

The Product Owner Value Game

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Acknowledgements

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For more information:
povaluegame.org



Agenda

Intro
10 min

Play the
game
30 min

Retro-
spective
15 min

Learning Objectives

How to become more value driven

Maximize outcome
with minimum output

Game Objective

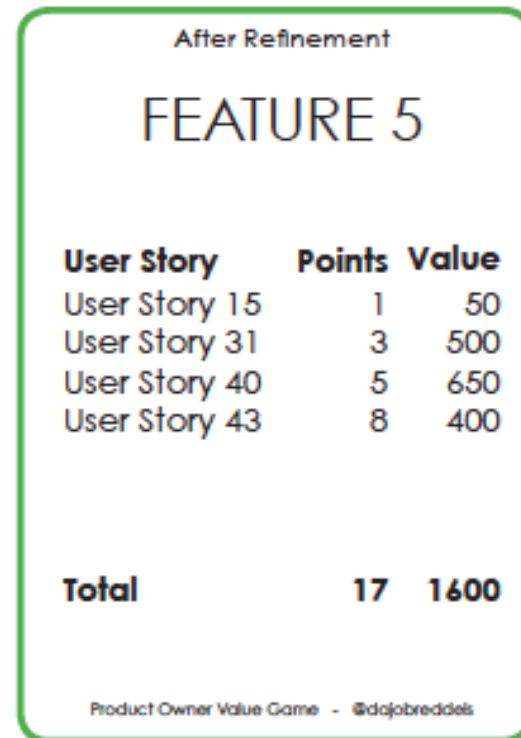
Deliver the maximum Business Value
before the end of the game

Measured, for purposes of the game,
in “Value Points”

