Reflection SE

Previous experiences

Only one of us had ever used Scrum before this project started. Mostly we have just done a 'just-do-it' method before because of how small those project were with some minor planning before starting.

Scrum

We managed to use Scrum fairly well with our project. The daily Scrum meeting was really useful and gave us an update of the progress.

We feel that the project backlog for our project was decent, but the sprint backlog was lacking a bit. Because of our lacking knowledge of android development and activities we didn't really knew how to break apart the features from product backlog, resulting in a sprint backlog which we didn't always follow. Because we changed the backlog during the sprint dynamically we couldn't get any real burn-down from each sprint but general progress instead.

We also feel that if we used user stories more and requirements we could have possibly done a better job of planning sprints, but those were not in our original planning and when we found out we had to write them, they became a 'write-and-forget' case unfortunately.

The result being that sprint backlogs were not that important, but we found out that Scrum is very forgiving because we were always working with the features from product backlog so we still followed some sort of planning.

Scrum not focusing on documentation but rather agile development fit us well. We changed directions many times and we needed to try the android API out so much that we couldn't possibly do all the planning waterfall and other models need.

The role of the Scrum master was passed around each week but apart from the daily scrums meetings he didn't have any other special tasks. Perhaps if we had more separate features in the product backlog he could have chosen what to do each week, but mostly features required another feature in order to be implemented so there wasn't much to decide.

Conclusion

Scrum fitted us very well, but we should have done better job of putting in mini features in the sprint backlog so we could use definition of done easier on them and actually see the burn-down each week. However the daily scrum was enough to let us divide tasks without interfering with each others work.