PRD – UNIPLAY

Student focused Sports Community App

Team - 7

Lokesh Adapa Suryakala Manohar Sampriti Dorairaj Seran Ashwini Nagathan Vignesh Venkatasubramani

Vision

For university students and intramural organizers who struggle to find and coordinate with likeminded sports enthusiasts, our product is a dedicated sports community app that simplifies the process of finding teammates, forming teams, and scheduling games.

Unlike WhatsApp groups and social media channels, which offer fragmented and unorganized communication, UniPlay provides a tailored platform that facilitates game organization based on time, location, and skill level, ensuring a seamless connection and scheduling experience.

Motivation

Unmet Needs:

After doing extensive research and surveys in the university setting, particularly at institutions such as Northeastern University, students and faculty want a more integrated and engaging platform for sports and activities.

- Centralized Activity Platform: Students and staff frequently find it difficult to navigate different platforms or channels to engage in or organize sports and leisure events. UniPlay presents a single, user-friendly platform for accessing, organizing, and managing all university-related activities, saving time, and improving the overall user experience.
- **Finding Teammates:** Students expressed difficulty in finding genuinely interested and committed teammates for sports and group activities. The current process, heavily reliant on social media and personal networks, is inefficient and lacks specificity.
- Coordinating Schedules: A significant challenge is coordinating schedules to find a suitable time for all interested players. This issue is exacerbated for less popular games or when trying to incorporate new players into existing groups.
- Aligning Skill Levels and Interests: Finding players with similar skill levels and sports interests is challenging, leading to mismatches that can detract from the enjoyment and competitive balance of games.
- **Integrating New Players**: Integrating new players smoothly into established groups or teams poses challenges, including personality conflicts, communication gaps, and ensuring a welcoming environment.

• Effective Communication and Organization of Games: Lack of effective tools for communication and organization among organizers and team members leads to logistical challenges in organizing games and activities.

Customer segments:

- **Students**: This segment includes undergraduate and graduate students who are active in sports and looking for teammates to play intramurals or casual games. They are likely techsavyy, value convenience, and seek social interactions through sports.
- University Intramural Organizers: They are focused on efficiently managing team formations, and schedules, and ensuring wide participation. They seek streamlined, effective tools to facilitate sports event organization and enhance participant engagement.

Existing solutions:

- Social media platforms and messaging apps: Used for informal coordination and communication but lack specificity and functionality for sports team formation.
- Campus noticeboards and email lists: Provide information but do not facilitate active engagement or team building.
- **Sports-specific apps and websites**: Focus on broader communities, missing the niche university-based ecosystem UniPlay targets.

Below is the list of existing solutions users mentioned they currently use.

- Playo: Event scheduling for local sports enthusiasts catering to the Indian markets.
- **Eventbrite**: Event scheduling, ticketing, and promotion for event organizers and attendees.
- WhatsApp/Facebook Groups: Free messaging platform for groups with some event organization features.
- Athleto: Free platform for managing sports teams and leagues.
- **IMLeagues**: Free and paid services for managing sports leagues and teams.

While competitors like Athleto and IMLeagues also offer sports team management features, they don't necessarily target university communities or have features like skill-based team formation.

Differentiation:

UniPlay stands out by offering a tailored solution for the university community, integrating features like campus-specific locations, university-affiliated events, and a focus on inclusivity and accessibility for all levels of skill and interest. The app's design prioritizes ease of use, encouraging maximum participation and fostering a sense of community.

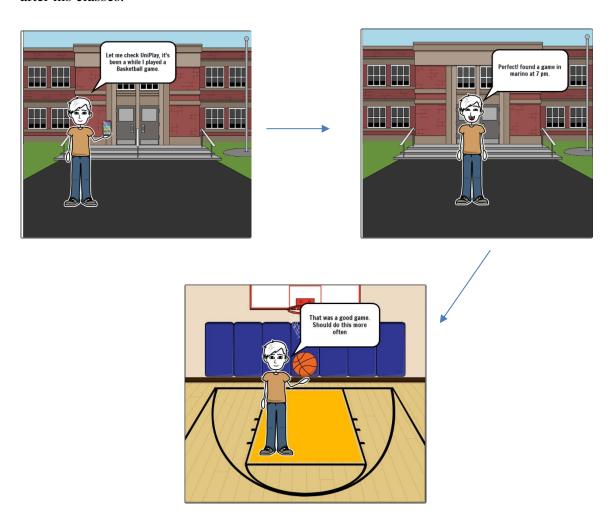
Below is the feature matrix of the competitors compared to UniPlay.