Feature Cards



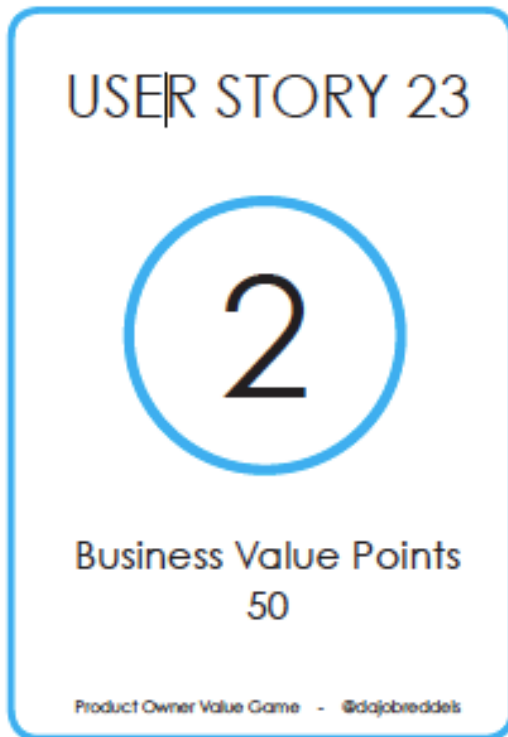
Front



Back

10 Features

User Stories



Front



Back

50 User Stories

Playing the Game

2 – 7 Iterations

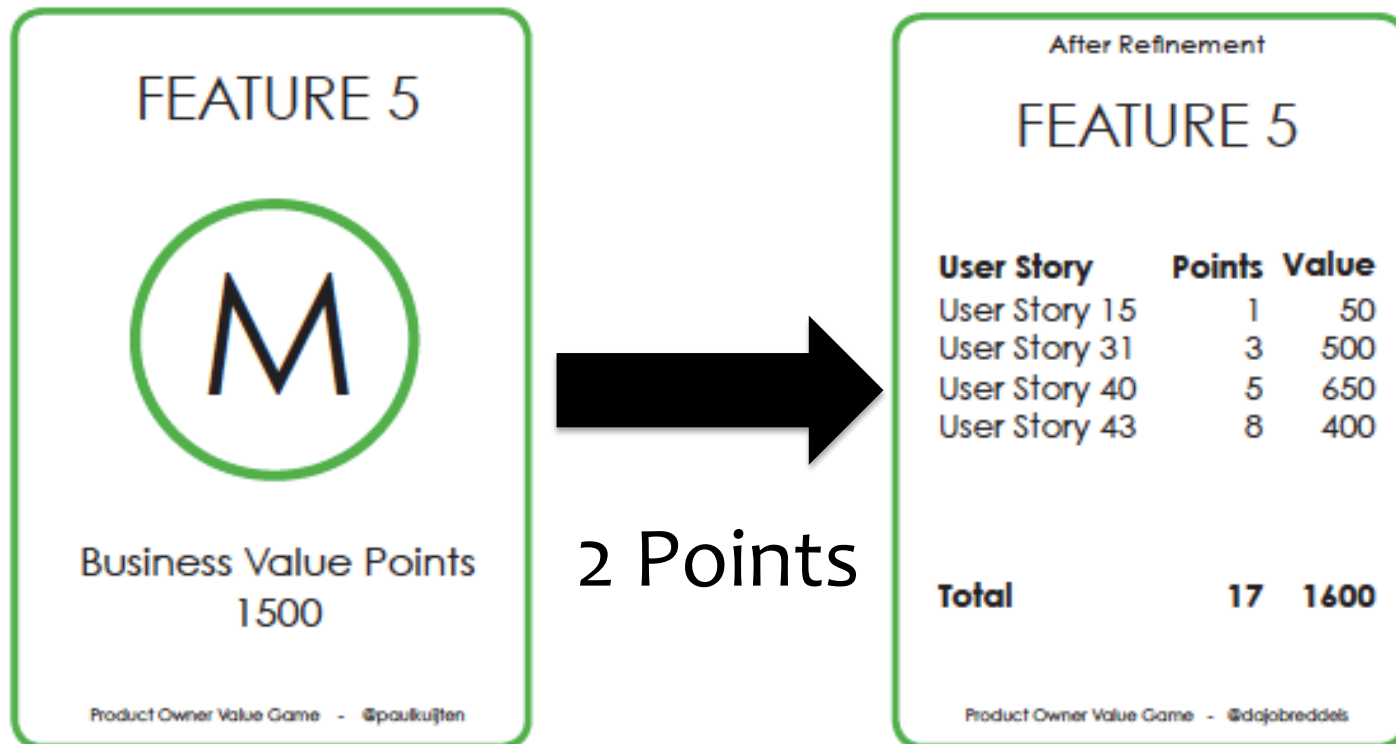
In each Iteration Team has a capacity of 20 points

Actions:

- Refine feature – 2 Points
- Refine user story – $\frac{1}{2}$ point
- Deliver user story – Points on back of card

