



2022

ANNUAL
REPORT



TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT

4

- 4 ABOUT USA ULTIMATE
- 6 STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

MEMBERSHIP

8

- 9 MEMBERSHIP GROWTH AND RETENTION
- 10 MEMBERSHIP TYPES AND BENEFITS
- 12 AFFILIATES AND MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS

COMPETITION

14

- 16 YOUTH
- 18 COLLEGE
- 20 CLUB
- 24 MASTERS
- 26 BEACH

TEAM USA

28

- 28 WJUC
- 30 THE WORLD GAMES

PROGRAM GROWTH

32

FINANCIAL REVIEW

34

ABOUT

USA Ultimate is a member of the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC) and serves as the official national governing body for the sport of ultimate in the United States. USA Ultimate is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization with its national headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colo. Founded in 1979 as the Ultimate Players Association, USA Ultimate is the largest flying disc organization in the world with more than 50,000 members, including athletes, coaches, observers, and league and event organizers.

USA Ultimate organizes the full spectrum of ultimate in the U.S. and hosts several major events annually, including national championships for youth, college, club, and masters divisions, as well as the U.S. Open, a major international tournament. It also owns and operates the Triple Crown Tour, the highest and most competitive level of ultimate in the United States, consisting of men's, women's, and mixed-gender divisions.

As one of 103 member organizations of the World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) – the international federation for flying disc sports and member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) – USA Ultimate is responsible for the selection of U.S. National Teams for all major international events, including junior, U24, elite, and masters world championships and the quadrennial World Games.

Governed by a core principle called Spirit of the Game™, ultimate is proud of its heritage and continuing practice of being a self-officiated sport – from local recreational play to elite-level international competition. The sport was created in 1968 by students at Columbia High School in Maplewood, NJ and is now played worldwide across three primary disciplines – grass, beach, and indoor.



MISSION

The mission of USA Ultimate is to advance the sport of ultimate in the United States by enhancing and promoting Character, Community, and Competition

VISION

Ultimate is widely known, played, and respected in the United States as a sport that inspires athletic excellence and integrity among participants and fans.

CORE VALUES

RESPECT – We honor the rights, views, dignity and inherent value of others, striving for an environment of mutual trust.

INTEGRITY – We stay true to the mission of USA Ultimate and the highest ethical standards, demonstrating honesty and fairness in every action that we take.

RESPONSIBILITY – We hold ourselves accountable for our decisions and actions, while striving for excellence in all that we do; we are dedicated stewards of the sport of ultimate.

LEADERSHIP – We drive thoughtful growth, development and innovation in competition and the ultimate community, enhancing and promoting the sport as a joy to play and watch.

TEAMWORK – We encourage a diverse and inclusive ultimate community and work cooperatively with members and partners to achieve our mission.

STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

1

INCREASE ACCESS TO AND PARTICIPATION IN THE SPORT, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON INCLUSION AND LOCAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT.

The ultimate community strives to be inclusive and to better reflect the diverse makeup of the American population by working to introduce the sport to new people and groups with a special focus on youth. USA Ultimate will support local organizations, such as

affiliates and state-based organizations, who are better positioned to deliver targeted outreach and education to help provide opportunities for all and to continue to grow the sport.

2

ENRICH THE COMMUNITY'S EXPERIENCE WITH USA ULTIMATE BY ENHANCING THE EXCELLENCE AND IMPACT OF PROGRAMS, STRUCTURES AND EVENTS.

Top-quality events and programs are a hallmark of the USA Ultimate experience and an important aspect of the organization's community-driven mission. USA Ultimate will strive to continually evolve and improve events and programs for all ages and at all levels of competition, taking into account feedback from all

participants, coaches, fans, organizers and more. The positive impacts of excellent event experiences – examples of outstanding Spirit of the Game, support for local organizers and visibility of positive role models – can be felt by members of the larger ultimate community and beyond.

3

INCREASE AWARENESS AND CREDIBILITY OF ULTIMATE AS AN INNOVATIVE AND HIGHLY RESPECTED SPORT, THROUGH EXCEPTIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, MARKETING AND BRANDING.

