



OTTAWA CARLETON ULTIMATE ASSOCIATION

The greatest sport. The Ultimate people.

OCUA is Introducing a New Membership Fee to Support Capital Projects

This winter, OCUA will be launching its first membership fee. All players, except recreational youth & junior, will now have to pay an annual \$15 fee, and this fee will cover the player as a member of OCUA for the fiscal year in which they register (November 1 – October 31, annually), regardless of how many leagues in which that player registers.

What is the purpose of the membership fee?

The purpose of the membership fee is two-fold. Firstly the membership fee is designed to support major capital projects for OCUA. Right now, this portion of the fund will go to support Project Callahan ([read slides 22-23 here](#)), which involves OCUA transferring UPI from a corporation that OCUA owns, Ultimate Parks Incorporated.

The second goal of the membership fund is to cover membership fees that OCUA pays to its National Sports Organization (NSO), Ultimate Canada, and Provincial Sports Organization (PSO), Ontario Ultimate, on behalf of its members.

What is the structure of the membership fee?

The allocation of the membership fee against expenses may change over time, as costs and organizational priorities grow and evolve. However, OCUA currently plans to allocate the majority of the fee (\$10) to its capital projects fund, and the remainder of the fee (\$5) to cover NSO and PSO membership fees.

What will the capital projects fund include?

The initial plan for the capital projects fund will be to cover the costs associated with Project Callahan, which involves OCUA transferring UPI from a corporation that OCUA owns, Ultimate Parks Incorporated. The project is complicated, but it is a very important project to align our organization with best practices in terms of not-for-profit management. Once Project Callahan is completed, OCUA plans to use the fund to support a variety of initiatives that bring value to the membership, such as:

- Increasing the number of ultimate-specific lined fields
- Accessing more central fields
- Booking higher quality fields
- Making improvements to UPI, such as paving the parking lot, addressing irrigation challenges and/or improving field conditions
- Increasing access to turf fields
- Building new facilities or fields

This is not an exhaustive or binding list. We will make decisions, in consultation with the member-elected OCUA Board, based on the organizational context and priorities of the membership as the organization evolves.

If I play on multiple nights or in multiple seasons, will I have to pay the membership fee multiple times?

No. Your membership fee will be associated with your Zurulu account and will be valid for the entire fiscal year (for OCUA this is November 1 to October 31) of the year in which the membership was purchased. This means that if you play this winter, and as a result buy your membership for the winter season, you will have an active membership account for any Summer 2019 and Fall 2019 leagues in for which you register.

Do I have to pay the membership fee when I register for winter league?

For 2018, you will not have to pay the \$15 membership fee at the same time as you register for winter leagues. As winter league is more expensive than summer league due to the cost of renting indoor turf, and given this is the first time we are asking for a membership fee to be paid by members, we will be offering players in Session 1 a grace period; however, all membership fees for players in Session 1 must be paid by December 31.

For players registering for Session 2, summer and fall leagues who have not yet paid a membership fee, the membership fee must be paid before the player plays their first game of the season.

Will Youth & Juniors be required to pay the membership fee?

Recreational youth & juniors will contribute to the Capital Fund and pay for their NSO and PSO dues through a portion of their summer registration fees and are not required to pay for an annual membership fee. Competitive juniors (OJ-CUP), along with all clubs in the Competitive Alliance, will be required to pay the annual membership fee.

As a captain, will I have to collect players' membership fees on top of their team fees?

No. As membership fee payment will be associated with a member's own Zurulu account, the member will be responsible for paying for their fee online or in-person. However, as of Session 2 of the winter season, members who are registered to a team but have not paid their membership fee will not be able to be added to a roster as a regular player until their fee is paid.

Will subs have to pay a membership fee?

At this time non-rostered substitute players will not have to pay a membership fee. OCUA's practice is that all captains in winter league should strive to ask players who are registered in an OCUA winter league; however, in the summer we want to encourage captains to bring out new players, and do not want to create a barrier to finding substitute players by asking them to pay a membership fee. In order to gain access to Zuluru's scheduling functions and to be listed as part of a team, regular substitute players will be required to pay an annual membership fee.

Can I opt out of the membership fee?

No. All members must pay the membership fee, including OCUA staff, league convenors, Competitive Alliance players, and league coordinators who register to play as a full-time player in an OCUA-run league or program.

If you have more questions, please reach out to either the Executive Director (ed@ocua.ca) or the Board of Directors (board@ocua.ca).