

MODS Annual Report - 2020



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the MODS Junior
Provincial
Championships!



Directors Report

Welcome everyone to the return of the MODS Annual Report!

Our office and board are working to improve communication, understanding and overall knowledge of the way MODS operates and makes decisions, so what better way to start than the return of our annual report – highlighting changes in demographics, memberships and programs?!

We worked to follow the Ultimate Canada annual report this year. Our thoughts were that having something to compare to and of similar layout and format would be a good way for us to return to this project... however in future years we expect the report to evolve and change and become something more unique and based off of our board's insight and member requests. One of the first changes you'll notice compared to previous reports is that this annual report is fully digital and removes any impact on print services, paper use or cost!

It should also be noted for this report that we had to share a lot of information from the previous year (2019). With so many major programs and events cancelled this year due to COVID-19, there wasn't much to draw off of or share. We also thought it would be a good idea to highlight where we left off during the last full year of programs... so this version of the annual report will take in some of 2019 and some of 2020.

Lastly, we wanted to say thank you from the office and board to our membership. Your confidence in us and each other as part of the MODS community during this pandemic has allowed our organization to remain healthy and operational (at a time when we see many Canadian Ultimate and other sports organizations taking losses or worse). The impact of your support isn't lost on us and so we want to leave everyone with our grateful thanks and acknowledgement of just how amazing of a community you are.

From Corey & Sean – *THANK YOU!*

A Note From the President

To the MODS community,

This past year has been quite the ride. We began the board year in the fall of 2019 - which now feels like an eternity ago - with a focus on addressing the primary concerns that had been brought to us by the membership. At the time, these were finding ways to help support the improvement of spirit of the game within all of our programs, looking to continue to integrate and maximize a new website, and also growing our member base by improving how we retain juniors that age out of that programming into our adult programs.

Then March 11th happened, with the World Health Organization declaring that COVID-19 could now be characterized as a global pandemic, and everything changed for all of us.



Photo Credit: Sarah Hunter
www.huntedphotos.com

This is not to say that the priorities of spirit of the game and growth were no longer important as they still remained a high priority for the board. The shift was that the questions we were now discussing at the board level had changed from *what* and *how* to *if* and *when* we could safely offer anything in 2020. There was little to go on in terms of a roadmap, as navigating a pandemic situation was not something that any business or organization had recently experienced. It's easy to look back now and pat ourselves on the back for making the call when we did to suspend programs, as the province shut things down shortly thereafter. At the time it was not a decision we took lightly, as we recognized the impact this would have on our community.

