



THE
9-MAN
GUIDE TO CHINATOWN

INTRODUCTION



CREDIT: ANDREW HUYNH

Everything we love about the game is what makes the 9-Man Guide to Chinatown next to impossible to produce. The sport is disorienting, dynamic and chaotic. As unpredictable as the offense is, so are the movements and whims of the players. But we've tried our best to lock them down so that neophytes can gain access to the community and see nine-man in person. Typically the season runs Memorial Day to Labor Day and is punctuated by an end-of-season tournament (go to nacivt.com) that rotates between the major nine-man cities.

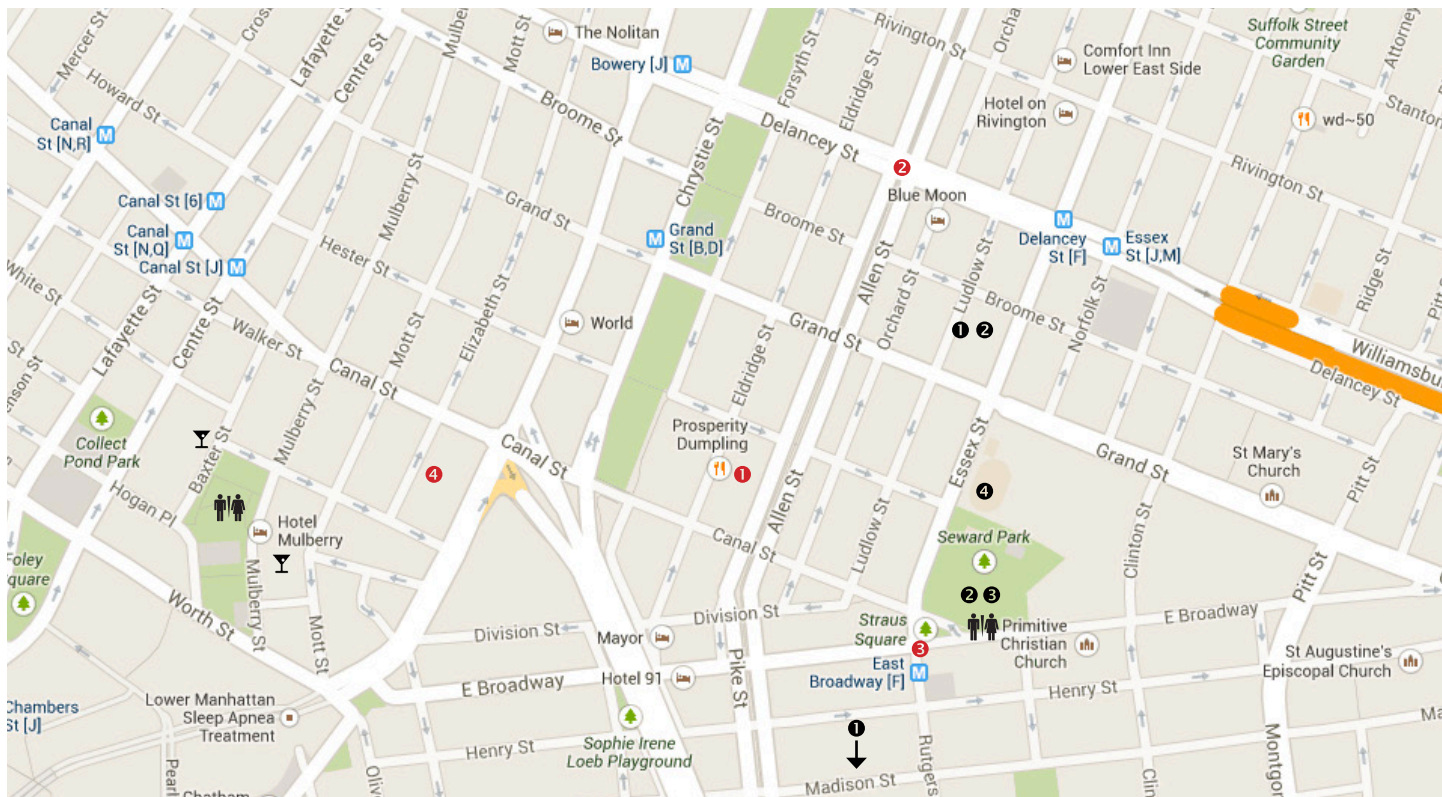
Since I began filming the sport over five years ago, I've fallen for the gritty game and its fluid, mercurial spirit—despite the fact that it made documentary production infinitely more difficult. The 9-Man Guide to Chinatown is the result of an exhaustive survey of players but will always be a work-in-progress subject to the mutability of the community and an ever-changing definition of Chinatown. From grimy parking lots and dollar dumplings to soap-less bathrooms and air-conditioned suburban eateries, here are the places you'll find nine-man athletes—right now, at least. These pit stops may not make your local Zagat guide, but they are homes away from home for this community. We hope you'll pack your patience and curiosity and explore them. We also hope you'll learn to love the players, culture and sport as much as we do.

—Ursula Liang
Director
"9-Man"

Designed and produced by Neel Yalamarthy and the 9-Man Documentary Team, summer 2013.

