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Over 40 players from ASA and Prime contributed to teams that advanced to the NorCal Championships!

## Program Update

Our first Winter Academy ended the last Friday in February. It was refreshing to work with a group of kids who understood the importance of getting in the gym on a regular basis to develop offensive skills, rather than worry about playing games. Every player received a workout plan highlighting the skills and drills we worked on throughout the Winter!

ASA began its 14th Spring Program the first full week of March. We are full for the third straight spring, with over 180 kids in the program! Our first week of practices went fantastic, players are learning the fundamentals of the game as well as the

important skills of communication, concentration, and competitiveness. Remember, "communication equals concentration!"

With over 100 players participating on Varsity high school teams this year, it was exciting to see many of players contribute on playoff teams. Over 40 former ASA and Prime players play on teams which advanced to the Northern California championships! These teams are two or three wins away from a state championship. We are excited to have played a part in helping these players reach their potential and play at the highest level of high school basketball!





Kasen Krueger (left) - 5th Prime Blue, and Dylan Reyes (right) - 4th Prime Green

## Players of the Month

ASA and Prime's success has always been about the hard work of our players and their improvement over the years in our program. Nobody works harder in practices and workouts than our players, but it's the motivation to take the skills and drills we teach home and master them that makes some of our players stand out over the years!

We would like to recognize the following players for standing out in February with their work ethic and performance on the court:

### ASA WINTER PROGRAM:

- **Brady Cook:** Brady was a top player in our Winter Academy who stood out every night with his outstanding work ethic. He has the potential to be a great high school player, if he continues to develop the speed of his shot and his ability to accelerate to the rim. On another note, it was exciting to see Brady drill a HUGE three point shot in the closing minutes of the Jr. NBA 3v3 championship at the Fieldhouse. Great job Brady!

### PRIME:

- **Dylan Reyes:** Dylan is a part of our 4th Prime Green team and has really stood out with his ability to be coachable and apply the concepts we teach in practice to games! As a member of one of our younger/less experienced teams, there are times when success doesn't come right away as other teams zone and run around and trap our players. That said, Dylan has shown a unique ability to "control what he can control" which is his effort and concentration. His coaches noted he did a great job "owning his gap" in helpside and using his retreat dribble against pressure, two things we've been dedicating time to in practice!
- **Kasen Krueger:** Kasen has the potential to be a Prime legend! Starting on our 5th Prime Blue team Kasen has stepped up on both ends of the floor. Typically, Kasen guards the best player on the other team, scores, and handles the ball for his Prime team. We are excited about his development as a leader over the past month and he's truly starting to stand out!
- **Dominic Colvis:** It has been exciting to watch Dominic grow from a recreational player to someone who is giving his best effort 100% of the time on the court. We tell our players they should have one goal when they take the court, to stand out and be the best competitor in the gym. Dominic is starting to show this on a daily basis and it's exciting to watch! As he gets more and more skilled, he has the potential to be a VERY good player.

## Alumni Success On the Court

As highlighted on our website, we have around 100 former players playing Varsity basketball, and currently 24 players competing at the college level. Considering how new our "Prime" year-round tournament teams are (first group are current seniors in high school), we expect these numbers to keep growing and growing!

[Click here to see a list of our alumni currently playing Varsity, collegiately, and professionally](#)



Connor Jean - Senior at the University of West Georgia defending against Gonzaga

### ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:

#### [CONNOR JEAN - SENIOR - UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA](#)

Connor Jean was one of the hardest working players we ever coached. He started ASA as a 6th grader before we had Elementary School level teams. Connor was always a solid player, but as he got more and more passionate and began to put the time in, his skills dramatically improved. By

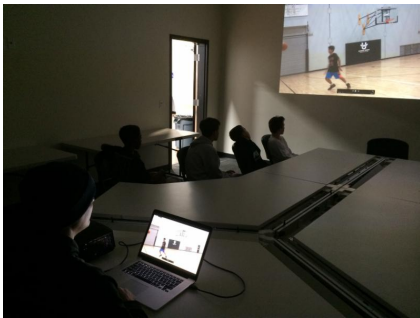
the time high school came he was one of the top players in the area and moved on to play college basketball at Loyola Marymount and the University of West Georgia. Connor finished his career in 2017 and will stay in the game as a coach who wants to specialize in skills training.

**Words from Connor Jean:** *"I truly believe ASA is one of the best programs not just in Northern California, but in ALL of the country. ASA's coaches are top of the line. I can say this coming from experience playing basketball at the Junior college level, Division I level, and Division II level, that the coaches at ASA as good as you'll see at any level. They are extremely knowledgeable of the game, and teach it to you the right way. They want to help you reach your full potential, which is why they focus highly on skill development, so that you can take the drills you learn at practice home with you. At ASA they teach you all the things that get overlooked in the game today. And for me that's what separates ASA from the other programs around. They value the intangibles and teach with integrity."*

*The ASA coaching staff has not only taught me basketball, but also taught me life lessons: How to be a great teammate, how to work hard and stay discipline, how to trust the process and enjoy the journey not just the end product, how to cooperate with others, how to listen, how to be coachable, and how to love not just the game, but your teammates. Coach Allocco senior always talks about it, that love is the cornerstone of all great organizations. This organization loves the game, loves their staff, and loves their players and helps them get to the next level.*

*ASA Basketball and Coach Frank Allocco, Jr. played a HUGE role in me playing at the college level, and I'll always be appreciative. I just want to thank ASA for everything they have done for me and the continued support I get from the program!"*

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Every player in Prime had his shot evaluated on film!

## Prime Update

The improvement our teams have seen over the past six months is remarkable. Our 8th grade teams are gearing up for high school basketball, trying to master the skill of competing 100% of the time and being accountable. Our 7th grade teams will make the annual push all off our teams make at this level, trying to go from a solid 7th grade team to one of the best teams in Northern California.

Our 6th grade program boasts one of the strongest teams we've ever had, look out for these guys in two years!

Having our 3rd-5th grade teams this young is already paying huge dividends, the improvement we've seen in 6 months is amazing!

**Shooting Evaluations:** Every player in our Prime program had his shot evaluated on film by Coach Frank Allocco, Jr. in the film room at the Fieldhouse. Players were then sent a copy of the evaluation in which they could hear Coach correcting their technique. This is a great opportunity for our players to break some habits and develop good shooting technique so they can grow into a good shot. We will be filming these players periodically throughout the year to measure improvement and keep them focused on proper shooting form!

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## Spotlight Drill Series of the Month

This month we spotlight a great series of finishing drills, something most kids don't practice on a regular basis. Mikan/Power Layups are a drill everyone should be doing on a daily basis, working on finishing with either hand around the rim. Backboard taps are a great drill for developing strong hands around the rim and the ability to control the ball with your fingertips. Younger players could do these drills on a lowered hoop, smaller ball (even a mini ball), or both!



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## Social Media Update

We are continuing to deliver a lot of great content on our Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages. We plan on providing training videos, motivational materials, and even live streams of our practices and workouts! Our plan is to continue to try to educate parents and players on what to work on at home, and even perhaps watch a practice and learn from our coaches from home! Please connect with us:



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Thank you for reading about some exciting news and developments within our ASA family! Players, keep working on your game on a daily basis, all you need is a ball, a basket, and a passion to be the best you can be! We hope to see you on the court in 2017!

[Visit our Website](#)

STAY CONNECTED:

