

Ultimate NL Board Meeting - April 27, 2021

Members present:

Nick House
Kurtis Thornhill
Elias Syed
Sarah Hoddinott
Sully
Hilary Walsh
Colin Martin
Melissa Wheeler
Brandon Kilfoy
Kelly Knight
Lana Roestenberg

COVID-19 Guidelines:

- RTP guidelines still not approved; 6 PSOs approved so far
- Nick spoke to Michelle Healey (Director at Dept. of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation) and is expecting to hear back within the next few days
- Nick advises leagues to keep note of amount of costs incurred due to this delay

Contractor Agreement Template:

- Kurtis and Sarah suggested coming up with a form for 'employees' / 'contractors' (individuals that will be receiving payment from UNL in some capacity)
- Kurtis has the form posted on Trello
- Nick consulted with Steve Indig, Sport Lawyer

Ultimate NL Programming:

Sport Development

- Sully is working on contingency plans for the Women's Skills Series due to RTP not yet being approved.
- We have some additional weeks booked at the Techniplex but Sully is not a fan of postponing week-to-week (until we hear)
- There is an option to push the Series to June (lots of time available at the Techniplex) or push to the Fall (however there will be competition for field time with the member leagues). Considering many factors, it seems like the Fall might be the best time to host the Series (in conjunction with the Masters Skills Series).
- Kelly speaks up and notes that right now SOUL participants are content with the number of nights of ultimate they are getting and uptake may not be huge.

- Sully is hoping to host some clinics outdoors. Ideally throwing in the wind and offensive strategies.
 - Nick notes the times we have right now are for Saturday afternoons at Bowring Park.

Tournaments

- Elimin8s may be cancelled but we can still plan for now. It depends on the RTP guidelines being approved.

Schools

- May 8-9 Senior High Provincials is unfortunately cancelled again for this year. There hasn't yet been a decision made for Junior High Provincials.
 - Hilary requests an official Ultimate NL post stating the tournament is cancelled.
 - In the same post, Nick would like to promote upcoming youth programming. "The tournament is cancelled but we have this upcoming league..."
 - Brandon suggests we may also wish to promote Storm in the same post.
- Hilary polled coaches a few weeks ago for feedback on tournaments and the majority of the feedback for senior high coaches was that it would be challenging to get teams together, however, junior high coaches had more optimism about being able to participate in a provincial tournament.
 - School Sports not being approved for this year has made things challenging.
 - There seems to be hesitation from school administrations to allow teams to compete in this COVID climate.
- Hilary suggested that if tournaments aren't able to go ahead, maybe we could still do something for those age groups. Nick expanded on the idea and suggested mini tournaments within certain age groups (keeping to cohort sizes).
 - Hilary is working on collecting information to ensure schools would be able to compete in a modified tournament.
- If we were able to piece anything together, Hilary thinks we would have to do something by early June (due to the nature of the school year).
 - Nick would like to make a decision by Friday
- Sarah is in favour of cancelling school-related events and programming now due to the optics and would rather enhance our outdoor programming in the summer
- Sully and Kelly speak up to say they agree with Sarah, Sully is thinking we are in a tough position to play without RTP guidelines approved and Kelly notes that many parents are feeling uncertain about sports right now

Ultimate Canada Update

- Ultimate Canada Medical Working Group is working with Competition Development Committee to advise on programming for the summer (e.g. CUCs Jr, CUCs, CUUCs)

- CUC Juniors is cancelled → this impacts on Storm teams. Coaches are aware and have adjusted accordingly.
- CUCs hasn't been officially cancelled yet but will be modified; probably happen in smaller groups, less games. Options could include hosting in the Fall instead of typical August.
- No decisions have been made for CUUCs yet.

Storm Update

- Tryouts will be taking place on May 8 and May 12. Coaches are seeking volunteers to help run tryouts.
- Tryout numbers are a little lower than usual this year. Dave is wondering if Hilary can recommend a better way to reach school coaches to get the message out.
- Dave is requesting another social media post prior to tryouts taking place.
- VSC will continue to sponsor Storm, however, sponsorship will be lower without travel expenses.

Communications Update

- Lana recently posted a Volunteer Week bingo card and we had two non-Board members participate: Ben Dowden and Susan White.
 - We are going to draw for a prize offering a piece of UNL swag to the winner.
 - After spinning the prize wheel, Susan White is the winner.
- Lana is looking for new things to post.
 - Nick mentions to member leagues to let us know about summer plans for us to include in our upcoming newsletter.
 - Nick also reminds the leagues not to put up registrations for upcoming leagues until we have our 2021-22 memberships ready for purchase.

Website Update

- Nick reminds Board members to do our 'homework' to review the website and find broken links or information that needs to be added/ updated.

Outdoor Field Bookings

- Kitty Gaul June 27 - Aug 29, Sundays 12-4pm - youth program
- Bowring Park June 19, 26, Saturdays 12-2pm - youth program/ clinics
- Bowring Park June 14 10-5 - Elimin8s (potentially)
- Bowring Park June 6 - Sept. 30 Friday 5-7:30pm, Wednesday 4:30-6:00pm, Sunday 3-5pm - Storm
- The Goulds June 7-Sept. 24, Mondays 5:30-7:00, Tuesdays or Thursday 5:30-7:00 - Storm

League Updates

SOUL

- Some practices are happening at the PowerPlex, waiting for the RTP document to be approved.
- The SOUL summer league will hopefully be taking place at Bowring Park on Monday nights.

SWURL

- Parity League was set to return tomorrow (April 28), but is pushed out another week as we await the RTP guidelines to be approved.
- Summer League will be taking place at Kitty Gaul on Monday nights but details have yet to be determined.

MZU

- Winter BIY league has been cancelled due to the RTP guidelines not yet being approved.
- Instead of a league, MZU offered the time slots to teams that are interested in scrimmaging/ practicing in team cohorts.
- Toying with the idea of running a Masters League this summer (30+ and 32+ for FM and MM players)

MAUL

- Indoor play suspended until RTP guidelines have been approved
- Summer league will take place at Bowring on Mondays

Other Updates

- We have received a spreadsheet of information from Alison Fischer (IRIS coach) that could be useful for Board members (for coaching, drills, skills series, etc.)
- Sully is requesting information from us (if we have any drills or videos of drills) so she can continue to build the resource
- Still toying with the idea of creating an NL Ultimate Coaching Facebook group however we can't run it through our Ultimate NL Facebook Page, it would have to be run through an individual's personal account.