	Playo	Eventbrite	WhatsApp Facebook Groups	Athleto	IMLeagues	UniPlay
Sports Team Formation	<u>~</u>	X	X	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Event Scheduling	~	$\overline{\mathbf{Z}}$	X	<u>~</u>		\checkmark
User Base	Local sports enthusiasts	Event organizers/atte ndees	Local sports enthusiasts	College Community	University Community	Northeastern University Community
Peer Skill Reviews	X	×	×	×	×	~
Intramural Game Management	×	×	×	×	<u> </u>	<u>~</u>
Reminders/No tifications for interested games	×	×	×			
Messaging team members	<u> </u>	×	<u> </u>			<u>~</u>
Event Ticketing	×	<u>~</u>	×	×	×	X
Venue Booking	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	X	X	X	<u> </u>
Game Statistics	X	×	×	×	<u>~</u>	
Team Formation based on skill level	×	×	×	×	×	
Trophy cabinet	X	×	X	X	<u>~</u>	<u>~</u>
Sports centric Community Page	X	×	<u>~</u>	×	×	~

Verbal/Visual Walkthrough of Use Cases

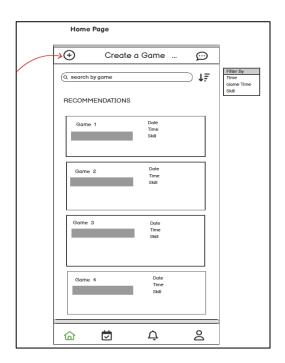
Use Case 1: Spontaneous Pickup Game

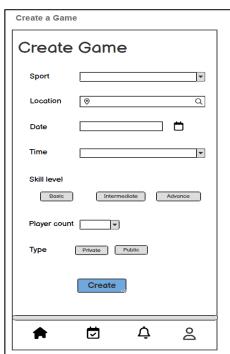
Scenario: Jake, a university student, and basketball enthusiast is looking to play a pickup game after his classes.



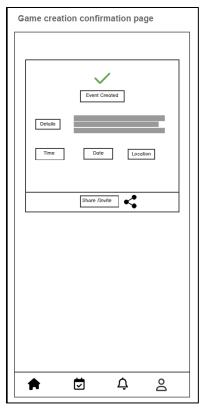
Steps:

- 1. Jake opens the app: Jake, a university student and basketball enthusiast, opens the UniPlay app on his smartphone after finishing his classes for the day.
- 2. Home Screen: Jake is greeted by the app's home screen, which displays a list of upcoming pickup basketball games in his area. He sees options to join a game or host his own.
- 3. Join a Game: Jake scrolls through the list of upcoming games and finds one that fits his schedule. He taps on the game to view more details, such as the location, time, and number of players needed.
- 4. Joining Process: Jake decides to join the game and taps the "Join" button. He receives a confirmation message and his name is added to the list of players attending the game.
- 5. Host a Game: Alternatively, Jake can choose to host his own pickup basketball game. He taps on the "Host Game" button and enters the details, including the location, time, and number of players needed.

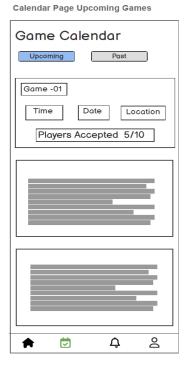


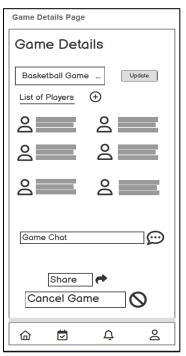


- 6. Inviting Players: Jake can invite friends or other users from his contacts list to join his game. He sends out invitations via the app and waits for responses.
- 7. Game Confirmation: Once enough players have joined Jake's game or the scheduled time approaches, he receives a notification confirming the game. He can view the list of players attending and any additional details.

