

Any Modification you would like to Propose in an Existing Agile SE Model - Scrum

Agile methodology enables teams to provide client service in an effective and efficient manner with fewer difficulties through an iterative approach to project management and software development. Scrum framework is an agile project methodology that offers a structure for teams to deliver incrementally while prioritizing on collaborative execution and continuous improvement

Problem

Scrum meetings / Daily stand ups are an essential part of scrum framework and in agile methodology. A scrum call is scheduled for 15m on paper whereas in most of real scenarios it goes way beyond that

Proposed Solution

- Introducing an 'extended scrum meeting', immediate to the scrum call by limiting the participants
- Techniques to manage for Scrum master and Scrum Team

5W's of SCRUM MEETING / DAILY STAND-UP

WHAT	It is a meeting which follows a simple structure of 3 questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">What did I work on yesterday ?What am I working today ?What issues are blocking me ?
WHO	The Product owner, Scrum team and Scrum master involves in the call
WHEN	Happens daily in a sprint for 15 minutes at same time
WHERE	Happens over a virtual connect or in person meeting
WHY	The call highlights the development progress and help flag team blockers

Ways to improve current scenario

The elements to be considered for modification / improvement are

- Scrum Master
- Scrum team
- Extended Scrum Meeting

Scrum Master



Limit the participants list to absolute necessary

Effective Utilization of team chats / discussion forums

Limit the individuals update when exceeding their time slots

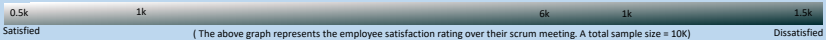
Ensure the team is updating the time and stories at end of the day

Proper A/V setup, in case of virtual meet

Focus on 1) What does the team need to know 2) What do a member need help with

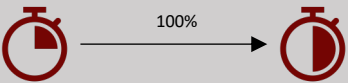
Scrum team

- Team should be given a proper template of how a scrum meet happens during the initial project setup
- The task updates should be precise without going into much technical depth
- For further clarifications, mention it to scrum master that they would have a discussion in the extended scrum call
- Prepare ahead on the updates to be given along with the code dependencies, documents etc.



Current Scenario

In most companies and from many employees' feedback, most scrum meetings run beyond the given 15 minutes. On an average, scrum meetings run for 30 minutes



About 80% of scrum teams are dissatisfied about their scrum meetings (graph in scrum team section)
Some of the factors that leading to overflow of scrum meet are

- Discussing multiple points rather than sticking to one
- Scrum master improper and ineffective orchestration of the meet
- Development on new technology results in more blockers and more time
- In case of huge teams, the duration extends to 60 minutes

Extended Scrum Meeting

- In the below scenario, we have noted the theoretical time taken for all the calls in a sprint vs the actual practical scenario. We can observe that we are losing 25hrs of productivity because of the longer duration of daily stand ups.
- As scrum call gets extended due to 'one-to-one' or 'one-to-many' or 'many-to-many' discussions, others time is wasted leading to loss in productivity

$$\text{scrum call time} \propto \frac{1}{\text{productivity}}$$



Components	Sprint Retrospective	Sprint Review	Backlog Refinement	Daily Scrum	Sprint Planning	Working Hours
Actual Planned	15	20	60	25	40	640
In Practice	15	20	60	50	40	615

(The above estimation is taken for a team size = 10 and all units are in hours. A sprint = 2 weeks)

- Solution:** An extended Scrum meeting initiated by scrum master including team members who want to participate and freeing the rest of the team. From the above ex. if we assume at least half of the team members are not required for the call, 50% of 25 = 12.5 hours are added to productivity
- An extended Scrum meet duration would be 15-30 minutes depending upon the team requirement



Conclusion

Yay or Nay! scrum meetings help in teams' development and focus on goals ahead

Since it's the first meeting of the day, organizing and managing the duration of scrum calls is prominent. Implementing it effectively will lead to a positive impact on teams internally and boost productivity

