



BIRCH
PEELINGS

Exciting things to come...

- 7/08 Breakfast in Bed
- 7/10 Hoe Down
- 7/11 -12-13 SSR & USR To Montreal, Canada
- 7/11 -12-13 LSR White Water Rafting
- 7/14 Variety Show
- 7/15 Bookmobile
- 7/15 Chess Tourney
- 7/19 Black & White Dinner and DJ Social

A few words from Greg & Laura...



Hey Campers!

We have been so busy with all that camp has to offer Spirit Day, the Inter Camp Competitions, group trips, activities, clubs and meeting all of the new campers .

We decided to give you a Photo Edition of all the great things you have been enjoying at camp. We are currently receiving your articles for the Next Edition of the Birch Peelings. Tell us about what you like best about camp or something special that you have done.

For now enjoy Breakfast in Bed & Brunch and we will see you around camp.

All the best,

Greg & Laura



PHOTO EDITION



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The Fourth of July

As in past summers at Birchmont, the Fourth of July was a huge hit. Although the cook out went to a cook in the campers celebrated our Nation's Independence in high spirits. While upper camp enjoyed Wolfeboro's fireworks, lower camp sprinted their way to the finish line after standing at attention to Jordan Sparks (American Idol Winner) rendition of the Star Spangled Banner. The races included sprints, piggy back, three-legged and the crab walk. The weather was perfect for the days activities with some drizzles just around dinner time.

Congratulations to all of the winners...

SPRINT

Pioneer Boy:

1st Place **Aaron N.**

2nd Place **Matt C.**

Pioneer Girl:

1st Place **Allie G.**

2nd Place **Lexie G.**

Intermediate Boy:

1st Place **Will P. & Bruno A.**

2nd Place **Deen A. & Beltran A.**

Intermediate Girl:

1st Place **Clara S. & Giulia G.**

2nd Place **Ryan D. & Lauren P.**



THREE LEGGED RACE

Pioneer Boy:

1st Place **Max G. & Blake R.**

2nd Place **Ignacio S. & Max M.**

Pioneer Girl:

1st Place **Alex K. & Danielle K.**

2nd Place **Nicole N. & Erin A.**

Intermediate Boy:

1st Place **Babou U. & George M.**

Bruno & Beltran A.

2nd Place **Zach G. & Will P.**

Sawyer M. & Harry P.

Intermediate Girl:

1st Place **Erin A. & Kasey K.**

Emily B. & Sarah R.

2nd Place **Paige L. & Maddie G.**

Courtney A. & Novi Z.



WHEELBARROW RACE

Pioneer Boy:

1st Place **Max G. & Blake R.**

2nd Place **Ryan F. & Matt C.**

Pioneer Girl:

1st Place **Rachel S. & Juliet R.**

2nd Place **Danielle K. & Greg H.**

Intermediate Boy:

1st Place **George S. & Sam B.**

Sawyer M. & Harry P.

2nd Place **George M. & Ethan K.**

Bruno and Beltran A.

Intermediate Girl:

1st Place **Erin A. & Kasey K.**

Emily B. & Sarah R.

2nd Place **Isabel G. & Elena L.**

Sofia Y. & Claire P.



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Deen Amanat Reigns as Checker champion of Birchmont...Again!



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Another beautiful Birchmont Sunday, another annual checker tournament under the pines. Thirty players from the Pioneers and Intermediate Boys and Girls went head to head in a single elimination tournament played with the touch move rule. There were several standout matches throughout the afternoon. INTB **Zachary G.** and INTB **Luke E.** are to be commended for their outstanding patience and concentration in a true battle of wits which ended in a stalemate. The second match was almost as close with **Luke** winning and advancing to the semi-finals along with INTG **Kasey K.**, INTB **Aydin W.** and INTB **Deen A.**. INTG **Kasey K.** played several steady matches without losing focus as one of the few girls to join the tournament. INTG **Samantha B.** INTG **Jessica T.**, INTG. **Rachel S.** and INTG **Liz F.** also joined the ranks of Pioneer & Intermediate who have traditionally dominated the tournament. INTB **Aydin W.** made some great moves with multiple jumps but could not ultimately defeat last years champion INTB **Deen A.** in the finals. One thing is clear from the level of play and good sportsmanship, the chess tournament on Sunday July 15th should be awesome. CHECKMATE!

