

PIE PLATE

2008



TORONTO ULTIMATE CLUB



Since 1980



Andrew Gater

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Mission of the Toronto Ultimate Club

The Toronto Ultimate Club is a not-for-profit organization that provides a quality Ultimate experience, dedicated to the integrity of the sport and the Spirit of the Game, in the greater Toronto community.



President's Message



Another great year for Toronto Ultimate has come and gone and I'd like to address some of the great things the club accomplished in 2007-2008, and some of the goals we hope to realize in 2009.

Through the hard work of the staff and volunteers, the club had some very important operational accomplishments. The club reversed a trend of a declining membership and teams, and increased the number of leagues offered in the off-season thereby delivering to members even more membership benefits. This increase in participation allowed the club to present a balanced set of financial documents at it's Annual General Meeting for the first time in several years.

One of the key reasons TUC attracted more members in 2008 was that we started offering an introductory membership. This was an extension of the off-season, pro-rated membership started in fall 2007. The goal of the introductory membership was to get people to come out and try the sport. The board expected that the more people who were exposed to Ultimate would increase the number of committed members of the club. Our club relies on members who not only enjoy playing, but also who are committed to making the Ultimate leagues and programs offered by TUC, the best ones around.

The challenge in 2009 will be for TUC to not only retain these new members. We have to, as a club, make sure that they get enough benefits from a full membership. On top of that, we have to work hard to encourage as many of them as possible will get involved in the club through volunteer and organizational roles. The current group of volunteers and staff are a fantastic group of people, and are one of the main reasons I enjoy being president of the club. Each of those people however, has demands from their non-Ultimate lives that are constantly changing. The club has to ensure that for every volunteer who has to switch their focus from Ultimate to career, studies or family, that there is an enthusiastic understudy to take their place.

While the leadership and decisions that will allow the club to reach these goals comes from the staff and board of directors, it is absolutely necessary that we hear from as many individuals as possible on what they like about the club, and what they think should be improved. Especially if they have suggestions on how to make those improvements. This input has to come from all types of members, from the veteran captain who runs 2 teams a season, to the newcomer who plays once a night in the summer.

Thanks again to everyone who contributed to a successful year for TUC and please don't hesitate to come to me with any ideas you have on how we can improve the Ultimate experience for everyone.

Andrew Hunter | president@tuc.org

Spirit Report

The summer of 2008 presented TUC with another display of overall exemplary Spirit of the Game (SOTG). The average team SOTG was 9.5 and only six teams had an overall SOTG of less than eight. A total of 23 teams scored perfect 10s, they are: Release the Hounds, Ventura Wu, El Kabong, Baby Farm, 5E, Barrel of Monkeys, Spicy Sprouts, Cheap & Easy, M.o.t.H., Flick This, Huckengruven, BerZurk, Guanxi, IMOD, COOL, BCP, Hot Cousin, Kung Fu Hustle, Delta Force, Big Tuna, Dark Force Thursday, Nickel City Slag and HazardDisc. Congrats for being our most spirited!

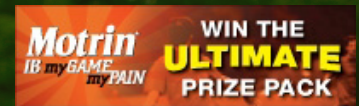
Summer 2008 also saw the initiation of our 'Spirit Pilsner' program. Courtesy of our friends at Steam Whistle Brewery, TUC was able to give away free cases of Steam Whistle beer to top-spirited teams on each evening for each five-game session.

Looking forward, TUC will continue its establishment of good SOTG practices in 2009 making a review of SOTG scoring a priority to provide the potential for greater objectivity and feedback, without detracting from the desire of captains to work within a subjective 10-point scoring scale. TUC will also continue to work to alleviate timeliness pressures and to bring new players up to speed with rules efficiently. Together, rules competency and being on-time seem to be the most significant factors of reduced SOTG, rather than sportsmanship.

Always play with SPIRIT!

Warren Foltz | spirit@tuc.org

Event Partners



Vision of the Toronto Ultimate Club

The Toronto Ultimate Club is a world-class community sport organization. We provide Ultimate leagues and programs that foster player development, social activity and community involvement. Our club is well-managed, resourceful and open to all.

Spring | Summer | Fall | Winter
Indoor, Outdoor | Men's, Women's, Co-ed

2007 Financial Report

TUC finished 2007 with a surplus of \$603. Balancing the budget is a significant achievement after the deficits experienced in both 2005 and 2006. A large reason for this success was the focused efforts of the general manager and outgoing treasurer to develop and adhere to a proper budget for the club.

