

Sprint Retrospective – Sprint 2

Team: P03-02

Date: 13-10-2024

Attended: All members

Scrum Master: Keenan Phillips

Product Owner: Dale Stanbrough

Development Team:

- Christian Nieves
- Seanghai Heng
- Keenan Phillips
- William Dash
- Heethasha Sandeep Kumar
- Paul Johny Mampilly

Things That Went Well

- Since we had a general structure for all our code, it was a lot easier during this sprint to implement many more features, as opposed to Sprint 1 where we had to figure out how to properly build a web app with Spring Boot.
- Most of the features outlined in the assignment specification were implemented (admin/vet dashboard and latest trends missing).
- A majority of the team was timely with their parts.

Things That Could Have Gone Better

- Updating the group on individual progress – certain implementations were started very late or not at all. This, however, was communicated to with our product owner (PO) and adjustments were swiftly made to our MVP.
- Making up meetings for the public holiday and for when the PT challenge was running – whole team missed class and as a result, could not have a meeting.
- Each individual group member being responsible for grooming the backlog, instead, it was two members doing most of it.
- Database versioning – migrations were a huge issue that significantly cut into our time. Best practices were generally not used until three days before the assignment due date – fixing this sunk up lots of time. E.g., editing a V3__.sql file to insert table data instead of creating a V4. Initially, we got around this by deleting the existing database image on docker and rebuilding but should not be the way that this issue should be tackled.

What Can Be Improved

- Product backlog grooming.
- Following best practices with database migrations.
- General programming practices – error checking, input validation, etc., as there was an issue where users could use a ‘blank’ character as a name for their pet. As pointed out by the PO, this is one of the first things that teams should generally check for.

Things That Surprised Us

- Most of the work came together and we built a functional web application.
- Very surprised by how “delicate” database migrations can be, and how much of a time sink it is to fix.
- PO was very understandable when a certain feature was not ready for product release.

Lessons Learned

- Communicate about anything (progress, help, questions) ASAP .
- Always communicate with PO and be honest about what you can deliver.
- Do research on database versioning and follow best practices.

Final Thoughts

- **Things to keep:** daily standups + standups during class time, everyone work on separate user stories, teammates helping wherever possible.
- **Things to change:** communicating earlier, seeking help from product owner if required, ensuring that team can meet deadlines effectively, and following best practices for database migrations.