



2006 BUDA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The General Meeting was held on November 16, 2006 at the Dilboy Post VFW Hall, 371 Summer Street, Somerville, Massachusetts 02144.

The following people were in attendance:

Geoff Doerre (President, Board Member), Kevin Leete (new volunteer – Open Club League), Erik Sebesta (Ultimate Showcase), Catherine Greenwald (High School League), Raphael Savir (Board Member, Youth Program), Pablo Martinez (Board Member), Jose Invencio (Summer and Fall club Open Division Commissioner), Jeff Perkins (web team, help with hat leagues), Jerry Hershkowitz (ex-commissioner), Chris Akin (retiring Fall Hat Commissioner), Mathias Neuber (Retiring Spring Commissioner), Bill Dill (DOLO, web team, Board Member), Bob Kulchuk (Treasurer, Board Member), Lynda Forney (ex-commissioner, Board Member), Tracy MacNeal (Clerk, Board Member), Buzz Aldrich (Future Summer Commissioner, webteam), Darren Mace (webteam), Roger Barnum (asst. Summer Club Commissioner), Jeff Miranda (Northeastern student writing story for class), Tim Ledley (visitor, possible new volunteer), Natalia Espinal (Fall Club Commissioner), Helen Kim (former Fall Club and hat league Commissioner), Nathan Dushman (teaches Men's Learning League), John Peterson (former Summer Hat Commissioner, general volunteer), Kate Elliott – women's issues.

Geoff Doerre presided over the meeting. Tracy MacNeal took the meeting minutes. The President called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

The meeting started with introductions and a brief overview of each official's duties.

Learning League

Nathan Dushman reported on the Learning League in Mike Etkind's absence.

- We discussed the need for more volunteers to help with the league.
- Nathan suggested that some learning league players may be intimidated by the following comment on the website, "Note that the Hat Leagues are more of a playing environment than a teaching one" and that we should consider rewording this statement.
- He also commented that signups for Summer Hat start very early in Learning League season. It should be emphasized to the learning league participants that they will get onto summer teams regardless of when they sign up.
- Nathan reported that several individuals have expressed interest in attending a Learning League II. A few options would be to run this at the same time as the first Learning League or in the summer or fall. The limiting factors for following up on this suggestion are volunteers and field space. It was suggested that we may want to hand pick a few captains in Summer Hat League and put learning league players on their teams to continue the learning process there.
- Nathan [volunteered](#)¹ to work on a survey of learning league players, a project Kate Elliott and Jerry Hershkowitz had expressed interest in the previous year. Geoff Doerre can provide basic SQL support.

Spring Hat

Mathias Neuber reported on the Spring Hat League.

- The Waiver issue from previous year seems to be resolved. The web team is working on making it even easier to submit [waivers](#)² by making it possible to accept waivers electronically by scan or e-fax.
- Mathias is retiring as commissioner. Mandy Eckoff will be his successor

Summer Hat

John Peterson reported on the Summer Hat League.

- John had website issues updating pages. Problems should be fixed with new website.
- Problems getting captains and issues with shirts. John proposed getting a design deadline from Colin so the shirts will definitely be available at the captain's meeting.
- There were also problems with teams being short on players during the regular season and at the tournament. It was suggested that we may want to increase the roster size of each team for the summer season, and also that a website feature be included to allow teams to monitor attendance weekly and at tournaments.
- John is retiring as commissioner. Buzz Aldrich will be the successor.

Fall Hat –

Chris Akin reported on the Fall Hat League.

- Chris also had problems finding captains. Other commissioners suggested that a person should be appointed by the commissioner to recruit captains prior to league signup.
- It was suggested that BUDA should provide captains with a [handbook](#)³ of do's and don'ts for captains. Having guidelines may make players more willing to volunteer to captain.
- The importance of including successor volunteers on league email aliases was pointed out.
- Chris is retiring as commissioner. Joey George will be the successor.

Summer Club League

Roger Barnum reported on the Summer Club league in the absence of Josh Weinstock.

- The league continues to grow and now requires at least 4 people to run efficiently. Jeff Perkins, Jose Invencio, Kate Elliott, Tracy MacNeal, Kevin Leete, Mark Tuden, Roger Barnum, and Raphael Savir have agreed to be part of the Summer Club League [Committee](#)⁴. Josh is retiring as commissioner; Jeff Perkins will take over in 2007.
- We have reached maximum capacity at Devens. If the league continues to grow we may need to reduce game time to add more time slots and add more byes.
- Should discuss unrostered players issues and what penalties (deposit forfeit, suspension) we want to put in place for not following the rules, if any. (See new business below).