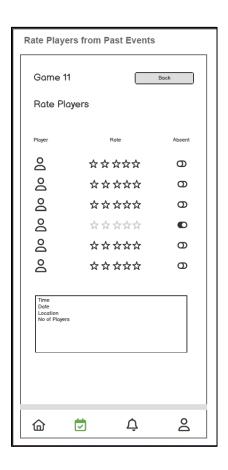


8. Playing the Game: Jake heads to the location of the pickup game at the scheduled time and enjoys playing basketball with other participants.





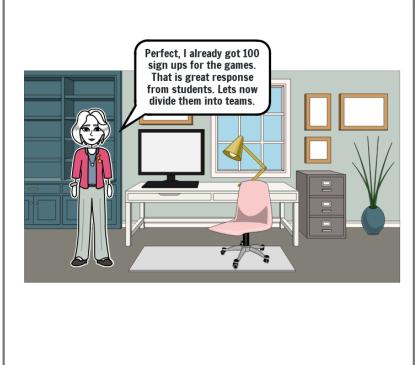
9. Rating and Feedback: After the game, Jake has the option to rate the experience and provide feedback about the other players' performance. This helps improve the app for future users.

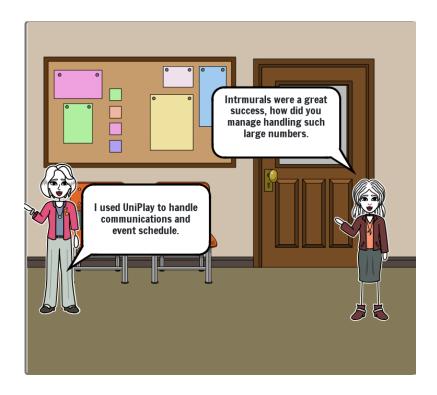


Use Case 2: Intramural Game Organizer

Scenario: Laura, an intramural organizer, needs to form teams for the upcoming soccer tournament.







Steps

- 1. Laura logs into UniPlay with her organizer credentials.
- 2. She creates a new event for the soccer tournament, specifying the date, time, and player skill level requirements.
- 3. The app notifies students who have expressed interest in soccer within the university.
- 4. Interested participants sign up, and the app suggests balanced teams based on skill levels and positions.
- 5. Laura reviews the teams, makes any necessary adjustments, and finalizes the *Spring 2024* rosters.
- 6. Participants receive notifications about their teams and the tournament schedule.
- 7. The app allows Laura to send updates or changes to the event and communicate with all the participants.

Detailed Design & Features Description

Design Principles:

- **User-Centric Design**: Prioritize the needs and experience of users in all design decisions, ensuring that the app interface is intuitive and easy to use.
- Simplicity and Clarity: Embrace a minimalist design approach that focuses on essential

features to reduce complexity and enhance usability.

- Efficiency and Speed: Optimize the app for quick responses and fast interactions to accommodate users looking for teammates and games without delays, reflecting Google's emphasis on speed and efficiency in user interactions.
- Continual Improvement and Feedback Loop: Incorporate user feedback continuously to refine and improve the app's features and functionalities. This iterative design process ensures the app remains relevant and user-friendly over time.
- **Transparency and Trust**: Be transparent about the use of data within the app and provide clear privacy settings. This builds trust and ensures users feel secure in their interactions within the app.
- Accessibility and Inclusivity: Design the app to be accessible to a diverse range of users, including those with disabilities, ensuring that everyone can participate in the community regardless of their physical abilities or technical proficiency.

