DAY 1 RECAP  AUG 2014

LECCO, ITALY

RESULTS
PREVIEWS
RECAPS
INTERVIEWS
SCHEDULES

GLORY

Croccali vs. Shiok - photo by Neil Gardner (UltiPhotos.com)
Opening Ceremony

WELCOME TO WUCC

Lecco is a small idyllic town beside the Alps, some 56 kilometers from Milan. With heavy rain and storms starting the day off many were worried that this would halt the days festivities. How wrong they were. From 2pm onwards the teams gathered in the Piazza Garibaldi. The rain had stopped, and even a little sun appeared through the clouds. Some players were messing about with a disc while others enjoyed the local cafes. Slowly but surely, the teams moved through the cobbled streets of the town to the Stadio Comunale Rigamonti-Ceppi. Everyone entered the main gate welcomed by volunteers and moved through the tunnel around the main pitch to find a space, greeting late arrivals, meeting old friends, making new ones and awaiting for the showcase game and opening ceremony.

Of the 161 teams from 39 nations all vying for a vantage point to view the start of this seasons international extravaganza, one group stood out for me. The Colombians. They gave us some amazing music from the stands to get us singing, dancing and clapping as the teams entered.

Around 4:30 the tournament was officially opened with a procession of the flags from Australia all the way to Venezuela. Each getting a cheer - some louder than others - and warm welcomes from everyone. By this point the stadium was full and a feeling of excitement could be felt throughout.

Preceding the opening game, speeches were made by FIFD President Francesco Franceschetti, TOC head Max Vitali and WFDF President Nob Rauch. The FIFD President and Vitali thanked WFDF for allowing them to host these championships in Italy and expressed their appreciation for the town of Lecco for opening the town up to the 4000 athletes, staff and volunteers. Nob Rauch took this chance to speak to the players, telling them to enjoy themselves, play with the highest spirit and noted how important this club championship is as a milestone of our sport.

With the dignitaries and speeches over the flags departed the field. The Colombian drums began once more and the two teams who had been warming up (Shiok from Singapore and Croccali from Italy) took the field for the first game of the World Ultimate Club Championships 2014.
LEARN ITALIAN FROM LIAM

Anyone new to Italy will undoubtedly find themselves with a bit of a language barrier. To help solve it, we turned to Skyd’s co-founder and resident polyglot, Liam Rosen, for some useful phrases.

Do you speak English? - Parli inglese?
What’s your name? - Come si chiami?
How much does that cost? - Cuanto costa?
(To) score a goal - Segnare una meta
Spirit of the game - Lo spirito del gioco
Self-refereeing - Auto-arbitraggio
Team - Squadra
Beast God - Dio Bestia

PLAYE SPOTLIGHT

“...We just arrived this afternoon and have done all the accreditation and the procession was nothing exceptional but good. I am looking forward to playing against an Australian [Roadskill], a German team [Disc-o-Fever] and a Colombian team [Macondo] team. A good mix of nationality and different kinds of play. We are going to see what happens in this first round, with no idea what will happen after that.

Personally I am looking forward to watching Revolver. I love their style of play. Also, Buzz Bullets and the other French teams. I want to make sure I support my fellow French men and women. I just want to see different styles and different plays. ”

SCHEDULE

ROUND 1  9 am
Field | Division
Polar Bears (USA) vs. IKUF (Japan) | 14 | Mixed
EMO (UK) vs. Buzz Bullets (Japan) | arena | Open
Godiva (USA) vs. Guacamayos (Colombia) | 30 | Masters

ROUND 2  11 am
Field | Division
Wild Card (USA) vs. China United Ultimate Party (China) | 10 | Mixed
Sockeye (USA) vs. Ragnarok (Denmark) | 23 | Open
Fury (USA) vs. Brillance (Russia) | 3 | Women

