

FAST BREAK



Official Newsletter of the Masters Basketball Association



In this Newsletter

[Director's Message](#)

[Welcome Banquet Recap](#)

[Sportsman of the Year](#)

[Tournament Survey](#)

[Share Our News](#)



**May Madness
May 8-13, 2017**

**Coral Springs
Gymnasium**

Quick Links

[Website](#)

[Event Schedule](#)

[Corporate Partners](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[YouTube](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Venue & Maps](#)

[Contact Us](#)

TIME TO SAY THANK YOU TO OUR MBA BOARD, STAFF & TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS FOR A GREAT 2016 EVENT



The 2016 Masters National Basketball Tournament has come to a close and I want to start off our May Newsletter with a "Thank You" to all of you who participated in this year's tournament.

I also want to say thank you to our Board of Directors, and all of our Corporate Partners, without whose support, the tournament would not be possible.

Additionally, I want to recognize MBA COO Dave Hulett, Assistant Tournament Director Jerry Hauck, Assistant Tournament Director Abbie Tepe-Murphy and her event staff, along with Supervisor of Officials Pete Battaglia for all the work they put in throughout the year to make the 2016 tournament a success.

Extra thanks go to Humberto Florez, Jack Heilig, Jen Hulett and Courtney Goodstein for all the great photos and videos that were taken during this year's tournament. If you haven't already done so, you should check out the MBA's Facebook page which has numerous photos from this year's tournament. The video Humberto played during the banquet was also very well done.

I thought our banquet this year was outstanding. We moved it back to the La Quinta Inn & Suites and had a wonderful speaker in Greg McWherter, Captain (ret.) USN, a former commander of the Blue Angels.

The comments we have received to date have been extremely positive which makes all the work that the entire Masters Basketball staff puts into running the tournament worthwhile. I hope everyone enjoyed their time in Coral Springs and South Florida in general as we not only had a great tournament, but some fantastic weather to along with it.

There are a couple of things we are still working to close out this year's tournament:

1. We are still working to provide an online host site for all the team pictures that will enable you see and even to print out your team's photo. I'll notify the Team Organizers once when we get it set up, most likely on the MBA website.
2. We are going to be sending out a survey to the participants to get additional feedback and suggestions to help us make the Masters Basketball Association - National Masters Championships an even better tournament.

We have already started working on the 2017 tournament. Next year's tournament will take place May 8-13. Please make sure to mark those



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days down on your schedule. Team Entry will be available on the MBA website in late fall 2016.

In conclusion, I want to say thank you again to all of you who took time out of your year to come play in our tournament. For those of you who couldn't make it this year, I look forward to seeing you in 2017.

Regards,
Steve Nelson
Tournament Director

**WELCOME BANQUET PRESENTED BY
CLEVELAND CLINIC FLORIDA**

This year's **Welcome Banquet, presented by Cleveland Clinic**, drew a FULL HOUSE. We couldn't fit any more tables in the ballroom. From the feedback we've received, this year's event was one of our best ever and raised the bar for future years. We hope that you had an enjoyable experience and were inspired by our keynote speaker Greg McWherter, Captain (ret.) USN. We would like to especially thank our emcee Dave LaMont from ESPN and Humberto Florez who handled our AV. Humberto put together the videos that played on the big screen, as well as the music. We will have a video recap of the event posted on our [YouTube](#) page in the near future.



**Keynote Speaker CAPT. Greg McWherter
Past Commander of the Blue Angels**

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Mayor Skip Campbell, Greg McWherter, Captain (ret.) USN and Brian Leo M.D., Cleveland Clinic Florida

SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR: DAVID KAFOURY

Congratulations to **David Kafoury**

, the recipient of the 2016 Sportsman of the Year award. David, from Portland, Oregon, has played in the South Florida tournament for three decades and is a longtime competitor on the legendary East Bank Saloon teams. David's bio will be posted on the MBA website in the near future.



MBA COO Dave Hulett is joined by past award winners to present the 2016 award to David Kafoury.

TOURNAMENT SURVEY

For those who participated in this year's tournament, please keep an eye out this weekend for an email with a link to our 2016 Tournament Survey. Your comments are valuable to us and will be shared with the Board of Directors and Senior Staff as we consider enhancements for 2017.

To be added to our email distribution,

please send your name and email to
mbapr@mastershoops.org.