

BCDSS DISC GOLF

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Report on the DGB

Welcome aboard! Hopefully, we're off and flying with this first issue of BC Disc Golf. The new board of the BCDSS Disc Golf Branch has been working hard since the end of the summer and is determined to get a good organization going that we can build upon in the coming years to make the sport of Disc Golf more enjoyable for players around the province. The board was elected at the BCDSS annual general meeting in September and consists of Randy Strohan (pres), James Ring (treasurer), Mike Graff (equipment), Jim Brown (secretary), and our newest addition Duncan Dixon (Outreach). We meet at least once a month to discuss and vote on issues pertaining to disc sports in the province. Also, one of us must attend the monthly BCDSS board meeting to give a monthly report about the DGB and to keep ourselves up to date on disc sports issues in BC.

One of our main focuses since the fall has been the proposal, purchase, and delivery of the 18 Innova DISCcatchers that have been sitting in storage in Whistler for the past few years. Without a strong DGB it is unlikely that such an activity as this would have been achieved. A proposal for funding had to be submitted to the BCDSS, Innova Canada had to be contacted and a contract worked out, a van and strong bodies were needed to go to Whistler to pick up the 18 baskets, arrangements had to be made with the person storing the baskets in Whistler and then the baskets had to be stored in Vancouver. Lots to do, but we

got it done quickly....and now we have the task of getting these baskets installed. We put together good proposals to donate this equipment for either an 18 hole or two 9 hole disc golf courses and in January submitted them to Vancouver (Quilchena), Burnaby (Robert Bby & Bby Mtn), New Westminster (Queens Park), and Cypress Bowl. We are currently doing follow ups and will let you know more in the near future. Hopefully, we'll have one or two hot new courses to play by the time summer rolls around.

One of the main objectives of this board is to get you, a disc golfer, to support us by joining the BCDSS. We rely on funding from the BCDSS to be able to accomplish projects such as the aforementioned purchase of the 18 DISCcatchers. Our current arrangement with them entitles us to 15% of the revenue that comes in from memberships (majority from Ultimate), and then a percent of any casino funds based on proposals we submit. Your support will go a long way to give us a more reputable image with the BCDSS and give us greater access to funding so we may be able to achieve some of our goals in the coming years. We need more players to get involved.....to help organize tournaments, design art work for discs and posters, do outreach programs in schools, etc. We need more than five of us in the Vancouver area if we want to really see some growth in the sport.

For those of you living outside of Greater Vancouver we hope that you will also support us. To date most of our focus has been on the Vancouver area, but we are determined to grow into a provincial perspective and will be trying to help players in other areas of BC to achieve their goals for disc golf in their area. We will be sponsoring events in Nanaimo, Pender Island, Salt Spring and Fernie this year, and hopefully with the next casino we will be able to finance a chain basket course for a parks department outside of the lowermainland.

Why should you join? First, your support gives us more legitimacy when we are dealing with the BCDSS and parks departments. As a member you have a voice in how you think future funding should be spent for the sport of disc golf in the province. If we get 20 new members from an area and they propose that we should finance new chain baskets

for their course, well I think that with our current membership numbers, they would have a very good chance of receiving that funding. So join up and submit your proposal and see if we can't all work together to achieve some bigger goals for disc golf in this province. Second, you will get lots of information about disc golf in BC and other areas of the world. You will receive this newsletter every quarter as well as two copies of the BCDSS publication SPIN. Read on, enjoy, and see if we can't all work together to make this sport really fly in B.C.

Upcoming Events



Vancouver Series -

Randy's on going tournaments are held the 1st and last Saturdays of each

month. Tee off is at 1:00 pm with 27 holes of play. Alternative pin placements are used at Jericho for the first of the month and the porta baskets are used at Quichena for the other events. For info contact Randy 322-6255.

Winter Series - Bradness is hosting two tournaments each month at the Mundy Park Disc Golf Course. The series began in Oct. and runs through till the end of April. Each players top 7 scores from the 13 events will be used to determine the winners in each of the divisions. Registration begins at 11:00 with the tee off at noon. Next events are: April 10, and April 24 (finals). The ace pot has been running for over a year and the next ace will get you over \$600. For info contact Brad 1-604-826-TOSS.

Nanaimo All Island Challenge - John Anthony & Jim Brown will be hosting a tournament at the Bowen Park Disc Golf Course on Sat. May 8th. Jim will be bringing over the 9 BCDSS porta-baskets, and a challenging 18 hole course will be set up for the event. Jim will be in Nanaimo for the BC Parks & Rec Conference (May 6 - 8) and will have a booth set up to promote disc sports and disc golf courses sales. Come on out on the Sat. and help us put on a good image for the sport so more parks departments around the province will want a course of their own. Contact Jim at (604) 708-5455.



