

# 5TMSL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



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## 5TMSL LEAGUE SPONSOR

This week's 5TMSL sponsor is Broadway Barber. Yossi and his team are known for expert cuts, top-notch service, and a welcoming atmosphere that keeps customers coming back.

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## **Dynasty Hockey Week 5 Recap – Flamingoes Stunned, Johnny Hockey Arrives**

### **Bruisers 9, Fighting Flamingoes 8**

The Bruisers sent shockwaves through the league, handing the Flamingoes their first loss of the season in a thrilling 9–8 back-and-forth battle.

Captain Dovi Gordon led the way with a balanced offensive attack, getting key contributions from Yechiel Weinstock and Moshe Hirschman, while Michael Indig made enough stops to hold off the league's most dangerous offense.

The Flamingoes, playing without star forwards Zaq Finkelman and Akiva Boehm for a second straight game, still put up a strong fight. Ben Bryks and Shua Behar each scored twice, keeping the Flamingoes in it until the final minutes. But in the end, the Bruisers' physical play and timely scoring proved too much.

Offensively, the Bruisers were powered by Hirschman (3 goals), Weinstock (3 goals), Gordon (2 goals), and Yaakov Gal (1 goal), showing off their balanced attack.

The loss drops the Flamingoes to 4–1, while the Bruisers improved to 4–1 and sit right alongside them at the top of the standings.

### **Johnny Hockey 8, Blizzards 3**

It finally clicked for Johnny Hockey. After four frustrating weeks, they broke through with their most complete performance of the season, taking down the Blizzards 8–3.

For the first time all season, Johnny Hockey was at full strength, and it showed. With their full roster finally on the floor, they played with pace, confidence, and energy from the opening whistle. Dovi Taubenfeld led the way with a hat trick, while Avraham Frisch (2 goals), Seth Elefant (2 goals), and Mordy Ostreicher (1 goal) rounded out a well-balanced attack.

The Blizzards, missing Eli Dachs, struggled to create offense outside of Uri Bryks (2 goals) and Chaim Homnick (1 goal). Defensively, they couldn't contain Johnny Hockey's quick movement and constant pressure. Turnovers and missed coverages left them pinned in their own zone for long stretches.

With the win, Johnny Hockey improves to 1–4, finally resembling the team many expected before the season started. The Blizzards fall to 1–3–1, searching for answers as their early defensive identity continues to slip away.

### **Top Goal Scorers (Substitute Players Not Included)**

Zaq Finkelman (Fighting Flamingoes) – 14 goals

Dovi Taubenfeld (Johnny Hockey) – 9 goals

Yechiel Weinstock (Bruisers) – 9 goals

Dovi Gordon (Bruisers) – 8 goals

## **Week 5 Previews – Monday, July 7 at Brandeis**

### **7:30 PM – Johnny Hockey vs. Bruisers**

Johnny Hockey enters Week 6 feeling themselves after finally putting it all together in Week 5. Taubenfeld and Seth Elefant looked like a dangerous duo, and if they can repeat that performance, they'll have a shot to pull off another upset.

But the Bruisers are red-hot and playing like the most complete team in the league right now. Gordon's leadership, Weinstock's scoring touch, and Indig's steady goaltending make them tough to beat. If the Bruisers control the pace and keep Johnny Hockey out of transition, they'll have a good shot at extending their win streak to four.

A win for the Bruisers would put them alone atop the standings, while Johnny Hockey looks to prove Week 5 wasn't a fluke.

### **8:30 PM – Fighting Flamingoes vs. Blizzards**

The Flamingoes look to bounce back after their first loss of the season. With Zaq Finkelman back this week and Akiva Boehm expected to return in the near future, they'll look to regain their explosive form. Ben Bryks and Shua Behar have stepped up in the absence of their star scorers, and Kunstler has been quietly solid in net.

For the Blizzards, it's desperation mode. Once a defensive powerhouse, they've now dropped three straight and are struggling to find their identity. The goals against have piled up in recent weeks, and they'll need to tighten up across the board. Getting back to the physical, disciplined style of play they showed in Weeks 1 and 2 will be key to turning things around.

The Flamingoes definitely have the edge on paper and will be focused coming off their first loss, but the Blizzards' urgency and desperation can't be overlooked. They'll need to play sharp, physical hockey from the start in order to pull off the upset and get back on track.

