

Bulldogs Back in Business - 30th Annual Double Dutch Holiday Classic

The Bouncing Bulldogs were back in business last Sunday, December 5th, as they excelled at the 30th Anniversary Annual Double Dutch Holiday Classic. The team has been competing at Harlem's World-Famous Apollo theater since 2004. This year the Bulldogs brought a record number 46 jumpers to the Apollo and over half were competing for the first time on the big stage! Seasoned competitor, Holly Copeland, said, "It was truly rewarding not only to be on the famous Apollo stage again but to be up there with all of my best friends. I especially loved getting to watch many of our younger jumpers experience the Apollo for the first time. It brought me back to all of the emotions I felt so many years ago and encouraged me to jump for a program bigger than myself." With the help of their experienced high school leaders and alumni who came to support, everyone did a fantastic job despite the safety restrictions for COVID-19. Competing in events like two-minute double dutch speed is hard enough without a mask, but our jumpers "embraced change" and adapted their training to compete even with masks on. The competition was challenging as teams came all the way from Brazil, Japan, Kenya, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, and Ohio. Foremost, it was heartwarming to see the jump rope community come together once again in person to compete and celebrate the legacy of the founder of double dutch, Mr. David A. Walker.

In the fusion category, an exciting event that consists of double dutch, dancing, costumes, and upbeat music, the Bouncing Bulldogs took home 2nd place finishes in both the Novice and Advanced divisions. The team as a whole has improved immensely since 2004, standing on the shoulders of our alumni who paved the way for us to be able to finally compete for a coveted spot in the top 3 and be crowned "Best of Show." These current Bulldogs are determined to bounce back, work hard, and go for the gold next year!

In the speed categories, the Bulldogs' consistent hard work paid off yet again. Most notably, for the 8th grade and above double dutch pairs speed event, the team managed a clean sweep taking home 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards. The younger jumpers also excelled with 1st place finishes for 2-minute singles speed in the 4th-5th and 6th-grade divisions.

Overall the Bouncing Bulldogs had a positive experience at the 30th Annual Double Dutch Holiday Classic and Coach Fredrick said, "Even during Covid-19 and wearing masks, the Bulldogs still excelled!" Thank you to Lauren Walker and the National Double Dutch League for hosting this wonderful event and to our family, friends, and community for your continued support!