Pender Island Classic

mark the weekend of May 29/30 on your calendar, because it's time for what has

become the biggest and best annual disc golf event in the province. Always a great weekend and no matter how you play it doesn't really matter because that course is just so much fun. Expect over 125 competitors, good payouts and lots of added prizes. Contact Alex (250) 629-6494.



Rickyglan - the eastern BC version of the Pender event, it too is becoming the disc event to attend. Held on

June 19th and hosted by Rick & Betty Spitzer on their private 9 hole course the event attracted 106 participants last year. A great course, giant barbecue and awards ceremony. Camping close by and always tons of added prizes. Contact Rick or Betty at (250) 423-4843,

Salt Spring Island 1st Annual - come on over on May 15th to attend the opening event at the new Hart Memorial Disc Golf Course. Its an 18 hole tonal course weaving through the old provincial camp site in Mouat Park.

DISC SPORT PROMOTIONS



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New Products

Most of the disc manufacturers have come out with new products in the past few months. The trend of last year continues as most of the new products are of the premium plastic variety, indicating an acceptance by the players to pay a little more for a disc that feels better and is going to last longer.

Discraft

APX Elite Pro - the long awaited APX has finally arrived. This new mid range

approach & putter was scheduled to be released before Christmas, but the first shipments didn't go out until early Feb. Has an excellent feel to it like all the other discs in the Elite Pro line and players should give it a try to see if it's a better answer to what they are currently using for their short game.

Innova

Rhyno - just released from Innova is a new short range putt & approach disc that they feel may be a better disc than the Aviar. A cross between the XD and the Piranha, this new animal fits the hand really well and features the thumb track.

Hammer Head - Innova has finally decided to replace the popular Hammer with a new version. A medium speed disc with natural turnover tendencies. Good for rollers, short turnover drives and approaches. It has a thicker flight plate, is made from a new gripper material, and it floats in water. Guaranteed unbreakable and only available at 180 gms.

Super Roc - a new Roc made from the KC Pro plastic.

Wolf - a mid range disc that is said to fly like a beat up Roc.

Eagle - a long range driver that is now Innova fastest disc. It is similar to the Banshee but has a better glide at the end of its flight.

Ching

Sniper - the first disc released by Ching in the fall. It is manufactured for them by Innova and is designed as a smaller, mid-range driver. The plastic is blended for durability and accuracy and performance is its primary feature.

Tank - Chings latest release is an approach - putter that is very similar to the Rhyno. Look for their third release soon.....the **Bomb**.

Disc Sports Promotions presents

Hey, I have moved back into the city, so you should be seeing more of me out at all the local disc golf courses. For those of you I have not met, my name is Jim Brown, and I have been sitting here at my computer for the last 25 hours rushing to try to get this newsletter together. Now

that I am closer to all the disc activity I have once again become a very active member of the BCDSS Disc Golf Branch. As you will be reading and hearing in the coming months.....we need your support. Please pick up a membership form from your course bulletin board and join (now only \$10).

As many of you are aware I have been the main disc distributor in these parts for the past 15 years! And as well as all the aforementioned new golf discs, I have also brought in copies of Victor Malafronte's new book "The Complete Book of Frisbee" (\$25), and John Houck's disc golf video "Learn to Play Disc Golf" (\$15). I do sell direct through my mail order business, but require a minimum purchase of \$50. My business hours are Mon - Fri 9:30 - 5:30 at (604) 708-5455 or discsports@bc.sympatico.ca I recommend that players support their neighbourhood disc golf retailer and if you can't find the disc you want, ask them to get it for you.

This year I will be sponsoring two disc golfers by donating to them discs and other disc golf equipment. I have chosen Glen Whitlock to be the first recipient and I encourage interested candidates to send me their player profile.

Glen Whitlock almost live

When I began thinking about putting a disc golf newsletter together, one of the things I wanted it to contain is an interview with someone relevant to disc golf in BC. I thought we'd start at the top in our first issue and talk with the player who has been the number one disc golf player in Canada for most of the past decade and a half.