Ultimate is a lifelong sport that brings considerable value to participants of all ages and abilities, many of whom spend countless hours training for and working to perfect their game. USA Ultimate will use all available resources to increase awareness of and bring recognition to the sport, its unique

values and the incredible athletes who have devoted their time and passion to it. Enhancing the visibility and diversity of ultimate will lead to its acceptance as an attractive sports option for kids and their families.

4

INSURE USA ULTIMATE IS A COMMUNITY-FOCUSED, MODEL NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY BY INVESTING IN ITS ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE, EFFECTIVENESS AND SUSTAINABILITY.

USA Ultimate constantly strives to grow ultimate in the United States by leading the way in the community, safeguarding its members and upholding the values of the sport. In its quest for

excellence, USA Ultimate will work to be an innovative organization that pursues best practices and responds with flexibility to an ever-changing sports landscape.



MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH AND RETENTION

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

USA Ultimate memberships showed healthy recovery across all categories. Total membership increased 30.1% from 2021 to 2022, although current memberships still lag behind pre-pandemic numbers. Youth memberships in particular remain down, seeing a growth of 59.2% over last year but still at only 61.4% of membership levels in 2019. College remains the largest membership category with over 17,000 players. Adult memberships reached over 15,000 — surpassing pre-pandemic numbers for the first time.

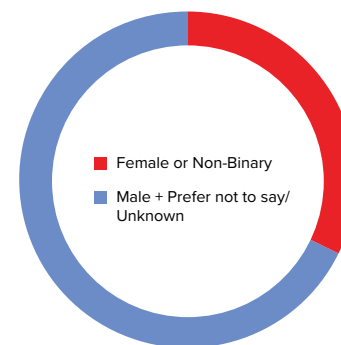
MEMBER RETENTION

The retention rate from 2021 to 2022 was 73.2%, higher than typical due to the number of fall+next year memberships purchased as regular play resumed in the second half of 2021.

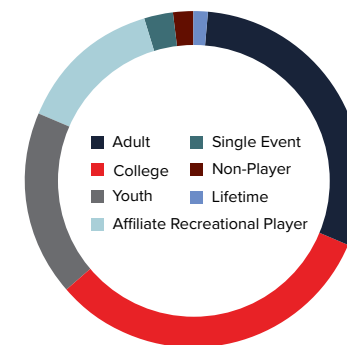
2022 MEMBERSHIPS

MEMBERSHIP TYPE	NUMBER OF MEMBERS
Lifetime	876
Adult	15,849
College	17,122
Youth	9,388
Affiliate Recreational Player	7,490
Single Event	1,448
Non-player	935
Total	53,108

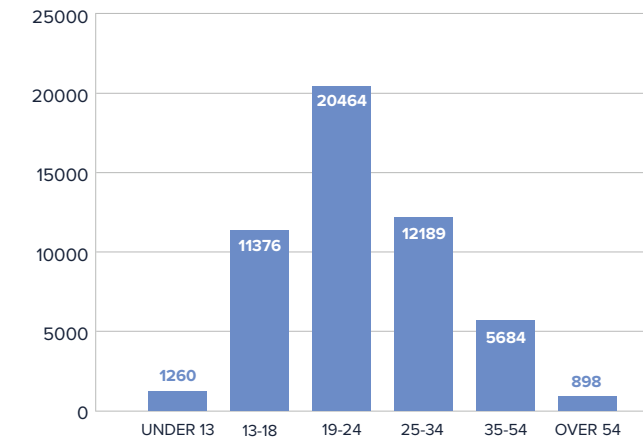
GENDER



MEMBERSHIP



AGE



MEMBERSHIP TYPES & BENEFITS

Membership levels are available for all types of members, from those looking to participate in the sport to those just looking to watch or support ultimate as a fan or family member.

YOUTH

Specially priced membership for all individuals who are under 20 years of age, and have not yet graduated from high school.

