Big Information Architecture

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Preface

For the municipality of Amsterdam we were asked to find a solution for the low participation rate in sports in the South-East area of Amsterdam. This area has a lot of diversity when it comes to the people that inhabit this part of Amsterdam. They have everything from single mothers with multiple children to young professionals and elderly. There are very many clubs in the area which makes for a bunch of information. This is why I, for the course big information architecture, am going to make a digital solution for the inhabiters of the South-East area to find sport activities near them.

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Debrief

For the course big la we got the assignment to make a digital solution for the low sport participation in the South-East area of Amsterdam. There is a lot of information when it comes to clubs and events in the area. There are over 180 registered clubs in South-East alone. This makes for a lot of data that I have to make sense of to get a logical and fitting solution that will help the citizens of South-East to start moving !

Research

When looking at the available information for the people in South-East we find a lot of websites. There are over 180 clubs and unions in the area and they all of either a website, facebook page or some other way to communicate what they do. There are also a bunch of clubs that are off the radar. On the Amsterdam website we can find an interactive map that is functional but not useable. It would be a good way for the people to find more info if it would be focused on that rather than on everything in the whole city.

Because of the short amount of time available for this assignment we shared all our information regarding research with each other in class. The main insights my fellow students gave me was that the people in the South-East mainly hear about sports from each other in person. It spreads mouth to mouth rather than them having for example a facebook community. When I asked some friends of mine that grew up in the South-East area if they could tell me something about sports they did when growing up they confirmed this insight. They told me that, "just like in any other area", they heard about sports from friends and that is how they got into soccer. This is what I would like to work with.



Target group

The target group doesn't share much about sports online except for when they are professional athletes. This proves challenging when it comes to making a digital way of providing a mouth to mouth solution. Because of the rich ethnical backgrounds of the people it is also challenging to provide information that helps everyone achieve their goal when using my product. Some of the cultures are not used to sporting in the way that we do it and want to start slow in an area where they won't be judged. Others might want to compete against one another to achieve a new high.

The solution

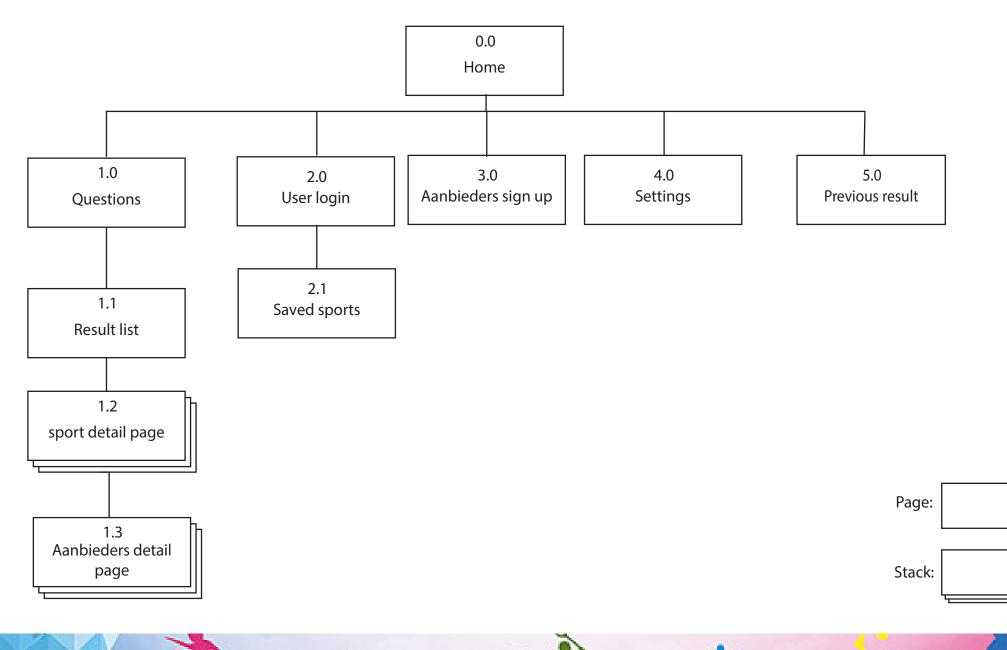
I thought of a way to digitalise the mouth to mouth experience for users. I came up with a digital wizars that can help users find a sports that might be interesting to them. It is a questionnaire of a couple of questions and based on the answers giving it will generate a list of sports the user might find interesting. In this list the users can do some filtering and sorting to change the results a bit more to their liking. When fun to use, people will also tell their friends about it. So instead of trying to get people to search for sports, people tell each other to check out this fun website. This makes 2 use cases for my product:

-The user want to get into sports but don't know where to begin and tries to find something using the website

-The users want to mess with the system for fun to see what kind of answers they get, in the process exploring a lot of new sports they might not have known.



