SPORTS DEPARTMENT

JANUARY 2014

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Director of Sports

Travel

American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA)

Dallas, TX: Kevin Smith, Matt Prewitt

Toronto Blue Jays Travel Ball Clinic and Trade Show

Toronto, Canada: Matt Prewitt

Be The Best Baseball Clinic

Cherry Hill, NJ: Matt Prewitt

US Lacrosse

Philadelphia, PA: Kit Dunbar

Be The Best Softball Clinic

Cherry Hill, NJ: Matt Prewitt

National Association of Sports Commission (NASC) Executive Committee Conference

Cincinnati, OH: Kevin Smith

Sports Events Highlights

East West Shrine Game

The East/West Shrine game returned this year to Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg for its 89th annual college all-star game. This is the 3rd year that the Shrine game was hosted in St. Petersburg. 100 of the nation's top college football players were invited for a week of practice in front of scouts, with the game being played on Saturday, January 18th. The Shriner's have held this long standing college all-star game as an opportunity to not only bring in the best of the nation's college football players, but to shine a light on the charity's main focus: helping children in need. The athletes visited the Shriner's Hospital for Children. They had a fun time with the young patients playing games, signing autographs and more. The NFL Network has covered the Shrine game in the past and broadcast it nationwide.

Alden Cup Volleyball Men's Tournament

The Sports Commission has been working with McMaster University Men's team on hosting the 2014 Alden Cup Volleyball Tournament. With also the help from the Alden Suites on St. Petersburg Beach to be the title sponsor and lodging. The event brought 8 Men's Canadian Volleyball Teams to Pinellas County and they played in Largo. Teams arrived as early as December 28th to play in the Tournament which was held January 2-5th. The tournament is looking to grow an additional 8 teams from Canada next year.

Innisbrook Cup Volleyball Women's Tournament

The Sports Commission has been working with McMaster University Women's team on hosting the 2014 Innisbrook Cup Volleyball Tournament. With also the help from the Innisbrook Resort to be the title sponsor and lodging. The event brought 8 Women's Canadian Volleyball Teams to Pinellas County and they played in Clearwater. Teams arrived as early as December 28th to play in the Tournament which was held December 30 – January 3rd. The tournament is looking to grow an additional 8 teams from Canada next year.

Triple Crown Baseball Winter Nationals

The Sports Commission has been working with Triple Crown Baseball to Host the Winter Nationals. Various facilities within the Clearwater, St. Petersburg, Dunedin, and Oldsmar areas were utilized to host these events. This tournment was held from January 17-19th , and more than 50 teams participated in the tournament. Teams from Florida and 7 other states came to the St. Petersburg Clearwater area, ages ranging from 8 to 18 years old.

JUCO Baseball Kick-off Tournament

The Sports Commission has been working with the Winning Inning Academy on various levels with the growth of their sporting events within the St. Pete/Clearwater Area. Jack Russell, Joe DiMaggio Complex, and Walter Fuller Complex were utilized to host the JUCO Basball Kick-off Tournament. The event was held January 31- February 2nd with a total of 12 Junior College Baseball Teams participating, and 8 of them from outside of the Tampa Bay area.

JUCO Softball Kick-off Tournament

The City of Clearwater held the third annual Junior College Softball Kickoff Classic. The event was held January 31- February 2nd at the Eddie C Moore Complex. This event was a regional tournament and is the official first weekend of college play for softball junior colleges nationally. The tournament hosted 27 teams from Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Illinois for 3 days of play.

SIGNATURE EVENTS:

East West Shrine Game