

The Salt Lake Tribune

Salt Lake City to host Quidditch World Cup in 2021



(Phelan M. Ebenhack | AP Photo) In this April 12, 2013, file photo, Silicon Valley Skrewts' Logan Anbinder, center, drives to the goal between the University of Ottawa's Matthew Bunn, right, and Ahmed Al-Slaq during a scrimmage at the Quidditch World Cup in Kissimmee, Fla. Just like the Harry Potter books, Quidditch requires each member of a seven-person team, three chasers, two beaters, a keeper and a seeker, to keep a broom between his or her legs at all times. The chasers try to score 10-point goals by getting the quaffle (a volleyball) through a hoop.

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Salt Lake City has been chosen to host the U.S. Quidditch World Cup in 2021.

Mayor Jackie Biskupski announced the selection Friday and said the city was chosen for its proximity to an airport and its walkable downtown area. The event is expected to host 84 teams and draw in more than 7,000 people.

Previous competitions have been held in Vermont, New York and South Carolina.

Quidditch is a full contact sport inspired by the "Harry Potter" book series that combines elements of rugby, dodgeball and tag. Seven players per team mount brooms made of PVC pipes and attempt to score by throwing balls through tall hoops.

The sport began in 2005 and has quickly spread to more than 300 school and community teams nationwide.
