# <sup>21 Jul</sup> Day One Recap

The 2024 World Junior Ultimate Championships got underway this afternoon, with glorious West Midlands sunshine bathing Moor Lane to welcome everybody to Birmingham. After the opening ceremony, with the players proudly parading around the showcase field, it was time to get into the real action.

Great Britain's Women made it consecutive opening game victories with a hard-fought 15-12 victory over a tough Germany side, backing up their triumph in the JJUC opener two years ago. While GB Open had a groundswell of home support behind them, USA proved too much for them with a 15-6 win, much to the delight of their large travelling contingent. USA Women showed their title credentials with a 15-1 victory over a spirited Aussie Terra. There were some surprises to be found in the Mixed division, with both of the finalists two years ago sliding to defeats - Switzerland stumbled against the Netherlands, who prevailed 15-12, while Hungary succumbed to Singapore by a 12-7 scoreline. Italy and Canada both begin their Mixed campaigns with victories, 15-7 over Panama and 15-5 over China respectively.

Two of the potential Women's title contenders went head-to-head in the second game slot, and France showed why they are hotly tipped for a strong finish with a classy 15-4 win over Japan. Elsewhere in the division New Zealand and Canada started very strongly, with Ireland going down 15-2 to the former, and Singapore 15-1 to the latter. The **Contact Us** pools played their first games as well, with Colombia downing Mexico 15-10, Poiana beating

Hong Kong, China 15-3, and USA triumphing over Latvia 15-1, but the headline result was Austria's 15-11 upset over France, giving them a likely path to the top Power Pools.



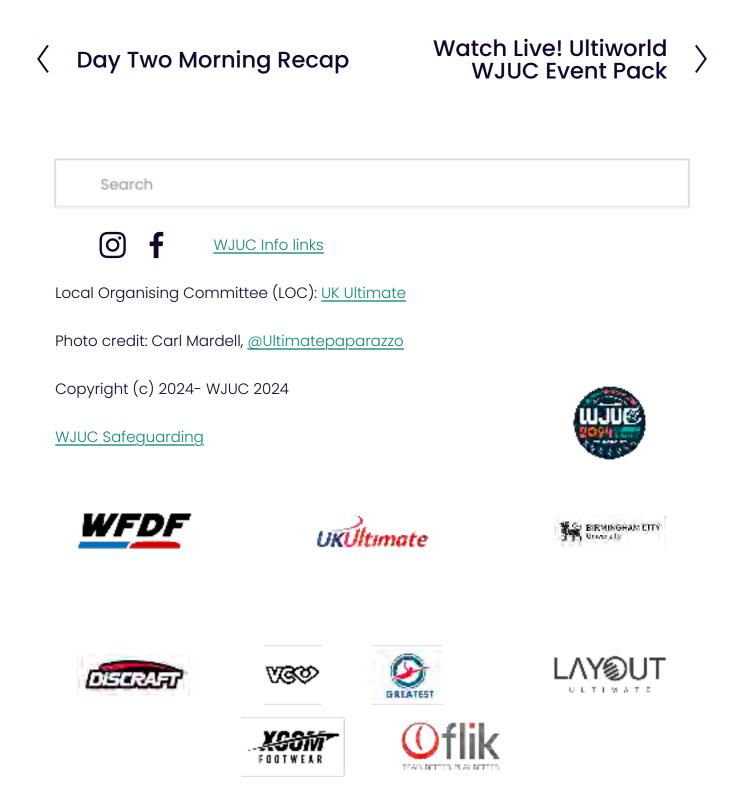
A Colombia Mixed player stretches for an aerial block against Mexico. Photo by Tom Kiddle.

The bulk of the Open teams began play in the last round of the day. In one of the tightest fixtures so far, Switzerland grabbed a late break to seal an entertaining encounter with Colombia 15–13. Italy raced to a 6–1 over Japan, and converted that into a 15–11 victory to get their week off to a flying start. Canada recorded a 15–6 victory over a high-flying Belgium, and Germany's strength in depth showed as they pulled away in the second half to notch a 15–8 success against China. New Zealand Open emulated their Women's team by also beating Ireland 15–2, and there was another repeat scoreline with USA Open banking another 15–6 victory, this time over Australia. In the one Women's game in the final round, hosts Great Britain were unable to overcome an Italian side with their own medal hopes as the Azzurri finished 15–11 victors.

With every team having at least one game in the books, the athletes can begin to settle

into a rhythm of multiple games a day from Monday onwards, as the initial pools conclude in the Mixed division, but continue in the Open and Women's divisions.

Link photo by Carl Mardell.







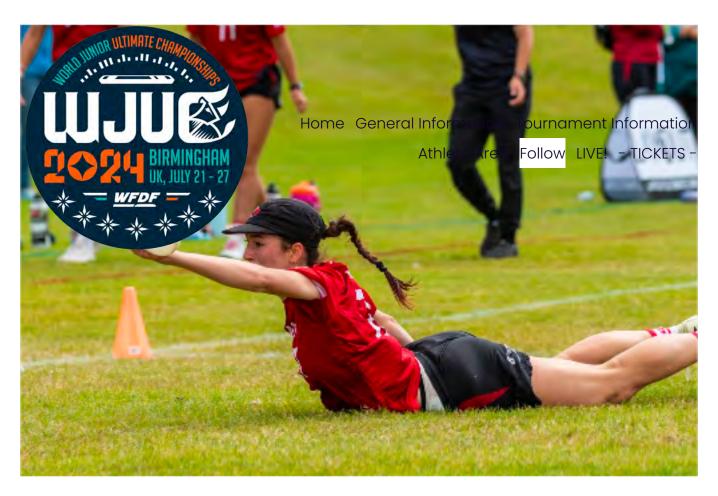
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# <sup>22 Jul</sup> Day Two Morning Recap

The wind picked up for the morning of day two, giving teams an extra challenge as the pools continued to take shape in Birmingham.

The first round featured predominantly Mixed division games. Italy were very impressive in a 15-4 victory over the Netherlands, while Switzerland saw off a battling Panama in a 13-11 game that was tight throughout. Canada continued their winning start as they overcame Singapore 15-10, while Hungary and China played out an intense 11-9 Hungarian victory. Colombia won strongly, beating Hong Kong, China 15-3, and with Poland defeating Mexico 14-10 the Poles and Colombians will take the field this afternoon knowing the victor will emerge at the top of pool C. France bounced back from defeat yesterday with a 15-6 win over Latvia, with USA backing up yesterday's victory by beating Austria 15-8. The one Women's division game pitted Italy against Australia, with Italy picking up a 15-8 victory.

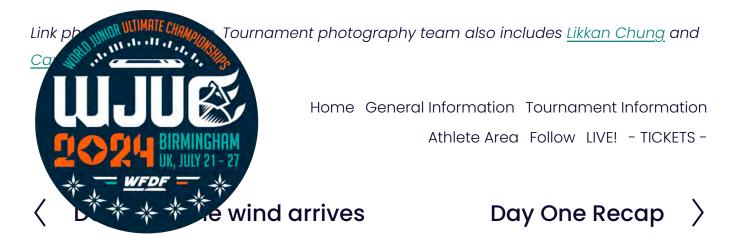
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Canada celebrate a layout score against Japan. Photo by Graham Shellswell.

The Open and Women's divisions had the spotlight in the next round. In the Women's division, France were nearly faultless in a 15-0 triumph over Ireland, with New Zealand also winning strongly by besting Singapore 15-3. Canada and Japan, jostling for power pool positions in pool B, locked horns with the Canadians winning 15-9 after weathering a Japanese comeback out of half. There were big wins in the Open division for Canada, Belgium, and Italy, Canada beating Ireland 15-1, Belgium beating China 15-4, and Italy overcoming Germany 15-7. France pulled away from Switzerland in the second half of their game with a 15-9 final score, while Colombia were able to turn an 8-6 halftime deficit into a 14-11 victory over Australia. The game of the tournament so far featured a thoroughly engrossing back-and-forth matchup between Japan and New Zealand, with Japan holding to snatch a Universe Point win, 14-13, after breaking to take half 8-7.

The first pool stage wraps up this afternoon in the Mixed division before moving on to power pools tomorrow, with the Women's and Open divisions continuing their pool play games.



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Local Organising Committee (LOC): UK Ultimate

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# <sup>22 Jul</sup> Day Two: The wind arrives

The first day of WJUC lulled players and spectators into a false sense of security: the weather was lovely. Today, the British summertime hit back with a cool, windy day that made it much tougher on the teams in Birmingham. The Mixed division concluded the first pool stage and will move to power pools tomorrow, while the Open and Women's divisions are both roughly halfway through the first phase.

### Mixed

The four initial pools are all finished, and the pool winners are now our top four seeds: **Italy**, **Canada**, **Colombia** and **USA**. Only Colombia remained in place of the initial top seeds, with the other top seeds **Switzerland**, **Hungary** and **France** all falling to the lower power pools. Second placed teams **Singapore**, **Netherlands**, **Poland** and **Austria** also move to power pools for a chance to make the quarters. But how did we get here?

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Luca Peroni makes a catch for Italy Mixed under pressure. Photo by Tom Kiddle.

Italy dominated both games today, defeating both Netherlands and Switzerland 15-4. The Italians play a remarkably balanced game across the roster with almost everyone having at least one stat. They look to be a very strong possibility to do well in the tournament, having conceded only 15 points across their three pool games. The Netherlands defeated **Panama** 15-10 in a game they never truly seemed in trouble in, riding early breaks to go up 12-6 before staying firm in the face of a late Panamanian comeback to seal second spot in the pool. Switzerland defeated Panama yesterday so go into lower power pools as third, with Panama in fourth.

Canada were made to work early on by Singapore this morning, but a good run took the Canadians from 4-4 to 12-6 and they were able to ride the game out from there to take a 15-10 win. A 15-3 win over Hungary sealed top spot. Singapore beat Hungary yesterday so their 15-4 win over **China** in the last game slot sealed second place, while Hungary won a slower-paced game against China 11-9 to take third.

Pool C saw a game between the top two teams in the pool in the last game slot to see who would take the top seed, with Colombia facing Poland. Poland started with a hold and a break to go 0-2 up and were able to take the half 6-8, but whatever the Colombians discussed at half time proved decisive. They pulled an early break back and then went on a run from 8-10 down to go 12-10 up. Poland steadied the ship for 12-11 but the South Americans piled the pressure back on and rolled off three points in a row to win on a Callahan, 15-11, concluding a decisive 7-1 run. In the other game in that slot, **Mexico** handled **Hong Kong, China** 15-6.



Emily Zhang extends to try and beat Crystal Tong to the disc. Photo by Carl Mardell.

Austria pushed the USA hard in the morning, taking a break off the American O-line and going into half at only 8-5. The USA turned on the jets though and stormed to a 15-8 win, their closest game in the pool and the closest game any US team has had so far at the tournament. France defeated **Latvia** 15-6 but yesterday's loss to Austria left them in third place.