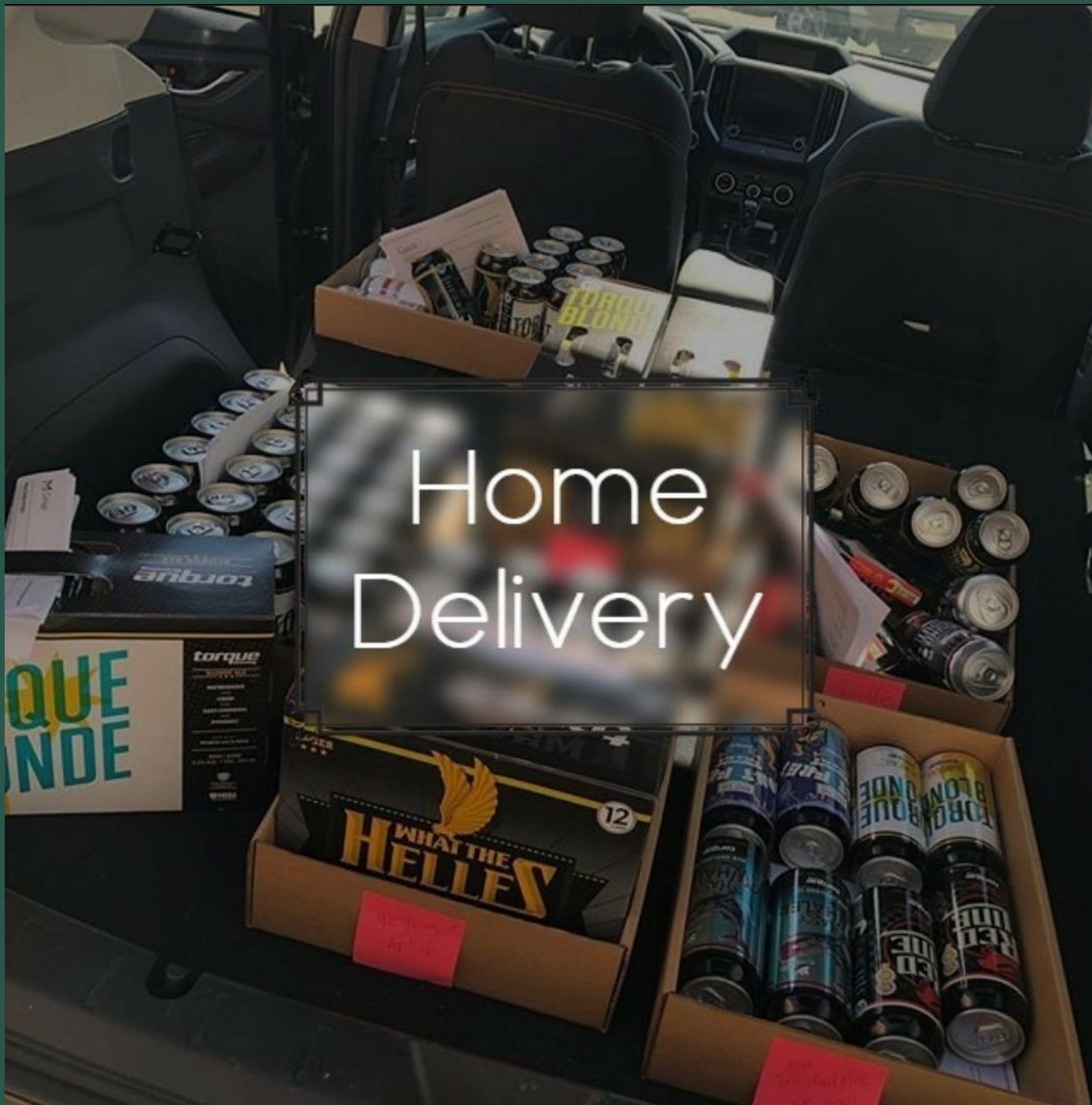
While it has been a stressful experience due to the significant uncertainty involved for our members, staff and the board, I am encouraged by the proactive and cautious nature of our response to date as an organization. I am glad that we have been able to stay the course in our decision making, trusting in the guidance of the provincial health experts and prioritizing what's most important at this time - **member health and safety**. The suspension of and subsequent modifications to the game that we all love has been, for all of us, a significant inconvenience in our lives. However, I am thankful that, for myself and many of our members, the impact of the pandemic has been only that - an inconvenience. This perspective is important for those among us who have been fortunate enough to participate in the limited Ultimate play that we were able to safely offer, and who are not experiencing the full effects that this pandemic can bring. To those who have been unable to join us, your presence has been missed. My hope is that when this passes and you are able to do so, we will see you back on the field again.

I'd like to thank all of you who have given to MODS over the past year: To the departing board members Giuseppe, Heidi, Mark, Meghan, Mike and Rob for their generous service during their tenures; to our full time staff Sean and Corey who did instrumental work in facilitating our late summer return; to our seasonal staff who have been essential in our return to the field; to those who ran for the board but were not elected for taking that risk, putting your name forward and being willing to help during this time; to the newly elected board members Charlotte, Delaney, Eric, Jesse and Margaret for taking on the responsibility of helping guide our decision-making; to the board members returning with me in Kari, Nigel and Serena for continuing to commit your time to the organization; and to all those who have volunteered their time coaching, mentoring, organizing leagues/events, participating on committees or working groups, providing feedback and all other aspects of giving that help make MODS the organization that it is today. Once again, THANK YOU!

