# Auckland Ultimate Inc. Newsletter

# November/December 2010

## *What's Going On and Coming Up:*

### LOCAL

| Date | Event | Place | Contact |
|---|---|---|---|
| Every Sunday 4.30pm | Pick-up | Cox's Bay Reserve | aucklandultimate@gmail.com |
| Mondays, 6.45pm to 7.30pm Starting January 10th 2011 | Open and Women's 5 a-side League | Fergusson Park | auleague.register@gmail.com |
| Tuesdays, 6.45pm to 7.30pm Starting January 11th 2011 | Corporate / Social 5 a-side Spring League Aimed at beginner and intermediate teams | Cornwall Park | auleague.register@gmail.com |
| Thursdays, 6.45pm to 7.30pm Starting January 13th 2011 | Corporate / Social 5 a-side Spring League Aimed at experienced teams | Cornwall Park | auleague.register@gmail.com |

## *NEWS:*

### Magon report on WUCC Prague 2010

On the 27th of June this year, 17 Monkey Dragons descended on the city of Prague for glory in the World Ultimate Club Champs. The team established a habitat in the luxurious ghetto Strahov before embarking on a week of training and sightseeing prior to competition. As it turns out, the city wasn't ready for us. We were searching far and wide for training fields and eventually found one a

short bus ride from the Hostel. The owners and their dog were reluctant to let us use the fields. Someone in the team may have inadvertently agreed to marry their daughter. Plagued by injury we set about forming a cohesive unit both on and off the pitch. The beautiful scenery in Prague was awe inspiring although language was often a barrier. We were only kicked out of the mall once for loitering.

Game day arrived and Magon had a very clear goal for initial pooling. Take out the Latvian team, Ultimate Decision in the first game and then throw everything into the must win game against the Japanese LOQUITOS. Magon triumphed 17-4 and 17-13 respectively to secure a spot in the power pool, although the game against the Japanese required some tactical defensive changes to prevent their quick pivoting breaks. The final pool game against US champions Chain Lightning was treated more as a learning experience and the 7 points Magon scored were hard fought. Power pool play started with a very close game against Nomadic Tribe from Japan. It just didn't go Magon's way though, recording an 11-13 loss. The following two games were losses. The first to Buzz Bullets (WUCC2006 Open Champions) played on day 4 due to a freak lightning storm postponing games and the other to Invictus (containing several Furious George starters). This was followed by an intense game against the fiery Columbian team, Euforia. Some inside knowledge about their habitual poaching gave Magon the edge (11-7) but a beating from Clapham put us into the 13$^{th}$-16$^{th}$ place bracket. We were outclassed by Mephisto and had a very close game (17-16) against Flying Angels Bern to finish 16$^{th}$, breaking seed by 8 places. The party that followed was a blur of dancing on tables and flip-cup.

In the open final, Revolver from San Francisco took out Seattle Sockeye. Highlights of the tournament were slices of meat for breakfast, Czech Beer, Andrew Flemings semi-final layout (YouTube does not do it justice), charades with building receptionists and swapping Magon shirts for almost any apparel we wanted. Thanks to William Harbidge for the sweet shirt design. Magon was ecstatic with the team performance. Great thanks to all the supporters and the Kiwi team of volunteers. The whole team had a great time in Prague and is looking forward to keeping Magon glory alive for years to come.

Alaan
Magon #78

## Report on the all new Open and Women's 5 a-side

Auckland Ultimate's first ever Open and Women's 5 a-side League is underway. Word on the street is that it has been a great success. Here are a couple of view points from keen AU members Meg Nicoll and Chris Denny.

### Women's Ultimate - A perspective

Fresh off the boat from the UK I was overjoyed to hear that a women's spring league would be starting up within weeks of my arrival in the country. I have played ultimate for a long time on both mixed and women's teams - from the most casual pick up game to club championships. It is undeniable that each form of the sport has its own charms and advantages. However, with my increasingly ornery disposition and at my (ahem) mature age, women's is the reason I keep coming back to the sport through injury and foul weather. Women who play women's ultimate get their hands on more discs, take more risks in their game and have greater depth and variety in their role on the pitch.

FACT!***.

**** That is, if by fact you allow me to mean sweeping generalisations that have held true for me and my small sample group and await proper research funding to be proven. Ahem . . . AU . . . hint hint.*

AU's spring league has fulfilled all my women's-ultimate-oriented hopes and desires. The four teams are competitive and I have enjoyed every single game played without exception. Best of all, I have seen improvement from each team every week. Defence becomes tighter, points grow more intense, those who were figuring out how to grip their forehands in the first week are grass-staining their shirts on the increasingly hard ground and getting run through D's in week 7. Long games develop, the break side is used and the space on the pitch opens up. This isn't to say it is pretty all the time (or that we don't just ram it up the open side for the score!) No, the beauty of something like spring league is that moments of excellence can be enjoyed to their fullest and the scrappier moments can be laughed off and learned from or simply deleted from our collective memory bank. A perfect recipe for learning if people are new to the game and the best way to build up to a competitive season for those with a more extensive commitment to the sport. Leagues like this are essential for growth in the entire sport and in particular help to ensure sustained participation and improvement amongst women. Thanks AU and bring on future women's ultimate events!

