

# 15th Season Championship Showdown: Heights Finish the Job

## Introduction

As we celebrate the culmination of the 15th YFFL season, this newsletter captures the excitement, talent, and dedication that defined our journey. From preseason training to in-season challenges, our players and coaches demonstrated resilience, teamwork, and leadership on and off the field. The season reached its pinnacle with the 15th Season Championship Showdown, where Heights and Dyckman battled for supremacy, leaving fans on the edge of their seats.

## YFFL Championship Game

Under gloomy skies and championship pressure, the moment had arrived. With clouds hanging low overhead, **Heights** and **Dyckman** lined up for the **15th YFFL Championship**, a matchup built on intensity, execution, and legacy.

As tradition demands, the game began with respect. Both teams met at midfield, congratulating one another for earning a place on the championship stage. Captains gathered for the coin toss, Heights won, and elected to receive.

## First Half: Momentum Swings and Statement Plays

Heights opened the game poised and composed. **Quarterback Din Duarte** led a methodical first drive, mixing short, controlled passes while moving the ball downfield. The drive nearly ended in points when Duarte found **Tuck LeClair** in the end zone, but LeClair was ruled just out of bounds after securing the catch. Turnover on downs.

Dyckman took over looking to answer, but the Heights defense immediately set the tone. **Ryan Calderon** closed the drive with a sack on Dyckman quarterback **Donovan Quezada**, forcing a stop and swinging momentum back to Heights.

After a penalty stalled the next Heights possession, the coaching staff spotted an opening. On just the second play, Duarte delivered a perfectly placed deep ball to LeClair for the **first touchdown of the game**. The extra point attempt fell incomplete, but Heights struck first.

Dyckman responded with confidence. Rookie quarterback **Donovan Quezada** connected with rookie wide receiver **Jenderson Morbin** for a touchdown to tie the game. Dyckman then took a brief lead when Quezada tossed an extra-point pass to **Max Parker Benson**, who came down with an impressive one-handed grab, making it **7-6 Dyckman**.

Dyckman added to the score moments later when **Jeremiah Cardona** broke through for a safety, pushing the score to **9-6**. Any momentum gained, however, was short-lived.

On the very next possession, Quezada looked to continue the drive, but Duarte read the play perfectly. Playing both quarterback and corner, Duarte deflected the pass intended for Morbin into the hands of **Ryan Calderon**, who secured the interception and was stopped just inches from the goal line.

Heights wasted no time. Duarte quickly found Calderon crossing the plane for a touchdown, then connected with LeClair on the extra point to reclaim the lead.

The Heights defense stayed relentless, forcing another quick stop. On the first play of the ensuing drive, Duarte once again connected with LeClair on a deep strike, followed by a successful extra point to **veteran Anthony Abinader**.

At halftime, Heights had firmly taken control.

**Score: Heights 20 – Dyckman 9**

## Second Half: Heights Take Over

Dyckman opened the second half with possession hoping to spark a comeback, but **Anthony Abinader** stepped in front of a pass for an interception, returning it deep into Dyckman territory.

Two plays later, Duarte delivered again, finding LeClair in the end zone on a beautifully designed play drawn up by **Coach Eugene**. The connection continued as Duarte and LeClair linked up for the extra point.

Dyckman kept their composure and answered with a solid drive as Quezada connected with **Max Parker Benson** for their second touchdown. The extra point attempt came up short.

By then, Heights were operating with complete control. Duarte continued to move the offense with poise and precision, driving the ball downfield before delivering yet another touchdown pass to LeClair.

From there, Heights sealed the game on defense. Dyckman found no room to operate, and the Heights offense continued to execute until the final whistle.



**Final Score**

**Heights 40 – Dyckman 15**

## Heights Champions Crowned

With the victory, **Heights were crowned the 15th Season YFFL Champions**, delivering a complete performance on both sides of the ball.

**Coach Rob** and **Assistant Coach Eugene** earned their **first championship together**, a milestone built on preparation, trust, and execution.

# Championship MVP: Din Duarte

After the celebration, an u-nan-i-mous on-field vote named Din Duarte the Championship MVP, a decision supported by his impact across every phase of the game.