COLLEGE

Available to current students who are enrolled at least half-time.

ADULT

For individuals who have graduated high school, or are 20+ years of age.

AFFILIATE RECREATIONAL PLAYER

Affiliate memberships are available for youth and adult players who participate in local, recreational events run by USA Ultimate affiliate organizations.

As of December 1, 2021, USA Ultimate no longer offers coach, coach and player, or friends and family memberships. Coach qualifications and certifications can be added on to any other membership type, including the new non-player membership level.

SINGLE RECREATIONAL EVENT

Available to youth and adults who need access to play in a single, local USA Ultimate sanctioned event; it does not qualify for championship series or regular-season events.

NON-PLAYER MEMBER

Non-player memberships are for anyone who wants to be a coach, a chaperone, or a supporter of the sport.

LIFETIME

Enjoy a lifetime of benefits! Anyone is eligible.



AFFILIATES & MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS

The USA Ultimate Affiliate Program connects local ultimate organizations with the sport's national infrastructure and the nationwide network of ultimate communities. Introduced in 2013, the Affiliate Program was created to support and develop local area ultimate organizations and leagues in order to unify and promote the sport.

Affiliates are approved partner organizations of USA Ultimate. Through this partnership, USA Ultimate supports affiliates to promote and provide programs and services to the players in its geographic area. Affiliates benefit from access to insurance coverage, have priority in bid selection for USA Ultimate championship events, as well as education and outreach programs, access to grant opportunities, discounted event sanctioning and more. The goal is to build lasting partnerships which USA Ultimate and the local organization will strive to develop, strengthen and maintain.

2022 marks the tenth official year of the Affiliate Program, with 35 participating organizations which include:

2022 AFFILIATES:

AFDC Juniors
Albany Ultimate Disc Association
Asheville Ultimate
Austin Ultimate
Bay Ultimate Youth Affiliate
Capital Area Disc Association
Center Grove Ultimate Club
Charlottesville Ultimate Disc Organization
Columbus Ultimate Disc Association
Connecticut Ultimate Club
Delaware Valley Youth League
Detroit Ultimate Association
Indiana Ultimate Foundation
Jacksonville Ultimate League
Kalamazoo United Youth Ultimate
Louisiana Youth Ultimate
Maine Ultimate
Mercer County Ultimate Disc League
Missoula Ultimate Federation
Neuqua Valley Ultimate
Nickel City Ultimate
Oak Park & River Forest Youth Ultimate
OC Ulti
Oregon Youth Ultimate
San Antonio Ultimate Community
Santa Barbara Youth Ultimate
Seven Hills Ultimate Club
Southern California Youth Ultimate
St Louis Ultimate Association
Triangle Ultimate
Tucson Ultimate, Inc.
Valley Ultimate
Vermont
Wisconsin Ultimate, LLC
Youth Ultimate of Colorado Springs
Zig Zag Ultimate



COMPETITION

EACH YEAR, ULTIMATE TOURNAMENTS AT ALL LEVELS OF COMPETITION TAKE PLACE ACROSS THE UNITED STATES.

IN 2022 USA ULTIMATE SANCTIONED

- 53** ↑ recreational tournaments (up from 45)
- 65** ↑ regular-season club events (up from 20)
- 31** ↑ sanctioned leagues (up from 18)
- 67** ↓ club sectional events (down from 72)
- 72** ↑ club regional events (up from 24)
- 102** ↑ college conference events (up from 88)
- 33** ↑ college regional events (up from 30)
- 5** ↑ high-quality championship events across the youth, college, club, masters, and beach divisions

USA Ultimate provides competition programs for every age group of its over 50,000 members. All divisions struggled with recovery since the pandemic, although each year back has seen growth.



YOUTH COMPETITION

HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The youth division showed strong recovery in 2022, but still remained significantly below pre-pandemic participation. The number of teams competing at the 17th annual Youth Club Championships nearly doubled, going from 44 in 2021 to 87 in 2022, and a U-17 Girls division was added. The year also saw the return of competition in the U-17 Girls Division alongside the U-20 Boys, U-17 Boys, U-20 Girls, and U-20 Mixed divisions. Over 1700 athletes competed across the five divisions.