Features/information architecture:

Feature	Description	Functionality
User	Allows users to create a new	Secure authentication system to
Registration/Login	account or log in to an existing	ensure data integrity and user
	account using email, university	privacy. User profiles are created
	ID, or social media credentials.	and managed here.
Team Formation	Users can create new sports	Provides tools to manage team
	teams or join existing ones within	members, send invitations, and set
	their university. Teams can be	team preferences such as skill
	public or invite-only.	level, sport type, and availability.
Find a Game	A feature that enables users to	Utilizes GPS to display nearby
	find upcoming games or matches.	games on a map or list view. Users
	Users can filter searches by sport	can join open games or request to
	type, skill level, and location.	join private games.
Game Scheduling	Allows team organizers to	Includes a scheduling assistant that
	schedule games, including setting	suggests optimal times based on
	the time, date, and location.	team member availability and
	Integrates with calendar apps for	location preferences.
	reminders.	
Chat and	A built-in messaging system that	Supports individual and group

Communication	facilitates communication between team members and game organizers.	messaging. Enables sending of notifications, game reminders, and updates directly within the app.
Location Services	This feature uses the device's GPS to help users find sports facilities and game locations within their campus or nearby areas.	Interactive maps show locations of games and available sports facilities. Users can get directions and estimated arrival times.
Skill Level Assessment	Users can input their skill level during profile setup or update it anytime. The app can also suggest a skill level based on game performance and peer reviews.	Helps in matching players with similar skill levels for games, ensuring balanced and competitive matches.
Feedback and Ratings	Post-game feedback mechanism where players can rate each other and the game experience.	Used for improving game setups and ensuring user satisfaction. Feedback can influence future game matches and team formations.
Privacy Settings	Allows users to manage who can see their profile and game activities, including location and availability status.	Users can control their visibility and the amount of information shared within the app, enhancing personal security and comfort.
Push Notifications	Sends alerts about upcoming games, team invites, and messages from team members or game organizers.	Ensures users stay informed about their upcoming activities and any changes or messages in real time.
Analytics Dashboard	For administrators and organizers, provides analytics on user engagement, popular sports, peak playing times, and more.	Helps in understanding user behavior, popular trends, and resource allocation for better management of sports activities within the app.

$\label{eq:minimum Viable Product (MVP):} Minimum \ Viable \ Product \ (MVP):$

		Feature	Description	Justification
I	P0	User	Secure system for users to	Essential for user management
		Registration/Login	create and access accounts	and personalization. Must ensure
			using email or university ID.	privacy and security from the

			start.
P0	Create a Game	Allow users to create and manage sports teams, join existing teams.	Core functionality to facilitate creation of game
P0	Find a Game	Users can find available games nearby based on their preferences and join them.	Critical for engaging users immediately after registration and ensuring the app's usefulness.
P0	Chat and Communication	Basic messaging functionality to communicate within teams and with game organizers.	Essential for coordination and communication, fundamental to user engagement and retention.
P1	Game Scheduling	Tools for organizers to schedule games, including setting time, date, and location, with calendar integration.	Important for organization but can be simplified in the MVP phase.
P1	Location Services	GPS-based services to find game locations and facilities.	Enhances the user experience by integrating real-world locations, but not immediately critical for the MVP.
P2	Skill Level Assessment	Allows users to set and update their skill levels. The app suggests levels based on performance.	Useful for enhancing game matching but can be refined post-MVP based on initial user feedback.
P2	Feedback and Ratings	Mechanism for users to provide post-game feedback and rate participants.	Adds value to the community and user experience but is not essential for the initial launch.

Next Development Plan for UniPlay:

Priority	Feature	Description	Justification
С	Privacy Settings	Advanced controls over profile visibility and data sharing.	Important for user trust and safety but can be enhanced after the MVP launch as part of privacy features enhancement.

C	Push	Alerts for game updates,	Increases user engagement but
	Notifications	invites, and messages.	can be introduced after initial
			user interface and interaction are
			stabilized.
С	Analytics	Dashboard for administrators	Valuable for backend
	Dashboard	to view engagement metrics	management and scaling but not
		and activity trends.	required for initial user
			functionality.

