

UTAH SNITCH



OFFICIAL SPORTS NEWSLETTER OF THE UTAH QUIDDITCH ORGANIZATION

Fliers Take the Lead!



The first official SNOW CUP season is underway! On November 13th, the Crimson Fliers (The team made up entirely of University of Utah Students) made their debut into the world of Quidditch in a match against the Utah Hex at Reservoir Park in Salt Lake.

Although inexperienced, the Ute players brought heart and skill to the match pulling ahead with two impressive victories in the double header. The victories came through a never before seen level of aggressive offence of the Crimson's chasers, and non-stop assault from their beaters – forever raising the level of play of Utah's Teams.

Star plays included a score by Mathew Williams from half field, and a chain of ten consecutive blocks by Keeper George Willis, who also caught the snitch in the first game as a Seeker.

The first match ended with the Crimson Fliers, 100 and Hex, 40. The second match brought 160 more points to the Fliers, and 70 more to the Hex. The Fliers now lead with 120 points this season. Way to go!



Between the matches, a few lucky players and spectators were able to win either promotional merchandise from Warner Bros. for HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS – PART 1 or advance screening tickets at the concession stand. Congratulations to our winners, and Thank You WB!



The matches were covered by KSL Channel 5 News, and a link to their broadcast can be found on our new "We're in the news!" page on our website. There you will also find an impressive article by the Deseret news, which also shows a few of their star-class pictures of the game. Check it out today!

In this Issue:

- Snow Cup Begins!
- Planning Summit Results
- Wrock Exclusive Interviews
- Amazing December Deals
- New Teams Up North
- And more!

Upcoming Events

Match - Judge @ Hex:	Dec 4th
Match - Fliers @ Judge	Dec 18th
Happy Christmas:	Dec 25th
Match - Fliers @ Hex:	Jan 8th
Match – Hex @ Judge:	Jan 22nd
Match – Judge @ Fliers:	Feb 5th
Western Tournament:	April

(The dates of future events may be changed or adjusted. Please visit our website for up-to-date times and specifics, and more upcoming events)



The running points of our current season:

1. **Crimson Fliers:** 260
2. **Utah Hex:** 110
3. **Judge Memorial:** (Pending)
4. Other Teams: (Pending)

Don't miss our next exciting game in knee-deep snow! It is on the 4th at South Ridge Park (5100 S and 4000 W, Taylorsville) at 12:00 Noon.

World Cup Results



The biggest and baddest Quidditch tournament on the Planet wrapped up on the 14th of November, announcing for the fourth year running – Middlebury College as World Champs! Find more about the cup on the IQA site!

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And (just because Utah Quidditch is Awesome) from now until December 31st, You can receive an additional \$2 off your purchase by entering the code "HP7" during check out!



IQA WESTERN REGION



Are you Ready?

What are you doing this spring? On one of the first two weekends this April, under the warm Southern California sun, teams from across the Western Region and beyond will convene to play in the largest Quidditch tournament ever held west of the Mississippi!

Occidental College will host the tournament: a weekend that promises a host of wizardly entertainments, merchandise to loosen your grip on your galleons, and more Quidditch than you can shake a broom at. Glory in the western conference is calling: will you answer?



To the Utah HEX from Captain Nick Burk: Please add the dates of our upcoming practices and games to your calendars and let me know if you can't make them. We have at least one required practice a month, and each player is encouraged to engage in heavy cardio exercise at least twice a week to keep our speed up. Each practice usually starts at Noon at our field. New Players are always welcome. Here are the dates: **November 27th, December 11th, January 15th, February 26th, and March 12th**. See you there! (If other teams would like to post bulletins here, please contact the UQO.)



Spectators of the World Cup were able to enjoy a rock concert as part of the festivities. However, it wasn't just any rock concert. This month for our HP Fans column, we bring you exclusive interviews with two rising celebrities from the world of Wizard Rock!

Otherwise known as "Wrock," this new genre of music has been around since the early 2000s, and is played by hundreds of bands. The songs usually revolve around characters and events found in the Harry Potter novels, often are humorous, and at times incorporate highly controversial and adult material.

The Utah Snitch was able to catch a moment with Lauren Fairweather

(The Moaning Myrtles) and Justin Finch Fletchley (Justing Finch Fletchley and the Sugar Quills) during a recent once a year event charitable concert in Salt Lake City...

US: What would you say got you started in Wizard Rock?

Lauren: "I found it on the internet about six years ago. I heard "Harry and the Potters" and heard other bands were starting, and I thought that there was no reason why I shouldn't start my own."

Justin: "Harry and the Potters" – We played a show together and we got to know them, and here I am."

US: How do you like touring?

Justin: "It is unbelievable, to see as many people as we can, it is just amazing."

US: Where have you toured?

Lauren: "We've been touring the last three summers, but since I graduated College in Pennsylvania, I can now tour year round... I really like playing at Harry Potter Conventions where everyone is crazy and super excited. I'm excited to get out to the West Coast – It's so beautiful and the further I am from home, the more exciting it is."