Fall Club

Natalia Espinal reported on the Fall Club League

- Biggest obstacle for Fall Club was finding fields. As a result games had to be played on Wednesdays and Fridays as well as Tuesdays and Thursdays. We should stop advertising the league as a Tuesday/Thursday-only league.
- Natalia also had problems managing players looking for teams. The want-team link used for summer club was not functional for the Fall. This problem should be solved when the Forums section of the new website is up and running.
- Natalia will stay on as Fall Club Commissioner. Kevin Leete and Mark Tuden will [help](#)⁵ with the Open Division.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Kulchuk presented the Treasurer's Report. This was Bob's first year as Treasurer.

- Bob got an online accounting system up and running, which has made it much easier to handle our books.
- All hat leagues contributed 30% to the general fund plus some which will go to cover Buda Admin costs and various BUDA initiatives and programs.

Marketing

Raphael presented the Marketing report in Kristi Rea's absence.

- BUDA has still not been successful in finding an organization(s) to support the youth league.
- We should start an email discussion on how to approach larger organizations. Catherine Greenwald commented that in order to get the support of a large corporation, the corporation should get something out of the deal, such as their name on the discs that are distributed or our league t-shirts. We need more resources.
- Chris Akin, Nathan Dushman, Raphael Savir, Kevin Leete, and Catherine Greenwald will be on the email [discussion](#)⁶.

Youth Program

Raphael Savir reported on the Youth Program.

- George Cooke is retiring as the Youth Program Coordinator. Need part-time youth educator to replace George. 2 people have expressed interest.
- The goal is to eventually be able to hire someone full time if we can get the funding.
- Youth program continues to be a success. We have been in contact with 3,000 kids over past 3 years.
- Fund raising [goal](#)⁷ is to raise \$5,000 this winter to use as stipends for coaches or to fund the youth program. If we are able to raise \$500 from the general BUDA population, Bob, Kristi, Raphael and Darren will match that with \$500 donations.
- Kate Elliott suggested we create a card that will allow the donee the ability to make a donation as a gift.
- Jeff Perkins suggested that the money for the EMU team should not come out of league funds, only out of donations.

- It was suggested that we add a donation option on every league application. This was suggested and agreed upon last year, but not implemented. This action item will be given higher priority.
- It was also suggested that we should update the web with an explanation of where the money for hat leagues goes; Bob Kulchuk and Geoff Doerre will prepare this [breakdown](#)⁸.

High School

Catherine Greenwald reported on the High School League

- The High School League has outgrown scope of its structure and ability for one person to manage remotely. A committee of 8 members has been formed to oversee this program.
- The following changes are expected for the coming season
 - Split Div 1 and Div 2.
 - Divide League into 4 geographic regions.
 - Div 1 will be UPA sanctioned.
 - Div 2 will be BUDA sponsored.
 - \$30 per team to join league. The reason for charging \$30 per team is to try to get teams to schedule more games during the course of the year.
 - Teams will be required to play a certain number of games in order to participate in the tournaments.
 - Will allow combo teams for High Schools that don't have enough players within their own schools (allowed to compete as combo team for 2 years).
 - Massachusetts is not doing well proportionately in recruiting girls teams. There are only 5 or 6 girls teams in MA that play regularly. Allowing for combo teams for girls will hopefully help to recruit more girls and give them the interest and skills to do more recruiting at their own schools.
- Area and Regional Coordinators will be chosen to help support the new structure of the league.
- Josh Seamon will be handling high school portion of the website.

Web

Darren Mace reported on the website

- Moving into content management system ([CMS](#)⁹). This will allow us to make administration for commissioners and league people much easier, and will give us forum capability.
- We need more volunteers. We currently have real technical projects as well as projects for graphic artists. We have already received 3 responses to our request for website volunteers from the e-Newsletter.

New Business

- We should come up with an appropriate and enforceable consequence for breaking the rules put in place by the Commissioner of the Summer and Fall Club leagues. This past year 2 teams violated the no pickup players rule at the tournament. To date no action has been taken against those teams other than to keep their tournament deposit. It was suggested that we get feedback from the captains to see if the no ringer rule is something that is important to

the captains or if they just don't care. If the captains support the rule, it will be much easier to enforce. We should clearly lay out the policy for the captains and make them understand that we are serious about the rules we put in place and that we will take action if the rules are violated.

- Youth Recruitment – Eric Sebesta asked the question, “How do we get more youth to play, especially girls”. He brought up the point that most children pick the sport they are going to play in middle-school or earlier, not high school. We should increase BUDA and Ultimate's presence in the middle schools, as well as updating the new HS website with middle school contact information. However, Catherine pointed out that we should work from the top down. We should get the High School League up and running and strong before we look to expand the program into middle school. Geoff Doerre introduced a special smaller sized disc made for younger players and mentioned BUDA may look into procuring and distributing these as a start for interested kids and parents.