The youth division also saw the return of more state championships in 2022, with 21 states hosting High School State Championships (up from nine in 2021).

YOUTH CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

U-17 GIRL'S DIVISION

- 1 Seven Hills Seattle
- 2 Pythons Philadelphia

Spirit Winner: Oregon Ash

U-17 BOY'S DIVISION

- 1 Minnesota Superior Minneapolis
- 2 OAK Sparks Oakland, Calif.

Spirit Winner: Madison MUFAbots

U-20 GIRL'S DIVISION

- 1 Oregon Downpour Eugene, Ore.
- 2 Utah Swarm Salt Lake City

Spirit Winner: Texas Tango

U-20 BOY'S DI

- 1 Utah Swarm Salt Lake City
- 2 smOAK Oakland, Calif.

U-20 BOY'S DII

- 1 Villians Nashville, Tenn.
- 2 Red Hots West Chicago, Ill.

Spirit Winner: Madison MUFAbots

U-20 MIXED DIVISION

- 1 Seven Hills Seattle
- 2 Pi+ Lexington, Ky.

Spirit Winner: NWA White Tails

COLLEGE COMPETITION



COLLEGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The college division continues to be USA Ultimate's largest member segment with 17,122 athletes participating in the 2022 college series.

The 2022 College Championships were held for both Division I and Division III in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Over 1,500 athletes competed across 40 D-I college teams and 32 D-III college teams for the first spring college titles since 2019.

The semifinal and final games were broadcast live for the ninth consecutive year by ESPN, the Worldwide Leader in Sports, with additional live coverage provided by USA Ultimate's streaming partner Ultiworld.

CALLAHAN AWARD

Since 1996, the Callahan has been awarded annually to the most valuable players in college ultimate. The award is voted on by current college players, meaning winners have earned the respect of their peers. Winners of the Callahan Award demonstrate on-field success as well as outstanding sportsmanship, leadership, and dedication to ultimate – personifying Spirit of the Game.

2022 WINNERS

John Randolph
Brown University

Dawn Culton
University of
North Carolina



DIVISION I COLLEGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

MEN'S DIVISION

- 1 North Carolina
- 2 Brown

Spirit Winner: North Carolina State

WOMEN'S DIVISION

- 1 North Carolina
- 2 Colorado

Spirit Winner: Colorado State

DIVISION III COLLEGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

MEN'S DIVISION

- 1 Oklahoma Christian
- 2 St. Olaf

Spirit Winner: Claremont

WOMEN'S DIVISION

- 1 Middlebury
- 2 Wellesley

Spirit Winner: Skidmore

CLUB COMPETITION



TRIPLE CROWN TOUR

2022 marks the ninth season of the Triple Crown Tour. Every club ultimate team in North America is eligible to participate in the Triple Crown Tour. Teams are slotted into four flights based on competitive performance, dependent on the previous year's results.

With a more formal regular season, games played at TCT events over the summer leading up to the Championship Series really matter.

Teams in each flight are provided opportunities to play in events specific to their flight, guaranteeing at-level competition for all participating teams throughout the TCT. Cross-flight challenges are built into the season schedule as well, ensuring that teams have access to playing opportunities that will help them develop and keep the Tour competitive.

In 2022 the starting leg of the TCT was the U.S Open Ultimate Championships, followed by the Pro Championships, and culminating with the National Championships in October.



U.S. OPEN RESULTS

MEN'S DIVISION

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Truck Stop | Washington, D.C. |
| 2 Johnny Bravo | Philadelphia |

Spirit Winner: Emerald City

MIXED DIVISION

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| 1 AMP | Philadelphia |
| 2 NOISE | Madison, Wis. |

Spirit Winner: NOISE





PRO CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS

MEN'S DIVISION

- 1 Truck Stop Washington, D.C.
- 2 PoNY New York

MIXED DIVISION

- 1 Drag'n Thrust Minneapolis
- 2 Hybrid Ann Arbor, Mich.

