

ANTARES OFF-SEASON BLOG

Over the offseason, many members of our team continued to pour many hours of their time into robotics, working on rebranding, improving our robot's gripper and vision for Calgames, and developing the swerve drive module for the 2024 season.

Rebrand

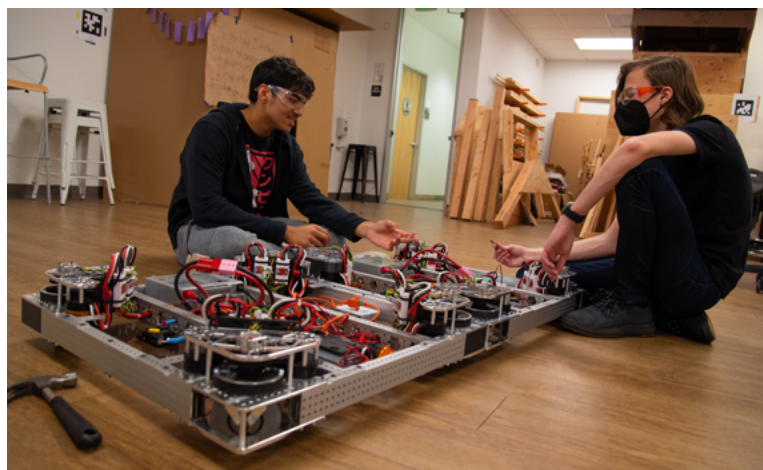
With "RobotX" having been used for 6 years, and almost 70% of the team wanting a fresh brand, our rebrand committee composed of members, alumni and mentors worked hard for 6 months to rebrand to Team 6962 Antares. Antares is the brightest star in the constellation Scorpio, often referred to as the "heart of the scorpion." Its brightness and intensity embodies our pride and ambition, and its position as "the heart" represents the value of community and our place within it.



The [rebrand video](#) can be seen on our youtube.

Swerve Drive

The development of a swerve chassis to replace our tank drive system was another major part of the robotics offseason. After ordering required parts, a small team worked on researching swerve drive, assembling a swerve chassis and writing basic code to get it working, and allowed control through an Xbox controller, as opposed to the joystick used in the past. The team continued work into the season, beginning work on a second identical swerve chassis.



Calgames

With an expanding team, we decided to go to the offseason CalGames for the first time since 2019. While members couldn't commit as much time as they did during the season, a dedicated team of students and mentors worked on building a new, more efficient and reliable gripper to remain competitive. A smaller team of vision also worked to use the April Tags on the stage to make collecting cones a faster and more driver friendly process. Calgames was a huge success, our team had a great time, and got a 3rd place finish at the tournament.

More frequent updates can be found on the [Antares Instagram](#).