Total revenue for 2007 was \$414,000, up four per cent from the preceding year. Buoyed by an expanded assortment of fall and winter offerings, league fees increased almost \$24,000 over 2006 and accounted for 64 per cent of club revenue.

Our membership numbers turned the corner in 2007 and rose slightly from our 2006 totals. However, membership revenue remained flat at \$101,000 due to the pro-rated fall/winter memberships that were introduced in 2007.

Pro-rated memberships have proven to be an effective way to increase participation (increasing league revenues) but they do not necessarily translate to increased membership revenue.

Merchandise and tournament sales decreased for the second consecutive year. This decrease was anticipated as resources were focused on higher priority initiatives.

Strong budget planning and sound fiscal spending resulted in a break-even year for the club in 2007. Field expenses increased by 14 per cent in 2007 as the club continued to provide higher quality fields for members. These costs make up 44 per cent of total expenses and are expected to break 50 per cent in 2008. Despite the increased field costs, total expenses were down three per cent as most other expenses were decreased in an attempt to focus on fields and balance the budget.

The 2007 Field Fund contributions, including accumulated interest income, totalled \$69,615. This brings the Field Fund up to \$364,000 as of December 31, 2007. The fund continues to be protected in a guaranteed, high-interest savings account.

The club's operating cash position is stronger than in 2006. As of December 31, 2007 the club had \$171,000 in the bank to fund its day-to-day operations. Progressing into 2008, several measures were taken to further streamline the budget and prepare for an exciting year. Successful strategies from 2007, such as handing out membership packages at captain meetings to save mailing costs and using of Leaguerunner to cut down on web costs, have been continued. Also, less expensive rates were secured for items such as insurance, auditing, publishing and board of directors meeting expenses.

In the fall of 2008 our membership consisted of 2,900 adults and 435 junior members and we had not yet concluded our membership drive for the fall season. Our summer season consisted of 212 teams, including 10 hat teams, and total revenues of \$150,000.

We continue to make concerted efforts to remain fiscally solvent to secure the club's long-term viability. If the success of late 2007 can be duplicated, the club will be in a strong position for second consecutive surplus in 2008.



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Cindy Patrino | treasurer@tuc.org

www.tuc.org



If sport spans language and culture gaps, then a disc goes one further. When it comes to making friends with someone from another part of this planet it seems to me that pulling out a disc is all that's needed to break the ice.

In my limited travels (Australia, S. Korea, Thailand, Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, India and N. America) I always carried

a disc with me; I had not one negative experience overseas that involved a disc and Ultimate. It's the kind of game that's all inclusive. A person can seemingly pick up a disc and immediately feel connected.

The situation unfolds differently for us all.

For me it commonly started by gesturing how to throw a backhand to a new friend and before you know it we're throwing in the streets of Manila, on the beaches of S. Korea or on the fields in front of Ankor Wat. The surge of excitement accumulates and before I knew it, there were 10, 20 or more kids all running after the disc under a Cambodian jungle sunset.

I travelled to Boracay, an island in the central Philippines, and during my first day I met locals playing disc and ended up living in a cheap bungalow on the beach and playing Ultimate every day for two months. I was also the first white guy ever to play on the Boracay team at the Asian Beach Ultimate Championships.

The greatest travelling Ultimate experience I have was one day on the coast of southwestern India on the Arabian Sea. I brought a disc down with me. My now fiancée and I got to throwing when we were almost immediately surrounded by curious onlookers.

There were about 15 to 20 guys, around 25- to 35-years-old and only one spoke English, barely. First, I taught them how to throw then I taught them how to play Ultimate by drawing a field in the sand and gesturing.

I taught them what I presume to be the three basic elements of the greatest sport ever invented: Score by catching in the endzone, if you drop the disc it changes possession and no running with the disc.

For what seemed like several hours we played. One guy always threw thumbers while a few others laid out for everything. Others eventually discovered bits of strategy and grinded it out.

In this year's Pie Plate we're featuring several short stories from TUC members who travelled to other parts of the world and took discs with them. Their stories, your stories and mine are testament that simply pulling out a disc makes friends and bridges almost any age, culture, or language gap.

Peace and Ultimate.

