

# UTAH SNITCH



OFFICIAL SPORTS NEWSLETTER OF THE UTAH QUIDDITCH ORGANIZATION

## Wintry Win for JM!

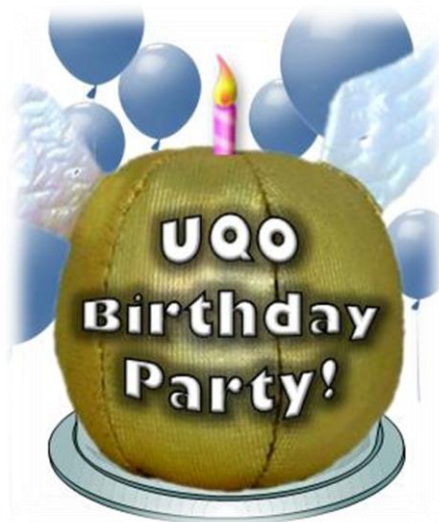


Judge Memorial High School proved itself yet again as one of the best teams in the state with a dynamic win over the Utah Hex at the Hex's field on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

The first game ended quickly with a Hex victory, and the second with a Judge victory, matching the score of 60 to 60. A tie breaker was decided upon which ended with a total score 140, JM and 80, HEX.

The Snitch position was played by new UQO star runner Justin Lofley from Syracuse, who not only kept the Seekers busy with his speed, but also incorporated the Quaffle, snowballs and other elements to keep them off.

("Wintry" Cont. on the next Page.)



In a few weeks, the Utah Quidditch Organization will be celebrating its first year anniversary since its inception and first organized games in cooperation with the IQA!

To make this impressive landmark memorable, all Quidditch players and fans and their friends are invited to a UQO Birthday Party on January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the home of some of our most dedicated fans in Salt Lake. (Please email or call us for a specific address and directions.)

There will be party games, board games, video games, snacks, hot chocolate, butterbeer and more! Some parts of the party will be Harry Potter themed; however it is more so a party for everyone. Bring a friend and spread the word!

We would like to especially invite our Team Captains, President and Staff, Sponsors, Players, and those Dedicated Fans we see at all of our games in the rain and snow. Thank you everyone for a great year!

### In this Issue:

- Snow Cup Continues!
- Updates on New Teams
- Arizona to Join Snow Cup?
- Broomstick Tips and Tricks
- And more!

### Upcoming Events

<b>Happy New Year:</b>	<b>Jan 1<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>Match - Fliers @ Hex:</b>	<b>Jan 8<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>UQO Birthday Party:</b>	<b>Jan 15<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Utah State Try-Outs:</b>	<b>Jan 18<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Match – Hex @ Judge:</b>	<b>Jan 22<sup>nd</sup></b>
<b>Match – Judge @ Fliers:</b>	<b>Feb 5<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Western Tournament:</b>	<b>April</b>

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



Running points for our current season:

1. **Crimson Fliers:** 260
2. **Utah Hex:** 190
3. **Judge Memorial:** 140
4. Other Teams: (Pending)

Utah's leading college age teams will clash in the first great re-match of the season! Don't miss our game on January 8<sup>th</sup> at Southridge Park at 12:00. (New Players welcome!)



("Wintry" Continued...)

Hot Chocolate was served by HEX fans before the game which was played in over a foot of snow. Sliding and loss in running speed played a part in the games, yet unexpected advantages (such as the balls staying where they fell rather than rolling away) also added the experience.

Several star plays from JM included a score from the pitch midline, multiple beater sweeps with all Hex Chasers tagged out at the same time, and two snitch snatches in less than 20 minutes. The Hex also played up to their name with many successful runs past Judge Players and behind their Keeper resulting in most of their scores.

We hope you enjoy the exclusive game photos found in this issue of the Utah Snitch, and thank you to our photographers. With this game, Judge Memorial now ranks in the Snow cup. Welcome to the games!



Importers of fine British Chocolates, Sweets, Groceries, and gift items.



563 S 700 E SLC, UT  
(801) 531-7074 · thelondonmarket.net

Visit the **London Market** Today for British goods and Harry Potter items!

