

Everybody Scores!

DCKickball Capital Conference

Week Two: May 2-3, 2007

Visit www.dckickball.org/capital to stay up to speed on Capital Conference happenings.

Inside this issue:

- A Look at the Weather
- Another Call for Volunteers
- Previews for This Week's Games

Last Week's Results

Thick Femur 6, 1.4 Miles 0

AA-Team 8, Here for the Beer 6

Bad News Barristers 3, Freqs 1

DC Detention 4, Campesinos 1

Sloppy Seconds 7, Balls Optional 4

Big Kids 4, APCO All Stars 2

YTBD 15, Red Rovers 6

Your Mom's Team 4, Team Lush 0

Weather Forecast

WEDNESDAY: Partly cloudy. High: **76 degrees**. (Low: 52 degrees.) Maximum humidity: 48 percent. UV index: 8 (very high). Winds: WNW, 16 mph. Sunset: 8:01 p.m.

THURSDAY: Partly cloudy. High: **70 degrees**. (Low: 51 degrees.) Maximum humidity: 45 percent. UV index: 8 (very high). Winds: S, 5 mph. Sunset: 8:02 p.m.

(E-mail Scott at LSTillett@yahoo.com if you want to be the Weather Girl for *Everybody Scores!* Somebody's gotta do it – and Scott doesn't want to, so ...)

What If It Rains?

Just because some rain has fallen on the Mall or just because some clouds are rolling in or just because it's raining in Bethesda, that doesn't mean the games are off. We will be playing chicken with Mother Nature many weeks during the season. Most of the time, she's gonna swerve. The rain on the Mall will dry up fast. The threatening clouds will blow north. The rain in Bethesda will come down in buckets while the Mall stays dry as a bone. **This is weird weather country. So don't assume the worst. Assume the best.** Show up ready to play kickball. And if you get to the fields and the rain really is bad on the Mall, just go straight to the bar. (We'll always go to the bar no matter what!)

If we do need to cancel due to rain, your **board of directors will post rainout notices on the website by 5 p.m. on game days.** If you check the site and there's no notice of a rainout, that means that the GAMES ARE ON! So head to the fields and weather be damned!

Note: Games in progress will always be called off if lightning is seen or if the fields become too sloppy and unsafe to play on.

Want to be a Helpy Helperton?

Even though it looks like we have some guaranteed fields, in the short term, **WE STILL WILL NEED SQUATTERS** to find patches of grass and camp out and shoo away softballers, kickballers from other leagues, and vultures. It's very easy. You just show up super-early, spread out with a towel and blanket, and politely refuse to move. Contact Carlton at Carlton@gunney.com if you can squat. Seriously, this is **very very important**. If you teach or have some job that allows you to be down on the Mall well before 6:30 (like, close to 5 p.m.), **please please volunteer to SQUAT.**

Also, we still need people to act as **head umpires**. The perks are numerous. For example, you get to become almost famous in kickball circles. And you get to tell people what to do. And sometimes people buy you beers. Contact Marc at MrcEngland@aol.com if you want to be a head ump. Seriously, it's not as hard as it looks. It's just kickball. (Also, every team will have to provide "volunteer" umpires. More on that later.)

Reminder: Umpiring Requirement for Each Team

The concept is simple: **Each team** must provide **one umpire each week** for the game that precedes or follows your team's game. So if your team plays the early game each week, your team needs to get one of its players to stay behind and help umpire the next game. And if your team plays the late game, you need to designate one of your players to show up to help umpire the early game.

Each team's umpire-volunteer **will act as a side umpire** stationed at first base or third base. Each team's umpire-volunteer will help the head umpire call the game. The work is usually limited to calling people safe or out and calling balls fair or foul. It's not all that hard, and it shouldn't be all that stressful. (It's just kickball, dammit.)

BUT side umpires still need to **stay focused** on the game – making sure runners stay on base until the ball is kicked and really paying attention to what's going on in the game. A little sideline socializing is OK when the ball is not moving. But if a base ump **chit-chats excessively** and misses calls, he/she likely will be **booed**. And that's no fun.

