## Clarkstown Capitals Fall Goal Shy Of Northeast Regional Championship

Shelton, CT: This weekend, the Clarkstown Capitals Pee Wee 12-under team, represented New York as the state's newly crowned Tier III hockey champion, in the Tier III Northeast Regional tournament competing against other state champions from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut for the coveted Northeast Regional Title.

The Capitals went undefeated (2-0-1) in the opening round-robin stage of the tournament. They opened with a hard fought 2-2 tie against Maine followed by decisive wins of 7-0 over Massachusetts and 5-1 win over Rhode Island. In the semi finals the Capitals faced a pesky New Hampshire team outlasting them 3-1 to advance to the Regional Finals against an undefeated Connecticut team. High-powered Connecticut advanced to the final by also going undefeated (3-0) in the opening round outscoring their opponents 25-4 before beating Maine 6-3 in the semis.

The stage was set for an unbelievable finale pitting the two undefeated and most dominant teams and neither one disappointed. After a 0-0 opening period that featured end-to-end play by both teams and stellar goaltending, Connecticut jumped out to take a 2-0 lead going into the 2<sup>nd</sup> period break. After the resurface, both teams emerged and treated their fans to a period of hockey they will never forget!!! Time and again both goaltenders turned away opposing shots. At the mid-point of the third Connecticut broke through and scored what looked like the backbreaking goal to go up 3-0. But the neversay-die Capitals fought back scoring 3 goals in the final 5 minutes, the last with 26 seconds remaining, to tie things up and send it into a 10-minute sudden death overtime period.

The energy level of both teams in overtime was as if the previous three periods hadn't been played. The end-to-end action continued with both teams having numerous quality chances to put it away only to be out done by the opposition's net-minders. But with

1:54 left and a probable shootout looming, Connecticut tallied a power play goal to close out this amazing run by the Capitals to take the Regional.

After the game head coach Eddie Varmon said, "I couldn't be more proud of our boys. They all never gave up and fought back and came so close to taking the whole thing. It is something they will never forget. Nor will I."

The Clarkstown Capitals is a travel hockey organization with the Palisades Mall Rink as its home arena. The Capitals field teams at the Mite (5-8), Squirt (9-10), Pee Wee (11-12), Bantam (13-14), Midget Minor (15-16) and Midget Major (17-18) age levels. They will be holding tryouts for their '08-'09 season from April 7th -12th. For more information visit them on <a href="https://www.clarkstowncapitals.com">www.clarkstowncapitals.com</a> or call 845.639.0855.



Featured above are: Joe Carcia, Chris Carroll, Connor Carroll, Anthony D'Ercole, Jimmy Danaher, Kris Giordano, Michael Hanson, Tim Hekker, Michael Koodin, Chris Kowalchuk, Dinty (Dan) Moore, Eric Murphy, Kevin Murphy, Maurice Murphy, Tommy Stephens, Michael Taussi, and Stephen Varmon. Head Coach Eddie Varmon, Assistants Mickey Carroll, Tommy Stephens and Kevin Carroll.