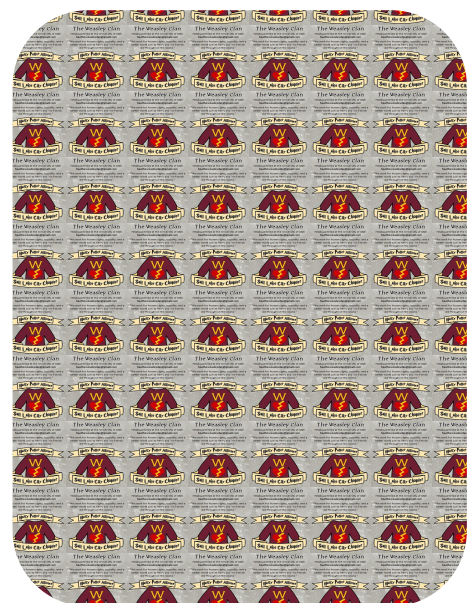


Find shirts, buttons, and more inspired by HP Fans! [Fictionaddictions.com](http://Fictionaddictions.com)



[WizardSportSupply.com](http://WizardSportSupply.com)

Collect your Quidditch Equipment all in one place now at all-time low costs!





## Arizona Teams To Join the Snow Cup?

The new Quidditch team of Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona, has approached the UQO about playing in the Snow Cup!

Any team is welcome to join the competition, and teams surrounding the state are especially welcome. NAU is eager to get their name out, and if Snow Cup games can be arranged, then some Utah Teams may spend a weekend in Flagstaff, or host some players from AZ. Keep an eye on our future issues of the Utah Snitch for more information!



## NOW RECRUITING!

Have you had a chance to play Quidditch yet? Is your school's team taking a while to get off the ground? The Utah Hex community team was created for anyone and everyone 16 or over who wants to play! Feel free to contact us to get in the game!



## USU Try-outs

The Utah State University Quidditch Club will be having a beginning of semester party for all players and those interested in joining their team!

The try-outs and party will be on January 18<sup>th</sup> and will include food, fun, and a Harry Potter marathon!

New students to USU are specially invited for a tour of the campus hosted by experienced Quidditch players.

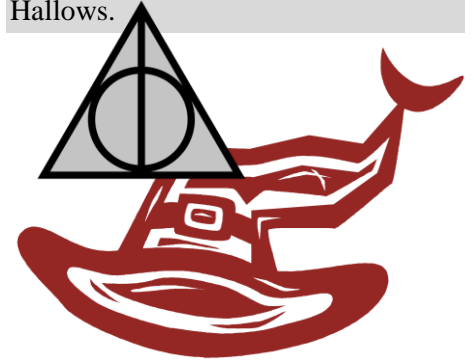
Please contact Team Captain Justin Denslow for the location and further specifics. He can be reached at 435-755-8095 or at [usuquidditch@gmail.com](mailto:usuquidditch@gmail.com).



## The Ogden Hallows

The Ogden Community Quidditch team had a successful meeting last month and is now in the process of organizing future practices and games.

Among other points of business, a new team name was voted upon. The UQO is proud to welcome the "Ogden Hallows" community Quidditch team to the games, and we look forward to seeing them play! Please send an email to [OgdenQuidditch@gmail.com](mailto:OgdenQuidditch@gmail.com) if you would like to play for or follow the Hallows.



## Woods Cross Red Caps

An increasing amount of High School teams have contacted the UQO. Each time, it only takes a handful of students to really get the ball moving – and such is the case with Woodscross High school!

Captain Mikinley Weaver and others have formed the "Woodscross Red Caps" which are off to a great start. If you would like to join the team or contact the Red Caps, please email [wxredcaps@gmail.com](mailto:wxredcaps@gmail.com) or send the UQO a message.

There has been an impressive amount of activity in Davis County, and we look forward to seeing how these teams turn out! Welcome to the world of Wizard Sports!





“Remember to always keep the broom under you, and remember your position. Don’t pick up the wrong ball, and so forth. Make sure to review the rules before each game, keeping your position in mind.”

As our favorite sport grows and more games are played on pitches miles away, the UQO would like to extend the invitation to those who are interested to become official referees. Niel would be happy to train and give some helpful pointers. Please contact us if you would like to participate in the games as an official referee. Thanks!

## How to Fly: Tips and Tricks to Using Your Broomstick



Whether you are a proud owner of a handcrafted masterpiece or a light weight lobby accessory, running with a broom can pose a few challenges to new players. One of the distinguishing aspects to the game of Bludgers and Snitches is the broomstick, and mastering it is a large part of getting ahead in Quidditch.

Listed here are a few helpful hints which can improve your game, and turn what can be a hindrance into the sporting gear of a champion.

- **Stick to your Broom:** Some players make the mistake of switching brooms among practices and games. Once you purchase or receive a broom, use it consistently (if possible) so that you are familiar with the weight,

## A Word with the Ref...

Referee Niel Burk of the Utah Quidditch Organization has well earned the title: “Most experienced Quidditch Referee in the Beehive State.” All games of the 2010 Utah Cup as well as all official games so far in the Snow cup has been played under his watchful eye.