If you find any incorrect information or items in need of update, please let us know: 9manintern@gmail.com

NEW YORK



WATCH

PRACTICES

1 DELPHI

Fri, 7:30pm-10:30pm
Seward High School
Ludlow St & Grand St

Sun, 2pm-7pm
Leif Ericson Park & Square
8th Ave & 66th St (Brooklyn, NY)

2 FREEMASONS

Fri, 7:30-10:30pm
Seward High School
Ludlow St & Grand St

Sat, 9am-1pm
Seward Park
Canal St & Essex St

3 STRANGERS

Sat & Sun, 9am-12pm
Seward Park
Canal St & Essex St

LOCAL TOURNAMENTS

4 NEW YORK MINI

Usually third weekend of July
2013: July 20th-21st
www.nymini.com
Seward Park
Canal St & Essex St

DINE

BUDGET PICK

1 PROSPERITY DUMPLING

46 Eldridge St

BEST FOOD

2 CONGEE VILLAGE

100 Allen St

3 MING'S CAFE

28 Canal St

BEST DIM SUM

4 JING FONG

20 Elizabeth St

BATHROOMS

♂♀ COLUMBUS PARK

Worth St & Mulberry St

♂♀ SEWARD PARK

Canal St & Essex St

DRINK

Y GALAXY 45

45 Mott St

Y WINNIE'S BAR

104 Bayard St

CLUBS

DELPHI

FREEMASONS

MOHEGAN SUN

STRANGERS

VIKINGS

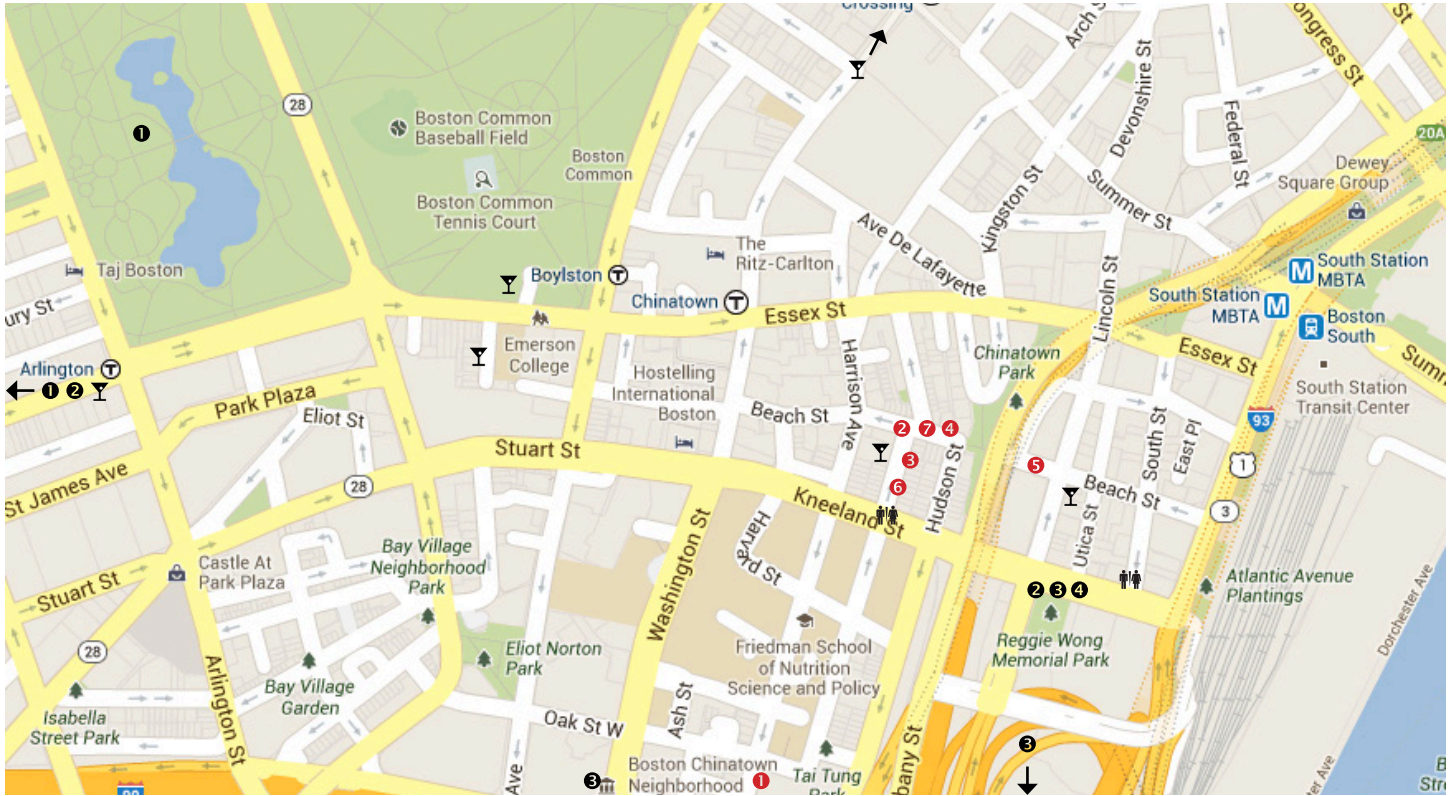
"It's a fast-paced game—kind of like New York. If you hesitate, the play is already over. Give it a chance and don't be intimidated. Once you catch on, you'll be hooked and there is no return."

—Allen Wong, Freemasons



CREDIT: JONATHAN JEONG

BOSTON



WATCH

PRACTICES

1 FREEMASONS

Wed, 6:30pm
Jackson Mann K-8 School
500 Cambridge St

2 HURRICANES

Sat, 6:30pm-8:30pm
West Newton Armory
1137 Washington St
(Newton, MA)

Tues & Thurs nights
Reggie Wong Memorial Park
Kneeland St & Lincoln St

3 KNIGHTS

Tues & Thurs, 7:30pm-10pm
North Quincy High School
316 Hancock St (Quincy, MA)

Sat, 9:30am-12pm
Josiah Quincy Upper School
152 Arlington Street

Sun, early morning
Reggie Wong Memorial Park
Kneeland St & Lincoln St

LOCAL TOURNAMENTS

4 AUGUST MOON

Usually early August
2013: August 11th
Reggie Wong Memorial Park
Kneeland St & Lincoln St

DINE

BUDGET PICKS

1 CHINATOWN CAFE

262 Harrison Ave

2 HO YUEN BAKERY

54 Beach St

3 PEACH FARM

4 Tyler St

4 NEW GOLDEN GATE

66 Beach St

BEST FOOD

5 HEI LA MOON

88 Beach St

6 WINDSOR

10 Tyler St
(Try the ja lerng)

BEST DIM SUM

7 CHINA PEARL*

9 Tyler St

BATHROOMS

♣ DONG KHANH

81 Harrison Ave

♣ SOUTH STREET DINER

178 Kneeland St

*nine-man-friendly owner

DRINK

Y THE CORNER PUB*

162 Lincoln St

Y THE ESTATE

1 Boylston Pl

Y GYPSY BAR

116 Boylston St

Y SCHOLARS

25 School St

Y SHOJO

9A Tyler St

Y TAVERN IN THE SQUARE

161 Brighton Ave (Allston, MA)

“Park in a garage.
You *will* get a door
ding or scratches on
your bumper if you
park on the street.”

