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The 411 for 07-08

The lifeblood of our sport is new players, new teams, new interest, and renewed enthusiasm. We need new blood, like the [East Coast Cripplers](#) pictured. You never know where the next Cliff Chunn or Scott Hogsett will pop up. They are born out of opportunity and their own intense desire to play this great game.



Newly formed East Coast players get ready for action

The USQRA is here to provide that opportunity.

Unfortunately, it isn't all fun and games, because to play we must all get ready and be informed. So, get ready for the 411 in this issue. Other than Team USA and Team USQRA not much is happening on the hardwood. Team USA prepares for Beijing in summer camp, and Team USQRA got started in early July with players trying out and being selected for that squad.

Congratulations to: Jace Beck • Clayton Braun • Andy Burton • Mike DeYoung • Delmon Dunstin • Mike Fries • Derrik Helton • Jesse Honl • Ryan Kress • Ryan Lindstrom • Kerri Morgan • Aaron Roux • Justin Stark • Scott Stokes. Great job!

The USQRA board was pleased to award three scholarships to athletes invited to the Team USQRA tryout. One scholarship

covers 36% of the player's airfare to the first camp only. The other two scholarships are for varying amounts. If either or both of these players join the team, the scholarships will provide some assistance for travel to all three camps. These scholarships were based solely on financial need.

A Special Welcome: To Mary Dickinson, CPA and a member of the Bader Martin Accounting and Assurance Services practice (<http://www.badernmartin.com/>) who has joined the USQRA Advisory Board.

Also to Max Woodbury, of the Portland Pounders, he has joined the USQRA Finance Committee.

Clinics: The USQRA received [clinic grant applications](#) from eight programs for a total of 16 clinics. Each program showed an incredible level of enthusiasm, creativity, commitment, and desire to excel in their clinics.

The Clinic Grant Committee, chaired by [Wendy Gumbert](#), carefully reviewed the proposals and presented their recommendations to the USQRA board. The board awarded a total of \$7,500 to six programs to fund 10 clinics. It was a difficult choice.

USQRA Board Committees



Finance

John Ershek

Thanks to all the post season hosts classifiers and referees for their patience in getting reimbursed after this past nationals. We had a tough time gathering score sheets, follow up reports, etc. We think things should be back to normal now.

We are budgeting for several projects: Video production; web site redesign; a brochure; clinics and future Team USQRA activities. We are looking for potential funding sources for these projects. If anyone can steer us in the right direction for them, please contact us.

The [rugby store](#) will have new items for sale soon with the new USQRA logo. Keep a lookout.

Got balls? Classic Sport has sold out to Sportcraft. We have about 139 balls left, so we need to find a new source. If anyone knows of another source, please let us know asap.

We have formed a Finance Committee to assist the Board (see page 1). We are looking for someone to review the monthly statements. Anyone interested, please contact me.

Good luck to everyone with the upcoming season.

Equipment

Bob Crandall

Is your chair ready for the next season? "Each player is responsible for ensuring



United States Quad Rugby Association

his wheelchair meets all specifications ." Read [Section 4 of the USQRA/IWRF Rules](#) and know the criteria your chair must meet. The most common chair violations are:

1. "The front-most part of the bumper ... must be exactly 11 cms from the floor" and "... must be a minimum of 20 cms wide ... and must span straight across." [NOTE: This does NOT include the bent end connections.]
2. "The wing cannot extend laterally beyond the center of the tire on the main wheel."

Classifier Corner

Lauren Rosen

The classifiers are enjoying the off season. We classified at nine tournaments last year and most of those included tournaments where more than 20 players were seen.

We also clarified the rules about international players playing in the US. We collected all USQRA cards for international players and are now requiring that those players play with their internationals classification cards.

One of our big goals for this upcoming season is to increase players' understanding of the classification process. So, if you have any questions about the process, please ask us and we will do our best to explain things to you.

We are starting to plan classification for this fall. If anyone has a strong interest in having a panel at their tournament, please contact me so we can start looking for a panel!

We are always looking for more people to join us as classifiers. So, if you know of any PTs, OTs, or MDs who are interested, please have them contact me at PTLauren@aol.com and we will try to arrange a clinic.

See ya'll this fall!