So don't get caught off-guard. Have your "volunteer" umpires ready to go for Week One. If you don't supply an umpire for a game each week, your record will be penalized. In other words, one of your wins will count as a **forfeit**.

Team umpiring assignments are noted in the *This Week's Match-Ups* section below.

This Week's Match-Ups

NOTE on Fields: We expect to be playing where we played last week – up the hill from 17th and Constitution – somewhere along the imaginary hypotenuse that runs from the Ellipse entrance to the WWII Memorial.

This week, we add a wagering line and expert picks to the match-ups. JP (aka The Bookie) has drawn the lines. They are for entertainment purposes only – not real wagering. Pickers this week include Scott (aka ScottPockets) and Marc (aka Mountaineer Dude).

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

DC Detention (-3) vs. The Freqs

6:30 p.m.
Field A

Umps: HftB, 'Sinos

DC Detention has released a new video that makes a strong social statement on important topics such as truthiness, convertibles, and pregnant kickballers. If you haven't seen it, look for it soon on the site. It'll change your life. But enough about videos. Let's talk about this match-up. DCD isn't looking too shabby on the field, and the Freqs got their first summer-season run on the board last week. So lots of things to celebrate, and plenty of room for upward mobility for both teams. Do we really think DCD is going to win? Sure we do. Do we think the Freqs are going to let them win easily? No freqin' way.

MD: DCD

SP: Freqs

Bad News Barristers (-1) vs. >1.4 Miles

6:30 p.m.

Field B

Umps: Femur, AAT

News Flash: 1.4 Miles is now >1.4 Miles. We are very pleased by this news, because (1) the new name looks sort of like the Elephant Man emoticon we invented and have been trying to push to Internet prominence since 1998 and (2) we can't wait to watch their cheerleaders spell out the team name with their limbs. ... "Give me a >!" As for BNB, we're thinking they might want to change their name to WTF – because that's what everyone was wondering when they failed to show at the bar last week. That's fine, though. More dead liver cells for the rest of us.

MD: >1.4

SP: BNB

Here for the Beer vs. Campesinos (pick 'em)

7:15 p.m.

Field A

Umps: DCD, Freqs

Last week we witnessed some Campesinos tossing around a baseball on the sidelines during their game. That's right. A baseball. What an abomination! There's no baseball in kickball! Still, we admire their unidle hands. (Those could come in useful during the mid-season party.) We'll also say this for Campesinos: They sure can chatter. There was plenty of "yea, team!" stuff going on last week. We like that. Campesinos might have a lame name, but they got spirit, yes, they do! As for Here for the Beer, what is there to say? The team has the perfect name; the team has awe-inspiring flip-cup drive; and the team has possibly the prettiest-colored shirts in the whole conference. With those assets, who needs kickball skills?

MD: 'Sinos

SP: HftB

Thick Femur (-4) vs. AA-Team

7:15 p.m.

Field B

Umps: BNB, 1.4M

If you're not familiar with the props of some of the teams in this conference, be advised that Thick Femur is fond of plastic bones. From time to time, you even can witness a Tfer drinking booze and Coke from a plastic bone. We missed that last week. Instead, Femurite Carlton was parading around with a toy horse-on-a-stick. It was probably the least intimidating thing (save for a manbunt) that the team could have dragged onto the field. But we'll let them slide because this team is as dope as ever. Essentially, it's the same team as last year's championship team – but with a few new players smattered in here and there. AA-Team can take them, though. We witnessed on more than one occasion last year an undermanned AA-Team put much fear in the hearts of opponents with very deep benches. This year, AA-Team has boosted its turnout rate, so Femur could be in for a challenge. Despite the line in Femur's favor (-4), this could be a really rockin' game. I mean, this *is* the only match-up this week involving two undefeated teams, right?

MD: TF

SP: TF

THURSDAY, MAY 3

APCO All Stars vs. Your Mom's Team (-5)

6:30 p.m.

