



Ultimate Canada Conference



**ULTIMATE CANADA
CONFERENCE**

HALIFAX, NS | 2015

November 13th - 15th, 2015



MZU Winter BIY Indoor

Attendees from MZU:

- Adam Drover (VP Finance)
- Allan Johnson (President)
- Jeff Lush (VP Communications)

Other NL Representatives:

- Sheila Delaney (President, UNL)
- Callista Coldwell (Youth, UNL)
- Rob Langridge (President, UNL / Member at Large, MZU)





Conference Format

Friday: Hands on Session + Social

Saturday: Workshop/Presentations + Hands
on Session + Social

Sunday: Presentations

Two streams for presentations/workshops:

- Administrative
- Long Term Athlete Development



Presentation Attended

- League Forum
- Basic Governance
- Financial Literacy for NFPs
- Effects & Side Effects: Managing Player Habits
- Discipline and Sport
- Dragon's Den
- Opportunities in Competitive Ultimate
- Social Media Lab

PDF of all Presentations:

https://uc.usetopscore.com/en_ca/p/ucc2015-declared-a-success



League Forum

Field Space

- Other leagues struggle with field space too...
- Benefits/challenges of owning space
- Managing relationships with those who own space
- Use of hard court as a solution

Spirit of the Game

- Mentorship programs
- Performance bonds
- Spirit prizes



Basic Governance

- What is Governance?
 - (Structure, direct activities, etc.)
- Basic Questions
 - Why do we exist? Who do you serve? What is the plan? What are the results? Who is accountable?
- Directors duties
 - Care and loyalty, Knowledge, Manage, Fiduciary, Act in scope of authority, Skill
- Directors rights/Individual responsibility
- Directors liability/insurance



Basic Governance

MZU Takeaways:

- Ensure regular board meetings, open communication among board members
- Ensure board members understand roles and responsibilities
- Act within scope of Bylaws, Governance Structure
- Privacy/protection of personal information
- Look into:
 - Director's Insurance
 - First Aid Training for Board Members



Financial Literacy for NFPs

- Financial Statements
 - Balance Sheets
 - Income Statements
- Budgeting
- Accountants Communications
 - Notice to Reader, Review engagement, Audit
- Tax Returns
 - Harmonized Sales Tax
 - T1044 -NFP Tax Return



Financial Literacy for NFPs

MZU Takeaways:

- Work with Board/VP Finance + UNL to determine whether or not MZU:
 - o has an obligation to charge HST
 - o has an obligation to file tax returns



Effects & Side Effects: Managing Player Habits

This session was about training competitive players and keeping them motivated.

It involved examining your team's strengths and weaknesses and how to properly train to enhance your team.



Effects & Side Effects: Managing Player Habits

MZU Takeaways:

- Interesting ideas to provide more tools to Captain's to be better leaders
- Better understand the needs of competitive players from a league perspective



Discipline and Sport

- Inherent risk associated with sport:
 - “Reasonable competitor”, Intent to injure
 - Dangerous play policy, ambiguous, WFDF modifier
- Risk Management
 - Reducing risk of injury and reducing liability
- Clarity
 - Clear rule set and consequences for breaking them
 - Code of conduct
- Discipline
 - Process is fair and followed through



Discipline and Sport

MZU Takeaways

- Review Discipline Process/Code of Conduct
 - Ensure these are communicated to members
- Increase rules knowledge across membership
 - Educate/Training for Captains
 - Rules quizzes, social media, etc.



Dragon's Den

PSOs/League pitch ideas to Ultimate Canada/sponsor in search of funding

Presentations from:

- **Waterloo Organization of Disc Sports**
 - o Child/youth league, alongside adult leagues
- **Ultimate New Brunswick**
 - o Reducing costs for Jr/Sr High Tournaments
- **Saskatchewan Ultimate Players Association**
 - o Outreach program, traveling across Province



Opportunities in Competitive Ultimate

- Beach Ultimate

- o History within Canada/Maritimes
- o Festive/high spirit/refined skill set
- o Increasing popularity, opportunity for travel

- Using Touring Players to Improve Leagues

- o VUL -> Field space and bookings to Touring Teams
- o Touring Teams -> Volunteer for clinics and programs
 - § Clinics, Boot camps, Hat leagues, Mentorship program, Coaching junior



Social Media Lab

Provided an overview of ways to utilize digital channels to better reach our members

- Focused on content creation
- Utilizing members skills to create compelling content



Social Media Lab

Takeaways for MZU:

- Fortunate to have a lot of members who are tech and marketing savvy
- Lots of great photographers in the league
- Need to explore more types of content for our social channels
- Renewed focus on our website



Meetings with Other Leagues/PSOs

Excellent opportunity to network and ask other leagues/PSOs about:

- League formats/structures
- Field Space (availability, costs, etc.)
- Policies (subbing, performance bonds, etc.)
- Spirit of the Game
- Member engagement
- Challenges they face and/or have overcome...



Meetings with Other Leagues/PSOs

We talked to:

- BC Ultimate (BCU)
 - Disc Nova Scotia (DNS)
 - Halifax Ultimate (HU)
 - Manitoba Organization of Disc Sports (MODS)
 - Ottawa-Carleton Ultimate Association (OCUA)
 - Regina Ultimate Flying Disc Club (RUFDC)
 - Vancouver Ultimate League (VUL)
- + other groups more informally

Creation of Canadian Ultimate Organizers Facebook Group



Thank You

Thoughts?

Questions?

