



Auckland Ultimate Inc. Newsletter June 2011

What's Coming Up:

LOCAL

Date	Event	Place	Contact
Every Sunday 2.30pm	Pick-up	Cox's Bay Reserve	aucklandultimate@gmail.com
Sunday 19 June	Vixenz womens skills sessions (open invite session)	Victoria Park	vixensultimate@gmail.com
Tuesdays, happening now, 6pm – 8.20pm	Youth Indoor League, 4 a-side	Auckland Boys Grammar	auleague.schools@gmail.com Becs Stewart
Wednesday, Mid July to late August, 7pm	Mixed Indoor League, 4 a-side	ASB Stadium	auleague.register@gmail.com

NATIONAL

Date	Event	Place	Contact
No upcoming events			



NEWS:

Women's Ultimate Frisbee in Auckland – Vixenz open trainings this winter

Vixenz, Auckland's Women's Ultimate Frisbee club, are running women's skills sessions on alternate Sunday afternoons at Victoria Park from 12.30-2.30pm this winter.

These are open trainings where everyone is welcome whether you are a beginner or an experienced player. The first half of the trainings will focus on skills; the second half will be a friendly game. Go to one session or all, and of course invite any other friends, even if they have never played before, to take the opportunity to give women's ultimate a go!

The second in the series of seven sessions is THIS SUNDAY 19th June.

Put the rest of the dates your diaries:

Training 2: Sun 19 June

Training 3: Sun 10 July

Training 4: Sun 31 July

Training 5: Sun 14 Aug

Training 6: Sun 28 Aug

Training 7: Sun 11 Sept

All at Victoria Park from 12.30-2.30pm

Email vixensultimate@gmail.com with any questions, join their facebook group for regular updates or check out their website for more information:
vixensultimate.wordpress.com

Magon Becomes Two Time National Open Champions

Auckland Open Division team Magon formed with the goal of competing at World Ultimate Club Championships 2010 in Prague, Czech Republic. Magon is probably the most competitive open team to ever come out of New Zealand and our preparation leading up to the WUCC paid off with a very successful and rewarding Worlds campaign.

Since returning from WUCC, the team has been focussed on maintaining its high standards and bringing some new talent through the ranks. We succeeded with both.



Magon convincingly won the Open Division of the 2011 NZU Open and Womens Championships held in Christchurch in April this year – making us National Open Champions two years running. The discipline and skills we have been developing as a team and as individuals showed throughout the tournament which was great to see.

Our youngest team member to compete with us at Nationals, Ethan Taylor, received the (well deserved!) NZU Best New Player award which is a testament to his dedication to the sport right from the start of his playing career and the training and playing environment that Magon has been able to foster.

In total, our team or team members picked up four NZU Awards:

- Best Club: Magon
- Best New Player: Ethan Taylor
- Best Coach: Peter Sisam
- Best Player – Men's: Zev Fishman (tied with Andy Neal from Wellington)

As a team Magon is proud of what we have achieved so far and proud to have done it in Auckland with Auckland based players. We will be looking to make it National Champions three times (and more...) in a row!

-Sherif Ibrahim

Reports on the Auckland Summer Social Leagues

Auckland Ultimate's calendar has been busy this summer with the Open and Woman's 5 a side Leagues on Monday nights and Corporate / Social 5 Aside Leagues on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Keen AU members Ajay Morris and Meg Nicoll tell us what's been happening:

Women's 5 a-side Summer League – Monday, Cornwall park

Auckland Ultimate's Summer Women's League demonstrated the potential that the sport has for continued growth and development in our city. This summer saw more women take part in the league and a dramatic increase in skill level. Games were consistently close and competitive - I saw, and experienced, many games played out to sudden death.

This is a brilliant result for a league focussed on learning, with experienced players and beginners playing alongside one another – sharing tips and celebrating personal and team accomplishments on the field. The desire to learn and improve was evidenced as many women



elected to stay after the games finished to participate in coaching and drills.

I would like to challenge women's league to continue to grow and encourage learning amongst all players – let's all spread the word and make sure that every league sees new ladies introduced to the sport. With the encouragement, spirit and competitive edge I saw demonstrated this summer league there could not be a better set of ambassadors to welcome new players to the sport – and keep the game fresh and fun for those of us who have been around for awhile!

-Meg Nicoll

Social Summer League - Tuesday, Cornwall Park

I think it's pretty well known in Auckland Ultimate circles that most of the reason I play ultimate is for the social side of things. Sure, I like getting a run-around and feeling justified for not having an expensive gym membership. Occasionally I get a real thrill out of smoothly and technically correctly executing a throw. (Not very often, to be honest!) I can appreciate a play that comes off as if it's straight from the textbook and gets a great result. Like anyone, I'd have to admit that I'm happier winning than losing.

But what initially attracted me to the game of ultimate frisbee, what got me to tournaments and what keeps me playing after well over a decade (scarily understated), is the social upside of playing disc. And 2011's Summer Social League was again full of the upsides.

The division of Tuesday's (unofficially?) more social and Thursday's more competitive league is, in my opinion, working really well. It's meaning that the teams are much better matched, with a common attitude, and, therefore, in tune with the highest priority- more fun! There's lots of jumping and diving and a good level of play, but beginners and casual pickups are welcomed and there's a freedom to try some crazy stuff- it's all about the Flow.

