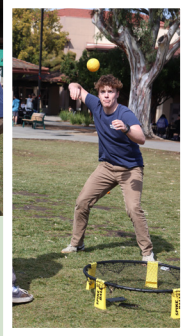


all for the *Members of the senior class compete in a Spikeball tournament.*

# Spikeball

**WE** *The winning team, Jishy — Ishaan Batra and Jacob Kasanin —, talks strategy and how they secured their win.*  
*the champs:*  
**JISHY**

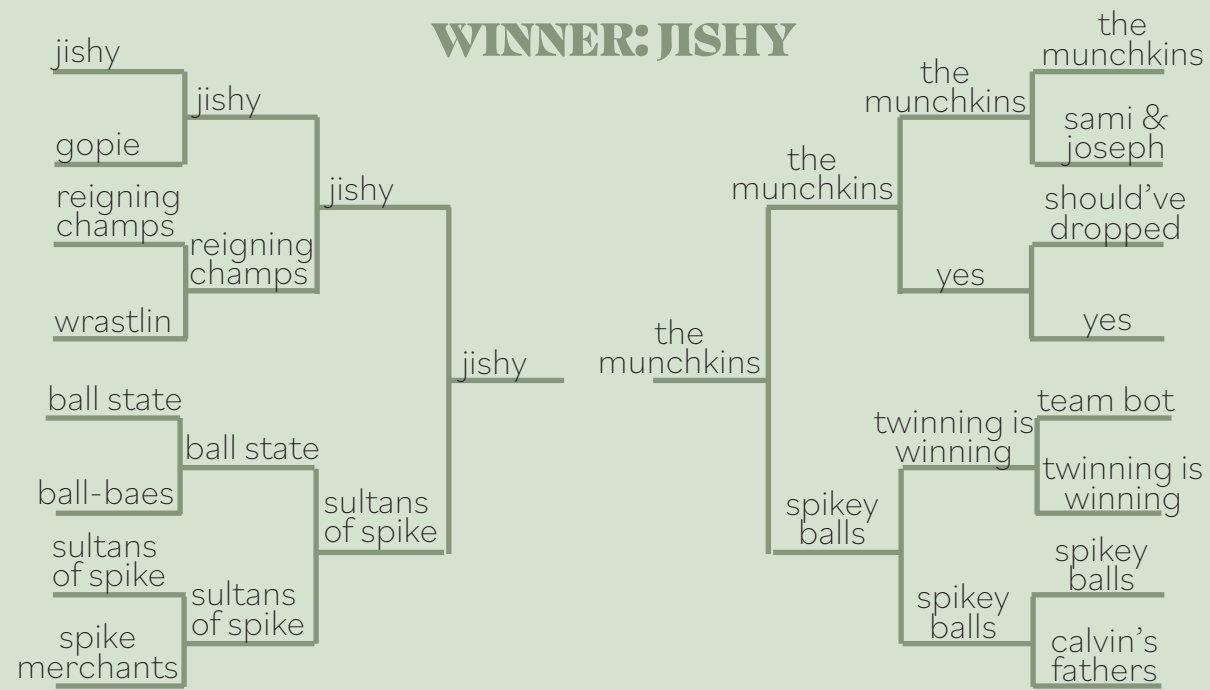


(left) **AFTER THE TOURNAMENT** is over, seniors Ian Johnson, Cameron Phillips, Charlie Miller and Ivan Ijzerman continue to play Spikeball. Their commitment to the game displays the Paly culture that Spikeball has made its way into. (right) **SPIKING THE BALL** odown on the new, Ijzerman hopes to catch the other team off guard, securing a point for himself and Phillips. *Photos by Arati Periyannan*



## senior spikeball tournament bracket

**WINNER: JISHY**



**R**unning laps around the quad in their matching color sweats and crewnecks, seniors Ishaan Batra and Jacob Kasanin warm up for their last day of the Spikeball tournament.

While other teams stand around talking, these two have their headphones in, getting into the zone. It's this mentality that secures them the top spot in the tournament.

"We had a little routine every single time we had music and this certain queue of songs we would listen to," Kasanin said. "And we also watched this pro Spikeball player. So really, we studied film."

This wasn't their first time playing Spikeball as a team. On an ordinary lunch, or during a prep, the quad is filled with people playing Spikeball, many times including Batra and Kasanin.

"We went through a pretty rigorous training

program of supplying Spikeball about an hour a day, every day leading up to the tournament," Batra said. "And right before the tournament and each game that we played, we would warm up with like running."

Their teamwork and friendship is what let them move ahead in the tournament. From their first game to the last, they made sure to communicate with each other, bringing in win after win.

After their final match against the munchkins—seniors Cameron Phillips and Ivan Ijzerman—, the two celebrated by jumping up and shoulder bumping. Cheers came from the crowd as the two received trophies, officially making them the class of 2023 Spikeball champions.

"I mean, it felt great," Batra said. "No one at the school currently can beat us. We

have played pretty much every team and we challenge anyone that wants to try to take that from us."

This isn't the end of their Spikeball careers. They were first introduced to the game as freshmen in a similar tournament and they hope

to carry on the Paly love of the game.

"I think amongst seniors it's a big part and like a positive part of Paly culture," Kasanin said. "Like it's a fun way to enjoy the nice weather that we have get out. Be active, have fun, and get a little competition as well."

(left) **AFTER WATCHING THEIR** friends win the tournament, seniors Charlie Miller, Max Schrage and Ian Johnson hold up a "W" to show their support. *Photo by Theresa Hart*

(right) **FOR THE FIRST** time as the official class of 2023 Spikeball champs, seniors Ishaan Batra and Jacob Kasanin pose for a photo. This is a win they will remember forever. "We had that chemistry, and it took us all the way to the championships," Kasanin said. *Photo by Arati Periyannan*

**"No one at the school currently can beat us. We have played pretty much every team and we challenge anyone that wants to try to take that from us."**

**ISHAAN BATRA ('23)**