Nate Habermeyer
Editor-In-Chief



Soft Choice Cares

“African Child in Need” is a home for street kids in Uganda, Africa that have been orphaned due to the AIDS epidemic. Uganda has had the highest rate of HIV infection for over two decades, as a result many kids are left homeless on the streets. This centre was set up by one man, who has dedicated his life to help give a home to these kids and it runs completely on donations. During my two-week volunteer time at this centre, thanks to the donation from TUC, I was able to teach the kids to play Ultimate!

Most of them had never seen a disc so it was really starting from the basics...like simply how to hold a disc. Many times it got thrown upside down! Practically all didn't speak any English, so I used a stick and the dirt field to show them how to play, before we knew it we had a game going! I must admit it was probably one of the games that had the most running around as discs were usually thrown without much control. But before we knew it, people were diving everywhere to catch them and quite a few points were scored by both sides. The next day I arrived, everyone wanted to head out to throw the discs again. Maybe we can expect a Ugandan Ultimate team at the next worlds!

We also distributed some discs to other kids in a variety of villages around Uganda. Most have no idea what to do with the disc when they get it, however after a few demonstrations they're showing off to other kids.

Thanks TUC for the donation! To learn more about the trip: www.softchoicecares.blogspot.com.

Melissa Quinn

Ultimate in the Grand Cayman Islands

In March 2008 my wife and I visited some friends in the beautiful Cayman Islands. After a few days of snorkeling and beach lounging we could no longer resist the urge to play Ultimate. Our host said he'd round up some friends and we'd figure we would have some fun throwing a disc amongst a few people.

We were surprised to discover we had enough for two teams! Ex-pats from Canada, Denmark, Germany, India, Jamaica and the Philippines, along with native Caymans joined in the fun and learned the game for the first time. We held a brief clinic along with our TUC friend Leslie Spence (who was teaching there at the time) and then lined up.



The result was possibly the first-ever locally organized Ultimate game on the Cayman Islands! We heard later there were a few more games after we left, perhaps my friend should start the GCUC (Grand Cayman Ultimate Club).

Jason Robinson | gm@tuc.org

6 Mexico Story

About six of us, who are members of TUC, went down to Tijuana, Mexico as part of a Christian organization (www.mexicocaravanministries.com) to volunteer as missions workers to share God's compassion and love by building houses for underprivileged families and sharing the Gospel. Jason Robinson was nice enough to donate a bunch of discs so we can give to the kids to play with. Although introducing Ultimate to them had crossed our minds, the conditions and language barrier proved difficult. As a result, we distributed the discs and demonstrated how to throw. The kids, having never seen a disc, not to mention thrown one, seemed to thoroughly amused with this new toy and definitely had fun learning to throw it. Thank you Jason and TUC for your generosity!

Jim Hui

Changing the World, One Flick at a Time

In the centre of a busy intersection in Ahmedabad, India, on an isolated island consistently deluged by autorickshaws, motorcycles, buses, cars and the occasional camel-drawn cart, stands a statue of Gandhi, dressed only in loose robes, glasses, and a walking stick, taking the first steps on march to the ocean that would lead to the end of the British empire. Most striking about the statue is Gandhi's evident frailty at the start of his pilgrimage: hope, it seems to proclaim, is about the immeasurable strength drawn from within.

I pass by the statue each day on my way to the office of the American non-governmental organization that has challenged me to foster the growth of Ultimate in the city. How we do this is often more interesting than why: on some days I visit government agencies and local universities to negotiate for field space. On others, I take a stack of discs and visit the dirty sandlot of a local slum, teaching young kids to throw forehands that arc around cow patties and wayward rickshaws.

One day practice is cancelled because a wedding has usurped our space, we leave the discs in the bag and join in on the fervent dancing that runs well into the night. Of course Ultimate doesn't solve the battle against poverty, class discrimination, food shortage or women's rights. But for those questions, there are no easy answers. Instead, we think about ways to reinforce our positive values. Our position is that a strong, just society is represented in the way its citizens play together, challenge accepted social dogma and exercise their creativity. By cultivating ideas of fair play, personal empowerment, activity and fun, Ultimate represents a model for our ideal society – and its novelty provides a unique opportunity to discuss change in an environment that's both fun and free of stigma.

The effectiveness of that change is a topic of constant debate around our office and we remind ourselves that people and societies don't reinvent themselves overnight. We have great moments: a teenage girl tells us that she's learning "that she could play with the boys"; a team of boys use a player's ACL injury to draw closer to one another.



We have low moments too, when I resort to reading Gandhi. "Nearly everything you do is of no importance," he reminds me. "But it is important that you do it."

