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Quidditch Club Captures International Award for Field Presence

Winthrop University

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Quidditch Club Captures International Award for Field Presence

Quick Facts

- The International Quidditch Association awarded the Winthrop chapter with its Swag Award for Most Powerful, Visual and Physical Presence on the field.
- Quidditch is a fictional game created by author J.K. Rowling in the blockbuster Harry Potter book series and brought to life.



ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA — **Winthrop University Quidditch Club President Joseph Galtelli** says he is used to people underestimating the integrity of the quidditch sport.

“It is mostly from people who have never seen a game before,” he said. “It’s a silly sport that was made out of a fictional world, but it has turned into a co-ed, full-contact sport that isn’t anything to joke about.”

Check out Winthrop's Instagram for Quidditch Club footage.

The club received validation this summer when the **International Quidditch Association** awarded the Winthrop chapter with its **Swag Award for Most Powerful, Visual and Physical Presence** on the field, beating hundreds of teams from across the nation.

“This award describes our team very well, because win or lose, we always try to represent Winthrop as a caring and fun team to be around,” Galtelli said. “We were very excited we won, considering the other teams that were nominated!”

Quidditch is a fictional game created by author J.K. Rowling in the blockbuster **Harry Potter** book series. The real-life counterpart is made up of seven players on each team who play with brooms between their legs at all times, all while scoring goals, avoiding the beater balls and hunting for the elusive golden snitch, which automatically ends the game and gives the finding team the win.

Winthrop’s chapter has competed in the International Quidditch Association for several years. Galtelli said the new academic year will be about recruitment, with plans to host at least two games locally and help host the **Quidditch World Cup** in Rock Hill in April—a tournament that will bring in teams from all over the United States.

Galtelli promised: “You will be amazed at how intense games can be, playing or spectating.”

Check out Winthrop's Instagram for a short video of the Quidditch Club.

For more information on the Quidditch Club e-mail wuquidditch@winthrop.edu.

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