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## **5TMSL Referee Tzvi Weiss Shatters Drone Catch World Record**

For nearly two years, Cameron Heinig's name topped the record books after catching a ball dropped from a drone at 469 feet, a mark that had gone unchallenged since August 2023. That is, until this past week in Hewlett, New York, where 5TMSL referee Tzvi Weiss redefined what was thought possible.

Weiss, known for his calm demeanor while officiating, broke the world record three times in one day, first at 475 feet, then 550 feet, and finally at an astounding 760 feet. Each attempt was carefully filmed, with footage clearly showing both the drone's altitude and Weiss's catches.

The videos have been sent to Guinness World Records for review and are expected to soon be verified as the new world record.

Congratulations to Tzvi Weiss on this incredible accomplishment. If you want to see the record-breaking catch for yourself, check out the 5TMSL Instagram page @5townmsl.

## **This Week In NY Sports**

### **New York Yankees**

The Yankees turned things around this week, ending their six-game losing streak and regaining ground in the AL East. What began with back-to-back losses in the Subway Series turned into a four-game win streak, powered by a resurgent offense and some timely pitching performances.

The week opened with a tough series at Citi Field, where the Yankees dropped two of three to the Mets. Friday's game slipped away late when Luke Weaver gave up a go-ahead homer in the seventh, and Saturday was a blowout loss as the Mets teed off on Carlos Rodón. But on Sunday, Max Fried pitched a vintage seven-inning, two-run performance, and Austin Wells stayed red-hot with his second homer of the series, snapping the streak with a 6–4 win.

Back home, the Yankees' bats exploded against Seattle. On Tuesday, they pounded out 13 hits in a 10–3 blowout, with Giancarlo Stanton crushing a three-run homer and Wells going deep yet again. Rookie Will Warren stepped up to give them five strong innings with the rotation still depleted.

On Wednesday, rookie right-hander Cam Schlichter made his MLB debut, pumping high-90s fastballs and sharp breaking balls past Seattle hitters. He struck out seven over five innings and showed the kind of strikeout stuff the Yankees have badly missed with Gerrit Cole and Clarke Schmidt sidelined. Jazz Chisholm Jr. added a pair of home runs in the 9–6 win, and the bullpen held on late.

The series finale on Thursday brought plenty of drama. Mariners starter Bryan Woo no-hit the Yankees into the eighth inning, but Aaron Judge finally broke through with a game-tying home run. In the 10th, Judge lifted a sacrifice fly to center, and Anthony Volpe's incredible slide to avoid the tag at the plate sealed a thrilling 6–5 walk-off win and completed the sweep of the series.

Now 52–41, the Yankees are two games back of the Blue Jays in the AL East and open a home series against the Cubs, who have been hot of late. With trade deadline talk heating up, the next stretch could define their season.

### **New York Mets**

The Mets ended the week on uneven footing, dropping two tough games in Baltimore after a Subway Series win. What began with a thrilling series win against the Yankees turned into a frustrating road trip, exposing bullpen concerns and raising questions about the team's pitching depth as the trade deadline approaches.

The week opened at Citi Field with the Subway Series against the Yankees. The Mets took the first two games behind Juan Soto's scorching bat and Brandon Nimmo's grand slam, winning 6–5 on Friday and cruising to a 12–6 blowout Saturday. But they couldn't finish the sweep, as Aaron Judge and the Yankees stole Sunday's finale 6–4.

Then came a trip to Baltimore, where the Mets opened strong, rallying from a four-run deficit to stun the Orioles 7–6 in 10 innings. But the momentum quickly faded. After a rainout pushed Wednesday's game to a Thursday doubleheader, the Mets' pitching depth was tested, and failed. David Peterson delivered a brilliant start in Game 1, but Ryne Stanek gave up a crushing two-run homer in the 8th. Rookies Justin Hagenman and Spencer Waddell both struggled, as Baltimore completed the doubleheader sweep in Game 2.

Offensively, Juan Soto continued to carry the load with clutch hitting and timely power, while Francisco Lindor and Jeff McNeil chipped in. But the loss of Starling Marte and the consistent struggles at the bottom of the lineup have hurt the Mets' ability to drive in runs with runners in scoring position. On the mound, the Mets are running short on arms. With Kodai Senga and Sean Manaea still sidelined and Tylor Megill working his way back, the team is leaning heavily on David Peterson and Frankie Montas to keep things afloat.

Now 53–41, the Mets sit 1.5 games behind the Phillies in the NL East but remain in a strong Wild Card position. They'll head to Kansas City this weekend before returning home to face the Padres. With the trade deadline approaching, GM David Stearns may need to act soon to shore up the roster before the stretch run.

