

## **UPA College Ultimate National Finals at Breese Stevens field**

The UPA college national championship tournament is the culminating weekend of competition for collegiate ultimate teams across the country (Frisbee is a registered trademark of Wham-O, so while the sport is still known colloquially as “ultimate frisbee,” its legal name is simply “ultimate”). The Ultimate Player’s Association (UPA) is the governing body responsible for organizing collegiate competition, and has held the college championship at many different locations since it started in 1984.

Ultimate is played on a field of comparable dimensions to a football field, only narrower and with the endzone lines extending further into the field. The goal is to advance the disc down the field by throwing it to teammates (running with the disc is not allowed), and a team scores a point by catching the disc in the opponent’s endzone. The disc is turned over to the other team when it is intercepted or it hits the ground. The first team to a pre-determined score (usually 13 or 15) wins.

Over the past decade, ultimate has grown at the collegiate level from around 4,300 players on 283 teams in 1999 to almost 12,000 players from 661 college teams last year. Each year, all of these teams play in local sectional tournaments to compete for a spot in regional qualifying tournaments, from which only a few advance further to the national championship tournament.

This spring, 20 women’s and 20 men’s teams will qualify from 8 regional tournaments around the country to compete in the national championship tournament. While most of the tournament will be held at the Redden sports complex in Verona from May 28-30, the men’s and women’s championship games will be at Breese Stevens on May 31<sup>st</sup> to accommodate the spectators.

The games themselves will last approximately 2 hours each, with brief awards ceremonies following each game. We expect the crowd to peak at somewhere around 3000 people during the men’s final. We would like to bring in portable restrooms and potentially some additional bleacher seating to handle the crowd.

There will be tents selling snacks and merchandise on the grass next to the field, and we plan on using the press box and scoreboard during the games. We will need the field to be lined prior to the event, and we can provide specifications on the size and location of the field when it comes time to paint the lines.

We are very excited to bring this event to Madison and look forward to working with the city to make sure that everything goes smoothly on the day of the event.