



Vancouver, Canada to host the WFDF World Ultimate & Guts Championships 2008

VANCOUVER, B.C. / Jan. 31, 2006 / -- The World Flying Disc Federation announced today that Vancouver, Canada has been selected to host the WFDF World Ultimate and Guts Championships on August 2-9, 2008. More than one hundred teams from over 30 nations will gather to compete for the world title.

Surrounded by the beautiful Pacific Ocean and the spectacular Coastal mountains, games will be played on lush fields at the University of British Columbia. The Pacific Northwest is a flying disc hotbed, with Vancouver and Seattle consistently producing WFDF world champions. With a Greater Vancouver Ultimate community of 5,000+ players, organizers expect a high level of spectator interest, especially for the gold medal games on August 8th and 9th.

Ultimate is a flying disc team sport played on a grass field with end zones. Teams advance the disc with aerodynamic throws, with one point scored for each catch in the end zone. In games to 17, the athletes must possess an incredible combination of endurance, speed, agility, technique, and teamwork combined with a strong commitment to fair play in top competition without referees. This timely variation on sport reflects the importance of self-restraint. The athletes must arbitrate their own calls in the heat of competition using a refined system of rules. Invented in 1968, organized competition now takes place on six continents.

Guts is a test of players' daring. Two teams stand on opposite ends of a 15-meter court. Each defends their own line in games to 21. The throwing team scores a point each time the receiving team does not catch a fair disc thrown at speeds that can exceed 100km/hr. The receiving team scores a point each time the disc is thrown incorrectly. When the receiving team catches a fairly thrown disc, no point is scored. Top guts players must be able to throw with great speed and pinpoint accuracy. Defense requires intense concentration, lightning quick eye-hand coordination, and teamwork as the disc may be bobbled from one player to another before being caught. The sport of guts will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2007. Invented in the U.S., the top guts teams currently hail from Asia.

The World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) is the international governing body for flying disc sport including ultimate, disc golf, freestyle, guts, and many field events. The rise of these sports parallels the invention of plastic. WFDF is an established participant in international sport as a member of the General Association of International Sport Federations (GAISF), the International World Games Association (IWGA), and the International Council for Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE).

Vancouver is no newcomer to WFDF World Championships, as the successful host of the WFDF World Ultimate Club Championships in 1997. The other city to bid for the WFDF World Ultimate and Guts Championships in 2008 was Cape Town, South Africa.

The WFDF World Ultimate and Guts Championships 2008 will act as the WFDF qualifier for national teams aspiring to compete in the 2009 World Games in Kaohsiung City, Chinese Taipei. This event joins an impressive lineup of world championships in Vancouver leading up to the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Keep on top of all the latest information by visiting the event web site at www.wugc2008.com

To play disc sports, visit the Vancouver Ultimate League (www.vul.bc.ca/v3/), British Columbia Disc Sports Society (www.bcdss.bc.ca), Canadian Ultimate Players Association (www.canadianultimate.com), US Ultimate Players Association (www.upa.org), US Guts Players Association (www.usgpa.net), or the WFDF (www.wfdf.org) web pages to find a team or club near you.

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