

STICKS FOR SOLDIERS XII
THANKSGIVING CHARITY
LACROSSE TOURNAMENT

FAIRFIELD LUDLOWE
HIGH SCHOOL LACROSSE

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STICKSFORSOLDIERS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2016 Sticks for Soldiers Honoree, Vincent Mannion-Brodeur to attend Inaugural Sticks for Soldiers Florida Games on March 17th, in Sarasota, FL.

Fairfield, Conn., March 2, 2018 – Sticks For Soldiers, Inc. is proud to announce that United States Army Corporal (Ret) **Vincent Mannion-Brodeur** will be attending **Sticks For Soldiers Florida** on Saturday, March 17th in Sarasota, FL. Corporal Brodeur sustained life-changing injuries from combat in March 2007.

United States Army Corporal Vincent Mannion-Brodeur

CPL(R) Vincent Mannion-Brodeur was raised in West Roxbury, MA and Hyannis, MA. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in July 2006. After graduating from Infantry and Airborne School at Fort Benning, GA in December of 2006, CPL Manning was ultimately assigned to B Co., 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division. He deployed to Kuwait in early Feb 2007 before arriving in Iraq a week later.

While on a patrol in Tikrit, Iraq on March 11, 2007, Vincent's team moved to clear a small building. Upon opening the door, an explosive device was detonated remotely using a cell phone. The explosion instantly killed CPL Brodeur's squad leader, SGT Dan Woodcock, and severely wounded Vincent who was positioned only four feet to his right. Vincent's wounds included catastrophic head trauma, a nearly severed left arm and his upper torso was riddled with bomb fragments.

CPL Brodeur remained in a coma for more than a year while enduring multiple surgeries to reattach his left arm, remove a portion of his brain, remove various blood clots within his brain and replace his cranium with synthetic material. Thanks to the tireless efforts of his parents, Jeff and Maura, Vincent became the first active-duty serviceman to get private care on the East Coast when he was moved to Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston, MA. As a direct result of his wounds, CPL Brodeur has undergone 44 surgeries in 24 different hospitals and has set the bar to a new level for severe TBI. He continues to receive treatment in several hospitals each year. Vincent currently lives with his mother, Maura, a U.S. Navy veteran and his father, Jeff, a U.S. Army veteran who together are his caretakers

Event Details

Cardinal Mooney High School in Sarasota, FL will host three other local high school teams on **Friday, March 16th** and **Saturday, March 17th**. Each of the four teams will play one regular season game on Friday night and another on Saturday. Participating high schools include: **Cardinal Mooney High School** from Sarasota, FL, **Tampa Catholic High School** from Tampa FL, **Cardinal Gibbons** from Fort Lauderdale and **WT Dwyer High School** from Palm Beach Gardens. All games will be played at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Sarasota, FL.

All are welcome to attend. Corporate and private donations are greatly appreciated. Donations will be accepted on site at the event and can also be made through the Click&Pledge section of our homepage (found at www.sticksforsoldiers.org) or mailed to "Sticks for Soldiers, Inc.", PO Box 475, Fairfield, Conn. 06824. Additionally, there will also be commemorative T-shirts will be on sale. For more information on our history, honoree profiles, game schedule and location, please see www.sticksforsoldiers.org.

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Jeff Casucci, President of Sticks for Soldiers and tournament chairman said of this year's inaugural event, "We are proud to see the message of Sticks For Soldiers expand into new areas. I would like to thank Kyle Donovan and all of the players, coaches, schools and local communities involved for their dedication to the wonderful veterans we endeavor to serve. We are also very pleased that a hero like Vincent can be a part of this great event. We cannot thank him enough for the sacrifices they have made on behalf of our country and the freedoms we all enjoy. We are honored to have Vincent as a member of the Sticks For Soldiers community."

About Sticks for Soldiers

Sticks for Soldiers is a non-profit high school charity which hosts a lacrosse tournament on Thanksgiving Saturday that is held in Fairfield, Connecticut to raise money for severely- wounded military personnel. The mission of the tournament is to provide support and give thanks to the service men and women who put their lives on the line and sacrificed for our country, while raising awareness among high school athletes of the sacrifices being made by people just a few years older than themselves. Through their play and fund-raising participation, the athletes demonstrate their tangible thanks and support. Sticks For Soldiers has now raised over \$775,000 in 12 years.

Sticks for Soldiers, Inc. is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity. FEIN 46-0962202. For more information, visit our website at: www.sticksforsoldiers.org