

Halifax Ultimate Recreational League (HURL): Annual Report 2008 - 2009

Below is a recap of the work accomplished within the priorities specified in the 2008-2009 business plan.

1. Governance over the sport of Ultimate in the Halifax Regional Municipality and Nova Scotia
 - a. Helped set up the Nova Scotia Disc Sport Society (NSDSS) as the approved Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) for disc sports in Nova Scotia.
 - b. 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 to all leagues and PSOs which we reviewed and accepted.
 - c. Made revisions to the Touring Team Policy that addressed member feedback from last year's AGM.
 - d. Created policy for, Player Code of Conduct, draft policy for Coaching Code of Conduct, Tournament, and League.
 - e. Obtained a Directors and Officers Liability insurance policy.
2. Promotion, growth and development of the sport of Ultimate, including encouragement of the Spirit of the Game.
 - a. Clinics were held on Mondays on the field hockey field for the first few weeks of the summer 2008
 - b. Held Womens clinics, run by Salty, for two months in the summer. Clinics were quite successful with 20-30 participates each week.
 - c. Juniors Clinics, run by Red Circus, held on Mondays for most of the summer. Attendance was fairly low at ~6-8 juniors but remained consistent for the summer.
 - d. Continued visits to schools for clinics, workshops and team coaching.
 - e. Continued the disc give away program, giving 10 discs to each school or community group that hosted a clinic or workshop.
 - f. Presented a workshop at the Teachers and Physical Health Educators (TAPHE) conference in the fall. Workshop filled with 30 teachers. We should attend again and bring additional resources to handout if possible.
3. Communication and information exchange within the Ultimate community in Nova Scotia and other Ultimate communities across Canada.
 - a. In November, sent Greg VanSlyke to the CUPA's League Organizers Conference in Toronto. Conference was an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas with other leagues, PSOs and CUPA. CUPA is committed to making this an annual event and growing topics and participation. Attendance in future years is recommend whenever fiscally reasonable.
 - b. Continued to use Google Docs to house meeting minutes, agendas and working documents to ease collaboration and improve Board communication
 - c. Collaborated with CUPA to create a grassroots funding model.

- d. Met with HRM and Soccer NS regarding a new indoor facility that Soccer NS is building in partnership with the HRM. 15% of the bookings are earmarked for "multi-sport" (non-soccer) use. Space will be a permanent building (not a dome) roughly the same size as the other Mainland fields.
 - e. Held a captains' round-table meeting in the winter to gather feedback and ideas for the upcoming summer league. Many new initiatives came out of the meeting and have been or are being implemented.
 - f. Updated the Summer Captains Manual
4. Management of HURL finances, personnel and equipment.
- a. 2008 registration fees remained the same.
 - b. Accepted VC Sponsorship
 - c. Explored the cost and grant options for a coop student to do some web development and decided against it due to risk, cost and administration complications of having an employee. Plan to try HURL volunteers and stipends instead.
 - d. Continued to improve our use of Quick-books and our accountant for book keeping and regular financial reporting.
 - e. Distributed equipment among board members to save on storage costs after the loss of Joe's shed.
5. Organization of the activities of HURL, including but not limited to, regional competition.
- a. The Board of directors is continuing to refine the registration and organization of league play for all members.
 - b. Summer League 2008
 - Summer league statistics are attached.
 - Conveners ran most of the day-to-day operations;
 - Held playoffs at Burnside Turf and on grass fields near Leons on Burnside Dr.
 - c. Fall League 2008
 - Fall league statistics are attached.
 - Registration was strong for mixed on Thursday and competitive/rec mixed on Tuesday.
 - Registration for womens and open league was very low. Both leagues would have been cancelled if not for last minute registration. Attendance for open fell to fewer then two full teams during the last few weeks of play. Women's league had too few people to play a full game for the last couple of weeks.
 - d. Winter League 2008/2009
 - Winter league statistics are attached.
 - Expanded to 14 teams and used Sexton Gym for an additional game.
 - e. Spring League 2008
 - Spring league statistics are attached.
 - Switched from short fields and short games to full fields and longer games with more people per team.
 - f. Catch n Release was held on the long weekend in August. Eight teams attended.

Budget

The budget prepared for the fiscal year 2009-2010 is attached.

Submitted by HURL Directors 2008 – 2009:

Greg VanSlyke (Chair), Joe Williams (Treasurer), Jazmine Hayden, Gavin Gray (Secretary),
Mike Stoddard, Stefan Furey

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