US: What is your favorite song which you play and perform?

Justin: I'm torn between two, but the winner has to be 'Krum' – second would be 'Expelliarmus'."

Lauren: "Probably the first I wrote, 'And Then I Died'... It seems to be the one people like the most."

US: For those of us who are new to Wizard Rock – what can you tell us about the genre?

Lauren: "A lot of people just assume it is music about Harry Potter, but it is all about the fan community. It spreads through so many different mediums. It provides so many opportunities to be creative, and it is a little nerdy too."



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*(Sale ends Dec. 24th 2010 at midnight. Excluding gift cards, tax and shipping costs, see store for details)

Justin: It caught on because of the power of the message which comes from the books of love and respect and treating people well.

US: How would you describe your own creative process? What would you say is your biggest inspiration other than Harry Potter?

Justin: “That’s a tough one to answer, I try to incorporate the beliefs of the Hufflepuff House, to work hard and so on... And Pizza...”

Lauren: “Matt [Lauren’s Fiance and co-star of the new band ‘Armored Bear Club’] – he has inspired me to be more professional... Otherwise... It just comes to me – when I’m in a really creative mood. It just happens. Whenever I force it, it never comes out as well.”

US: What is the best part of being a Wizard Rock Star?

Lauren: Making friends. There are just so many people. It’s been great getting to know so many awesome people.

US: How do you like Salt Lake?

Justin: I really like Salt Lake City, it reminds me a lot of home, except I’m surrounded by mountains.”

US: Do you have anything to say to our readers?

Justin: “Eat Pizza Forever!”

At the charity concert, Justin performed a new song for the very first time. It was titled “I love Pizza.” Some of his other songs and hits with the crowd include: “Expelliarmus,” “Umbridge is Dumbbridge,” “Some Girls,” “Help Me Hagrid,” “Wizard Pizza Party Down at Hagrid’s Hut,” “Victor Krum,” and “Honeydukes.”

Some of Lauren’s and Matt Maggiasco’s (The Whomping Willows) songs performed were: “Masteres Degree in Love,” “Post Potter Depression,” “I believe in Nargles,” “Party all Night,” and the event was closed by a “The Weapon.” Find more about these groups at jffismybff.com and thewhompingwillows.com.



Looking for a Team?

Quidditch teams and clubs are coming out of the wood-work all over the state. Currently, we have three tournament ready teams, with many many more on the way! If you would like to start your own Quidditch team, please send us an email and we will be happy to help you out!

Below are new teams currently forming, and looking for players like you! If you want to play, watch, or if you know of someone who would want to be apart of Quidditch, feel free to send us an email and we will get you in contact with the team you would like to join or follow!

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Utah State University
And More!



Partying with the HPA

All who came and enjoyed the Harry Potter and Deathly Hallows – Part 1 release party with the Harry Potter Alliance were able to get a good fill of all things magic like only the HPA can provide.

Guests arrived and were sorted, had their dreams interperated, faces painted, trivia knowledge tested, and invited to a dozen booths, including one offered to Utah Quidditch! Available were raffles for numerous high value prizes, a knome-toss, Wizard games, duels, and all the candy and drinks you could eat! The event concluded with a screening of the sixth Harry Potter.

To learn more about the Harry Potter Alliance and their non-profit and charitable events, feel free to visit thehpalliance.org or search for the Salt Lake Chapter on Facebook!



We are almost to 360 subscribers to what has become the **LARGEST HARRY POTTER FAN NEWSLETTER IN THE STATE OF UTAH!** Help us pull ahead by inviting your friends and family to subscribe. Whoever refers the most subscribers to the Utah Snitch will win their own new Quidditch broomstick! It will be the official team broom of the Utah Hex. Make sure to have your friends mention you when they subscribe, and good luck!



Quidditch and Winter Gear

In the Harry Potter books, the Quidditch season began amid snow flurries and chilly wind. As The UQO anticipates our next exciting game in snow three feet deep, it is important to remember that team uniforms will be little different than what one could expect for a summer game. We hope that this information will be helpful to all the teams and players out there with what it takes to play in the most intense of conditions.

Coats and Sweaters: Closed sweaters, hooded jackets (long sleeved), and wind-breakers are most effective. Wearing layers really is the name of the game here. Be sure to wear multiple layers of shirts under your coat or sweater. It has proven practice to wear jerseys or team colors on top of sweaters or coats.

Gloves: It is a good idea to go for warmth rather than grip. The quaffle and bludgers will become wet and slippery from the snow, so even well gripped gloves won't give a player much of an advantage if their hands are becoming numb.

Pants: Regular water-resistant athletic pants or snow pants are most recommended. Anything that will keep

you warm but also resist snow which tends to stick and soak most other types.

Thick Socks: Your shoes or boots will be in and out of the snow enough that snow will most likely surround your ankles. Be sure to wear socks thick and warm enough to repel a game's worth of snow accumulation inside your shoe.