Field A

Umps: BO, BK

The All Stars put the fear of defeat in the hearts of the Big Kids last week – although the Kids pulled it off in the end. So maybe the name "Stars" is not too far off the mark. ES! will be keeping an eye on these APCO folks. We're expecting good things out of them. Unfortunately, we're not expecting them this week. Your Mom's Team is superb. These guys can kick and field. And a good chunk of them kicked and fielded their way to a fall championship last year. But we do have some tips for APCO: You have at least one pop-up coming your way. Be ready for it.

MD: YMT

SP: YMT

Team Lush vs. YTBD (-3)

6:30 p.m.

Field B

Umps: RR, SS

We discovered something last week. If you say "YTBD" 10 times real fast, you will sound like a blithering idiot – or any member of Team Lush trying to sing Michael Jackson's "P.Y.T." after 17 beers. YTBD scored the most runs last week (15). Team Lush scored the fewest (0). If you really need us to spell things out for you, we will. Lush has been known at times to have a stingy defense. But we're not thinking it will hold against YTBD this week. So if Lush is looking to get on top of YTBD, they will need to concentrate on their O-game ... and their offense.

MD: YTBD

SP: YTBD

Balls Optional vs. Big Kids (-3)

7:15 p.m.

Field A

Umps: APCO, YMT

What to say about the Big Kids that hasn't already been said in AARP Magazine? Not a whole lot, to tell you the truth. Everybody knows them. Everybody knows how they operate. Everybody knows what they are about. Except – oh, wait a minute – the Big Kids are still kind of a mystery to newcomers Balls Optional. So here's some dirt on the Big Kids: They try hard and they often succeed. We know, we know. Scandalous! We will point out, however, that the Big Kids struggled a bit last week against a rookie team while Balls Optional almost held their own against

Sloppy Seconds. So there is an opportunity for an upset here – if Balls Optional can just find the balls to do it.

MD: BK

SP: BK

Red Rovers vs. Sloppy Seconds (-1)

7:15 p.m.

Field B

Umps: TL, YTBD

Last year at this time, we were laughing at the Rovers' weak defense and nonexistent offense. But this time, we're just laughing at the Rovers' weak defense. The Red Ones actually managed to score 6 runs last week, but they allowed 15. By way of comparison, the three newbie teams facing off against conference veterans Big Kids, Thick Femur and DC Detention last week COMBINED did not allow that many runs. What's even sadder is that we actually did the math to come up with that stat. There is hope for the Rovers, though. In recent years, this underdog team has garnered a reputation as a giant killer, knocking off juggernaut teams when it really mattered. Unfortunately, this game doesn't matter. The Sloppy Seconds are no juggernaut, at least not yet. Besides, who really wants to brag that they creamed Sloppy Seconds? What we can say is that the Seconds sound like fun, and we know that the Rovers are *always* guaranteed fun. So, if nothing else, this Sloppy/Rover game could be, well, fun.

MD: SS

SP: RR

Kickball Classifieds

Roommate Wanted

Clarendon townhouse with room to rent! Kickballer moving out of beautiful townhouse filled with great, responsible, clean, fun 20-30-something roommates. Large common areas, 9'x11' bedroom, guest room/office, 3.5 baths (room shares full bath with 1 male roommate who travels a lot). 6 blocks to Clarendon Metro, 8 to Courthouse. \$704 rent plus 1/4

utilities (we have a monthly cleaning person too). Room available June 1. Email hilary.gazzola@accenture.com for more information!

Got something to sell? Need a roommate? Want to confess a secret crush? Everybody Scores! welcomes your announcements in the Kickball Classifieds. DCKickballers may submit noncommercial announcements at no charge. Send announcements to LSTillett@yahoo.com.

Etc.

If you do not want to receive e-mail messages and important reminders from DCKickball and the Capital Conference, you are very very foolish and will be left in the dark on a lot of important matters. Regardless, you may log in to your account at www.dckickball.org and change your e-mail preferences. Still, we strongly advise against it.

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