



2014 – 15 Annual Report

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 2014-2015 Board of Directors for MZU was elected at the Annual General Meeting in November, 2015. The results of the election were as follows:

- **President** | Karen Lawlor
- **VP, League** | Allan Johnson
- **VP, Finance** | Mark Young
- **VP, Communications** | Jeff Lush
- **VP, Spirit** | Michael Walter
- **Members at Large** | Alex Bill, Adam Drover, Sophie Harrington, Nick Hounsell, Rob Langridge, Chris Whittick

SPIRIT COMMITTEE

The main focus of the spirit committee this year was education and monitoring of spirit scores during games. There were also social events available to all MZU members.

A change was made to utilize a different spirit scoring system for all MZU games. Instead of the Modified WFDF which was a 16 point system MZU switched to the more standard WFDF (World Flying Disc Federation) Standard 2014 system. This uses a 20 point scale with language that made it easier for users to give a more normalized score due to language that was clearer, more concise, and less likely to lead to inflated spirit scores.

Time was also spent on education so that team captains were better able to understand what scores to submit based on their games. For instance, in the old system scores were greatly weighted to the higher end of the score curve. With better communication, and the new scoring system, MZU saw scores that better reflected the spirit of the games being played. The board also contacted teams who gave extremely high and low scores as well to better monitor the spirit level of games being played.

Often in MZU the Most Spirited Player is confused with the All-Star player. During this year, MZU implemented the selection of a Most Spirited Player and All-Star. This position can be held by the same person, or both.

Social Events

The spirit committee organized the following events in the last 12 months:

- Two MZU Loop nights
- Bowling Night at Holiday Lanes
- Open Mic Night (Annexe)
- Kick off Karaoke (Stanley's Steamer)
- Summer End Bash (Rocket Room)

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

The Communications Committee's goal this year was to optimize how we communicated with our members, and continue to raise our profile in the community. We did this through the following initiatives:

- Started a subReddit to discuss MZU business
- Valentine's Day Ultimate cards
- Attempted to organize a Guinness World Record attempt
- Shared photos of Ultimate games taken by our members
- New disc designs developed and produced
- Ultimate snap back hats
- Continued to optimize our website and email communications
- Increased 1:1 communication with our members via email and facebook
- Explored new social media channels to be implemented by the new board
- Increased dialogue with League Committee about communicating the intricacies of our leagues and rules to our members

LEAGUE COMMITTEE

This year the VP, League lead a committee to complete all activities involved in our leagues.

League	Dates	Stats	Takeaways/ Lessons Learned
Winter Toque League	January 5th to March 16 th 11 weeks Mondays	180 Players 18 Teams Techniplex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No major issues to report for Winter Toque League
Winter Build It Yourself League	March 23 rd - May 11 th 8 weeks Monday	247 players 22 teams Techniplex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved team registration process from Fall 2014, Captains now asked to express interest in playing Expansion to 11pm time slot, allowing up to 6 more teams to play in indoor build it yourself leagues Lessons learned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheduling requires continued attention to detail to balance number of 11pm games per team
Flaherty Cup League	June 1 st - Aug 29 th 12 weeks Wednesday	91 players 6 teams Southlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Split traditional Summer league into two distinct divisions, this league targeted competitive players Action item: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up meeting with Flaherty captains/players to discuss league
Capital Subaru Summer League	June 1 st - Aug 29 th 12 weeks Tuesday, Thursday	371 players 24 teams Southlands, Kitty Gaul, Brother Egan, & Bowring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Split traditional Summer league into two distinct divisions, this league targeted recreational players Some concerns with Brother Egan late in season, acquired Bowring Park field Lessons learned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to review subbing policy, with goal of maintaining competitive balance in all leagues (not just Summer league)
Summer Sorting Hat League	June 8 th to Aug 17 th 11 weeks Monday	44 Players 4 Teams Southlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> League announced in early May due to better planning with City (11 weeks vs 7 weeks) Registration as a single, no pairs accepted Lessons learned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team building simpler with no pairs allowed Our smallest league, Board should consider ways to revitalize Monday nights
Sunday Night Lights Fall Outdoor Hat League	Sept 13 th - Nov 1 st 7 Weeks Sundays	180 Players 18 Teams KGV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Switched to 3 x 55 minute time slots, expanding league to 180 players Switched to Wager rating systems, no pre-ranking Lessons learned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New times slots worked well and kept all games at same location while increasing number of players/teams compared to 2014