[Links FYI](#)

[Code of Ethics and Complaint Procedure for USQRA](#)

[Deadlines](#)

[AGM Minutes](#)

[Constitution and By-Laws](#)

[Developmental Grants: Individual player or Team](#)

[Help! with new web page design or new brochure... contact Jason Regier.](#)

[All Links and Rugby Store @ quadrugby.com](#)

[Murderball DVD here.](#)

CLINICS

Check the [calendar](#) on [quadrugby.com](#)

Information? Contact [Wendy Gumbert](#)

Mike lives in the town where he was born: Chatsworth, CA, about 20 minutes north of LA. The [Northridge Knights](#) practice in the same facility where he has played sports since he was a little kid. He was 19 years old and had completed his first semester at college when he was injured snowboarding at Big Bear. He hesitated in a back flip and landed feet up, all his weight on his neck. He was introduced to rugby a few months after his injury, but his main goal then was to work full time at becoming independent and he didn't have time for rugby. Three years later he achieved that goal.

Bored and wondering what to do next, he thought, "I should try that rugby thing." He went to a practice and his commitment to the sport has been 100% ever since.

We caught up with Mike right after the first Developmental Team USQRA training camp. After congratulating him on making the team, we were not surprised to learn



Mike DeYoung locking up the opposition

that Mike trains year-round: working out regularly on a Uppertone machine, throwing medicine balls, pushing in his Vesco chair, etc.

Why does Mike like rugby? He likes the hitting. He appreciates how high-pointers and low-pointers meet on the court and that it's fun for athletes at all levels. And did he mention he likes to hit? Loves banging around in a wheelchair!

When not on the court, Mike and his girlfriend of two years, Kristen, enjoy traveling. He also enjoys hanging with friends and fishing. He is finishing his degree in Urban Planning.

Mike's last words: "Rugby is important to a lot of peoples' lives. It's important that people continue to volunteer, and to sponsor. It's important that athletes keep playing - and that they put on clinics and tournaments. I've learned a lot doing all of that, that transfers to 'real life.'"

- By [Wimsey Cherrington](#)

Team/Player Deadlines

See Bylaws and Constitution for details.

9.15.07: *Players must notify former team of intent to transfer.*

9.30.07: *Transferring players must request their transfer Commissioner*

10.1.07: *Team Registration due.*

- *Player transfer requests due to BOD.*

10.31.07: *Registration is LATE \$100 fine assessed.*

- *Last day to roster an international player.*

11.1.07: *Post season bids due.*

12.15.07: *Last day to roster a team or to add a player .*

- *Players must have played two games*
- *Last day for transferring players to produce proof of residency to the commissioner.*

1.15.08: *Post season team transfers.*

- *Last day to withdraw from post season.*

International News Tournaments

SEE iwrf.com

www.cwsa.ca

See quadrugby.com for other results and the many International tournaments scheduled for 2007.

September 5-16, 2008

Paralympic Games Beijing, China

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Contact:
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Even though summer is the quad rugby off season, 24 athletes travelled to Lakeshore for an opportunity to try out for Team USQRA.

Congratulations to the 14 selected athletes and we all look forward to seeing how this program develops.

Players intending to transfer teams are reminded to check the transfer deadlines, and if you're a coach or team manager with a transferring player, make sure the player has notified the prior team and Commissioner.

Teams are reminded that score sheets from games are due to the USQRA within 14 days of hosted games. They are to be forwarded to [Bob Crandall](#). These are essential to making sure that games hosted and played requirements are met. Because collecting all of the score sheets has been a problem in the past, the USQRA Board has voted to deny postseason participation to teams that fail to meet this requirement.

Developmental grants - [Team](#) & [Individual](#)

NAWRC

Disney has notified us that 2007 is unavailable at Disney Wide World of Sports for the North American Wheelchair Rugby Challenge (NAWRC). 2008 is a possibility. We are very disappointed, but not surprised. Mainly, it was bottom line issues.

The attraction of this tournament was having the best rugby in North America being showcased at Disney World, Orlando. Great rugby; great fun. That was the idea; that all succeeded.

I know there is huge interest in NAWRC, but it needs to be re-thought for 2008. We are sorry the tournament cannot be played at Disney this year.

For information on how to obtain the latest coaching aid, follow this link
[2006 USQRA Coaches Manual](#)

[Click here](#) to be added to our mailing list.

Explore the USQRA web site quadrugby.com and [MURDERBALL](#)

About Us

The United States Quad Rugby Association exists to provide support, structure, and opportunity for competitive wheelchair rugby to people with disabilities.

Smashing Stereotypes One Hit At A Time we feel best captures the main message of our players and our sport. Quad rugby is a tough, give-no-quarter game. Our player's lives - their successes and trials on and off the court - are a continuous example of smashing stereotypes. The sport is testament to the spirit of our players, their humanity, and the intensity of our game.

We are here to help people get involved in the fastest growing wheelchair sport in the world.

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