

2015 Illinois Indoor Guts Frisbee Open Recap



"Fear the Deer Beer" - the Milwaukee-based Beer City Guts Frisbee team won the eighth annual Illinois Indoor Guts Frisbee Open by defeating the Half-Breeds two games to one in the finals played in Plainfield, IL over the April 25-26, 2015 weekend.

Beer City beat the Half-Breeds 21-19, 17-21, 21-17 in a hard fought final match that featured many momentum swings, incredible defense including numerous bags of blistering fast shots and some blazing aces. The boxing world can only hope the Manny Pacquiao/Floyd Mayweather match will be as good as this one was.

Beer City, third place finishers in Illinois in both 2013 and 2014, captured its first tournament title since 1987. Beer City was led by the tournament MVP Ryan Scott, along with Mike Banghart who both played whips on "D", and provided plenty of offense on a day when catching was the name of the game. Tim Meyer played the middle on defense most of the tournament for Beer City. Tim had countless bags and fired the tournament clinching shot.

Other Beer City members who all contributed with timely catches, key saves on ups and scoring shots included captain Tyler Colburn (accurate forehand shot), A.J. Paoletti (nice backhand shot) and Dave Bolyard (variety of shots) and Tyler's father Mike Colburn.

The Half-Breeds (2014 champs) looked unbeatable as they breezed through the winners bracket with Alex Tews, who was his usual dominating self on both offense and defense. Alex played one whip on defense and his teammate, John Luedke, played the other whip. MVP runner-up Tanner Beckman bagged a ton of throws and scored plenty of times with his very effective forehand throw. Other Half-Breeds included captain Tanner's father Brian Beckman, John's brother Jericho Luedke and David Straw.

The 5 Squad finished in third with captain Josh Tews, Luke Colden, Nik Jackson, Wes Shinevar, and Rudy Tikkanen. 5 Squad had a great tournament. They were one game away from a spot in the finals after winning game one of the winners bracket finals, however, they lost the next two to the Half-Breeds and then fell to Beer City 21-16 in the losers bracket finals.

The BILFS took fourth with captain Brian Nelson, Paul Benedict, Carson Buchanan, Tommy Smeal (R), John Sotir, and Dave Young.

2015 Champs – Beer City



*Upper right to left - Mike Colburn, Ryan Scott, Mike Banghart
Lower right to left - Tyler Colburn, A.J. Paoletti, Dave Bolyard, Tim Meyer*

The seven-team, five-man tournament began on Saturday with round-robin play. Each team played a single game match up to 15 points against each other team. Teams were ranked based on win percentage and scoring margin to determine seeding for bracket play.

The Half-Breeds earned the top seed after going 6-0, Highway to Hell 4-2 (#2), 5 Squad went 4-2 (#3), Beer City also 4-2 (#4), BILFS 2-4 (#5), Air Aces were 1-5 (#6), and No Debate (#7) finished 0-6.

When Saturday's play was complete, the Half-Breeds, Highway to Hell, 5 Squad, and Beer City remained in the winners bracket. Many players and friends met at Dave and Jan Meyer's house for food and drink on Saturday night at the players party.

Other team rosters were as follows: Tied for fifth, Highway to Hell – captain Dan Leach, Jeff Banghart, Mark Banghart, Steve Taylor, Dan Thornton, and Will Walden. Tied for fifth, No Debate - captain Dave O'Malley, Daniel Branson (R), Matt Matuzak, Larry Scott, John Walikainen, and Dave Meyer.

In seventh were the Air Aces – captain Bob “LeRoy” Sharp, Ron Arndt, Marty Devitt, Steve Desjardins, Joe Essman, Tom Matuzak, and Bill “Igloo” Watt.

Thank you to everyone who attended. Special thanks: Jan Meyer for hosting the players' party; Veronica Meyer for t-shirt design; John and Mary Ann Holmes for running registration; and Steve Taylor, Dan Leach and Dan Thornton for providing tournament supplies.

2015 Illinois Indoor Final Bracket

