

WUCC

AUG 9 | SATURDAY

WUCC CHAMPIONSHIPS



RESULTS
PREVIEWS
RECAPS
INTERVIEWS
SCHEDULES
GLORY



SKYD
magazine

Jacky Hau (Union) goes up against Brendan Wong (TFP) photo by Neil Gardner (UltiPhotos.com)



Photo by Dave Sanders (UltiPhotos.com)

SATURDAY SOCIAL EVENTS

Cheerleaders & Finals

“Rainbow Cheer” is a cheerleading team formed in Borgosesia in 2010. Since 2011 we have competed at Italian Nationals, qualifying for the “ECU European Cheerleading Championship” for three years, in Prague (2011), Glasgow (2012), and Bonn (2014). The team currently consists of around 14 athletes (girls and boys), aged between 16 and 35. In this sport, every member has a specific role to create group stunts, each comprising 4-5 people: two bases, one back-spotter and a flyer. Our main routine is “Senior Coed” (mixed: boys and girls), and is divided into different parts: acrobatic jumps, dance, standing and running, tumbling, acrobatic stunts where flyers create arm and leg motions standing on base and spotter arms, human pyramids, basket tosses where flyers toss in the air doing acrobatic motions, all accompanied by the music. At the beginning of the routine we have a little chant, where each athlete cheers, the public chanting the name of the team and their uniform colours, using voice, gestures, pom-poms, arm motions and stunt elements. Another routine is the 1-minute “Coed Group stunt”, comprising 4/5 athletes, where bases, back-spotter and flyer perform continuous stunt and basket elements. Our “Partner Stunt” division comprises just two people, where flyers perform only stunt elements standing on the hands of one main base. In cheerleading we have also a “Cheer Dance” division, where girls dance with pom-poms in a choreography consisting of dance skills, visual effects and synchronization.

LIVE STREAMING SCHEDULE

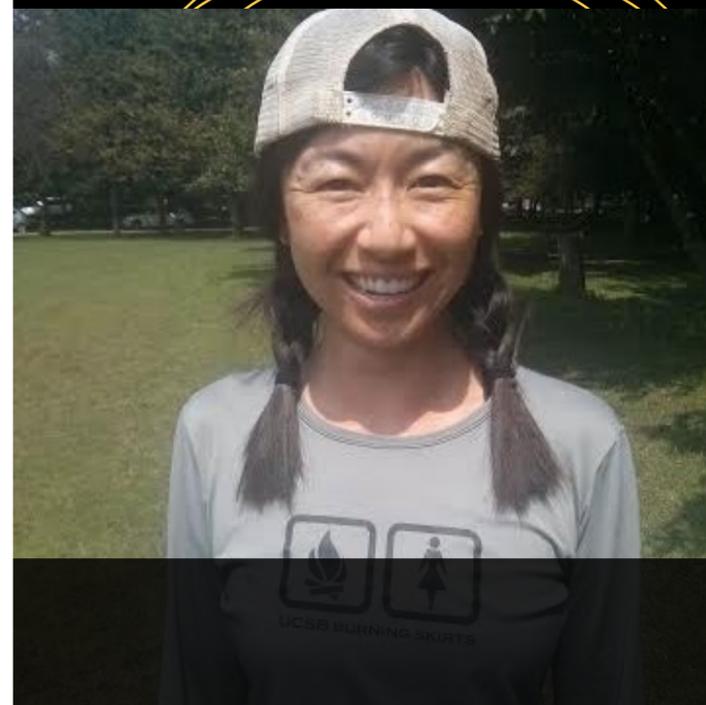
VISIT WWW.SKYDMAGAZINE.COM TO ACCESS LIVE STREAM.

Saturday 8/9

11:30	Fury vs. Riot	Women	Final
2:15	Polar Bears vs Drag 'n Thrust*	Mixed	Final
5:00	Revolver vs. Sockeye	Open	Final

Karen Ku - Women In Ultimate

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT



Earlier this year, Karen Ku saw a need for more coverage of women's ultimate at WUCC, and she immediately sprung into action. Reaching out to the ultimate community and crowd-funding herself a ticket to Lecco, she's here as a journalist dedicated to covering and promoting women's ultimate. Her work at WUCC 2014 is informed by a survey she created about a month ago, with 600 respondents feeding back on what they'd like to hear about during the tournament. Karen is convinced that decisions like broadcasting the first-ever Women's Masters final not only help celebrate advances in women's ultimate, but also inspire future generations of young female players. "I had players on Guacamayas (Colombia's Women's Masters team) tell me that the only women's ultimate they could find online when they started playing were Godiva videos. They were inspired by them, and now they are over the moon to be here playing them." Check out Karen's page at wiultimate.wordpress.com for stories, photos, and resources.