## Offensive Performance

- 18 completions on 24 attempts (75 percent completion rate)
- 6 passing touchdowns
- 4 completed extra points

## Defensive Impact

- 5 pass deflections
- 1 interception
- 2 flags pulled

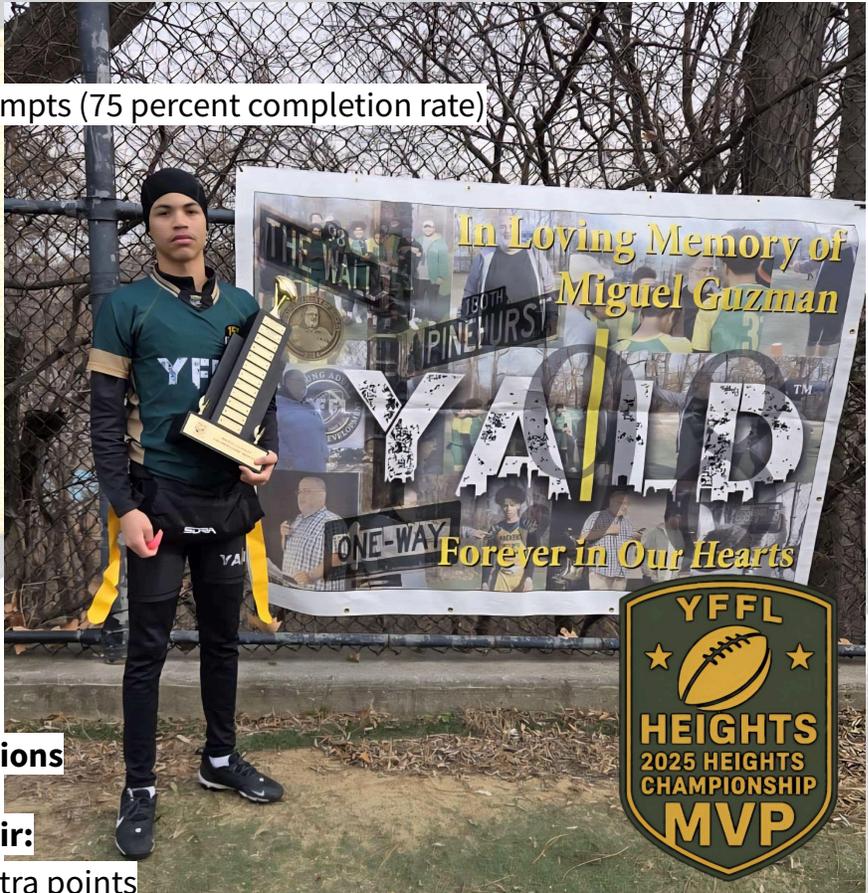
## Team Highlights

### Scoring and Receiving Connections

- **Din Duarte to Tuck LeClair:**  
4 touchdowns, 8 receptions, 2 extra points
- **Din Duarte to Anthony Abinader:**  
1 touchdown, 6 receptions, 1 extra point
- **Din Duarte to Ryan Calderon:**  
1 touchdown, 4 receptions, 1 extra point

### Defensive Standouts

- **Anthony Abinader:** 2 deflections, 2 interceptions, 3 flags pulled
- **Ryan Calderon:** 1 interception, 6 flags pulled, 3 sacks
- **Alvin Jerez-Mendoza:** Team-high 7 flags pulled



## Final Moment

As the final whistle blew and both teams gathered one last time under the gray sky, the Heights formed their final huddle of the season. No long speech. No extra words.

**Assistant Coach Eugene** looked at his players and summed up the entire journey with two simple words:

**“Job done.”**

And with that, the 15th YFFL Championship was complete. Now, the names of Robert and Eugene will be etched onto the Miguel Guzman Championship Trophy.

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## Special Mentions

- **Coaching Milestones:** Congratulations to **Coach Rob** and **Assistant Coach Eugene** for securing their first championship together. Your preparation and leadership inspired every player this season.
- **Community Support:** A huge thank you to the families, friends, and volunteers who cheered, coordinated, and helped make this season memorable. Your support this season made all the difference. We also want to give a special shout-out to **Locksmith** for sponsoring and being an integral part of our season and in-season tournament, your support helped elevate the experience for every player and coach.

## Closing Statement

The 2025 season will be remembered not only for the championship but also for the countless moments of growth, sportsmanship, and community spirit that made it special. Heights' triumph is a reflection of preparation, teamwork, and the support of families, volunteers, and sponsors like Locksmith. As we look ahead to the next season, we carry forward the lessons learned, the bonds formed, and the pride of being part of YALD's enduring legacy.

**Congratulations to Heights, the 2025 YFFL Champions!**