Site map



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Site map explained: Casual browsing

When users hear from their friends about this fun website online you can use to search sports with, they will start a casual search. They answer (and thereby filter) a couple of questions and find sports that might fit them. This way they just casually use the website and might find something usefull from it aswell.

Direct searching -on the website

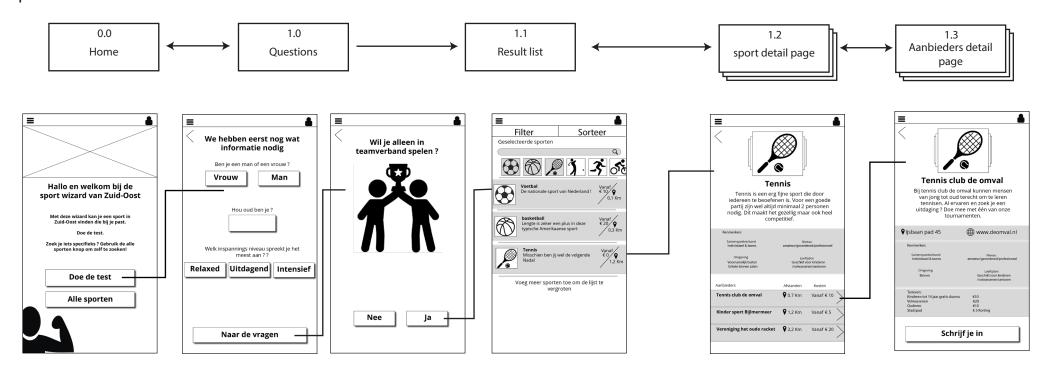
When users are on the website they can use the all sport tab to just use the website like any other. They get an overview of everything and can filter and sort the way they would like. It can also happen a user answerd the questions before and wants their result from a previous visit. They can find that in the menu aswel.

-from a search engine

When entering the site trough a search engine the user will find an overview page about the sport they searched for. When they goolge "Soccer south-east" they will find the soccer overview page. This contains some basic information like how many clubs are registered and how many people play soccer.

Flowcharts

Search wizard exploration

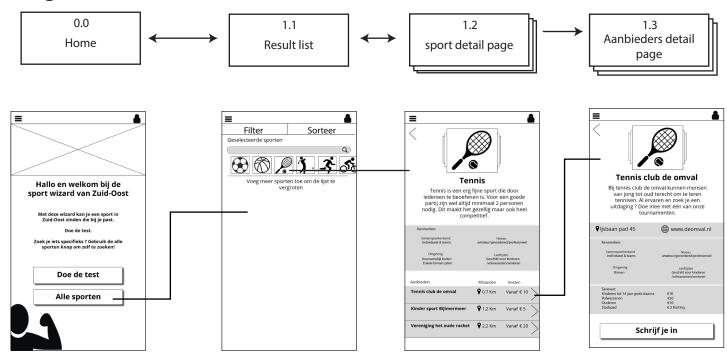


This flowchart shows how the users navigates trough the site using the wizard. This is the casual way of searching for a sport and the most common use of the website.

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Flowcharts

All sports browsing



This flow shows how a user would go trough the site looking for as sport theirselfs. From the homescreen they can press all sports and go to an empty result list that they can fill with sports they look up theirselfs. The filters are empty at this point. This is direct searching for the users that know what they want to do.



Filters

There are five questions I want to ask the user to provide filters for them. The things I want to know are :

Do they only want to sport in a team ? because if they want a sport they can both do in teams and individual most team sports (like soccer) are not an option.

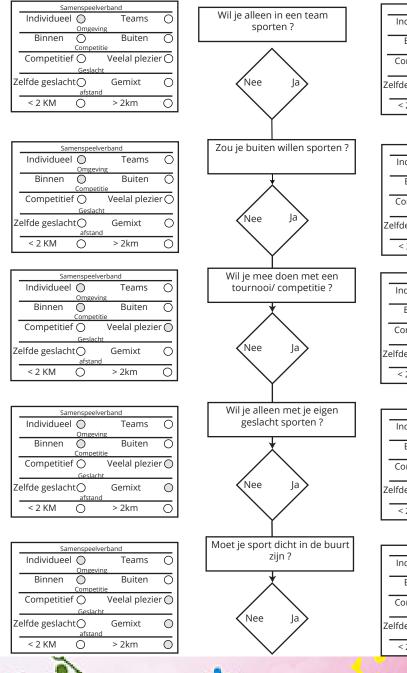
Would they play outside ? if not only sports with indoor options are selected.

