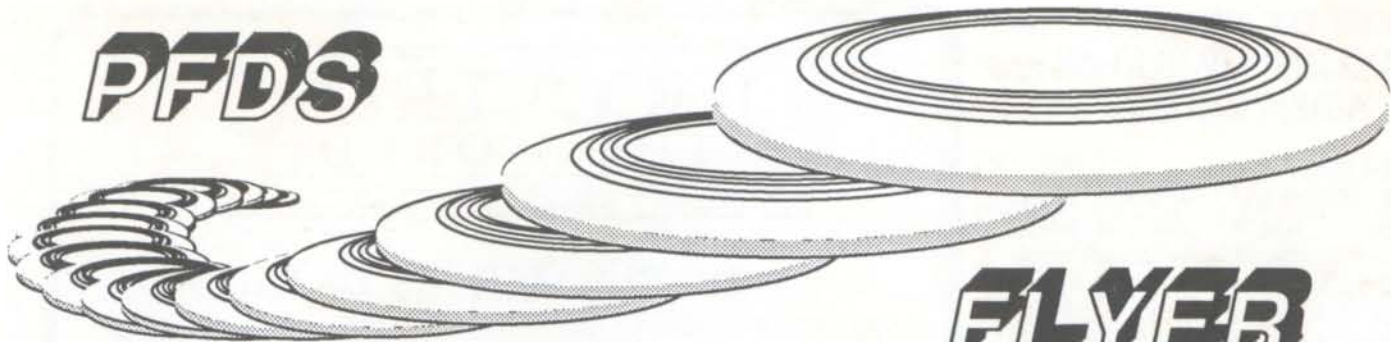


# PFDS



# FLYER

PITTSBURGH FLYING DISC OPEN

JULY 16 -17, 1988

## A DISC GOLF PRIMER

By Steve Kohman and J. Gary Dropcho

Those new to the sport of Disc Golf may want to know what makes golf discs different from regular discs, and what the differences are among golf discs.

First, and most important, golf discs are meant for throwing and not catching. Care should be taken not to hit anyone by accident with a golf disc, so use someone from your group to spot if you are throwing towards a group of unsuspecting people.

Golf discs are heavier than other types of discs. The extra weight promotes longer throws, and more penetration in windy conditions. Because of the increased mass, a golf disc in motion has greater momentum, and maintains more speed when encountering resistance such as air, leaves and small twigs. The Disc Golf Association introduced heavy plastic in the late 1970's with their glow-in-the-dark Midnight Flyers.

A disc's plastic material may be hard or soft. Soft plastic has the advantage of absorbing the impact of the metal pole hole (sometimes called "chain suck") and thus staying in rather than bouncing out of the basket. Hard plastic is more durable, and can take the licks that tree trunks often dish out.

The shape of the golf disc is unusual. Golf discs' small diameter and low profile are designed to cut wind resistance. Today, the rims of most golf discs are shaped with a thick, beveled edge which has had the effect of increasing distance 25-50%. Champion Discs innovated the game by introducing the bevel-edged Eagle in 1983.

Finally, different discs are designed to fly differently. Quite simply, a disc flies because of its velocity, the lift that results from the air flow over and under the disc, and the gyroscopic balancing effect that is provided by the spin. All of

these being equal, differently designed discs may be stable (flat flip flies straight), unstable (flat flip "turns over" or for a right-handed backhand throw, curves to the right), and overstable (flat flip "hyzers" or for a right-handed backhand throw, curves to the left. Reverse the directions for left-handed backhand throws).

As in any other sport, you must use the right equipment to get the best results. However, it is the golfer who must utilize and control the disc into the target. Therefore a few human characteristics of the game should be noted. First, the weight. Choose a weight that is right for your relative strength. A too-heavy disc will tire your arm and hinder your distance and accuracy. Women and juniors may find weights in the 150-gram range to be effective. Strong arms may prefer a 170-gram disc. Many pros use heavy discs for putting and shots into the wind.

Second, the grip. For a backhand, use all four fingers curled around the rim of the disc. Use light pressure with your thumb on the top of the disc for control. This may feel strange at first, but with practice it will improve your power and accuracy.

Third, don't forget to snap. Applying spin to the disc is the most important aspect of the throw, for it is this spin that stabilizes the disc in flight. Apply the spin to the disc as if you were snapping a towel.

Here are some guidelines for disc and shot selection. For throws into the wind, a more stable disc is appropriate. For curves left, use a stable disc. For curves right, a turnover disc may help. Discs with flight rings on top sacrifice some distance due to wind resistance and tend to turn over more. This is also true for discs which are older and scuffed up.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

### PITTSBURGH FLYING DISC OPEN

#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

##### SATURDAY JULY 16

9:30 A.M. Professional Disc Golf Tournament players' meeting. Schenley Overlook.