If you know Glen, you know that you don't really know what may transpire. This all began with a message I left at Glen's wife's 1-800 number.....saying Glen should give me a call because I want to do an interview with him. Glen can be hard to get a hold of because he has a house in Gibsons (no phone), lives there sometimes, Sue (his wife) works and lives in Bellingham, and on the weekends they quite often stay together at Glen's buddies place in Vancouver. About a week later I got a call from Glen. He had just been robbed. Sue and him were at

his friends place and had just gotten up to find out that their van had been broken into and his tools and a few other items were gone. He was planning to leave the next day to head south to California and go back out on the disc golf tour. Oh, and his wallet and ID were missing! He said that he might not be able to leave now....I said I'd give him a call the next morning. Next day his wallet has turned up in a rental car at the airport, which his buddy had rented a few days previous. I tried to do a quick interview over the phone but the reception was so bad, so it looks like we're on the road together to get this interview done.

This interview was done in my car with my three year olds tape player while we drove to and from the airport. Hey, it was a great way to spend some time with someone who has to be considered Canada's greatest disc player as he is about to set out on another adventure on the pro disc golf tour.



When did you first start playing disc.?

Oh, I started playing disc back in the late '60's. Just basic stuff and then I came out to BC in 1978 looking for work, and went to Quesnel to visit a friend. We were throwing a lot and then I came down to Vancouver and by the end of the year saw the disc scene at Kitsalino, met one of the players and started to get more into it.

When did you start playing golf?

The Volcanic Open in Seattle in 1981 was my first real experience in a disc golf tournament that got me into it. I had played once or twice in Vancouver, but it didn't really interest me that much. I was

using a 1979 Series disc and a Krae Van Sickle World Class 119gm.

You focused mainly on freestyle when you started playing?

Yea, every day at Kits beach, hundred hour weeks

When did you start branching out into other events?

Well, the one that first interested me was self caught flight. When I got bored with the freestyle I'd run back and forth for a while, throwing backhand from one side and then a wrist flip from the other. (*you throw the disc on a angle into the wind, so that it will catch and ride the wind, while you run like crazy and try to catch it in one hand as it comes down. The world record is over 17 seconds in the air and over 100 yards away).

So after 1981 you started to focus more on playing disc golf?

I was just interested in playing all the frisbee events at that point.

That was sort of the standard back then, when everyone did all the events.

Yea, I got to go see the 1981 Worlds Frisbee Championships at the Rose Bowl....saw you there..."look at the Canadians". I started working on my roller quite a bit that year. I could never throw very far.

OK lets jump to Ultimate. You were on one of the first Canadian teams to attend a World Ultimate Championships.

Yea, I was on the 1986 Canadian team along with Joe Playfair. It was over in England.

That was sort of the beginning of Canadian Ultimate....the first Worlds we attended?

That was the second one. The first one was a ransack team from mostly Ottawa and Toronto who got together.

When did you start doing the Pro Tour - 1984?

Yea, it was mainly because they were still putting the names on the disc. What I wanted to do was to go to all of the tournaments - be the best in everything and that way they couldn't deny me, but that was before I found out it was more political than what you actually did.

So they put Ron & Bob's names on the disc again? (From 1977 till 1984 it was

custom for the Frisbee manufacture to put the champions name on their World Class Series Frisbees and pay the players a royalty. The US did this every year, but we had problems in Canada with Irwin Toys. The original World Champions and Canadian Champions, Jim Kenner, Gail McColl, (and Ken Westerfield) had their signatures on the 1977 Canadian frisbee, but they got so pissed off they left to start making their own disc (Discraft). My partner, Bill King and I were next, and after coming second in the World in Freestyle and being the top Canadians at the World Championships (for the next four years), we couldn't agree to a contract with Irwin.....so they put two top Toronto players Ron & Bob's name on the Canadian Frisbee (has their names but doesn't say Canadian Champions) for the next three years until Irwin finally agreed to our terms. Hey, we wanted John Anthony's name on that disc with ours....he deserved it). That must have been one of the last years that they did the signature series discs?

Yea, that was the last year. They didn't put me on, apologized. That sort of turned we back away from overall and back to freestyle again for a couple of years. Actually, 1985 I pretty well took off.

That was the year you were out on the fish boats a lot?

Yea, and I played more Ultimate than anything else. Same with 1986, and then the next year I decided to get seriously into disc golf.

So in 1987 you really began to do the disc golf touring?

Yea, I was touring all around the states and set a record back then for the amount of travel, but its probably been broken by now, attending 17 consecutive PDGA tournaments. I was a little burned out by the end of that year.

Your most successful year, was that '92?

Yea, had the most wins and the most money.

You went to Worlds that year?

Yea.

How did you do?

I came seventh, mainly because I was at the end of my rope. I got road rash. I was burned out.

So what was your best Worlds finish?

16th for Open and 4th for Masters. I've won doubles and I've won putting. Two World PDGA titles! Yahoo!