WOMEN'S DIVISION

- 1 Molly Brown Denver
- 2 Phoenix Raleigh, N.C.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS

MEN'S DIVISION

- 1 Johnny Bravo Boulder, Colo.
- 2 Truck Stop Washington, D.C.

Spirit Winner: Mad Men and Revolver (tie)

MIXED DIVISION

- 1 Seattle Mixtape Seattle
- 2 NOISE Madison, Wis.

Spirit Winner: BFG

WOMEN'S DIVISION

- 1 Molly Brown Denver
- 2 Fury San Francisco

Spirit Winner: Flipside





MASTERS COMPETITION

MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2022 Masters Championships were held in Aurora, Colorado. The event featured over 2,000 athletes across six age divisions; masters men's, mixed, and women's, grand masters men's and women's, and great grand masters men's.



EVENT RESULTS

MASTERS MEN'S

- 1 Voltron2020 Seattle
- 2 Boneyard The Triangle, N.C.

Spirit Winner: Surly

MASTERS WOMEN'S

- 1 Surly Cougars Minneapolis
- 2 Old BAE Oakland, Calif.

Spirit Winner: Aged Cheddar

MASTERS MIXED

- 1 Cool Biz Oakland, Calif.
- 2 SOS Seattle

Spirit Winner: Drag'n Rust

GRAND MASTERS MEN'S

- 1 Junkyard Cary, N.C.
- 2 Johnny Walker Denver

Spirit Winner: Surly GM

GRAND MASTERS WOMEN'S

- 1 Elderflowers San Francisco
- 2 Molly Blue Denver

Spirit Winner: Grimalkin

GREAT GRAND MASTERS MEN'S

- 1 Surly Minneapolis
- 2 Relics San Francisco

Spirit Winner: TriAged

BEACH

BEACH CHAMPIONSHIPS

After a two year hiatus, the 2022 USA Ultimate Beach Championships returned to Virginia Beach for a sixth time. The event was comprised of 57 teams across six divisions; men's, mixed, and women's, masters mixed, grand masters men's, and great grand masters men's. A Learn to Play clinic for kids ages 6 and up was held alongside the event.



EVENT RESULTS

MEN'S

- 1 Ampersand Philadelphia
- 2 Humiliswag Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Spirit Winner:
Bernin' in the Cold War

WOMEN'S

- 1 LAMP Philadelphia
- 2 Grand Cru Auburn, Maine

Spirit Winner: Blackwidows

MIXED

- 1 No Tsu Oh Houston, Texas
- 2 Beach Bull Durham, N.C.

Spirit Winner:
Charlotte Seoulmates

MASTERS MIXED

- 1 Swamp Rats Raleigh, N.C.
- 2 Riders of Berk Saint Paul, Minn.

Spirit Winner: Love Handles

GRAND MASTERS MEN'S

- 1 Eldors Santa Barbara, Calif.
- 2 Johnny Walker Denver

Spirit Winner: Johnny Walker

GREAT GRAND MASTERS MEN'S

- 1 Merica Portland, Ore
- 2 HURT Chapel Hill, N.C.

Spirit Winner: Wreckage



TEAM USA

WJUC

2022 marked the return to international championship play with the WFDF World Junior Ultimate Championships taking place in Wrocław, Poland, from August 6–8. (The 2020 edition of WJUC was canceled due to the pandemic.) The USA competed in the men's and women's divisions of the event, with dominant performances in both. After exciting final games against France in both divisions, **the women's team took home the gold in a 14-12 win, and the men earned their gold 15-11.** Both USA teams ended the competition undefeated with 9-0 records.



THE WORLD GAMES

The 2022 World Games took place in July in Birmingham, Alabama. Originally scheduled to take place in July 2021, the Games were rescheduled following the 2020 Summer Olympics postponement.

