

**Meeting
Board Attendance**

Meeting was called to order at 7:10pm
Art Hawkins, Mercedes Hayduk, Iain Lancaster (Vice President),
Jenny Motkaluk (Treasurer), Jenna Newman (President), Mo Nguyen
(Secretary)

Absent with Regrets

David "Speedo" Savory

Staff Attendance

Jeff Malmgren, Dan Reeve

Membership Attendance

34 members in attendance, 15 proxies, total of 49 votes

Majority is 25 votes.

Meeting chaired by Jenna Newman, President, VULS Board of Directors

Previous Minutes

Motion: To accept the November 21st, 2006 AGM minutes.

Moved By: Geoff Bell

Seconded By: Kathryn Wood

All in favor. Motion passed.

President's Report

Jenna reports that the league's major development was the two-staff model. This past year, the Women In Ultimate program expanded and the youth partnership with MoreSport was enhanced. There was the introduction of Ultimate Day in Vancouver, which was a great success, as well as the introduction to the single header leagues in both Summer and Fall. The VUL's vision was solidified and that along with a new website, the VULS will be getting a new logo as well. She also reports that there was a survey distributed to the membership, which received 880 responses. During the winter planning session, the new board will include the survey results to plan for the new year. Finally, Jenna reminds the membership that the hiring of new staff and managing the transition will be the biggest concern for the VULS in the new year.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Hiring Committee

Iain reports that the committee was dormant until August, when they revived to look at and review both job descriptions. With the application deadline for the league coordinator role on November 15th, 2007, Iain reports that the interview process will begin shortly after. He states that the new LC contract will begin in January and the new ED contract will begin in February. Ideally, he says, the LC role will be a 24 month contract while the ED role will be a 15 month contract.

Vision Committee

Jenny reports that at the January planning session, the Board decided to strike a committee in order to articulate the VULS' core values and vision. This was done in order to make it a guide for incoming members and to help illustrate the VULS' values and vision. These core values and vision was accepted by the membership and the Board voted to accept these.

Governance Committee

Mercedes reports that at the January planning session, the Board also decided to strike a committee to develop documentation and identify policy needs that would support the VULS' organizational infrastructure. This year, the committee created two documents: a guide to the role of the board, and a board members' code of conduct. In conjunction with the treasurer, documentation for expenses and reimbursements were formalized. The existing interim touring team policy was ratified.

Youth & Risk Management Committee

On behalf of David, Jenna reports that the committee liased with Jeff regarding existing youth outreach initiatives. The committee worked with MoreSports and William Arlotta to further promote youth ultimate. No specific work was done on the issue of formalizing youth or risk management policies.

Volunteer Committee

Mo reports that the volunteer committee initiated a volunteer database to list current and potential volunteers that have helped in the VULS. This list also contains the variety of events that members can get involved in during the year. She reports that in the coming year, the committee will focus on making this list more complete and reminds the membership to get involved and sign up to volunteer at events.

Spirit Committee

Art reports that Laurel Stroppa died during the previous weekend after a courageous fight against cancer. He states that the memorial service will be held on Sunday (November 25th, 2007). More will be posted on the Announcements section on the forum. Art reports over the summer, the spirit committee encouraged captains and members to donate blood to Canadian Blood Services. He hopes that next summer they will make the same initiative. In regards to team spirit, after Ultimate Day in Vancouver, there were suggestions posted on the forum in regards to team spirit and rules. He also states that this past June, there was a UPA Observers Clinic that now made it so that Vancouver has 7 certified observers. Art would like to recognize that during the Big Clinic in June, Jeremy Keating helped facilitate a rules clinic since rules took a bigger precedent this year due to the new 11th Edition rules.

Motion: To accept the committee reports.

Moved By: Justin McMillan

Seconded By: Josh Ellwood

All in favor. Motion passed.

Questions for Committees

Q: **Kathryn Wood** – Both the Governance and Vision committees were new this year; will they return or be ongoing next year?

A: **Jenna** - The Governance committee will likely continue to next year, though the Vision committee may not.

Q: **Kathryn Wood** - Will the current Board select a new League Coordinator and Executive Director?

A: **Jenna** - The new Board will approve both hirings, with recommendations from Jeff and the hiring committee.

Q: **Craig Woods** - Will the committee reports will be posted online?

A: **Jeff** - Yes, they will be available online.

Q: **Steve Remedios** - What does the Youth and Risk Management committee refer to? Also, there was some discussion on the forum about spirit, what was this about?

