Why Scrum Should Be Followed

Mascot Heroes

Scrum Sanctity

Mascot Heroes' Scrum

➔ **Flexible Sprint**
MH's sprints regularly change scope mid-sprint.

➔ **Little Communication**
MH's scrum has few meetings and little collaboration.

➔ **Little Planning**
MH's sprints are frequently filled at the last minute with newly-created stories in order to fill time quotas.

'Pure' Scrum

➔ **Fixed Sprint**
Scrum sprints are meant to have a fixed scope.

➔ **Constant Communication**
Scrum teams are supposed to be in constant contact and collaborating to achieve the sprint goal.

➔ **Adequate Planning**
Scrum backlogs should have enough pre-planned work in order to fill at least one sprint for the entire team.

Fixed Sprints

Sprint backlogs are meant to have a unified goal and remain fixed throughout the length of the sprint.

➜ **Unified Goal**
A unified goal, shared among the team, ensures that the entire team is working together to achieve the same thing.

➜ **Fixed Content**
A fixed sprint ensures that the entire team can be properly committed to the same work and that work can be adequately tracked.

Constant Communication

Scrum teams are most effective when working together to achieve a shared goal. In order to achieve this, they need to be communicating with the rest of the team.

➔ **Daily Standup**
The daily standup ensures that the entire team is on course to achieve their shared goal, and that any blockers are immediately addressed. It also builds a stronger bond between the team members.

➔ **Open Communication**
Achieving a shared goal is dependent upon constant, open communication between team members regardless of discipline.

Planning & Estimation

Proper planning and story estimation is key to having well-structured sprints and fixed sprint commitments.

➔ **Decomposition**
Stories should be broken down to their smallest deliverable pieces so that sprint commitments can be well known.

➔ **Estimation**
The cost of stories should be estimated using a consistent measure so that sprints can be more effectively planned and scheduled.

Mascot Heroes

The Mascot Heroes team could improve their overall process by more closely adhering to a Scrum implementation of Agile development.

➜ **Fixed Sprints**
   Well-defined, fixed-length sprints with a defined goal shared among the entire development team.

➜ **Constant Communication**
   Daily standup and frequent cross-team communication to ensure a shared focus.

➜ **Proper Planning**
   A well-decomposed and estimated product backlog of tasks makes sprint planning and commitment faster and more effective..