

For Immediate Release  
Carolina Crash  
Charlotte's Wheelchair Rugby Team  
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## **Competitive Fires Fuel Wheelchair Rugby Event**

Waxhaw, NC - (October 7, 2010)

On Saturday, October 9th and Sunday October 10th, six division II quad rugby teams from around the country will descend on the small town of Waxhaw for one of only two tournaments being held in the state this year.

A recognized team medal sport since its 1996 debut at the Paralympic Games in Atlanta, GA, quad rugby is renowned for the brutal but strategic collisions the players in uniquely customized wheelchairs use to control the court and command play. Participating athletes must have some degree of neurological impairment in all four limbs to compete. Skill and agility are amplified by athletes who have developed extraordinary physical proficiency despite the challenge of paralysis or missing limbs. The violent nature of the sport and no holds barred approach causes most first time spectators to balk.

Hosted by Charlotte's home team, the Carolina Crash and ASAP, the Adaptive Sports and Adventures Program of Carolina Rehabilitation, the event is being held at Marvin Ridge High School. Marvin Ridge has a vested interest in the event with Sam Robb, a senior International Baccalaureate student at the school and Crash Co-Captain, playing an integral offensive role for the club.

John, a Charlotte Mecklenburg special education teacher, Robbie, recently selected to the 2011 United States Disabled Water Ski Team, Matt C., longtime veteran, Co-Captain and Tournament Director, local attorney Matt L. or Harley, the teams most recent graduate of Carolinas Rehabilitation acute care facility. Crash athletes put an intensely candid face on some of the nearly 12,000 Americans traumatized by spinal cord injury every year who respond with undeterred determination to churn out excellence in competitive sport.

A host of local sponsors and their contributions have served to establish the event, now in its third year.

Games start at 9:00 am on Saturday and finish at 4:00 pm, 9:00 am on Sunday through 3:00 pm. Admission is free and a full schedule can be found at [www.CarolinaCrash.org](http://www.CarolinaCrash.org)

The Carolina Crash is western North Carolina's only quad rugby team. The program exists to establish and expand the sport by providing both recreational and elite competitive play opportunities for both men and women with quadriplegia.

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