Long-term Development Plan for UniPlay:

Feature	Description	Justification
Global Expansion	Scale operations to include	To increase the user base and tap
	more universities and	into international markets, making
	colleges globally, adapting	UniPlay a global platform for
	the app to support multiple	university sports networking.
	languages and regional	
	sports preferences.	
Advanced Analytics	Implement more	To optimize user experience
	sophisticated data analysis	based on data-driven decisions
	tools to provide deeper	and improve the overall
	insights into user behavior,	effectiveness of the app.
	preferences, and engagement	
	metrics.	
Integration with	Develop compatibility with	To enhance the personal value of
Wearables	sports wearables to track	the app for users, integrating
	performances and health	technology that supports health
	data that can be used for	and fitness alongside sports team
	enhancing game matching	formation.
	and personal fitness	
	tracking.	
Augmented and Virtual	Explore the use of AR and	To leverage cutting-edge
Reality	VR to provide users with	technology for a unique, engaging
	immersive experiences such	user experience that differentiates
	as virtual game planning,	UniPlay from competitors.
	tours of sports facilities.	
Educational Partnerships	Collaborate with educational	To deepen the app's integration
and Outreach	institutions for official	into student life and sports
	partnerships, integrating	education, providing a seamless

physical education programs	bridge between recreational and
with UniPlay's platform.	formal sports activities at
	universities.

Roadmap / Timing

Phase	Milestone	Goal	Timing	Reassessment
				Point
Development	Internal Prototype	Develop a basic	2-3 months	Review internally
	Development	prototype to		for user and
		demonstrate core		business
		functionality		requirements
				alignment
	Alpha Release	Test the app	1 month	Collect feedback
	(Internal Testing)	internally with a		on usability, bugs,
		small user group		and initial
				impressions
Pre-Launch	Beta Launch	Real-world testing	2 months	Gather user
	(Closed User	with a selected		feedback, identify
	Group)	group of users		pain points, assess
				performance
Launch	Full Public Launch	Officially launch	1 month	Post-launch
		UniPlay to the	after Beta	performance
		public with full		review and initial
		features		public feedback
Post-Launch	Version 1.1	Update the app	3-6 months	Analyze user
Optimization	(Feature	based on user	post-	engagement and
	Enhancements)	feedback from the	launch	retention for
		public launch		further
				enhancements
Expansion	Additional Features	Introduce	1-year	Review market
	and Market	advanced features	post-	performance, user
	Expansion	and expand	launch	demand, and
		market reach		scalability issues
Long-Term	Continuous	Continuously	Ongoing	Regular evaluation
Development	Improvement and	update the app		every 6 months of
	Innovation	with the latest		technological and
		technology and		competitive
		user feedback		changes

Timing Sensitivities:

- **Competitive Landscape**: Need to launch before the major enrolment period in universities to capitalize on new students looking for sports activities.
- **Technological Changes**: Stay updated with new mobile OS releases and tech trends to keep the app compatible and innovative.

Scenarios for Service Introduction:

Phase	Objective	Selected	Rationale for	Alternatives	Reason for
		Strategy	Strategy	Considered	Not Choosing
					Alternative
Alpha	Test basic	Internal testing	Allows for	Skip Alpha,	Skipping could
Launch	functionality	with	quick iterations	Proceed	lead to
	and identify	developers,	and immediate	Directly to	unaddressed
	critical bugs	company	feedback in a	Beta	major bugs and
	in a	employees, and	secure		poor user
	controlled	selected	environment,		experiences,
	environment.	stakeholders.	essential for		risking early
			initial bug fixes		negative
			and usability		impressions.
			improvements.		
Beta	Validate	Closed user	Controlled,	Open Beta	An open beta
Launch	market fit and	group testing	diverse	for All Users	could
	app usability	involving tech-	feedback from		overwhelm the
	with a diverse	savvy	target users		feedback
	user	individuals and	ensures the app		process and
	feedback.	representatives	is refined based		dilute
		from the target	on actual user		actionable
		demographic.	needs and		insights.
			expectations		
			before a		
			broader release.		