Congratulations to the following players for participating.

INTB's ~ **Phillip I., George M., Sam F., Sam B., Zack G., Ethan K., Sam R., Luke E., Johnny C., Eli G., Aydin W., George S.**

PIOB's ~ **Daniel G., Hudson E., Noah L., Jack B.**

INTG's ~ **Kasey K., Samantha B., Rachel S., Liz F.**

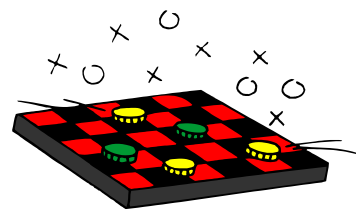


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BIRCHMONT 13 AND UNDER GIRLS DEFEAT ROBINDEL, WAIT WHITMAN & WICOSUTA

By: LSRG's Emily W. and Caitlin C.

The girls went on the Robindel softball tournament came back victorious from a full day of softball. With great coaching from **Nicole** and **Spike** they were able to take home the first place trophy. The amazing outfield consisted of LSRG **Helen M.** in left field, USRG **Emma L.** and LSRG **Allison E.** in left center, LSRG **Julia F.** in right center and LSRG **Molly M.** in right field. Playing the infield, great plays were made by LSRG **Grace J.** at first base, LSRG **Parker S.-S.** at second base, LSRG **Caitlin C.** at short stop and LSRG **Rachel S.** at third base. LSRG **Melanie N.** was a fantastic catcher and LSRG **Emily W.** was the pitcher. Great catches were made in the field as well as strong hitting delivering some home runs at bat. ALL the girls played their heart out and celebrated their victory with Bly's ice cream.





Will you be my Camp Big Sister?



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Birchmont Athletes Start The 2012 Season With A Bang!

By **Greg H.**

It's less than two weeks into camp but the "ICC" schedule is well under way, and Birchmont's best have amassed an amazing overall total of FIVE first place finishes and two second place performances from just ten events thus far!

Birchmont's **SSRB Ian F.** was stellar in leading the Braves versus a group of opponents at the U15 Winaukee Tennis Tourney on June 27th. Ian defeated perhaps the most decorated 15 year old tennis player in the Lakes Region in winning the singles title – a surprising upset that sent shockwaves through nearby Lake Winnepesaukee!

Perhaps buoyed by the announcement of **Ian's** win the night before at dinner, the U11 boys team took to the courts the very next morning to face off against the best 'competition' in the Lakes Region – including Winaukee, Tecumseh and Robinhood, among others. The boys in Birchmont Blue were well up to the challenge, with new coach **Ben F.** leading the troops into battle! The boys swept through their opponents and brought home the FIRST PLACE trophy along with a belly full of Bly's Ice Cream to celebrate the big win!

But the 11 year olds weren't quite finished – on Monday July 2nd baseball director **John S.** along with coach **Steve F., Jeremy T.** and **Nicole V.** led the 11's to a 5 win, no loss perfect record in the home round robin tournament. Almost as perfect was Birchmont's second entry into the 6 team event – the 10 year old boys... who finished up the day with a 3 win, 2 loss record which was good for third place on the day. Not bad – just wait for that group next year!!

On Tuesday July 3rd the Girls of PCB had their first chance at some hardware, traveling to all girls Camp Robindel for a competitive day of softball. Once again, the momentum created by the first week of success carried on, as the girls dominated play in winning FIRST PLACE – which was rewarded with an ice cream stop in Wolfeboro and then with the traditional trophy and announcement to raucous support in the dining room. Way to go!

But the cheering wasn't over – as on that same sunny day (no humidity, temps in the low 80's), the Birchmont 13U and 15U Tennis Invitational was held on the brand new middle courts of PCB. The 13U team swept through the brackets to an open distance win and brought home numerous individual firsts as well as the overall top spot. The 15U team was not too far behind with a second place finish despite a couple of rare upsets at the hands of the visitors.