-Meg Nicoll

**Mens perspective**

Like in any relationship, it is sometimes useful to get away from the womenfolk and spend some time with the lads. This is also true with Ultimate, so a Mens League has been a great addition to the AU calendar. Playing with the boys you get to appreciate both the slightly more competitive nature and good natured ribbing that accompanies a group of men playing sport. As a side effect, the games are also slightly faster, and as most guys loath subbing off, means that many of the games are played with no subs (or often one sub who is slightly injured but as he enjoys playing so much, doesn't let himself fully recover). Don't get me wrong. Playing mixed is also fun but a different sort of fun.

-Chris Denny

## 2010 Taupo Hat – The YouTube Edition
## Report from MVP Jennie Parker

Taupo Hat 2010!
October 16 & 17
Theme: you tube
TDs: Fish and nate

OMG was Taupo Hat 2010 the best yet? Friday night everyone rocked into Taupo Base Backpackers, the teams were revealed, badges and (huge) shirts allocated and the trash talking began. Remember the Fluoro party? Two-for-one spirits? Am sure some of you don't…

Saturday morning the sun was shining… and WTF half the players were locked in the kitchen….no problem though, frisbee players are known for their athleticism - everyone just climbed down the deck, LOL!

At the fields the party bus was pumping our fav (and not so fav) tunes, sticks and cups was set up, and games were on. All tight battles, universe points testing the nerves… the TD's had the draw all under control so everyone knew exactly what was going on at all times… then.. sticks and cups… cups and sticks....

Fast forward to party: costumes were... interesting! Zlad of course was the stand out (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lp_PIjc2ga4). Special mention: Potter Puppet Pals (aka Grace) (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tx1XIm6q4r4), and Miss You tube herself (Nobuko) though only those not inebriated would have understood the costume…

Sunday morning was grey and windy but that didn't stop the party bus, or the players. Somehow semis were won and lost and the final was played between OMG and LOL. The commentary was appreciated by the crowd (most of whom were inside as it was raining)…. And Annie from Hamilton scored the winning point to give OMG victory.

Prizegiving followed soon after: LMAO won spirit, Zlad (Leon) won the best costume, Zev got male mvp and I (unfortunately?) got female MVP. Then Nate told Leon and I our punishment, oops I mean prize: a taupo bridge swing… WTF?

So everyone jumped in cars and headed off to watch. With all that peer pressure who wouldn't want to jump off a cliff? Absolutely no fear was shown by either leon or myself, fortunately there is video evidence to prove it, LMAO…

And that was the brief version of Taupo Hat 2010. Bring on next year

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## *LOCAL EVENTS:*

### Pick-up:

Pick-up is still on. All are welcome to come down to Cox's Bay Reserve, Sundays at 4.30pm –

Timing: Sundays, 4.30pm
Location: Cox's Bay Reserve
Contact: aucklandultimate@gmail.com

***** NEWS FLASH – MIDWEEK PICK UP IN THE CBD *****

Timing: Tuesday OR Wednesday, 12.30pm
Location: Victoria Park
Contact: supasuma@gmail.com

One of our members wants to help start mid-week pick-up in the CBD, if you are interested in attending please email Summer at the email just above and let her know which day of the week suits you better.

The more popular day will be set as a regular weekly feature. Get amongst it!

## Open and Women's 5 a-side:

Auckland Ultimate's Open and Women's 5 a-side League.
Details:

- Single Sex League. – Enter as a TEAM or INDIVIDUALLY (We can find you a team)
- Fantastic Prizes, Facilities and People
- Training for one and all after the league
- Cost: The low price of $300 per team.

Enter via the membership website: http://membership.aucklandultimate.org.nz/

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| Timing: | Mondays, running from January 10th 2011 until April 4th 2011, 6:45pm until 7:30pm. |
| Location: | Fergusson Park |

## Corporate / Social 5 a-side:

Auckland Ultimate is expanding and splitting social league to TWO nights!
The format is the same: mixed gender 5 a-side Social League.

All teams and individuals are free to enter on either (or both!) evenings but AU encourages beginner and intermediate teams to enter Tuesday nights and experienced teams to enter on Thursday nights.

Details:

- Mixed Gender League (1 member of each sex on the field minimum). – Enter as a TEAM or INDIVIDUALLY (We can find you a team)
- Fantastic Prizes, Facilities and People
- Training for one and all after the league
- Cost: The low price of $300 per team.

Enter via the membership website: http://membership.aucklandultimate.org.nz/

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| Timing: | Tuesdays and Thursdays, running from January 11th 2011 until April 7th 2011, 6:45pm until 7:30pm. |
| Location: | Cornwall Park |