So what Worlds have you been to?

Lets see...87, 88, 89, 90, 92, 93, 95, 96 I was at but didn't play. That's it....the end of the 90's haven't been that good.

What was the best Worlds?

The best one probably was.....actually I went in 98 too. It's hard. From each different standpoint. In '98 the courses were definitely the best, but the way it was run, it didn't come close to some of the other ones.

You were at Worlds last year?

Yea. I played Open.

No wonder I didn't see your name in the masters division. I didn't realize you had been their.

Yea, I made the Open division semi finals in '88 and I made them again in '98. I had to do open because the masters field was full by the time I registered. '98 had good courses, ran on time, and had an excellent banquet, but many other things were not very good. So on an overall scale probably '92....had great courses, was really well run, professionally treated....but the single most professional tournament would have been the Japan Open.

Randy was at that one?

Yea, that was in '93.

What was so good about that event?

It's the way you're treated, the people, lots of fans that were watching and were excited about it. The courses are really beautifully set up and the area was superb.

How about some of the years you have been travelling, so people have a perspective of how many miles you put on. I was looking at some of your results from last year, and the tournaments that you had gone to. You played a lot in California, but you also got over to Arizona and to Boulder....I didn't realize you went to Worlds, so obviously you also got back east too.

Yea, Cincinnati, Wisconsin.

Did you do the Great Lakes Open?

No, I new it was going to be long courses and I didn't want to burn my arm out before the Worlds. I did the US Open too

which was down in Texas and had my best finish ever in the Overall. It was the US Oven Frying Disc Championships. (Texas in the summer). They did an article on me in '89 and I did 12,000 to 15.000 miles, without a vehicle, which they though was quite remarkable. It's hard enough when you have a vehicle.

So how about some of your nick names? You have a whole slurry of them.

The two major ones are "the vapour" and "whittler". Carlton Howard head of the rules committee came up with that one. We were playing at the '91 Laurel Springs Open and Ken was running away with it, which wasn't to surprising, and it was a race for second, and me and Carlton were quite a bit ahead of everybody, and I just kept getting closer and closer, and finally I hit a long putt on the very last hole to end up one behind him. I thought I was tying him with that putt, otherwise I had no reason to go for it....I did it and there was a big cheer on the tape, it was great...he

So you were whittling away at the lead!

Yea, it's not like I get spectacular birdies, but I don't usually give strokes away, so when I get birdies its a bonus.

So what's the strength of your game?

The short game. Approaches and putting.

What would you say is your average drive now?

Oh, my driving distance is about 110 meters.

What are the big arms throwing now?

Oh, about 150 meters. Yea, a lot of people can throw 400 - 450 feet pin point accurately now.

How about Ken Climo?

He's about the only one who has everything, he probably does not have any weakness. He is quite likely the best putter in the world, the most accurate driver, and quite an adequate upshot game to say the least. He has a very unusually putt in so far that it is at the perfect half way point between a drill putt and a drop putt.

So, what's in your bag?

I have something from everybody, nobody needs to feel left out. I have a Lightning Bearcat, Wham-o 70 mold, Destiny Superpuppy ...

What do you use each of them for?

Ok, the Bearcat I use....

Do you use the Bearcat or the new version...what are they called?

They're called Slice #2's now, but they use a softer type plastic and I prefer the older Bearcats. I was down at their factory and I told them they should make some more of them...so, maybe they will. It's the equivalent of the 3 iron in my bag...it's long and strait, and I particularly like it in wooded areas because they don't break and they don't damage easily. It's for long approach shots and short drives.

What weight ranges do you prefer?

For the Bearcats it's about 174 to 177 gms. and for the Super Puppies, I carry one I use for driving, one for turning right and a straight shooting one. The driving one is about 174 gm and the others are 170 to 171 gm.

Where do you find them? They've been in your bag awhile!

Yea, they've been in my bag a long time, but as I travel around the US I scour for them. I've got about 40 of them now. Not all of them I can use and some of them are broken.

You've got 40 of them!

Yea I'm the Super Puppy king, everyone knows that....on tour anyways. It makes up a lot of my game under 200 feet, the Super Puppy (Glen just got some APX's and it looks like the Super Puppy may be replaced). Then I have a few short range specialty discs. The 70 mold which I use exclusively for left to right shots and then there is the Soft Touch which for fighting the wind it is quite useful and that's 186 gms. And because it moves so slow through the air you can be chain high going by the basket and then it falls off only 10 feet past. Lets see, the next Manufacture that I have most of is Discraft. I have a 150 class X-clone which is the most stable disc in my bag and I use it for things that have to go left at the end or when its really windy out. The new product that I really have become quite happy about is the XL. I like it in the light range, as light as they get which is in the low 160's. It's my main driver when I have to go a long ways in the air. I carry an Eclipse from Discraft as well in the high 170's, beat up, which is quite an effective roller and turns up quickly for me. For long range roller I use

another DGA product which is actually a shaved Sringray...its called a Hi Tech #4. That's the only Innova product that I have in my bag.

