Football Game Recap - Sunday August 23, 2015 Hunterdon Huskies vs. St. Barts

<u>Flag:</u> The youngest Huskies, our 5 and 6 year olds, began their 2015 season executing discipline and endurance under a hot sun in East Brunswick, NJ. The young dogs set the tone on defense holding the Buffalos to only one touchdown at the annual Friendship Game hosted by St. Barts.

The defense was led by defensive tackle Jack "The Hammer" Hornby who consistently disturbed the Buffalo backfield with multiple behind the line flag pulls. The Hammer was assisted on the line by stingy defensive ends Jaxon Garner and Luke Charbonneau who kept Buffalo yardage out of the Husky secondary. A strong day from linebackers Owen Akers, Chris Schneider, Nick Alparone, and rookies Rocco Palestina and Kenny Boyle completely shut down the opportunity for opponent scores in the entire 2nd half. However, the Husky defense was able to put points on the board with the quick hands and feet of newcomer Mason Tettambel who picked up a fumble and ran it back 25 yards for a Husky defensive touchdown for the final touchdown of the day.

On offense, the young dogs howled into the end zone five times starting with quarterback Jaxon Garner handing off to running back Nick Alparone putting 6 points on the board on the first series of play. In the 2nd quarter, Garner found Luke Charbonneau who followed key blocks from offensive guard Leo Ramos and offensive tackle Anthony Leyden leading to the next two touchdowns. Before the 1st half ended, rookie sensation Sam Hanson sweeped right and cut left to put one more touchdown on the board bringing the total first half touchdowns to four.

With the start of the 2nd half, consistency paid off as rookie offensive linemen Bentley Brunt, Owen Tateossian, Caiden Shultz, and Brennan DeRemer helped the offense charge into Buffalo territory. The rookies broke down the Buffalo defensive line leading to a touchdown by Rocco Palestina for the fifth score of the day.

A stingy defense, disciplined offense, and a whole lot of passion will make for a great season for the next generation of Husky Champions. The official season opener will be on September 5 at noon when the Flag Team heads to Old Bridge.

Mitey Mite: The Huskies 8/9's traveled to play against the St. Barts Buffalos. The Huskies were outsized but held their own and fought until the end, never giving up. In the first quarter, Trevor Calise had a 17 yard run thanks to the blocking of Evan Bekos, Landon Wales, Joey Pasquale, Joseph Mupo and Ryan Appicelli, which gave the Huskies their much needed first down. Then Joey Pasquale had a 10 yard gain with blocking of Michael Peter Zocchi, William Whitesell and Justin Rojas. St. Barts then had the ball and were held off by the strong defense of the Huskies. St. Barts were then stopped at the 40 yard line with a strong tackle by Michael Calise, Trevor Calise, Justin Rojas and Marcus Labib. Then St. Harts had a 20 yard run but were stopped yet again by Joseph Mupo, Jordan Voung, Logan Whitesell and William Whitesell. Devon Hudson had a 20 yard run to help the Huskies move closer to the end zone. Then with a minute to go, Joey Pasquale had a 56 yard run to give the Huskies a touchdown! The team played a hard fought game and is looking forward to having teammate Ian Grenda join then at their next game next weekend.

<u>JPW:</u> The 2015 Huskies JPW took the field on Sunday afternoon against the St. Barts Buffalos of East Brunswick their annual friendship game to start the AYF season.

The Huskies started out on defense and yielded 3 yards on 4 plays as tackles from Jake Macce, Hunter Diederich and Ricky Skalaski and a pass defense by Sam Alparone kept the Buffalo's in check. At QB, Cooper Balut took command of the offense on the first series and led a 5 play drive highlighted by runs by Kente Edwards, J'vier Johnson and Aidan Papantonis. Max Latorre, Alex Uryniak, and Macce opened up a nice hole on the left side as Papantonis scampered 10 yds for the games first TD.

Leading 6-0, the Huskies went to work on D and gave up only 2 yards as Latorre, Alex Grantham and Skalaski kept the Buffalo's in check. Joey Markey took the lead at QB on the second series as Simeon Reed and Uryniak plowed down the field behind Firoz Davis, Zach Grenache, and Johnathan Lake. A couple of QB keepers by Markey set up a short yardage situation near the goal line. With center Bobby Pasquale continuing to provide a big push up the middle, Johnson followed behind the big center for the 2 yd score. The Huskies went back to work on defense, with Edwards, Johnson and Uryniak making key tackles on another quick 4 and out. On the third series before half, Grantham took the reigns at QB and effectively marched the team down the field, highlighted with a 10yd qb keeper. The Huskies were 10 yds short of the goal line when time ran out.

The second half started with a great kick return by Latorre and an effective drive orchestrated by Balut, highlighted with a 25 yard run by Papantonis with a great block by Skalaski. The extra 2-point kick was good by Uryniak and the Huskies led 20-0. The defense went to work with Vance Van Volkenburg making a great tackle from his safety position and Luke Damboise making a big stop from defensive tackle. Davis, Alparone, and Grenache also made stops on the Buffalo drive. Marcus Williams made a big stop OLB position to keep the Buffalo's off the board in the 3rd quarter and force the turnover on downs. In the 4th Quarter Markey and Grantham led a long drive, but the drive ultimately stalled deep in the Buffalo's territory.

With only a few minutes remaining, the Buffalos went to the air as they completed 3 passes and scored with a minute left in the game making it 20-6. On the ensuing onside kick, Johnathan Lake pounced on the ball and Markey then took a knee to end the game.