All this means we have two upper power pools: Italy, Colombia, Austria and Singapore in pool E and Canada, USA, Netherlands and Poland in pool F. The two pool winners play both pool runners up in each power pool tomorrow, so the Italy/Colombia and USA/Canada fireworks will have to wait. The lower power pools offer a path back to pre-quarters for the top two teams in each, so the games tomorrow will go a long way towards sealing those spots.

### Women's

The different format in the women's division means we are still in the pool stage but there were some significant results today. **Australia** had two games today, the only team in their pool to have to play twice, and suffered two tough losses. **Italy** were first up and came out with a 15-8 win thanks to a strong first two-thirds of the game, going up 12-4 before the Aussies were able to bring it back a bit towards the end. Next up was home team **Great Britain**, who started brightly to go up 3-1 but were pegged back to 3-3 after a good Australian D line zone. The British were able to rally, though, and took half 8-4. They accelerated in the second half and won 15-7, the final point dragging out to 10 minutes as both teams were still fighting hard for every pass despite having been playing for well over an hour and a half. The other game in the pool saw **USA** continue their intimidating start with a 15-0 win over **Germany**. Unless there are some very peculiar results tomorrow, it looks as though USA, Italy and Great Britain will progress to the upper power pool with a chance at semis. The Italy vs USA game tomorrow will tell us a lot about how each team stands – both teams have two wins but the only common opponent is Australia, whom USA beat 15-1 yesterday.



Ichika Shimada extends for a catch against Canada. Photo by Graham Shellswell.

Pool B saw much more action today. **Canada** emerged with two wins, first a competitive 15-9 against a talented and resilient **Japan** team that came from 7-2 down to make it 7-5 at one stage. The Canadians' superior athleticism and defensive pressure told, though, and they eased away in the second half. A 15-0 win over **Ireland** was a perfect follow up for the Canadians, who look well-placed to challenge their neighbours here. One of the teams they'll have to get through first, though, is **France**. The French took their own 15-0 win over Ireland and then defeated **New Zealand** 15-7, an impressive-looking result given that New Zealand had only conceded five points across two dominant wins beforehand including a 15-3 over Singapore this morning. Japan also defeated **Singapore**, 15-5, leaving a strong possibility that the final game slot tomorrow will see a vital game between Japan and New Zealand where the winner progresses to the upper power pool with a chance to make semis and the loser goes to the lower power pool, out of the bracket altogether. Canada and France, meanwhile, will meet at the same time in a game to likely win the pool.



Australia celebrate a goal. Photo by Likkan Chung.

### Open

There were two close games in Pool A today, one in each half of the day. This morning **Colombia** staged a comeback from 6-8 down against **Australia** to run out 14-11 winners in a game filled with highlight-reel plays. It was the only game of the day for the South Americans, but Australia suffered a second loss against an athletic, aggressive French team in the afternoon, going down 15-6 after the game was 6-4 in the early going. **France** also beat the Swiss this morning, 15-9, but **Switzerland** kept their afternoon game much closer. Hosts **Great Britain** played once yesterday and only once today and recovered from being broken on the second point of the game to take half 8-6 against their Swiss opponents. The Brits received out of half and held to extend the lead, but the Swiss fought back to bring the game level at 11-11. The teams traded highly entertaining points until 14-13, when a well-timed GB zone forced a mistake and a quick start offence gave them a 15-13 win. In the final game of the day in this pool, the **USA** beat **Singapore** 15-3. There's still two

days left in the Open pools so there's plenty of time for teams to change their fates, although the USA and France are already sitting pretty with three wins so will be in the bracket. The teams are separated only by three goals at the moment and their matchup on Wednesday already looks like a big one.



Nathan Hulme is a beat too late for the block against Switzerland. Photo by Carl Mardell.

The other pool had more games today but only two were close, with a lot of teams showing their ability and closing out games professionally. **Canada** beat **Ireland** 15-1 and **Japan** 15-8, while **Germany** beat Ireland 15-2. **China** registered losses against **Belgium**, 15-4, and **New Zealand**, 15-1. Both Ireland and China are playing hard but struggling in a very talented pool, so their game on Wednesday will be a huge one for both teams as they look to move onto the next stage with positive momentum. **Italy** dispatched Germany 15-7 this morning with a 4-0 run to open the game and a 5-1 run to close it, and looked to be well set up to a Belgium team that struggled yesterday against Canada. Belgium had not read the script, though, and played fearlessly against their favoured opponents. Some of the options were a little too fearless with hammers hitting the deck, but some outstanding

catches and excellent offensive flow pushed them ahead 4-5 after both teams went on runs. The Italians rallied to take half 7-5 but were never comfortable, eventually taking a very fun game 13-10. Italy and Canada lead the pool with three wins each but the Canadians have seemed much more serene.

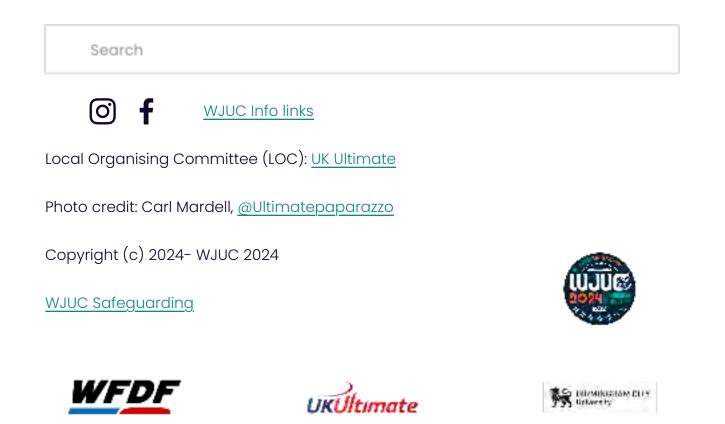


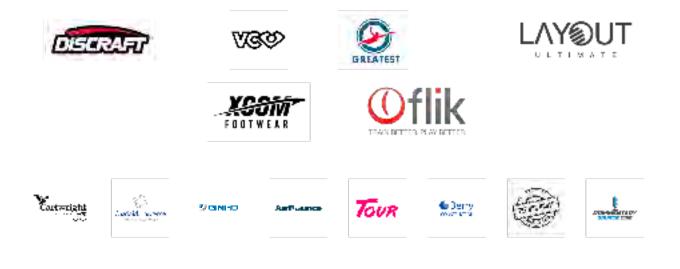
Two Canadian players go up for a disc against Japan. Photo by Graham Shellswell.

The final game to mention in this pool was perhaps the game of the day in any division; Japan against New Zealand. Katipo got their noses in front 0-2 to start the game but a 4-1 run for Japan meant they took half 8-7 with the game on serve. Japan broke out of half to extend their lead but Katipo was able to snatch the break back to level the game at 12-12. Both teams were playing incredibly hard and playing clean offence despite the pressure they were under until the final two points, which dragged out as players threw everything at it. New Zealand held to force a Universe Point, and Japan maintained their composure to calmly work around a Katipo zone until finding a sliver of space for Tatsuki Hirao to send a deep shot. A desperate bid from a defender got a touch on the disc but Shoma Ando caught it against his face to seal a 14-13 win in an instant classic.

### Link photo by Likkan Chung.

## Day Two Morning Recap





# <sup>23 Jul</sup> Day Three Morning Recap

After a brief cool interlude yesterday, we are back into summertime today. Conditions are warm but with a light breeze to keep people honest. Mixed power pools began this morning, while the Open and Women's divisions continue to work out what's what in the pool stage.

### Mixed

Most of the games weren't close, reflecting the difference between the teams that finished in first and second or third and fourth in their respective initial pools. Colombia beat Austria 15-8, racing out to a 9-3 lead and cruising from there. They look like a threat for semis in this form. Canada dispatched the Netherlands 15-6 to continue their strong start as well. The USA was pushed by Poland, taking half 8-6 after both teams put together three-point runs. The second half was a familiar story, though: the USA scored four in a row and took a 15-8 win. The upset of the round came in the Singapore vs Italy matchup on the streamed field, where Italy entered as top overall seed after the pool. The teams traded holds against zones for a long time, the lack of match D dragging the points out much longer than in pretty much every other game. Singapore broke for a 6-4 lead and then again to take 8-5. Italy broke out of half to bring the game back to 8-7, but Singapore hit back with two of their own and saw the game out with a hold for an 11-8 win. **Contact Us**  In the lower power pools, France defeated Hong Kong, China 15-1, Hungary won 13-9 over Panama and Mexico topped Latvia 14-10. The biggest surprise here was the first win for China as they beat Switzerland in another slow, zone-dominated game 12-10. The Swiss had the disc to take the game to universe but couldn't connect for the goal and China closed out a huge result to put themselves in good shape for the pre-quarters.

### Open

There were some very tight, interesting games in open in this round. The closest was another thriller involving New Zealand, this time against Belgium. The Kiwis broke twice to take a 0-2 lead and Belgium could only pull one back at the end of the first half, going in 7-8 down. Belgium broke immediately to stop the New Zealand mini-break out of half and level it up, then got another to go up for the first time at 10-8. New Zealand pulled it back to go up 12-11 but Belgium scored three in a row to take a thriller 15-13 thanks to intense pressure in the last few points. Germany and Canada were also within one at half, going into the interval with one break each and Canada leading. Both teams were loud and flying around the field, with big plays happening seemingly every point. They traded to start the second half but Canada found another gear and punched in three breaks in a row to extend the lead to 14-9, a point away from victory. Germany refused to go quietly, though, and reeled off three points before Canada closed out the 15-12 win. Colombia and Singapore were tightly match as well, with Colombia winning after a second half run of six points cancelled out Singapore's strong first half. Singapore threatened a thrilling comeback with a break to make it 13-12, but Colombia closed out a 14-12 victory.

Elsewhere, Great Britain took on last year's European runners up France. The French are looking very strong and took a 15-10 win, the only break of their offence coming in the penultimate point. Italy scored a big win over China, 15-5, Japan dominated Ireland 15-2 and Switzerland notched a 15-8 win over Australia.

### Women's

The USA continues to look like a juggernaut. Great Britain scored a nice hold late in the game but it was the only one they could manage against an enormously talented American group. One of the USA's rivals later in the tournament is likely to be Italy, who beat Germany 15-7 in the first game slot. Italy were up 12-3 before the Germans were able to take a late break.

In the second slot, another challenger showed their class. France, the reigning European champions, defeated Singapore 15-0. Japan won 15-1 over Ireland, while Canada and New Zealand played out the most entertaining game in the division so far today. Canada broke three times in the first stanza to take half 8-5 but New Zealand scored three in a row to start the second and level things up. Canada took that personally; four points later they led 12-8 and they closed out a 15-10 win in short order. Canada's long game looks extremely good when it's firing and they are more than willing to leave their feet to get highlight reel blocks.