And now DGA has switched over from Innova and is getting all their products manufactured by Discraft.

Yea, and I was also using another of the newer DGA discs which is the flathead Cyclone, but I lost it and haven't replaced it.

What about your bag. What type do you use?

I was sponsored by Dan Rothman from California. He gave me a bag which is a regular back pack style

You don't use one of the new disc golf bags that are on the market?

If one of the manufacturers would have sponsored me I probably would use one, but I guess I'm just too cheap to go and get one (I decided to change that and gave Glen the best bag I had - the Wall City Mega Cube).

So what do you think of the new rule changes for the age divisions ? (As of Jan. 2000 the age for all divisions will be raised by five years. So Masters now begins at age 40).

I spoke out for years against them doing that, because I've been touring for so long and know most of the main people who are making the decisions in the sport, and I always stated my same argument that if it's true that physically you haven't lost that much by the age 35, but you have to take into account the life factor. By 35 you have settled into your life style and there is so many other things taking your attention away from disc golf.

So it makes it hard to compete at the Open level then?

Yea, I was arguing more for the fringe players. I know the life players are still playing great at 35 and are definitely Open competitive. But my consideration was for the other players and maybe to try and get crossovers from other sports. People who are into their 30's and maybe injuries have kept them from getting back into their old sport so maybe they'll try getting into this one. It's a little less physically demanding.

How about some of your favourite courses?

It seems like every region has one course that really stands out. In the North West it is definitely Steilacoom which is an amazing course. Santa Cruz (Delevega) is many peoples favourite and it has so many things going for it. Twenty seven holes, tee pads, elevation changes, you can see Monterey Peninsula from the top of the world, hole 27. At this years Worlds they amazingly had two of my favourite courses that I have ever played, which is great to have, one tournament with two of your favourite courses!

So you had played them before?

Yea, Mtn Airy which has been a lot of peoples favourite for a long time. It's in Cincinnati. It's long and challenging, but its not necessarily the long throwers that do well their. Accuracy is really well rewarded. And also they had Cabin Creek which is the Beckinbreckers home private course. I was practising one day and thought what park is this again, and realised that this was somebody's yard. It's amazing, beautiful, well thought out.

What type of baskets do you prefer?

Lets see, I hmmm.

Tonals?

Ha, ha, I've always loved tonals, but barring that, the first target out, the old Mach 1's. I don't think a target should be too easy....you should have to hit them just right.

Is there a variety of targets at the Worlds now, or are they all Mach III's?

Mach V's. Oh, actually that's right. This year they had Allan Pears "spider baskets" which may well be my favourite baskets outside of Mach I's. They had to pay Ed Headrich money to use them at Worlds (Ed has a patent on the two chain configuration).

What do you think of the Innova DISCcatchers?

I think that the DISCcatchers are fine. I know a lot of people complain about the disc passing through the chains.

Well maybe we'll have two new DISCcatcher courses in the ground by the time you get back!

That would be great.

What is your favourite course locally?

Locally, I think Jericho. It's the most challenging. There is always a soft spot in my heart for Little Mountain though.

Pender?

Yea, Penders' a great course.

Have you played Juan de Fuca?

No

It's like a poor mans Pender and has a little rougher terrain.

Rougher terrain, wow!

What needs to be done locally? Why aren't players interested in competing and going out on the tour? You've been at it a long time and I used to go on the road to tournaments. Now the players aren't travelling and they are not participating that much in local events.

It needs to be headed up by somebody that the people trust, I guess.

Not many players travel down to Seattle any more for their events.

That's the same problem. People have gone down their and gotten burned.

Players don't trust Tournament Directors any more?

Yea, that's right. And it also has a lot to do with our location and that you have to travel so far to get anywhere. To be a touring pro its really difficult because you have to go so far.

But at local events we don't get that many out. In the older days we used to get at least twice as many out to events.

Yea, a lot of people are just not interested in paying money to play. Either they're just not competitive in their division or they have a bad experience at an event.

We have lots of good players locally, but no one has really gone and tried to take their game to the next level. OK, who has been the biggest influence on your game?

