

By Jawwad Qamar – May 27, 2008

50 Teams competed in the 2008 Big Apple Memorial Six-a-Side tournament at the Aviator Sports & Recreation complex in Brooklyn over the Memorial Day weekend. Competition was held in four divisions: Men, Women U-19 Girls, and U-16 Girls on Saturday and Sunday.

This was the first time that a field hockey tournament was held in the borough of Brooklyn, in New York and it was the largest field hockey event held on the East Coast of North America, outside of any USFHA event. The Big Apple Memorial Six-a-Side tournament is held every year to honor the memory of those field hockey lovers who are no longer with us. They all contributed to hockey in their own way and are missed by all.

The results are as follows:

U-16: Semi-finals:

CNY (1) v Spirit Eagles FHC (0)

The Edge FHC (0) v W.C. Eagles (4)

Finals: W.C. Eagles (0) v CNY (1)

U-19: Semi-Finals:

W.C. Eagles (2) v East Coast Lightning (3)

The Edge FHC (2) v Spirit Eagles FHC (2) - The Edge won on Sudden Death Penalty Strokes 3 - 2

Finals: The Edge FHC (2) v East Coast Lightning (5)

Women's Finals: Team Dita (2) v Key state FHC (1)

Men's Finals: Greenwich FHC (2) v The Flying Hoppers (2) - Greenwich won on Sudden Death Penalty Strokes 1 - 0

The Flying Hoppers are from Switzerland.

The trophy for the U-16 and U-19 girls divisions is donated by Rosemary and Michael Serrette in the name of their beloved daughter, Michele, who passed away tragically in 1983 at the very young age of nine, after getting hit by a ball while standing on the side lines watching her father play in a tournament in Trinidad. "She always loved to watch her dad play," said her mom, Rosemary. "We want to encourage the kids to play because they are the future of the sport and that's why we have dedicated this trophy."

The trophy for men and women competition is dedicated to Harold Cox (NYFHC), William Irving (Greenwich FHC), Michael Grannum (Tri-state Falcons, Longest serving Secretary of NEFHA), Frank Noodt (North Jersey FHC), Roland Mass (NYFHC), George Moody (West Indies International), John Greer (Greenwich

FHC), Steven Haley (Greenwich FHC), Kenrick Bernard (NYFHC) and George Griffith (NYIFHA). All these gentlemen were devoted to field hockey and contributed to the growth of the sport not just in the tri-state area but through out the USA.

Next on the schedule for BAHF is the much anticipated "winner-take-all" Big Apple Hockey Festival, a four-day international tournament over Labor Day weekend, August 29th thru September 1st, 2008. BAHF is currently accepting applications for this tournament where prize money is awarded to the winners.