

Halifax to Host 2006 Canadian Ultimate Championships

February 1, 2006, Halifax – Halifax has been selected to host the 2006 Canadian Ultimate Championships (CUC '06). Taking place August 17th to 20th, 2006, the tournament will draw 55 teams and 900 to 1000 players from across Canada. CUC '06 marks the first time that the National Championship will be held in the Maritimes since its inception in 1987. In the past three years, the tournament has been held in Winnipeg (2005), Vancouver (2004) and Montreal (2003).

“The tournament not only benefits the sport of Ultimate in Halifax, but also provides the city an opportunity to showcase itself at the national level to over a thousand athletes,” says CUC '06 Tournament director, Roy de Vries. “The economic impact for the same event in Winnipeg in 2005 was estimated to be over \$500,000.”

Ultimate (sometimes referred to as Ultimate Frisbee) is a fast-paced flying disc sport that combines the speed and endurance of soccer and basketball with the excitement and spectacular catches of football. It is currently played by hundreds of thousands of people worldwide in over 40 countries, with Canada routinely placing well within the world standings. One of the goals of CUC '06 is to increase public awareness of the sport in Nova Scotia and generate interest in local league play across the province.

CUC is the national championship for the sport of Ultimate in Canada, and determines which teams will represent Canada at the World Ultimate Championships held every two years. The tournament is being co-ordinated by the Halifax Ultimate Recreational League (HURL), with games being held at various locations around Halifax and Dartmouth.

HURL, launched in 1992, has experienced tremendous growth over the last 7 years. The league has grown from about 40 players on four teams in 1998 to the current 45 teams and 750 players in the summer of 2005.

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