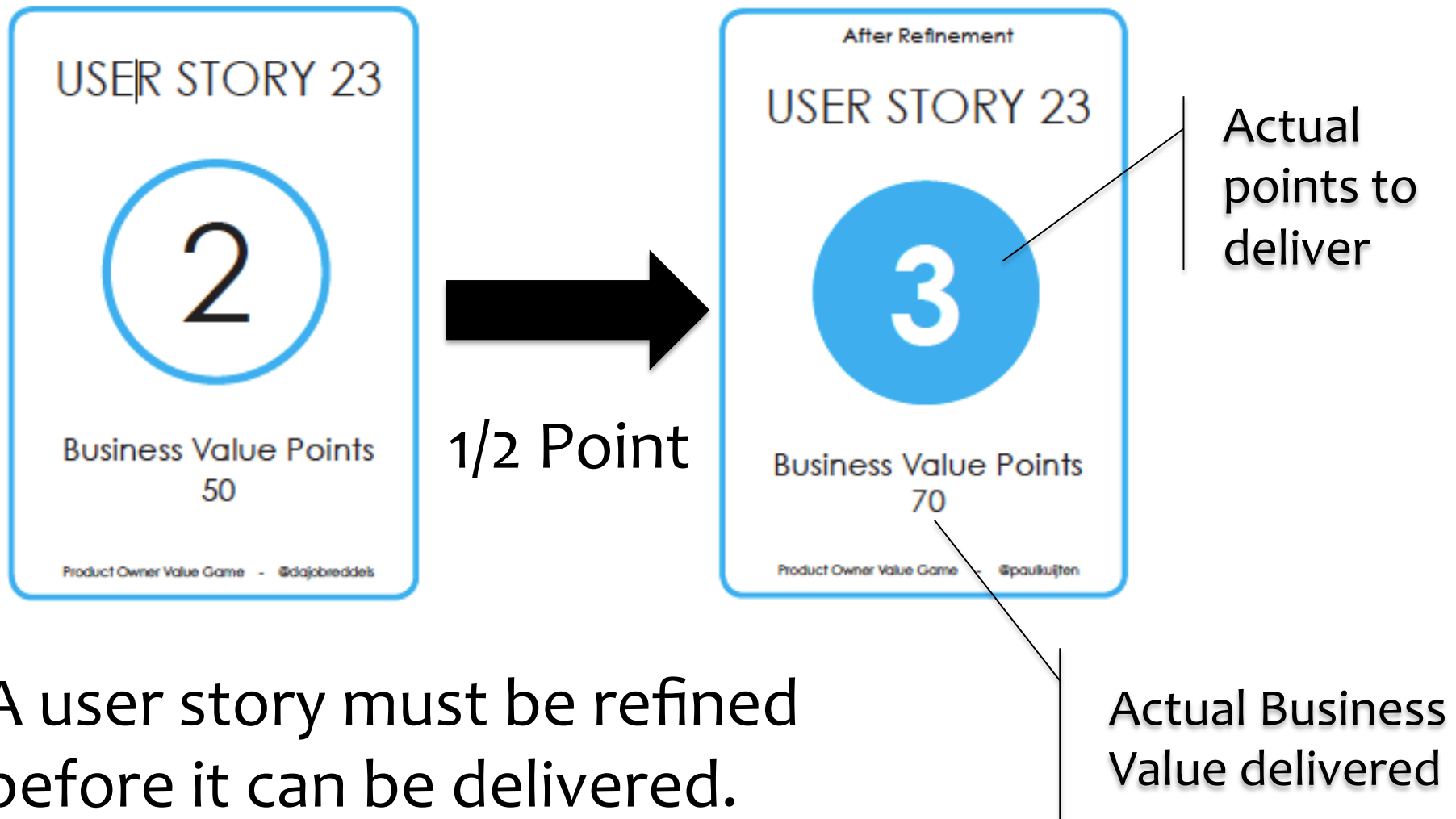
Business Value Delivered = Total Business Value
Points on all delivered user stories

“Refine” a Feature



Add listed user stories to your backlog
(ie) Deal out user stories front side up on table