We are by no means out of the woods yet. There will likely be more challenges ahead as we enter the fall, and the uncertainty around what restrictions the province will need to mandate for the community's health and safety remains. Take care of yourselves and those around you during this time. Thank you all for your patience and grace as we continue to navigate these uncharted waters together.

Daniel Plourde

President - Manitoba Organization of Disc Sports

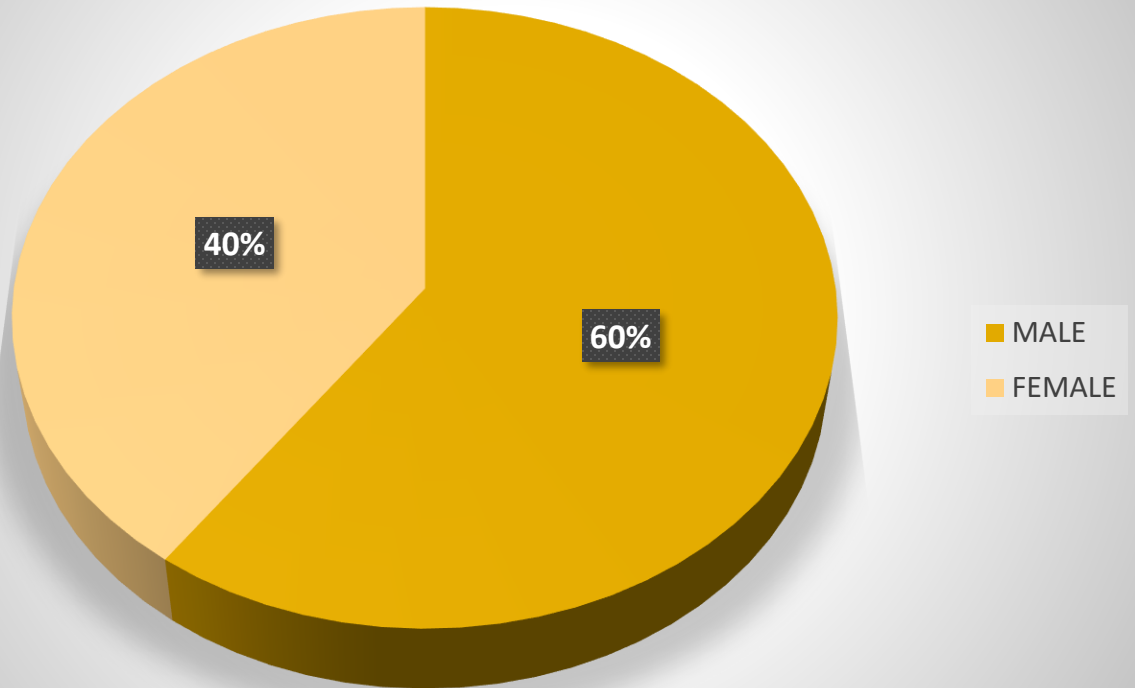


Torque Brewing – Proud Sponsor Of MODS Mixed Leagues and Open For Home Delivery During the 2020 Pandemic!



MODS DEMOGRAPHICS

Gender Split 2019



Please note, 2019 and earlier demographics pre-date non-binary options with registration and tracking. Moving into 2020 and beyond, gender is being tracked for Sport Manitoba reporting only and includes non-binary options.