West Coast, Best Coast

by David Pryce

OPEN



Greg Cohen (Revolver) vs Robert Schumacher (Clapham Ultimate)
Photo by Neil Gardner (UltiPhotos.com)

Friday's semifinals were Revolver against Johnny Bravo and Seattle Sockeye against Colony from Australia. The latter started slowly for the southern hemisphere team, and within 25 minutes, Sockeye were up 6-3. The high intensity defense from Sockeye really put pressure on Colony and the Fish took 3 more breaks and the half at 9-3. From here to the end, Sockeye dominated, only allowing Colony one more score before cap. This half of the bracket has been touted as an easy ride and I would tend to agree with this blowout scoreline and the relative ease with which Sockeye have punched their ticket into the final.

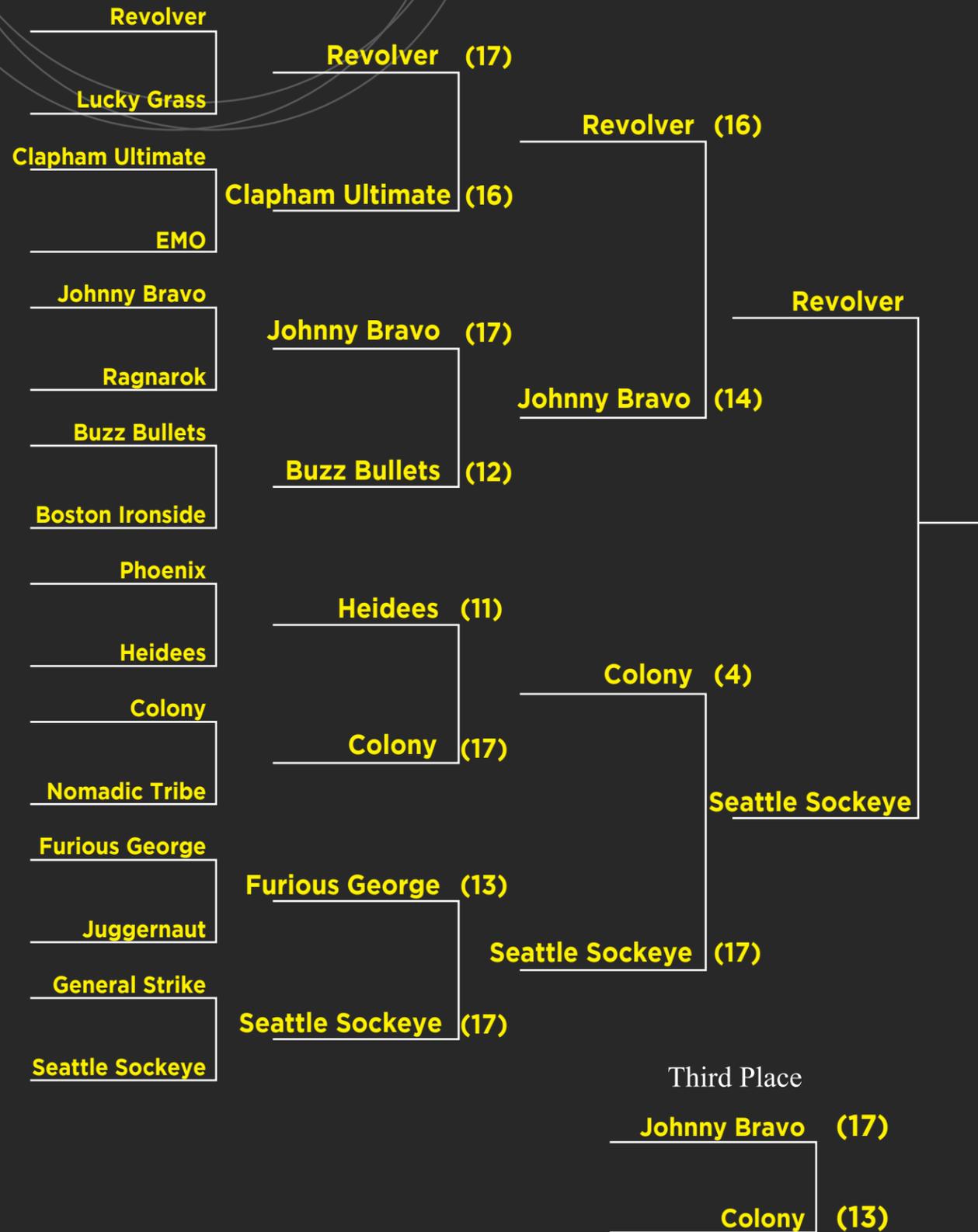
The other semi was a much closer affair. Bravo came out hard, with star player Jimmy Mickle scoring the first two goals for Bravo, including a great layout score. Whilst Revolver's offense was fairly smooth, some sloppy errors crept in and allowed Bravo to take two breaks off them early in the first half. Revolver then showed their class and got back into the game, taking back those breaks to get back on serve

