USA Ultimate State-Based Organizations

Beginning in 2016, with the support of the Ultimate Foundation, USA Ultimate started investing tens of thousands of dollars to help establish new, sustainable organizations that will oversee the growth and activity of all aspects of ultimate within each U.S. state, or multi-state region where appropriate.

What is a state-based organization?

A state-based organization (SBO) is an extension and partner of USA Ultimate that supports the USA Ultimate mission and vision, bringing the USA Ultimate brand and services to local affiliates and communities within their boundaries.

Principles & Goals

The state-based organization initiative aims to build a stable and sustainable national infrastructure of organizational excellence to grow the sport of ultimate and realize the vision and mission of USA Ultimate. The program will spread the ability to serve the ultimate community by empowering SBOs to take over many of the responsibilities of providing resources to local leagues, organizers, players, coaches and spectators, providing them support from a state-focused organization rather than from national staff in order to increase the sport’s rate of growth and engage more youth in ultimate.

Key principles and goals:

- Entrepreneurial philosophy, mindset and approach from SBO founders and directors.
- Stimulation of community innovation.
- Economic sustainability and scalability.
- Building out of local organization capacity.
- Focus on local growth of members, events and programs.
- Growth of youth ultimate, in particular.
- Strong partnerships with USA Ultimate.

Purpose of a State-Based Organization

- Serve as a professional, non-profit organization and resource for ultimate with an executive director to serve affiliates, coaches, program administrators, leagues, and fans in a given geographic region.
- Assist all affiliates within the state organization’s boundaries in offering national-level programs, services and benefits created at USA Ultimate headquarters to all constituents in the local community.
- Represent the primary resource and unbiased support system for any and all leagues within the territory.
- Uphold USA Ultimate national standards (e.g., safety guidelines and best practices) within the territory.
• Deliver programs and services (grants, education and training, CDP, OCP) to all constituents in the territory.
• Focus primarily on youth ultimate, education and safety.
• Disseminate local and national ultimate news and communications to all constituents.
• Attract, train and retain quality volunteers for both the state organization and national service.
• Maintain organizational capacity to remain fully compliant with USA Ultimate governance.
• Remain fiscally responsible to represented constituents with USA Ultimate funds as well as additional funds generated through programs, events, local fundraising and sponsorships.

Economics

Each state-based organization will be an incorporated 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that is supported by a revenue share from USA Ultimate, annual grants, endowments from the USA Ultimate Foundation, fundraising, event fees and local sponsorships to achieve the organizational mission and vision.