Under 1%

12 &
Under

15%

13 - 17

45%

18 - 29

33%

30 - 40

6%

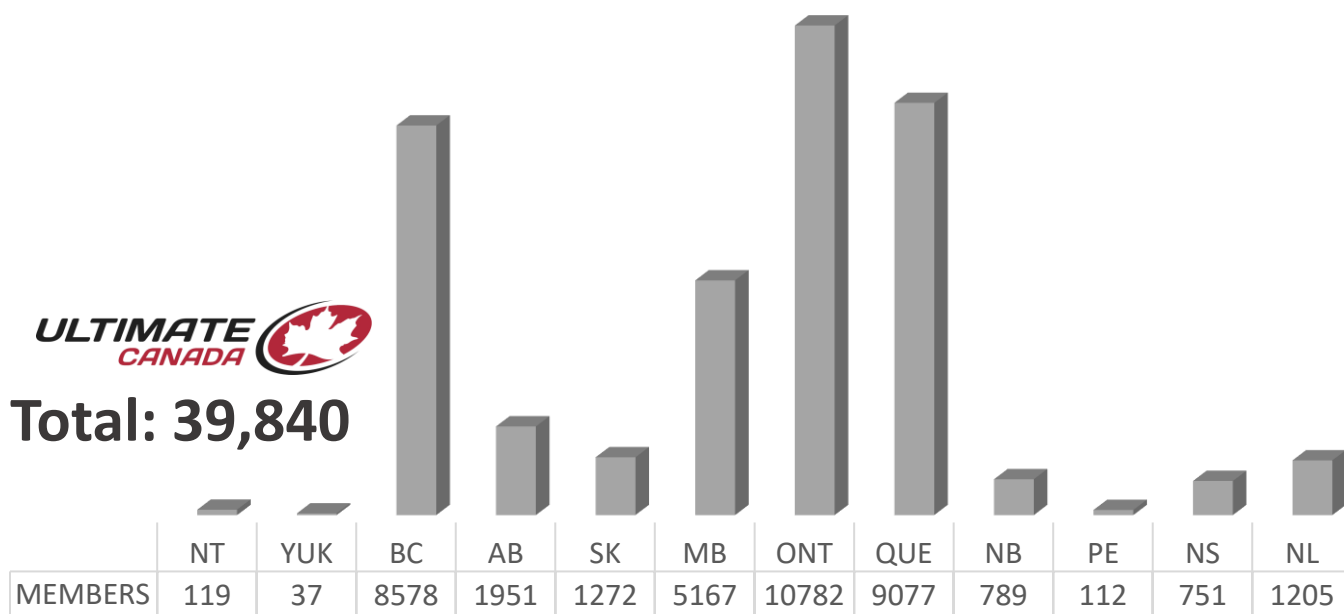
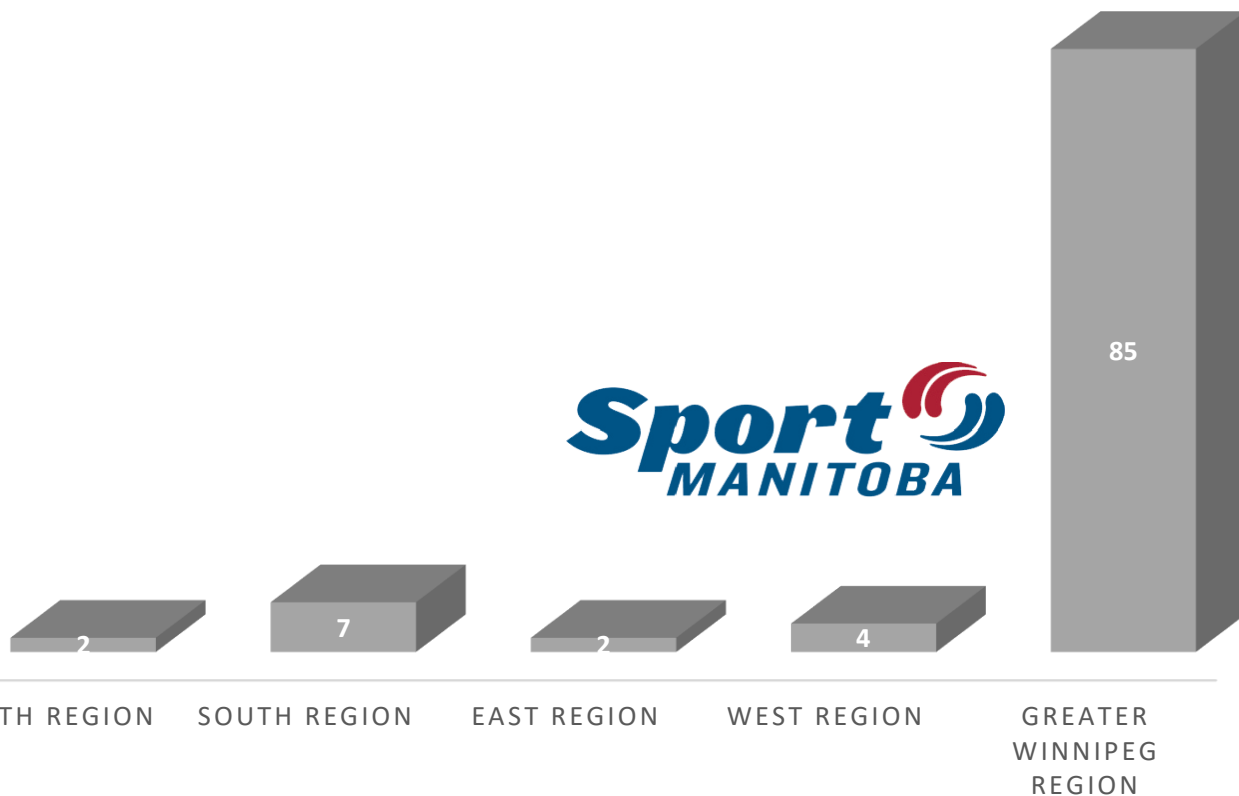
41 - 54

