

DISC SPORTS

Southern California's Newsletter for Disc Enthusiasts

Sept.-Dec. 1991

World's Biggest Disc Golf Tournament Comes to La Mirada May 9

On May 9, La Mirada will be one of hundreds of courses around the world participating in the World's Biggest Disc Golf Tournament (WBDGT). Each course will be holding a one-round tournament running from dawn to dusk. Promoter John Houck of Austin, Texas, believes he will easily reach his goal of seeing 20,000 people play disc golf on the same day.

The entry fee has been kept low -- \$10 -- and the entry package generous -- a golf disc and a T-shirt -- in order to encourage participation. Since the emphasis of the tournament is on participation and not competition, there will be no prize money. How you play doesn't matter; what's important is *that* you play. It's a great chance to introduce friends and family to disc golf in a supportive environment. (Of course, if you want to make a few friendly side bets with some of your fellow golfers we won't stop you.)

After player confidence in the PDGA was shaken during last summer's championships in Dayton, Ohio, there was much discussion on how to most effectively develop the sport of disc golf. Some believe that the key to development is to hold bigger tournaments with bigger purses to get the public's attention. To me this sounds backwards; the answer lies on the other side of the equation, at the bottom of the pyramid: If we want to see growth in the areas of money and publicity, we must first increase the number of players. Without a broad player

(continued inside)

Fall a Repeat of Spring in One-Day Overall

Proving that their victories in the spring overall were not flukes, Scott Stokely and Mary Uhlarik successfully defended their titles in the 1991 LMDC Fall Overall, held on November 9. The format was the same as it was in the spring, with points being tabulated in five events: golf, distance, accuracy, MTA, and DDC.

This time both Scott and Mary left some room between themselves and their competitors. Scott placed no lower than third out of ten in any event, winning both golf and distance. Mary collected firsts in three of the five events -- golf, distance, and MTA -- with the remaining victories in accuracy and DDC going to Beth Verish.

A cornucopia of prizes, many generously donated by Discovering The World, was handed out to the participants. Plaques were awarded to the overall winners and to the person judged to be the best newcomer (no previous tournament experience); this time the secret committee selected Johnathon Peters.

Mary nudged her under-19 girls' distance record up slightly from 321' to 326' in a light, swirling breeze.

LMDC Has Moved!!!

The La Mirada Disc Club has changed location from Whittier to, appropriately enough, La Mirada. The new address and phone are:

La Mirada Disc Club
14727 San Esteban
La Mirada, CA 90638
739 - 8160

(714)

base, we create an unbalanced, top-heavy situation when we try to build huge purses, a situation that can't last and that may well make future development tougher.

When more people play, more people are exposed to the sport -- friends, family, onlookers, etc. More exposure translates into greater value for the media and sponsors, who will then bring to the sport what we've been looking for -- recognition, publicity, and prize money.

That's why the WBDGT is the best thing to hit the sport since pole holes. Imagine -- 20,000 people playing on the same day!

Enclosed are an entry form and a flyer describing how the WBDGT will work at La Mirada.

If you are an experienced player and would like to help teach new players on Course B, please wear a red shirt -- your LMDC shirt would be ideal. We will also need a few volunteers to help run the event : a starter for each course, check-in, and check-out.

If you are interested in any of the above opportunities, give Conrad a call.

La Mirada Sees a Pair of Aces

Not one but two aces were hit at the end of the year. In the November monthly, Randy Amann aced #9, going straight down the middle. That throw earned him \$161. A month later, lefty Steve Valencia aced #2, throwing a hyzer shot over #3's tee pad. Steve's ace, coming as it did on the heels of Randy's, cleaned out the newly established ace pool of \$18. Both Steve and Randy also won the tournaments. (So much for spreading the wealth.)

Congratulations, you two.

November Golf Summit Held in Detroit

A group of concerned individuals brought together by superpromoter Duane Utech met in Detroit on the first weekend in November to discuss the future of the PDGA and of disc golf in general.

