Wolfpack teams reach Sweet 16, Final 4 at Providence!

The Wayne PAL Wolfpack AAU program had a great showing during the 10-12 May weekend at the 2013 Hoop Group Providence Jam Fest, the premiere basketball event in the New England area for over a decade. Both the 15U Elite and 17U Elite teams reached the Sweet 16 round, but we're especially proud of the 16U Elite team which made it to the Final Four!

The 16U Elites battled their way out of a field of 40 teams to a terrific Final Four showing. They eliminated Elite Potential Basketball (Weston MA) and Mass Evolution (Stoneham MA) in the first two rounds.

"Kevin Marfo (6-6/Bergen Catholic/2015) scored 13 and Jalani Morris (6-0/John F. Kennedy/2015) added 10 as the Wayne PAL (NJ) 16u’s routed Mass Evolution 71-29 to advance to the Sweet 16," noted the Hoop Group Live Blog.

They then bested New England Storm (Salem NH/Lawrence MA) in the Sweet 16 round and the NJ ShoreShots (Lakewood NJ) in the Elite 8, finally falling to Connecticut Elite (New Haven CT) in the Final Four.

The 15U Elites made also made it to the Sweet 16 round after their 72-21 destruction of Guardian Basketball Club (MA). They fell to Albany City Rocks (NY), the eventual tournament champions.

Great job teams!
Wolfpack Basketball News

The PAL/ZG spring tournaments a great success!

Our two spring tournaments, held in collaboration with Zero Gravity Basketball, were exciting events that featured very impressive levels of play through all divisions.

Champions and runners-up automatically qualified for the Zero Gravity National Finals being held in June in Massachusetts, which draws over 250 teams from throughout North America. To learn more visit www.zerogravitybasketball.com.

Spring Crossover

The Spring Crossover, held 26-28 April, attracted over 80 teams from throughout the metropolitan area. Games were held in six facilities in five different communities. Four Wayne PAL Wolfpack teams won championships:

- Our 7th grade/13U went undefeated, beating Westchester Knights, Runnin Rebels, East Coast Panthers, and Beyond the Line Elite.

- Our 9th grade/15U Elite (below) went undefeated, with wins against DF Elite, Eastern Elite, Westchester Knights and Staten Island Musketeers.

- Our 10th grade/16U Elite came back from an early loss against Foothills Phantoms to win their next five games against Princeton Basketball, Beyond the Line Elite, Staten Island Musketeers, JC Ballers, and Hoop Dreamz in the championship.

- Our 11th grade/17U Elite went undefeated on the way to their title, beating Princeton Basketball, DF Elite, East Coast Panthers and NJ Panthers.

Winners of the other age divisions:

- Boys 4th Grade Champions – Hoop Dreamz Blue
- Boys 5th Grade Champions – Jersey Shore Phoenix
- Boys 6th Grade Champions – Beyond the Line Elite
- Boys 8th Grade Champions – Team Paterson

Other participating programs include: 3D Cougars, And One Basketball Club, BGC Newark Blue Devils, CBC, CMEK, DF Select, DTS Ballers, Dream to Achieve, Hudson River Hornets, Next Level Youth, NJ Finest, NJ Gym Ratz, NY Falcons, NW NJ Ballers, PWC Crossover, Ramapo Valley Comets, Rockland Royals, St. Michaels, Staten Island Stingrays.
The Garden State Classic, held 17-19 May, had strong participation from programs based in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Three Wayne PAL Wolfpack teams went undefeated and won their division championships:

Our **10th grade/16U Elite**; wins included versus NJ Crusaders and PV Ballerz

Our **11th grade/17U Elite**; wins included And One Basketball Club, TBA Mustangs, NJ Predators, and NJ Crusaders

Our **12th grade/18U**; wins included NJ Predators, CBC Conquerors and TBA Mustangs

Winners of the other age divisions:

**Boys 4th Grade Champions** – 3D Cougars

**Boys 6th Grade Champions** – Morris Magic

**Boys 7th Grade Champions** – CMEK

**Boys 8th Grade Champions** – NJ Crusaders

Other participating programs include: 1Team1Dream, AFK Renegades, Asphalt Green, BC Eagles, Full Focus, Hudson River Hornets, Newburgh Zion Lions, NJ Finest BBall, PBC Bengals, Quincy Double Elite, Riverside, South Manor Sharks, Staten Island Stingrays, Team 914, Team Jersey Elite.

Many thanks to the coaches, players, parents and other volunteers who gave their time to help make these tournaments a success!

And mark your calendars for the War on the Floor tournament, 13-15 October 2103!

The Wayne PAL Wolfpack is the exclusive New Jersey Tournament Affiliate of Zero Gravity Basketball, the tournament arm of Hoop Mountain, one of the top basketball organizations in the country.
17s and 15s nationally ranked by Zero Gravity

The Wayne PAL Wolfpack had two top-ten teams in the May ZG Report Team Rankings, which highlight the top team nationally competing in Zero Gravity tournaments. Both the 9th grade/15U Elite and the 11th grade/17U Elite were ranked at #6 in their age divisions. Congratulations!

As we noted in our previous newsletter, the Wayne PAL Wolfpack 16U/10th grade team was ranked fourth in the nation in the pre-season issue of the ZG Report.

8th grade/14Us are Kings

Coach Bohannon’s 8th grade/14U team fell just short at the Zero Gravity Spring Crossover, finishing second to Team Paterson. But they made up for it two weeks later by winning the CMEK Kings of the Court championship in Paramus NJ. Congratulations!

Join us at Applebee’s

Please join us at an Applebee’s “Flapjack Fundraiser” breakfast to benefit the Wayne PAL on Saturday, July 20th, anytime between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Tickets are just $10 a person for pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage and a beverage. Location is the Applebee’s at 465 Route 46 West, Totowa NJ. Contact Steve Schiffman, 973-696-2896 or sschiffman@waynepal.org.

Sponsor opportunities

The Wayne PAL Wolfpack AAU program has several sponsorship opportunities for area businesses. Have your name, logo and information seen by the many thousands in the PAL community. Because the PAL is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, sponsorship dollars are tax-deductible. For more information, please contact Dan Halewicz at 862-881-6888, or James Irwin at 862-485-8293.

Special thanks to David Swan and Janice Schroback for their photos.