ROUND 3  1 pm
Field | Division
Batmania (Australia) vs. Veosa Saints (Finnland) | 14 | Mixed
Bad Skid (Germany) vs. Reamarioagu UC (Dominican Rep) | 19 | Open
Traffic (Canada) vs. U de Cologne (Italy) | 23 | Women

ROUND 4  3 pm
Field | Division
Stache (Canada) vs. Hanabi (Japan) | 29 | Mixed
Furious George (Canada) vs. Viksjofors (Sweden) | 1 | Open

ROUND 5  5 pm
Field | Division
Team Fisher Price (Canada) vs. Salsapis Sk (Lorino) | 32 | Mixed
Clapham (UK) vs. Mephisto (Canada) | 1 | Open
Surly (USA) vs. MTX (France) | 25 | Masters

*LIVE STREAMING GAME. VISIT WWW.SKYDMAGAZINE.COM TO ACCESS.
The first game of WUCC 2014 started exactly at 5 pm after the teams marched in the Rigamonti-Ceppi Stadium welcomed by cheering volunteers. The weather was surprisingly merciful as the field was only slightly wet and there was no actual rain. Many Lecco citizens came to support the home team, Croccali, who faced one of the oldest mixed teams from Singapore, Shiok!. Before the game, both teams were called in for a brief meeting with the Game Advisors, a system newly introduced by WFDF to ensure players’ compliance with the rules (for more information on Game Advisors see Rueben Berg’s most recent article at skydmagazine.com).

Shiok! was off to a slow start. The Italians put up tight zone defence and even though the opponent worked hard and completed an impressive number of short handler passes, they eventually always managed to force a turnover. Croccali was already up by three when Singapore finally scored their first upwind point. However, that seemed to get them back in the game as it was followed by two fast breaks thanks to two layout Ds near the Italian end zone. The score was now 3-3 and the crowd was getting excited.

The next part of the game before half time displayed a number of individual mistakes from both teams. But excellent long throws executed by Croccali turned to game yet again in their favor, they took the half 9-6. The Italians didn’t stop, though, and managed to keep a 5-point difference until the score was 12-7. But Shiok! refused to give up so easily setting up multiple unconventional offenses and bringing the score back to 13-10. Again the spectators witnessed the Singaporean handlers’ game with many short passes and dumps, while the Italians relied on their quick cutters and great huckers. Nobody seemed to be disappointed by the final result 17-13 for Croccali and the atmosphere at the stadium was soaked with the anticipation of the upcoming game day.

Did you know...?

Shiok is a word commonly used in Malaysia & Singapore. The word is essentially used to convey a feeling of sheer pleasure and happiness.
## MIXED STANDINGS

### POOL A
- A1 Drag’n Thrust: W 0, L 0, D 0
- A2 Corocotta: W 0, L 0, D 0
- A3 Catchup Graz: W 0, L 0, D 0
- A4 Ghost Ultimate: W 0, L 0, D 0

### POOL B
- B1 Union: W 0, L 0, D 0
- B2 Discountory: W 0, L 0, D 0
- B3 7 Bees Ultimate Team: W 0, L 0, D 0
- B4 Junk: W 0, L 0, D 0

### POOL C
- C1 Polar Bears: W 0, L 0, D 0
- C2 IKU!: W 0, L 0, D 0
- C3 Royal Goaltimate Society: W 0, L 0, D 0
- C4 Fire of Anatolia: W 0, L 0, D 0

### POOL D
- D1 The Ghosts: W 0, L 0, D 0
- D2 BDM: W 0, L 0, D 0
- D3 Gecko: W 0, L 0, D 0
- D4 Last Stand: W 0, L 0, D 0

### POOL E
- E1 Roadkill: W 0, L 0, D 0
- E2 Disc-o-Fever: W 0, L 0, D 0
- E3 Friselis: W 0, L 0, D 0
- E4 Macondo: W 0, L 0, D 0

### POOL F
- F1 Batmania: W 0, L 0, D 0
- F2 Vaasa Saints: W 0, L 0, D 0
- F3 Heidees Mixed: W 0, L 0, D 0
- F4 Element: W 0, L 0, D 0

