

Queen's Gambit Chess Institute

Executive Summary

Community Partner

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Background

The Queen's Gambit Chess Institute (TQGCI) is a non-profit organization that mainly serves the greater Pittsburgh area. TQGCI offers different types of chess classes, enrichment opportunities, and tournaments through themselves and their partners within the Pittsburgh community. They primarily serve disadvantaged communities in order to make chess more accessible for rising generations, and aim to teach chess in a way that empowers youth to gain essential life and strategic leadership skills. Their classes and programs help these students develop the skills and tools needed to change the world.

Project Description

Project Opportunity

Up until now, TQGCI stored their information about their various partners on a Google Sheet. The president had concerns about the security of this information as it was easy for board members and others with access to accidentally alter or delete information. She also expressed worries about the scalability of the sheet as the organization could expand nationally and gather more partners. There were further concerns that the Google Sheet could easily become disorganized and was not very practical past a certain number of rows.

Project Vision

In order to mitigate these concerns, we proposed a Ruby on Rails based CRM hosted on Heroku. The application stores records for partners, programs, instructors, and users. Each partner has a page containing information about them, as well as programs TQGCI has created with them. TQGCI custom-tailors a lot of their programs with these partners, so each program on the application contains info such as a description, weekly meeting time, start and end, date, etc. Partners, programs, and instructors are added via forms on the site. The system has three types of users, where Admins have all CRUD capabilities, Staff is able to read everything, and Guest users can read limited information on partners.

Project Outcomes

In terms of technology outcomes, we have an operational Ruby on Rails web application that is deployed on Heroku. The application is fully tested where needed and has integrated all of the client's current data. The client is able to

For outcomes regarding processes, we have changed the way TQGC manages their partner information. Instead of inputting the information into cells in a Google Sheet, they now input the information into form fields. They are also now able to view information regarding their partnerships in a user friendly way, rather than scrolling through a Google Sheet.

People outcomes include new skills and knowledge about how to store partner, program, and instructor information. The president of the organization knows how to navigate the system and is able to make changes and add records as needed. The board members are able to view partners, programs, and instructors with ease. The president is also able to do basic maintenance on the system to resolve minor issues.

Project Deliverables

Deliverables include a Git repo, deployed Ruby on Rails web application, Heroku account, AWS account, user manual, video tutorials, and developer documentation such as ERD, data dictionary, etc.

Recommendations

For future Information Systems Consulting teams or other professionals working on our system, our team recommends:

1. Resolve inefficiencies and minor issues in state management for filters.
2. Add an Admin ability to add custom filters
3. Add a sort by feature to the Partners index page
4. Add the ability to assign multiple instructors to a program

Student Consulting Team

Waverly Chin served as project manager. She is a third year student majoring in Information Systems with a minor in Innovation and Entrepreneurship. She will be interning at PwC this summer as a Cloud & Digital - Cloud Innovation and Engineering Consulting Intern.

Allison Cao served as client relations manager. She is a third year student double majoring in Information Systems and Statistics. She will be interning at Amazon this summer as a Software Development Engineer Intern.

Sara Song served as a quality assurance engineer. She is a Junior majoring in Information Systems, with a minor in Human-Computer Interaction. This summer, she will join PNC as a Technology intern.