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Houston County Sharks Win State Basketball Championship



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA - The Houston County Sharks won the 2020 State Wheelchair Basketball Championship on March 6. The team played a tough, close game against the Henry County Hurricanes. Victory came in overtime when the Sharks scored a basket to win the American Association of Adapted Sports Program tournament with a final score of 23-22.

“I cannot brag enough about the Sharks and their ‘no quit’ attitude,” exclaimed Coach Christy Jones. “The only time we had the lead in this game was in the first minute. After that, Henry took control of the game. At halftime we talked, and they decided right then and there that they were not going to throw in the towel. The second half they definitely came out with a new attitude and went to work, chiseling away at the other team’s lead and playing their best defense of the year! I am so proud of this team!”

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The Sharks team members and coaches *are pictured* with their trophy. The team consists of the following players:

- Tajah Battle, Feagin Mill Middle;
- Ger'mir Gordon, Mossy Creek Middle;
- O'Lando Hicks, Transition Academy;
- Annabelle Putnam, Perry High;
- Elianna Stevens, Feagin Mill Middle;
- Jacob Stevens, Houston County High;
- Dylan Thompson, Bonaire Middle;
- Jaquavious West - Huntington Middle; and
- Langley Yoh, Houston County High.



The Varsity coaches are:

- Jones;
- Jeff McDaniel, community coach;
- Denise Potts, interpreter; and
- Melissa Ring-Hartman, Northside High teacher; and
- Jamie Schneller, interpreter.

In 2008, the Houston County Board of Education approved adding this adapted sports program to offer students with physical disabilities the opportunity to play wheelchair basketball, football and handball. Five years ago, the district added the junior varsity team. The sports are sanctioned by the Georgia High School Association.

Christy Jones is the program area coordinator. For more information, contact Jones at Christy.Jones@hcbe.net. Further information about adapted sports may also be found online at www.adaptedsports.org/.

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