

Severn Elite Basketball: Success on Many Levels

By Coach Dean Eversley

Severn Elite Basketball Organization has experienced a bright period of growth and success over the past few years, due in part to winning several AAU District Championships and consecutive AAU National Championships in the last two years. At the core of the organization's success is a unique partnership that exists between coaches, parents, and players in developing, not just basketball players, but strong young men, poised to become the next generation of leaders in tomorrow's society.

Severn Elite views basketball as the tool through which coaches and parents can collaboratively work together towards instilling valuable life principals such as teamwork, respect, hard-work, and determination in the young men in our program. This partnership is preparing these young athletes to be successful in meeting challenges the world has to offer. Severn Elite's success on the courts is equally matched by the success of it players in the classroom and local community.

While basketball remains the core focus of the program, academic achievements and service are also foundational building blocks to the total character development of each young man. Players are taught to take ownership and personal responsibility, giving their best on the court and in the classroom.

Several athletes are honor roll recipients and some are actively involved in community service. Below are a few of the players we wish to recognize in this month's newsletter.

Join us in congratulating these young men for their many accomplishments on and off the court.



Solomon Ball (Guard) Severn Elite 12U team is a terror on the basketball court. Whether he's attacking the paint putting pressure on the defense, or doing his best Steph Curry impersonation from beyond the arc; to his opponents he's a problem and they have come to respect his game.

But, on the courts is not the only place that Solomon shines. Solomon is a straight A (4.0 GPA) honor roll student at Smarts Mill Middle School in Leesburg, VA, where he's also the recipient of two "Good Character" awards this school year.

You see at the wise old age of 12, Solomon has already come to the realization that while basketball will help open many doors for him, it's his education that will allow him to enter those doors, and ultimately allow him to achieve true success. Congratulations to Solomon, and keep up the good work!

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Bobby Hill (Forward) Severn Elite 13U Team is known for his clutch lights-out-knock-down shooting skills on the court, but off the court, he's an elite sniper when it comes to his academics. As a multi-year Honor roll student at Patuxent Valley Middle School in Laurel, MD., Bobby maintains a 3.8 GPA and is recognized every quarter for his academic excellence. Earlier this year Bobby was inducted in the National Junior Honor Society, which is an organization that serves to honor students that demonstrate excellence in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, character and citizenship. He is extremely proud of this recognition and sees it as one of his greatest achievements thus far. Bobby also participates in the League of Gentlemen which is a free basketball and mentoring program that emboldens young men to advance with success,



encourage moral character, maintain academic goals and promote healthy life styles through teamwork and leadership.

Bobby has also stepped up to volunteer as the assistant coach in the Howard County Recreation league for his brother's 5-6-year-old team, setting a positive example through service, for his brother to follow. Congratulations to Bobby, and keep up the good work!



Jalen Jerry (Forward) Severn Elite 13U Team is not only a powerful presence in the paint, he's also an academic giant in the class room. Jalen takes pride in his academic achievements, just as he does in games, always ready to face the next challenge and dominate. He currently performs at an above grade level in several subjects earning him a 3.8 GPA and Gold Honor Roll status at Patuxent Valley Middle School in Laurel, MD.

Jalen was recently inducted into the Junior National Honor Society and celebrated this recognition with his teachers, administrators, coaches and family members, for his outstanding leadership, and academic and athletic achievements. He is also a member of the League of Gentle basketball program where he is well known for his academic and athletic accomplishments, and helping others.

Congratulations to Jalen, and keep up the good work!

8-Under Boys Basketball National Tournament Comes to Maryland!

The Maryland District Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) has partnered with Wicomico County Recreation, Parks and Tourism to host the AAU Boys Basketball National Tournament for eight year olds and under. The tournament, which will be held July 5-10, 2016, will be the first national championship to be held in the Maryland District.

A \$100 discount and free practice time will be given to early registrants. Local teams that play in the Maryland District Tournament will receive an additional discount to participate in the National Tournament. All games will be played in one location-under one roof and teams will receive discounted lodging. Need more info? Call 410-340-0635 TODAY!