

Project: Clubby



Team: Out of This World Design

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Project Summary

Student clubs are an integral part of the RPI experience. During normal semesters, clubs are able to host events both on and off campus with the intent of club recruitment, participating in activities like dinner events and trampoline parks. Such events are attractive to prospective club members, meaning the club is more likely to gain members to continue the mission and traditions of each club across semesters. With this comes a simple fact: no new members means the club will cease to exist.

It is no surprise that online events are nowhere near as attractive or interesting as in person events that a club could host. Many clubs lost a lot of knowledge of practices and traditions with the graduation of senior members. Since it was harder to recruit, there are now fewer people to replace them. For some clubs, they are only one or two semesters away from disappearing if they are not able to find enough new motivated members. This is what we want to prevent.

Our project, Clubby, aims to make it easier for clubs to get the word out about their events now that we are back on campus. While club posters and instagram posts may be effective methods of advertising club events, we believe that Clubby can make spreading the word even easier. Ultimately, this application is a centralized platform for hosting club information with some interactive features to help seekers find clubs they are interested in, as well as to help clubs find motivated members to join.

Users and Stakeholders

Users

The app will target two main users: a club officer and a club seeker.

Club officers can use the app to advertise their club by creating their own page. This page can house information relating to the club like a picture, club description, club announcements, club officers, current and upcoming club events (as well as information for these events like the time, location, and any details that might be required), and an option for other users to join a club mailing list. Club pages can also contain a list of categories they fit into, so that users can be matched with clubs. When a club page adds an event, their event will be displayed to a live feed of events available to all club seekers, being added to this live view during the time that the event is posted. For example, if a club page posts an event that will happen on 9/21 from 4-6pm, the live feed will contain that event from 4-6pm on 9/21.

Club seekers can use the app to create a profile, upload their preferred categories, follow club pages to get notified when they post events and announcements, and join club mailing lists. Club seekers will also be able to see the live feed of events happening across all clubs with event times, locations, details, and a link back to the club page.

Stakeholders

Three main stakeholders would benefit from a platform like CLUBBY: RPI, companies, and parents of students. If CLUBBY were to make clubs on campus more visible, prospective students might be more likely to attend RPI, benefitting the institution overall.

Students can find a variety of activities on campus through CLUBBY, where they will be able to have fun and enjoy their time at college in a safe manner. Parents may see some value from CLUBBY in that they can feel reassured that their child can make meaningful connections through clubs without putting themselves in potentially dangerous situations.

Clubs aren't just for fun, they can also be a very powerful tool for a student's professional development. If more students join clubs using CLUBBY, companies that hire these students may benefit from the experiences these students had during their time at RPI.

Intended Technologies

Our program will consist of three parts, a backend housed in the server folder. that will handle all our requests to the database. A frontend which is located in the client folder, that will handle the UI and interactions.

We will be using an AMP stack that consists of Apache to run our web server, PHP to handle our page renderings due to excellent ability to handle dynamic websites and it's ease of use with working with databases. Lastly MySql due to its compatibility with PHP and it's ability to handle large sums of data.

For our design we plan to go with a modern simplistic design. We will use bootstrap as our framework because of its extensive library of uniformly designed components. We will be altering some of these components slightly just to match our applications theme. Page animations will mainly be done with css and javascript.

Requirements: Functional and Non-Functional

Functional Requirements

In order for our application to perform as intended, there are multiple functional requirements we need to satisfy. Each user should be able to create an account, which would allow each user to either identify as a club officer or a club seeker. Club officers should be able to create a page about their club containing information about the club, such as a club description, officers, current and upcoming events, club categories, an option to post announcements, an option for club seekers to follow their page, and an option for students to opt into the club's mailing list.

Club seekers should be able to create a profile containing their interests so that the app can suggest clubs for them to join, they should be able to follow club pages to see their announcements, view a live feed of all club events happening on campus, and join club mailing lists.

