



AHEPA District #5 Lodge

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New Rochelle, NY Wins AHEPA District 5 Hoops Tournament

In games played on Saturday, May 17th, a group of young men from New Rochelle, NY beat out three other teams to win the AHEPA District 5 Basketball Tournament. The tournament was held at Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Wyckoff, NJ. In the final game, a see-saw contest, New Rochelle beat out another young team from Asbury Park, NJ, 51 – 46. Led by Peter Rekaback, who was the only player in double digits, with 14 points, New Rochelle relied on a balanced attack to win the final. Asbury Park was led by Yianni Kavarakas with 16 points and was named the tournament Most Valuable Player.

The tournament ended in controversy as 3 of the 4 teams ended the preliminary play with a 3-way tie. Each team, New Rochelle, Asbury Park and Whitestone, NY ended with a 2 – 1 record. However, Asbury Park, playing the final preliminary game, knew that they needed to win by at least 22 points to qualify for the final. They ran up the score on Wyckoff, NJ, scoring at will to win by 67 – 38 and winning the tie breaker. New Rochelle qualified for the final by beating, for the first time, their District 6 rival, Whitestone, NY, 80- 75. The two teams had met for the championship in Atlantic City at last year's Supreme Convention. It was Whitestone winning that contest. However, in this tournament, an undermanned Whitestone team ran out of gas, having played their 3rd game of the day with only 6 players. New Rochelle also hit some important shots down the stretch to preserve the victory, Whitestone finished the tournament in 3^d place. Rounding out the field in the tournament was Wyckoff, NJ, the tournament host.

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