

## **THE CUTTING EDGE**

### **Contents:**

**Introduction – the sword in the stone page 1 section – A**

**Festival up date and summer offerings Page 1 Section – B  
Continued page 2 section – B 1, 2**

**Power House Recruiting Page 2  
Section – C Continued on page 3**

### **Section A**



#### **The legend of the sword in the stone!**

In Arthurian legend there are many depictions of how the sword was put in the stone and what the sword was named. In one, Caliburn is the name of the sword placed in the stone by an angel that burned the words:

***“He whose heart is pure will be worthy to draw forth this sword and rule!”***

In another it is called Excalibur, and it is Merlin, whose enchantments are fading as Christianity takes root, who asks a great rock giant to allow him to thrust the sword within its hand. Merlin then writes the words

***“Only he who is just and pure of heart, who will lead with humility and compassion, may draw this sword to rule.”***



Merlin wrote these words using the blood of the dying king Uther Pendragon and his wizard's breath so the Giant would know to

whose blood the sword belonged. Merlin then tutored Arthur to be what the words described, and the rest became legend.

The third version is the one I like best, because it combines the two and shows that we are not all born noble... nobility is something instilled in us during our youth by those that guide us on life's path. Together, all of these guides help us to define our sense of pride without becoming prideful; noble without becoming pompous; righteous without becoming vengeful. They help to mold us into whom we will become and then give us the freedom to step out into the world to seek our own destiny.

In the third version, Merlin is visited by an angel who delivers a prophecy of the future king in a series of visions. First, a fiery comet strikes the highest peak on the misty isle of Avalon and a lump of ore from the mountain is forged into a sword. Second, pompous Uther betrays his crown for a queen not his own, resulting in the conception of an innocent child condemned to death by a defiled queen. Third, the babe, at an altar of turquoise stone, on the mountain on the isle of Avalon, where the child's hand is sliced across by the sword; blood flows onto the altar stone, and the angel appearing to spread the blood and write in fiery letters:

***“Only he whose blood is pure, whose heart is filled with Humility and compassion, may draw this sword and rule!”***

Fourth, the angel takes the sword in his right hand, places his left on the child's blood upon the turquoise stone. Then he thrust the sword through his own hand, and the child's blood then into the stone. The angel drops to his knees, before disappearing in a blinding flash of light. Finally, Arthur, on bended knee, drawing the sword from the stone.

Merlin then raises Arthur as his own, teaching Arthur the things he would need to be a good person first, and a king second, and the rest, as they say, is the stuff of song and legends.

From all of this, we have to remember that as adults, we shape and mold the personalities, attitudes and morals of the youth we touch, be it our children or someone else's. We as adults, parents, coaches, or just friends need to remember children hear and process everything we say and do from a very young age. That influence molds them into whom they will become. We can only hope we lead them to be “Proud without being Prideful! Noble not Pompous! Righteous not vengeful! In the end, we hope they will grow to be a guiding light to the generations to come, just like we were for them.

Written and Submitted by Clarence Jennelle



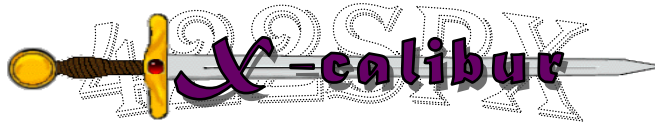
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### **Section B**

#### **Festival 2010 up date and summer offerings**

Two weeks ago when the festival registrations opened up X-Calibur/422SPX put in for 6 teams of u-19 and 6 teams of U-16 for a total of 12 possible teams into the lottery. We hope to get at least one U-19/16 teams or more. The first week in May is when the lottery is to be picked and posted by the second week. so we are anxiously waiting to see if we get any teams in. Below are the tentative plans for June try outs and festival practices for the summer and the fall.

**Festival try outs** have tentatively been scheduled for **Sundays June 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>** from **1:00 to 5:00 PM**. Times for the age groups will be announced at a later date. Initially we were trying to get the try outs done in one weekend with a Saturday/Sunday try out sequence, but after looking at schedules these 2 Sundays offered a better chance for players to try out. Again we need to change a little bit of the wording for the **try out specifications**. All players who do not have a US event or practice these days (**U-18, 21, High performance (JR/SR), NFT ext.**) or are **medically incapacitated**, or **Live more than 3 hours away** (these players have shown their level of commitment and dedication if they can make one of the dates it would be appreciated but financially not necessary.), will be **required** to make one of the two try outs.



## **THE CUTTING EDGE**

### **Section B 1**

#### **Festival 2010 up date and summer offerings Continued**

Again we would like to emphasize the need the US has put on winning a pool to guarantee a place in the festival for the next year. However, unlike most other clubs it is not required that you join X-Calibur to play for us at festival. Practice for festival will be held on the following Sundays at 422 in the bubble.

