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Virgin Islands Youth Basketball Teams Return From Puerto Rico With Two Gold Championships

Young Virgin Islands players returned from Puerto Rico with two gold championships after the under-11 and under-12 teams each finished 4-0 against regional competition, marking a major off-island achievement for the MyIsland Ballers youth program overall.

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The MIB Rebels' 11U and 12U teams each completed undefeated 4-0 runs and won gold in their respective divisions at the Caribbean Shootout International basketball tournament in Puerto Rico.

The two championships marked another step in the development of the MyIsland Ballers youth program, which brings together student-athletes from different islands, schools and communities across the Virgin Islands.

Both squads displayed balanced team play, defensive intensity and consistency from the opening games through their championship appearances, according to a release announcing the results. Their performances reflected the preparation, chemistry and confidence developed through the MyIsland Ballers system.

Players From Across the Territory Compete Together

The MIB Rebels program is composed of young athletes from throughout the Virgin Islands.

The organization said that assembling players from different communities has helped create a team environment centered on camaraderie, unity and pride in representing the territory.

The tournament also provided the athletes with an opportunity to compete against regional opponents outside the Virgin Islands.

Kyle Gumbs Jr., a player on the team, expressed gratitude for the opportunities that have come through his participation with the MIB Rebels. “You never know what God has in store for you. I’m thankful for the opportunities and exposure playing with the MIB Rebels has given me. I’m also grateful for my teammates and everything we accomplished together.”

Kelvin Jones, known as “KJ,” said the tournaments have helped the players develop stronger relationships with one another. “For the tournaments this team has been together, we really have been getting to know each other better on and off the court”.

Beyond tournament results, MyIsland Ballers uses structured training, travel competition and team-building activities to help players develop their basketball skills while learning leadership, discipline and accountability.

MyIsland Ballers plans to keep both championship groups together as the players enter the next phase of competition.

The current 11U team will advance to the 12U division, while the current 12U squad will compete at the 13U level during the coming season.

The organization said maintaining the groups will support continued development and strengthen the connections the players have established while competing together.

The program’s broader objective is to provide exposure and development opportunities for Virgin Islands student-athletes and prepare them to compete confidently at higher levels.

The release closed with the program’s phrase, “Winning Starts at the Center.”