In attendance were :

Bill Boylan	(
NC, Laurel Springs Open-promoter)	
Eric Bramlage	(
MI, PDGA Election Director)	
Kathy Bramlage	(
MI, PDGA Commissioner)	
Conrad Damon	(CA, TD)
Joe Eagan	
Ed Headrick	(
CA, PDGA founder, head of DGA)	
John Houck	(
TX, Circular Skies promoter)	
Bob Huston	(MI, TD)
Chuck Kennedy	(MN, TD)
Jim Kenner	(
MI, head of Discraft)	
Leonard Muise	(
CA, Norcal Series promoter)	
Blair Paulsen	(
IN, former PDGA commissioner, TD)	
Royce Racinowski	(NY, TD)
Rick Rothstein	(
MO, Disc Golf World News)	
Duane Utech	(
MI, Can-Am Series promoter)	
Greg Utech	(MI)
Adam Weiss	

Out of a weekend of continuous discussion two documents were produced, signed, and forwarded to the PDGA. The first document proposed that a for-profit corporation (independent of but in communication with the PDGA) be set up to sponsor disc golf tournaments. Startup financing of \$10,000 was pledged by Bill Boylan, who also volunteered to serve as its unpaid director for the first two years. It will coordinate corporate sponsorship with an ultimate goal of finding a national sponsor.

The second document, an "Open Letter" to the PDGA, addressed several specific issues prompted by both last summer's election mess and by ongoing concerns about the effectiveness of the PDGA. This letter calls on the PDGA for a

detailed annual financial report, mailing list availability, demographic statistics, and the status of current PDGA projects (e.g. rules, standards, etc.). The letter also recommends several new projects.

What became the central topic of discussion in Detroit was only briefly alluded to in the "Open Letter" : a re-organization of the PDGA into a decentralized, regionally-based organization via a constitutional rewrite. The consensus at the meetings was that the current structure of the PDGA -- a small group of widespread volunteers -- makes progress difficult, even in the absence of personality conflicts. A new structure was proposed which would set up a paid executive director (preferably with some PR/marketing background) who would have broad decision-making powers, so that the problems of committee-based decision-making could be avoided. The board would consist of approximately 12 regional directors who would handle locally much of the PDGA's busywork (points, membership, scheduling, etc.). The PDGA would establish financial incentives for these regional directors through kickbacks on PDGA fees, merchandise, etc.

Feelings were generally very positive throughout the weekend. There was little of the bitterness and tension which has reportedly disrupted organizational meetings in the past. Everyone's heart seemed to be in the right place. (Witness Boylan's pledges and Utech's payment of half the travel cost of anyone willing to attend.) What remains to be seen, of course, is what sort of follow-through will take place. A new constitution is being worked on and should be published in Disc Golfer by summer. If things are going to change, they will change this year, possibly at the World Championships this August in, you guessed it, Detroit.

Help!

The LMDC will be running two tournaments this year, the World's Biggest Disc Golf Tournament on May 9, and the La Mirada Cup October 15-18. We would appreciate help in the following areas :

WBDGT (Day of Event)

- o Starters for each of the two courses
- o Check-in
- o Check-out
- o Setup
- o Breakdown

La Mirada Cup

- o Tournament Directors for amateurs, juniors, doubles
- o Course officials
- o Course preparation / maintenance
- o General assistance
- o Liaison for planned charity ball golf / disc golf challenge at the Mirada Golf Course (across the street)

Thanks!

- o To the Amazing Mister Biffle for his diligence in maintaining and improving the course.
- o To Dennis Gordon for his help in providing Lexan for the tee signs and in designing / constructing metal lock guards.