Uh.....

Sorry, have I stumped you? How about Peter Sontag?

My game is so different than Peters. My game is so different than most peoples. It's hard to say someone specifically. I've picked up bits here and there from watching people and put them all together.

For support locally I have been trying to talk our Disc Golf Branch into trying to achieve certain objectives each year and one of these thing would be trying to

encourage touring players by giving support. Do you think this would be a good thing to get going? (The DGB just voted to pay players fees to the PDGA Worlds).

Yea, people would tour more that's for sure.

Hey Glen, thanks a lot for doing this. Have a great time out there on the tour and I know everyone around here is pulling for you.

Thanks. See you in a month or so.

Glen's disc golf adventures in 1998 included:

10/11 Motherlode 98, Cal.	5th	April
April 26/27 Master Cup, Cal		3rd July
4/5 Evergreen Open, Cal.	2nd	July
11/12 San Francisco Safari,	..3rd	July
25/26 Rocky Mtn. Champ.	2nd	Aug 4-8
PDGA World's, Ohio	35th	Sept 26
Indian Summer, Cal	1st	Oct. 3/4
Fault Line Classis, Cal	.8th	

In 1998 Glen won 3 tournaments, won \$2,481 US in prize money, was top in PDGA points for region 4 (BC, AB, Wash, OR, Idaho), and 48th overall on the PDGA cash pay out results.

The DGB's newest board member!

The DGB is happy to announce that Duncan Dixon has become the 5th member of our Disc Golf Branch board. Although relatively new to the sport, Duncan brings his enthusiasm and his expertise with youth. He is a program director with the YMCA and last summer established an 18 hole tonal course at YMCA Camp Deka (100 mile house), a 9 hole natural object course at YMCA Camp Howdy (Port Coq.), and a 9 hole natural object course at YMCA Camp Elphistone (Gibsons). About 2800 kids ages 9 to 17 years were involved in the camps last summer and got to experience and share the enjoyment of disc golf that Duncan brings to the sport.

Disc Golf Branch Outreach Program

We have several activities in the works right now: the BC Parks & Rec Conference, upgrading the Disc Golf Instructors manuals for school use, and workshops and clinics for new players.

The BC Parks & Rec Conference will be held May 6 - 8th in Nanaimo and will be attended by about 450 delegates from around the province. I (Jim Brown) will be hosting a booth on behalf of the BCDSS and will focus on a visual display and the attraction of a free custom BCDSS mini (if you try and sink a putt at either the DGA chain basket or the DISCatcher basket I will have on display) to get attention. I attended the conference three years ago in Kamloops so I have a better understanding of who is attending and how important it is to get this people to see the potential of our sport. These are the people who make the purchase decisions for recreational equipment in our province! Through a cost sharing arrangement with the BCDSS, the Ultimate Branch, and Innova we have purchased a large run of custom minis and will be able to give 100's away at the conference.

Our Disc Golf instructors manual is badly in need of updating and Duncan has undertaken this task. We have contacted and will be receiving a copy of the current program out of Texas and hope to use some of this information in our revision.

We will be holding several information workshops in the coming months. The first one will be held at the Jericho Disc Golf Course on Sunday, May 2nd. The Vancouver Ultimate League will be hosting a league picnic at the Jericho Hill Centre that day and we will be working in conjunction with them to assist new players trying the disc golf course and explaining the different disc products and how they fly. We will have hundreds of disc on sale that day and should have many different demo models of some of the new products to try. Come on out and join the fun! Their will be a barbecue, music, and other disc activities such as DDC.

Alberta Bound

The Alberta Disc Sports Society received a government grant of \$13,000 last summer to be used for course upgrades for the disc golf courses at Pierce Estate Park and Canmore. They are supposed to be adding 9 baskets at Pierce to make it a 18 hole chain basket course and

replacing the 18 tonals at Canmore with new chain baskets. The ADSS has purchased the 18 baskets from local manufacture Craig Burrows Johnson who produces a modified Mach II style. There is still too much snow at Canmore so the new baskets will not be installed until sometime in May. In Calgary there has been some problems with the Calgary Parks Department about expanding the Pierce Estate Park course. There is a fish hatchery in the Park and it seems the course is getting too popular and attracting too many players. Instead of finding another site for a second course in the city, to draw away some of the players, the parks department is instead debating about removing the current course! Hopefully, sanity will prevail and Alberta will have two excellent 18 hole disc golf facilities.

