

HINSDALE CENTRAL HOLIDAY CLASSIC

HC SQUARED: Building a New Tradition of Basketball at Its Best December 26, 27, 28, 29, 2018 www.hcholidayclassic.com

OSWEGO EAST, WILLOWBROOK JOIN 2018 HCHC FIELD

Two teams that won a collective 46 games last year will join the 2018 edition of the Hinsdale Central Holiday Classic this December. Oswego East was the Southwest Prairie runner-up last year and lost only twice between the second week of December and the first week of March on its way to a twenty-win season. The Wolves are anchored by Kendall County News Player of the Year Ray J Dennis, who averaged 17.2 points per game last season and is considered one of the biggest breakout players in the Class of 2019. Advancing as far as any team in their school history last season, the Warriors of Willowbrook were sectional finalists and won 26 games. Guard Matas Masys connected on 67 three-point baskets last season and leads a talented group which recorded 50 victories over the past two seasons. The two new additions represent teams from conferences which were not included in previous Hinsdale Central Holiday Classics, as the current 16-team field now boasts entries from 15 different conferences. Oswego East and Willowbrook replace Bolingbrook, who will travel to Florida over the Christmas holidays and Crete-Monee, whose contract was not renewed.

The complete 16-team field for this year's event includes: DePaul Prep, Glenbrook North, Hinsdale Central, Homewood-Flossmoor, Lincoln Park, Maine South, Marian Catholic, Oswego East, Richards, Rockford Auburn, Saint Charles East, Saint Rita, Stevenson, Urban Prep Englewood, Westinghouse and Willowbrook. Half of the field was either conference champions or conference runners-up last year.

"To secure two emerging suburban programs from conferences we did not have representation from is a feather in our cap. Both Oswego East and Willowbrook are now programs that are on everyone's radar. This year's Hinsdale Central Holiday Classic will be the deepest field we've ever had", said Tournament Manager Joe Spagnolo.

The fourth annual Hinsdale Central Holiday Classic will be held December 26-29. More information on the tournament can be found on the HCHC website at: <u>www.hcholidayclassic.com</u>.

