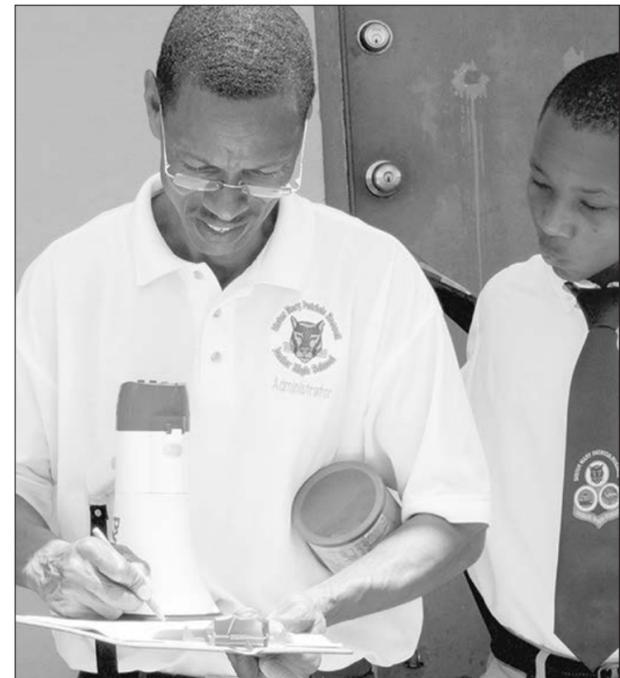


Local News



PLAYERS GETTING READY – Pictured are some of the 48 players that registered for the Sister Mary Patricia Russell Junior High first-ever Marble King Tournament. At right is vice principal Albert Jones, who organized the five-day event.

(PHOTOS: SHARELL LOCKHART)

SMPRJHS FIRST EVER FIVE-DAY MARBLE KING TOURNAMENT ATTRACTS 48 PLAYERS

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 FN Reporter
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Sister Mary Patricia Russell Junior High School (SMPRJ) is bringing back the “good, ole days” of fun at recess by hosting the first-ever Marble King Tournament, which began on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 under the supervision of Albert Jones, SMPRJ Vice Principal.

Forty-eight boys signed up to compete in the tournament that will take place over the course of five days featuring the best marbles of all sizes and colors such as Steelies, Cat eyes, Aggies, Comets, Bumblebees, Jaspers, Clearies and Onions-kins.

According to Jones, “The Marble King Tournament derived out of a need to have our students interact with one another in a fun and friendly manner during break and lunch time at the school.

“Sadly, SMPRJ campus does not have a basketball court, which would help to keep our boys preoccupied with fun athletic activity and many of the boys during break and lunch time would try to gain access to our “big sister” school, St. Georges’ High School to play on the court with the seniors.

“Oftentimes this would cause a bit of a tiff as the older students did not want to interact with the younger ones so we desperately had to come up with an alternative that would be fun.

“Last October following the passage of Hurricane Matthew, which caused a long delay in students returning to school, many of the boys began playing marbles at home to pass the time.

“Upon returning to school I noticed that during the morning break and afternoon lunchtime periods the boys would seek out any area available on our campus to shoot marbles.

“Of course this brought about much excitement on our campus especially for teachers and administrators like myself who were avid marble shooters in our school days and so we decided to fully support the students engaging in the game.”

The SMPRJ vice principal with the assistance of Senior Master Jason Thompson and Head of Campus Security (HCS) Ezra King began challenging the young boys in marble games too, which helped to further pique the students’ interest.

As a matter of fact, the students soon learned the rules of marble shooting and began calling out Vice principal Jones, Senior master Thompson and HCS King to see who had the best ringer skills between them as well as which student could take all their marbles.

“Of course as “old school” marble shooters, we were not going to back down from the

young shooters so we engaged in games with them and soon we began to see this as more than just breathing new life into a beloved pastime of people from my generation but a tool to help connect us all.

“Considering the fact that children barely venture outside to play games like marbles, spinning tops, flying kites etcetera, as they seem to always be glued in the front of a television, computer screen, cellphone and/or video game; we thought this would be the ideal way to get them to really interact and socialize with one another.