Document Repository

- Helen Kim [volunteered](#)¹⁰ to take on this project w/ Geoff Doerre.

Volunteer Coordinator

- Should advertise for a volunteer to be the Volunteer Coordinator. We should come up with a precise list of projects to give to volunteer coordinator so that we have specific projects ready for volunteers to work on. Catherine pointed out that high schools now frequently have community service requirements. These students may be a resource we could utilize
- We also should start collecting volunteer info from the league applications.
- Buzz Aldrich and Jeff Perkins [volunteered](#)¹¹ to work on this project.

Other Business

- It was suggested and seconded that we do something as a sign of appreciation for Tommy Proulx's many years of volunteer service to BUDA.
- It was also suggested that we start a BUDA volunteer of the year award.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 pm.



Tracy A. MacNeal, Clerk
Boston Ultimate Disc Alliance, Inc.

Appendix A:

Email contacts:

Geoff Doerre (President, Board Member)	gdoerre@buda.org
Kevin Leete (new volunteer – Open Club League)	mayorkl@gmail.com
Eric Sebesta (Ultimate Showcase)	erik.sebesta@gmail.com
Catherine Greenwald (High School League)	ckgreenwald@earthlink.net
Raphael Savir (Board Member, Youth Program)	raphael.savir@buda.org
Pablo Martinez (Board Member)	pablo.martinez@buda.org
Jose Invencio (Summer and Fall club Open Division Commissioner)	jose.invencio@buda.org
Jeff Perkins (web team, help with hat leagues)	jeff.perkins@buda.org
Jerry Hershkowitz (ex-commissioner)	jerry.hershkowitz@buda.org
Chris Akin (retiring Fall Hat Commissioner)	chris.akin@buda.org
Mathias Neuber (Retiring Spring Commissioner)	mathiasneuber@gmail.com
Bill Dill (DOLO, web team, Board Member)	bill.dill@buda.org
Bob Kulchuk (Treasurer, Board Member)	bob.kulchuk@buda.org
Lynda Forney (ex-commissioner, Board Member)	lynda.forney@buda.org
Tracy MacNeal (Clerk, Board Member)	tracy.macneal@buda.org
Buzz Aldrich (Future Summer Commissioner , webteam)	buzz.aldrich@buda.org
Darren Mace (webteam)	darren.mace@buda.org
Roger Barnum (asst. Summer Club Commissioner)	roger.barnum@buda.org
Jeff Miranda (Northeastern student writing story for class)	mrjeffmiranda@gmail.com
Tim Ledley (visitor, possible new volunteer)	
Natalia Espinal (Fall Club Commissioner)	nme527@gmail.com
Helen Kim (former Fall Club and hat league Commissioner)	helen.kim@buda.org
Nathan Dushman (teaches Men’s Learning League)	nhd@abtech.org
John Peterson (former Summer Hat Commissioner, general volunteer)	japeter@gmail.com
Kate Elliott – women’s issues.	kate.elliott@buda.org

Not Present:

Josh Seamon (HS website, CMS webteam)	jseamon@gmail.com
Mark Tuden (SCL, FCL Open)	kempite35@hotmail.com

Appendix B
Action Items:

- ¹ LL survey/followup: Nathan Dushman, Kate Elliott, Jerry Hershkowitz, Geoff Doerre.
- ² Waiver Automation: Jeff Perkins, Buzz Aldrich
- ³ Commissioners' & Captains' Handbook(s): Chris Akin, Mathias Neuber, John Peterson, Helen Kim, Jeff Perkins, Natalia Espinal, Jerry Hershkowitz.
- ⁴ SCL committee: Jeff Perkins, Jose Invencio, Kate Elliott, Tracy MacNeal, Kevin Leete, Mark Tuden, Roger Barnum, Raph Savir.
- ⁵ FCL committee: Natalia Espinal, Mark Tuden, Kevin Leete.
- ⁶ Funding/sponsorship email discussion: Raph Savir, Nathan Dushman, Chris Akin, Kevin Leete, Catherine Greenwald.
- ⁷ Donation Drive: Raph Savir, Kristi Rea, Geoff Doerre.
- ⁸ League fees breakdown: Bob Kulchuk, Geoff Doerre.
- ⁹ Web Site: Darren Mace, Josh Seamon, John Peterson, Buzz Aldrich.
- ¹⁰ Document repository/consolidation: Helen Kim, Geoff Doerre.
- ¹¹ Volunteer Coordinator: Buzz Aldrich, Jeff Perkins, Geoff Doerre.