This division will conclude this afternoon. USA will play Italy to see who wins that pool, but both are guaranteed a power pool spot alongside GB who are done for the day. It's a similar story in the other pool where Canada play France for top spot in a game that will be appointment viewing. New Zealand against Japan is a winner-takes-all match for the power pool, as we predicted last night. It promises to be a thrilling finish to the day after a fairly quiet morning in Women's.

Link photo by Graham Shellswell.

# Cay Three: Afternoon<br/>fireworks on field 1 Day Two: The wind arrives Search Image: Column Co





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# Day Three: Afternoon fireworks on field 1

The Women's division has joined Mixed in concluding the initial pool stage and power pools will start tomorrow. Mixed is halfway through power pools, but Open has one more day to go before the teams go straight to the bracket. The final two rounds of this afternoon saw what look to be the best Women's teams battle it out in two thrillers, while the Open division also featured a couple of exciting games (one of which inevitably featured the people's team, New Zealand).

### Women's

There's only one place to start and that's with the Women's division and the two streamed games late in the day. The USA played Italy, followed immediately by France facing Canada. The North American teams are longstanding superpowers in the ultimate world, while France defeated Italy in the European final last season and they look to be the two best teams on the continent again this year. All four teams had looked excellent up to this point and seem to be in excellent position to make the semifinals later this week. The stage was set for two stellar games, and they did not disappoint.

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Caroleen DeWolf extends for a block against Italy Women. Photo by Graham Shellswell.

The States started strongly and took two breaks to go up 6–3, maintaining the lead into half for an 8–5 advantage. The Americans worked through the Italian zone with precision and speed, with Chloe Hakimi in particular showing why she has achieved so much in her short career with some visionary passing. The Italians stayed focused and kept pushing, though, and broke through with a break to bring the score to 9–8. The success seemed to push the Italians on and, with a loud sideline, they broke again to bring the game to 10–10. The seemingly invincible Americans were, all of a sudden, in a real game and Italy were flying. From there, though, we saw what champions are made of. America managed a tough hold and went on a run, propelled by spectacular pulling, scoring the next four points on D to take the game 15–10. Opal Burruss's Callahan to bring the score to 13–10 seemed to sap the energy from Italy and transfer it directly to their opponents. This game will give them huge confidence, though, heading into the business end of the event.



France celebrate a goal against Canada. Photo by Likkan Chung.

France had been sweeping teams aside and were fancied to make things tough on Canada ahead of the game. The start did not go their way, though. Canada went 0-5 up in short order, forcing France to use a timeout during the run to try and address the issues. Whatever they discussed worked eventually, as a hold led to two breaks for a 3-5 deficit. The teams traded out for a 5-8 score at half, France receiving to start the second. Again, France's team talk worked absolute wonders. Canada scored a single point in the second half, a hold to bring the score to 10-9 after five consecutive points for the French, a mirror of the start of the first half. Zoe Forget was involved in four of the five points to start the second and seemed to be unstoppable downfield. A third five-point run of the game sealed a hugely impressive 15-9 win for the French. Forget and teammates Carolina Mabekondiasson, Swann Lacoste-Lefèvre and Camille Blanc were huge parts of the comeback, but the French team as a whole looked close to unstoppable once they got going. A potential tilt between the French and Americans in the power pools is tantalising,



ZsaZsa Gelfand gets a hand on a high throw. Photo by Likkan Chung.

Elsewhere, Germany took a comfortable 15-6 win over Australia that will boost the confidence of the Germans but still leave them short of the power pools. Singapore sealed a 15-0 win over Ireland to kickstart their tournament, and Japan sealed their spot in the power pools with a 15-8 win over New Zealand in a winner-takes-all game. The Japanese took any drama out of the game with a strong run into and out of half, taking the game from 5-5 to 13-7 with excellent disc retention and a strong zone that made the Kiwis take on some tough shots. They were able to come down with some great catches by using their height advantage, but the throws they were forced to take on were difficult even for their strong throwers and the Japanese pressure eventually told. It leaves the USA, Canada, France, Italy, Great Britain and Japan in the power pool – results from the initial pool stage are carried through so each team will play three games, and the top four after those

games will progress to semis.



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Starting with the Germans and Belgians, it looked early like the game would be a dud. Germany took a 5-1 lead and looked to be cruising after a tough loss to a good Canada team earlier in the day. While Belgium responded with a break, Germany took it back immediately and took half 8-4. Belgium regrouped, though, and chipped away at the lead with a three-point run early in the second half to take the score to 10-9. The teams exchanged breaks and then holds, leaving the game finely balanced at 13-12 to Germany. The Germans were able to hold and then break for the win, 15-12, leaving them in prime position for the quarters.



Germany toe in a catch against Belgium. Photo by Graham Shellswell.

In the same pool, Canada eventually defeated New Zealand in a tight game dominated by offence. Canada scored two breaks early on to go ahead 4–2, but weren't able to make inroads on the Kiwi offence from there. Unfortunately for New Zealand, Canada held every one of their own O points, meaning the teams traded a pretty remarkable final 21 points of the game. New Zealand have now lost three games by three points or fewer, seemingly incapable of playing anything other than a wildly entertaining game, and the win left Canada undefeated going into the final day of pools and atop Pool B alongside Italy, who enjoyed a more serene day with two comfortable wins – 15–5 over China and 15–2 over Ireland.

This pool is far from settled going into the final day. Germany and Japan have three wins

each, while Belaium and New Zealand have two. Tomorrow there are some crucial



Canada take down a high catch against Germany. Photo by Tom Kiddle.

Pool A isn't quite as open, with France and USA both unbeaten heading into the final day. France defeated Great Britain 15-10 in an impressive, mature performance earlier in the day and then dispatched Colombia 15-5 before cheering on their Women's team. GB responded to the loss with a 15-8 win over Singapore and the USA beat Switzerland 15-6.

The Americans face Colombia in the morning before meeting France to see who wins the pool. The Colombians also play Great Britain in a game that could be very impactful - GB play Australia first thing so could go in with three wins but currently sit at two alongside the South Americans and Switzerland. The Swiss play Singapore in a game they should win, so

will likely end on three. If Colombia can't take down the juggernaut American team, they



Martin Osorno goes up for a catch against Singapore. Photo by Carl Mardell.

### Mixed

Power Pool F has gone to plan. The USA and Canada have two wins each, with 15–3 wins over the Netherlands and Poland respectively this afternoon demonstrating their superiority. They meet tomorrow morning knowing that the game is purely for seeding as both have qualified directly for quarters. It wouldn't be a surprise to see the teams leave something in reserve for later in the bracket, not showing their full hands at this stage. The Dutch and Polish will also meet for seeding, fighting to avoid the winner of Hungary and a strong-looking French team, two teams that could cause them issues in the pre-quarters.



Loris Martini lays out for a block. Photo by Likkan Chung.

Power Pool E, though, has very much not gone to plan. Top seed Italy lost both games today, 11–8 to Singapore this morning and 15–9 to the Austrians this afternoon. Singapore also beat Colombia, 12–5, to take the top spot going into tomorrow. Austria will play Singapore and Italy face Colombia with a number of outcomes still possible. Based on the results so far it is incredibly difficult to predict, which should hopefully mean some fascinating games for spectators.

The lower power pools have also seen some battles and upsets, with China beating Switzerland 12-10 and Mexico 11-8 to leave themselves in a very strong position for a prequarter. The Chinese ended strongly against the Swiss and started strongly against Mexico, showing that their zone can challenge teams and their disc movement cut through defences. Switzerland and Mexico have both defeated Latvia, 15-12 and 14-10 respectively, which means the smart betting would be that China tops the pool unbeaten and Switzerland and Mexico have a straight playoff for the final pre-quarter place. This division has been capricious so far, though, so who knows what will happen on an absolutely



Singapore celebrate a goal against Italy. Photo by Carl Mardell.

Link photo by Graham Shellswell.

# Day Three Morning Recap ightarrow







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# <sup>24 Jul</sup> Day Four Morning Recap

WJUC reaches the midway stage, with the Mixed division finishing power pools, Women's power pools continuing, while the Open pools build up towards a thrilling climax this afternoon.

### Mixed

Power Pool E had multiple finishing orders available, with every team still capable of snatching a quarter-final bye, leading to understandably tight games. **Singapore** ensured they finished at the top with a 13-11 victory over an **Austria** side that pushed them all the way. The Europeans had the lead early in the second half at 9-8, but Singapore showed their mettle to claw their way back in front in the closing stages. **Colombia** pushed hard to earn an 8-5 halftime advantage against **Italy**, and the Italians were never able to come closer than two points in arrears as the Colombians secured a 14-11 win in a fixture that ended over twenty minutes after the time cap, such was the intensity.

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Emily Zhang of Canada stretches to secure possession in their matchup against the USA. Photo by <u>Carl Mardell</u>.

**USA** and **Canada** had both already sealed their byes, but they still played out a classic encounter to see who topped the pool, with the Americans surging ahead late on for a 15-13 victory. **Poland** finished their power pool play with a strong 15-9 victory against the **Netherlands**, with both sides looking to build momentum going into pre-quarters.

In the lower pools, **China** had already secured the top spot in Pool G but produced a professional performance in winning 15-8 over a **Latvia** side that continues to improve. **Switzerland** faced off against **Mexico** in a winner-takes-all matchup, with Mexico utilising a very profitable long game offensively to emerge as 15-7 victors against the reigning European champions.



Mexico's Kasandra Lebrack Alatorre climbs highest against Switzerland. Photo by <u>Carl</u> <u>Mardell</u>.

France and Hungary matched up to see who topped Pool H, and France look like a real threat in the next round on the back of a 15-7 triumph to make it three wins on the spin.
Panama notched their first victory of the week in defeating Hong Kong, China 14-6 to book their pre-quarters spot.

The pre-quarterfinal matches kick off the afternoon, with Austria vs. Mexico, Netherlands vs. France, Poland vs. Hungary, and Italy vs. China.

### Women's

The lower pool took the field in the opening round of the day. **Singapore** earned themselves a 7-5 lead over **Germany**, only for the Germans to storm back and score 10 of the final 11 points as they ran out 15-8 victors. **Australia** recorded their first win of the campaign as they triumphed over **Ireland** 15-4, with the Irish continuing to show

development as the week continues.



Singapore and Germany battle it out for a floaty throw. Photo by Likkan Chung.

In the top power pool, **France** and **USA** both showed their class with strong wins over quality opposition in **Great Britain** and **Canada**, 15-2 and 15-4 respectively. **Italy** and **Japan** took centre stage on the showcase field with both sides jostling for a semi-final spot. Japan started brightly, building a 4-2 lead against an Italian outfit showing signs of fatigue after an exhausting game against the USA yesterday, but Italy grew into the game and came out of the other side with a gritty 10-7 win.



Khoi Brooks shows off her hops securing a high disc versus the USA. Photo by Carl Mardell.

