

Disc Golf Pennsylvania

Spring 2004 (vol. 2, no. 2)

Bringing PA Disc Golfers Together

PA Disc Golf News in Brief

Big Arm Classic Back On

After reporting in the last issue of *DGPA* that the Big Arm Classic was off in 2004, news that the tournament is back on was welcomed indeed. The date for the 2004 Big Arm Classic is July 24, and it will be held, as usual at the Prompton Dam State Park course in Honesdale, PA. Tournament Director Bob Ziadie has joined forces with some other disc golfers to revive it. This year's event will be a PDGA-sanctioned C-tier tournament. Call Bob at (570)208-5934 for more information.

PA State Champ's Set for July

The Pennsylvania State Disc Golf Championships will be held again this year in Allentown during the summer Sportsfest. The PDGA-sanctioned C-tier event will be conducted on Saturday, July 10th, with the Sportsfest Doubles being held on the following day. The PA player who scores lowest will gain an automatic invitation to the U.S. Disc Golf Championships held in Rock Hill, SC in October. In addition, the PA States will be played at the Little Lehigh Parkway, thus allowing a preview of one of the venues to be used during the 2005 PDGA Pro World Championships. For more information, contact TD Richie Klinger at 610-346-9046.

PA College Champ's in 2nd Year

Michael and J. Gary Dropcho will again be hosting the Pennsylvania Collegiate Disc Golf Championships at the Lodge near Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Date is set for October 9th, and all PA colleges are urged to bring a team. For more information about the event, make sure to give Michael a call at 724-465-4326. He will let you know all the specifics, and it will allow him a chance to gauge what schools will be fielding teams. For a nice article in the Indiana University of Pennsylvania College magazine, go to: <http://www.iup.edu/publications/iupmag/webextra/>

Lancaster Capital of Mini-Golf

With Pennsylvania grabbing notoriety with the 2005 PDGA Pro Worlds coming and with new courses going in, it is easy to overlook an ever-increasing segment of the disc golf community in our state—mini golf. This game is growing no faster than in Lancaster, PA. With at least four private courses, mini-golf has taken off with even various models of minis being hotly debated. To try it, join in weekly doubles at Donnie Brooks.

Disc Golf "Grasshopper" Meets Mentor to Share Deep Thoughts

As I began to sort out my quarterly attempt to impart wisdom to our readership, sleep drifted silently over me, leading me to an ethereal encounter with the disc golf spirit. Speaking in the rhythm and constraints of haiku, here is some of the gentle wisdom that was so freely given to me.

Approaching the tee
My partner says to me, dude
That was some good stuff

No bogies! He cried
Watching wild drive climb and dive
Lots of wood - not good

I stand in tee box
Revel in sky and sunshine
Filtering through Woods

Disc Golf Zen requires
A steady hand; do not be
Fooled by the sun spots

In is in is in.
With or without chains, lucky,
Low, high, wobble, skip

After I awoke, I sat up slowly to ponder the words. While my mind was slow to grasp their entire meaning, my disc golf instincts were completely satisfied.

Can you come up with your own haiku offerings? 5-syllables, 7-syllables, 5-syllables. Give it a try and send it along. For more, check out the rest on the Sedgley Web site: <http://www.sedgleywoods.org/NiceUp/haikus.html>.

JD FLYER, Editor



'05 Worlds Web Site Now Online

The 2005 PDGA Professional World Championships Web site has been launched. While there is little information available at this point, you could still access the site at: <http://www.2005worlds.org/>.

Proposing a DG Course Should be Shared Risk with Community

One of the strong indicators that disc golf is gaining in notoriety and credibility is the fact that parks and recreation departments, as well as summer camps, are approaching course designers and developers to get courses in the ground.

The popularity and benefits of disc golf are no longer a secret. Anyone who is involved with recreational outlets now knows about disc golf. However, in the urgency to land the project, many prospective course designers still promise almost anything to get to yes from those decision-makers.

But the times have changed. Even if you are spear-heading a course development project from the outside, disc golf has gained some leverage on the other recreational options from which park administrators and organizers now have to choose.

Issues like installation costs, insurance, maintenance, and promotion should be handled as a partnership with the decision-makers. Relatively speaking, disc golf is much less expensive than almost any other type of park activity. Insurance, while often held up as a barrier to putting a course in, should be handled as if it were a tennis court or a basketball court being installed. If that does not work, then contact the pole hole manufacturers to find out how they might be able to help. Maintenance is a topic that actually plays into disc golfers' advantage, as the formation of a club to steward the property helps the park defray significant costs that they would incur otherwise. And promotion...well, I often warn townships to be prepared for the number of residents/players that will be flooding their courses.

Yes, putting courses in the ground is currently in demand. So anyone proposing a course should treat it as a shared risk, not a give-away. This will only add to your credibility when cutting the deal and help you gain further assurances that you will get your price.

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2004 PA Disc Golf Clubs World Wide Web Directory

While some might find it hard to believe, the Internet is a widely used tool throughout the disc golf community. In fact, demographic research conducted throughout the MADC in 2001 suggests that over 70% of our players use the Internet. So it is in that spirit, the list of Pennsylvania Disc Golf Clubs Web sites or e-mail addresses are provided in this issue. Hope this furthers the great communication we have been building throughout the state.

