



Press Release - *Bouncing Bulldogs Celebrate Black History Month in Brooklyn, New York*

On February 29th, 5 members of the Bouncing Bulldogs (Lena B, Ragan C, Jenna M, Caleb O, and Shalini S) travelled to Brooklyn for the *2020 Stand Double Dutch Battle* in honor of Black History Month. This one-day event, hosted by the Dutch Squad of Brooklyn, NY was held at Brownsville Recreation Center and showcased the outstanding talent of jumpers from New Jersey, Connecticut, and New York. For the first time, Bulldog team members from Chapel Hill and Durham, NC experienced the cultural phenomenon of Double Dutch where the sport was rooted. From young Kindergarteners, all the way up to High School aged jumpers, competitors bonded over their passion for this unique sport. Legends and early coaches of the sport were in attendance and participants learned about and were literally immersed in the deep history of Double Dutch.

“It was a major honor to be able to be in the gym where competitive Double Dutch started in 1972. To compete in the event was by invitation only and I was blown away by the number of spectators. This day will go down as one of the highlights of my coaching career, not only because our jumpers did very well, but because we represented the Durham and Chapel Hill community on the highest level. This was a historic moment for the Bouncing Bulldogs program.” - Coach Fredrick

The Bouncing Bulldogs competed in three events and won 1st place in both Double Dutch speed events. Our team was honored not only to be invited to this event, but to be in the presence of those who have made the most profound impact on the sport.

“It was an incredible feeling meeting those who have made it possible for me to do what I love...double dutch. My eyes were opened the diversity and inclusion of our sport and I’m beyond grateful for the opportunity to jump alongside the best athletes in double dutch.” - Ragan Copeland

Double Dutch has come a long way since the street games so many used to play in New York, and we have these legends to thank. We are all standing on the shoulders of those who sacrificed their time and efforts to helping children succeed in life, using Double Dutch as an outlet. What better way to celebrate and honor those who made the sport possible than to travel to its birthplace and be amongst those who say they will forever “bleed Double Dutch!” It truly was an amazing and enlightening experience for all.