Full	Broadly	Public release	Ensures the app	Staggered	A phased
Launch	release the	across all	is robust and	Launch by	regional launch
	app to all	targeted	user-friendly at	Regions	might delay
	potential	university	scale, allowing		comprehensive
	users,	campuses after	for widespread		feedback and
	maximizing	successful	adoption and		impact the
	reach and	Alpha and Beta	real-world		momentum
	engagement.	phases.	scalability		necessary for
			testing.		success.

Metrics

Category	Metric Name	Computation	Required Data	Success
		Method		Indication
User	Daily Active	Count of unique	User login and	Measures daily
Engagement	Users	users per day	activity logs	engagement and
				app stickiness
	Monthly Active	Count of unique	User login and	Measures monthly
	Users	users per month	activity logs	engagement and
				long-term
				retention
	Session Length	Average duration	Session start and	Indicates user
		of user activity	end timestamps	interest and
		per session		satisfaction level
	Retention Rate	Percentage of	User login	Assesses user
		users returning	timestamps	loyalty and app
		within a given		stickiness
		time		
System	Load Time	Average time	Timestamps	Evaluates app
Performance		from app launch	from app start to	efficiency and
		to operational	readiness	technical
				robustness
	Error Rate	Percentage of	Error logs	Indicates app
		sessions with	during sessions	stability and
		errors		quality
User	Net Promoter	Derived from	User survey	Measures overall
Satisfaction	Score	user likelihood to	responses	user satisfaction
		recommend the		and likelihood to

		app		recommend app
	Customer	Average scores	User feedback	Gauges immediate
	Satisfaction Score	from user	and ratings	user reactions to
		feedback on		app interfaces and
		features		functionalities
Business	Conversion Rate	Percentage of	Logs of specific	Shows
Outcomes		users taking	user actions	effectiveness of
		desired actions		app in promoting
				user interaction
	Churn Rate	Percentage of	User activity	Assesses user
		users	logs over time	dissatisfaction or
		discontinuing use		lack of
		over time		engagement
Search and	Search	Percentage of	Search query	Evaluates how
Discovery	Effectiveness	searches leading	logs and	well search
		to action	subsequent user	functionality
			actions	meets user needs
	Click-Through	Ratio of clicks	Game invitation	Measures interest
	Rate	on game	displays and	level and
		invitations to	clicks logs	relevance of game
		displays		invitations to users

International Plan

Phase 1: First Launch - Within the first year, validate key features and market suitability at home university with the goal of an effective launch and operation.

Phase 2: USA Expansion - To evaluate scalability and develop a presence across several campuses, expand to other US institutions in the second year.

Phase 3: International Expansion - Begin with a trial program in a few international universities, then expand to universities worldwide starting in the third year.

Tricky issues around internationalization:

PRD: UniPlay

• **Problem:** Language and Cultural Variations

Description: Adapting the app's language, content, and layout to conform to cultural conventions and preferences.

• **Problem:** Regulatory Compliance

Description: Ensuring compliance with various international legislation concerning digital communications and data protection.

• **Problem:** Network and Data Services

Description: Improving application performance to adapt to various network configurations and regional variations in data consumption trends.

Projected Costs

Considering 3 major components (user interface, backend/server, database management), and assuming each component requires:

- 2 engineers for the frontend (UI/UX),
- 3 engineers for the backend (logic, server interactions),
- 2 engineers for database and infrastructure,
- Estimated duration: 6 months.
- Amazon EC2 for compute
- Amazon S3 for storage
- **Engineering Effort**: $(2+3+2) \times 6 = 42$ person-months.
- **Storage S3**: 5 TB (5,120 GB)
- **EC2**: 1 machine for 6 months
- **Total Cost** = 201,600 + (5120*6*.03) + (6*5040*.07) = 201,600 + 3038 = \$204,638.
- * Amazon EC2 costs \$0.07 per hour
- * Amazon S3 costs \$0.03 per GB
- * Hourly Rate for Engineers: \$30

