



NEWS RELEASE - US QUIDDITCH CUP 9

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATION'S TOP QUIDDITCH TEAMS TO COMPETE APRIL 16-17, 2016 IN COLUMBIA FOR US QUIDDITCH CUP



Photo by Isabella Gong.

COLUMBIA, S.C. – The US Quidditch Cup 9 comes to South Carolina on April 16-17, 2016, as 60 collegiate and club teams from dozens of states meet for one of the country's most unique sporting events. Quidditch, a full-contact, competitive, gender-integrated sport inspired by the Harry Potter series, began in 2005 and has since spread to over 300 colleges, high schools, and community teams nationwide. US Quidditch includes official club teams at traditional sports powerhouses like The Ohio State University, University of Southern California and University of North Carolina. Teams compete over a year-long season and qualify for the U.S. national championship through one of eight regional championships located throughout the country.

Previous championship events have had as many as 10,000 attendees, with hundreds of thousands more watching online via live web streaming, as well as generating millions of social media impressions last year, highlighted by a Snapchat Live Story. Fans and players

alike will be watching closely this year to see if the University of Texas Longhorns can win their fourth title in a row after winning last year's national championship in Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Quidditch is played with seven players to a team, all mounted on brooms. They score points with the quaffle (a volleyball) and the snitch, a neutral yellow-clad athlete who tries to avoid capture, similar to flag football. US Quidditch's official rulebook is available free for download [here](#).

US Quidditch Cup 9 is supported by the Columbia Regional Sports Council and the Irmo Chapin Recreation Commission, both of whom are extremely excited to host this year's quidditch national championship. "We are thrilled to host the US Quidditch Cup 9 and welcome everyone back to South Carolina for the third consecutive year. We look forward to working with the exceptional teams US Quidditch and Saluda Shoals Park on another successful and fun Cup" -- Grayson Hopp of the Columbia Regional Sports Council.

About Saluda Shoals Park

Historic. Gracious. Playful. Columbia, South Carolina encompasses each of these and much more! Columbia tantalizes all the senses with a relaxing, comfortable pace and an abundance of playgrounds. For those with an adventurous spirit, the rivers and parks like Saluda Shoals will provide endless fun. [Saluda Shoals Park](#) has more than 400 acres to explore, with sports facilities, trails, and numerous outdoor recreational opportunities like tubing, paddling and biking. To learn more about the Irmo Chapin Recreation Commission and Saluda Shoals Park, visit www.icrc.net/saluda-shoals-park.

About Columbia

As the Palmetto State's capital and a college town, Columbia's fiery vibe supports a colorful [arts scene](#) that envelops our entertainment [districts](#) overflowing with locally owned boutiques, eateries, and [night spots](#). The variety is abundant and all within easy reach. Once you've experienced Columbia, you'll be delighted that you stopped to explore! Learn more by visiting www.experiencecolumbia.com or www.icrc.net.

About US Quidditch

US Quidditch (USQ), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and the national governing body for the sport of quidditch, organizes US Quidditch Cup 9. USQ advances the sport by organizing events and programs that build community and empower all genders to compete together. US Quidditch is not affiliated with JK Rowling, Warner Bros., or Time Warner. To learn more about quidditch, visit www.usquidditch.org.

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DETAILS FOR CALENDAR LISTINGS

US Quidditch Cup 9

WHAT: US Quidditch Cup featuring 60 teams and over 1,200 athletes from across the country competing to be national champion. Experience over 150 games over two days at one of the most unique sporting events in the country.

WHEN: April 16, 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. and April 17, 9:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Palmetto Health Fields at Saluda Shoals Park
6071 St. Andrews Rd.
Columbia, SC 29212

HOW: The event is free and open to the public. Visit this page for more information:
<http://www.usquidditchcup.com>.

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