- Hanover Area Disc Golf Club... http://www.geocities.com/hanover_dg/
- Friends of Sedgley Woods... <http://www.sedgleywoods.org/>
- No-nonsense Disc Golf Club... Troutdude02@aol.com
- Pocono Disc Golf Club... billyray@intergrafix.net
- Pittsburgh Flying Disc Society... <http://www.pfds.org/>
- Tinicum Owls... lucky@luckyweb.com
- Bucks County Whitetails... <http://www.bcdga.org/>
- Flyer Squirrels Disc Golf Club... <http://www.bcdga.org/>
- Bucks County Disc Golf Alliance... <http://www.bcdga.org/>
- Happy Valley Disc Golf Club... <http://www.statecollegediscsports.org/hvdg/>
- Duck Run Disc Golf Club... <http://www.pinelanecampground.com/discgolf1>
- French Creek Dead Dogs... Edward.Hoffman@grahampackaging.com
- Getty Heights Park DGC... <http://www.pfds.org/getty/getty.html>
- Indiana Univ. of PA Lodge DGC... <http://www.pfds.org/college/lodge.html>
- DisGo-Links DGC... <http://jlemkelde.home.pipeline.com/disgo/disgolnk.htm>
- Monroeville Park DGC... <http://www.pfds.org/monroeville/park.html>
- Lancaster Area Frisbee Society... <http://hometown.aol.com/lafsaledog/myhomepage/index.html>
- Lehigh Valley Disc Club... <http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/lehighvalleydiscclubpa/>

So log on and check out some disc golf on the Web!
 Thanks for your continued support! JD FLYER

Camps, Private Courses Help DG Flourish in Pennsylvania

At the Summer Camps and Recreation conference in New York City last month, the big talk there was not about bunk beds or tether ball or even indoor plumbing. No...the camp administrators in New York were talking disc golf. Yep...disc golf. And with the strong presence of Spinning Bees' Gary Auerbach, these camp leaders were wondering how much it costs to get courses installed, who has the know-how to design the courses, and when could someone come out to take a look.

Northeast Sports of Honesdale has also been instrumental in installing disc golf courses in at least three summer camps in their neck of the woods, though they were unable to name the camps specifically due to privacy concerns.

Having disc golf available at these summer camps is great news for the future of our sport, as the early exposure to disc golf will surely bring more players to the game as they get older, and hopefully some of those players will be women, a segment that has been woefully underserved in the overall scheme of things.

Pennsylvania to Host Pro Worlds!

In our last issue, we reported that PA was making a bid to host the 2005 AMATEUR World Championships. Well...that has changed.

Per the urgings of PDGA Administrator, Brian "Guru" Hoeniger, Pennsylvania changed it's bid to the PRO Worlds during the PDGA Board Summit in Scottsdale Arizona in February.

And listening to Guru was wise, as the PDGA Board heard the proposal presented by John Duesler and unanimously accepted the bid.

There is more information in the Disc Golf Pennsylvania Supplement included with this mailing.

It should be emphasized that this is a huge undertaking, and it is going to take all of us to make it great.

Disc Golf Family and Business Tough Mix for Sponsors to Bear

When most tournament directors begin their quest for sponsorship, they look towards the disc golf "family" for help. Vendors, players, and manufacturers are all solicited for help, and they usually respond in kind.

Yet, as someone who has "sponsored" disc golf events for the years that I ran an online retail outlet, in fact, there was very little that came back to the business in terms of revenue.

That is why garnering support should occur in the form of corporate "partnering." Describing some very practical ways that supporting disc golf will benefit a company will go a long way in gaining benefits. Team-building workshops and placing corporate partner ads in *DGWW* are just two ways to gain greater corporate support.

Interestingly, we are also seeing disc golf courses proliferate on private tracts of land around the state, though finding out about these is more difficult and getting on them without permission verges on trespassing. Many of the land owners are younger and considering turning their acreage into pay-to-play venues. One of the owners I have spoken to specifically is planning on positioning his property as a disc golf park that might attract the very plentiful RV community in our state. By installing electrical hook-ups, sanitation dumping facilities, and even cabins, this type of disc golf campgrounds would fit well with love of outdoors that most disc golfers enjoy.

We will publish the progress of these private courses as they become more accessible to the public. Hopefully, some will open this year.



Theo Pozzy, Brian "Guru" Hoeninger, Dave Nesbitt, John Duesler, Marty Hapner, Pete May, Jon Lyksett, and Terry Calhoun celebrate the choice of PA for the 2005 Pro World Champ's.

Advertising Rates for Disc Golf PA

Circulation for Spring 2004 issue: 238
 Our advertising contracts run in one, two, and four issue rate schedules. If you provide the 228-250 copies of the ad, omit the printing costs. Otherwise, we will handle the printing and mailing of your ad. Call me for more details.

#	mailing	printing	total
1	\$25	\$5	\$30
2	\$45	\$10	\$55
4	\$75	\$20	\$95



Next Issue...Summer DG in PA!
 Featuring... Latest News for 2005 Pro Worlds, Poison Ivy Primer, List of PA Disc Golf Course Pros, and more...
 E-mail me for FREE subscription
Ad Deadline. Last Week in June '04