



2016 NEWSLETTER

YEAR IN REVIEW



The Fairfield County Sports Commission is a 501c (3) non-profit, educational and charitable organization dedicated to developing, implementing and supporting community programs designed to promote and educate our youth on fitness, nutrition and an active, healthy lifestyle as well as personal development through sports. The Commission's Chelsea Cohen Fitness Academy is the primary umbrella vehicle for these programs.

FCSC Gives \$45,000 in 2016, Largest Yearly Donation Ever

For the Sports Commission, 2016 was an extremely special year as it was able to distribute its largest ever yearly donation amount to youth programs in Bridgeport, Norwalk and Stamford. The total of \$45,000 was equally divided between those three communities with \$15,000 going to each and a total of 14 different organizations and individuals benefiting. With the Sports Commission and its Chelsea Cohen Fitness Academy receiving corporate charity day grants in '16 from ICAP and BTIG, marking the two largest donations FCSC has ever received, the ability to return a large portion of that money to our Fairfield County youth is unprecedented for the organization.

"These donations have allowed us to take an important step in extending our reach to now be able to touch young people from pre-K, elementary, middle school and high school right through to young adults," said FCSC executive director Tom Chiappetta. "The areas that we will be supporting help us reach our goals of trying to get new programs launched and existing ones be maintained or grow."



(Clockwise From Top Left) Boys and Girls Club of Stamford Executive Director Mike Cotela (right) accepts check from FCSC's Tom Chiappetta. Terry O'Connor, the executive director at the McGivney Center, is presented a check by Chiappetta. The Carver Center's Novelette Peterkin and Joe Gallagher (on right) pose with Chiappetta and FCSC advisory board member Dick Whitcomb.

Memorial Scholarship Started for Chelsea Cohen in Norwalk

The Commission is taking the next step in keeping the legacy and spirit of Chelsea Cohen alive with the creation of the Chelsea Cohen Memorial Scholarship, which recognizes a top female scholar and athlete from Norwalk with a financial award towards higher education. Eligible candidates must be a graduating senior at Brien McMahon or Norwalk High School. The recipients from each school for 2017 will receive a \$2,500 grant toward their college education—a total of \$5,000. Going forward the scholarship will be \$5,000 for one student/athlete from either NHS or BMHS.

12TH ANNUAL SPORTS NIGHT

1-UConn Reunion: Hall of Famer Rita Williams (left) poses with her former UConn associate head coach Chris Dailey.

2-Olympic Trio: Hall of Fame honoree Bill Steinkraus, a four-time equestrian Olympic medalist, (left) with FCSC advisory board member and Olympic pairs skater Lee Ann Miller and Olympic gymnast and coach Abie Grossfeld.

3-Bon Voyage: Norwalk's Mary Roman, a former Norwalk SportsPerson of the Year, received flowers and \$500 from the Commission toward her travel expenses for her trip to Perth, Australia to compete in the World Masters Games, where the 80-something senior athlete won 6 medals in late October.

4-Recognizing Our Own: The 2016 award winners gather together to celebrate at the end of the evening.



Cohen Courage Award Recipient Danni Kemp Can Use Our Support

The 2016 Courage Award recipient Danielle Kemp (third from left in photo) is still receiving treatment for the brain tumor she has been battling since August. The Kemp family has a GoFundMe page (www.gofundme.com/2hc4x85g) for donations to help defray continued medical expenses. Please keep her in your thoughts.

A FUN NIGHT AT THE GARDEN



The Commission organized a “Night with the NY Liberty” at Madison Square Garden in September. The WNBA game between the Liberty and the Seattle Storm featured six former UConn women’s players. A large group of Carver Center youngsters were invited to attend the event and had a chance to meet Maddie, the Liberty mascot, (photo at left) and received autographed photos from the ex-Huskies from each team. Special guests of the Commission were treated to a meet and greet down on the Garden floor before the game with two of the former UConn stars, the Liberty’s Kiah Stokes and Seattle’s Kaleena Mosqueda-Lewis (photo bottom right).

“FORE” SUPPORT FROM 1986 WORLD CHAMPION NY METS

The commission was once again the beneficiary of the annual Tim Teufel Celebrity Golf tournament in August at Tamarack Country Club in Greenwich. Four of the 1986 World Champion Mets had a mini reunion with host and FC Sports Hall of Famer Tim Teufel (far right) joined by three of his teammates from left, Lee Mazzilli, Ron Darling and Mookie Wilson.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO:



Special thanks go out to Quest Builders Group’s Craig Levine (pictured middle) and Patrick Fitzpatrick for the terrific year-round support they provided to all of FCSC’s events. Their efforts, added to the long-time sponsorship and donor participation of the Eisenstadt Family and Sweet’n Low, made every fundraising effort a big success. And we were glad to reconnect with our friends at the NFL Alumni Connecticut Chapter (pictured at right is president and former NY Giants standout Steve Thurlow with FCSC’s Tom Chiappetta) by supporting its annual golf tourney in June and receiving a generous grant from them this year.