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Rochester Rookies Win Multiple Medals at Competition

Organization supports people with disabilities participate in sports

Rochester, NY (June 30, 2015) Six athletes from the Rochester Rookies, a wheelchair and ambulatory sports program for children and young adults, recently earned 42 medals at the 38th Annual Richard Cadmus Disabled Sports Meet in Edison, New Jersey. The athletes won 28 Gold, nine Silver, and five Bronze medals in Track and Field, Swimming, Weightlifting, and Archery. Also, for the first time in Rookies' history, all eligible, competing athletes qualified for Nationals.

“As the Rochester Rookies season draws to an end, we congratulate our athletes for demonstrating their athletic achievements and growth in independence,” said Jo Ann Armstrong, Director of the Rochester Rookies. “Four of our athletes will move forward to compete in Nationals in July and we wish them all the very best!”

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The six athletes who represented the Rochester Rookies ranged in age from 4 to 19. The four-year old was the youngest Rookies athlete to-date to attend a competition like this.

Accompanying the athletes were family members and coaching staff, including two students coaches from the University of Brockport, who received academic credit, along with access to scholarship funds, for their participation.

Based on the big win at the competition, the athletes and families are now raising funds to attend the National Junior Disability Championships scheduled for July 18-24, 2015, in Union City, New Jersey.

The Rochester Rookies is a junior wheelchair and ambulatory sports program that offers children and young adults with physical disabilities the opportunity to participate in recreational and competitive wheelchair and ambulatory sports. Founded in 1976 by Paralympics' Gold Medalist Jo Ann Keyser Armstrong, the Rochester Rookies is dedicated to enhancing the quality of children's lives by teaching athletic skills, fostering independence, building character, and helping families realize their child's full potential through programs, advocacy, and services. It is a program under the umbrella of SportsNet, a partnership among Rochester Rehabilitation, CP Rochester, and the Al Sigl Community of Agencies.

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