

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Antilles, CAHS Win First Ever Back To School Volleyball Tourney

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ST. THOMAS -- Antilles School and the Charlotte Amalie High School won the first ever Back to School Volleyball Tournament over the weekend. The games, organized by Antilles School and meant to kick off the varsity volleyball season with a bang, ran from Friday through Saturday, and included the participation of 10 girls and boys teams from across the St. Thomas district, at the Mark C. Marin Center.

After two days of play, the results are:

Girls Tournament:

-1st Place: Antilles School

-2nd Place: Charlotte Amalie High School
-3rd Place: Ivanna Eudora Kean High School
Tournament MVP: Antilles 12th grader Tsamara Roberts
Also participating: St. John's Giff Hill School and V.I. Montessori School

During the championship game, Antilles's girls defeated the Lady Hawks (CAHS) in three straight sets, 25-15, 25-9 and 25-18. Head coach Keith NicholSEN attributed the win to consistency on the court, and an overall improvement in his team since their first match last week against Montessori.

"They've been more serious in their passing and serving, and overall just getting the ball on the court," NicholSEN said. "During the first game of this tournament, we had some mis-serves, which I was worried about, but the girls still played with a lot of intensity and were able to settle down later on. By this last game, they were much more consistent, they worked together on passing the ball, they were minimizing mistakes, and that was the key to winning in three straight sets."

Boys Tournament:

-1st Place: Charlotte Amalie High School
-2nd Place: Antilles School
-3rd Place: Ivanna Eudora Kean High School
Tournament MVP: CAHS 12th grader Jevon Henry (captain)

During the championship game, CAHS's boys, coached by Richard Biscombe, also defeated Antilles' Hurricanes in three straight sets, 22-25, 20-25 and 19-25. Speaking afterward, team captain and Boys' Tournament MVP Jevon Henry said that while this weekend's tournament was the first time the team has played together for the season, the players were still able to work together well on the court, using their power to move the ball smoothly around the court.

"How we placed the ball was important," Henry said. "Keeping it on the court and working strategically against the other team was the key for us. When we first started together, there were some things we needed to work on, like fundamentals of the game, but as we've moved forward, we've grown mentally and physically and were able to execute this weekend."

*Feature Image: Antilles School's Elizabeth Leerdam and Abby Lysiak defend the net.
(Credit: Antilles School)*