up one goal, 9-8. After half, the Bravo defense was incredible and after trading to 10 all, the Denver team was able to hold Revolver in one corner for an extended period, but somehow Revolver survived this pressure. The trading continued until 13-12, when Revolver robbed Bravo of a break. Even with a couple chance to break back, Bravo couldn't get back into it and the Bay area team were victorious: 16-14.

This evening we will yet again have an all-American final: Seattle Sockeye against San Francisco's Revolver. This is a repeat of WUCC 2010 Open final in Prague and last year's USA Ultimate Nationals final. The larger player base and higher skill level of the Americans was unsurmountable by the rest of the world, save for the notable Clapham-Revolver quarter. This was the closest game for San Francisco, and Clapham then went on to take 5th with only one loss over the whole tournament.

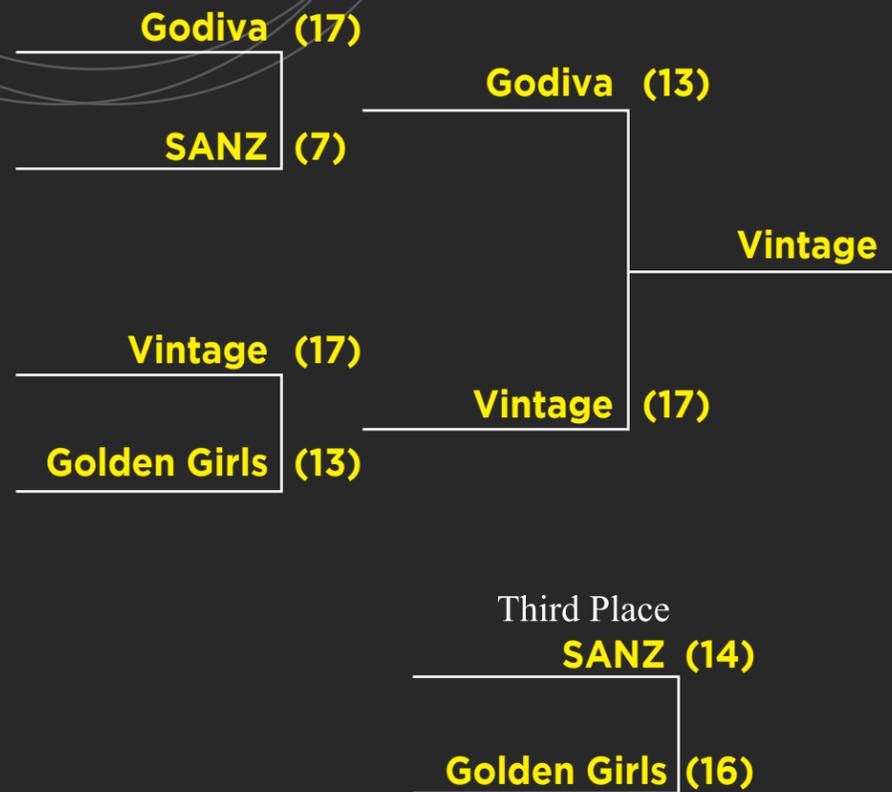
I wouldn't want to call the final. I feel these teams have had very different paths to the final but historically they are strong squads and will bring their A-game in the stadium. Make sure to tune in to the livestream at 17:00 CET.

