ROCKIN’ WITH REC SPORTS WELCOME WEEK 2012

Record-breaking temperatures could not stop Recreational Sports staff and members from rocking out during Welcome Week 2012. Stationed outside of Gordon Commons in the Southeast and next to the Natatorium on the Lakeshore, 2012 Rockin’ with RecSports provided food, fun, and games for new freshman looking to find their niche on campus. They may have come for the free food and t-shirts, but they stayed for the sports. Representatives from over half of the sport clubs on campus, plus representatives from several Intramural teams, turned out to recruit new information. Among these clubs were the Fencing Club, Men’s and Women’s Ultimate, and Men’s Soccer. Not only did these clubs provide information and recruit new members, but some even showed off their skills with mini-games and demonstrations. Despite the beating sun and overwhelming humidity, Rockin’ with RecSports 2012 was a huge success! We look forward to seeing all of you again next year.

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS

The UW-Madison Division of Recreational Sports is proud to announce that four of our club rugby student-athletes have been named to the USA Rugby Academic Honor Roll for the 2011-2012 academic year. Men’s Club Rugby athletes Andrew Hanske, Jordan Heginbottom, and Tim Slater were honored as well as Grace Hovde from the Women’s Club Rugby team. USA Rugby honors student-athletes with at least junior standing that have a cumulative GPA of 3.7 or higher while competing as an “A” side player. They commend student athletes for their success on and off the field, as well as the dedication to being role models on their college campuses.

Student-athletes within club sports face numerous challenges to continuously compete in the sport they love, while keeping up with academic commitments. With 33,000 men and women competing within the collegiate rugby clubs across the United States, it’s a tremendous honor for the four individuals to be named to this honor roll.

Congratulations Andrew, Jordan, Tim, and Grace for your outstanding contribution to the Club Sports Program and the Division of Recreational Sports.

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<th>DEADLINES:</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER 26</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER 28</th>
<th>OCTOBER 10</th>
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<td>Rockin’ with Rec Sports takes over the Lakeshore!</td>
<td>Club Sports Council Meeting at the NAT</td>
<td>Consent Forms due on WIN</td>
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<td>McClain Center Practice Request Due</td>
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DUBS Cheer is one of the newest recognized Club Sports on campus. Established in 2006 as the “UW All-Girl Cheer Club,” DUBS has slowly become a more and more competitive. Club President Jamie Benn notes their biggest achievement as a club thus far has been becoming a Club Sport. According to Benn, “most of the competitive changes have occurred in the past year and a half. Last year we had a team of 20 girls, [but] this year our recruitment was so successful that we are planning on having a competitive team of 20 girls, with a smaller team of alternates with about 10 girls. [Being a Club Sport] has provided us with so many opportunities to grow and strengthen our image as a team. We had 45 girls show up to our info session, so the most exciting event we have is our try-outs tomorrow night!” Benn notes this huge jump in interest as their biggest accomplishment to date.

As one of the more competitive cheerleading teams at the University, DUBS practices once a week on Wednesdays for two to three hours per week. Each team has one routine per season that adapts to fit the athletes’ growing skills. The team has the opportunity to show off their skills at various performances across the state. As the only traveling competitive cheer team on campus, Benn says that all of the athletes involved view these competition opportunities as a way to enhance their skills and show their continued dedication.

Although the club has been prominent on campus, Benn hopes that being a recognized sport club with help them boost their presence: “We would love it if becoming a club sport could be a big, fresh start for us. We are really hoping to [...] travel to Collegiate Nationals in Florida to compete!”

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**Stats:**

Name: DUBS Cheer  
Sport: All-Girl competitive cheerleading  
History: Founded in 2006 as the “UW All-Girl Cheer Club.” Restarted in 2008 as DUBS Cheer, becoming a member of Club Sports in 2012.  
Number of Members: 30-45  
Contact Info: Jamie Benn, Club President (jbenn@wisc.edu)
“The first thing skaters are taught is how to fall. Little did they know that at age six I had taken my first steps on the ice, and fallen… completely head-over-heels in love with figure skating! I took Learn to Skate classes for the next six years, and then desired to compete. My first performance was to “Jingle Bell Rock” at my hometown’s hockey rink when I was 12 years old! Since then, I’ve been training and competing locally, with annual trips to the Badger State Winter Games as well as a trip to National Showcase – A Theatrical Skating Competition. In high school, I joined a synchronized skating team called Madison Energy, in addition to my freestyle skating, and really enjoyed the camaraderie I found with my teammates and fellow skaters.”