Despite a loss to Germany in pool play, Team USA advanced to the final where they won 13-11 over Australia, **securing the USA's fifth consecutive World Games gold medal.**

TEAM

CLAIRE CHASTAIN
CAROLYN FINNEY
DYLAN FREECHILD
NATE GOFF
KAELA HELTON
CHRIS KOCHER
GRANT LINDSLEY

Team Leader
BYRON HICKS

Head Coach
MATTY TSANG

SARAH MECKSTROTH
JIMMY MICKLE
CAROLYN NORMILE
OPI PAYNE
KHALIF EL SALAAM
CLAIRE TROP
JACK WILLIAMS

Assistant Coach
MIRANDA KNOWLES

Assistant Coach
PATRICK SHERLOCK



The World Games
2022 BIRMINGHAM, USA



PROGRAM GROWTH



While 2022 was primarily a year of continuing to rebuild programs following the pandemic shut downs, USA Ultimate also launched several new initiatives. In August the College Mixed 4's Regional Tournaments Series was introduced, piloting the Ultimate 4's ruleset work that was completed in 2021. Ultimate 4's is designed to allow for a dynamic, fast-paced and more accessible variation of ultimate for teams with fewer players and limited access to field space.

In partnership with the organization Color of Ultimate, USA Ultimate proudly hosted a Color of Ultimate Game at the 2022 USA Ultimate College Championships in Milwaukee. A mixed-gender exhibition game featuring student-athletes from USA Ultimate's college division, the Color of Ultimate showcase was live streamed for free on YouTube by ESPN's production team. The game highlights the talents of players of color, connects participants through a unique experience, publicizes the sport to a wider community and

encourages more people of color to play ultimate. Applications were received from players across both college divisions interested in participating in the showcase, which saw 40 BIPOC athletes compete across two teams, in what is sure to become a repeat event.

Behind the scenes, this year USA Ultimate also began a significant initiative to improve the IT software systems used for league management. USA Ultimate was able to secure a strategic surplus fund investment early in 2022 and the work to update the technology is already underway. This effort is projected to reduce hundreds of hours in staff time currently spent manually managing sanctioned leagues nationwide by automating many aspects of the process. Additionally, the effort will directly benefit local disc organizations who partner with USA Ultimate, as LDOs often rely heavily on league structures for revenue and engagement with their local communities.



FINANCIAL REVIEW



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	EXPENSES
CURRENT ASSETS	CURRENT LIABILITIES	PROGRAM SERVICES
Cash and cash equivalents \$2,831,242	Accounts payable \$701,198	Triple Crown Tour event and programs: \$457,556
Certificate of deposit \$510,263	Due to USA Ultimate -	Youth events and programs: \$404,137
Accounts receivable, net \$31,892	Accrued liabilities \$118,703	College events and programs: \$387,523
Due from USA Ultimate Foundation \$348	Current portion of deferred revenue \$675,362	Masters events and programs: \$186,111
Inventory \$21,498	TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES \$1,559,672	Beach events and programs: \$122,736
Prepaid expenses & deposits \$43,763	Deferred Revenue \$468,937	TOTAL EVENTS AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS \$1,558,063
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS \$3,439,006	TOTAL LIABILITIES \$1,559,672	Marketing and communications: \$717,869
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		National teams and International: \$604,248
IT infrastructure system \$789,113		Member services and community development: \$473,965
Furniture and equipment \$138,558		Online Technology: \$143,381
Other depreciable projects \$17,886		Education: \$111,877
Software \$4,222		Event standards/Spirit of the Game/rules/disc standards: \$59,634
Less accumulated depreciation -\$672,436		TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES \$3,669,037
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT - NET \$277,343		SUPPORTING SERVICES
Long-Term Investments \$1,318,223		Equity, diversity and inclusion: \$160,030
Right-of-Use Assets \$207,737		General and Administrative: \$141,559
Other Assets \$1,300		Safe Sport/judicial: \$131,273
TOTAL ASSETS \$5,243,609		Board of Directors: \$81,680
		Fundraising: \$21,654
		TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES \$536,196
		TOTAL EXPENSES \$4,205,233



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