Head Gear: For most games, head gear besides the regular head bands won't be needed. However, in the coldest of temperatures, outdoor games will call for head gear especially to keep the ears warm and to protect the mouth. Bala Clavas, bandanas, ear muffs, wide headbands, and so forth are all good ideas.

Please let us know if this information is helpful, or if you would like us to add additional advice on this subject in the future. Good luck and we hope you keep warm!



How to Enter

The first official winter Quidditch season in the Inter-mountain West is now open. It is scheduled to last from November to early March. Each team will play each other team at least twice, and the team with the most points at the end of the season will take away the trophy!

Any team wishing to enter in this season and future Utah Cup or Snow Cup seasons are welcome to do so. \$20 is due

from each team to compete, which helps in practice expenses including that of the trophy itself. (Teams officially registered with the International Quidditch Association are exempt from this fee.) Please send us an email if you are interested in joining the games!

The matches will be as specified on our "Upcoming Events" page. Most games may be played outside, however, a team may choose to hold a game indoors if an indoor gym or field is found with the right dimensions.



The First Official meeting of all team captains, players and leaders of Quidditch across the state was a big success! Thank you to everyone who came and participated.

All involved were able to help solidify policies and procedures, plan future events, and determine many of what will go into our future games and events. Included in this issue are articles presenting the results of that meeting. Additional conclusions (decided upon by unanimous vote) are as follows...

All teams are now strongly encouraged and required to secure their own game equipment, especially in regard to goal hoops. Unfortunately, it has no longer become practical with the number of teams in the state and the distance between them that any team share the equipment with another.

Fiction Addictions (one of our most supportive Sponsors) is also open to helping teams with their jerseys, winter jerseys, and concessional items such as buttons and so forth.

The Utah Quidditch Organization may create a training camp or boot camp in the future to help rally players and create teams, especially in places of budding interest. Keep an eye on our future newsletters for more information.

The Leadership and responsibilities of UQO officers was also ratified as proposed in our earlier editions. Please visit our "About Us" page for information about how the UQO runs and who is asked to serve in which ways.



The new International Quidditch Association Rulebook and handbook is now available! Along with clarifying existing rules and guidelines, there were a few noticeably different rules. Here are a few changes you can expect to see in our future games:

Knock-out Effect: Rather than running around their goal hoops, players need only touch one of their goals when they are hit by a bludger before they can re-enter play.

Starting line: Rather than starting each match in between their hoops, players will line up a few feet in front of their hoops, to await the call "Brooms up!"

Number of Referees: Rather than just recommending one to three referees on the field, the IQA has now added the roles of Bludger Referees, Snitch referees, and so forth.

To find more changes and updates to the rules of Muggle Quidditch, visit the IQA website!

Official UQO Mission

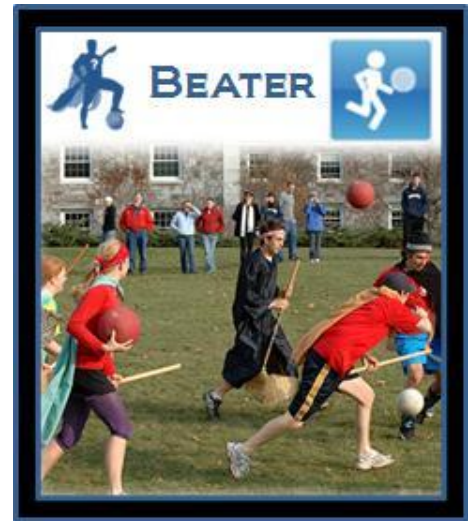


The Utah Quidditch Organization is dedicated to promote the new sport of "Muggle Quidditch" in the beehive state, find players and help assemble local teams so that anyone who wants to play this sport can do so on a competitive level. We work closely with the International Quidditch Association (IQA) as Regional Correspondents for our state's teams, and actively promote the IQA's mission and goals as well. As Utah's leading Quidditch authoritative organization, we also help organize our state's Quidditch tournament seasons, events, and so forth.

To achieve these ends, we have created and sponsor a state-wide community team, publish a monthly free newsletter sent to hundreds of subscribers, and host at least one event per month.

An important part of our mission is giving back to the communities which support our amazing teams. Donating to charities, teaching youngsters how to get out of the house and play this exciting sport, and helping other charitable organizations in various ways are all at the heart of our efforts. If there is something we can do for your organization, please let us know!

Monthly Position Tips:



Nothing can change the direction of a game quite like the effect of active beaters. Recruit players who are fast and fearless. Some players may have a tendency to fade into the background, but the best beaters are never far from the action – in fact- they create the action. It is not uncommon for star Chasers and Beaters to switch positions during a game; and it can be argued that a team is doing itself a disservice if the same beaters are kept through the entire game, due to the amount of running and intense game-play. A good practice is to play a "Sudden Death" drill where players are out of the game when hit once by a bludger, and each player plays as a beater. • **Positions per team: 2** • **Game balls: Bludgers** • **Headband color: Black** • **Main job: Target enemy players to get them out!**



From all of us at the UQO, we hope you all enjoy the holidays with your family and friends, and remember what the season is all about. We wish you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!