In addition to being crowned the 2012 Intermediate Ladies National Champion, Spurgeon’s favorite thing about being a member of the Figure Skating Club is having the ability to skate in college—an experience that many figure skaters at other colleges and universities do not have. Spurgeon also notes the sense of community she feels in belonging to something on campus: “I love being able to share my passion with fellow Badgers, and it makes a rather large campus seem a little smaller. Our club is a great place to call home!”

Of her many fond memories in this sport, Spurgeon is most proud of her performance at the 2012 Intercollegiate National Championships. Not only did she have gold-medal winning performance, but she recalls that “getting to share that whole experience with my teammates was so fun!”

But a great athlete could never succeed without their friends and family cheering them on. Spurgeon would like to send “a special thanks to my extremely supportive parents and younger sister, for having my back competition after competition and being proud of me no matter what happens. Also, to the ladies that welcomed me into the wonderful world of intercollegiate figure skating, made my first year on the team so memorable, and for always being able to make me laugh! I couldn’t have done last season without your help, so epic shout out to Mis Tejiñas (My Badgers) Issy, Lindsay, Juliana, Alisha, Mimi, Alyssa, Daria, Lauren and Kate!”

ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT
FIGURE SKATING CLUB’S
KATIE SPURGEON

STATS:
Name: Katie Spurgeon
Year: Sophomore
Club: Figure Skating Club - UW
Position: PR Chair, Recruitment Chair, Open Collegiate Captain
Experience: 13 years of competitive skating
Title: 2012 U.S. Figure Skating Intercollegiate Intermediate Ladies National Champion

2012 Nationals was held at the US Figure Skating Olympic Training Center

USA
CLUB SPORTS: MEET THE STAFF

Aaron Hobson
Richland Center, WI
Director, Intramural and Club Sports
Bachelors: Physical Education/Kinesiology; Masters: Sports Management
Favorite sport to watch: College Football
Sports story: “While playing Varsity basketball [in high school], I went up for a rebound and elbowed two of my own teammates on the top of the head in the process, knocking them both out cold at the same time. My coach wasn’t too happy with me, to say the least!”

Ashley Harrop
Middleton, WI
Intramural and Club Sports Intern
Bachelors: Exercise Sports Science, Sport & Recreation Management
Favorite sport to watch: College Football
Sports story: When I was playing volleyball in high school we would warm up our arms by throwing the ball to the ground and have it bounce up to our partners. During a home game I was throwing the ball with both hands and I accidentally released the ball too soon and slammed it straight down into the ground. It then flew right back at me, smacking me in the face.

Nick Lumpkin
Austin, TX
Intramural and Club Sports Coordinator
Bachelors: Exercise Sports Science
Favorite sport to watch: Baseball
Sports story: When I was playing baseball in high school, we once had a delay due to a bull that got loose on the outfield and had to wait for guys on horses to rope the bull and take it back to the fair grounds.

Megan Thiele
Delavan, WI
Junior, Legal Studies and Criminal Justice
Student Coordinator, works specifically with scheduling
Favorite sport to watch: “Hockey, hands down.”
Sports story: “I got a red card during a soccer game for unintentionally heading a ball directly at the other team’s coach...and then got thanked by my own coach for doing it!”

Aaron Kaufman
Redding, CT
Senior, International Business and MHR
Student Coordinator
Plays soccer and basketball
Sports story: “The first time I went outside the U.S., I went to Costa Rica on vacation. I was so excited to get to the beach and go for a swim that I ran out into the ocean as soon as we parked the car. I sprinted out and dove in, not realizing how shallow the water was. I broke my hand by crunching my it on the sand and had a broken hand for all 9 days of vacation. Definitely was a little bit too excited, but the vacation was still a great time.

Parker Anderson
Sheboygan, WI
Senior, English & Economics
Student Coordinator, works specifically with community PR
Member of Men’s Club Volleyball
“I don’t mess around on the court. ‘We play for keeps!'”

Ashley Messmann
Oconomowoc, WI
Sophomore, Elementary Education
Student Coordinator, works specifically with priority points
Member of Dance Elite
Sports story: “During a dance recital, I was on stage performing a solo when I experience quite the ‘costume malfunction’ in front of the crowd, other company members, and the videographer who had to edit it with a different performance!”

Chelsea Schlecht
Fond du Lac, WI
Senior, Enlac Lac, WI
Student Coordinator, works specifically with campus PR
Captain of the Collegiate Synchronized Skating Team (Figure Skating Club)
Favorite sport to watch: Baseball
Sports story: I once fell flat on my face at Nationals, right in front of the judges and slid on my stomach across the ice!

Want your club to be featured in the next issue? Email cschlecht@wisc.edu for more information.

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