Why it's important becomes clear when a young girl living on the street in front of our office – fully blind in one eye, losing sight in the other – changes my perspective. She asks my colleague one night as we wait together for the bus ride home, "Does he speak Gujarati?"

When she learns that I don't, she thinks for another second and asks, "Does he speak Hindi?"

Again, my colleague says no. She thinks again and asks, "Well, does his mother speak Hindi?"

As she wanders away wondering what a non-communicative person could possibly offer to her, bad sight and all, I understand that my real role in India is to act as an example of how life could be conceived differently. By simply being me – by being the change I wish to see – I can inspire wonder, consideration, risk-taking and perhaps even love. Becoming aware of that power within me and within all of us uncovers a seemingly bottomless reserve of hope; every day after that becomes easier and more rewarding. And that's how Ultimate can change the world.

Nairobi Adventures

Our trip basically started off in Nairobi, where after landing and getting through customs and being in the country for a whole 30 minutes, the first disaster of the trip struck: my bags never appeared on the carousel. Other bags came around but my bags were no where to be seen. For any other trip, it wouldn't have that big of a deal, but I kind of needed the stuff in my bags in order to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro. After panicking a little bit, I went over to the lost luggage desk. This being technologically challenged Africa, the airport wasn't equipped to simply scan a tag, or enter a number, into a computer to tell me where my bags could be. They were gone, plain and simple.



After about 30 to 40 minutes, defeat kicked in, we gave up and started our way out of the terminal to meet up with a friend. That's one someone suggested I should take a look at the other carousel where another flight from London just landed. Thinking that would never work, I walked over and lo and behold, there was my pack and big duffel bag of donations! It turns out, when another friend and I checked in for our flights here in Toronto, our tags got switched on our bags. Because we were on different connecting flights out of London, our bags got split up too!

From there we hopped on a large van and headed to Njagaa Child Hope orphanage about an hour and a half away in a small town called Kirengero near Nakuru. Spending a day and a half here was definitely an eye-opening experience. The 50 or more kids (who ranged from 4-15 years old) lived in very spartan conditions and with so little possessions. Even though, they were the happiest, most sincere kids ever. They love foreign visitors and volunteers, not because visitors usually come bearing gifts and stuff to fix things, but because they generally love everyone.

Once we pulled up, all the kids basically swarmed us to say hello and were so excited to show us around the place. They are one big happy family and all the kids help out around the orphanage and look out for one another. At no point, did we see any of the kids fight, get angry or upset. They were happy 100 per cent of the time. During this happy time, we spent most of it playing with the kids, but we also had a chance to lose a race with a 12-year-old Kenyan, stand on the Equator, visit their school and even took part in one of their daily chores: getting water.



The orphanage doesn't have running water, or a working well. As a result, the kids have to take a bunch of buckets and water cans to hike down a rocky, dirt path for about 10 minutes to a small stream in order to collect water for the day. This was NOT an easy task. Leaving the orphanage after spending just over a day there was tough and I can see how a longer stay as a volunteer would definitely create a strong bond between you and the kids that it would be near impossible to leave.

After a long 13 or more hour bus ride to Mwanza, we ended up in a friend's current hood. We had a couple of days to relax here before starting our safari and Kilimanjaro adventures. On one of the days, we visited the Watotowa Africa orphanage and the story here was very similar to the story in Kenya: lots of great kids living in not-so-great conditions. And like the Kenyan orphanage, when we distributed out all of your generous donations, it was like Christmas for all the kids! Everyone got new outfits, new toys and a fresh supply of medical supplies.

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Then we headed to nature's zoo, the safari where wild animals roam free. Two days was spent travelling through the Serengeti and the third was spent driving through the Ngorongoro Crater. We managed to see a TON of different animals, but didn't see any leopards, which are apparently pretty rare to see.

Next was Kilimanjaro. An arduous six-day hike ending with a grueling climb to the summit. So, what do you do after six days of ridiculous hiking? You go to Zanzibar for a week to lie on the beach do nothing. We originally planned to do some more travelling through Kenya, but got lazy and decided to stick around on the island until our trip had to end. Definitely not a bad decision.

Baron Lam

IF YOU CAN DRAW IT,
WE CAN MAKE IT.