Fall Indoor Build It Yourself League	October	280 Players	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to interest from 26 teams, a live draft was used to decide who gained entry into league • Teams were pre-ranked at start of season and games scheduled based on Wager rating system • Lessons learned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Board to continue to work with Techniplex on field space and consider expansion to other nights/formats where possible ○ Early days, but wager system with pre-ranking seems to be working well
	5th to December 14 th	24 Teams Techniplex	
	11 weeks Monday		

ULTIMATE CANADA CONFERENCE

Three MZU board members attended the 2015 Ultimate Canada Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia from November 13th-15th, 2015. The conference brings together Leagues, Provincial Sports Organizations, Sponsors/Businesses with an Ultimate focus, and Ultimate Canada Board members with a goal of discussing and learning about programming, league administration, and athlete development. It's also a great opportunity to network with other ultimate enthusiasts from across the country. Attendance this year consisted of approximately 70 individuals representing PSOs and Leagues from British Columbia to Newfoundland and Labrador, with some representation from every province along the way.

While attending the conference, Allan Johnson (VP, League), Jeff Lush (VP, Communications), and Adam Drover (Member at Large) participated in a variety of structured professional learning sessions. This included a league based forum, where leagues from across the country convened to discuss successes and challenges with respect to field space and spirit of the game. There were also numerous presentations provided, facilitated by members of the ultimate community and the local Halifax business community. Topics for these sessions included basic governance, financial literacy, coaching athletes, developing player habits, discipline and sport, opportunities in competitive ultimate, youth in Ultimate, and engaging members via social media.

There were also opportunities throughout the weekend to engage other leagues and PSOs in informal side conversations, discussing league administration, member engagement, membership fees, implementation of specific rules and policies, and youth members. Overall, these conversations were very informative, provided new ideas that can be brought forth to the members/new board, and were an excellent networking opportunity.

There will be a formal debrief session for all members in January 2016, where Allan, Jeff, and Adam will provide details on each session they attended and brainstorm with members about potential takeaways that can be implemented within MZU.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Cash Summary | Mile Zero Ultimate
For the 12 months ended 31 October 2015

Revenue	
Registration Fees - Winter	\$28,590.00
Registration Fees - Fall	\$25,140.00
Registration Fees - Summer	\$24,280.00
Sales - Merch	\$2,245.32
UNL Fees Collected	\$15,650.00
Field Rental	\$900.00
Sponsorship	\$5,000.00
Total Revenue	\$101,805.32
Less Operating Expenses	
Field Costs - Winter	\$25,199.00
Field Costs - Fall	\$19,196.80
Field Costs - Summer	\$8,080.00
Jersey/ Merchandise	\$10,207.25
Team Supplies	\$4,539.43
Spirit Events and Programs	\$3,834.02
Communication and Advertising	\$213.00
Storage Locker	\$1,491.60
Website	\$1,280.86
Donation	\$709.00
Refunds	\$705.00
Administration	\$1,585.45
UNL Fees Remitted	\$15,650.00
Banking/ PayPal Fees	\$3,117.56
Ultimate Canada Conference	\$2,420.12
Total Operating Expenses/ Remittances	\$98,229.09
Income	\$3,576.23
Net Cash Movement	\$3,576.22
Opening Balance	\$34,851.37
Plus Net Cash Movement	\$3,576.22
Closing Balance	\$38,427.59

Financial Highlights

1. Significant investment in equipment this year. New bags and supplies were purchased.
2. New board should continue working with The City of St. John's to enhance the fields that MZU uses. Winter meetings are planned with the new board. Fields such as Bowring and Mundy Pond are potential options.
3. Continued to hold a strong balance as the Techniplex requires payment in advance.
4. Continued to grow relationships with sponsors.
5. Continued to participate in Ultimate Canada Conference and took advantage of location to maximize number of board members attended. All board members who attended have pledged to run again for the 2015-2016 MZU BoD.