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET

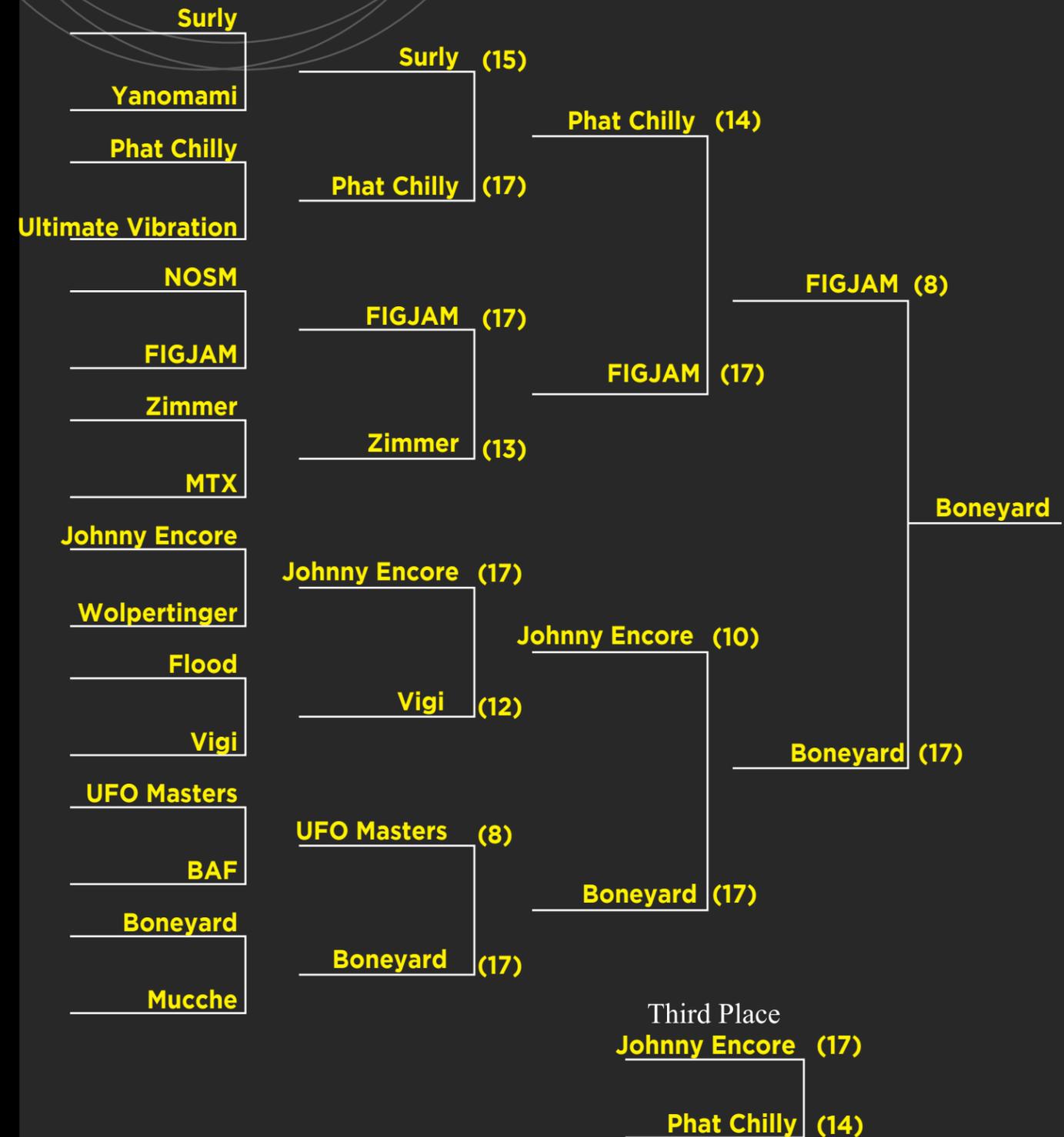


Jimmy Mickle makes the catch
 Photo by Kevin Leclaire (UltiPhotos.com)

WOMEN'S MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET



OPEN MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET



Chris Artibello, FIGJAM CANADA

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT



Just had our semi final against Phat Chilly, we had them in our pool so knew what to expect and was a tough game. It was a battle all the way that we managed to pull out in the end. Next up we have the final against Boneyard, we have played them in the US series before and they beat us but we feel like we are on a run. We had a tough pool where we also played Encore so we are ready to face up with Boneyard in the final.