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GOAT



PHOTOS BY ERIN CHIPP



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Scally's Cup TUC All-Star Challenge

Monday Competitive All-Star Team

Chee Chan	4D
Merrick Anderson	Breakfast of Champions
Ian Lee	Breakfast of Champions
Andrew Hui	Flick Fu
Mathew Harder	Oxygen Hazard
Adrian Yearwood	Yoink
Bonnie Lee	Breakfast of Champions
Meg McNally	El Kabong
Natalie Wong	Release the Hounds
Susan Holland	Ventura Wu

Monday Intermediate All-Star Team

Russel Douglas	The Doom Song
Tom Walsh	CSI
Mike Cole	Huckstables
Peter Hawkings	Huckstables
Greg Sheldrake	CSI
Mike Pezzack	Drastic Plastic
Christopher Winters	Krabs
Edelyne Tan	Drastic Plastic
Rachel Gary	Krabs
Aline Bakhmian	Grill

Tuesday Competitive All-Star Team

Grant Sernick	Lounge Lizards
James Maynard	JIVE
Peter Stewart	Disc Of Fury
Cam Daye-Trottier	Disc Of Fury
Mark Peros	Spinning Mules
Jamie Dempster	JIVE
Alison Porter	MOTH
Bonnie Crews	MOTH
Akos Nsiah-Yeobah	Natural Born Flickers
Erin Dempster	JIVE

Wednesday Competitive All-Star Team

Brent Jackson	Aerosol Headcheese
Ian Brooks	Comic
Norman Farb	Disciples Of Love
Derek Sigurdson	IMOD
Peter Dixon	PHAT Elvis
Mark Agius	Redi
Rob Wendolowski	Rumblefish
Paul Dakin	Rump Roast
Leanne Herbst	Rumblefish
Shiovean Woods	Disciples Of Love
Stacie Smith	Big Hammers
Kaitlyn Lovatt	Redi
Hilda AhChong	Rump Roast
Polly Yung	Disciples Of Love



Tuesday Intermediate All-Star Team

Manny Maravelias	Chuck Norris
Bill Wong	Dark Force
Brooks Johnson	Turf Berzerkers
Jason Chan	DiscOriented
Aaron Hooper	Red Handed
Dean Brown	Westhat United
Janeen Auld	The IMFC
Susintha Wanigaratne	Buzz Killington
Linda Lattner	Floppy discs
Winnie Chan	Tofurious
Kathryn Stelmack	Turf Berzerkers
Melissa Cabillan	Westhat United

Wednesday Intermediate All-Star Team

Eddy Lee	Beerwolf
Hin Tang	Throw Les Vaches
Andrew Hunter	Ninjastars
Greg Schmidt	Throw Les Vaches
Kaoru Kumabe	Throw Les Vaches
William Porper	Throw les Vaches
Ed Kung	N/A
Marnie Sit	Chunderheads
Ann Chow	Throw Les Vaches
Stephanie Salerno	PMD
Alison Davies	Throw Les Vaches
Kim Yae	Effed Up
Megan Lee	Le Frisbee Team

Scally's Cup TUC All-Star Challenge

Thursday Competitive All-Star Team

John McArton	gOLDFISH
Kevin Vigar	Sticky Fingers
Ryan Adams	Sticky Fingers
JA Baines	Swingers
Jason Robinson	Thundercats
Richard Krueger	RAID
Wes Rupel	Allegro
Jim Hui	Hammered Toes
Karrie Van Belle	gOLDFISH
Jennifer Evans	Ultimate Pretzel Benders
Holly Dobney	Swingers
Jessica Park	Sticky Fingers
Krystyne Rusek	Allegro

Thursday Intermediate All-Star Team

Jason Tomassini	Dark Force
Jeff Woods	Dark Force
Craig Stephen	Hazardisc
Dave Hunter	Hustle
James MacMillan	Lions and Tigers and Bears
Andrew Portwine	Obnoxious Yellow
Mike Daly	Once Hucked Twice Laid
Michael Minuck	Thundercats
Zac Selskey	Thundercats
Christie Nash	Extra Bacon
Jen Franklin	Hustle
Erica Cheah	Obnoxious Yellow
Cindy Jaques	Once Hucked Twice Laid
Olivia Chung	Spaceballs
Jaime Robinson	Thundercats



Ed Kung

Monday Competitive



Tuesday Intermediate

On September 14, TUC hosted the first annual Scally's Cup All-Star Challenge at BMO Field. Throughout the summer, captains nominated opposing players from their league games and from these nominations All-Star teams were formed in both competitive and intermediate divisions. It was a perfect day as eight All-Star teams showcased their skills and grinded it out for some sweet prizes and their name on the Scally's Cup!

