

# **Guide to A Brief History of Bladderball [Research Materials and Essay] by Sarah Hammond**

RU 1121



compiled by Matthew Gorham and staff of Manuscripts and Archives

November 2012

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** RU 1121

**CREATOR:** Hammond, Sarah Ruth, 1977-2011

**TITLE:** A Brief History of Bladderball [research materials and essay] by Sarah Hammond

**DATES:** 1879–2009

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 2 linear feet (3 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** Materials are in English.

**SUMMARY:** The materials consist of research notes, copies of articles, correspondence, outlines, drafts, and other materials compiled by Sarah Hammond (Yale College, 1999) for her senior essay titled, "A Brief History of Bladderball."

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ru.1121>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ru.1121>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Mary and Steve Hammond, 2012.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

A Brief History of Bladderball [research materials and essay] by Sarah Hammond (RU 1121). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Sarah Ruth Hammond (1977-2011) was born and raised in Oberlin, Ohio. She received her BA degree in 1999, and her PhD in History of American Religion in 2010, both from Yale University. As a Yale undergraduate, Hammond wrote her senior essay on the history of Bladderball, a game traditionally played by Yale students between 1954 and 1982, after which it was banned by the university's administration due to the raucous and sometimes disruptive nature of the game. Hammond received numerous awards as both an undergraduate and graduate student, including the Andrew F. Mellon Fellowship in Humanistic Studies; the Richard J. Franke Interdisciplinary Fellowship; and a Lake Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship from the Lake Institute on Faith and Giving at the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University. She also worked for several years at the Yale Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS. At the time of her death, Sarah Hammond was a visiting professor at the College of William and Mary.

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## Scope and Contents

The materials consist of research notes, copies of articles, correspondence, outlines, drafts, and other materials compiled by Sarah Hammond (Yale, 1999) for her senior essay titled, "A Brief History of Bladderball."

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## General

Forms part of Yale Record Group 49 (YRG 49), Papers and projects on Yale.

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## Arrangement

Materials arranged as received.

## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1	"A Brief History of Bladderball" essay	1998
b. 1, f. 2	Correspondence	1998-2000
b. 1, f. 3	Yale alumni phone interview notes	1999
b. 1, f. 4	Research notes	1999
	Research materials	
b. 1, f. 5	General	1999
b. 1, f. 6	Alumni	1999
b. 1, f. 7	Bladderball	1999-2009
b. 1, f. 8	The college experience	1998
b. 1, f. 9	College folklore	1999
b. 2, f. 1	Fraternities	1999
b. 2, f. 2	Halloween	1997-1999
b. 2, f. 3	Yale as a community	1998-1999
b. 2, f. 4	Yale folklore and traditions	1999
	<i>Yale Daily News</i>	
b. 2, f. 5	1952-1953	
b. 2, f. 6	1957-1960	
b. 3, f. 1	1878-1890	
b. 3, f. 2	1905	
b. 3, f. 3	1915	
b. 3, f. 4	1950s	
b. 3, f. 5	1960s	
b. 3, f. 6	1980s-1990s	
	WYBC broadcasts of Bladderball	
b. 4	1967 1 Audiocassette This seems to be the item mentioned in Kevin Devoe's letter dated January 18, 2000 in box 1, folder 3.	1967

WYBC broadcasts of Bladderball (continued)

b. 5

1968

1968

*1 Audiocassette*

This seems to be the item mentioned in Kevin McKeown's letter dated  
January 21, 2000 in box 1, folder 3.

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## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Names**

Hammond, Sarah Ruth, 1977-2011

### **Corporate Body**

Yale University -- Student life