—Alex Ng, Hurricanes

CLUBS

FREEMASONS

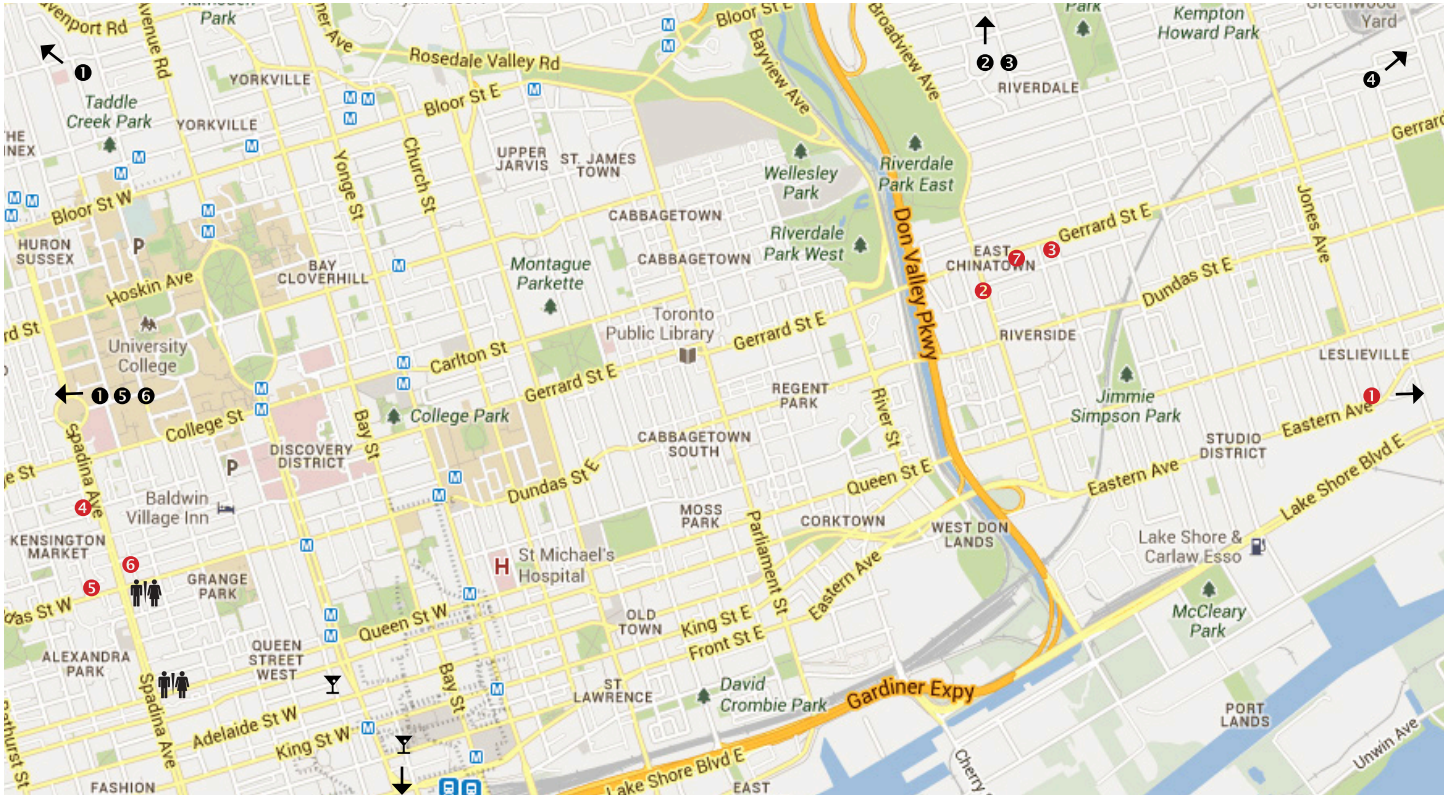
HURRICANES

KNIGHTS



CREDIT: BOSTON FREEMASONS

TORONTO



WATCH

PRACTICES

1 CONNEX

Mon & Tues, 7pm-10pm
Bishop Allen Academy
721 Royal York Rd

Thurs, 7pm-10pm
Monsignor Percy Johnson Catholic
Secondary School
2170 Kipling Ave

Fri, 7pm-10pm
Our Lady of Sorrows
Catholic School
32 Montgomery Rd

2 FLYING TIGERS

Sun, 1pm-4pm
Bayview Glen School
275 Duncan Mill Road

3 WARRIORS

Sat, 12pm-3pm
Tues & Thurs, 6:30pm-9pm
St. Gabriel Catholic School
396 Spring Garden Ave

4 PHOENIX

Sun, 11:30pm-2pm
L'Amoreaux Community Centre
200 McNicoll Ave

5 RONIN

Thurs, 7pm-10pm
Toronto Police College
70 Birmingham St

LOCAL TOURNAMENTS

6 CANADA DAY

Usually Canada Day weekend
2013: June 29th-30th
Toronto Police College
70 Birmingham St