#### Open

**USA** continued their quest for gold with a 15-1 victory against a **Colombia** side who could have had half an eye on their afternoon game. **Switzerland** defeated **Singapore** 15-11 to wrap up their pool games, while **Great Britain** used the energy provided by the home support to overcome **Australia** 15-13. USA take on **France** this afternoon to decide who tops the group, while Switzerland will be paying very close attention to Great Britain vs. Colombia, with all three teams in with a chance of progressing. Singapore face Australia with both sides searching for a first win of the week.



Ryuto Tsukada flies for a block in Japan's universe point victory over Germany. Photo by <u>Tom Kiddle</u>.

Pool B saw big wins for **Belgium**, who bested **Ireland** 15-3, and **Canada**, who triumphed 15-5 against **China**. The other two games were much closer, as **New Zealand** produced another big performance only to come out on the losing side against **Italy**, who won 15-13 in an absolute stormer. **Germany** and **Japan** locked horns with the winner putting themselves in the driving seat to advance to quarter-finals, and in a back-and-forth thriller Japan broke to win 13-12, their second Universe Point success this tournament. Canada and Italy finally face off this afternoon, with the winner staying undefeated to win the pool. Japan, Germany, Belgium, and New Zealand will slug it out to find out who secures the two remaining spots, with Japan playing Belgium and Germany facing off against New Zealand. Ireland face China in the remaining game, and each will be looking to turn progress into results to build confidence going into the consolation bracket.



Canada and China are all smiles in their post-game spirit circle. Photo by Likkan Chung.

Link photo by Graham Shellswell.

## A Day Four: Brackets now close to set

## Day Three: Afternoon fireworks on field 1

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Local Organising Committee (LOC): UK Ultimate

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# Day Four: Brackets now close to set

The pool stage of every division is done, and power pools are finished outside of the final games in the Women's division tomorrow morning. Both Open and Mixed had thrilling finales to the power pool stage, while Women's saw the biggest teams battle for positioning in the semi-finals as we now know who'll be in the top four. Let's look in more detail.

#### Open

The final pool games saw both pools waiting for the final positions to be confirmed. **Switzerland** were already done and had confirmed their spot in quarters with three wins and three losses, including a 15-13 win over **Colombia** and a 15-13 loss to **Great Britain**. The final spot in the quarters from Pool A was going to either of those two teams, who played each other. If the Colombians won by three or more points, they would go through in a three-way tie in fourth and Switzerland would take third. If GB won or lost by one, they would go through in third and Switzerland would go through in fourth, but if GB lost by two they would be fourth and the Swiss third.

The game started with holds from both teams until 4-5 to Colombia, when they drew first blood and broke for 4-6. The teams traded out to half with Colombia lead<sup>;</sup> held out of half. The next few Colombian offensive points were holds, but they were nous



Alexander Yecies makes a catch against GB Open. Photo by Carl Mardell.

Great Britain's offence worked down the field with the Colombians right on their shoulders and making several bids. The disc was tossed up to Sam Hill to catch the score, but he fumbled the high grab. The disc popped up into the endzone and Hill managed to chase it down and keep his feet in bounds to take the score and make it 14–13. At that point, GB had qualified for the quarters. It did not seem that either team was aware of that fact. GB took a timeout and put out another strong line, this time getting their first break of the game to push the contest to Universe Point and take third in the pool. Colombia were able to gather themselves and execute a hugely impressive offensive hold to take the game, sparking wild celebrations from the whole team while several GB players sunk to the turf filled with emotion. Once the outcome on bracket placings became evident, the atmosphere



bia go into the lower bracket but do so with huge credit and some

ill be the offways-entertaining **New Zealand** who defented on a game, 15–10. The Kiwis started with a Follow <sup>-</sup>LIVE! <sup>-</sup> TICKETS their own. The difference came either size of half when New od turned it into an 11–6 advantage. Germany took back a e points in a row from New Zealand closed the game out just as it

had began. The Kiwis had needed to win while **Japan** defeated **Belgium** to reach the quarters. While they held up their own end of the bargain, Japan couldn't hold on against an aggressive, loud Belgium side. Both sides took two breaks in the first half leaving Japan up 7-8 at half, but a Callahan for the Belgian O-line after a turn seemed to get the team even more fired up than they had been. Two breaks in a row meant they wen tup 12-10 and the teams traded out for a 14-12 final score. Belgium progress to the quarters in fourth spot, while Japan finish third. New Zealand and Germany, both good teams that have had some wonderful performances, miss out on the top eight.



Hunter Cochrane extends for a high grab against Italy Open. Photo by Carl Mardell.



ed each other to see who would be the top seeds going into particularity closen with infortmation ic torupowers ntdpforrogation A beat France 15-9 with the top seeds going into aks while defeating Italy by the same score.

Lower way but faltered right at the end, going down 12–13. They responded by scoring the final two points to win a cathartic Universe Point game. The Chinese continue their own search for a victory. **Singapore** join them in that search after **Australia** scored the final three points of their game to take a 15–12 win.

Tomorrow we have the quarters. USA against Japan, Italy against Great Britain, Canada against Switzerland and France against Belgium. Our winner will come from those eight teams.

#### Mixed

The final games of power pools saw the places set for pre-quarters. Pool E had been close throughout and wins by **Singapore**, 13-11 over **Austria**, and **Colombia**, 14-11 over **Italy**, saw them qualify directly for the top eight. The other pool had been decided already and the **USA** vs **Canada** and **Poland** vs **Netherlands** games were purely for seeding. The games turned out to be good ones though, as USA beat Canada 15-13 with a late comeback and the Poles beat the Dutch 15-9.

The lower power pools saw the top two seeds progress for a shot at quarters. **France** and **Hungary** had already secured pre-quarters spots but France's 15-7 win meant they would play the Dutch while Hungary faced Poland. **Mexico** and **China** closed out their pool with wins over **Switzerland** and **Latvia** respectively. China would face Italy and Mexico would play Austria.



Arath Fabrizio Elenes Cuevas makes a catch under pressure from Killian Karner. Photo by <u>Graham Shellswell</u>.

All four pre-quarters were close. China took a four-point lead over Italy early on with a strong zone that limited the Italian flow. Italy took a break back and then, after China scored to go three up at 3-6, reeled off five points in six to take half 8-7 up a break. Both teams were playing zone and the game moved slowly, meaning just one mistake could be hugely impactful with the game very unlikely to go to 15. Italy held for 9-7 and the next point too over 15 minutes. Both teams had the disc a number of times before China eventually put in a massively difficult hold. The next point was another slog - this time an eight-minute affair that ended in a crucial hold for Italy. Time had gone with Italy up 10-8 so the game was to 11. A turn from China gave Italy a short field and they converted to win the game and take a spot in quarters.

Mexico and Austria played out another entertaining game that saw a number of

momentation is a scored four in a row at one point and took half 8-7 up a break. The provide the day, though, as they scored four breaks to ate breaks but Austria managed the game well and made French Honthe Seperal Information the Hist Half With four ation up with an offensive politice egrature Followork defeation to the game giving France a 14-10 win.



Roth Mohring holds on under pressure from Chris LoFrese. Photo by Tom Kiddle.

Hungary and Poland played in the final pre-quarter (although they all happened at the same time, you get what we mean). Poland started brightly with a break, but Hungary seized control from there. Six points in a row put them in a commanding position and they took half 8-4. There were two mammoth points, one coming in at 17 minutes and the one for half at 11, with both teams battling fiercely for the win. The Poles gave it absolutely everything in the second half and took back a number of breaks and getting close to others. It wasn't quite enough, though, as Hungary took a 13-11 win and progressed to the

bracket.

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gapore will play France, Canada face Austria, Colombia will ans will face Italy.

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me today, with **Italy** and **Japan** battling it out for positioning in pan took an early 2-4 lead but Italy really turned it on from there

and took half 8-5. Two points in this game went for over 20 minutes with both teams relying on zone in blustery conditions. The game finished 10-7, reflecting just how much the teams were stretching out points with battling performances on both sides. Both teams took heavy losses later in the day, with Japan losing 15-5 to the **USA** and Italy falling 15-2 to a rampant **France**.

**Canada** lost 15-4 to the USA in a game that saw some unusual unforced errors from the Canadians. The USA played hard and pushed all the way as Canada seemed to lose confidence while the Americans completed a perfect 7-0 second half. Canada regrouped well and defeated **Great Britain** 15-6. Canada went up 12-3, after which the British were able to trade out and get some points on the board. France had earlier beaten GB 15-2 to show just how good they are.



Orphée Schoofs makes a catch against Great Britain. Photo by Carl Mardell.

The upper power pool is already set, with one round of games to go. Japan and GB will play for fifth, but both will enter the 5-8 bracket and will face **New Zealand** or **Germany**, both of whom are unbeaten in the lower pool. Italy will play Canada for third and the right to avoid the winner of the battle of the unbeatens: France against the USA. These teams have looked like the four best all week so it's fitting that they'll play for the title. It remains to be seen just what combination we'll see in the bracket.

While Germany and New Zealand will meet to see who wins the lower power pool, **Singapore** and **Australia** will play to see who has the highest seed in the 9-11 pool. Both have beaten **Ireland** handily, 15-0 and 15-4 respectively, so could be well matched.

Link photo by Likkan Chung.



### Day Four Morning Recap ightarrow

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## 25 Jul Day Five Morning Recap

We saw the Mixed quarterfinals and the end of power pools in Women's this morning, so there's plenty to talk about. Let's get right into the thrilling action.

#### Mixed

The first two quarters to mention are USA against Italy and Austria against Canada. The Austrians had the disc to take a surprising break on the first point of the game but couldn't convert. That was as close as Canada let them come for some time as they pulled away to a 7-0 lead. Austria put one on the board before half and then grabbed a second to make it 12-2, but the game was largely one-way traffic as Canada punched a ticket for the semis. The Americans didn't have it quite so much their own way as Italy started off with a hold and a break, shocking the favourites. America pulled things together and went on a three-point run to make it 5-4, but the Italians weren't fazed and hit back with a three-point run of their own. The USA seemed thrown and were making uncharacteristic errors. It didn't last for long. A seven-point roll into and out of half put them 12-7 up, and after Italy pulled one back the USA steamed through to the end of the game to win 15-8.

**Contact Us** 



Milad Chaintron lays out to try and block Iden Tan. Photo by Tom Kiddle.

The other two quarters were much closer. First off was Singapore against France. The French drew first blood with a break to make it 1-2, and the teams then set into a rhythm of trading. Seemingly every point featured dozens of passes with both teams were playing zone, so the pace of the game was slow throughout. France took a timed half 6-7, and received the pull coming out. Singapore broke twice to get their noses in front, Caleb Tan to Skye Fong for both scores with both points lasting more than five minutes.

Singapore broke again late but France pulled it back to send the game to a Universe Point. Singapore were able to keep their composure and produce a clean hold to win 12-11. France hit the turf in anguish while Singapore celebrated wildly.

In the next game slot Hungary played Colombia in the final quarter. The game was delayed thanks to the comeback 15-14 win by Mexico over Panama stretching 15 minutes over the time of the next game, so it was the last game going on before lunch. The teams traded breaks in the first half, two each, with Hungary on top. After a clean hold by



Sam Grossberg celebrates a point for USA Mixed. Photo by Tom Kiddle.