Under 1%

55+

MEMBERSHIP BY AGE

PERCENT OF MEMBERSHIP BY REGION (AS DEFINED BY SPORT MANITOBA)



Competitions, Events and Programs

COVID-19 Update

COVID-19 struck the Sport Manitoba offices in the second week of March 2020. The staff began working from home and immediately shut down the remaining indoor season with our partners at Soccer South, Soccer North, and the U of W Recplex. With all indoor seasons cancelled due to the pandemic, the first full program our community lost in 2020 was the Spring parity league. This program normally begins in April, and this year it took the distinction of being the first full cancellation for MODS.

Junior Programs & Events Cancelled Due to COVID-19

Indoor High School Tournament
Middle School League
High School League
Spring Discovery Tournament
IJL Middle School Provincial Championships
MHSAA High School Provincial Championships
Team Manitoba
Fall High School League

Adult Programs & Events Cancelled Due to COVID-19

Women's Leagues
Men's Leagues
Torque Mixed Summer League
Adult Beginner's League
Beat the Skeeters
Flatland 5's
Manitoba Cup



VC
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Competitions, Events and Programs Continued...

2019 Adult Touring Teams & Placements

All 2020 Ultimate Canada events have been cancelled. Results are from 2019 UC competitions and events.

Adult Touring – Canada Ultimate Championships

Open – General Strike (Bronze) - Edmonton, Alberta

Women's – Fusion (Spirit Champions) - Edmonton, Alberta

Mixed – PBHG (DNP) - Brampton, Ontario

Mixed Masters – GAIA Sale (4th)

Mixed Masters - Firefly (Spirit Champions) - Brampton, Ontario

Grand Masters Open – Grand Masters of the Universe (DNP) - Montreal, Quebec

World Qualifier - UC Sanctioned

Grand Masters Mixed – Grey Owl (Gold) - Montreal, Quebec.

2019 Junior Touring Teams & Placements

All 2020 Ultimate Canada events have been cancelled. Results are from 2019 UC competitions and events.

Junior Touring – Canadian Ultimate Championships

MOFO Women – (Silver) - Edmonton, Alberta

MOFO Men's Open – (5th) - Edmonton, Alberta

Red River Rebellion – (DNP) - Edmonton, Alberta

Manitou – (DNP) - Edmonton, Alberta

Spitfire – (DNP) - Edmonton, Alberta

All 2020 Ultimate Canada events have been cancelled. Results are from 2019 UC competitions and events.

Competitions, Events and Programs Continued...