### POOL G
- G1 Wild Card: W 0, L 0, D 0
- G2 Cambridge Ultimate: W 0, L 0, D 0
- G3 Panthers Bern: W 0, L 0, D 0
- G4 China United Ultimate Party: W 0, L 0, D 0

### POOL H
- H1 Bear Cavalry: W 0, L 0, D 0
- H2 UFO Mix: W 0, L 0, D 0
- H3 SLASH: W 0, L 0, D 0
- H4 Sexy Legs: W 0, L 0, D 0

### POOL J
- J1 Stache: W 0, L 0, D 0
- J2 Hanabi: W 0, L 0, D 0
- J3 FUJ: W 0, L 0, D 0
- J4 Outsiterz: W 0, L 0, D 0

### POOL K
- K1 Hippo: W 0, L 0, D 0
- K2 Black Sheep: W 0, L 0, D 0
- K3 Freezzz Bezzz: W 0, L 0, D 0
- K4 Wunderteam: W 0, L 0, D 0

### POOL L
- L1 Team Fisher Price: W 0, L 0, D 0
- L2 Salaspils FK: W 0, L 0, D 0
- L3 Grandmaster Flash: W 0, L 0, D 0
- L4 Black Eagles: W 0, L 0, D 0

### POOL M
- M1 Croccoli: W 1, L 0, D +4
- M2 Shiok: W 0, L 1, D -4
- M3 Saxy Divers: W 0, L 0, D 0
- M4 BIVNI: W 0, L 0, D 0

**W = games won, L = games lost, D = point differential**
When I went to Colombia to play ultimate in 2009, there were two women’s teams in Cali. (You may have heard of Cali – since then it has hosted the World Games, where the Colombians were a whisker away from claiming the bronze medal.) When I went back in 2011, there were eight women’s clubs in the area, including a couple in small satellite towns. I’m not sure there is growth in ultimate like that anywhere else in the world; the Colombians have some kind of secret. Part of that secret is that women there don’t accept widely-accepted restrictions about playing. They just play. (Players also tend not to accept widely-accepted restrictions about gravity; in Colombia the word for laying out is the same word for flying, for good reason.)

If you look back at grainy team photos from the early 2000s, of rag-tag groups of young Colombians in mostly-matching jerseys, there are inevitably one or two girls on the team. As soon as those girls could find enough other girls – and it didn’t take long – women’s teams started forming too. Now, those girls who stood with the boys in the grainy photos have formed another team – the first ever Latino women masters team.

Bringing their own version of the passionate Colombian playing style, the Guacamayas (which is Spanish for macaws) are proud to be making history at WUCC 2014. The team formed in 2013, more or less immediately after the announcement that Colombia had a bid in the division. The formation of the team is credited to Angélica María Seba Gómez, who had previously been living in the UK, and played with the British women masters team in Sakai. Since then, the Guacamayas have trained together as much as possible and attended a number of tournaments. Most recently, they placed third at Fortaleza de Piedra, a major Colombian tournament, where they lost to the junior national team in the semis. “We helped inspire those girls to play,” reflects Captain Ana Builes, who was really pleased with their play and their result in the tournament.

The median age on Guacamayas is around 32 – there are 3 players hovering around the 40 mark, with the rest not much over the minimum masters age. Most live in Medellin, all but 4 are Colombian, and the team is pleased to welcome a Venezuelan, a Mexican, and two from North America. 10 of the 17 players identify as handlers, a challenge that Builes says is mostly overcome by a fluid, rotating positions system. The team is focused on a system of play that moves the disc quickly – in the first 3 counts if possible – and values possession on O.