Hungary took the first advantage, securing a break to go up 10-8 through a Ferenc Klément throw to Bence Molnár. Colombia hit back with a hold and two breaks of their own to edge ahead 10-11, Diego Mancilla and Yeferson Higuera involved in two scores each. Hungary secured a tough hold even after Colombia were able to take possession of the disc for the win and sent the game to a Universe Point. Colombia took the disc on the sideline after the Hungarian pull went out of bounds, and the Hungarian zone managed to produce an error in the backfield. Hungary took an immediate timeout, moved the disc around a few times and eventually Eszter Tóth found Kata Vígh for the win.

So the semifinals tomorrow will be Canada vs Singapore and USA vs Hungary.

Elsewhere, Latvia defeated the Netherlands 15-9, Poland dominated Switzerland 15-3 and China took a 15-1 win over Hong Kong, China. The closest game in the 9-16 bracket was could

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streake

between Panama and Mexico, where Panama took an 11-14 lead into the later stages but

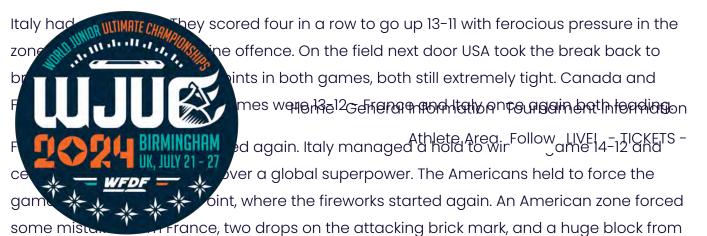
Manager to win a thriller.

Home General Information Tournament Information NGHAM Nother in what was expetitions for a Followf by the gal factors ighest expectations. Italy against Canada and France d in a similar, surprising fashion as the European teams ook half 8-3, while France went up 4-10. However, both North

American teams are made of stern stuff. The USA scored six in a row to bring it to 10-10; Canada scored six in a row to go up 8-9. The Europeans fought back, with France taking a break to go up 10-12, but Italy's hold to level it was followed by two more Canadian breaks to put them up 9-11. It looked like France would be the ones to score the upset while Italy fell away late on.



Chloe Hakimi unfurls a deep shot. Photo by Carl Mardell.



Zoe Forget extended the point between the errors. In the end, though, the indominable Chloe Hakimi took over the point and secured a wild comeback win for the Americans. Fingers crossed this isn't the last we see of this kind of match up in this excellent division.



Italy and Canada compete for a high disc. Photo by Carl Mardell.

It means the semis are games we have seen before. Italy play France, while USA play Canada. A European team is guaranteed to be in Saturday's showcase game, but will they be able to secure the win against a North American opponent? Anyone who watched

to find out.



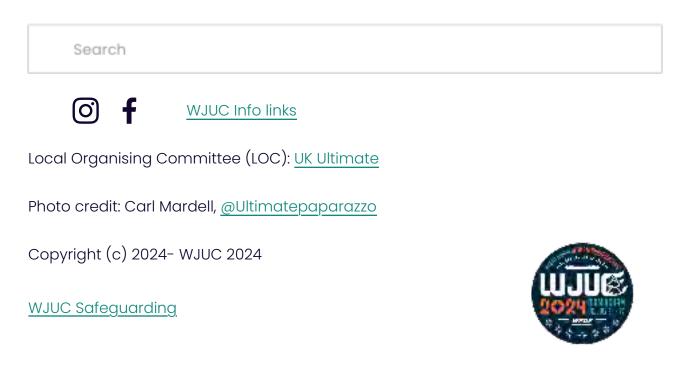
so been set, with New Zealand defeating Germany 15-11 and ng the Kiwisplaytherbentionther578 branchetwhilenthermation e. Australia beat Singapore so look or Athlete Area Follow LIVE! - TICKETS -

The big games are happening this afternoon, but we saw three games in the second slot this morning. Australia beat Ireland 15-3, Singapore beat China 15-4 and Germany defeated Colombia 15-9. Those results mean the winners are all looking good in the ninthplace pool, with New Zealand resting this morning but also at the top of the standings.

Link photo by Tom Kiddle.







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## 25 Jul Day Five: Final fours emerge

**Contact Us** 

The tournament is now into the final four stage in every division. The semifinals are set, and the quere featured plenty of excitement and intrigue in Open and Mix the power pool games we talked about earlier in Women's. Open teams with minimal action in the other divisions, but g. Home General Information Tournament Information Athlete Area Follow LIVE! - TICKETS -

The Unite Canada showed their class in the quarters. America took a break early but Japan were in the running at 4-3 down, pressing to try and get back into the game. The relentlessness of the US was unforgiving, though, and two more breaks stretched the lead to 7-3. The second half got even better for the reigning champions – after taking half 8-4, they won the second half 7-1 and won in just over an hour against a Japan team that had looked good in the pool stage. Canada, on the other hand, made an early statement against Switzerland. They went 5-1 up and took half 8-2 in just over half an hour, a punishing performance that left the Swiss scrambling for answers. While Switzerland were able to pull together their offence and trade the first six points of the second half, Canada regained control and won the game with a Callahan after a monster pull left Switzerland struggling at the back of their own endzone. The North American powers look to be peaking at the right time.



Silvan Hartmann comes up short on a layout bid against Canada. Photo by Carl Mardell.

The other two semis spots looked to be a bit more interesting. France and Italy have been the two best teams in Europe for the past few years at this level, but Great Britain and Belgium have had some talented players come through the ranks and both had won tight games against good opponents in the pool. GB against Italy came first, and both teams started with a run of three points. Italy broke three times in a row to start so were still a break up after GB hit back with their run, the final one coming on a mammoth point that took over 15 minutes. After some trading, the crucial point in the game came at 5-4 to Italy. They were able to generate turns on GB's offence with a zone, limiting the options the British throwers had and testing their patience, and took two more breaks. The second was another marathon, over 10 minutes, as the defence from GB was stellar but their offence couldn't find a way through. Italy took half 8-5 but GB broke on the first point to give themselves some hope. Another Italy break came to make the score 10-6, and despite a late break back from GB, the Italians punched their semis ticket with a 12-9 win.



Ben Askham makes a big catch against Italy. Photo by Carl Mardell.

France conceded two breaks to start the game against Belgium. The Belgians were flying, sniffing an upset, but France gathered themselves and took one of the breaks back. The teams traded for a few points with France getting ever closer to a break before they pulled the game back on serve with a break at 6–5. The broke again to take half 8–6 and never looked back; they scored the first six points of the second half and won 15–7.

All this means we have the four teams that most observers would have predicted in the semis. The USA will play Italy, while France will play Canada.



Two French players catch the same goal against Belgium. Photo by Likkan Chung.

Elsewhere, New Zealand beat neighbours Australia 15-12 to remain unbeaten in the lower pool, while Colombia beat China 15-9 and Germany beat Singapore 15-8. New Zealand face Singapore tomorrow in a game they will be heavy favourites to win, while Colombia play Ireland in a similar game. New Zealand lead the pool, with Germany and Colombia both behind on a single loss. Germany have played one more game so only play Australia tomorrow, again a game that the Germans should win, which would potentially leave New Zealand against Colombia as a vital game in the battle for ninth. If the Kiwis win, they take ninth. If Colombia win it would leave three teams on one loss and we'd go to a tie-breaker. Colombia lost out on quarters on a tie-break and they lost to Germany 15-9 so it would take a massive swing for them to come out on top this time around. New Zealand beat Germany 15-10, so Colombia would likely need to win by eight in that final game to take the top spot. Still, there's some intrigue ahead in the lower pool.

#### Mixed

Co

The quarters all happened this morning, so this afternoon was the lower bracket games.

ance and Austria faced off in the fifth-place bracket, as did Beater efeated Austria 15-10 in a game they led all the way after d Colombia played out another tight game after meeting in ble to exect evenged bring bis there round a black of the sector of the game went to Universe to Pollow, Held the indicates omorrow.



Jade Hansma makes a throw against Latvia. Photo by Likkan Chung.

Lower down, Mexico again came from an unlikely deficit to win a game, this time turning over a 1-6 lead to win 14-13 against Latvia. They will play for ninth tomorrow against Poland, who dealt with China 15-6 to continue their roll through the bracket. The Netherlands defeated Panama 13-8 and will meet Switzerland for 13th after the Swiss beat Hong Kong, China 15-4. Hong Kong, China remain the only team without a win and will face Panama for the second time after the Central Americans beat them 14-6 earlier this week.



Mexico take down a catch against Panama. Photo by Graham Shellswell.

#### Women's

Again, most of the action in this division took place this morning (and what action it was). There were only three Women's games in the afternoon: in the bottom pool, Singapore beat Ireland 15-1. Australia have two games tomorrow against these two teams, with the final game against Singapore likely to determine who finishes ninth. Australia won that contest 11-9 earlier today.





In the fifth-place bracket, New Zealand and Germany crossed up against Great Britain and Japan respectively. New Zealand rode the wave of positivity that topping the lower power pool provided and comfortably defeated a scrappy Great Britain 15-3. New Zealand's zone after by the addition of the gas throughout. Germany couldn't find the same energy and went down 6-1 early to Japan, who rode the game out and took a 15-8 win. The teams have all played each other bereference and won 15-8 gapinst New Zealand in the pool stage, while GB won 15-12 against Germany in the first game of the tournament. We'll see what happens after five draining days for all the teams here in Birmingham.



# <sup>27 Jul</sup> **Day Six: Only two remain**

The whole week has been leading to this point: we have two teams still in the running in each division. Let's get right to what went on during yet another barmy day in Birmingham.

#### Open

The USA and France will meet in tomorrow's showpiece. The USA faced Italy, the European champions, while Canada faced France. The lineup was a repeat of the last time these teams all met, at JJUC in 2022, and the results of the semi-finals were broadly the same as well.

The USA broke Italy on their first offensive possession to go two up and continually pressured the Italians into completing lots of passes to gain any ground whatsoever. The break features nine possessions as both teams struggled to get to grips with the wind. At 3-1, the Italians managed to generate a turn from the American O line and worked it down the field. An offhand dump hit the turf and America were able to punch in the hold. From there, the US O line didn't give the disc up again. Italy pushed hard, threw themselves at the disc in the air, changed things up and tried different zones. Nothing seemed to work as they needed it to though. Their offence was extremely good and the leading throws ahead of handlers were beautiful when they worked, but the USA have too many <sup>†</sup> Contact Us <sup>\*</sup>, long defenders and they were able to get turns and breaks throughout. The intervence of was

harsh on a game Italian team, but the USA are that good. Alberto Laffi carried a huge load for Italy while Giorgio Bavia and Niccolò Mazzola were great downfield, and for the USA Axel Olson and Cedar Hines were standouts in an overall incredible O line.