Non-Functional Requirements

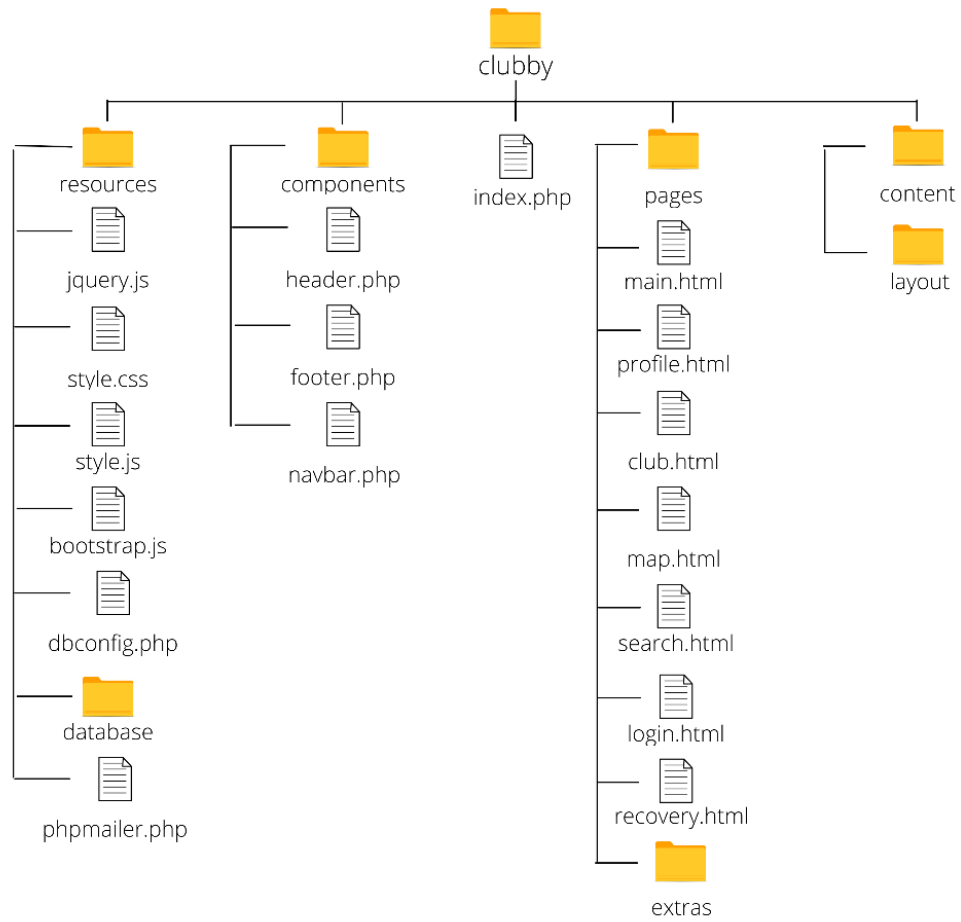
Reliability, data integrity and availability. This application must be reliable - since one of the main features of this application would be a live feed of events happening around campus, we would want to make sure that the information being broadcasted to users is reliable. If we were to accidentally advertise an event at the wrong time, users would lose faith in our application. We also want to make sure that all data within the application is not fake - all input should be cleansed, and before a user is able to post any information, their account should be verified. Finally since club events can take

place during pretty much any time of the day, we want to ensure that CLUBBY is constantly available to those that might need to use it.