1991 LMDC FALL OVERALL RESULTS

Men	1. Scott Stokely	45.5	Women	1. Mary Uhlarik	13
	2. Cliff Towne	37.5		2. Beth Verish	11
	3. Bob Verish	34		3. Irene Uhlarik	6
	4. Conrad Damon	33.5			
	5. Larry Kretz	25			
	6. Joseph Uhlarik	24			
	7. Johnathon Peters	22.5			
	8. Tim Biffle	20.5			
	9. Elliott Peters	14.5			
	10. Aaron Peters	5			

Golf		Distance		MTA	
Men					
1. S. Stokely	48	S. Stokely	465'	C. Towne	11.01
2. L. Kretz	53	C. Towne	400'	B. Verish	10.09
3. B. Verish	54	B. Verish	324'	S. Stokely	10.04
3. T. Biffle	54				
Women					
1. M. Uhlarik	49	M. Uhlarik	326'	M. Uhlarik	7.21
2. B. Verish	56	B. Verish	252'	I. Uhlarik	6.80

Accuracy		DDC	
Men			
1. C. Damon	18	1. B. Verish / J. Uhlarik	
2. C. Towne	16	2. S. Stokely / J. Peters	
Women			
1. Beth Verish	10	3. M. Uhlarik / M. Molnar	
2. M. Uhlarik	9	4. C. Damon / E. Peters	

MONTHLY RESULTS

November 1991		21 Open		Entry \$10	
1. Randy Amann	43	45	88	\$45 + \$161 ace	
2. Mike Williams	46	46	92	\$35	
3. Rob Wilson	44	48	92	\$27	
4. Sam Ferrans	44	49	93	\$18	
4. Alex Felde	51/48	48/45	93	\$18	
6. John Berlin	55/47	55/47	94	\$13	
7. Tony Molina	51/49	48/46	95	\$10	

November 1991		3 Masters	
1. Rick Katayama	48	48	96 \$25

December 1991		12 Open		Entry \$10	
1. Steve Valencia	42	41	83	\$35 + \$12 ace	
2. Tom Pitchford	46/44	45/43	87	\$25	
3. Bobby Benner	44	44	88	\$16	
3. Mike Keckler	45/43	47/45	88	\$10	

January 1992	18 Open	Entry \$10		
1. Frank Arroyo	45/44	44/43	87	\$40
1. Randy Amann	43	44	87	\$40
3. Amye Rosenthal	54/46	54/46	92	\$25
4. Marcus Cisneros	48/47	47/46	93	\$17
4. Dan Northcott	53/46	54/47	93	\$12
6. Bob Dodge	49/48	47/46	94	\$10

February 1992	14 Open	Entry \$10		
1. Steve Valencia	49	45	94	\$40
2. Phil Ganshert	54/50	50/46	96	\$30
3. Jason Coke	55/49	53/47	96	\$20
4. Randy Amann	48	48	96	\$12
5. Mark Molnar	49/48	49/48	96	\$10

Upcoming Tournaments

Feb. 22 - 23	Caldecott Open	Berkeley, CA
	M. Cozzens	(510) 339 - 6929
March 7 - 8	Higher Flyers	Hunt. Bch, CA
	Will West	
April 24 - 26	Masters Cup	Santa Cruz, CA
	Marty Hapner	(408) 432 - 0522
May 2 - 3	Spring Fling	San Diego, CA
	Snapper Pierson	(619) 280 - 3472
May 9	World's Biggest Disc Golf Tournament	
	Everywhere	
May 23 - 24	Fantasy Fling	Las Vegas, NV
	Mike Cloyes	(702) 454 - 2144
June 13 - 14	Sylmar DG Chmps.	Sylmar, CA
	Mike Byrne	(805) 297 - 8201
July 20 - 26	U.S. Open	Fort Collins, CO
	Bill Wright	(303) 484 - 6932
August 17 - 22	World Championships	Detroit, MI
	Duane Utech	(313) 656 - 5111

Remember, members receive a
10% discount on merchandise
at :

Discovering The World
6272 Beach Blvd.
Buena Park, CA 90621
(714) 522 - 2202

Southern California
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Editor : Conrad Damon

Ads/notices free to members.

La Mirada Disc Club
14727 San Esteban
La Mirada, CA 90638

Rick,
Thanks for joining!
Enclosed is the most
current newsletter.
Let me know if you'd
like previous issues.

Conrad