DINE

BUDGET PICK

1 SQUARE-BOY DRIVE-IN

875 Danforth Ave

BEST FOOD

2 KA KA LUCKY*

349 Broadview Ave

3 MI MI RESTAURANT

688 Gerrard St E
(Try the pho)

4 NEW HO KING*

416 Spadina Ave

5 SANG HO

536 Dundas St W
(Try the Chinese seafood)

BEST DIM SUM

6 ROL SAN

323 Spadina Ave

7 PEARL COURT

633 Gerrard St E

BATHROOMS

🚻 MCDONALDS

160 Spadina Ave

🚻 TIM HORTONS

477 Dundas St W

*nine-man-friendly owner

DRINK

🍷 MOMOFUKU

190 University Ave

🍷 REAL SPORTS BAR & GRILL

15 York St

CLUBS

CONNEX • FLYING TIGERS

NGUN LAM • OUTTAHAND

PHOENIX • RONIN • SABRES

WARRIORS • ZHEN QI

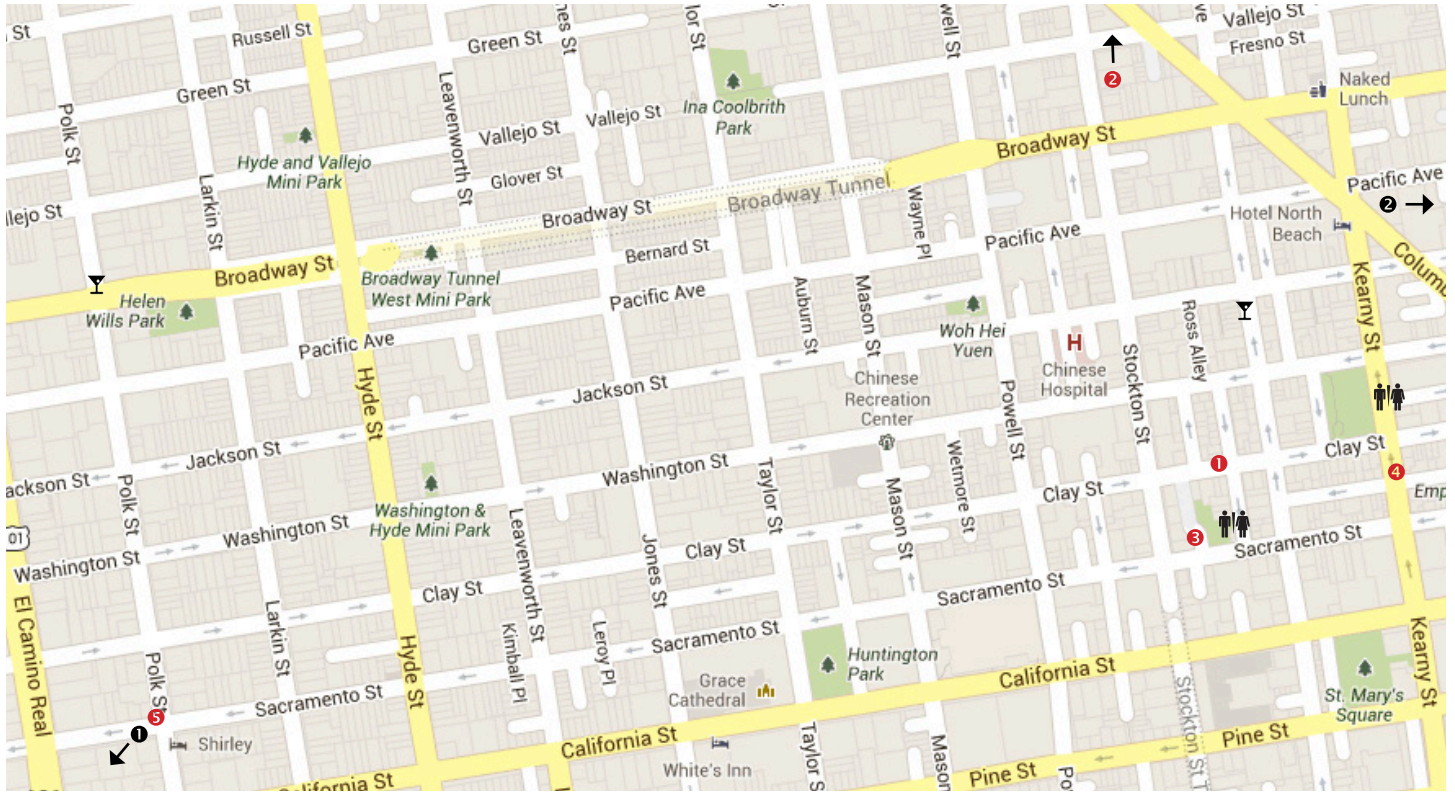
"Find a local team and see when they're having tryouts or if you can attend one of their practices. If you don't know anything about nine-man, have a look on YouTube to see videos from past tournaments. Playing nine-man is a great way to meet new people and it gives you a reason to travel!"

—Jason Yong, Phoenix



CREDIT: ROSANNA U

SAN FRANCISCO



WATCH

PRACTICES

1 ACEHOLES/INC!/RAGE/RAWR/RENEGADES/SMASH

Tues & Sun, afternoons
Sacred Heart Cathedral
Preparatory High School
1055 Ellis St

Sat & Sun, mornings
West Sunset Playground
3223 Ortega St
Lowell High School
1101 Eucalyptus Dr

2 DRAGONS

Sat, mornings
Bladium Sports and Fitness Club
800 Ave F (Alameda, CA)

BATHROOMS

♣ WILLIE "WOO WOO" WONG PLAYGROUND

Sacramento St & Stockton St

♣ PORTSMOUTH SQUARE PLAZA

Kearney St, between Washington St & Clay St

DINE

BUDGET PICKS

1 CAPITAL RESTAURANT

839 Clay St
(Try the salt & pepper chicken or chicken wings)

2 GOURMET KITCHEN

1051 Stockton St
(Try the rice plates or chow mein)

3 HANG AH

1 Pagoda Pl

BEST FOOD

4 R&G LOUNGE

631 Kearny St.
(Try the salt & pepper crab)

BEST DIM SUM

5 DIM SUM KING
99 Skyline Plaza (Daly City, CA)

DRINK

Y LI PO COCKTAIL

916 Grant Ave

Y ROUGE NIGHTCLUB

1500 Broadway

CLUBS

ACE HOLES • INC!