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## **Why Playing All Sports Builds the Best Athletes**

*By: Aaron Boehm (5TMSL League Founder)*

When you think about youth athletics, it's easy to understand why many athletes focus on one sport. A kid is great at baseball, or hockey, or football, and so the thinking goes: if they just stick with that one sport, they'll keep improving faster. More reps, more practice, more time doing what they're best at.

And honestly, I get it. If a kid is dominating in basketball, why spend any time playing baseball or hockey, where they might not be as good? Why take time away from baseball?

But in this week's article, I want to explain why I think that mindset misses the bigger picture. Because what feels like the fastest way to improve in one sport can actually be detrimental to a young athlete's overall growth.

### **It's About Getting Better at Your Main Sport - By Playing Others**

A lot of people think playing basketball or flag football takes time away from your best sport. But it's actually the opposite. Playing multiple sports makes you better at your "top" sport.

The footwork you build in flag football helps your defense in basketball. The hand-eye coordination you sharpen in softball improves your reaction time in hockey. The spacing and vision you develop in basketball carries over to baseball when you're tracking a fly ball or making a quick throw.

When you play different sports, you're training your body and mind in ways that playing a single sport alone can't provide. Then when you step back onto the baseball field, the hockey rink, or the basketball court, you're sharper, quicker, and better prepared.

Even Bobby Orr, one of the greatest hockey players of all time, said it best: "If you look at the best players in any sport, they're all around athletes - they played other sports."

Playing other sports doesn't slow you down in your main sport; it sharpens you.

### **It Keeps Things Fresh**

Another big reason to play multiple sports: it keeps things fresh and fun.

When a kid only plays one sport, it can start to feel like a job. The same drills, same routines, same pressure. After a while, they can burn out.

But when they play different sports, they're learning new skills, competing in new ways, and staying excited to play.

### **This Is Exactly Why We Built 5TMSL**

At 5TMSL, we run basketball, hockey, flag football, and baseball all in one league because we believe kids should play them all. Every sport teaches something different, and all of it carries over to the other sports.

The mindset, the footwork, the timing, the reaction speed, it all comes together in one place to help you succeed in any competitive environment.

### **Don't Just Take It from Me**

The best athletes in the world will tell you the same thing:

Patrick Mahomes: "Basketball and baseball helped me learn how to throw from different arm angles and move in different situations."

Mike Trout: "If there's any advice out there, I would say to play multiple sports. It helps you mentally focus, and physically as well."

Christian McCaffrey: "Playing multiple sports was the best thing I've ever done. They all complemented each other and helped my development."

Stephen Curry: "Playing all sports growing up helped me with footwork and vision on the basketball court."

Rick DiPietro: "The best athletes I knew growing up played multiple sports - that's where you learn balance, compete differently, and develop your body."

Russell Wilson played baseball and football. Joe Mauer was a top high school quarterback before choosing baseball. Kyler Murray was a first-round pick in both sports.

This isn't some new idea. This is what works for the best.

### **Final Thoughts**

I believe no single sport should take over a kid's entire childhood.

At 5TMSL, we try to give kids the full experience of playing it all. Because the more you think about it, the clearer it becomes: the best way to raise great athletes in sports is for them to play them all.

Let them enjoy the game. Let them grow. And when the time is right, let them decide which one to specialize in.

Aaron Boehm – Founder, 5TMSL

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# **TWILLORY**

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## NBA

1. Who was the first European-born player to win the NBA MVP award?
2. Which coach has the most wins in NBA history?
3. Which team drafted Kawhi Leonard before trading him to the San Antonio Spurs on draft night?
4. Earlier this season, which father/son duo became the first and only duo to both get a Triple Double in an NBA game?
5. Which NBA team holds the record for the most three-pointers made in a single regular season?

## NFL

1. Which two NFL quarterbacks are tied for the second-most Super Bowl rings, with four each?
2. Who kicked the longest field goal in NFL history, and how many yards was it?
3. Since 2000, only two players have recorded a 100+ yard interception return for a touchdown (pick-six) in the playoffs. Name one of them.
4. Which 3 NFL teams have played in Los Angeles?
5. Who is the all-time leader in passing yards for the Dallas Cowboys?