August 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
September 12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM  
October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

For those that missed last month's news letter about festival here are the high lights.

**Place:** Reach 11 Sports Complex 2630 Mayo Blvd. Phoenix, Arizona 85050

**Date:** November 23<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Cost:** Between \$1,150.00 \$1,300.00

**Deposit:** \$300.00 non refundable by 4/26/10. You can still send deposits in but those that were in by the 26<sup>th</sup> hold first consideration after try outs.

**High lights:** Little rain or T storms. The city is close by and there are lots more things to do during down time. There are direct flights into the air ports and at the present time it looks like the US is not raising the cost of festival.

New for the Festival update is the location of our lodging for the event. This year the X-Calibur teams will be staying at the Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa  
2400 East Missouri Ave  
Phoenix, AZ 85016

The hotel is located approximately 13 miles from the venue, about 20 minutes driving time. There are shuttles that run to and from the shopping districts in the city and almost everything is within 15 to 20 minutes travel time.



The room types range from kings to two bedroom suites with fire places for the desert nights. Deb and I will be working on a full page article for the accommodations in a later addition.

### **Section B 2**

#### **Spring and summer playing, try outs, camps and spring tournament up dates.**

This spring the X-Calibur staff is working hard to give you the best playing and practice opportunities we can with the time and staff we posses. To that end here is a quick over view of the spring and summer playing opportunities along with the run down on summer events yet to come.

1. **Spring academy** – Spring academy is held on Sundays from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. The academy started on April the 11<sup>th</sup> and ends May the 16<sup>th</sup>. There are 2 sessions left counting if anyone is interested in attending these sessions feel free to come, the cost would be \$25.00 a session.
2. **Spring open plays** – On **Thursdays and Sundays from 6:00 to 8:00 PM** at 422 in the dome on the Turf. Anyone can play. The **cost is \$5.00 a session or one lump check for \$75.00 covers all open plays** for spring and summer. Spring open plays end the end of May and then the summer open plays start.
3. **Summer open play** – is on **Sundays 5:00 to 7:00 Pm and Tuesdays 7:00 to 9:00 PM starting in June.** The cost is the same as for the spring at \$5.00 per session or a lump sum of \$75.00 made out to X-Calibur FHC, please mail to Susan Judge 1003 Jeffrey road Wilmington DE 19810. Check the X-Calibur web site for actual dates and times.
4. **Festivals try outs – Sundays June 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 5:00 PM.** A flyer will be going out in early May with the form to be filled out and the costs.
5. **2011 indoor try outs** – This year's indoor try outs will again be held at the 422 sports plex on the following **Sunday afternoons, Sunday August 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 5:00 PM** the **u-16 will be 1:00 to 3:00** and the **u19s will be 3:00 to 5:00 PM.** The flyer for try outs should be coming out the first week in May.
6. **Festival practices** – Once the teams are picked please make sure you mark the following dates on your calendar and keep them open for the following practice times.
  - a. August 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

- b. September 12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
- c. October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

7. **U-14 and younger try outs** – Schedule for **Sunday September 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.** The try out form will be distributed at the beginning May.
8. **Summer camps** – X-Calibur frequently takes teams to camps over the summer time. At the present time we were looking to put teams in the Maryland Camp and the UNC camps. For the **Maryland camp** it is looking more and more like the first week will be the one that is selected and that is **July 25<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup>.** And **UNC** is the second session from **July 10<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup>.**The dead line for signing up has passed but we will be making the final decisions the first week in May so if you send us an e-mail before May 7<sup>th</sup> you may still be able to go. E-mail inquiries to [Jennellec6@aol.com](mailto:Jennellec6@aol.com)

### **Spring tournament recaps**

To date, X-Calibur has attended 3 tournaments, one at Maryland, another at Drexel and the third at the Training Center in Parkers ford. This reporter understanding is that teams did excellent at all three. The placements are a little sketchy because I think everyone forgets we have started this publication but here goes:

1. Saturday April 24<sup>th</sup> UMD – U-16 1<sup>st</sup> place, U-19 2<sup>nd</sup> place
2. Sunday April 25<sup>th</sup> Drexel – U-19 2<sup>nd</sup> place
3. Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup> The Training Center – U-19 & 14's take 1<sup>st</sup> place U-16's take 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

If anyone has pictures or would want to write an article on the tournaments themselves and if everyone would start sending placements and possible scores from the tournaments the publisher would love to place them in Future editions of the **"CUTTING EDGE"**

### **Section C:** **Power House College Recruiting Service**

In recent months it has come to our attention that one of our members runs a college recruiting service. This article is to introduce the service and to give contact info for any one that is interested in utilizing some one that is out to help our players.



**THE CUTTING EDGE**



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**Written by: Rod KRASLEY**