Congratulations go out to the Monday Night Competitive team that won the Scally's Cup. The team won discs from Scallywags as well as \$40 Scally's Dollars each. The opposing team chose Meg McNally to receive the Spirit MVP award. She took home a dog-sledding adventure prize courtesy of www.borealjourneys.com and a bottle of champagne from Scallywags.

The Tuesday Night team won the intermediate division and their choice of Daredevil discs. Aaron Hooper was awarded intermediate MVP and took home a bottle of wine, a shirt and a DVD from Scallywags.

Jason Robinson | gm@tuc.org

Winter League Champions



Redi, Monday Elite League Champs
(summer pictured)



Release The Hounds, Monday Competitive Champs



Diggers, Women's League Champs



Mr. Men, Men's League Champs



Allegro, Monday Intermediate Champs



Ninjastars, Tuesday Intermediate Champs



Udder Threats, Thursday Competitive Champs



Beefeater, Thursday Intermediate Champs

Summer League Champions



YOINK, Monday League Champs



Bill Wong
Chiefs, Monday Intermediate Champs



Fisheye, Tuesday League Champs



JIVE, Tuesday Intermediate Champs



Redi, Wednesday League Champs



Chunderheads, Wednesday Intermediate Champs



Ed Kung
The Swingers, Thursday League Champs



Ed Kung
Thundercats, Thursday Intermediate Champs

Spirit Hat Tournament 2008

On May 31 TUC hosted its first annual Spirit Hat Tournament. This new event is part of the club's strategy to improve Spirit of the Game (SOTG) league-wide and further embrace Spirit as a vital part of our sport.

The day at Sunnybrook Park was a resounding success. Over 80 members participated, some new to the game, others experienced. In the morning we held clinic sessions where we broke off into group discussions led by experienced players. They discussed strategies to play with Spirit and then demonstrated how by roleplaying common scenarios during play. By showing both good and bad Spirit in these situations, participants were able to easily identify the differences between the two and learned something they could share with their fellow teammates.

One big thing discussed is that it's not often the foul call or the contact that initiates poor Spirit, but rather the manner in which the contest or a foul is called.

How you behave (calmly vs. aggressively) can mean the difference between good and bad Spirit. After the clinic sessions we broke off into Ultimate games that included alphabetized teams (Steve passes to Steve... who passes to another Steve!) and some light-hearted activities (catching with boxing gloves, opposite-hand points, etc). It was the perfect balance of competitive Ultimate and good sportsmanship. There were lots of Spirit games as well along with a yummy BBQ and prizes from our Spirit sponsor Steam Whistle Pilsner.

The Spirit Hat Tournament will be back in 2009 and we hope to see lots of people next year. Whether you are a newer or older player, we recommend that you attend to help foster a sense of community and support. We hope you will also recruit your fellow players (including those who need our help with Spirit!) to join in the event as well. Remember, Spirit above all else!

Jason Robinson | gm@tuc.org

Spirit Winners 2008

Steam Whistle Spirit of the Game!

In 2008, top spirited teams receive prizing courtesy of our friends at Steam Whistle Brewery. Congratulations to the following summer teams who were the winners of a free case of Steam Whistle beer!

Summer League 08 - Weeks 1-5:

- Monday League: Poo
- Tuesday League: M.o.t.H.
- Wednesday League: Big Kahunas
- Thursday League: LC

Summer League 08 - Weeks 6-11:

- Monday League: El Kabong
- Tuesday League: ELEVEN
- Wednesday League: Kung Fu Hustle
- Thursday League: Ultimate Pretzel Benders

Summer League 08 - Weeks 12-16:

- Monday League: SPIN
- Tuesday League: The New Guy
- Wednesday League: IMOD
- Thursday League: RAID





Andrew Gater

Core Values of the Toronto Ultimate Club

Integrity

We believe in fairness, honesty and consistency in our decision-making and communications.

Respect

We honour and trust our members and seek to understand their needs. We value teamwork and appreciate our volunteers and supporters.

Accountability

We deliver on our promises and never make the same mistake twice. We willingly accept the responsibility that we have to our members.

Excellence

We set high standards of achievement and service. We strive for exceptional leadership in management, in communications and in education for our members.