PAAI KAU SMASH • RAGE

RAWR • RENEGADES

TIEN LUNG DRAGONS

WESTCOAST

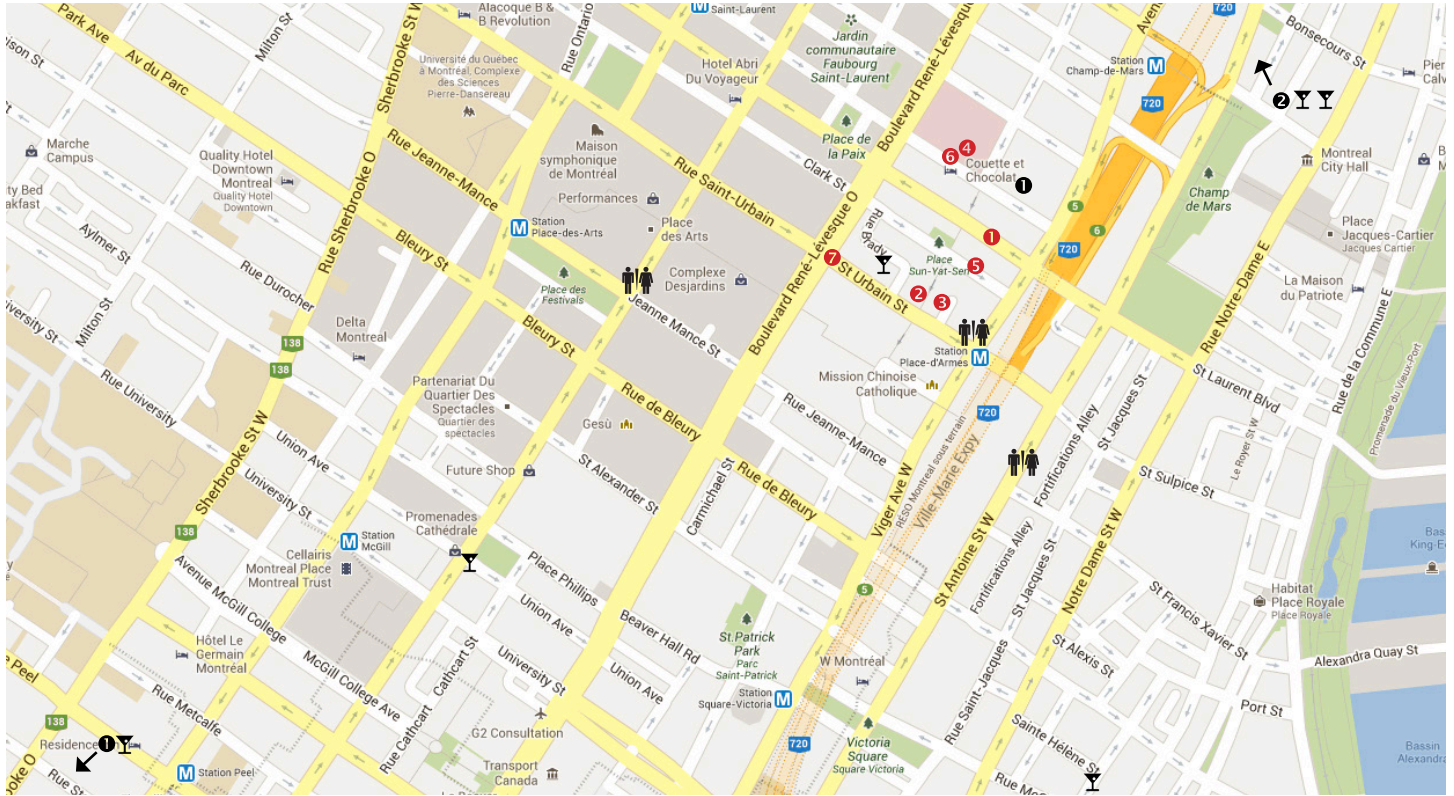
"Come in with an open mind ready to try new things. And wear sunblock."

—Penuel Barrina, Ace Holes



CREDIT: MIKE FAN

MONTREAL



WATCH

PRACTICES

1 FREEMASON & HUNG YING

Wed, 6:30pm-8:30pm
Stayner Park
Rue Staynor (Westmount, QC)

Fri, 7:30pm-9:30pm
1001 Rue Saint Dominique St.
(basement)