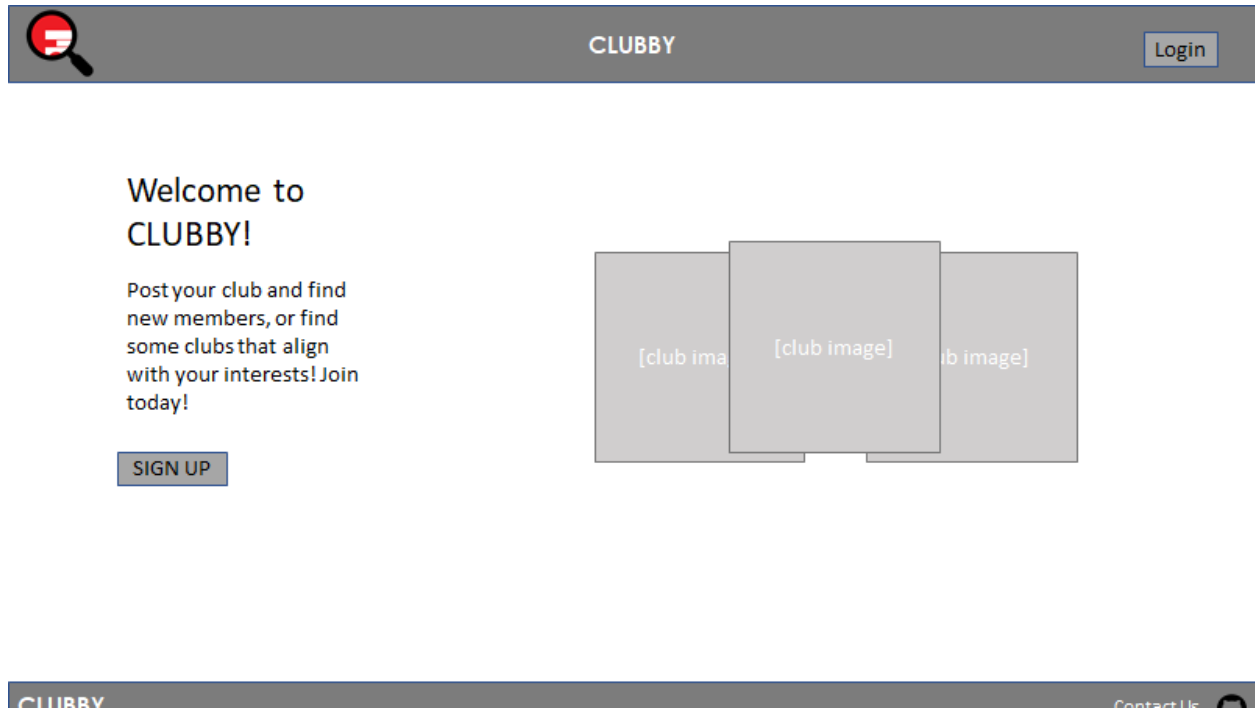
Estimated Project Schedule

Task To Complete	Completion Date
Requirements Gathering	Sep 17th, 2021
Database Map and Creation	Oct 22, 2021
User Testing	Nov 12, 2021
PHP & CSS Completion	Nov 22, 2021
Major Bugs Testing	Nov 30, 2021
Release	Dec 03, 2021

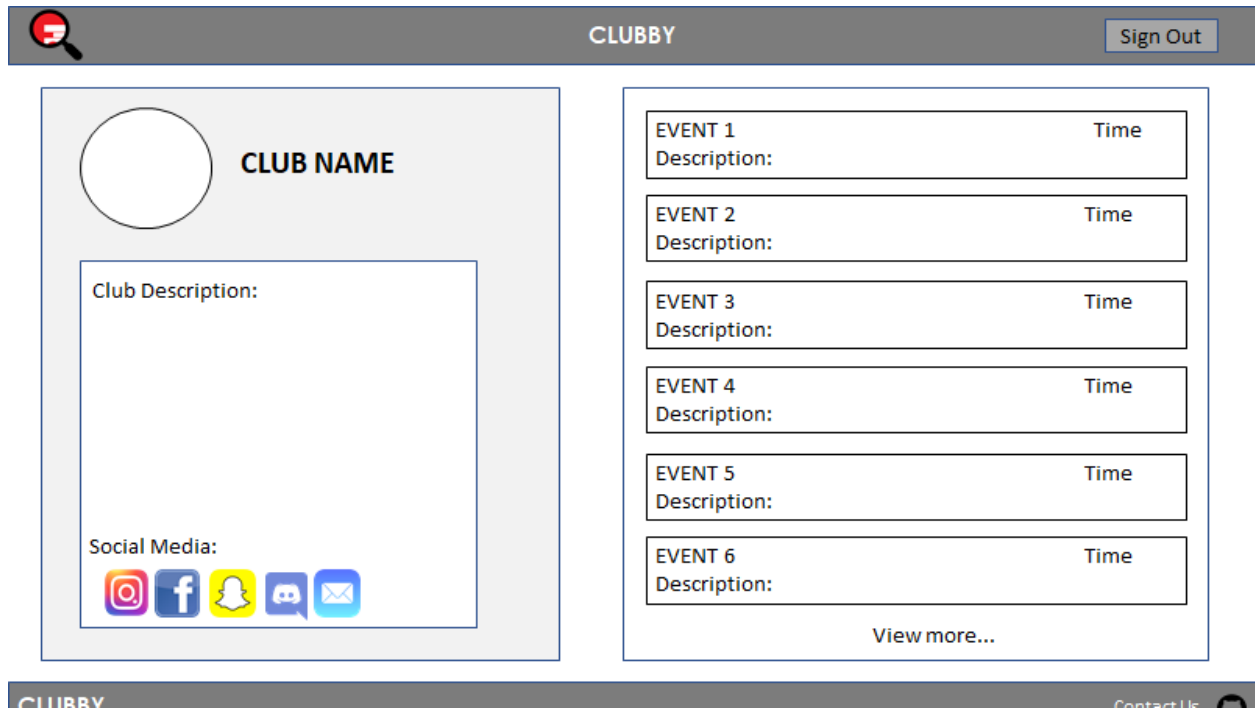
Site Map




Wireframes



The above wireframe depicts the main landing page of CLUBBY, where users will have the option to either login as a returning user or sign up. The right side of the page will contain a carousel of images of clubs, taken from the clubs that have posted images on the platform.



This wireframe shows the structure of a club's page. A club will have the option to upload a picture, description, social media links, provide an option to join the mailing list, as well as a list of current and upcoming events. These are the events that will be displayed on the live feed once it becomes within the time range that the event is posted for.



EVENTS HAPPENING NOW!

Board Game Night

Board Game Club

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Ellsworth Room

Movie Night

Movie Appreciation Club

7:00pm – 9:00pm

DCC 308

Taco Bell Night

Taco Bell Appreciation Club

7:00pm – 8:00pm

Picnic Table – Union 15th St Side

7:14 PM EST

Event Description: We're playing board games! Come join!

What you need: Bring any board games you want to share, or just come enjoy our collection!

[Join Mailing List](#)

[View Club Page](#)

CLUBBY

Contact Us

Finally, we have the live feed of events happening across all clubs at the current time. In this example, it is 7:14PM - because of this we are able to see all of the events from club pages where 7:14PM is within the event's time range.