The Cornwall Park venue is working well for both leagues, and the League Club boys can often be seen on their balcony, Gaelic footballers training alongside sometimes, along with runners and dog-walkers checking out this strange sport we play with the flat piece of plastic.

There are now some long-running teams that are almost clubs in their own rights- Erniators, The Total Package, Vaseline Alley (! how old are these guys?!), Like a Fox and my own beloved orange Crab People, along with



newly formed ones and old ones re-born, each with a particular flavour, varying degrees of uniforms and eclectic mix of people of all ages, abilities and walks of life.

The Park Sports Bar & Cafe at Alexandra Park Raceway is still rolling out the roasts for the after-match function(it usually seems to be chicken on Tuesday, with better salads!), for the ludicrously low sum of \$12, including dessert! Drinks are cheap, the tables are movable, the banter is often hilarious and always entertaining. Love it. There have also been a few notable feasts field-side, with The Total Package bringing exactly that, appetisers, alcohol, a gas BBQ, and all the trimmings!

That's exactly how I like my frisbee- Roll on Spring!

-Ajay Morris

Brass Monkey – 21 & 22 May 2011, Rotorua

Another year, another embarrassing story of too much fun, pool strainers and sleeping in a bed that is not your own (see the usual suspects for details).

What can be said is that for the 14th time (please check my math) Brass Monkey was a sensational event, in unbelievably fantastic conditions. For once Brass Monkey did not live up to its reputation and was mild for both days.

Indoors on Saturday, and 16 teams. Some great costumes, Hawaiian Shirts, Team Animal Suits, and Superman outfits being some of my highlights.

A seeding round, which sorted the men from the boys (and girls) and after the dust settled, 2 or 3 teams were moaning and groaning that they had fallen on the wrong side of the draw. Some fierce competition saw some teams unexpectedly lose and others win over teams that on paper should have been better than they were.

Placing rounds and more close games (A quarter-final game going to golden point at 8-8) with the final being eventually contested by Spirit Berry and Anyone Else But You.

The final score did not represent how close the final was, but big ups for a win to Spirit Berry.

Animal costumes were sensational, Lions, Chickens, Anteaters, Pandas and even a few animal hunters, 2 Fishes which led to some small confusion. The Poolside Hat Draw was like normal (epic), with this year more than ever in the



pool to watch the teams being drawn. Stacked teams were discussed and teams with no hope drank more. All in all a great Saturday.

Sunday was a fantastic day with all 8 teams turning up close (ha ha yeah right) to the 9am start time. Pool 1 being Cat Stevens, Snopp Dog (Thanks Davey Jones), The Beatles & the Monkeys. Pool 2 was the other pool and I don't really know the teams. [Ed: Seal, Def Leppard, Flock of Seagulls, Gorillaz]

The supposed stacked team was in our pool and other than a close scare against the Brett Carlyle Machine (Brass Monkey legend) had a pretty easy run to the final.

So in the final Seal (unknown due to them being in the other pool) and the stacked team of Cat Stevens. Should be an easy boring final. How wrong I was..... Bryan Holyoake on Cat Stevens catching everything and anything in the air, and Andy Neal doing the same for the other team, one of the tightest and closest finals I have ever seen.

Highlights of the final is the "Fantasy Ultimate" crew taunting the players to get a reaction to lose a participant's points. Big ups to Bryan and Steve for being super chilly..... Big Ha Ha to Sam Mason, whose "fantasy" player Karl Moore seemed to want to chat to the crowd. (no points for Sam). The same crew for turning into a gaggle of seagulls when the lollies were brought out, and for the huge grabs, big jumps and highly entertaining final.

Well done Seal and it's Auckland Players - Sherif (Shoe) Ibrahim, Sarah Milton, Kathryn (Kat) Holyoake (Beat her Husband in the Final) & Peter Hawkins.

Big thanks to [Hammertron](#) for hosting and making it the awesome tournament. It should be a "MUST ATTEND" on any social ultimate players yearly tournament list.

-(Not So Anonymous) AU Roving Reporter

LOCAL EVENTS:

Pick-up:

Pick-up is on rain or shine. All are welcome to come down to Cox's Bay Reserve, Sundays at 2.30pm.

Timing: Sundays, 2.30pm
Location: Cox's Bay Reserve
Contact: aucklandultimate@gmail.com



Indoor League

4 a-side games played on basketball court, and are usually 45 minutes long.

Timing: Wedensdays, Mid July to late August.
Location: ASB Stadium, Kohimarama
Contact: auleague.register@gmail.com

Youth Indoor League

Open and women's divisions are available. There's no play during the school holidays.

Enter through Auckland Ultimate's membership website:
<http://membership.aucklandultimate.org.nz/>

Any questions, email TD Beccs Stewart at: auleague.schools@gmail.com

Timing: Tuesdays, 6pm – 8.20pm
Location: Auckland Boys' Grammar main gym

Vixenz Women's Training Sessions – open to all women

Vixenz, Auckland's Women's Ultimate Frisbee club, are running women's skills sessions on alternate Sunday afternoons at Victoria Park from 12.30-2.30pm this winter.

Timing: Sunday 19 June, 12.30pm – 2.30pm
(see news item above for additional dates)
Location: Victoria Park
Contact: vixensultimate@gmail.com
<http://vixensultimate.wordpress.com>

AU Exec Members:

Joe Seebeck (president) Tim Germann (treasurer) Ben McEwan (secretary)
 Sherif Ibrahim (member at large) Stephen Brown (member at large)

aucklandultimate@gmail.com