All in all there have been some amazing performances, more ice cream stops than usual and some very loud cheers in the dining room. We may also need to make some room for a new trophy case! Best of luck to all the campers who will participate in "Spirit Day" on the 6th of July – with a total of 57 team events being played between 9 am and 4 pm!

And looking ahead, get psyched for the girls traveling to Robindel for our first ever "Dance Off" on the 7th! Routines are set and Dance Captain **Frances J.** is ready to inspire brilliance among the girls who have worked so hard on their dances and choreography this summer!

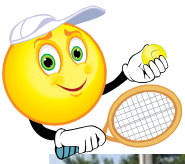
On that same day, our 12U boys hardball team faces off in the traditional little league regional baseball tournament which pits the best of the best in the LRAA. Good luck on the road at Winaukee boys... with 2 first place and 3 second place finishes in that event in the last five years, we have high hopes!

LETS GO BIRCHMONT!!!



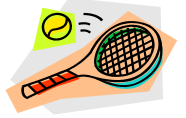
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The Birchmont Invitational

Birchmont 13U & 15U Boys Tennis Invitational



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Birchmont takes 1st place in Lakes Region Tennis 12 and under ICC

By Ben F.



Birchmont brought home a trophy today as the 12s won the Lakes Region Tennis Tournament. Both **INTB Aiden E.** and **INTB Harry P.** reached the semi finals of the singles competition, before falling in two hard fought battles. **INTB Zach G.** and **INTB Adam S.** also performed well in the tournament, but both fell to fellow Birchmont players due to a mix up leaving all our own players being drawn against each other in the second round. All four showed great potential and did the camp proud with their attitude and display.

But it was the doubles where we really showed off our ability. The teams of **INTB Phillip I.** and **INTB Will P.**, as well as **INTB Luke E.** and **INTB Sawyer M.**, both made the final, guaranteeing a victory in the doubles, on this occasion. **Phil** and **Will** came out on top and the team was the winner on the day as we overcame five other camps to take home the trophy.

Special mention has to go to our third doubles team. **PIOB Max G.** and **PIOB Matt C.**, both 2 years younger than everyone else, performed fantastic to reach the quarter finals. In the last 16 they were 4-0 down against the number 1 team from Winaukee, but, with loud support from our other players came back and eventually won 9-7 in an incredibly close match. Despite their best efforts, they fell in the next round, but they far exceeded expectations and the points they gained by reaching the quarter final were crucial in Birchmont's overall victory. The Lakes Region tournament is the most established and largest in the area, congratulations to all the players.

Inter-Camp 15 U SSR Boys Tennis ICC By Jed Z.



In the first ICC of the year, our 15 and under boys team traveled to rival camp Winaukee to play in the Lakes Region Tennis Tournament. In the doubles category, **USRB Eric R.** and **LSRB Guillermo S.** made it to the quarter finals, but lost in a close 11-7 tie break against Winaukee, the same team that went on to win their division. In the singles category, **SSRB Jeremy K.** made it to the quarter finals but lost in a valiant effort to a great competitor from Camp Takajo. **SSRB Ian F.** made it to the finals of the singles tournament and triumphed against a highly ranked undefeated tennis player from Delaware, 8-4. We're proud of the effort the entire team put forward and as usual, the great sportsmanship.

15's B-Team Boys Tennis ICC By James B.

The Boy's 15 B-Team got off to a winning start, with hard fought 6-4 victories for **SSRB Austin K.** in the number one singles and **USRB Devon T.** and **SSRB Liam H.** in the number one doubles. Unfortunately, both of these wins were followed by narrow defeats in the next round, however each scored valuable points for the team. Doubles pairing **SSRB Tyler C.** and **SSRB Dan K.** faced a tough draw and were able to pick up wins, as was also the case for **USRB Jack K.** **Jack** rallied from a 5-0 deficit to win two of the last games in the set in the number 2 singles. The psychological side to a tennis match is certainly no small matter and when the self doubting **SSRB Jacob L.** had a 5-1 lead pegged back to 5-4, nerves undoubtedly began to tingle. **Resolve** eventually pushed **Jacob** across the winning line, much to the delight of his team. There was even a sense of disappointment after **Jacob's** second match, as having previously given himself little hope of winning even his first round he was narrowly defeated 7-5, shortly before lunch. This tennis coach felt very proud of the attitude, heart and hustle of his 15's B Team also known as "Barry's Boys". Well played tennis to **SSRB Austin K.**, **SSRB Jacob L.**, **SSRB Liam H.**, **USRB Jack K.**, **USRB Devon T.**, **SSRB Tyler C.**, and **SSRB Dan K.**