Ethan Lieman tries to bring down a break against Italy Open. Photo by Likkan Chung.

France and Canada was much tighter. France started on offence and were broken immediately, but took that break back at the first time of asking to leave the game at 2-1. A break to take half meant that France extended the lead they had enjoyed for th much of the half, Quentin Peschard catching the goal after crossing to D for the big point.

Another break at 11–9 put the French up by three points, and moments later they took a fourth break of the game to go up 14–10 and put themselves on the brink of another final. The Canadians fired back and scored two points to start the comeback, but a final huck from Pare to the exceptional Peschard sealed the win and the repeat final for France.

The French and the Americans did meet in the final game of the power pool. There, two American breaks in the first half left the score at a competitive 11-8, but two late breaks meant that the final score of 15-9 might have given the impression that the teams weren't close. Key French handler Olivier Gibert had three turns, while the US O line turned only three times combined all game. This final will be tighter, but the French are facing a mighty task.



Enzo Stanguennec skies a pile for France Open. Photo by Tom Kiddle.

Canada and Italy met in a feisty bronze-medal game, with Canada ultimately taking the hardware home 14-11. They broke early and were up by as much as five until a late Italian rally made the game closer. A dirty hold was enough to secure the dirty gold, Carter Bayer finding Isaac Breton to avoid a repeat for Canada of 2022 when they lost out in this match to Italy.

Switzerland finished a highly creditable fifth with a 15-13 win over Japan, while Great Britain defeated Belgium 15-12 to secure seventh. New Zealand went unbeaten to finish ninth in the lower power pool, the crucial final game against Colombia something of a damp squib as the Kiwis triumphed 15-6. That left Germany in 10th, Colombia in 11th and Australia in 12th

after the Aussies lost on Universe Point to Germany. Singapore beat Ireland to seal 13th and China finished 15th without a win.

#### Women's

Just as in the Open division, the semis were a repeat of 2022: the USA against Canada and Italy against France. These games had both been blowouts in power pools but one was a much closer affair at this stage.

The USA have come through the tournament undefeated, despite a huge scare against the French, and went into the semi against Canada as huge favourites. The game earlier in the tournament had seen Canada play open lines so wasn't a huge indicator of how this could go, but The US hit the ground running and never stopped. Four first half breaks left the score at 8-3, with the American O line perfect in execution. Canada were playing hard and giving it everything but the stifling US defence took away all the underneath throws and made the deep shots tough in a stiff breeze. Canada was able to trade for a while in the second half and turned the US O line a couple of times, but the first thing to break was the Canadian offence as the USA took three more breaks to secure a convincing 15-7 win. Canada did not play badly, and several players were excellent – Lilianne Shannon was great downfield and Maélys Lechasseur kept the disc moving well. The USA were just outstanding. Rachel Chang and Caroleen DeWolf were brilliant, and defenders like Pilar Abele made it impossible to reset the disc comfortably.



Violet Yap goes up for the score against Canada Women's. Photo by Carl Mardell.

France against Italy was not at all close in the power pools – 15–2 to the French. When the French broke twice to start the game and then again to go up 5–2, the fear was we were going to see another one. The Italians are much stronger mentally than that, though. Three points in a row pulled them level on the scoreboard but still a break back, and even despite four France points in a row put them ahead 9–5 and another break stretched that to 11–6, the Italians would not go away. Two late breaks kept the game going but in the end, France's talent told and they secured a battling 13–10 victory. Captain Swann Lacoste-Lefevre was excellent with six assists, while Lucrezia Grossi was great for the defeated Italians.

There's not much to say about the final - this game was probably game of the tournament in the power pool. Everyone is going to be hoping for more of the same.

So Women's was, just like Open, a repeat of JJUC. Just like in Open, the bronze medal game went the other way this time around. The teams traded lots of breaks in the first half, with

Italy eventually taking two late in the half to go into the break 8–5 up. They stretched that to 13–8 before Canada were able to eat into the lead, but Italy held their nerve to take home the bronzes with a 15–11 win. There were plenty of amazing, athletic plays in the game but the final play of the game is well worth mentioning – Diane Qin was hit in the face by the follow through of the Italian huck to seal the game and called foul, but retracted the foul after discussion, essentially handing the victory to her opponents after agreeing that the foul didn't affect the outcome of the play. Such an intense and important game can cloud minds and judgement, but Qin responded with exceptional spirit in a crucial moment.



Sofia Albani lays out for the Superwoman block. Photo by Carl Mardell.

Japan and New Zealand played out a hugely entertaining fifth-place game, with the Kiwis trading up all through the second half after two Japanese breaks brought the score to 8-8. New Zealand called a timeout after a Japanese hold pushed the game to Universe Point, and they held to finish a wonderful rise from the lower power pools. Great Britain defeated Germany 15-9 thanks to an 8-2 first half to seal seventh, while Singapore roared back from a 6-9 deficit against Australia to win 10-9 and seal ninth. Ireland finished 11th without that

elusive win.

#### Mixed

The North American powers were strong favourites in their semis, and both showed why with the depth of their talent. One team looked much sharper than the other, though.

Canada played Singapore, with the Singaporean style of fast movement all driven from the backfield facing an incredibly stout defence that made movement extremely difficult. The teams played earlier in the tournament so knew each other well, and Canada came out firing. A 6-1 lead put them in an enviable position, and Singapore was unable to get a break back until one to make it 11-7. Canada's response? A four-point run to seal the game. Singapore gave it everything but Canada was too good and too deep, with 17 players on the scoring stat sheet and two of those who didn't score notching blocks.



Iden Tan makes the catch against Canada Mixed. Photo by Tom Kiddle.

On the other side, a slightly sloppy American team struggled to put away Hungary, who hung with their opponents admirably for long stretches. A Callahan for the Hungarians brought the score to 10-7 to the USA, and two late Hungarian breaks made the score even tighter, but eventually the USA ran out 15-12 winners to seal a spot in the final.

The USA has been favourites throughout the tournament, and re-enforced that with a 15-13 win over Canada in power pools that ended with three consecutive points to overturn a 13-12 deficit. The teams look to be well matched and we should be treated to quite a final.

Hungary played Singapore in a fraught bronze medal game. Hungary eventually won 8-7 after a three-hour marathon that featured two spirit timeouts and some long discussions.



Jiamei Lin gets a block against Singapore Mixed. Photo by <u>Carl Mardell</u>.

France defeated Colombia 15-12 for fifth, while Italy finished seventh thanks to a 15-13 win over Austria. Poland completed their sweep through the lower bracket with a 12-10 win over Mexico and China finished 11th with a 15-13 triumph over Latvia. Another 15-13 gave

Day Five: Final fours

Switzerland the win over the Netherlands for 13th, and Panama finished on a win over Hong Kong, China with a 14-3 scoreline.

There's only one day of the tournament left, and only three games before we're done in Birmingham. It's been an amazing week and every team has something to be proud of during that time. The final day should be a great one.

Link photo by Carl Mardell.

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## **BULLETIN ONE**

### WFDF 2024 WORLD JUNIOR ULTIMATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### BIRMINGHAM, UK SUNDAY 21 - SATURDAY 27 JULY 2024

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#### WELCOME TO BIRMINGHAM, UK

Welcome to Birmingham, UK, home to the WFDF 2024 World Junior Ultimate Championships!

The WFDF 2024 World Junior Ultimate Championships (WJUC) will be hosted by Local Organising Committee (LOC) UK Ultimate, led by Si Hill and Luke Tobiasiewicz alongside a team of experienced key staff. WJUC will be held in Birmingham, UK from Sunday 21st July - Saturday 27th July 2024 inclusive (7 days).

The world's best national teams for Junior (under-20) players will compete in the Women's, Open, and Mixed divisions. We expect teams from over 20 nations comprising approximately 1000 participants to take part in WJUC. Players born in 2005 through 2010 are eligible to compete (please check the <u>WFDF Rules Appendix</u> for details).

With a large student population, Birmingham is the UK's second largest city. The WFDF 2024 World Junior Ultimate Championships (WJUC) are taking place at Birmingham City University (BCU), Moor Lane Sports ground, home to UKU University Mixed Nationals and previously host to UKU Club Nationals.

On the following pages you will find the details you need to formalise your team's WJUC registration process. Please pay attention to action points highlighted in red. We've also included some *preliminary* extra details on transport and accommodation to help you with your decision planning, however all teams are reminded strongly that NO BOOKINGS for flights, visas, hotels should be made until we close the team REGISTRATION (collect fees) for the event, once we are sure it is viable with critical mass.

Should you have any immediate questions that affect your ability to pre-register your teams, please feel free to reach out to WFDF or the LOC (contact details on the back page of this bulletin). Teams from all WFDF member National Federations are welcome to participate in the Event.

We look forward to hosting you in Birmingham UK, in July 2024.

Si Hill UKU CEO, Tournament Director Luke Tobiasiewcz UKU Major Events, Tournament Director Yenny Pardo WFDF Events Coordinator Patrick Fourcampre-Maye WFDF Events Manager

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#### **EVENT DATES**

WJUC will be a **seven (7) day** tournament from **Sunday 21st to Saturday 27th July, 2024 inclusive**. Should weather cause delays to play, the schedule will be adjusted accordingly to ensure the finals are played as scheduled on day 7 or prior.

A provisional competition format will be shared after team fees are collected when schedules will be tailored to the division sizes. Day 1 (Sun 21st July) **will include a single game for most, ideally all teams**. Day 7 (Sat 27th July) will be a short day with limited play for some teams only - schedule pending.

On-site registration will take place in the lead up to the Tournament after teams arrive in Birmingham. You will be informed of your booking time and location for team registration at a later date.

**Coaches & Captains' Meeting & the Spirit Captains' Meetings** will take place on **Saturday 20th July, late afternoon/evening** BEFORE the tournament starts. Attendance by at least one (1) representative from EACH TEAM is preferred to attend each meeting. For capacity reasons the limit will be two (2) people per team per meeting. Please plan your travel accordingly. For teams who have no representatives at the venue during the meeting times, you can pre-register your absence to receive the meeting minutes via email.

The Parade of Nations and Opening Ceremony will take place in the morning of Sunday 21st July and all teams are requested to participate in uniform.

The first round of games for most (if not all) teams will take place on Sunday 21st July (Day 1). It is anticipated that teams will play up to 2 games per day on days 2-6 with placement, semis and finals games as well as games needed to round out the schedule played on days 6 and 7. There is a possibility that teams/divisions will be granted a rest day within the schedule. Note that if bad weather creates a need for schedule changes, we can not promise a set number of games for teams.

The official **Athlete Party** for WJUC will be hosted on **Friday 26th July** evening. Medal Ceremonies will take place immediately after each final. The Closing Ceremony will take place at the end of the last final of the WJUC Tournament.



