



ELITE SPORTS - BATTLE ON THE HARDWOOD

5/4/14

Elite sports events put on what most in attendance agreed was one of the most exciting basketball tournaments to be played in the past 2 or 3 years in the company's history. The games were so competitive and intense that the tournament went about an hour over the estimated time based on all the close games and the games were packed full of late game heroics and drama!

Teams from the ages of 10U through 17U competed at 4 different facilities for title of "Battle on the Hardwood" CHAMPION!

In the 10U division, Connecticut Elite Clemons ran its consecutive tournament wins to 12 as they won their 3rd championship of the spring to once again prove their dominance of this age division! The defeated a very good and competitive West Hartford Magic team 44-32 in what proved to be one of the tougher games that the Elite team has played this year! James Jones led Elite with 17 points and Gavin Murphy added 9 to help the elite team win the Championship. Jaiden scored a team high 12 and Mike added 8 in the defeat for the Magic.

In the 11U division, team New Haven played a dominant game on both ends of the court in route to an easy 47-25 win over a very hard working Ct Nightmare team! Chase led New Haven with 17 points and Eli and Amir added 9 respectively. Sincere and Jeremiah led the Nightmare with 7 points each in defeat.

In the 12U division, knights basketball out of New York and Ct Nightmare battled to a great championship game and what turned out to be the best championship game at the Chelsea Piers facility in Stamford! The Nightmare took a 1-point lead at the half leading 19-18. The Knights went on a 7-2 run to regain the lead in the second half led by Cooper who scored 4 of the 7 points -BS the Knights never relinquished the lead advancing to a 41-37 victory in the championship game. Cooper led the Knights in scoring with 14 while Ryan added 9 in the victory. Elijah led the nightmare with 13 points and Cam added 9 in defeat.

In the 13U championship, the game went down to the last seconds as the Connecticut Elite Clemons team was upset by a very disciplined and relentless Knights Basketball team out of New York 58-56! Both teams headed into the championship game undefeated in pool and playoff play! The game went back and forth early but the elite team took control midway through the second half and seemed to be in control of the game before the Knights went on a furious run, capping an 11-3 run with a jumper by Darnel that gave the Knights the lead with 8 seconds left! Elite got a great look from 3 by Josh Reeves that bounced around the rim before fallout out and gave the Knights the great come from behind win!!! This was a fantastic game and an upset win by a very tough minded and battle proven team that hung around until they could knock down the game winner! The Knights were led by Darnel and Hugh with 14 and Auni added 9. Clemons led Elite with a game high 26 and Josh Reeves added 11 in the gallant defeat!

In the 14U division, the PAL Panthers dominated the entire weekend and the championship was no different as they went on to route the Connecticut Roughriders 65-46. The game was close early before PAL was able to pull away early in the second half stretching the lead to 16 and never looking back on way to the championship! Chris Torres and John Wisdom led the Panthers with 15 points each and Kyle Baissoweth added 11 in the victory. Danny Campbell scored 9 points and Ryan Betters Allen added 7 in the defeat.

In the 15U Division, the United Sons and Daughters put a bow on a fantastic weekend as they dominated not just one division, put TWO, as they played in both the 15U and 16U divisions, dominating BOTH! In this division they were able to put a suffocating defense to work as they held the Ct Elite Bentley team to under 35% shooting pulling away for a 74-51 victory! The Elite team just ran out of gas late and could not keep up with the very well coached and talented USAD team out of Connecticut. They were led by Alex Preston with 16 points and Carter Scott chipped in 14 hitting four 3-pointers!!! Elite was led by Sean Breslin with 16 and Matt Saint-Louis with 9 in the defeat.

In the 16U division, the United Sons and Daughters could not play in the final due to a conflict with the 15U championship game time and decided to not play in this division championship because of the fact that they already defeated the team they would face in the final, the Knights Basketball team from New York, by 9 points on Friday night. So they had the Connecticut Elite-Bethea team take their place in the championship game and they went on to defeat the Knights 54-46! The elite team was led by Marcel Parson with a game high 25 points and Jay Conway added 11 in the victory! The Knights were led by Sam Squadron with 13 and Jordan Harper with 11 in the defeat!

In the 17U division, the game came down to the wire in what many considered to be one of the best games of the entire spring! YABC out of Massachusetts and TMT from Connecticut battled in a championship game that resembled the Portland-Houston NBA finals series! TMT held the lead most of the game and held a 7 point lead with under two minutes to play when YABC started to foul and pressure their way to a 3 point deficit with 22 seconds left! Roy Cane then hit a high pressure 3-pointer to tie the game with 6 seconds left!!! On the ensuing inbound play, after a timeout, Tim Hinson pressured the ball, stole it and got fouled while attempting a layup. He consequently went on to hit both free throws giving YABC a two-point lead! But...the game wasn't over yet!!! TMT found a way to get the ball out of bounds under their own basket with .9 seconds remaining and only down 2! Their inbound pass was deflected and their furious comeback fell short as YABC went on to defeat TMT in a thrilling championship game that went way into the night, 49-47!!! Chris Conway led YABC with 15 and Desmond Johnson added 7 in the thrilling win. Roy Cane scored a game high 22 and Tim Hinson added 11 in defeat for a very good TMT team!