Do they want to join a tourney or a competition ? if not they just want to play for fun and will have that option selected.

If they only want to sport with people of the same sex only the sports that give that option are selected.

Do you want the sport to be near? if yes than the user only sees sports within a 2 kilometer radius.

To be able to filter on things like age and sex I ask the users to fill some information before hand (page 1.0). This way we can fill in the filter for the user in a more fun way. They can change options in the filter tab aswell.



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Wireframe page 0.0 Home



This is a menu. This has some options for people like settings for a different language and a Sign up options for people that want their club or sport registered.

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This is a user icon. The user can here login with facebook to enable the option to save sports they have viewed. These sport will be available under this icon.

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This is the button and the call to action to start taking the question. This is happy flow I want regular users to follow.

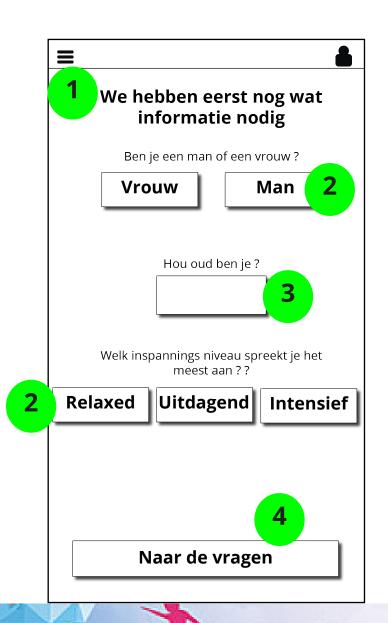


With this button they can skip the test and go right to the result list 1.1 to search for a sport.

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A header image for the South-east area and the welcome message to help people land on the website.

Wireframe page 1.0 Questions



The titel of the page to inform the users we need some information to be able to filter for them.



These are buttons. Only one can be checked to be used in the filtering.



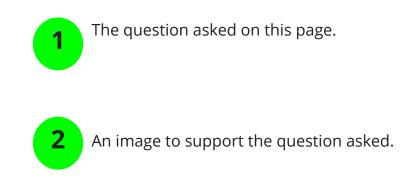
This is a fill in form for the user to enter their age.



The button to continue to the main questions and go to the next page.

Wireframe page 1.0 Questions





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The buttons to answer the questions. Once one is clicked the user wil go to the next page with that answer selected. If they use the back button they can change their previous answer.

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Wireframe page 1.1 Result list

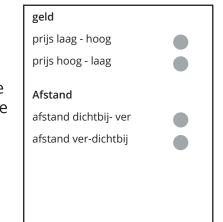


Here the user get the option to change the filter. When they click on here a lay over wil slide down over the page with options for the user to turn on or off

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Same like the filter the sorting options will slide over the content in a overlay style. This is just so the user can sort on the amount of money available and on the distance to a sport or club.

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Wireframe page 1.1 Result list



In this type bar they can search of sports if they want to search directly. If they look for a sport that is available but not with their current filters it has a lighter opacity.



This is the bar with available sports for your filter options. it is horizontal scrollable and when you tap a sport it wil appear in the list.



The list items show a little image, name of the sport, a small description, the minimum price you have to pay and how far it is from your current location.



If you add sports to the list they will appear underneath. The list becomes scrollable if it becomes to long.