Photo by David Clarke on Unsplash

#### LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

The event will be headed up by Si Hill (CEO) and Luke Tobiasiewicz (Major Events Manager) of UK Ultimate, the National Governing Body in the UK. UKU manages or runs over 50 Ultimate events every year, and in particular hosted the WFDF 2023 World Under-24 Ultimate Championships in Nottingham UK, the WFDF 2016 World Ultimate & Guts Championships and the 2015 World Under-23 Ultimate Championships both in London UK. Si and Luke will be joined by an experienced team of staff and volunteers.

UKU has also been partnering with Birmingham City University to host Ultimate competitions for approximately 20 years, and will be running UKU University Mixed National Championships at Moor Lane in June 2024.

#### **LOCATION & VENUE MAPS**

WJUC will be played at the Birmingham City University sports complex at Moor Lane, with the main accommodation sites at the BCU City Centre Campus and neighbouring Aston University Campus. Note that the fields and accommodation are separated with a bus journey.

Playing Fields:

• The Pavilion Sports Ground, Moor Lane, Birmingham B6 7AA

City Centre Hub (Food + Accommodation blocks within 15 min walk):

• The Curzon Building, BCU, 4 Cardigan St, Birmingham B4 7BD

All of the primary fields for the event will be grass. The finals will also be played at this same venue.





The Pavilion at Moor Lane Sports Ground, BCU



Aerial Image of the Moor Lane Sports Ground, Birmingham

#### CLIMATE

The climate of Birmingham, UK in July normally has daytime temperatures around 20°C (67°F). At this time of year it is reasonably likely that there will be some rain from time to time. High temperatures are possible, but relatively unusual. Teams should prepare to play in all weather conditions.

#### **AIRPORTS**

Birmingham is well placed in the UK, being close to a number of major access roads - the M1, M5, M6 and M40. <u>Birmingham Airport (BHX)</u> is the closest international airport, which can easily be reached via public transport from Birmingham City Centre and the venue/accommodation. The London and Manchester airports are further away, but still easily reached by public transport within approx 3 hours.

Teams should make enquiries about flights, however **no flights should be booked until after the 15th January 2024** when team registration closes and the team fee payments deadline passes, after which WFDF will confirm each team on the bid list.

Teams are expected to make their own transport arrangements from the airport to the accommodation.



Birmingham New Street, Photo by Brian Lewicki on Unsplash

#### **ACCOMMODATION & BOOKINGS**



Official event accommodation will be student accommodation in the city of Birmingham. The photos provide some examples of the buildings, rooms and social spaces.

- Bed in a single study en-suite bedroom
- Three course evening dinner via the servery counters each night
- Full English & Continental breakfast options each morning
- Communal kitchens will have fridges and kettles, ALL cooking appliances will be <u>disabled</u> self catering is <u>NOT</u> an option.
- Communal lounges, study areas and outdoor spaces
- Bed linen and towels supplied (bring your own toiletries, soap etc)
- Free Wi-Fi
- Estimated costs will be £50-£60 per person per night, including breakfast and dinner

Teams will book directly with the accommodation providers. Contact details and the booking procedures will follow soon. There is enough space for all teams, however we suggest you make specific enquiries as soon as the event bid list is released.

Every room comes equipped with a bed, wardrobe, desk, chair, bookshelves, noticeboard, desk lamp, personal door lock, coat hooks, mirror, and power sockets. Rooms also have an ensuite bathroom with toilet, sink and shower. Additional services on campus include laundry (user pays). Only one (1) person is permitted to stay in each room booked.

The LOC Is also working on a plan to offer a limited amount of camping at the Moor Lane Sports Ground i.e. at the fields, with breakfast and evening meal provided on site. More details will follow soon, estimated costs will be around £30-£35 per person per night, including the same hot breakfast and dinner as in dorms. There is a check box in the team registration form for those teams who are considering camping.

The LOC may provide some local information or contacts for teams who are looking for cheaper alternatives (e.g. hall sleeping on floor), but the LOC highly recommends staying on the university campus for the best experience at 2024 WJUC with accommodation and food packaged at an excellent rate.













#### FOOD

The official event accommodation package includes breakfast and the evening meal. You can find a partial sample menu below, download a full pdf copy <u>here</u>. Please be aware this may be subject to change.

	Saturday 20th July	Sunday 21st July	Monday 22nd July	Tuesday 23rd July	
BREAKFAST	BACON/SAUSAGE/VEGGIE SAUSAGE	BACON/SAUSAGE/VEGGIE SAUSAGE	BACON/SAUSAGE/VEGGIE SAUSAGE	BACON/SAUSAGE/VEGGIE SAUSAGE	
	HALAL CHICKEN SAUSAGE	HALAL CHICKEN SAUSAGE	HALAL CHICKEN SAUSAGE	HALAL CHICKEN SAUSAGE	
	HASH BROWN BITES	HASH BROWN BITES	HASH BROWN BITES	HASH BROWN BITES	
	BEANS	BEANS	BEANS	BEANS	
	PLUM TOMATOES	PLUM TOMATOES	PLUM TOMATOES	PLUM TOMATOES	
_	BOILED EGGS	BOILED EGGS	BOILED EGGS	BOILED EGGS	
	BREAD WHITE/BROWN SERVED WITH VEGAN SPREAD OR BUTTER	BREAD WHITE/BROWN SERVED WITH VEGAN SPREAD OR BUTTER	BREAD WHITE/BROWN SERVED WITH VEGAN SPREAD OR BUTTER	BREAD WHITE/BROWN SERVED WITH VEGAN SPREAD OR BUTTER	
	INDIVIDUAL FRUIT SELECTION	INDIVIDUAL FRUIT SELECTION	INDIVIDUAL FRUIT SELECTION	INDIVIDUAL FRUIT SELECTION	
	YOGHURT	YOGHURT	YOGHURT	YOGHURT	
	SELECTION OF MINI PASTIRIES	SELECTION OF MINI PASTIRIES	SELECTION OF MINI PASTIRIES	SELECTION OF MINI PASTIRIES	
	SELECTION OF CEREALS/SKIMMED/SEMI SKIMMED AND SOYA MILK	SELECTION OF CEREALS/SKIMMED/SEMI SKIMMED AND SOYA MILK	SELECTION OF CEREALS/SKIMMED/SEMI SKIMMED AND SOYA MILK	SELECTION OF CEREALS/SKIMMED/SEMI SKIMMED AND SOYA MILK	
	TEA/COFFEE/CORDIAL/WATER	TEA/COFFEE/CORDIAL/WATER	TEA/COFFEE/CORDIAL/WATER	TEA/COFFEE/CORDIAL/WATER	
EVENING MEAL					
MAIN	CAJUN MARINATED SHREDDED CHICKEN IN A BRIOCHE ROLL WITH PICKLED VEGETABLES, SALAD	ROASTED GAMMON WITH ROAST POTATOES AND SEASONAL VEGETABLES	CHOOSE YOUR BURGER, BEEF OR CHICKEN IN A CLASSIC BUN TOPPED WITH CHEESE, ICEBURG AND TOMATO	CHICKEN, RED LENTIL AND SPINACH MADRAS CURRY WITH BRAISED RICE	
VEGAN	BBQ MARINATED ROASTED VEGETABLES SERVED IN A WRAP WITH PICKLED VEGETABLES, SALAD	VEGAN VEGETABLE WELLINGTON SERVED WITH ROAST POTATOES AND SEASONAL VEG	HOMEMADE VEGGIE BUGER TOPPED WITH CHEESE, JALAPENOS AND ROASTED VEGETABLES	SAG ALOO CURRY BRAISED RICE	
SIDE 1	RAINBOW COLESLAW	SEASONAL VEGETABLES	SWEETCORN	SPICED CAULIFLOWER	
SIDE 2	HERB COATED WEDGES	WHOLE GRAIN MUSTARD	SKINNY FRIES AND COLESLAW	NAAN BREAD	
PASTA	CHOICE OF PASTA TOPPED WITH A CHOICE OF SAUCE ALTERNATED DAILY EG TOMATO				
SALAD	SALAD BAR CONSISTING OF LETTUCE/TOMATO/CUCUMBER/ONION/PEPPER AND NAKED SLAV				
DESSERT	FRESH CAKES/CHEESECAKE/JELLY/ CHOCOLATE MOUSE	FRESH FRUIT POTS/LEMON POSSET/STRAWBERRY GATAUX	CHOCOLATE CAKE/LEMON SPONGE/CUSTARD	COCONUT SPONGE/ICE CREAM	
BEVERAGES	TEA/COFFEE/CORDIAL/WATER	TEA/COFFEE/CORDIAL/WATER	TEA/COFFEE/CORDIAL/WATER	TEA/COFFEE/CORDIAL/WATER	

At the venue there will be a selection of food providers onsite selling lunch and snacks.

We are exploring options for pre-purchased lunch packages, subject to interest. Please also indicate your interest to book lunches for your team, so that we know numbers before proceeding with quotes.

#### TRANSPORT

Moor Lane Sports ground (WJUC fields) is a short bus journey of approx 15-20 minutes from where the event accommodation is based. Dedicated WJUC buses will be available to transport players between the accommodation and the fields. Event buses will not be available to teams that do not book the official transport option.

Social events will be planned at the playing venue or within walking distance of the University accommodation.

We estimate that the cost of transport between Uni accommodation and fields will be approximately £1500 per team. We aim to limit this cost to those participants using the transport, in addition to the basic team and player fees that apply to everyone. The transport cost will be invoiced separately. Teams within Europe may choose to arrange their own transport and drive to Birmingham. We will need teams to register any vehicles they are bringing so that we can plan parking arrangements accordingly.

There is limited campus parking around the accommodation, and we are still in discussion with the University about how much will be available to our participants. There is plenty of car parking available at the fields.



Birmingham City Centre, Photo by Brian Lewicki on Unsplash

#### **HEALTH & MEDICAL**

All event participants (athletes, coaches and team support) are recommended to obtain travel insurance prior to booking flights and health insurance before leaving your home country. WFDF and the LOC do not provide coverage for participants outside of the general first aid administered at the fields. There are always risks associated with playing Ultimate and travelling. Although WJUC will have medical staff on site to deal with first aid and assess critical injuries, there may be injuries or illness in which players need follow up medical attention or emergency visits to local hospitals. There is general information about medical treatment and costs for visitors to the UK here.

WFDF and the LOC kindly request that all players and event participants acknowledge these risks and understand that WFDF and the LOC cannot be held liable for any risk or cost associated with injury or bad health at WJUC. All event participants should alleviate some personal financial liability by purchasing your own travel and health insurance to make sure you are covered for any medical issues or event/travel cancellations that could arise. Participants will be required to sign an Event Participant Agreement published in advance of the event.

#### VISAS

Once the event bid list is published and your team is registered, we encourage each team and player to make specific and timely enquiries about obtaining a visa to enter the United Kingdom. Teams and Players are responsible for obtaining the correct paperwork to visit the UK to compete at the WFDF 2024 World Junior Ultimate Championships.

