

# Nova Scotia Disc Sport Society (DiscNS) 2020-2021 Plan

DiscNS acknowledges that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. This territory is covered by the treaties of Peace and Friendship, which Mi'kmaq and Maliseet people first signed in 1725. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Maliseet title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

DiscNS also gratefully acknowledge the support of the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage in Nova Scotia in supporting the Society through the year.

## Overarching priority

Return to play in accordance with provincial regulations and Sporting Organization best practice. Safety of our players and our community is of paramount importance.

## Governance

With the uncertainty of play for the 2021-2022 year, we will set conservative goals for the year. The next Board should update the goals once there is better clarity in the province on the ability to return to competitive play.

## Ongoing operation

- Regular participation with Ultimate Canada
- Continue work on policy revision
- Look for opportunities to support diversity among athletes in the province.
- If a Board position remains unfilled, prioritize diversification of the Board by seeking a Board member from outside of Halifax or from underrepresented groups.

## New operations

- Waive the DiscNS membership fees for the year to relieve the financial demands on affiliate organizations and their athletes. We will continue to provide the insurance coverage and, for ultimate organizations, grassroots memberships with Ultimate Canada using last year's profits.
- Hold a membership input session to begin a renewal of the strategic plan.
- Better establish expectations of affiliated organizations (HU, PCU, MDGA) and provincial teams.
- Although the Board has chosen to not hire summer staff for the summer of 2021, HU has identified the possibility of introducing ultimate to some underrepresented groups in the sport. Should those opportunities come to fruition, the Board is open to extending funding for one or more individuals to support the opportunity, following the approval of a plan for the activities. This direction would have us modify the budget for the year as a result.

## Competition

- Continue in partnership for offering NS4UC (budget \$300 to offer in partnership). For now, plan for the possibility of NS4UC in the winter of 2022, subject to public health restrictions and Ultimate Canada offering C4UC.
- Investigate the opportunities and conditions of promoting a small number of individual athletes as provincial high-performance athletes. Begin by learning from other team-based sports that select, promote, and support individual athletes. Beginning with ultimate, consult with the touring teams on the possibility, from which a plan will be brought to the Board for consideration.

## Youth

In the upcoming year, we must re-engage in being ready to play for high school indoor and outdoor provincials as well as the possibility of a youth jamboree. These events would likely happen in the following fiscal year but must be prepared in this year.

Next season is unknown due to covid. More of the focus needs to be on youth engagement than on competition, particularly with the cancellation of the national junior CUC event.

## Coaching

- Offer one Community Coaching, Competition Introduction and one Competition Development coaching course in the year, subject to public health allowing for the course formats. (budgeting for net-zero cost)
- Update to the Ultimate Canada Community and Competition introduction coaching programs will require Learner Facilitators to attend an upgrade
- Create a policy for the startup of coaching with Adults and Jr players when the Covid 19 restrictions are lifted in stages.
- Pilot a set of off-field / on-field practices to familiarize athletes with some game tactics in an off-field setting and then follow-up with on-field execution of the tactics. The target audience is junior athletes and new players.
- Promote the following NCCP courses to NS coaches and DiscNS members who can demonstrate that they are positioned to use the material for the benefit of the sport in the province. This is currently free to everyone that wants to be a coach or is a coach in Nova Scotia until December 31, 2021 (budget \$300 when the National Body starts charging for the NCCP delivery of the modules on Jan 1 2022):
  - o Aboriginal Coaching Modules (Holistic approach to coaching, Dealing with racism in sport, Individual and community health and wellness)
  - o Coaching Athletes with a Disability
  - o Leading the Way: Working with LGBT Athletes and Coaches (free online document)

Also, promote the following modules with our partner organizations

- Safe Sport Training
- Making Ethical Decisions
- Making Headway in Sport (concussion management)

## Observers

This summer has seen some increase in competitive play in the US. There have been a few calls for Observers to work south of the boarder.

We hope that Halifax Ultimate will continue to be willing to allow observers to work league games, as we are a somewhat isolated community, with few options for local tournaments on the horizon.

## Disc Golf

Nationals is scheduled to be a series of regional competitions this year, with our Maritime event scheduled for early July in PEI.

Behind the scenes, the Canadian Disc Golf Association is forming to represent the sport on a National Level. Once this is up and running, Disc Golf Nova Scotia will seek to establish itself as a Provincial Sporting Organization representing Disc Golfers here in Nova Scotia.