

## Pearls of Wisdom

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Answer: **FLORIDA PANTHERS**

The fifteen hexagons full of letters all hide the names of four marbles from the current rosters of active Marble League teams, whether they made 2021 games cutoff or were relegated to the Showdown. In each hexagon, there are 3 members of a team hidden Boggle-style along triangular moves, as well a fourth “stray” member of another team. The strays form a chain.

Middle Row	Team Name	Captain	Member	Member	Member	Reserve
START	Hazers	Hazy	Smoggy	Foggy	Misty	Cloudy
CRASH	Balls of Chaos	Anarchy	Tumult	Clutter	Snarl	Disarray
CONED	Chocolatiers	Choc	Cocoa	Mocha	Bonbon	Fudge
EASAE	Team Galactic	Cosmo	Starry	Astron	Pulsar	Quasar
JELLE	Mellow Yellow	Yellow	Yelley	Yellah	Yellup	Yellim
GOOED	Indigo Stars	Indie	Gogo	Diego	Bingo	Montoya
SICKO	Green Ducks	Mallard	Billy	Quacky	Ducky	Goose
SPANK	Jungle Jumpers	Jump	Hop	Leap	Skip	Bounce
SHOVE	Oceanics	Ocean	Sea	Shore	Aqua	Bay
FLEET	Gliding Glaciers	Alpine	Frost	Iceberg	Polar	Sheet
WONDR	O'rangers	Kinnowin	Clementin	Mandarin	Orangin	Tangerin
INKOB	Thunderbolts	Thunder	Lightning	Bolt	Shock	Zap
JIMMY	Shining Swarm	Shiny	Sparkle	Shimmer	Sterling	Glimmer
GOALS	Kobalts	Azure	Gnome	Cerulean	Royal	Meepo
LOWFE	Snowballs	Snowy	Snow	Snowflake	Snowstorm	Snowblast

For each team, the member in green appears in the previous hexagon; for example, “START” contains Hazy, Smoggy, Misty and Tumult, so the Balls of Chaos hexagon is next in sequence.

Take the missing members, starting from Foggy from the Hazers grid, and extract the first through fifth letters of each, diagonalizing three times, for the answer: **FLORIDA PANTHERS**.

F	O	G	G	D	I	E	G	T	A	N	G	E	R	I	N					
C	L	U	T	T	E	R	M	A	L	L	A	R	D	T	H	U	N	D	E	R
C	H	O	C	H	O	P	S	T	E	R	L	I	N	A	Z	U	R	E		
A	S	T	R	O	N	A	Q	U	A	A	Z	U	R	E						
Y	E	L	L	I	M	A	L	P	I	N	E	S	N	O	W	S	T	O	R	M

### Author’s Notes

Adam: I absolutely promise that I had a working version of this puzzle all written out (for an answer that’s no longer part of the hunt) when [Let’s Get the Ball Rolling](#) showed up in the 2021 Mystery Hunt. I discarded it at first, but over time came to believe it was distinct enough to work in our hunt. (That, and our deadline crunch really helped sway my decision just a little bit.)

Apologies to Foggy Brume, *again*, for singling out his spherical counterpart. At least I managed to get Jelle’s name dead center as a big visually-pleasing hint. Oh, and: ○○○○○○○○○○○○!