2 PHOENIX

Sun, 4pm-6pm
Centre William-Hingston
419 Rue Saint-Roch

BATHROOMS

COMPLEX DESJARDINS

150 Sainte-Catherine St W

HOLIDAY INN SELECT MONTREAL CENTRE VILLE

99 Viger Ave W

PALAIS DES CONGRÈS DE MONTREAL

159 St. Antoine W

DINE

BUDGET PICKS

1 AMIGO

1027 Boulevard Saint-Laurent
(Try the famous "Hot Sale")

2 RESTAURANT BEIJING*

92 Rue de la Gauchetière W

3 MON SHING

90 Rue de la Gauchetière W
(Try the \$7 pad see-ew & chow mein)

BEST FOOD

4 RESTAURANT MONNAN*

43 Rue de la Gauchetière E

5 RESTAURANT RUBY ROUGE

1008 Rue Clark
(Try the Peking duck with pancake wrappers and fried salt & pepper squid)

6 TONG SING

43 Rue de la Gauchetière E

BEST DIM SUM

7 KAM FUNG

1111 St Urbain St

CLUBS

FREEMASON

HUNG YING

PHOENIX

*nine-man-friendly owner

DRINK

Y L2 LOUNGE

71 Rue de la Gauchetière W

Y LE ROUGE BAR

7 Prince Arthur St W

Y CONFSSIONALS

431 Rue McGill

Y EN CACHETTE SPEAKEASY

1765 St Denis St

Y SHARX

606 Sainte-Catherine St W

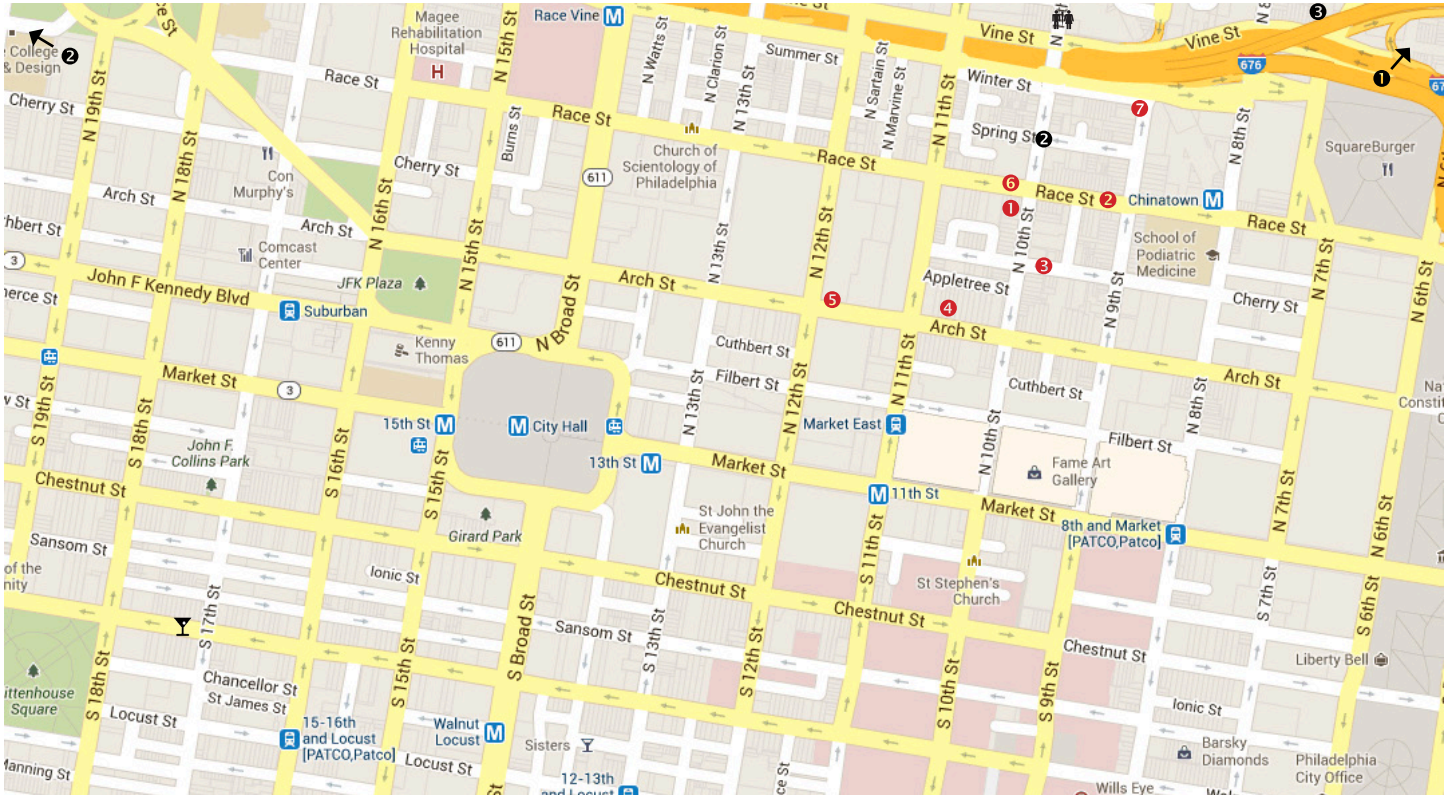
"It's very fast. Get low. Triple commit, because it's a big f*cking court."

—Danny Ly, Freemason



CREDIT: MONTREAL FREEMASON

PHILADELPHIA



WATCH

PRACTICES

- 1 CIA**
Sun, 1pm-4pm
Livingston Tennis Courts, Rutgers University
62 Rd 3 (Piscataway, NJ)
- 2 SUNS**
Thurs, 7:30pm-9:30pm
Sat, 10am-12:30pm
Sun, 5pm-7pm
Chinese Christian Church and Center
225 N 10th St
Fri, 6pm-8pm
Lloyd Hall
1 Boathouse Row
- LOCAL TOURNAMENTS**
- 3 PHILLY MINI** (younger clubs)
Usually second or third week of August
2013: August 17th
330 N Franklin St

BATHROOMS

- HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH**
915 Vine Street

DINE

BUDGET PICKS

- 1 M KEE***
1002 Race St
(Try the fish fillet with string beans & black bean sauce)
- 2 PHO XE LUA***
907 Race St
(Try the pho beef special)
- 3 YUMMY LAN ZHOU HAND DRAWN NOODLE HOUSE**
131 N 10th St
(Try the seafood noodles)

BEST FOOD

- 4 BANANA LEAF**
1009 Arch St
- 5 DINIC'S**
1136 Arch St
(Try the roast pork or roast beef with broccoli rabe)
- 6 SINGAPORE KOSHER VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT***
1006 Race Street

BEST DIM SUM

- 7 OCEAN CITY**
234 N 9th St
(Try the rice noodles)