Colombia’s Guacamayas Making History
by Nicky Smith

When I went to Colombia to play ultimate in 2009, there were two women’s teams in Cali. (You may have heard of Cali – since then it has hosted the World Games, where the Colombians were a whisker away from claiming the bronze medal.) When I went back in 2011, there were eight women’s clubs in the area, including a couple in small satellite towns. I’m not sure there is growth in ultimate like that anywhere else in the world; the Colombians have some kind of secret. Part of that secret is that women there don’t accept widely-accepted restrictions about playing. They just play. (Players also tend not to accept widely-accepted restrictions about gravity; in Colombia the word for laying out is the same word for flying, for good reason.)

If you look back at grainy team photos from the early 2000s, of rag-tag groups of young Colombians in mostly-matching jerseys, there are inevitably one or two girls on the team. As soon as those girls could find enough other girls – and it didn’t take long – women’s teams started forming too. Now, those girls who stood with the boys in the grainy photos have formed another team – the first ever Latino women masters team.

Bringing their own version of the passionate Colombian playing style, the Guacamayas (which is Spanish for macaws) are proud to be making history at WUCC 2014. The team formed in 2013, more or less immediately after the announcement that Colombia had a bid in the division. The formation of the team is credited to Angélica María Seba Gómez, who had previously been living in the UK, and played with the British women masters team in Sakai. Since then, the Guacamayas have trained together as much as possible and attended a number of tournaments. Most recently, they placed third at Fortaleza de Piedra, a major Colombian tournament, where they lost to the junior national team in the semis. “We helped inspire those girls to play,” reflects Captain Ana Builes, who was really pleased with their play and their result in the tournament.

The median age on Guacamayas is around 32 – there are 3 players hovering around the 40 mark, with the rest not much over the minimum masters age. Most live in Medellin, all but 4 are Colombian, and the team is pleased to welcome a Venezuelan, a Mexican, and two from North America. 10 of the 17 players identify as handlers, a challenge that Builes says is mostly overcome by a fluid, rotating positions system. The team is focused on a system of play that moves the disc quickly – in the first 3 counts if possible – and values possession on O.

Colombia’s Guacamayas Making History
by Nicky Smith

When I went to Colombia to play ultimate in 2009, there were two women’s teams in Cali. (You may have heard of Cali – since then it has hosted the World Games, where the Colombians were a whisker away from claiming the bronze medal.) When I went back in 2011, there were eight women’s clubs in the area, including a couple in small satellite towns. I’m not sure there is growth in ultimate like that anywhere else in the world; the Colombians have some kind of secret. Part of that secret is that women there don’t accept widely-accepted restrictions about playing. They just play. (Players also tend not to accept widely-accepted restrictions about gravity; in Colombia the word for laying out is the same word for flying, for good reason.)

If you look back at grainy team photos from the early 2000s, of rag-tag groups of young Colombians in mostly-matching jerseys, there are inevitably one or two girls on the team. As soon as those girls could find enough other girls – and it didn’t take long – women’s teams started forming too. Now, those girls who stood with the boys in the grainy photos have formed another team – the first ever Latino women masters team.

Bringing their own version of the passionate Colombian playing style, the Guacamayas (which is Spanish for macaws) are proud to be making history at WUCC 2014. The team formed in 2013, more or less immediately after the announcement that Colombia had a bid in the division. The formation of the team is credited to Angélica María Seba Gómez, who had previously been living in the UK, and played with the British women masters team in Sakai. Since then, the Guacamayas have trained together as much as possible and attended a number of tournaments. Most recently, they placed third at Fortaleza de Piedra, a major Colombian tournament, where they lost to the junior national team in the semis. “We helped inspire those girls to play,” reflects Captain Ana Builes, who was really pleased with their play and their result in the tournament.

The median age on Guacamayas is around 32 – there are 3 players hovering around the 40 mark, with the rest not much over the minimum masters age. Most live in Medellin, all but 4 are Colombian, and the team is pleased to welcome a Venezuelan, a Mexican, and two from North America. 10 of the 17 players identify as handlers, a challenge that Builes says is mostly overcome by a fluid, rotating positions system. The team is focused on a system of play that moves the disc quickly – in the first 3 counts if possible – and values possession on O.