



Get to know more about Bernardo Brandt!

I've had so many memorable handball experiences and looking back at them, I really feel my growth as a handball player. A few years ago, I reached the semis of the St. Albans Juniors Tournament with Tristan Durbin and I continued to compete in tournaments with him after such as the 2016 ICHA Junior Big Blue the following weekend. I challenged myself in joining these tournaments and it was very exciting to play against other great junior players, like Dan Pitre. I would say my breakthrough moment though was holding my own against Jesus Ramirez, one of the best adult players in the Handballers New Jersey Singles Tournament. Not only was it a great game, I was then selected as Most Improved Player that same day. I stepped up to the next level after that and played against more adults and my PHA Juniors Clinic Exhibition Game with Carlin Rosa against my dad and Eddie Styles was unforgettable.



Recently, I had a wonderful experience at the LI Open. It was interesting to see how great one-wall players were also competing at a high level in 4-wall. It turned out that quite a few players remembered me and that made me feel very welcomed. That day was a big shift for me because I have been coming to NYC losing to top Asian players for years, but that day I finally won!

For me, handball is the ultimate hand-eye coordination sport filled with friendly people. It's like a martial art, hand-to-hand combat that demands quick reflexes and rapid decision making, yet it is informal simultaneously where players shout, "We got next," and, "You're on the court!" It is filled with inviting people where anyone can step on a court while an A player is warming up and he or she will volley with you and encourage you. That's really cool!

Handball has challenged my quickness, anticipation and court awareness and it demands more than just straight-ahead speed, and I've seen players excel at this game. Four one-wall A players blasting away from the short line, the game doesn't get more intense than that. Bottom line is, handball is a lot of fun and it gets me out of my head because the ball comes my way every few seconds! That's what handball is. Fast, Intense, and Fun.



Player Achievements

*Doubles Semi-finalist, **St. Albans Juniors Tournament** (2016)*

*Doubles Semi-finalist, **ICHA / Central Park Conservancy Big Blue Tournament** (2016)*

*Most Improved Player **Handballers New Jersey** (2016)*

*Doubles Semi-finalist **Handballers New Jersey Open** (2017)*

*19 & Under Small Ball Singles Championship, **38th Annual Long Island Open** (2019)*