*nine-man-friendly owner

DRINK

- ALFA**
1709 Walnut St

CLUBS

- CIA**
- SUNS**

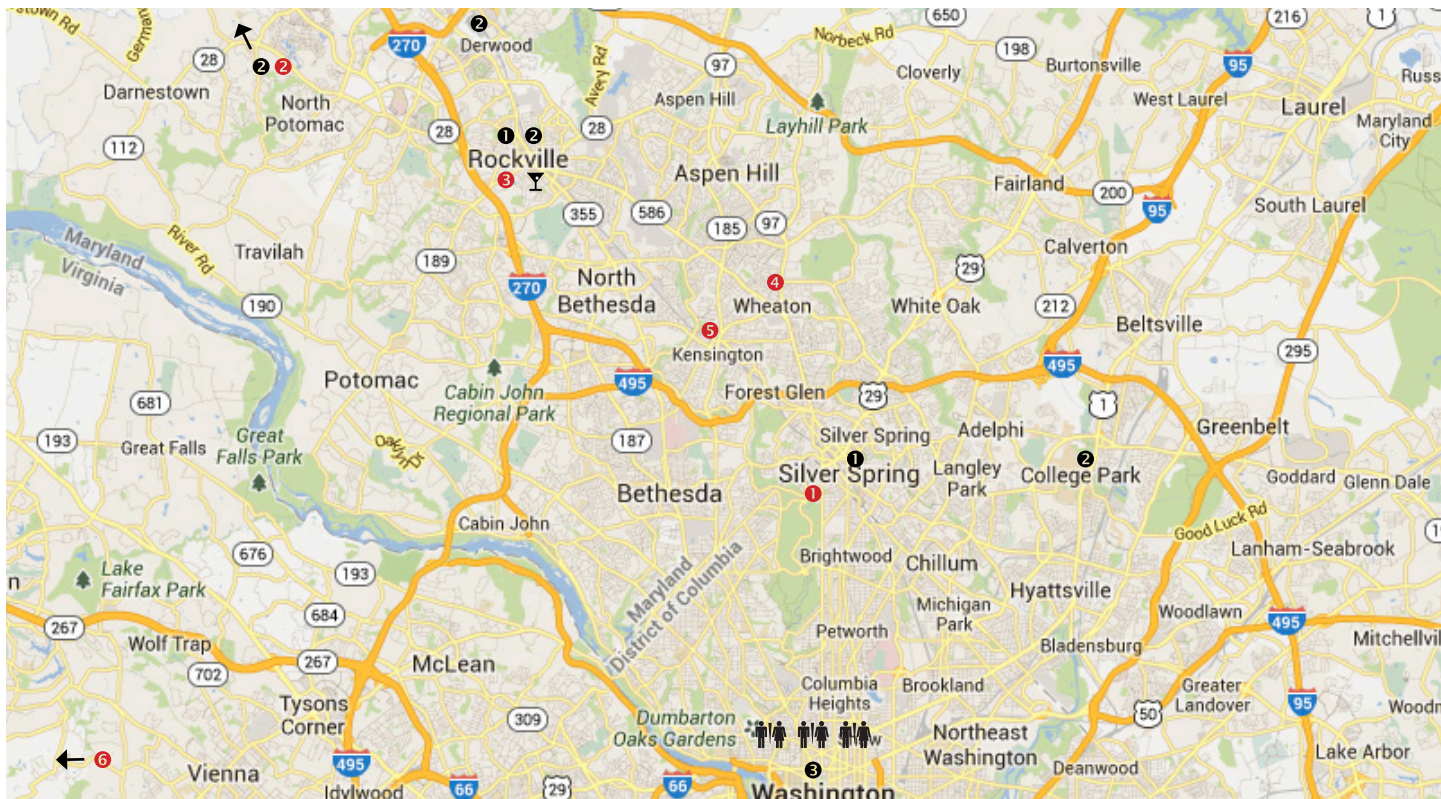
“Using hands is better than no hands in nine-man—*chai* the ball when passing for better control.”

—Harry Leong, Suns



CREDIT: PHILADELPHIA SUNS

WASHINGTON D.C.



WATCH

PRACTICES

1 CYC

Sun, 12pm-5pm
Montgomery College, Lot 13 Mannakee St & RT 355/Hungerford Dr (Rockville, MD)

Wed & Fri, 8pm-10:30pm
Blair High School
51 University Blvd E (Silver Spring, MD)

2 MVP

Sun, 12pm-4pm
University of Maryland (College Park), Parking Lot 11b Paint Branch Dr & Stadium Dr

Tues, 7:30pm-11:00pm
Rockville Sportsplex
60 Southlawn Ct (Rockville, MD)

Thurs, 7:30pm-10:00pm
Bohrer Park Activity Center
506 S Frederick Ave (Gaithersburg, MD)

LOCAL TOURNAMENTS

3 69TH ANNUAL NACIVT

Usually Labor Day weekend and rotates cities
2013: August 31st-September 2nd
www.dc.nacivt.com
999 9th St NW (D.C.)

DINE

BUDGET PICKS

1 WONG GEE

2417 University Blvd W (Silver Spring, MD)

2 YURAKU JAPANESE RESTAURANT

19773 Frederick Road (Germantown, MD)

BEST FOOD

3 EAST PEARL*

838 Rockville Pike (Rockville, MD)

4 HOLLYWOOD EAST*

11160 Veirs Mill Road (Wheaton, MD)
(Try the Seafood Pan Fried Noodles)

5 MANDARIN WOK

5268 Nicholson Ln (Kensington, MD)
(Try the steamed chicken w/ ginger scallion sauce, crispy beef or crispy eggplant)

BEST DIM SUM

6 MARK'S DUCK HOUSE

6184 Arlington Blvd (Falls Church, VA)

DRINK

Y GORDON BIERSCH

200 E Middle Ln (Rockville, MD)

BATHROOMS

LEE'S FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

611 H Street NW (D.C.)

RENAISSANCE WDC HOTEL

999 9th St NW (D.C.)

TONY CHENG'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

619 H St NW (D.C.)

"Nine-man continues the tradition of a game that was played by our fathers and grandfathers who brought the sport to the U.S. when they emigrated from Toisan, China."