Operational Needs

Support Area	Role and	Commitment	Staffing and	Key Operational

	Objectives		Resource	Considerations
			Strategy	
User Support	Handle technical and non-technical queries, especially issues specific to university students' needs.	Ongoing	Employ part- time student workers from the university for relatable, cost-effective support.	Ensure supporters are familiar with university culture and student needs.
Maintenance and Development	Regular app updates, bug fixes, and feature enhancements based on user feedback.	Ongoing	Small team of developers (possibly interns); use freelance developers for specific tasks.	Agile development with quick adaptation to feedback and usage patterns.
Quality Assurance Data Management	Ensure new releases are free from bugs and maintain overall app quality. Manage data securely, ensure	Ongoing, peaks around releases Ongoing	Utilize university beta testers and part- time QA personnel. Contract a part- time data	Focus on user experience consistency and stability across updates. Compliance with data privacy laws,
and Security	privacy compliance, and handle data backups.		security consultant initially, expand as needed.	especially with international students.
Marketing and Community Engagement	Promote the app within the university, manage social media, and run promotional events.	High initially, then periodic	Use marketing interns and student ambassadors; collaborate with university clubs and organizations.	Leverage university events and seasons for targeted promotions.
Operational Issues	Address specific on-the-ground challenges such as Wi-Fi	As needed	Partner with university IT services; consider	Plan for peak usage, ensure robust app performance at

connectivity and	temporary	critical times.
integration with	scaling of	
university	resources	
systems.	during peak	
	times.	

Addressing Caveats/risks

Risk	Description	Mitigants
User Adoption	Especially during the initial stages,	1.Offer incentives such as
Challenges	difficulty in convincing users to	discounts, rewards, or exclusive
	register and actively use the	features to encourage user
	platform.	registration and engagement.
		2. Implement a user-friendly onboarding process with clear instructions and guidance.
		3. Collaborate with university student organizations or clubs to promote the platform among students
Competition	Facing competition from	1. Continuously innovate and
from Existing	established event management	improve the platform based on user
Platforms	platforms or social networking sites	feedback to stay ahead of the
	that already offer similar	competition.
	functionalities.	

Data Privacy and Security Concerns	Ensuring data protection measures to safeguard user information and comply with privacy regulations like GDPR or CCPA.	1.Implement strong encryption protocols to secure user data both in transit and at rest. 2.Regularly conduct security audits and vulnerability assessments to identify and address potential security risks. 3.Provide transparent privacy policies and settings that allow users to control their data preferences.
Dependency on University Partnerships	Relying on partnerships with universities for user acquisition and expansion, which may be challenging to establish or maintain.	1.Diversify user acquisition channels beyond university partnerships, such as social media marketing, influencer collaborations, and targeted advertising. 2.Establish long-term strategic partnerships with universities, backed by formal agreements and mutual benefits. 3. Offer value-added services or benefits to universities, such as event management tools, analytics dashboards, or promotional opportunities

Quality of User-	Risks associated with the quality	1.Implement content moderation
Generated	and accuracy of user-generated	tools and guidelines to ensure that
Content	event listings, ratings, and	user-generated content meets
	feedback, which may impact the	quality standards and community
	credibility of the platform.	guidelines.
		2.Encourage user participation and
		contributions through incentives,
		recognition, and gamification
		elements.
		3.Educate users about the
		importance of providing accurate
		and helpful information when
		creating event listings or leaving
		feedback.

Appendix

References

- 1. https://facts.northeastern.edu/
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- 3. <a href="https://www.statista.com/statistics/235406/undergraduate-enrollment-in-us-universities/#:~:text=Undergraduate%20enrollment%20in%20U.S.%20universities%202011%2D2023&text=In%20the%20academic%20year%20of,students%20were%20enrolled%20as%20undergraduates

Research methodology and insights.

Top Three customer interview questions

Q1: What is your current process of finding people, places, and time to play games?

Q2: What challenges do you face in finding genuinely interested people and forming

teams with them?

Q3: How is your experience playing games with random/new people?

Goal - Our goal from these interviews is to understand current customer behavior and pain points. They are.

