



2013 Big Apple Memorial Six-A-Side Tournament

New York City: 61 Teams competed in the 2013 Big Apple Memorial Six-a-Side tournament at the Aviator Sports & Recreation Complex in New York City over the Memorial Day weekend (May 25 & 26). Competition was held in four divisions: Women, U-19, U-16 and U-14 Girls on Saturday and Sunday.

The weekend weather was not what's usually expected at this event and we have never experience such hash weather conditions as was experienced on the Saturday. With persistent rain, sleet, gusting winds and the temperature reaching as low as 40 if not lower all day.

On Sunday the weather decided to corporate and those in attendance were able to experience more of what we are accustomed too, with blue skies, gentle breeze and temperature that was very comfortable. With the warmer, drier and cooler weather, and an atmosphere created with music, good hockey, carnival, vendors, family and friends is what we all come to expect each year.

The U-14 Finals was an excited one and after a 0 – 0 score at the end of regulation, The Edge FHC claimed victory in the Sudden Death Penalty Stroke competition.

U-14 Division:

1st Place: The Edge FHC

2nd Place: Total Dutch

Both Hudson Valley Teams made it into the U-16 Divisions Semi-finals but was unable to reach the finals after being edged out by East Coast Tornadoes 2 – 1 and Jersey Intensity FH 2 – 1 on Sudden Strokes after a 2 – 2 tie in regulation.

East Coast was able to hold off Jersey Intensity in the final minutes of the finals to claim a 1 – 0 victory.

U-16 Division:

Semi-finals:

East coast Tornado (2) vs Hudson Valley - Green (1)

Jersey Intensity F H 2 (2)* vs Hudson valley – White 2 (0)

Finals: East Coast Tornado (1) vs Jersey Intensity FH (0)

Hudson Valley after edging out Rapid Fire Elite 1 – 0 and Sharks who had an easy time with Total Dutch with a 5 – 1 victory, made it into the U-19 Finals.

The Finals between these two clubs was one of the best games of the weekend and the winner had to be decided on Sudden Death Penalty Strokes after ending in a 2 – 2 tie.

U-19 Division:

Semi-finals:

Total Dutch (1) vs Sharks (5)

Hudson Valley (1) vs Rapid Fire Elite (0)

Finals: Sharks 2 (1)* vs Hudson Valley 2 (0)

With the 2012 Champions HV Extreme not in attendance due to the conflict with the USA Field Hockey Women's National Championships going on in Virginia Beach, a new Champion was crowned.

Xcalibur FHC after a disappointed defeat in last year finals, returned with vengeance and determination and dominated the competition in the women's division, ending with a convincing victory over Misfits and being crowned Champions.

Women's Division:

Semi-finals:

Xcalibur FHC (4) vs NYIFHA (1)

Misfits (1) vs Spirit Eagles FHC (0)

Finals: Xcalibur FHC (9) vs Misfits (0)

- ***Sudden Death Penalty Strokes**

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 trophy for the U-16 and U-19 girls divisions was donated by Rosemary and Michael Serrette in the name of their beloved daughter, Michele, who passed away 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 father play," said her mom, Rosemary. "We want to encourage the kids to play because they are the future of the sport and that is why we have dedicated this trophy in honor of Michele."

The trophy for men and women competition is dedicated to Harold Cox (New York FHC), William Irving (Greenwich FHC), Michael Grannum (Tri-State Falcons), Frank Noodt (North Jersey FHC), Roland Mass (New York FHC), George Moody (West Indies International), John Greer (Greenwich FHC), Steven Haley (Greenwich FHC), Kenrick Bernard (New York FHC) George Griffith (New York Islanders FHA), Aldwin Ferguson (New York FHC), Qamar Uddin (Zindabad FHC), Kenwin Nancoo (The Edge FHC), Aldwin Ferguson (New York Islanders) and Gurcharn Issar "Papa Sing" (North Jersey).

All these individuals were devoted to field hockey and contributed to the growth of the sport not just in the Tri-state area but throughout the USA.

Special thanks to all the Umpires, Technical Staff and volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this event a huge success and to Dita Hockey, Defender Mouthguards, KB Designs, Hampton Inn JFK, Flatbush Volunteer Ambulance and the Aviator Sports and Recreation Complex for their continued support.