

Dodgeball at MHS

-Dan Rosenberg

Every year, Marblehead High School holds a multitude of fundraisers for the school. The most popular fundraiser however, and arguably the most successful of the year, is the annual High School Dodgeball Tournament, run by the student government. Every year, coinciding with the beginning of the famed March Madness of NCAA basketball, 5 man teams are assembled by the students and faculty of the high school, and for 25 dollars any group of five is entered into the tournament. This year, 17 teams entered into the tournament, for the ultimate bragging right, being the best dodgeball team at the school. The teams are a mix of boys and girls, from freshman to senior, and even faculty members.

One of the fun bonuses of the dodgeball tournament is the names of each team. Not only is the tournament a display of athletic prowess, but the team names show just how clever the Marblehead dodgers can be. From “The Average Joels”, a name based on the movie *Dodgeball*, to “Money in the Bank”, the competition to make the best name is almost as fun to watch as the actual games of dodgeball.

The tournament began on Wednesday, March 14th. Before the first game, the teams warmed up, and there was an air of determination in the gym unusual for school fundraisers. By the time the referees started up the first game, almost 150 spectators had gathered on the bleachers to watch the games unfold. Two games went on at once, and teams were slowly eliminated until the pool was narrowed to four. Just like in March Madness, there were many upsets; with underdog teams surprising the bigger, more experienced favorites. At the end of Wednesday, four teams remained.

On Thursday, with the field down to the final four, the intensity grew even more. After two hard fought games, the only teams left were the Slice Men, composed of all sophomores, and the Shyo Men, a senior team. The championship was best two out of three, and each team won a game. In the last game, however, The Shyo Men, lead by varsity baseball players Eric Lundgren, Kyle Forsgard, and Jeremy Meyer, pulled out the win. The fundraiser was a great success for another year, and is set to be another smash hit in 2013.