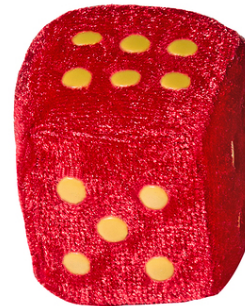
"Refine" a User Story



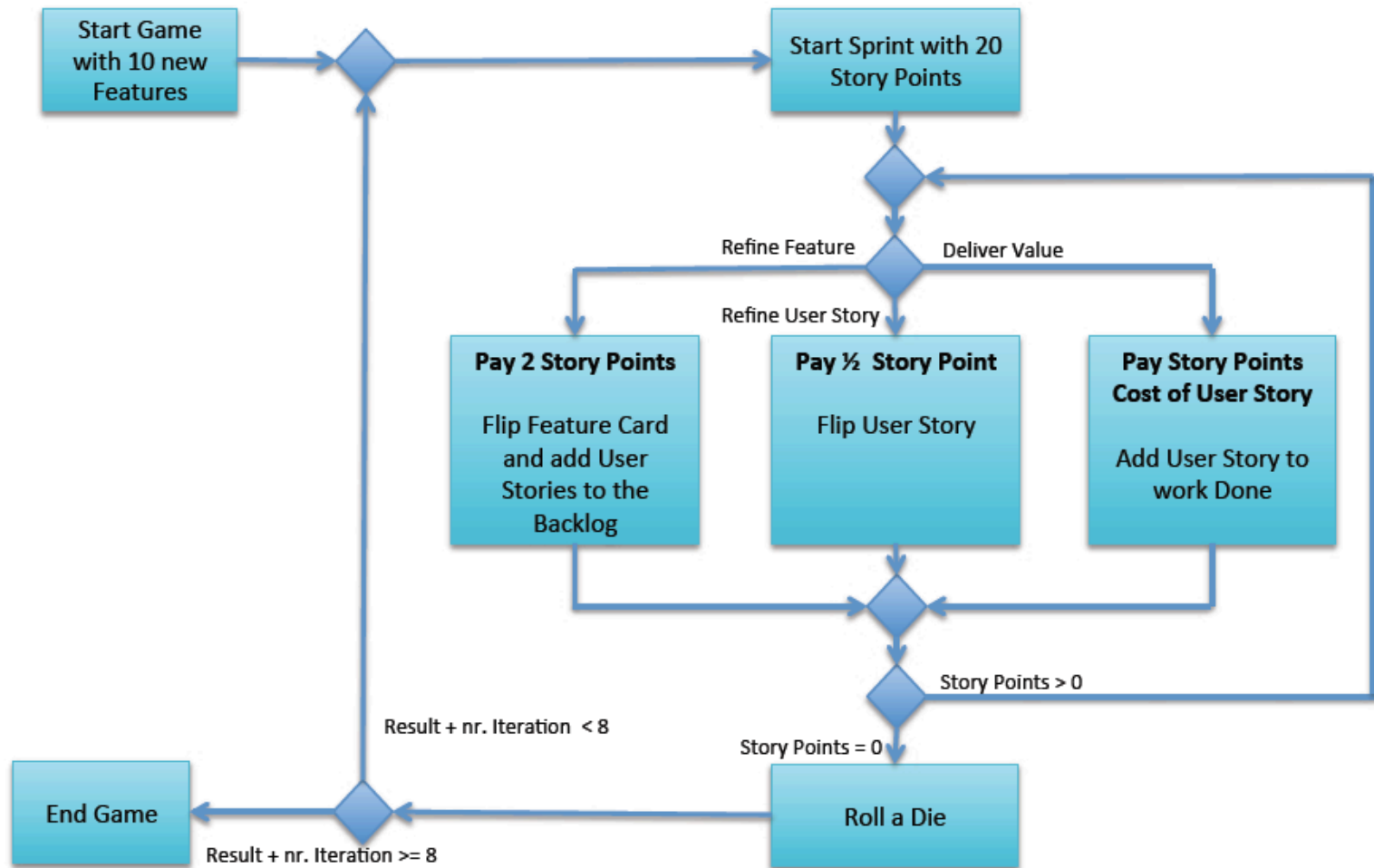
End of the Game

After end of iteration

- Roll a die
- Add current iteration number
- If resulting sum ≥ 8 , game is over.
- If resulting sum < 8 , do another iteration



For those who like process flows...



An example

| Action | Points Remaining | Total Business Value Delivered |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Start the Iteration | 20 | 0 |
| Refine Feature 8 (2 points) | 18 | 0 |
| Refine User Story 4 (1/2 point) | 17.5 | 0 |
| Refine User Story 16 (1/2 point) | 17 | 0 |
| Deliver User Story 4 (1 point) | 16 | 25 |
| Deliver User Story 16 (2 points) | 14 | 135 |
| Refine User Story 44 (1/2 point) | 13.5 | 135 |
| Deliver User Story 16 (13 points) | .5 | 485 |
| Refine a User Story (1/2 point) | 0 | 485 |

Game setup

At each table:

- Volunteer to keep track of business value delivered
- Volunteer to keep track of points left in the iteration
- Volunteer to hand out user stories when feature is refined (Keep user stories face up until refined)
- Lay out features face up on table

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Always Remember...

Backlog Refinement:

What's the most valuable thing to do
at a specific point in time?

Nothing more, nothing less.

Now, PLAY!

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Retrospective

What was your strategy?

What are some things you discussed?

Any observations?

How would you apply this back to
your job?

Instant Feedback

@beyondreqs, I learned
[brilliant insight] playing the
#POValueGame #dsmAgile

Questions?



Stay in Touch

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