

RE: Wesleyan ultimate

Bob Lacy

4/30/2025

Hi guys,

Unfortunately, I can't add much to what Henry and others have been able to unearth. I know that we had a few games in that first year (spring of '75). I don't have any old records in attics or otherwise, so sadly I don't have any written record of who played in that first year or what teams we played, other than what is in that Argus article that you guys found. I am pretty sure that we could add Jim Ralabate to the list of people who played in that first year. I copied Lyle Rudensey on this message, although the email address that I have for him is from about 25 years ago, so it is unlikely that it is still functional.

I am sure that we still had informal, fun games among ourselves in the '75-'76 year (not that there was much "formal" about any of it in the first few years), but maybe we didn't arrange for games against other schools that year. I do recall that game we played at Harvard. There weren't a lot of other teams to play against back then! And probably no official "league" but rather, as Henry says, just casual phone contacts with people we knew at other schools. As Henry also noted, the concept of team "captain" back then was just whoever did the organizing – so more like a team manager than an on-the-field captain of any sort.

I won't be able to get to the upcoming gathering, but I am delighted to all of you for bringing back those good memories. And I am grateful that "Spike" and others not only kept WesU Ultimate going but helped it grow and evolve.

Cheers,

Bob

P.S. The "national champion" high school team that I played on (Staples, in Westport CT) was only a briefly self-declared champion after we defeated the prior undefeated Maplewood NJ team, but then was later beaten by them in a rematch.