—Wallace Lee, CYC

CLUBS

CYC

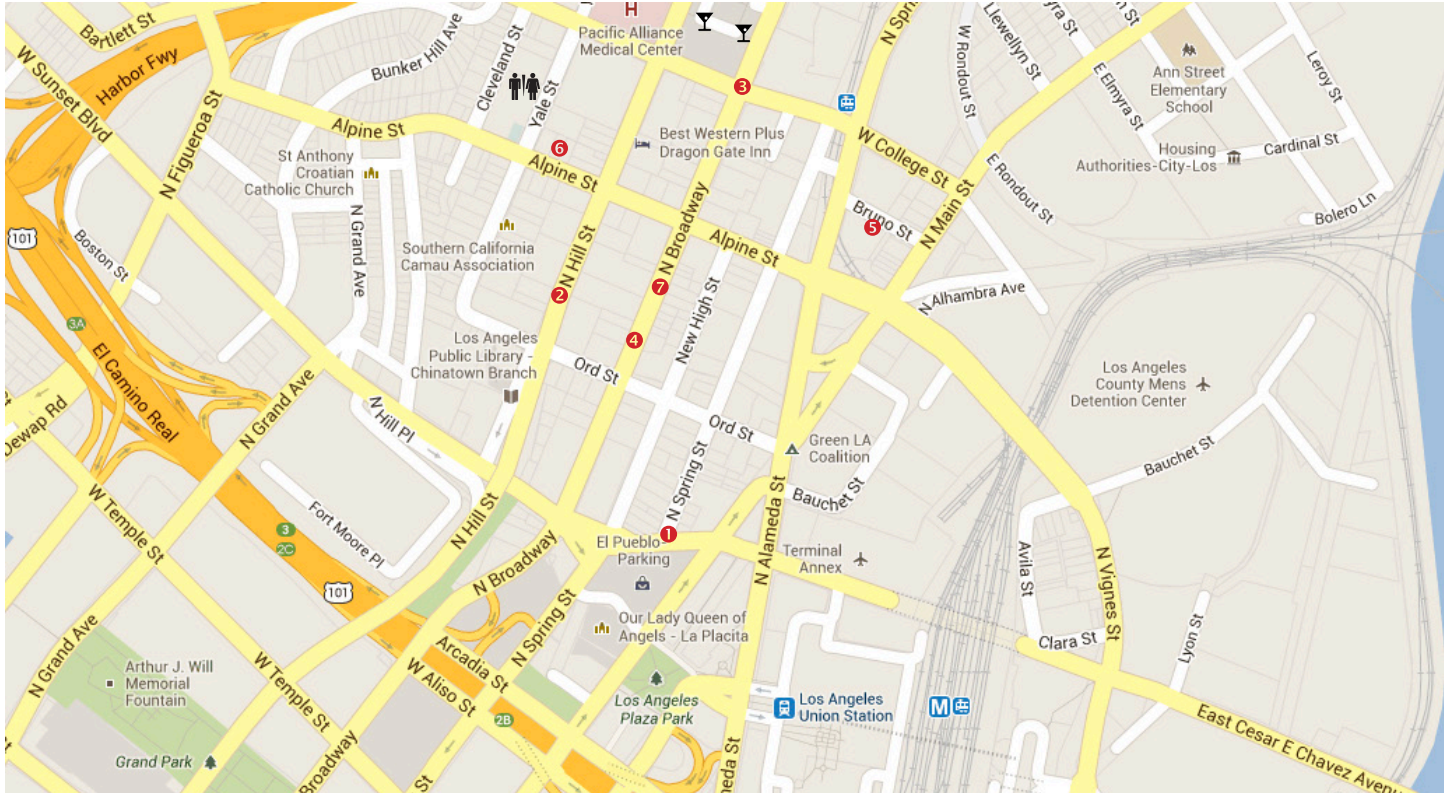
MVP

*nine-man-friendly owner



CREDIT: TIMOTHY MOY

LOS ANGELES



WATCH

The clubs in Los Angeles do not practice on a regular basis, making watching nine-man here quite the challenge! However, you can usually catch players practicing a couple weeks before tournaments in Chinatown.

BATHROOMS

♿♿ ALPINE RECREATION CENTER
817 Yale St

DINE

BUDGET PICKS

1 AMY'S BAKERY

633 N Spring St

2 QUICKLY

750 N Hill St
(Try the boba)

BEST FOOD

3 GIGO'S CAFE & DELI

853 N Broadway

4 HOAN KIEM

727 N Broadway
(Try the chicken pho)

5 HOMEGIRL CAFE

130 Bruno St

6 HOP LI

526 Alpine St

BEST DIM SUM

7 OCEAN SEAFOOD

750 N Hill St

DRINK

Y GRAND STAR JAZZ CLUB

943 Sun Mun Way

Y HOP LOUIE

950 Mei Ling Way

CLUBS

FRESH

MAD DOGS

“Be ready to get a little bloody because you’re playing on asphalt.”

—Ching Ly, Mad Dogs



CREDIT: CHING LY



ABOUT THE FILM

“9-Man” is an independent feature documentary about an isolated and exceptionally athletic Chinese-American sport that’s much more than a pastime. Since the 1930’s, young men have played this gritty streetball game competitively in the alleys and parking lots of Chinatown. When the community was a Bachelor Society (men outnumbered women 4-to-1) at a time when anti-Chinese sentiment and laws like the Chinese Exclusion Act forced Chinese restaurant workers and laundrymen to socialize exclusively amongst themselves, nine-man offered both escape and fraternity for men who were separated from their families in China and facing extreme discrimination and distrust. Today, some 80 years later, nine-man is a lasting connection to Chinatown for a community of men who know a different, more integrated America and it’s a game that has grown exponentially in athleticism.

Nine-man punctuates each summer with a vibrant, aggressive, exhausting bragging-rights tournament that unites thousands of Chinese-Americans and maintains traditional rules and customs.

“9-Man” introduces the history of the game and a diverse cast of modern-day characters from 6’7” Olympian Kevin Wong to a 91-year-old pioneer combining direct cinema and interviews with never before seen archival footage and photos sourced directly from the community. Pivoting between oil-spotted Chinatown parking lots and jellyfish-filled banquet scenes, the film captures the spirit of nine-man as players not only battle for a championship but fight to preserve a sport that holds so much history.