



NEW YORK ELKS ASSOCIATION STATE HOOP SHOOT



The 2014-2015 New York State Hoop Shoot campaign concluded on Saturday, March 7, 2015 in Syracuse, New York. The 2015 New York State Hoop Shoot was hosted by Syracuse Lodge #31. The state finalist arrived in Syracuse Friday evening, March 6, 2015 and met at the Holiday Inn Express for a pre-contest welcome and pizza dinner. They were greeted by State Hoop Shoot Chair Brian Greene, Ontario District Deputy Sheila O'Connor and State President Jerry Shook. Following encouraging remarks, each of the State Finalist was introduced and picked their individual shooting order. At this time, they also had their picture taken with the Syracuse Orange Mascot. Most of the Hoop shooter enjoyed a swim in the pool following the gathering. On Saturday morning, the finalist and their families gathered for a breakfast at the hotel. Several of the contestants were available for a brief interview. Riley Tupper, representing South Hampton Lodge #1574 noted she was competing in the girls 12-13 age group and this was her fifth Hoop shoot. She indicated she has competed in three State Contests as was a two time State Champion. Her highest score has been a 23/25. Riley stated she went to the finals when she was nine and she was most proud of this accomplishment. Her goal was to become state champion. She noted the State Champions receive a warm-ups and she was motivated by the opportunity to get a new warm-up. Gavin King, representing Glens Falls Lodge #81 was competing in the boys 8-9 age group. He reported this was his first Hoop Shoot. He was proud of having won each of the contest he had competed in but was most proud of winning the Local competition because his dad and grandfather were Lodge members. He reported his goal was to become a champion and he was motivated by the chance to become the second champion from Glens Falls. Gavin shoots during the baseball season and to date his best score has been a 19/25. Kori Nichols was representing Watertown Lodge #496. She indicated she was in the 8-9 age group. She stated her proudest moment was winning the District competition in Potsdam because she shot 22/25. She stated it was god being at the state contest and having a chance to advance. Her mom, Sheri, was proud that Kori had competed this year. She indicated Kori didn't want to compete last year as she was nervous. She indicated Kori's brother had competed two years ago. This was Kori first Hoop shoot and her mom was also most proud of Kori shooting 22/25 at the District contest. Her mom stated "Glad she took the chance this year. It was brave of her and a huge step for her". Following the morning breakfast, the finalist and their families met in the hotel lobby where final instructions were provided and the contestants were then bused to the school. Following a brief warm-up period, there was an opening ceremony. Welcoming comments were provided by State Hoop Shoot Chair Brian Greene, Ontario District Deputy Sheila O'Connor and Past State President Dan Capella. Following the welcoming statements, there was a presentation of colors and the singing of our National Anthem. Following a greeting and ceremonial first free throw by Elroy the Elk, the contest was underway. As a full house of proud parents and family members anxiously watched a competitive competition that featured three shoot-outs, six new State Champions were decided. The 2015 New York State Champions are: Dakota Daniello Girls 8-9 (Yorktown #2324), Dray Akin Boys 8-9 (Lockport #41), Juliana Kost Girls 10-11 (Poughkeepsie #275), Bradley Buban Boys 10-11 (Brewster #2101), Claire Odette Girls 12-13 (Carthage #1762 and Riley Orr, Boys 12-13 Glens Falls #81. Our six state champions competed at the Northeast Regional in Wilkes-Barre on Saturday, March 28, 2015 where Juliana Kost earned a trip to the National Hoop Shoot with a thrilling two round overtime shoot out. Our other State Champions finished as follows: Dray Akin - 2nd place, Dakota Daniello - 2nd place, Bradley Buban - 3rd place, Claire Odett - 3rd place, and Riley Orr - 2nd place. Congratulations are extended to our state finalist and champions on an outstanding Hoop Shoot campaign. Best of Luck to Juliana Kost as her journey to becoming a national champion continues. Our state champions are pictured below with State Hoop Chair Brian Greene.

STATE HOOP SHOOT RESULTS

Girls 8-9

- 1st Place: Dakota Daniello (Yorktown #2324) 22/25
- 2nd Place: Meadow Fumerelle (Ken-Ton #1942) 21/25
- 3rd Place: Kori Nichols (Watertown #496) 16/25
- 4th Place: Mallory Arnold (Keeseville #2072) 12/25

Boys 8-9

- 1st Place: Dray Akin (Lockport #41) 23/25 (5/5;5/5)
- 2nd Place: Camerohn Ludwig (Herkimer #1439) 23/25 (5/5;4/5)
- 3rd Place: Gavin King (Glens Falls #81) 19/25
- 4th Place: Tyler Azariah (Huntington #1565) 13/25

Girls 10-11

- 1st Place: Juliana Kost (Poughkeepsie #275) 23/25
- 2nd Place: Sophia Phillips (Greenwich #2223) 21/25
- 3rd Place: Abigail Spiess (Bath #1547) 20/25
- 4th Place: Gianna Zerrillo (Syracuse #31) 14/25

Boys 10-11

- 1st Place: Bradley Buban (Brewster #2101) 21/25
- 2nd Place: Dylan Morse (Watkins Glen #1546) 18/25
- 3rd Place: Cameron Orr (Glens Falls #81) 17/25
- 4th Place: Christopher Kane (Canajoharie/Ft. Plains #2621) 14/25

Girls 12-13

- 1st Place: Claire Odette (Carthage #1762) 19/25
- 2nd Place: Brinley Inglee (Glens Falls #81) 18/25
- 3rd Place: Caiden Crego (Newark #1249) 15/25
- 4th Place: Riley Tupper (Southampton #1574) 14/25

Boys 12-13

- 1st Place: Riley Orr (Glens Falls #81) 23/25
- 2nd Place: Tristan Jarvi (Syracuse #31) 21/25 (5/5)
- 3rd Place: Jaden Ottati (Southampton #1574) 21/25 (4/5)
- 4th Place: Gavin Buck (Newark #1249) 15/25