Up in Edmonton, Steve Mallet has been working hard to get the "saucer basket" course at Rundle Park upgraded. He is currently adding chains to make them a better catching basket. I doubt many of you have ever seen this type of basket. Instead of chains the object is to deflect your putt off the inverted plastic pyramid into the basket that is located in the spot where the chains would normally hang.

The Alberta Disc Golf Branch has established a series of events for 1999. Players get points for their placement at each event and double points at major tournaments. For more information about Alberta events you should check out their web page at www.cal.shaw.ca/~aherring/ or contact Ryan Powell (403) 259-5680 in Calgary or Steve Mallet (403) 439-2311 in Edmonton.

March 28	Pierce Estate Park	April
11	Pierce Estate Park	May
8 -June 13	Bow Cycle Match	Play
15/16	Worlds Biggest Rundle	June 6
	"Rickyglen"	July
17/18	Canmore	Aug. 15
	River City Cup, Rundle	
Sept 11/12	Alberta Open	Sept
??	Series Final	October
17	Saucer Madness	

What's happening in Washington?

Major upcoming events across the line include the Windy River Open at Kennewick on April 10/11, the Terrace Lake Open on June 6th, the Nuclear Meltdown at Kennewick on June 26/27, and the big Fort Steilacoom Open on July 2-4th. This event will be part of the PDGA (professional disc golf association) Supertour and should have close to \$10,000 in cash and merchandise to be won. For more information contact Jason Cooke (206) 364-8121. For an easy day trip of disc golf down south stop in at the Cornwall Park Disc Golf Course in Bellingham. A nice 9 hole chain basket course located just north west of town.

B.C. Course Review

The newest addition to the growing lineup of disc golf courses in B.C is the Hart Memorial Disc Golf Course in Mouat Park on Salt Spring Island. It is an 18 hole tonal course located within a few minutes walk of Ganges. Dean Crouse has been working hard with a group of volunteers grooming the course and preparing it for their opening event on May 15th. The course winds through the trees of the old provincial camp site and uses slim hanging tonal targets! A great article about the course can be found in the March 3rd addition of the Gulf Island Driftwood paper.



Although in the works for many months, the Juan de Fuca Parks Department is finally going to go ahead and replace the tonal poles at the popular Victoria course. Mike McCrae has been relentless in his objective to get his course upgraded to chain baskets, and even though he has been living in Vancouver for close to a year now, he has continued to work closely with the parks department over there. The board has approved funding of \$4500 and is looking at obtaining further funding from the adjacent naval base and the BCDSS in order to purchase 18 Mach II baskets.

Up at Sun Peaks, once the snow melts, you will find the new tee-off for the 1st hole on the sun deck at McSporties! It's a 9 hole chain basket course located at the base of the mountain.

At Scotch Creek plans are underway to expand the course at the Scotch Creek Entertainment Centre to an 18 hole tonal course. If your heading up to the Shuswap stop in and check it out.

On Cortes Island they are playing regularly on 3 different courses and there is plans to have a tournament sometime this year.

Locally, look for the BCDSS Disc Golf Branch to be doing some minor upgrades. We will be fixing up the baskets at Little Mountain and Jericho and will be replacing some of the tee signs. Also, watch for score cards on the bulletin boards at all the local courses.

At Lions Bay, Mike Bentley still has approval for the installation of an 18 hole course. He has a large treed area overlooking the inlet which will make for a spectacular course. Unfortunately Mike was too busy last year and did not have time to work on what will be a very time consuming project. He should have the time this summer and plans to begin installation of the tonal course sometime in the coming months. He will need volunteers to help with the clearing of fairways, so check out the bulletin boards for notices.

New Disc Golf Course Development

One of the main focuses of the DGB in the coming month will be the development of new courses. We currently have proposals out to the Vancouver, Burnaby, and New Westminister parks departments to donate our 18 Innova DISCatcher baskets. We also have proposals in at Cypress Park and we are working with players in Vernon, Powell River and Kimberly who have submitted proposals to their parks departments.

We are currently preparing for the BC Parks & Rec Conference on May 6 -8th. We hope that with a visual display booth, our giveaway minis, and the delegates increased awareness about the growth and potential of disc sports, that some of these participants will want to follow up and get a disc golf course for their community. I hope to be giving you lots of great news about new courses in the next addition of this newsletter!

DGB Goals for 1999

1. We need player support. The new BCDSS membership fee is only \$10 per year. Think of it as a very cheap green fee. You get to play disc golf for free and

we work hard to try to get you new courses, better events, and lots of information! You should be able to find the new BCDSS membership form in this newsletter or on your local course bulletin board. Fill it out and send it in!

