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## NEWS RELEASE

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## Houston County JV Sharks Win State Championship Runner-Up



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – The Houston County Junior Varsity Sharks won Runner-up for the 2020 State Wheelchair Basketball JV Championship on Feb. 29. The team played a tough, close game, ending in 22-20, Muscogee Lions, in this American Association of Adapted Sports Program tournament. This is the Junior Sharks third state runner-up title.

Coach Tracy Fendley said, “Although our Sharks fell short of a win, their effort and determination were on full display. With just 33 seconds left on the game clock, the Sharks were down by 3 points. After a technical called on the Lions, we were awarded two free throws and the ball at half-court. Michael Alvarez went to the free throw line and made one of the two, bringing the game within 2 points. With the clock ticking down, Dalton Crosby hit a 2-point shot, tying the game at 20 to 20 with just 18 seconds to go! The Lions attempted a 2-point shot but missed, and with just 1.6 seconds left on the clock, they rebounded and made a shot, winning the game at 22-20. The game was not only intense, but also exciting.”

MORE

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Fendley added, "Our JV Sharks improved tremendously throughout the season, getting better every game. We are proud of this group of athletes and cannot wait for a re-match next year!"

The team members and coaches are pictured with their trophy (from left, front to back), as follows:

- Jaden Screen - Mossy Creek Middle
- Naomie Wilson - Mossy Creek Middle
- Dalton Crosby- Huntington Middle
- (middle) Caleb Jordan - Feagin Mill Middle
- Adonis Brown - Feagin Mill Middle
- Josh Cruz-Villasenior - Mossy Creek Middle
- Michael Alvarez- Houston County High
- (back row) Interpreter, Melissa Wells
- Coach Anna Henry
- Coach Tracy Fendley.



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](mailto:Christy.Jones@hcbe.net), Coach Fendley at [Tracy.Fendley@hcbe.net](mailto:Tracy.Fendley@hcbe.net) or Coach Henry at [anna.henry@hcbe.net](mailto:anna.henry@hcbe.net). Further information about adapted sports may also be found online at [www.adaptedsports.org/](http://www.adaptedsports.org/).

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