Citizenship

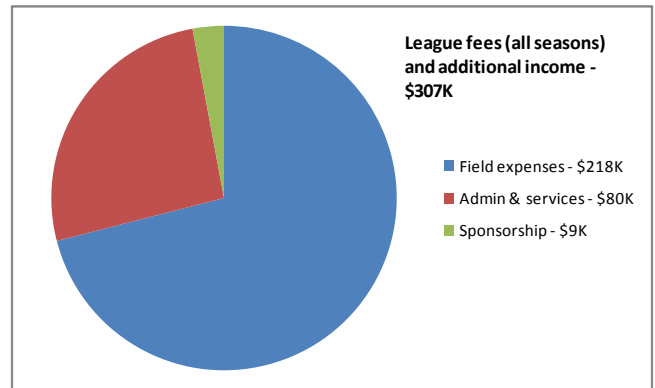
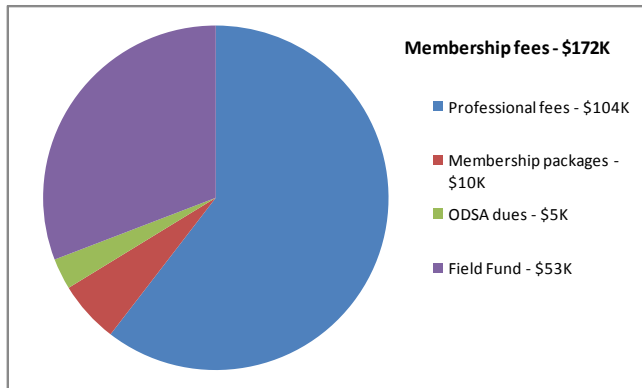
We are privileged to play Ultimate in Toronto and we reciprocate this honour through stewardship in the community. We welcome all residents and visitors to be a part of our success.

Fun

Our Ultimate belief is enjoyment of the sport. We uphold the 'Spirit of the Game' and endorse an environment that nurtures cooperation and sportsmanship.

Where Does Our Money Go?

As a TUC member you may be wondering how your membership and league fees are allocated. The Toronto Ultimate Club is a not-for-profit organization that aspires to achieve a zero-balance budget each year. Below is a basic outline of how our fees are divided to reach this goal. The numbers provided are based on 2007/2008 estimates.



Membership Fees – approx. \$172,000

League Fees & Additional Income - \$307,000 (all seasonal leagues)

*Taxes not deducted from these totals.

The majority of our membership revenue goes towards professional fees which translate to member service! Also \$25 from each regular adult membership contributes to the TUC Fields Fund.

The purpose of the Fields Fund is to accumulate capital for future use to acquire, develop, maintain, improve and otherwise support the club's ability to obtain quality playing fields. The bulk of league revenue is allocated to our number one league priority – fields!

Administration and services account for things like office rent and utilities, tournament expenses, publications and member insurance. Sponsorship includes our support of junior development and touring teams.

Have any questions about where the money goes? Email treasurer@tuc.org.

Jason Robinson | gm@tuc.org

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Fall League Champions



Abunai, Sunday Fall Co-Ed Champs



I'm Batman, Monday Fall Co-Ed Champs



Baba Looley, Tuesday Fall Co-Ed Champs



Team White, Men's Fall League Champs

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DIRT began in 1998 when I introduced Ultimate Frisbee to my grade seven class. Two years later, when my students were graduating from elementary school, some parents approached me and asked where to enroll their kids so that they could continue playing Ultimate. At that time there was nothing for them in our area, so I agreed to keep coaching them weekly, and we began playing in some of the TUC tournaments. At this stage, we went two years without winning a game.

In order to have an opportunity to play against their own age group, I began taking the team to tournaments in Winnipeg, Seattle and Wisconsin.

In 2002 I was assistant coach for the Canadian junior women's team at the World Championships in Riga, Latvia. This was the year DIRT began attending Canadian Ultimate Championships (CUC). In 2002 we scored fewer than 20 points the entire tournament, but won the SOTG trophy.

Since 2004 DIRT has competed at every CUC with its best season in 2007 when they lost only one game to one juniors team all season.

Unfortunately, it was the one point loss to the BC juniors in the finals of Nationals in Toronto. Building a competitive juniors team in Toronto has its challenges because the city is so large and many teenagers go away to camps and cottages during July and August, which makes scheduling practices difficult.

In the spring I begin building the team each year. I send an email to the high school coaches asking them to encourage their players to attend tryouts. I also attend as many high school tournaments as possible. I spend the day watching games, talking to teams, coaches and approaching the strongest players at each high school to invite them to tryouts.