2. Communication. As a member you will become part of our disc golf data base and will receive this newsletter and SPIN. The BCDSS Hotline for disc golf is back....so for the latest news dial 878-7387 or 1-888-8787387. For the most comprehensive insight into disc golf in B.C. you will soon be able to view our new web site. We have been collecting resource material from all the courses in the province and by May this should all be part of the new BCDSS web page. Also, keep checking those bulletin boards. We will try to keep you up to date about events, products, and other disc news.

3. New Courses. Everyone wants new and better courses. We are working very hard to make them become a reality.

4. Events. We hope to establish several reputable events that players will want to become a part of and that will grow year by year. For the coming year we will have a PDGA sanctioned event, the Vancouver Sea to Sky on Aug.28/29th, and the BC Provincial Championships on Sept 18/19th. We will also work with Randy to continue to make his on going monthly events even more rewarding.

4. Sponsorship. The DGB will be establishing a funding formula for disc golf events in the province and will also be sponsoring any BCDSS member who attends the PDGA World Disc Golf Championships. I am currently (Disc Sports Promotions) working out a joint sponsorship arrangement with the DGB whereby we will purchase custom hotstamped golf discs, of which approximately 80 will be used as prizes at events around the province. We also hope to have at least 100 custom minis that will also be given away at events. Support should be going out to Nanaimo, Salt Spring, Pender, Richyglen, Sea to Sky, Provincials, and to Randy's monthly series.

5. Outreach. With Duncan aboard we can look toward a much stronger Outreach program. We have purchased a disc golf instructional video, are currently upgrading the Instructors Manual, and will be looking to obtain outreach loaner discs in the coming months.

6. Provincial Focus. We will be trying to do more to support the players outside of Greater Vancouver in the coming year. With sponsorship and more resource information we can hopefully encourage more regional players to get involved. We encourage members to send in proposals of what our priorities should be and how we should spend any forth coming casino funds.

7. BCDSS Support. We are working closely with the BCDSS now and believe we now have established more credibility with them over the past half year. With are inputs they are currently upgrading the BCDSS Resource List and the BCDSS web page. In May new membership cards will be ready and sent out to members. A program is being established with many businesses that will offer discounts to BCDSS members. We receive 15% of the BCDSS funding and also further funding from casino money based on proposals we submit. With increased disc golf membership our percentage of funding will increase and we will have more capital to operate better events and subsidize new courses.

DGB in Review

1998 - 18 DISCatcher baskets
 1998 - Jericho Hill Disc Golf Course
 1997 - Winskill - new Mach III baskets
 1996 - Semiahmoo Disc Golf Course
 1989 - Mundy Park Disc Golf Course
 1986 - Little Mountain Disc Golf Course

Without the support of the BCDSS you probably would not have any good local courses to play on! Also, the DGB has been responsible for many of the events and yearly activities.

Outside of Vancouver the DGB has been instrumental in giving support to the players in those areas who have been trying to get courses established and also to the players who have been organizing disc events. Increased support will be coming as we get more and more organized.

DGB Finances

We currently have \$1,307 in the bank. Have receivables of \$260, a liability of \$604 as the balance owed for the DISCatcher baskets, for a total of \$402. We are expecting income from our share of BCDSS membership revenue of about \$1200 to come in during May, another

\$300 in the fall and additional fundraising activities should raise another \$500. We are planning to break even in the coming year and will spend our revenue on event sponsorship, course upgrades, Outreach materials, and membership mailings.

Events Schedule

April 24	Jericho Month Series
April 24	Coquitlam Series Final
1st Sat	Quilchena monthly last
Sat.	Jericho monthly May 8
	Nanaimo All Island
May 15	Salt Spring Island
May 29/30	Pender Island
June 19	Rickyglen
Aug 28/29	Vancouve Sea to Sky
Sept 18/19	BC Provincials

Next Issue

Tournament results from Nanaimo. Salt Spring, Pender, Rickyglen, and Randy's Series....and pictures!

Updates on the installation of our 18 DISCatcher baskets....hopefully, we will be able to tell you about 1 or 2 new courses!

Another up close interview with one of BC's top disc golfers.

New products and events

Deadline for next issue is July 15th.

Send submissions to:
 Disc Sports Promotions
 PO Box 19526 Centrepont PO
 Van. B.C. V5T 4E7



BCDSS 1999/2000 Membership (May 1/99 - April 30/20)

Name: _____ A
 Address: _____ Cit
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 Phone: _____
 E-mail _____
 Signature: _____
 Date: _____

send \$10 to: BCDSS Box
 29114, 1996 W. Broadway, Vancouver,
 B.C. V6J 1Z0