

For Immediate Release
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Blaine, MN to Host UPA Youth Club Championships

BOULDER, Colo. – The Ultimate Players Association (UPA) recently announced that Blaine, MN will host the 2009 and 2010 UPA Youth Club Ultimate Championships (YCC) at the National Sports Center (NSC) on August 8-9, 2009 and August 14-15, 2010.

The UPA YCC features Girls, Mixed, and Open Youth teams from Youth Club and High School leagues throughout the country. The tournament began in 2005 as a way to promote the development of Youth Club Ultimate leagues and to showcase non-school-based Youth Ultimate.

This two year agreement extends the time the tournament will have been held at the NSC to 6 straight years (2005-2010). The bid was put in by the Minnesota High School Ultimate League, the National Sports Center, and Visit Minneapolis North. The National Sports Center is the world's largest amateur sports and meeting facility.

"The UPA sees a lot of positive aspects to continuing to host the YCC in Blaine," said Will Deaver, UPA Championship Director. "The central location and outstanding facilities make it an ideal place to host a growing national championship tournament. Participants can expect a truly outstanding event, in large part due to the host community's wealth of experience."

YCC Tournament Director, Bruce Mebust, added, "The Minnesota High School Ultimate League and the Twin Cities Ultimate community are pleased to be the hosts of the YCC for 2009. This makes the fifth straight year we have been privileged to host this premier UPA event, and we appreciate the UPA's faith in our ability to deliver a quality tournament. YCC contributes powerfully to the development of Youth Ultimate in this area, and we always enjoy meeting Youth Ultimate organizers and players from other parts of the country."

"UPA events are a perfect fit for the mission of Minnesota's National Sports Center of serving local and national sport groups and creating tourism for Minnesota," said Teri Vogt, Director of Sport Programming for the NSC. "The UPA and its participants are a treat to host. The players are respectful, have a great time, and take care when using our facilities. We welcome them back with many smiles."

The 2009 UPA Youth Club Ultimate Championships will take place August 8-9 at the National Sports Center in Blaine, MN. The 2010 UPA Youth Club Ultimate Championships will take place August 14-15 at the National Sports Center in Blaine, MN. There is no charge for spectators to view the action. For more information on the 2009 and 2010 UPA Youth Club Championships, please visit www.upa.org/juniors/championships/2009_ycc_temp and www.upa.org/juniors/championships/2010_ycc_temp.

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For more information on the sport of Ultimate, please visit www.upa.org*

About Ultimate

Combining the non-stop movement and athletic endurance of soccer with the aerial passing skills of football, a game of Ultimate is played by two seven-player squads with a plastic disc on a field similar to football. The objective of the game is to score by catching a pass in the opponent's end zone. A player must stop running while in possession of the disc, but may pivot and pass to any of the other receivers on the field. Ultimate is a transition game in which players move quickly from offense to defense on turnovers that occur with a dropped pass, an interception, a pass out of bounds, or when a player is caught holding the disc for more than ten seconds. Ultimate is governed by Spirit of the Game™, a tradition of sportsmanship that places the responsibility for fair play on the players rather than referees. Ultimate is played in more than 42 countries by hundreds of thousands of men, women, girls and boys.

About the UPA

The Ultimate Players Association (UPA) is the national governing body of the sport in the United States and is the largest membership organization in the world devoted entirely to the sport of Ultimate. A not-for-profit organization based in Boulder, Colo., the UPA was founded in 1979 to promote and support the sport of Ultimate and its players and to increase participation at all levels. The organization is governed by a board of directors composed entirely of volunteers elected by the UPA membership, with day-to-day operations directed by a small professional staff. Please see www.upa.org for additional information.

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