

Cerebral Palsy of Westchester Hosts 12th Annual Wheelchair Basketball Game at Westchester County Center

CPW's **Barrier Breakers** faced off on the court with the Westchester School for Special Children's **Wildcats** and the **New York Rolling Fury**

April 17, 2019, Rye Brook, NY – Cerebral Palsy of Westchester's (CPW) **Barrier Breakers** hosted their 12th Annual Wheelchair Basketball Game last night at the Westchester County Center. The Barrier Breakers faced off on the court with the Westchester School for Special Children's **Wildcats** and the **New York Rolling Fury**. This was truly a community-embraced event: members of Iona College Men's Basketball team helped with warm-ups, and Westchester Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins and Westchester County Office for People with Disabilities Director Evan Latimer gave opening remarks. CPW's Vocal Groove music ensemble led the crowd in the National Anthem, in addition to performing at half time. A special Hoop-Shoot Free-Throw contest was held during half time, organized and sponsored by the Mid-Westchester Elks Lodge 535. The WSSC Wildcats won in a spirited game, 42-36.



Barrier Breakers #8 Adam Murray about to take a shot during the 12th Annual Wheelchair Basketball Game at Westchester County Center last night. Photo by Warren Rosenberg

“These kids are outstanding athletes, and their enthusiasm is contagious,” states Wendell Rones, coach of CPW's Barrier Breakers, “this event each year allows them to enjoy the spirit of competition.” The evening is sponsored by the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, which generously provides the venue, and the Westchester County Office for People with Disabilities who helped to coordinate the event.

About the Teams

CPW's Barrier Breakers - Under the direction of Coach Wendell Rones, the Barrier Breakers is open to children with disabilities between the ages of 10 and 21. Team members build confidence, develop social skills, express themselves through sports and enjoy the spirit of competition.

WSSC Wildcats - Under the direction of Coach Tony Bradley, the team is based out of the Westchester School for Special Children in Yonkers and have been the Barrier Breakers main rivals for the past 12 years.

New York Rolling Fury – Under the direction of Coach Christopher Bacon, The New York Rolling Fury is a free wheelchair basketball league for people ages five to 21. The league, part of the NWBA, began in Long Island and has expanded to New York City. For more information, visit www.nyrollingfury.org.

About Cerebral Palsy of Westchester: Celebrating its 70th year in 2019, Cerebral Palsy of Westchester's mission is to advance the independence, productivity, and full citizenship of people with all developmental disabilities including autism, neurological impairments, intellectual disabilities, epilepsy and cerebral palsy. Through a comprehensive network of educational programs, therapeutic services, employment training, recreations, advocacy and residential sites, the agency has helped thousands of children and adults in Westchester and Fairfield Counties live more productive and satisfying lives. The organization's motto is: *Realizing Tomorrow's Potential . . . Today!*

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