

----Official Sports Newsletter of the Utah Quidditch Organization-----

## Quidditch Played in Central Park



The Intercollegiate Quidditch Association took a big step in the future of our favorite sport Memorial Day weekend. An exhibition match was held in New York between Bronx High school of Science and Leonx High school of Massachusetts. It drew news teams and spectators yet it was also done by the IQA to help promote their official new direction with the sport. Alex Benepe (the IOA Commissioner) announced during this match that the IQA will continue to establish itself as a nonprofit organization dedicated to spreading literacy and the sport of Quidditch.





A History of Quidditch and Active Teams in the Beehive State

The Sport of Quidditch was originally created by Author J. K. Rowling as a large part of her bestselling "Harry Potter" fictional book series. It was depicted as the favored international sport of witches and wizards, played atop flying broomsticks and incorporating various spells and magical elements.

Beginning in 2005, Middlebury College students enjoyed adapting this novel game so that it could be played in the real world. After formalizing the rules and game play, it became an official sport at the Vermont college. News spread and soon Colleges across the United States and Canada began playing the newly established game of "Muggle Quidditch."

Now, over 200 Colleges and many more other organizations have joined the game. In 2008 and 2009 World cups were held as international college teams competed for the first time with each other with capes and brooms.

As word of this new exciting sport has swept across the nation, an explosion of interest has been seen in the Intermountain West. The UQO is proud to announce that there are now four active Quidditch teams in Utah. Listed here is the latest on each of our state's teams...



Players Wanted! The first Community team in Salt Lake is holding official team **try-outs on July 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM!** Players 16 to college age are encouraged to come learn about Quidditch and play a few scrimmages at South Ridge Park in Taylorsville. There is no charge to join the team. With five balls, six hoops, and fifteen players, Quidditch has a position for everyone! The Hex is also hosting a booth on behalf of the UQO at the "Taylorsville Dayzz" Fair from June 25-28. Don't forget to swing by and pay them a visit!

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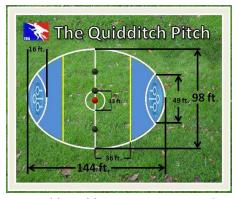
It has recently been discovered bv the Ouidditch community that Skyline High school has had four teams playing against each other for more than a year! They are comprised of members of the Skyline Quidditch Club and are divided into four houses, Gryffindor, Hufflepuff, Slytherin and Ravenclaw. There has been no official word so far as to whether or not Skyline teams will play official games against outside teams



Judge Memorial Private High school in Salt Lake City held tryouts on June 9<sup>th</sup> at Sugar House Park for their first official team. It was a great success with an impressive turnout. JM is now holding regular practices and working closely with the IQA and UQO. All are welcome to check out their Face Book page for more information.



A new College Team has registered with the UQO! Utah State University has officially recognized a group of students as their new Quidditch Team! The team is still open to receive more players and is eager to play against other local teams! Feel free to email <u>usuquidditch@gmail.com</u> to contact their captains. Good luck Aggies!



Would you like to start a new team? Looking for a team to join? Find out more on our "Local Quidditch Teams" page on utahquidditch.org today!



"Quidditch is something that makes people undeniably happy. The childlike freedom that comes with playing and watching it is something unprecedented. All too often in life sports are taken too seriously or not at all... replaced by sitting indoors and playing video games. Quidditch is more than just a game; it is an attempt to reclaim the fun that used to accompany sports." – Alex Benepe (IQA Commissioner)



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## **Region Change**



The "North West Region" has been home to our state since our last change over a year ago when we were in the South West Region with Texas. Now, we have been assigned by the IQA to the "West" Region with California, Washington, and most of the Western United States. Aspiring teams will first play against teams in their Region to qualify for the World Cup.



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