Nothing but Respect

by Nicky Smith

WOMEN'S



Sandy Jorgensen (Scandal) skys
Photo by Kevin Leclaire (UltiPhotos.com)

Speaking to representatives from Seattle Riot and the San Francisco Bay Area's Fury, the esteem in which these two teams hold each other is evident. Both teams have been in the top 3 in the USA for countless years now, and have met each other innumerable times in key games and finals. "Fury is a matchup we always look forward to," says Riot D-line handler, Fiona McKibben.

An unusual last-minute change to the quarterfinal match-ups – doing away with traditional, and previously published, pairings of 1-8, 2-7, etc – potentially helped American teams claim all four spots in the semi-finals. Once there, Fury and Riot slipped past Showdown and Scandal respectively, to claim their places in the final. While both semis were hotly contested, Fury's 17-12 win and Seattle's downing of Scandal 13-11 showed they were without a doubt the two prime candidates for finals spots.

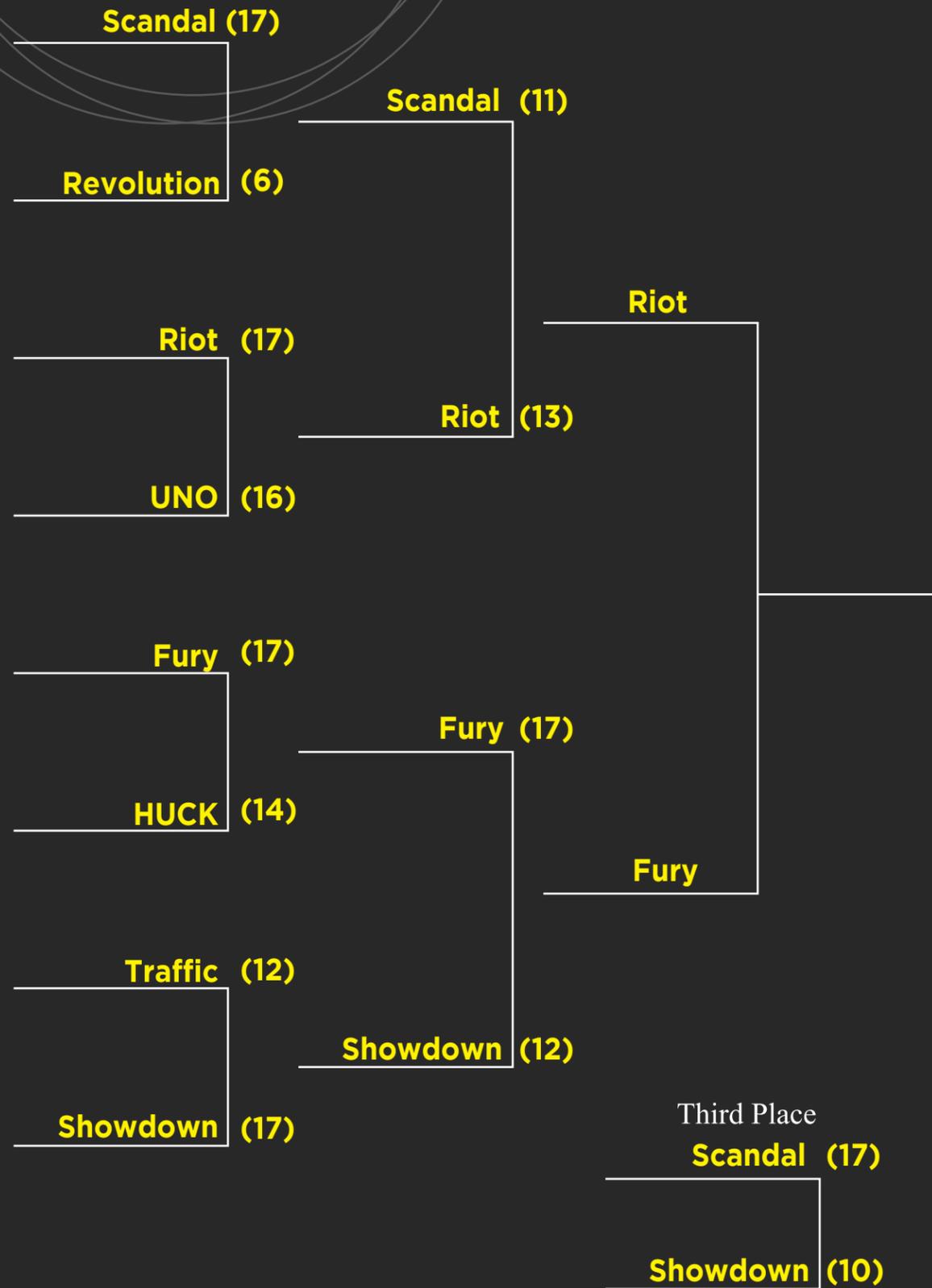
"This year Riot is a team who can grit out games. Riot couldn't have done that a few years ago. They have really worked on rising to occasion, on their mental game," says Manisha "Slap" Daryana, one of Fury's long-time members and star players. Until 2013, when Scandal took gold, Fury and Riot were the traditional final matchup in USA ultimate,