“Not only would they be having fun but it would help to develop their communication skills and teach each one valuable life lessons such as critical thinking/ strategy, team building, conflict resolution and maintaining proper hygiene habits.

“Now I know that the latter may sound silly but let us face the facts these boys are playing in the dirt so they would need to remember to always wash their hands after marble shooting.

“With so many boys signing up to participate in the first-ever Marble King Tournament I decided to clear an area in the school putting sand down to create shooting pits, divide the shooters into eight groups with six members and let them play for all the marbles.

“Over the course of the next two days we will have double elimination rounds until we get down to our final four who will compete for the title, bragging rights, all the marbles along with other gifts, surprises, trophies and lunch donated by the staff and Principal Dominique McCartney-Russell,” said Jones with a grin.

Based on the success of this Marble King Tournament, Jones hopes to conduct a tournament every academic term with the hopes of getting other schools to consider establishing a Marble Ringers Club and having their students engage with SMPRJ students in friendly competitions.

Hopefully, the love of marble shooting catches on and those students at the primary school level as well as the junior high school level would exercise serious focus on the game and other “old school” pastime favorites that would also give girls an opportunity to get involved like jump rope (Double Dutch/Chinese), hop scotch, jacks and ball, yo-yoing as well as checkers and chess.

“Definitely, we want to get our students socializing with one another and take a much-needed break from being cooped up inside texting, playing video games or involving themselves in mischief on social media.

“Again we are happy to do this and while they are having fun, social and critical thinking skills as well as develop new person-

to-person friendships.

“All teachers administrators and staff members are on board with this, it is keeping the students well occupied and we might even have a Marble Lady (Queen) emerge to challenge the Marble King once another tournament is organized.

“The rules of the tournament is basic and quite simple as each competitor is starting off the game with six marbles and a law, a no bumming rule is strictly enforced, which means once you do not have a marble to put in the ring in a round you are out.

“Out of the groups, the top two who win the most marbles would move on to the various stages of the tournament; quarter final, semifinal and championship final round.

“The Marble King will be crowned on Monday May 1, 2017 with the runners up receiving trophies and other gifts.

“These “old school” games are considered the best tactile sports to be involved in and while we may not have known it then, it helped us to develop a myriad of skills that serve adults well

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SURVEILLANCE MANAGER

JOB SUMMARY

The Surveillance Manager is responsible for the overall operations of the Surveillance Department and for seeing that the rules and regulations as set forth by Gaming Board regulations regarding the operation of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Surveillance Systems are adhered to as well as the guidelines set forth by the company. Other duties include coordinating and overseeing investigations concerning allegations of team member misconduct, theft or violation of any policy or procedure outlined in the policy and procedure

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Responsible for the overall operations of the Surveillance Department
- Ensuring all team members are provided with the proper tools and training to perform their job duties.
- Responsible for seeing that the rules and regulations as set forth by Gaming Board regarding the operation of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Surveillance Systems are adhered to.
- Responsible for seeing that the guidelines set forth by the company are adhered to.
- Responsible for coordinating and overseeing investigations concerning allegations of misconduct, theft or violation of any policy or procedure outlined in the policy and procedure manuals provided by the company.
- Responsible for the day to day planning, organization, direction and conduct of the surveillance room function.
- Coordinate on matters relative to the promotion and / or discipline of surveillance staff
- Responsible for scheduling, payroll and recording employee attendance record
- Report to Heads of Department of infractions and violations observed by the surveillance
- Other duties as assigned by Senior Management

QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum of an Associate’s Degree or Equivalency
- Minimum of 7 years of casino surveillance experience
- Minimum of 4 years of managerial experience
- MS Office Proficiency / Computer skills
- Fluent English written and spoken
- Valid Gaming Board License
- Skilled in all casino table games
- High morals and with a confidential personality

Interested applicants should submit a copy of their resume to: jobfair@rwbimini.com. All submissions must include the position of interest in the subject line of the e-mail and are to be received no later than May 5, 2017.