4 on 4 Championships - Gatineau, Quebec

FOURtitude – (DNP)

Fortitude – (DNP)

Canadian University Ultimate Championship Series

Regionals (CPUUC) - Regina, Saskatchewan

Open - University of Manitoba (1st place - Gold)

Open - University of Winnipeg (3rd place - Third)

Women's - University of Winnipeg (4th place)

Nationals (CUUC) - Brampton, Ontario

Open - University of Manitoba (1st place - Gold)

Canadian High School Ultimate Championships - Ottawa, Ontario

Kelvin Clippers – (Gold)

Gray Raiders – (Bronze)

SJR Eagles – (5th)

Westgate Wings – (8th)

Return to Participate & Play (March, April, and May)

In early March 2020 COVID-19 became an influence on sport and the province of Manitoba. Both our board of directors (who voted a cessation to programs to increase member safety) and Sport Manitoba had by mid-March called a halt to all sports within their framework (including their clubs, organizations and all programs, training and events).

It was with board review and vote as well as with the approval of Sport Manitoba (and oversight from the Province of Manitoba) that that we began to see a return to sport through vetted and approved plans called Return to Participate or Return to Play. Both documents being endorsed and reviewed by each sport Board of Directors and staff, the Province of Manitoba and Sport Manitoba.

Through this process, MODS was able to secure approval for a 2-stage return to participate & play after a successful draft and submission by the MODS board of directors and office staff.



Stage 1 & Stage 2 Programs

(June, July, August, and September)

Stage 1 was our first approved return to participate, which allowed MODS to offer programs where athletes would socially distance and meet venue restrictions. This meant declaring a partner at the start of the practice or session and only throwing and catching with that one individual. While training was allowed in stage 1, there was no competition of any kind permitted. MODS was able to offer:

- Junior Programs Training Sessions
- Adult Single Gender Training Sessions
- Adult Mixed Training Sessions
- Registered teams were able to rent fields and practice as long as they followed MODS return to participate protocols

Stage 2 allowed MODS to build off of the foundation of stage 1 as the Province of Manitoba changed safety measures and restrictions. The organization was able to safely bring more people to the park through the use of more seasonal staff and the use of roster checks, while we also brought back competition and team play. The programs offered in this stage were all at IJL Ultimate Park (as in stage 1).

- Torque Brewing Mixed Summer Leagues
- Women's Developmental Programs
- Women's Elite League
- MODS Team Manitoba Scrimmages and Training

Indoor Return to Play

(October, November, and December)

With a successful outdoor season and an approved set of protocols from the summer, Sport Manitoba once again asked the organizations within their framework to adopt a new set of protocols and reviews for indoor play. Taking into account the closer game play, lack of natural air flow and breezes as well as the increased proximity of players within a confined space, we had to look at how we were going to offer programs for a new environment.

Acting as an amendment to the outdoor documents, the indoor return to play limits team and on field size more than outdoor play did. There are also new venue protocols with our partners now taking on the management of venues and patrons (Winnipeg Soccer Federation South at U of M and North on Leila).

Adding further safety measures to indoor programming is the use of cohorts or pods to help limit the spread of a possible outbreak. This protocol will only allow a member to play in one program and on one team for any indoor program.

- Torque Indoor Mixed League
- Women's Elite League
- Men's Elite League
- Women's League
- 4 on 4 League
- Juniors has been reduced to one program and the High School league has been folded into the adult mixed league for the first half of indoor

It should be noted that the MODS board voted to increase player safety in October 2020 by suspending league play. During this suspension, the city of Winnipeg then Province of Manitoba went into a code red status, closing all sport leagues and venues.

Development

Manitoba Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Council (MASRC)

MODS and the MASRC continue to evolve their partnership and outreach into northern indigenous communities. In 2019, through the support of the MASRC, Willem Konrad and members of our community, we were once again able to fly into Oxford House for workshops and clinics and their high school team was also hosted in Winnipeg for their second straight provincial championships. Their team and program are showing incredible growth in just a few years and their team won most of their games in 2019.

We have also been fortunate to expand programming into the Opaskwayak Cree Nation (OCN) in northern Manitoba with supplementary work across the bridge in the Pas. While this program has not been able to visit Winnipeg for competition yet, we have been hosted thanks to their leadership and the MASRC and hope to revisit in late fall of 2020.