In addition to refereeing, Niel has also contributed to the growth of the sport through manning fair booths, and taking up the role of acting commissioner. He is one of the first Quidditch Players documented in the state playing IQA rules (as a Keeper) and has even contacted the IQA about helping start a possible Jr. League for younger players.

The UQO would like to thank our dedicated Ref for a great year, and also wanted to ask if there was anything he would like to share with the UQO community...

“I appreciate the professionalism everyone has shown so far while playing,” Niel said, “overall, it is excellent and I look forward to being a part of the sport in the future.” When asked about reminders he may have for our players, he added,



## Let it Snow!

One of the first Quidditch Winter seasons in all history, and the first ever winter season in Utah, couldn’t have come at a better time. In over 15 years, Utah – know for having the “Best Snow on Earth” – has not had as many inches of the white stuff as we now see on the ground. Snow storms, blizzards, and constant flurries have blanketed our fields. Although this usually only comes as good news to a younger crowd, the UQO couldn’t be happier about it. Good luck to all of our teams as the Snow Cup Tournament continues, and don’t forget to keep dry and warm!





size, steadiness, and other attributes over time. Changing it up can give your opponents an unfair advantage as you try to adjust and adapt midgame.

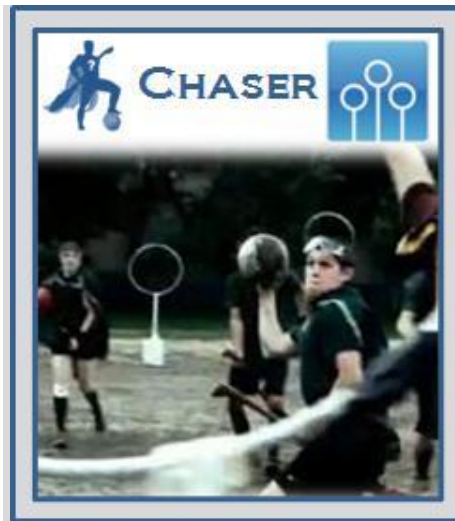


- **Find the Right Balance:** Does the seat of your broom rest just before the bristles? Is it easier to run while holding it lower or higher? As long as your broom is under you as you run and you hold it with your hand or thighs, you are free to develop your own riding style. Try new things (such as having more or less of the broom in front of you) to see what works best with your game play.



- **Consider Accessories:** The IQA rulebook outlawed anything which attaches your broom to you; however you still have many options. Wearing gloves with grip can improve your hold of the broom. Adding athletic wrap to your broom can keep it from sliding around. Longer bristles may help keep opponents from getting to close. As you think outside the box, you may be surprised with what you can add to your game. (Just make sure to run new ideas by your ref before a game.) Good luck!

## Monthly Position Tips:



The quality of your Chasers can make or break your team. Just about anyone could be a Chaser, but athleticism, speed and the ability to take a hit isn't everything you should look for. The most effective Chasers know how to play on a team, and rely on other players. Passing, dodging, getting back up, cutting through tight spaces and acting as a human shield are all part of the job. Although this position has just as much running as the Beater or Seeker positions, the tackling element of the game is what sets Chasers apart. They tend to do it the most, so keep that in mind.

Practices with Chasers are simple to put together. Games similar to "pig" or "horse" in basketball all make for good aiming practice. A very effective drill places the whole team against one chaser, who runs from the other end of the pitch to try to get past all others before scoring. Rotating between three chasers and repeating the drill many times can be helpful to the whole team. • **Positions per team: 3** • **Game ball: Quaffle** • **Headband color: White** • **Main job: Score to earn points for your team!**



## Submitting Articles to the Utah Snitch

Do you have a beat on the Harry Potter Fan Community? Has playing Quidditch given you ideas which can help out other teams? What did you think of our last game?

This newsletter is looking for writers and artists like you! Anyone from the most experienced official to our newest subscriber is welcome to submit content for possible publication in our next issues! Please keep these guidelines in mind as you submit your articles:

- **How To:** The plain text of your articles can be sent in an email format to [utahquidditch@yahoo.com](mailto:utahquidditch@yahoo.com). Please add pictures (if available) as attachments.
- **Length:** A good practice is to keep your article as close to a column length as possible. Shorter articles are still very helpful, but longer ones are harder to work into an issue.
- **Editing and Deadlines:** All articles must be submitted at least seven days before the month end. After which, it will be subject to minor editing by our staff.
- **Acceptance:** If your volunteered article is accepted for publication, you will be notified before it is published in a newsletter.

Our Newsletter Staff is anxious to see what you can do! Some ideas of what you can submit are: Match results, Harry Potter game or movie reviews, interviews with players, a Quidditch themed comic strip, Fan art, an editorial about a team, and so forth! Thank you!