



## **CAMP SPIRIT OF THE GAME**

Pittsburgh's Youth Ultimate Frisbee Camp

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### ULTIMATE FRISBEE: THE BEST WAY TO TEACH GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP TO YOUTH

*Two Pittsburgh natives have teamed up to pilot the nation's first Ultimate Frisbee Sports Camp for kids with a focus on ethics, conflict resolution and sportsmanship. **Will it fly?***

Andrew Norman, Ph.D. and Sam Bellin, M.S. have established the nation's first Ultimate Frisbee sports camp for children ages 7-13. Named ***Camp Spirit of the Game*** and held on the campus of Carnegie Mellon University July 7-11, 2008, daily camp events will include sports skills development, group games, swimming, and instruction in constructive conflict resolution.

The sport of Ultimate Frisbee has no referees or umpires to call fouls and enforce penalties; therefore Coach Andy and Coach Sam will teach elementary school-age players how to use good sportsmanship, negotiation and conflict resolution to regulate the game. The Ultimate Players Association, the national sports league for Ultimate Frisbee, is supporting Camp Spirit of the Game as a pilot program to determine the efficacy of teaching ethics and conflict resolution through a summer sports camp. If successful, the model will be replicated in other cities across the United States.

Andy Norman is a trained mediator in conflict resolution and a professor of philosophy at Carnegie Mellon University. Sam Bellin was director of athletics at the Jewish Community Center for many years and currently teaches 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Propel Charter School. Andy and Sam met in kindergarten at Wightman Elementary School and have remained friends for 40 years, learning to play and love the sport of Ultimate Frisbee while at Taylor Allderdice High School and continuing to play together during summers on their local team, the *Squirrel Hill Swine*. Now they are devoting their combined expertise to teach local kids how to be better athletes and better citizens of our community.

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