC Battlebots Club Mentor should record their thoughts on each matchup. Gather info from multiple sources to assign each matchup a value of 0 through 10, where 0 is a devastating loss, and 10 is an easy win.

**Wedge:**

Consider a bot similar to "Blade Wedge" in this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P9dFBxqJ3HU>

Matchup thoughts:

large damage w/ thin blade

Matchup score:

9

**Beater Bar Vertical Spinner:**

Consider a bot similar to "Mars" in this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PT-b6F6-KU>

Match thoughts:

exposed wheels + not too quick

Matchup Score:

5

**Vertical Disk Spinner:**

Consider a bot similar to "Onyx" in this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=id9iZAKNF9E>

Match thoughts:

low maneuverability

Matchup Score:

4

**Horizontal Spinner:**

Consider a bot similar to "Slay Jay" in this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aK6DNhrRwNk>

Match thoughts:

*good, uhmm uprights*

Matchup Score:

*7*

**Overhead Bar Spinner:**

Consider a bot similar to "Cyclone" in this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=umZeTJrUhN4>

Matchup thoughts:

*good, large diameter bar*

Matchup Score:

*7*

**Drum Spinner:**

Consider a bot similar to "Razors Edge" in this video:

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

Matchup thoughts:

*exposed wheels*

Matchup Score:

*2*

## Overall Score:

To give a bot an overall score, add up the point values as follows:

### Rules Compliance:

Pass = 20 points

Minor Fail = 0 points

Fail = -100 points

### Internal Inspection:

Pass = 15 points

Minor Fail = 0 points

Fail = -100 points

### Functions Test:

Pass = 15 points

Minor Fail = 0 points

Fail = -100 points

### Weapons Test:

Use scored Value (0 to 20 or -10 points).

15

### Drivetrain Test:

Use scored Value (0 to 20 or -10 points).


5

### Matchup Analysis:

Sum all scores (0 to 60 points)

34

**Overall Score:** 104

**UC Battlebots Mentor Signature:** 

## Reading a team's score:

A team's score can range from -320 points to 150 points.

**Anything below zero points is consider ineligible to compete.** Teams scoring less than 0 points did not read the required rules, or properly prepare their bot for competition.

**A zero-point robot is considered the minimum bar.** This robot may not do well but will at least show up to competition and fight a couple of losing matches.

**A 75-point robot is pretty good.** A 75-point bot should be able to qualify for the round of 16 tournament, and consistently fight an entertaining match.

**A 150-point robot should win an event.** This should be the best 15 lb. robot anyone has ever seen.

There is a lot of grey area between zero points and 150 points, and that is by design. Outside of competition some things are impossible properly quantify. This form should help to create a comparative standard for bot to be evaluated against but should not be the sole means of judging a robot or team.

## UC Battlebots 12 lb Bot Testing Form 11

- This form was updated 9/8/2022 by Owen Cokley
  - Changed "Judge" to "Mentor"
  - Changed UC Battlebots Club branding.
  
- This form was updated 4/9/2023 by Owen Cokley
  - Updated wording to reflect 12lb robots
  - Rules sheets still reflect 15lb bot rules

Appendix F (Engineering Drawings):