Junior Observer Program

Ultimate Canada with some minor support from MODS was able to complete and launch the National Junior Observer Training Program. This is a new tool for training juniors and giving them the skill sets to advance as observers moving through local, regional, provincial and national programs over time. MODS is committed to using these new junior observers with school programs and select events once programming resumes. These will be paid positions when working for MODS!

2019 School Scholarships

Jean-Luc Forrest Spirit of the Game Scholarship – Joe McCallum

Dean Wright Scholarship – Caitilin Cho

Dr. Colin Yeung Scholarship – Quinn Wilson

National Coaching Certification Program NCCP Training

MODS would like to thank Dean Wright and Grant Shaw who were the leaders of our previous coaching clinics and helped develop the core of MODS certified coaches in Manitoba. Incoming in 2019 were Heidi Grieser and Jen Stark who will be leading the community stream development moving forward and Erin McKinlay who will be developing coaches in the competitive stream.

New to our organization and with support from the Manitoba Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Council (MASRC), MODS can now offer access to the coach.ca courses known as the “Aboriginal Coaching Module” or ACM for short (made up of three components). MODS members wanting to take part in the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) for personal development or their NCCP accreditations will also have their fees paid for or waived.

MODS continues to be one of the only organizations in the province and country which still covers all funding and cost for the coaches taking their NCCP courses offered by us each April. We also pay coaches in all our MODS run programs where we supply coaches (WYUL 9-11, 12-15, HS, camps, clinics and our provincial team program).

I ask no favor for my sex.
All I ask of our brethren is that they
take their feet off our necks.
- Ruth Bader Ginsburg



Vicious Circle (VC) Ultimate is a proud sponsor of MODS and leader of Spirit in the Ultimate community. Thank you VC for using your platform for good and to promote conversation!

Communications

2019 Volunteer of the Year

- Willem Konrad (junior development)
- Mark Oser (Disc Golf)

2020 Volunteer of the Year

Carmen Lee

As a coach, Carmen has helped shape the future of the sport through our junior programs and specifically the young women of MODS. Having helped in clinics and development programs, Carmen is also the head coach at Gray Academy and has taken on the role of head coach for the Team Manitoba (Masters of Flying Objects) top women's team as well. In 2019 her time, commitment and efforts led Gray to a bronze medal at the Canadian High School Ultimate Championships (CHSUC) and she helped direct the MOFO women to a final's appearance and silver medal at the Junior High School Ultimate Championships (CHSUC) later that same summer.

As an athlete, Carmen has represented Manitoba as part of Fusion for many years on the touring circuit. Not only bringing home national championships in the adult women's division, but also multiple times spirit champion, exemplifying Spirit of the Game firsthand and by example.

In adult programming, Carmen is an essential link and part of the women's committee within MODS and also as a leader and organizer of outdoor and indoor women's leagues, helping to keep development opportunities in place for our touring and elite junior communities.

We want to congratulate Carmen on all the successes she has had on and off the field in the past year and even more than that say THANK YOU for all the time, support and energy you put into developing our sport and community.





Erin McKinlay

Erin McKinlay - For her outstanding work with women's and junior development and continued work with coaching and leadership at large, Erin has been recognized for many years of service to the Ultimate community. This is a small token to such an important member of our organization who leads on and off the field and encompasses Spirit of the Game as a player, coach and ambassador. Our community thanks Erin for everything she has done to help grow Ultimate in Manitoba.

Yacine Bara

Yacine Bara - For his years of service to our board of directors, committees, his leadership as president and treasurer as well as his commitment to leading by example on the field and through team play, we celebrate Yacine for all he has done for the community, organization and Spirit of the Game.

2019 Lifetime Member Inductees



SKYE WEALTH P L A N N I N G



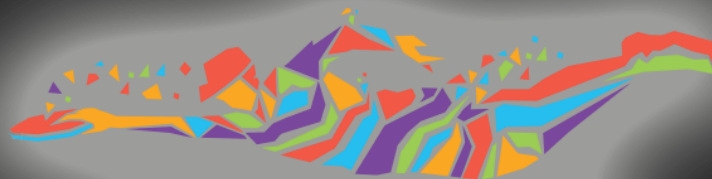
Skye Wealth (and Vitality) are proud sponsors of MODS, working with the organization to help increase health and fitness while decreasing costs to our community.