## MLB

1. Which active player has the most career leadoff home runs?
2. Who is the most recent MLB pitcher to reach 300 career wins, accomplishing this in 2009?
3. Who holds the record for most career postseason hits in MLB history?
4. Which MLB team has won the most World Series in the 21st century?
5. Which active MLB player has the highest career batting average?

## NHL

1. Which NHL player has the most Stanley Cups?
2. Which NHL player has the most career power-play goals?
3. Who holds the New York Islanders franchise record for most career goals?
4. Which player scored the double-overtime game-winning goal for the New York Rangers in Game 2 of the 2024 Stanley Cup Playoffs against the Carolina Hurricanes?
5. Who won the Calder Trophy as the NHL's top rookie in 2024-2025?

**Death Question**– Michael Jordan was selected number 3 by the Chicago Bulls. Name both players drafted ahead of him.

# Answers

## NBA

1. Dirk Nowitzki (2006-2007 season)
2. Gregg Popovich (1,412 wins)
3. Indiana Pacers
4. Scottie Pippen and Scotty Pippen Jr.
5. Boston Celtics (1,457 in 2024-2025)

## NFL

1. Joe Montana and Terry Bradshaw
2. Justin Tucker - 66 Yards
3. James Harrison (2009) and Tarron Johnson (2021)
4. Rams, Chargers, Raiders
5. Tony Romo (34,183)

## MLB

1. George Springer (60)
2. Randy Johnson
3. Derek Jeter (200)
4. Boston Red Sox (4; 2004, 2007, 2013, 2018)
5. Luis Arraez (.318)

## NHL

1. Henri Richard (11)
2. Alex Ovechkin (326)
3. Mike Bossy (573)
4. Vincent Trocheck
5. Lane Hutson

## Death Question

1- Hakeem Olajuwon, 2 - Sam Bowie



## Using Your Gifts the Right Way: Lessons from Bilaam

Parshas Balak shows us a very strange enemy: Bilaam. Unlike Pharaoh or Amalek, Bilaam didn't attack us with swords or soldiers. He tried something much deeper: to break us spiritually.

Bilaam wasn't just a regular person. He was a prophet with deep spiritual powers. He knew how the world works on a level beyond what we can see.

Instead of using his gifts to get closer to Hashem, Bilaam used them to fight against Hashem. He tried to use his power of speech, something holy, to curse the Jewish people.

There is a lesson that can be taken from this. Having talents or strengths doesn't automatically mean you'll use them the right way. You can be greater than everyone else in what you know or what you can do, but if you don't aim it in the right direction, it won't bring you closer to Hashem. What matters is what you do with what you have.

Parshas Balak reminds us: all our talents are supposed to be aimed at serving Hashem.

Good Shabbos from 5TMSL!

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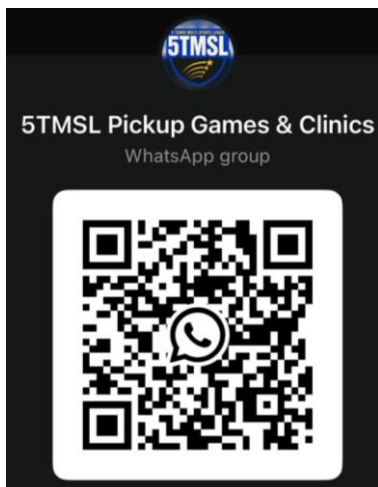
## 5TMSL Youth Pickup Games Are Coming This Summer

This summer, 5TMSL is bringing youth pickup games to the Five Towns across all sports: basketball, flag football, hockey, and softball. As we gear up for our first full fall season, these games are the perfect way for players of all skill levels to stay active, have fun, and improve at the sports they love.

For our pickup games, there are no official teams, no commitments, and no pressure. Just show up, play hard, and enjoy the game. Whether you're working on your skills, staying in shape, or trying a new sport for the first time, 5TMSL pickup games are where it's happening.

Games will run throughout the summer in the evenings, giving kids the chance to stay sharp and keep playing during the offseason. But 5TMSL is about more than just the games, it's about creating a positive, welcoming community where young athletes in the Five Towns can compete, grow, and be part of something bigger.

All updates will be shared in the league WhatsApp chat. To join the chat, text 516-289-7971 or scan the barcode to join.



**All of this leads up to the first-ever 5TMSL multi-sport fall season, launching September 7th. Players will have the chance to compete across basketball, flag football, hockey, and softball in a full 8-game regular season. Sign up for our fall season at [5TMSL.com/register!!](https://5TMSL.com/register!!)**