

Halifax Ultimate Recreational League (HURL): Annual Report 2007 - 2008

Below is a recap of the work accomplished within the priorities specified in the 2006-2007 business plan.

1. Governance over the sport of Ultimate in the Halifax Regional Municipality and Nova Scotia

- A member in good standing with the Registry of Joint Stock Companies
- Financials this year have been a challenge. HURL has hired a new book keeper Gavin Davidson.
- Have registered the Nova Scotia Disc Sport Society (NSDSS).
- Have had some contact with a Nova Scotia Disc Golf group, Cape Breton Ultimate League, and the Wolfville Ultimate League.
- Ezra Edelstein attend the CUPA league conference in Ottawa in November 2007 to discuss the future of Ultimate and CUPA in Canada.
- Have been supporting CUPA in their bid to become the NSO for Ultimate in Canada. CUPA has submitted a draft proposal for structure and funding.
- Continue to review the Touring Team Policy and approved two applications for touring teams.

2. Promotion, growth and development of the sport of Ultimate, including encouragement of the Spirit of the Game.

- Clinics were held on Mondays on the field hockey field for the first few weeks of the summer 2007. Attendance was lower than as expected there were a total of 6 people that showed up.
- The Juniors program continued visits to high schools for clinics and team coaching. Did clinics in Pictou and clinics and practises at eight high schools in Metro. Did one clinic at Dal for elementary school.
- The Juniors Committee held the 4th annual Nova Scotia High School Championships. Seven team attended with Auburn beating one of the Citadel teams to win the tournament.
- We gave away 10 discs to each new participating high school.
- We ran the first ever organized Spring draft league during April & May 2007.
- We attempted a summer draft league on Monday nights of 2007, but it was canceled due to lack of sufficient registrants.
- Fall of 2007, we ran a women's league and an open league on the same night. We also ran a competitive and rec mixed leagues.
- Fall 2007 league was reduced to 8 mixed teams from 16 in 2006, because of lack of fields.

3. Communication and information exchange within the Ultimate community in Nova Scotia and other Ultimate communities across Canada.

- Continued to use Google Docs to house meeting minutes, agendas and working documents to ease collaboration and improve Board communication

- Summer 2007 - Created Google Calendar for HURL Board events and a separate calendar for HURL field time availability for practice slots and to track the rain outs.
- Embedded HURL calendars into the website.
- Collaborated with CUPA to create a business development plan.

4. Management of HURL finances, personnel and equipment.

- 2007 registration fees remained the same.
- We continue to have our books examined by a third party Chartered Accountant, who also files our taxes. We feel this meets our auditing requirements.
- Excepted VC Sponsorship - which was much easier and more hands off for HURL than our previous sponsorship agreements.
- Switched from lending to selling cones at a subsidized price to captains.
- Treasurer resigned citing lack of time to complete required tasks.

5. Organization of the activities of HURL, including but not limited to, regional competition.

- i. The Board of directors is continuing to refine the registration and organization of league play for all members.
- ii. Summer League 2007
 - Summer league statistics are attached.
 - Conveners ran most of the day-to-day operations;
 - We received last minute field permits for playoffs and were able to hold playoffs for Sunday. Thursday playoffs were scheduled but rained out.
- iii. Fall League 2007
 - Fall league statistics are attached.
 - Grew back to 16 teams for fall league from 8 the year before. This was due to lost field time in 2008.
 - We asked for access to the scoreboard controllers as instructed in our field permits but were denied permission to use them for fear that we would damage them and ruin the upcoming football playoffs.
 - Started booking fifteen minute buffers to give teams time to get off the fields and make sure that we end on time. Have not received any complaints from HRM since we implements this practice.
 - Captian's of the open league selected their own teams to help keep teams balanced.
- Winter League 2007
 - Winter league statistics are attached.
 - We tried offering a rec and competitive registration, however few people voluntarily registered for the rec league.
 - Scheduling at Stadacona was much better this year with only two nights being rescheduled to the dockyards.
- Spring League 2008
 - Spring league statistics are attached.
 - grew from 6 teams to 8 teams.
 - Games were played on one all weather field in Burnside by splitting the soccer field in three.
 - There was no pickup list, however this should be added for next year.
 - This league continues to attract new players to HURL.
- Catch n Release was cancelled due to a lack of field space.

- Volunteer Party - Organized a volunteer party at the police club in mid January. Roughly thirty people attend.
- Developed a merit point system for introduction into the 2008-2009 summer league.

Budget

The budget prepared for the fiscal year 2007-2008 is attached at the back of the annual report.

Long-term Priorities

- Continue to develop NSDSS into a fully functional Provincial Sport Organization.
- Continue to address the HURL special resolution for field acquisition.
- Grow Junior, open, women's, mixed and masters program.
- Promotion of HURL and ultimate inside and outside the Halifax Regional Municipality
- Continue to support touring teams and competitive programs
- Continue to strengthen the Recreation league.
- Grow shoulder season (fall, spring) leagues as much as space allows.

Submitted by HURL Directors 2007 – 2008:

Greg VanSlyke (Chair), Joe Williams (Vice Chair), Chris Forgeron (Treasurer), Ezra Edelstein, Jazmine, Steve Creaser (Secretary), Chris Cowper-Smith.

Thank you to all HURL volunteers who continue to make our activities a huge success!