Spirit of the Game Working Group (SOTG)

MODS recently surveyed the membership to take in comments and feedback around Spirit of the Game (SOTG). The overall consensus from that survey was that SOTG was in decline, it was deemed integral by youth and adult membership and is a unique element of Ultimate worth supporting and protecting.

As a result of that survey, the MODS board commissioned a working group to look at the best ways of implementing SOTG moving forward. Findings by the committee were centered around improving knowledge of the game and recognizing spirit as an integral part of Ultimate. Moving into upcoming seasons, some of the changes our members can look forward to being implemented are:

- Indoor Mixed League and Outdoor Mixed League prizing for the top spirit team! This prize would create a set of custom spirit jersey for the team through VC Ultimate paid for by MODS!
- Increased prizing for our most spirited members and teams directly at games
- Mandatory spirit circles after games for all juniors at all levels
- Adding spirit captains to youth and adult teams
- Use of the new WFDF approved Spirit Time Out
- More rules information, testing and application



SPIRIT
OF THE GAME

Finance

The financial numbers listed below are a condensed version of the MODS year end finances from 2019 and 2020.

2019 fiscal shows the continued impact of a large world event. 2020 shows a year of full operations however does not have programming from the indoor season in March of 2020, when COVID-19 closed programs.

The 2021 financials (next annual report) will show the full impact and year of COVID-19 on MODS as an organization as well as the grants and support systems we have accessed over that timeframe while keeping the organization healthy and operational.

	2020	2019
Assets	\$1,256,411	\$1,427, 557
Liabilities	\$1,256,411	\$1,427,557
Revenues	\$945,279	\$1,593,605
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$888,408</u>	<u>\$1,586,960</u>
Difference	\$54,871	\$6,645

Organization

Sponsors

- IJL Winnipeg
- Torque Brewing
- Pinky's Bakeshop
- VC Ultimate
- Skywealth

Partners

- Sport Manitoba
- Canada Summer Jobs Grants
- Green Team Summer Grants
- Ultimate Canada (LTAD and NCCP Support)
- Coaching Manitoba
- Manitoba Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Council
- City of Winnipeg

Board of Directors & Staff

- President - Dan Plourde (president@mods.mb.ca)
- Vice President - Kari Bergmuller (kbergmuller@mods.mb.ca)
- Secretary - Charlotte Thrift (cthrift@mods.mb.ca)
- Treasurer - Eric Robert (erobert@mods.mb.ca)
- Director - Nigel Batchelor (nbatchelor@mods.mb.ca)
- Director - Serena Vandersteen (svandersteen@mods.mb.ca)
- Director - Delaney Vun (dvun@mods.mb.ca)
- Director - Margret Gobert (mgobert@mods.mb.ca)
- Director - Jesse Greenberg (jgreenberg@mods.mb.ca)



TORQUE BREWING



DRINK LOCAL

Organization cont'd

Committees

- Conduct (Serena Vandersteen – conduct@mods.mb.ca)
- Personnel (Daniel Plourde)
- Women's (Jess Benoit and Nicole Plourde)
- Fields (Jesse Greenberg)
- Governance (Kari Bergmuller)
- Finance (Eric Robert)
- Communications (Nigel Batchelor)

Working Groups

- Volunteer 2021 (Corey Draper)
- Junior School and Junior Elite 2021 (Margaret Gobert)
- Spirit Completed (Rob Borges)
- Sustainability Completed – (Sean Seywright)

Office Staff

- Corey Draper – [Operations Director](#)
- Sean Seywright - [Business and Sport Development Director](#)



26

PINKY'S BAKESHOP
PROUD SPONSOR OF
MODS AND OPEN FOR
DELIVERY

I am not a
shopaholic.



I am helping the
economy.

IJL

SINCE 1937