with Fury winning all 7 titles between 2006 and 2012. Riot player Ellie Burstein also notes, "We talk a lot about mental toughness, for the last two years it has been a pretty big focus. We think about being conscious of knowing we are performing well, and how we are doing it."

This effort has paid off, as Riot came in to WUCC as the #1 seed in the USA, and, by definition, the #1 seed in the tournament. Riot beat Fury twice during the US Open in July, a tournament which Daryana noted was disappointing for their team. "We had 3 weeks to regroup and refocus for WUCC after that," she said. "Now, we've undefeated this tournament, our identity and flow is really starting to click. At a tournament like this you want to get better as a team every day, and we're doing it."

Fury and Riot have rosters filled with Callahan winners, World Games representatives, and players with experience at multiple World Championship. Many of these are widely-known role models in the ultimate community as coaches, USAU administrators, and advocates of women's ultimate. What's more exciting still is the respect with which the two teams speak of each other, and the fact that they both made the same comment about the final: "We promise you a great game."

WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET



MIXED



Federico Chialvo (Polar Bears) makes the catch
Photo by Jeff Bell (UltiPhotos.com)

The US Strikes Again

by Rachel Tošnerová

The semifinals in the mixed division were played out simultaneously on two fields, right next to each other. All the teams had advanced to them without a single loss and the number of spectators was promising to ensure the teams' best performance. The first seeded Drag'n Thrust was able to keep a two point difference from The Ghosts (seeded fourth) from the start and eventually took the half 9-7, with Sarah Meckstroth catching the disc safely in the end zone. Apparently, the ten minute break was all that Drag'n Thrust needed to step up their game even more and dominate the second half. Although the Ghosts put up a zone, trying to slow down their opponents' solid flow, Drag'n Thrust still managed to pull away 15-8. After a couple of great D's, the Ghosts were certainly hoping for a comeback, bringing the score difference down to 16-11. In reality, Drag'n Thrust had no intention whatsoever to let them snatch the spot in the finals and were only catching breath to finish off the game with Jaime Glader passing the disc again to Sarah Meckstroth. Final score 17-12.

On the next field, only a few brave ones would have agreed to pick a favorite. The only non-American team, Team Fisher Price (CAN), took on Polar Bears in a fight for a spot in the finals. The score was 6-8 when Team Fisher

Price, which was seeded the lowest out of all teams playing the semis (11), increased their pressure on defense and got back in the match equalizing the score 8-8. Timeout was called by Polar Bears. In the next point the spectators witnessed the three quickest turnovers ever after which Polar Bears finally took the half. Things were going to get tough for Team Fisher Price, who started on defense, but an amazing layout D by Andrew Burns allowed them to get a break and even out the score once again. At 10-10 an unfortunate huck by Polar Bears was punished by a much better one to TFP's Oluremi Ojo, which resulted in another break for TFP. After that, the teams kept trading points. TFP certainly enjoyed the attention their game was given. Their Julie Moens read the disc better than her female AND male defender, safely catching the huck near the sideline. But the real star of the game was Oluremi Ojo with a huge defensive layout preventing a score in the end zone and a five seconds later catching a huck at the other side of the field. And then assisting the goal, obviously. The game was taken to universe point 16-16 and TFP was starting on offense. To everyone's surprise, an unforced error occurred right in front of their own end zone with a hammer to a closely guarded receiver. Of course, Polar Bears took their chance without hesitating. Sunghoo Zaccaro put up an easy up-line for his receiver to bring down in the endzone and sent his team straight to tomorrow's finals.

MIXED CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET

