

UVM
CLUB SPORTS



2019-2020

YEAR END REPORT

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Introduction

The 2019-2020 school year challenged our students in more ways than anyone could have imagined. Many clubs saw tremendous growth and accomplishments organizationally and competitively, but all showed resilience and the ability to adapt in the face of a global pandemic. What stood out and proved to be the most valuable amongst the constant changes brought on by the COVID-19 outbreak was the meaning of community for our clubs. Physical distance was not a challenge but rather a tool that became essential in creating and maintaining connections for our groups. Our clubs developed new and engaging ways of staying connected and celebrating one another. While many suffered heartbreaks with seasons ending early, our groups celebrated many accomplishments throughout the year and have a lot of great things to look forward to in the future.

Our clubs continued their trend of in-sport success. Our Women's Club Basketball team were regional champs in their inaugural season in a new league. Football hosted their conference championship. A Nordic Skier swept all their disciplines at Nationals. Our Kayak club went to Ecuador for a winter break trip. Numerous teams qualified for nationals though a number were unfortunately canceled. Three new clubs joined our ranks and participation continued to grow.

Club Sports continue to evolve as our campus and national landscape do around us. Over the course of this year that meant institutionalizing our New Participant Orientation and solidifying our new comprehensive Prevention Programming. With the uncertainty of what the campus landscape might look like this fall, we have already engaged and solidified preliminary contingency plans for a plethora of scenarios.

The following report includes a snapshot of Club Sports this past academic year. Included are statistics on participation, student outcomes and satisfaction, and programmatic efforts.

A discussion of emerging trends and a list of our club's numerous accomplishments concludes the report.

Thank you for supporting our Club Sports and all the students whose lives at UVM are enriched through their participation.

Sincerely,

Leon Lifschutz and Mariz Mangundayao

Club Sports by the Numbers

| | FY 20 | FY 19 | FY 18 |
|---|---|---|--|
| Number of Clubs at the conclusion of Spring | 63 | 60 | 60 |
| Approximate number of participants | 2,025 | 1,948 | 1,829 |
| Average number of participants per club | 33.2 | 32.4 | 30.5 |
| Number of “Agreement To participate” forms | 1,816 | 1,794 | 1,237 |
| Number of games or events | ~560 | ~656 | ~675 |
| Average number of events (comps/game/ performance) per team | 9.2 | 10.9 | 11.3 |
| Number of Regional/Playoff competitions attended | 25 | 37 | 38 |
| Number of National competitions attended | 22 | 20 | 20 |
| PE Credits awarded for Club Sports participation | Fall: 274 Spring: 404 | Fall: 290 Spring: 204 | Fall: 206 Spring: 181 |
| Participants seen by Athletic Training Staff | N/A | ~350 | ~350 |
| Dues charged | \$0: 17 clubs \$1-50: 14 clubs \$51-100: 14 clubs \$101-200: 10 clubs \$201-400: 3 clubs \$401+: 5 clubs | \$0: 12 clubs \$1-50: 14 clubs \$51-100: 15 clubs \$101-200: 10 clubs \$201-400: 4 clubs \$401+: 5 clubs | \$0: 14 clubs \$1-50: 13 clubs \$51-100: 17 clubs \$101-200: 5 clubs \$201-400: 6 clubs \$401+: 5 clubs |
| Club Sports run programs/events and participants | 15 events/programs 1,002 participants | 17 events/programs 1,263 participants | 18 events/programs 1,046 participants |
| Percentage of clubs who performed community service as a group | 24% | 25% | 22% |

**FY20 Regionals and Nationals totals include canceled events due to Covid-19

Year End Assessment Data

A leader from each club was asked to complete a year-end report. The report collected basic club information, assessed learning outcomes, and provided feedback on the program. In total, 46 out of 63 clubs responded, for a response rate of 73%.

Learning Outcomes:

It was our desire to assess how well we were connecting students to learning outcomes and leadership development. Students were instructed: from 1 to 5 (1 is low, 5 is high) please answer the following questions in relation to their club sports experiences this year:

“My Leadership Skills Improved”: **4.33**

“I am more capable of managing resources”: **4.43**

“I am more aware of issues of health and safety”: **4.09**

“I am better able to create community”: **4.38**

“I am more aware of people’s diverse backgrounds and needs”: **4.23**

Our student leaders agreed that they gained positive experiences in their learning outcomes and leadership development this year. They are able to create community within their club and felt supported in managing their organization.

Overall Program Support:

Students were asked to indicate from 1 to 5 how well they were supported in different areas:

“Did you feel supported in your development as a leader”: **4.19**

“Did you feel supported in facets of managing your organization”: **4.32**

“Did you feel supported in learning and executing financial processes”: **4.15**

Student leaders overall felt well supported in managing their organizations. Many commended the SGA office’s ability to help when needed and answer questions that leaders have to effectively run their organizations. Like in years past, among the challenges mentioned were financial difficulties such as raising money and maintaining budgets. Additionally, delegation of tasks as well as guidance during transition periods was another common challenging theme.

Marketing and Events:

In order to stay connected to our organizations and to foster a sense of community among all clubs, we execute multiple marketing efforts and events to engage our student population. Students were asked to rate their awareness and satisfaction with our Marketing efforts and Club Sports Events from 1 to 5.

“I was aware of Club Sports Marketing efforts (social media, newsletter, display case, etc.)”: **3.51**

“My satisfaction with Club Sports Marketing efforts were: **3.47**

“I was aware of Club Sports Events (Dodgeball, Trivia, Year-End Banquet, etc.)”: **4.23**

“My satisfaction with the Club Sports Events offerings were: **3.85**

Students overall felt satisfied with our Marketing efforts and event offerings. Many thoroughly enjoyed the events that they attended. However, there were still many student leaders that were not aware of our Marketing efforts. Communication efforts can be improved in the future to reach more students both in the program and the campus as a whole.

Accomplishments and Challenges:

Students were asked to describe what, as leaders, they were most proud of and what challenged them this past year. Leaders were most proud of building a sense of community within their clubs, creating an inclusive environment, and enhancing their teammates’ overall UVM experience. They were also proud of being mentors to younger club members, making important decisions, and achieving team goals. Task delegation, administrative and financial challenges, and time and space restrictions were among the challenges that leaders encountered this year.

Covid-19 Reflections

The COVID-19 pandemic presented significant challenges to our students as well as our department. Many of our clubs’ spring seasons ended abruptly, our performance groups’ spring showcases were cancelled, and graduating seniors unfortunately were not able to finish their last season with their teams. However, our students developed meaningful and valuable ways of celebrating their seasons and their teammates. Students stayed connected through online video calls, group chats, social media, virtual workshops, and virtual end-of-year celebrations. Online platforms became an essential communication tool. Although the pandemic separated our students in physical distance, many students voiced that they still felt connected through their teams’ means of communication. Our students’ accomplishments in the fall and in the beginning of the spring semester were immense and allowed us to look forward to more success in the future

Club Sports Team Report

The Club Sports Team is comprised of our work study students and Club Sports Council Executives. The main focuses of the team are: marketing, creating community, educational outreach, and fostering partnerships. The following statistics relate directly to the work our students led.

Social Media:

- Facebook - 2,048 Facebook followers
- Twitter – 462 followers
- Instagram – 867 followers (661 in 2018), 600-1,000 impressions per post (total number of times post was seen on Instagram)

Fall Raffle:

13 clubs participated; raised **\$6,515.60** with 1,253 tickets sold (\$5,100 in 2018, 16 clubs)

LUVMyClub Campaign:

- 29 clubs participated - raised **\$45,796** with 1,382 total donors
- Top \$ Raised
 - Rowing - \$8,180; Sailing - \$6,060; Men's Ultimate - \$5,643; Women's Ultimate - \$4,584; Women's Hockey - \$3,714

Newsletter:

6 newsletters sent to an email list of over 1,600; Open Rate ~60.2% (~40% in 2018)

Events:

13 events (882 participants)

- 3 Club Sports Council Meetings, 2 in-person, 1 Virtual (180)
- Online New Participant Orientation (275)
- CPR Course (10)
- Step-Up Prevention Programs, 4 different clubs (75)
- Halloween Dodgeball (150)
- Trivia Night (100)
- Emerging Leaders, Virtual (27)
- Year End Banquet, Virtual (65)

Emerging Trends

Below is a collection of trends and projects we have been working on or tracking this year and will be continuing next year. Some of these are not so much emerging but continuations of previous observations and initiatives. Others are defined in hopes of being proactive in responding to student and environmental needs.

Prevention Programming: This past year we moved our Step Up programming from a Club Sports Council meeting specifically targeting leaders to a standalone initiative with each club. In the process of making this switch, and increasing our partnership with Living Well, we have created a prevention programming initiative with 3 different subjects and trainings. Starting this Fall, every club will complete 1 training a year rotating the subjects over a 3 year cycle. It is our hope that these educational efforts will further our program and campus efforts towards safety and inclusion.

Athletic Training: We have been very happy with our relationship with PT360 these last few years and will continue our relationship with them, along with Kit Vreeland, of the Exercise and Movement Science Department to continue providing Athletic Training Coverage for us. However, our ideal scenario is to partner with CHWB on a full-time Athletic Trainer. We were very close to solidifying this before personnel changes over the winter put this on hold. We hope these conversations restart in the near future.

Mann Hall Renovations: We recently, in partnership with University and Event Services and the dance and theater departments, added mirrors into Mann Gymnasium and gained access to a stereo. This was necessary in light of losing multi-purpose space due to athletic facility construction. It will greatly increase access to an adequate space for many groups, especially our performance-oriented clubs. We also hope to tear the seats out of Mann Auditorium and have the floor refinished to create another great multipurpose space as well as a training home for our Rowing team since they have been kicked out of the PFG complex.

Covid-19 Contingency Planning: With the uncertainty of what the fall semester looks like and the high likelihood of needing to take significant precautions during this public health crisis, Club Sports has worked hard to build contingency plans. In planning for many different scenarios Club Sports will provide viable and vibrant opportunities for students regardless of public health and University guidelines once school starts in the fall. To see the full plan click here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aJ8NuWA3_oUaGMMW3FWknxOP-fH0Ksp14eu5hpGkB34/edit?usp=sharing

2019-20 Club Accomplishments

Alpine Ski

- Top 10 finishes at races, strong underclassmen racers

Badminton

- Hosted two home tournaments

Ballet Viridis

- Growth of Project Prima; individual growth and accomplishments

Ballroom and Swing Society

- Winter Ball; strong performances at competitions; dancer improvement

Baseball

- Successful Florida spring break trip

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu and Judo

- Medals at collegiate comps

Catamount Dance Crew

- Successful performances

Celtic Cats

- Placement at Intercollegiate Irish Dance Festival Competition

Cheerleading

- Raised money for Rallython

Climbing

- Podium finishes at local competitions

Cycling

- Team finished 5th place at MTB nationals; individual finisher 5th place at Cyclocross nationals

Dance Force

- Increased active membership

Dance Team

- Performed during strong season for men's and women's basketball

Disc Golf

- Individual winners at local course league

Dressage

- Successful home show; won a number of ribbons

Equestrian

- Individual qualifications for Regional finals

Fencing

- Hosted successful home tournaments

Field Hockey

- Qualified for and attended Nationals

Figure Skating

- Synchro competed at Eastern Sectionals, Freestyle podium finishes at competitions

Football

- Undefeated regular season; hosted conference championship game

Freeskiing

- Team and individual podium finishes at USCSA nationals

Golf

- Good tournament performances

Gymnastics

- Individual and Team podium finishes at meets

Hoop Troop

- Re-booted club

Jazbaa

- Participated in Rallython

Kayak

- Ecuador winter break trip

Men's Basketball

- Strong underclassmen; sweeps against conference rivals

Men's Ice Hockey

- Winning Record

Men's Lacrosse

- Pre-season ranked #6 in the nation, ranked as high as #4 during short season

Men's Rugby

- Back-to-back NEWCRC Champions; Qualified for and attended Nationals; Undefeated regular season

Men's Soccer

- Qualified for and attended Nationals

Men's Ultimate Frisbee

- Won Mid-Atlantic Warmup, ranked 24th in the nation

Men's Volleyball

- Good tournament showings

Nordic Ski

- Team and individual podium finishes at Nationals

Olympic Weightlifting

- Sent three individuals to Nationals

Orchasis Dance Company

- Successful fall showcase, performance at Rallython

Powerlifting

- Steady growth in membership

Quidditch

- Qualified for USQ Nationals; Conference Champions

Roller Hockey

- Growth in membership; made playoffs

Rowing

- Requalified for Head of the Charles; Podium finishes at fall races

Running

- Individual Nationals qualification

Sailing

- Remained highly ranked in the region

Salsa Society

- Strong performances at numerous Festivals

Shooting Sports

- Attended Pistol and Shotgun Nationals; Fielded 9mm squad for the first time in 4+ years

Snowboard

- Riders qualified for nationals; podium finishes at competitions and media coverage

Softball

- Strong conference performance

Spikeball

- Recognized as a club

Springboard Diving

- Growth in membership numbers

Squash

- Match victories, increased membership

Swimming

- Hosted two home invitationals; Qualified for Nationals

Table Tennis

- Hosted first ever tournament

Taekwondo

- Qualified for Nationals

Tennis

- Won Slice 'N Dice Tournament at Brandeis

Timbersports

- Fielded first ever women's team in the fall; podium finishes

Triathlon

- 11 athletes qualified for Nationals

Water Polo

- Best record in a decade

Women's Basketball

- New England Regional Champions

Women's Ice Hockey

- Qualified for Nationals

Women's Lacrosse

- Beat UNH for first time in a few years; #1 in the conference at the end of short season

Women's Rugby

- Strong fall conference showing; strong spring recruitment

Women's Soccer

- Qualified for and attended Nationals

Women's Ultimate

- Won Lobster Pot tournament; 3rd place at Santa Barbara Invite

Women's Volleyball

- Won 1 tournament, placed third or better in all

UVM Club Sports Mission

UVM Club Sports are designed to give students the utmost opportunity to pursue their passion for sport within the educational setting. We strive to provide a safe and welcoming environment for a diverse range of participants with an emphasis on sportsmanship, leadership, and teamwork. We value the tenets of sustainability and wellness, and encourage students to take care of their mind, body, environment - and above all else, have fun.