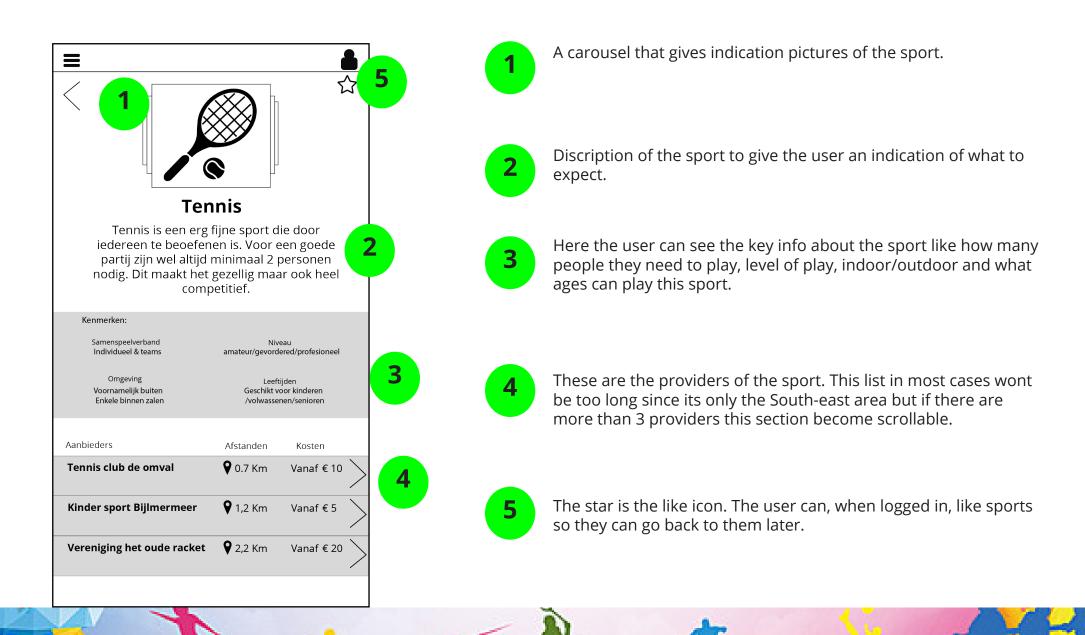
Wireframe page 1.1 Result list

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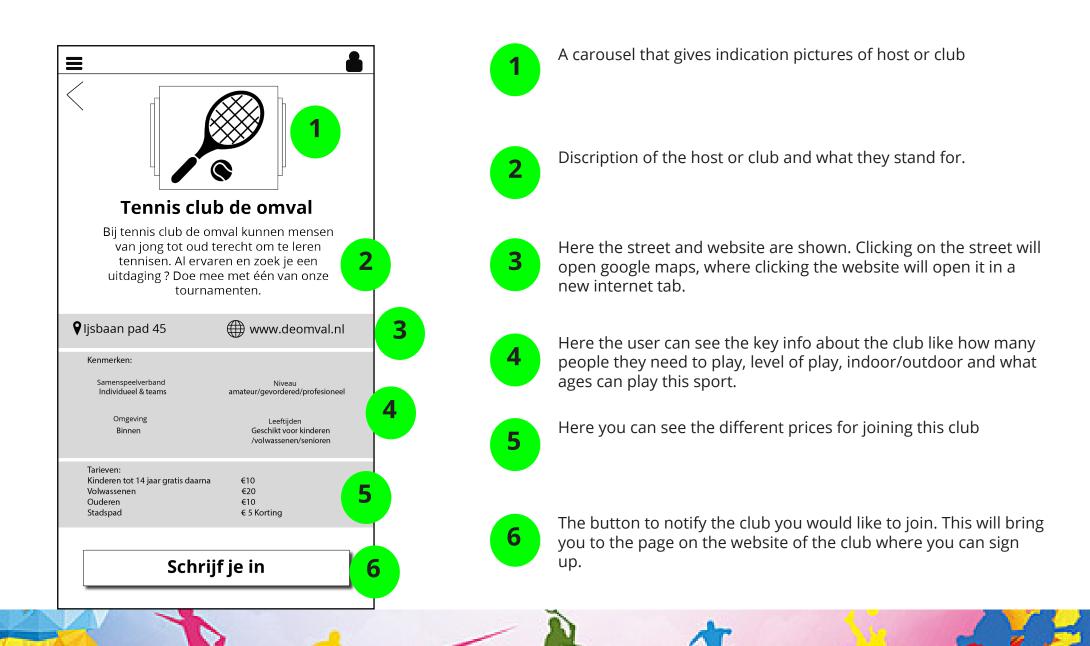


If someone used the all sports button they come here. No filters are applied and they can search all sports to compare what they might like.

Wireframe page 1.2 sport detail page



Wireframe page 1.3 Aanbieder detail page



Recommendation

The next step would be to start prototyping and see if the application fits with the target audience. If they don't feel like playing with the system to explore a bit more out of their comfort zone, changes are required to the way the website works. I recommend to make 3 test question in a limited tag pool to see how the system could filter and sort by the questions given like in the question funnel. When this is done and set up correctly we can use that to user test and see if they enjoy it. If it's a succes we can implement the system set up for the test to work on a larger scale with all the sports and categories. This would be the best way to check of the system works and to prevent spending a lot of money on something the people of South-East won't use.

References

avatar: strong By FADLI AINUL KIFLI, ID

Front page and page banner images: Background Photos from https://pngtree.com/ freebackground/fancy-sports-backgroundcolor_369456.html

sport lcons: https://thenounproject.com