Disc Golf Pennsylvania

Spring 2003 (vol. 1, no. 2) **Bringing PA Disc Golfers Together**

PA DG Leaders Meet to Look at Status, Future of Sport

"In case you haven't noticed, the future of the PDGA is organizing state-by-state."

This was a major theme brought home by Skeeter Hoffman during an impromptu meeting held between some of the state's disc golf leadership in February. His observation was based primarily on the fact that the PDGA has eliminated the regional system of organization, and made each state accountable for their own activities.

Rather than having regional representatives, each state has its own rep, who helps guide, promote, and trouble-shoot disc golf situations in her/his own state. With the tremendous growth of disc golf around the globe, this adjustment by the PDGA makes sense.

The informal meeting at French Creek State Park in Birdsboro was called to help determine if a PA disc golf club should be established to provide better communications, instruction, and increase course development throughout the state.

(continued other side)

PA COURSE NEEDS HELP

WHERE: **Nockamixon SP**
Near Doylestown, PA
NEED: Manpower and Funding for installing an 18-hole course.
HOW: By finding out when the work will happen on the course, as well as attending some of this year's events.
WHO: Kevin Laboski is heading this project. Contact him at: 215-529-8433, klaboski@qcsd.org

Spring Brings Hope, and Shared Commitment, to DG Community throughout PA

I know many of us are itching for the snow to melt off the fairways and the temperatures to break 50° so that we could loosen up our shoulders with some long throws and smash some chains again.

But before you throw another disc, please consider this…like the rust that gathers on your game over the winter months, disc golf courses, organizers, and promoters alike are trying to shake off the stiffness and stagnation of the off-season too.

Getting your local club back in gear, your course cleaned up, and a tournament schedule together do not just happen. There are people, right now, thinking about the work they have to do, so that you could enjoy the 2003 disc golf season. They are the chosen few, who, thanklessly, spend hours in the mud, on the computers, or filling out paperwork to make 2003 great.

During this spring thaw, I ask you to consider, not only what you have to do to improve your score, but what you can do to improve disc golf in your area. There is plenty of work to do (and it will get done!) But adding your personal time and effort during these next few months will elevate your status from PA disc golfer to a member of the PA disc golf community. And that is priceless. *-JD FLYER, editor*

An Accuracy Toss Between Rounds Will Add to Your Event

Seven Ways to Spice Up Your Disc Golf Tournament

With so many tournaments being run throughout the entire year, TDs have to be creative to make their events special.

What follows are some proven ways to set your event apart and have your players looking forward to next year. Some cost money (take it from entry fees), some do not. But all will make a big impact during your event.

1. Make a Program. This not only sets up the schedule for the day, but can be a great vehicle for promoting your sponsors.
2. Have a Players Package. Give one to each of your Ams, Advanced, Juniors, and Am Women. It will add great fulfillment to all those players.
3. Start with a Mini-clinic. Have your Course Pro start with ten minutes of instruction. This adds value to the day for most.
4. Have an Extra Event. It could be accuracy, distance, MTA; but holding some other disc event will bring everyone together.
5. Give Away a Pole Hole. Though its more common now, a CTP, ace run or DFL pole hole award will get them back next year.
6. Serve a Lunch. This requires a volunteer team of at least 2-3 people, but your players will love not having to run out to a drive-through in between rounds.
7. Give away a Car. Open up the passenger-side window half way and see who could throw a Fastback in from 100 feet. They'll be talking about this one for years to come!

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Publisher & Editor
Dr. John G. Duesler, Jr.
74 Radburn Road
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006
(215)914-0677 Voice
jgduesler@bioteca.com
http://bioteca.com/discgolfpa/

Tee Pads Get Your Players Off on the Right Foot

The type of tee pads on a disc golf course is determined by a variety of factors: terrain, cost, traffic volume, level of maintenance, and more. And do not forget that public land should be handicapped accessible. Here's a guide to help get you started towards a better understanding of tee pads. *Disc Golf Pennsylvania* knows experienced designers to help you out also.

TYPE	*Advantages*	*Disadvantages*	*Footwear*
Concrete	Low Maintenance	Increased Setup Cost	Sneakers
	Clearly Marked Tee	Labor-intensive Install	X-trainers
	Smooth Surface	Not easily moved	Rubber sole
	** This surface may become slippery when wet. Make sure to create a rough surface by whisking with a heavy broom upon installation.*		
Non-concrete	Low Cost	Much Wear-and-tear	X-trainers
	Easily Relocated	Can get "rutty"	Metal cleats
	Low Maintenance	Slippery when wet	
	** The most popular type here is a natural surface of grass and dirt. This might allow for a longer run-up, plus easier to move and add variety to course.*		
"Special"	Always a good grip	Added Expense	Sneakers
	Defined Tee Area	High Maintenance	X-trainers
	Less wear-and-tear	Cinders Spread Out	All cleats
	** The most desirable tee surface is a track cinder material. This is a versatile surface, but requires some expertise when installing. If elevated, players can roll their ankles.*		

PA Disc Golf Championships
July 12th, Allentown
Contact Rich Klinger 215-450-9394

Disc Golf Pennsylvania can show you how to get the kids more active with Frisbees in and out of school. Contact us for more info.

PA DG Leaders (cont.)

To help discuss these issues were Skeeter Hoffman (French Creek), Curt Davis (Hickory Run), Bill Geibel (Akron), John Duesler (PDGA PA Rep.), Jim "Rocco" Davis (South Mountain), Joe Lynn (Hickory Run), and Amber Hoffman (French Creek).

Though a clear set of goals were established by the group, it was concluded that the formation of the PA Disc Golf Club would merely create another layer of organization and add redundancy, since all those in the group were already involved in communications, instruction, and course development. Therefore, the group did determine that it was not yet time for PA to form a state-wide disc golf club.

But with disc golf growing more rapidly than the volunteer base to support it, the burden on local clubs will eventually become too much. Moreover, the demands have already become more than creating a tournament schedule (a job currently under MADC guidance). Therefore, it may be sooner, rather than later the PA DG club is formed.

Next Issue…Pittsburgh DG!
Great Players, Courses, and A High School Championship!
Publishing Deadline, June 15
http://bioteca.com/discgolfpa/

Dr. John G. Duesler, Jr.
Disc Golf Pennsylvania
74 Radburn Road
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006
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