A: **Jeff** – The committee refers to how the VULS deals with liability and risk surrounding youths and potential youths in an adult environment.

Art – There has been in the past concerns regarding spirit with some teams, and the spirit committee has reviewed those situations; this hasn't been required recently. Now, there is discussion on how to get women more involved in play and how to better involve everybody in strategy and different levels of play.

Q: **Justin McMillan** – How much overlap will there be with the new Board and the League Coordinator? Will Jeff be there to ease the transition?

A: **Jenna** – Yes, there will be overlap and the Board and current staff will work to smooth the transition period.

Jeff – The need for overlap isn't that significant due to the fact that the LC role is more about day-to-day operations and less about long-range decisions.

STAFF REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

Jeff reports that sponsorship expanded this year, with R&B becoming a stronger participant, setting up special discounts for VULS members at local restaurants that serve R&B. The VULS moved into new office and storage space, both entirely sponsored by GAIA, which further strengthens the positive GAIA/VULS relationship. Jeff reports that the new website and its development started off slow but once the designers set the system, progress has been steady. The new website will be up and running soon, and will be easier to develop in the future, in response to future needs and membership input.

Jeff states that the Board each year has done a 2-day retreat at the beginning of the year and this has been a tremendous tool for the Board. Many on-going programs have moved to the ED role, such as mentorship (still growing and very strong), bursary and grants (more outreach and applicants this year), Women In Ultimate (recognition goes to both Gina Hopper and Eva Cham who worked hard on it this year), and the Parks Board Partnership.

Jeff reports that this year there were new programs added to the ED role, such as VUL Sustainability, Ultimate Day in Vancouver (which 450 people participated in this year), and MoreSport (which ran an after school program that had 80 kids and 5 Britannia players as volunteers – this was a huge success and MoreSport is looking to make this city-wide).

In regards to external affiliations, Jeff is still the president of Field Sports Federation and he reports that he is one of two BC members

on the CUPA Board (Mark Moran is the second). As well, he is still involved with VACnet (Vancouver Active Communities Network), whose mandate is to increase sport activities in communities.

As this is his last AGM as staff, Jeff would like to thank current and past boards, as well as the membership, for everything. The Executive Director's Report is attached.

League Coordinator's Report

Dan reports that Winter Hat League ran about the same size as past years (24 teams). The Summer League ran at maximum capacity, and of the four nights, three nights ran at 60 teams. Wednesday night ran at 58 teams. This year, due to the rise of high school teams, the Summer League grew by 12 teams. Veteran teams have not been playing as much (or have stopped completely). He states that the events were all well attended. The clinics were very successful as the development of C players have been vital to growing the A league. The social events also ran well.

Due to the strike, the Fall League ran with a few problems, though 112 teams played. The VULS added a Single Header League division (8 teams in the summer, 6 in the fall). Ideally this division could grow to better offer a range of levels of play. Dan reports that in the fall the VULS was the only league that was running (due to the strike, other leagues did not run). Dan would like to recognize that the captains did a good job negotiating usage on fields, especially with lack of permits. Due to the strike, the only thing that didn't run was the Fall clinic series. The League Coordinator's Report is attached.

Questions for the Staff

Q: Steve Remedios – Jeff, is part of your job passing on all your external relationships to the next person?

A: Jeff – There is a new ED for the Field Sports Federation, and he currently does not know if he will sit on the Board. He has already committed to two years to the CUPA Board, so he will continue to sit on it. He states that his role will be to introduce the new VULS' ED to people he has current relationships with in hopes that they will continue to cultivate those relationships.

2006-2007 Financial Statements

Jenny reports that this year was the first year that the VULS hired an accountant. He brought all VULS tax filings up to date, and now does the monthly bookkeeping and generates the financial statements. She reports that the VULS has switched to Vancity this year as it better represents the philosophy and vision of the VULS, as well as the league was able to negotiate better interest rates and lower banking fees. The Staff and Board also got credit cards this year, which will make it easier to track and manage expenses by both. She reports that the Capital Projects Fund has \$409,000 and the VULS will have the opportunity to get involved in possible capital opportunities as they are presented to the league. In regards to expenditures, there are more HR costs due to the addition of more staff, and both the website development and the accountant costs represented changes from last year. The Financial Statements are attached.

Questions Regarding Financial Statements

Q: **Mark Moran** – Looking at short term investments, why is the money in another account instead?

A: **Jeff** – Rather than putting the money into a short term investments account, it is left in this current account in order to gather higher interest.

Q: **Craig Woods** – If the team registration was the same, why is there a difference between this year and last year's revenue?

