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District 21 - Central Coast

# Masons assist local school 'Roboteers' to get to Nationals



**RoboCup Junior** is a project-oriented educational initiative that sponsors local, regional and international robotic events for young students. The main objective is to take a fresh look at robots as an educational and entertaining medium, and it is hoped that RoboCup Junior Australia will contribute to the development of 21st century society.

It is advertised in all schools and, in June 2024, Brisbania Public School at Kincumber decided to enter five teams, each consisting of four members. In July, all team members, their supervisors and parents travelled to the University of Newcastle, Callaghan Campus, to compete in the Hunter/Central Coast regional competition.

\$5,011.66

Donated

Promoting Freemasonry on the Central Coast through community action, charitable relief and the advancement of education.



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Four of the teams did extremely well, placing 3rd, 4th 5th and 6th against other very creative primary school teams. The fifth team, consisting of Ethan, Flynn, Hamish, and Jagger did even better. They had to build two robotic soccer players, opting for a player and a goalie. Their design used a 360-degree seeker sensor that detects the raw green light emitted by an infrared soccer ball. It was a great success and, after winning the game 15-3, the team was awarded first place, qualifying them for a place at the State Championships.

The State Championships were held on 26 August at Holy Cross College, Ryde. The Brisbania team's effort, perseverance and ingenuity was again rewarded, this time with a magnificent second place medal, which then qualified them for entry to the National Championships to be held at the University of Queensland from Friday 18 to Sunday 20 October. A magnificent achievement - but one which came with a significant problem.

Ms Parrey, School Principal, obtained airline and accommodation quotes and realised that the school would need to raise nearly \$6,000 for the 4-day excursion. As this task was virtually impossible in such a short space of time, and in the current economic climate, she contacted Freemasons on the Central Coast (FotCC) requesting urgent financial assistance.

The FotCC Directors were briefed; an emergency meeting was arranged - and a decision made.

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# **MEDIA RELEASE**

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On Tuesday 24 September, FotCC representatives Jim and Graeme arrived at Brisbania Public School to present a cheque for over \$5,000 to assist with the costs.

All four boys, Ms Parrey and Mrs Cummings were in attendance and they were overjoyed. The Brisbania team were going to the National Championships!!

The donation was very gratefully received, and each of the boys sincerely thanked the Freemasons for making their Championship dream come true.

Freemasons on the Central Coast wish the team the very best of luck in the National Championships and are very proud to be able to support education in our local community





\$5,011.66

Donated

## POSTSCRIPT

Hi Freemasons on the Central Coast

Our team came 24th out of 29 in Brisbane at the National RoboCup competition, at the University of Queensland, over the weekend.

Students from the winning teams had been doing robotics since Year 4 and are now in upper high school. Our team got lots of praise for being amazing.

Nat, our teacher, learnt so much from the experience and is already thinking how she can change preparation, guidance and support for the team in 2025.

Without the donation from The Freemasons the opportunity could not have been given to the team. THANK YOU, AGAIN.

Annette Parrey, Principal - Brisbania Public School

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