In 2002, when I began working with the national juniors team there were no players from Toronto who even tried out. I was very proud this past summer that we had 14 players from the GTA try out for Team Canada. Four boys and three girls made the team! We also have a number of DIRT Alumni playing on Open and Women's touring teams like Goat, GT and Lotus.

The most rewarding part of coaching juniors comes when I attend the high school tournaments recruiting for the next group of DIRT players and I see current DIRT team members leading their high school teams.

Working with the Toronto juniors has been a very rewarding experience. I have met some amazing teenagers, whom I look forward to meeting again as adults. It is my hope these players will one day reflect on the opportunity to play juniors Ultimate that TUC has helped facilitate and that they will choose to volunteer their time to coach the next group of juniors.

Teresa Pollett-Boyle

The Toronto-region juniors team, DIRT, has been the flocking ground of the best juniors in the GTA for years. This year was no exception, and with a strong second place at the 2007 Nationals in Toronto under their belt, expectations were high. Consistently coached by Teresa Pollett-Boyle, as well as TUC's very own Ian Brooks this year, DIRT takes the very best of the high school players and turns them into a fiercely competitive and tightly bonded team each summer.



With the high school Ultimate season ending as late as June, very little time is left to transform a group of individually spectacular players into a cohesive team. This is made harder by the high turnover rate found on juniors teams.

Although some may consider the short timeframe a disadvantage, it usually serves as motivation for the team during training weeks, tournaments and barbecues to get to know each other. It also translates into more surprise bids and skills from players who you wouldn't expect them from.

Any Ultimate team generally becomes fairly closely knit – an extended family per se. This is particularly true with juniors as most can commit often more time than adults with jobs and summer obligations. However, the time always comes when we have to move on – some to university teams, others back to high school. The transition from juniors to Mixed, Women's or Open teams is an interesting one, one much more defined by age than ability.

There is no doubt in my mind that some DIRT players could have thrived on adult teams just as much as in juniors. Players leave DIRT with many valuable assets, from knowledge and experience on the field to a mature sense of sportsmanship both on and off the field.

The transition is also made easier at a mixed, juniors-adult Nationals, familiarizing the players with each other, as well as giving juniors the chance to see their older, former teammates and opponents play on premiere Canadian teams. The competitive nature of touring teams maybe seen as a dangerous thing to expose younger players to, they may disregard the essential Spirit of the Game. However, juniors touring teams tend to have older juniors by nature. As well, the competitiveness pushes you to your limits as an individual.

Just as it is an important component of innovation, competition improves individuals with regard to their physical fitness, emotional stamina and social maturity. It is indeed an integral part of growth, being especially true with younger individuals looking to challenge themselves and channel their ambitions. If nothing else, competition at that level teaches important qualities such as dedication and perseverance.

This year's Nationals saw DIRT show their dedication and perseverance by placing third, a good standing during the team's building year and with the large number of high-calibre teams in this Worlds' year. DIRT found particular hope in MOFO's 1st place finish, in what could be described as an upset against B.C.'s Crossfire. DIRT's showing against MOFO proved that first place is all but unattainable for next year's team.

Sincere thanks must be given to the Scanlon family who provided sideline support and "cow-belling" until the end. For Teresa and Ian, your leadership and guidance has been invaluable. For those players moving on to bigger and better things, best of luck and see you on the field. For those returning players, get ready to rock Winnipeg next year and claim the top spot. The time has come! What time is it? Time to get DIRT-y! Hoorah!

“Any Ultimate team generally becomes fairly closely knit - an extended family per se.”

Kay Dyson Tam

Kay has travelled to Nationals the last three years with DIRT and FLICK OFF. She has moved out to Victoria, B.C. for school this fall and looks forward to B.C. Ultimate.

Game Faces





Photos by Andrew Gater

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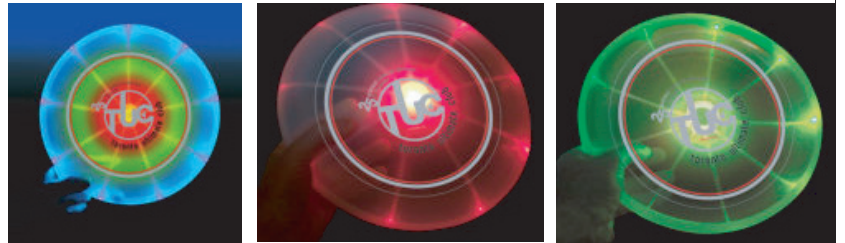
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