- 1. What medium does the customer use to find teammates?
- 2. What challenges do they face during this process?
- 3. How willing are they to play with new people? If not, what are the issues they faced?

These insights will help us in designing better features and integrations to existing systems.

Summary of User Responses

Q1: What is your current process of finding people, places, and time to play games?

Most interviewees utilize social media platforms, such as Facebook, and WhatsApp to find teammates and organize play sessions. A significant number rely on personal networks and direct invitations from friends. A smaller group mentioned using gaming-specific apps or services like Discord and gaming clubs on campus.

Most of them value the social aspect of gaming, indicating a preference for forming teams with acquaintances or through community events.

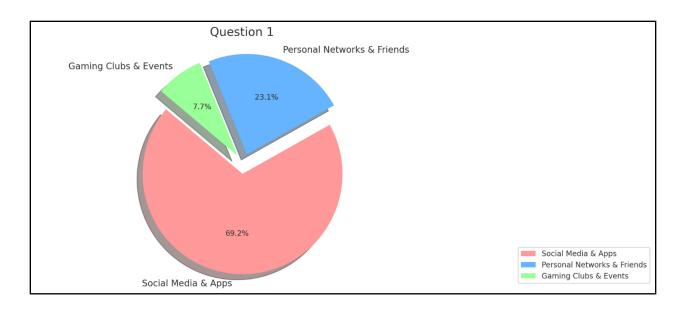


Figure-1: Shows the distribution of methods used by respondents to find people, places, and time to play games, highlighting a heavy reliance on social media platforms and apps, followed by personal networks and friends, and a smaller portion utilizing gaming clubs and events.

Q2: What challenges do you face in finding genuinely interested people and forming teams with them?

The primary challenge highlighted is coordinating schedules and finding players of similar skill levels and interests. Issues like personality conflicts, communication gaps, and commitment levels were frequently mentioned. Some respondents find it hard to expand their usual friend groups or integrate new players smoothly. The difficulty in ensuring consistent participation and maintaining a friendly, competitive environment is a common concern.

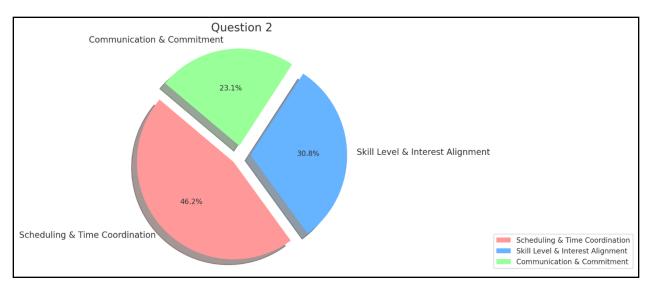


Figure -2 Illustrates the challenges faced in finding genuinely interested people and forming teams, with scheduling and time coordination being the most significant challenge, followed by aligning skill levels and interests, and issues related to communication and commitment.

Q3: How is your experience playing games with random/new people?

Most of the sample viewed it as a positive experience. Positive aspects include meeting new people, learning strategies, and enjoying social interaction. Negative experiences often relate to issues of cooperation, communication, and occasional toxicity. Some enjoy the diversity and challenge of playing with strangers, while others prefer the familiarity and consistency of playing with known friends or teammates.

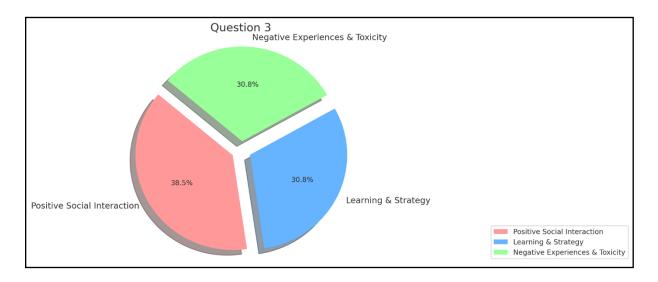


Figure 3 Depicts experiences playing games with random or new people, with an even split between positive social interactions, learning and strategy, and negative experiences or toxicity.