We cannot provide specific advice on the process, however we do strongly recommend that you get started as soon as possible. WFDF can provide your team manager/administrator with a letter confirming your team's registration at the event. WFDF can provide players with a letter confirming your participation as a player at the event after the players fees are paid and after the NF has supplied a roster endorsement letter with your name on it.

Specific player letters for visa appointments can only be done after players have registered and paid their fees) we require confirmation from the National Federation that they endorse the player on the roster. The following details for all the members of your team are required:

- Full name (as shown on passport);
- Passport number;
- Date of birth;
- Role on team (i.e. player, coach, manager, etc.)

Please fill out the required fields on the online form. Make sure you leave us some time to produce this document: do not assume that we can send it back the same day. Please note: we cannot and will not provide a formal "invitation" to attend the event and non-ability to enter the UK is not grounds to request a refund for a team and/or player fees.

We recommend EVERY TEAM makes specific enquiries to fully understand visa and travel requirements.

**For all proof of participation letters (team or individual) please fill out the form <u>here</u>. Letter production for events will close 12 weeks prior to the tournament. Please do not leave your request late.** 

#### WJUC ELIGIBILITY

Teams from all WFDF National Federation (NF) members are invited to participate at WJUC in Birmingham, UK. Only WFDF member NF's in good standing will be entitled to participate. We are unable to accept any new team sign ups after the 15th of January.

WJUC will operate divisions following the team eligibility rules for team rosters (Section D) with a minimum of six teams per division:

- Under-20 Mixed (U20X)
  - Female <u>and</u> Male identifying players who are at least 14 years old and not twenty (20) years old in 2024 (anyone born between 1st January 2005 and 31st December 2010 is eligible)
- Under-20 Open (U200)
  - Female <u>and</u> Male identifying players who are at least 14 years old and not twenty (20) years old in 2024 (anyone born between 1st January 2005 and 31st December 2010 is eligible)
- Under-20 Women (U20W)
  - Female <u>and</u> Male identifying players who are at least 14 years old and not twenty (20) years old in 2024 (anyone born between 1st January 2005 and 31st December 2010 is eligible)

The event is open to all players who meet the age and eligibility criteria and must not be twenty (20) years old or older during the calendar year in which the tournament concludes.

WFDF strives to protect transgender athletes and to recognise the importance of autonomy of gender identity in sport and has created clear guidelines with minimally invasive requirements for TUE submissions. The guidelines were developed by the Medical and Anti-Doping Committee. WJUC will abide by timelines and requirements as outlined in the <u>WFDF Transgender Athlete and Differences in Sex Development (DSD)</u> <u>Athlete Policy</u>. Please note that there are different timelines for transgender athletes under age 20 than for transgender athletes age 20 or older. Please be sure to read through this document with your athletes when assessing eligibility.



Birmingham Jewellry Quarter, Photo by David Clarke on Unsplash



Canal, Birmingham, Photo by Rebecca Reece on Unsplash

#### **FEES & EVENT DEADLINES**

The WJUC deadlines and event fees are due as follows:

FEE	NOTE	DEADLINE
Online TEAM registration		Friday 22nd DEC 2023
Team Fee-payment due	USD \$3000	Monday 15th JAN 2024
Minimum roster (14) Players Fees payment due	USD \$4200 (14 x PF)	Thursday 29th FEB 2024
Early Bird Discount Player & Guest Fee - Payment Due (for any remaining additions to team at the early bird discount price)	Player - USD \$300 Guest - USD \$210	Thursday 29th FEB 2024
Standard Player & Guest Fee - Payment Due (for any remaining additions to team)	Player - USD \$350 Guest - USD \$260	Wednesday 15th MAY 2024
Final Roster LOCK		Wednesday 15th MAY 2024

- WFDF will invoice and collect all fees for WJUC. All fees are in US Dollars \$ (please ensure your payment is made in the right currency).
- The team fee is NOT reimbursable for any team that withdraws after Monday 15th January 2024. Teams withdrawing after paying the team fees (for your own reasons) does not fall into the Cancellation policy for event cancellation. The player fee can be transferred to another player but is NOT reimbursable (subject to certain exceptions and medical restrictions).
- All bank fees and transfer charges are at the cost of the payer if there are any outstanding monies they will be collected in cash during on-site event registration.

Player Fees will include event accreditation, field and roster access for play, access to all player zones and meetings, access to the party and also the event gift and access to the podium to receive medals.

Non-playing Team Support fees are for people travelling and associated with the team (coaches, medics, support, admin and guests) but are not taking the field to play. They will receive the same benefits as a player but will not be on any roster and are not entitled to play.

Spectators are non-accredited individuals who will not be able to participate with the team or take part in any of the event or team functions and will be treated as spectators.

### **CANCELLATION POLICY**

WFDF and the LOC recognise that situations outside the control of the organisers could occur that might have possible impacts on the ability to host the event.

We will continue to monitor the impact and effects of the Pandemic and any geopolitical factors that might affect travel. We will follow the advice and recommendations from International health, safety and travel authorities for travel to and from the UK.

If any new information presents itself that would warrant an event cancellation we will report back immediately to teams. Countries should continue to make their own assessment, and should remain in contact with the organisers with up to date information if any concerns arise.

WFDF also reminds all teams that team fee and minimum roster invoice payments are the only formal registration for a team. Any bids not paid on time will be revoked. Only once payments are received will WFDF confirm critical mass for the event to proceed (after 15th January 2024) Teams should not make firm flight or hotel bookings until that time.

### **TEAM REGISTRATION**

Country Coordinators and team administrators are reminded that bids will only become official upon receipt of team fee payment. Any bids not paid for by the deadline of Monday 15th January will be revoked.

To register your teams for bids, please fill out this online <u>registration form</u>. This must be completed by Friday 22nd December so the WFDF Ultimate Committee can allocate bids.

All bids offered are issued to each member National Federation directly and only WFDF's official member representative for each country can accept bids. All teams and rosters must have full endorsement by the member NF. All invoices will be issued directly to the member NF.

#### SPONSORS

Discraft has a new European distributor!



You may want to contact our long-term partner distributor in Germany, as they now hot stamp UltraStar discs right in Germany and can also order discs from us, such as Supercolor or JStars. Contact Heiko Kissling, JUMP-and-REACH.com, it may eliminate all your headache about shipping costs, duty and taxes. Email address is <u>uCustomize@JUMP-and-REACH.com</u>

The new Hot Stamp prices are up on the website! You can see them here: www.jump-and-reach.com/customprint175#prices

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WFDF's official glove supplier & sponsor!

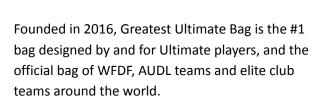
Layout Ultimate provides high-quality Ultimate-specific Gloves to enhance your playing ability and experience.

Creating custom, fully sublimated gloves that can be tailored in exciting designs for your team as well as producing a simplified Lite Layout Glove, Layout has all your glove needs covered.

Layout offers a large discount for WFDF member National Federations.

Jake Skrypek jake@layoutultimate.com





Produced in many sizes (18L, 30L, 45L and 60L), the GREATEST ULTIMATE BAG is jam packed with features such as rain fly protection, roomy cleat compartment, cooler and disc carrying ability. Don't just get your gear to the field. Get there organised and in style with Greatest. The unique organisation system keeps smelly socks away from water bottles and muddy cleats away from clean clothes .

Roldy Lo <u>www.greatestbag.com</u>

VC Ultimate has been producing Ultimate's best-quality uniforms and custom performance apparel since 1998. A company that proudly puts values and community before profit, VC is the world's top source for quality, design, and all of your Ultimate needs.

All teams competing in WFDF events receive a 20% discount on team uniform orders.

Contact <u>info@vcultimate.com</u> to start creating your next project.

VC Ultimate is WFDF's official apparel partner and designs and produces Ultimate uniforms of the highest quality, and manufactures in both Canada and Europe using recycled fabrics.



The VC Team <u>www.vcultimate.com</u>



Flik Ultimate is WFDF's Coaching Resource Partner. Flik helps users plan their training sessions using a huge library of ultimate drills, practice plans, diagrams, videos and theory articles. These materials are written by some of the best players in the world.

Flik is working with WFDF to identify new and emerging coaches to provide them with free licences to access the portal within the Flik site.

Website www.flikulti.com

WFDF's Footwear Sponsor X-Com has three different footwear categories that are aimed at the Flying Disc Audience. Hiking boots, fitness shoes and playing cleats. Providing footwear for an all-round fitness regime X-Com has your feet covered.

Visit our stands and talk to us at upcoming WFDF events.



Website: www.xcomdiscs.com

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Time zone (at time of the event): UTC +01:00 (GMT+1)
- Language: English
- Currency: UK Sterling pound (GBP f)
- Currency for fees: All event fees will be advertised and collected in US Dollars (USD \$)
- Voltage: 230 volts AC, 50Hz , Plug type: Type G (3 pins, grounded)

#### **FOLLOW US**

Get the latest news about the WJUC, Birmingham by following us on:

- Facebook: <u>https://facebook.com/wfdf.wjuc</u> Coming soon!
- Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/wfdf\_wjuc">https://twitter.com/wfdf\_wjuc</a> Coming soon!
- Instagram: <u>https://instagram.com/wfdf.wjuc</u> Coming soon!

And don't forget to share your preparation for WJUC with us!

#### LOC CONTACTS

Do you have any questions about the WFDF 2024 World Junior Ultimate Championships? Please contact us via the details below.

- Email: info@wjuc.sport Live!
- Website: <u>www.wjuc.sport</u> Coming Soon!



LOC Tournament Directors Si Hill & Luke Tobiasiewicz



#### WFDF CONTACTS

For any questions regarding team bids, registration, invoicing or for WJUC rules and competition related topics please contact the WFDF Events Team:



WFDF Events Coordinator (Event ceremonies, protocol & WJUC Teams Contact) Yenny Pardo (<u>venny.pardo@wfdf.sport</u>)



WFDF Events Manager (Competitive Scheduling & WJUC Player Registration) Patrick Fourcampré-Maye (<u>patrickfm@wfdf.sport</u>)



WFDF Managing Director Events & Operations (Event logistics & Fee invoicing) Karina Woldt (<u>karina.woldt@wfdf.sport</u>)

# WFDF

The World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) is the international sports federation responsible for world governance of flying disc (frisbee) sports, including Ultimate, Beach Ultimate, Disc Golf, Freestyle, Guts, and Individual Events. WFDF is a federation of 110 member associations, which represent flying disc sports and their athletes in more than 106 countries. WFDF is an International Federation recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), and the International University Sports Federation (FISU), a member of the Global Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF), the Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federations (ARISF), the International World Games Association (IWGA), the International Masters Games Association (IMGA), and the Association for the International Sport for All (TAFISA). WFDF is a signatory to the World Anti-Doping Code, and is a registered not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation in the state of Colorado, USA.

LUKSCH

## UKUltımate

UK Ultimate is the National Governing Body for Ultimate in the United Kingdom, and the UK member of WFDF. UK Ultimate is recognised by UK Sport and the home country sports councils.