A: **Jeff** – There is a difference because of lower individual registrations.

Q: **Geoff Bell** – Were Fall League fees less or more this year?

A: **Jeff** – The Fall League revenues are lower this year because there were fewer teams this year. There was also a shift in the breakdown made between the membership fees (increased) and the league fees (decreased).

Q: **Justin McMillan** – What was the purpose of changing the cost to VULS fees? Is this something that may change every year?

A: **Jeff** – The fees are looked at every year, so it depends. The League Fees are the costs of running the league, while the Membership Fees are the cost of running the society.

Q: **Steve Remedios** – The current balance in the Capital Projects Fund is \$409,000, how much was added this year?

A: **Jenny** – There is a balance that was transferred from the Fields Levy, which was about \$45,000.

Q: **Eva Cham** – Did UBC costs go up this year, and regarding the field strike, did these expenses go up? What is the difference in Park Board and School Board fields? Are Vancouver School Board fields allocated separately?

A: **Jeff** – Yes, the League used more UBC fields this year. There were some events that were cancelled last year, which is why there are more expenses this year. The VULS has not been billed for the Park Board fields yet. The League pays the same for both VSB and Parks Board fields, but gets less VSB fields. The League doesn't get many VSB fields, but is looking to continue to grow this number. The VSB are allocated separately.

Q: **Mark Moran** – What was the nature for the \$45,000 increase?

A: **Jeff** – It had gone into untraceable accounts payable. When it was found, it was then put into the Capital Projects Fund account.

Motion: To accept the 2006-2007 Financial Statements.

Moved By: Alan Baggish

Seconded By: Sheldon Frankin

All in favor. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS Partnership in Parks

Jeff reports that these initiatives have been ongoing for the past few

Progress

years. In September 2008, at W. 37th and Oak Street, the first real ultimate field in Vancouver will open. As well, Columbia will be resurfaced on the south side, making the field all one level, and hopefully making the field playable by fall 2008. Jeff reports that the VULS will trade two Tisdall fields for the lower field at Winona. The VULS will pay to have the baseball diamond taken out and then have the field levelled. This work will be done in the spring, so in the fall the VULS will have priority on Winona, which by then will be a 6 field ultimate facility.

Jeff reports that in regards to the Field Levy, he is actively looking at partnership opportunities with non-governmental and private sectors. The likelihood is that these partnerships will be for artificial turf, which will further push the League into the future. Jeff reports that the steps that the League takes in being involved with Field Sports Federation and MoreSport is important in pushing ultimate out into the community and going out to get fields developed for ultimate use.

Questions on Old Business

Q: Scott Ferris – Noticed that people hate driving to UBC, so with these new partnerships coming online, is the mentality to get rid of UBC and replace it with these other partnerships, or to use both?

A: Jeff – To his understanding, people hate going to UBC because it's hard to get to by 6pm. The only reason the League would get rid of UBC would be to reduce the League by 25%.

Art – This is something that has been discussed and the concerns (distance, cost of parking, non-maintained fields) have been noted. Other alternatives are being discussed. However, the survey has come back and people have said they want to see the League grow, so if the VULS wants to do so, it will need to keep UBC fields.

Dan – UBC is also great for large events, and with more field space can solve scheduling complexities. He states that every team gets cycled through UBC.

Q: Craig Woods – At Columbia, will the City be resurfacing only the top surface or the bottom surface as well? Can the VULS pay to trim the trees at Winona?

A: Jeff – When the City resurfaces, it will be done so that eventually there is no top or bottom, it will be all one level. No, the trees cannot be trimmed.

Q: Eva Cham – Anything about Andy Livingston?

A: Jeff – The Park Board is looking for the money, and if there is money in the new year, then there will be a commitment to redo Andy Livingston and get use of it. The League has tried to position itself so that it can receive access to these fields.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business

Board Elections

Jeff Malmgren acts as Elections Manager. Tally of votes:

Alan Baggish – 37 votes

Anne-Marie Carey – 36 votes

Gina Hopper – 36 votes

Iain Lancaster – 43 votes
Justin McMillan - 18 votes
Jenna Newman – 43 votes

Elected to the board are Alan, Anne-Marie, Gina, Iain and Jenna.

Motion: To destroy the ballots from the 2007 election.
Moved By: Jenny Motkaluk
Seconded By: Gina Hopper
All in favor. Motion passed.

Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 9:32pm.
Moved By: Art Hawkins
Seconded By: Gordon Wong
All in favor. Motion passed.