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Birchmont Falls in Season Opener

Early on the morning of June 27th, fourteen Birchmont Braves assembled in the gazebo to embark on a

journey. With mitts in hand, and hopeful hearts the boys traveled to Tecumseh, to play the first of two away games, in Winaukee's annual thirteen and under baseball tournament. The Braves started strong against Tecumseh, as **LSRB George K.** hit a two run double in the top of the first inning. Birchmont stayed strong as **LSRB Jeffrey G.** pitched his way out of a bases loaded jam in the bottom of that inning. The Braves luck suddenly turned as Tecumseh struck out the side in the top of second. Birchmont's lead was quickly erased when Tecumseh put up four runs in bottom of the same inning. The boys did not give up, and **LSRB David L.** scored a run on a sacrifice fly in the third. Not to be outdone Tecumseh poured on two more runs in the bottom of the third inning. Down 6-3 the Braves dug deep and scored four runs over the next three innings, including a clutch hit and RBI by **LSRB David L.** to tie the game in the top of the 7th inning at 7-7. After three quick outs in the top of the eighth, Tecumseh was too much for the Braves to handle. Tecumseh scored on a hard hit double to win the game in extra innings.



The battle tested Braves picked up their gear and their chins as they piled into the bus. Turkey, ham, and jelly sandwiches were distributed as the bus made its way to Winaukee's Island. As the second game got underway it was clear that the boys' first game had taken its toll on them. After a dropped infield fly ball, the Braves were facing a 6-1 deficit at the end of the first inning. Not willing to be blown out, the bottom half of the order battled back; **LSRB Ted B.**, **LSRB Will P.**, and **LSRB Tommy L.** each scored a run in the bottom of the second inning. The tight defense of Winaukee seemed too much for Birchmont as they were shut out in the next two innings, while Winaukee put three more runs on the board. Tired, but not willing to quit, the boys faced another five run deficit going into the fifth inning with a score of 9-4. Once again the Braves battled back scoring one run in both the fifth and sixth innings, while managing to squelch the leading Winaukee offense. Unfortunately it was too little too late, as the two hour time limit came into effect, and the Braves suffered a loss.

Despite the record, the boys flourished in several high pressure situations, and were able to return to beautiful Birchmont with their heads held high. The games were learning opportunities, and everyone took something away from their exciting day of inter-camp competition. But most importantly, this team of fourteen boys came together when they needed to, in order to put their best effort forward and enjoy a day of hard fought competition.



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SPIRIT DAY

The renewal of Spirit Day 2012 was a huge hit among all campers and staff. The contest between Camp Birchmont & Robin Hood in full day competition in sports.

Though the final score was lopsided in favor of Birchmont, our campers showed great class, winning the "right way" with superb enthusiasm, teamwork and sportsmanship.

Congratulations kids! The quest for the cup has ended this summer with a Birchmont Victory. And a huge thank you to the many coaches and referees both home and away who worked a long day in the sun to make sure the 57 event day would come off without a hitch!

***Great job everyone !
- we can all be Birchmont Proud!***

Pierce Camp Birchmont Alma Mater

Alma Mater, in praise we sing
Hills are our homeland, all nature and spring
Glory, Birchmont, to be of thee
Campers with honor and loyalty



Pottery with Lydia...

Up at the very top of camp notches is in full swing. Campers are working hard making projects of all kinds, there have been a few spectacular puzzles in wood-shop, glorious bowls in pottery, fantastic paintings in arts and crafts, and some mysterious murders in nature. Wait...murders? Mary, our new fabulous nature specialist is helping campers solve the mysteries of nature who eats who, and how does this whole nature thing work? Check out her acid rain test along with our very own mini ocean. In pottery we have a new slab roller coming! We are going to use this nifty tool to make a few plates, bowls, and even some snazzy little shoes. Those are my ideas, but I need yours. Come see what you can make :)