10:00 A.M. Pro Disc Golf. First round. Schenley Disc Golf Links.

11:30 A.M. Festival Instructors' meeting. Overlook.

12 NOON Hacky Sack and Frisbee Festival. First Show/Demonstration. Schenley Oval.

1:00 P.M. Hacky Sack and Frisbee Festival. Playshops. Oval and Golf Course.

2:30 P.M. Hacky Sack and Frisbee Festival. Second Show/Demonstration. Oval.

4:00 P.M. BIG THROW and JAM TIME.

Junior Frisbee Contest. Oval.

5:00 P.M. Pro Disc Golf. Final round. Disc Golf Links.

##### SUNDAY JULY 17

9:30 A.M. Amateur Disc Golf Tournament players' meeting. Overlook.

10:00 A.M. Amateur Disc Golf Tournament. First Round. Disc Golf Links.

12:30 P.M. Closest to the Hole Accuracy. Oval.

2:00 P.M. Amateur Disc Golf Tournament. Final round. Disc Golf Links.

5:00 P.M. Awards. Overlook.

## PFDO DIRECTOR CLARK A DISC VETERAN

By Teri Breier

Spectators and competitors at the Pittsburgh Flying Disc Open Tournament who wonder how such an event got organized and running so smoothly may want to talk to Tournament Director Keith "K. B." Clark. A disc enthusiast for almost 20 years, Clark is uniquely qualified to run the show.

Clark, 37, is a native Kentuckian who emigrated to Pittsburgh six years ago from Louisville. Since then he has been instrumental in helping to generate interest in disc sports in the Tri-State area. Together with fellow PFDS board members Steve Kohman and J. Gary Dropcho, he was a major factor in coordinating the installation of the Schenley Park Pole Hole Course with Citiparks.

"I consider that accomplishment one of the high points of my involvement with disc sports," says Clark, who no longer must travel hundreds of miles to shoot a few rounds of disc golf. A veteran of dozens of disc tournaments, Clark's other accomplishments are displayed in a case holding over 20 trophies and numerous prize discs he has won for various distance, accuracy, maximum time aloft (MTA), throw-run-and-catch (TRC), freestyle and disc golf events.

He took first place in Distance at the 1979 Missouri State Championships with a throw of 347'6". ("I used a glow-in-the-dark 42FB mold Midnight Flyer Frisbee," Clark explains. "That was before they came out with golf discs.") Another first was at the 1986 Otter Creek (Louisville) Disc Golf Tournament. Last year, Clark took third in the Masters Division (over age 35) at the Louisville Disc Derby. His closest shot at world fame, though, came at the 1986 World Disc Golf Championships in Charlotte, North Carolina — at the end of the first day, Clark was in first place, but he couldn't keep up his pace the next day and wound up finishing in the top ten.

His original exposure to Frisbee was in the sixth grade, when he would toss with his friends and with his two brothers (Clark is the second oldest of six children; three brothers and three sisters). But other interests took precedence in high school, so he left off for several years. However, during his freshman year at Western Kentucky State, 1969-70, Clark rediscovered the sport with a vengeance.

He began attending and competing in tournaments throughout the east in accu-

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racy and distance events. In 1976, Clark traveled to Pensacola, Florida, for the first annual disc golf tournament there, and became the 284th member to join the newly formed Disc Golf Association (DGA), which now boasts almost 4,000 members worldwide.

After he moved to Pittsburgh in 1983, Clark played with "Slag," Pittsburgh's club Ultimate team at the time, and became a UPA (Ultimate Players Association) member, temporarily.

Clark admits that lately he is having trouble finding the necessary time to practice disc golf. His job as an electrical engineer for a Monroeville railway signal design company is keeping him pretty busy. And he would like to spend more time with his wife of six years, Krista. But Clark still manages to get to Schenley Park two or three times a week to shoot some holes. Every Wednesday night he helps run an informal Disc Golf League at the park, and he is thrilled with the ever-increasing attendance at the course.

"When enough people get involved with this sport, we may get the backing to install other Pole Hole Courses in the city," Clark projects. He would ultimately like to see everyone involved some way or another with disc sports. "There are so many different disc sports around," he advises potential players. "Find one you like and work to improve on it. And most of all, just keep playing!"

### DISC PRIMER FROM PAGE 1

Also, discs which appear the same may fly differently, so practice is advised. Turnover discs often give more distance and are more effective with the wind and for long rollers. A good roller will go farther than a good aerial, even into the wind, provided the grass is not too long. Rollers have the added advantage of escaping branches and narrowing the width of the throw to further reduce chances of hitting a tree.

Disc color is largely personal preference, although a darker colored disc will become hotter, and therefore, softer in the sun. A nice hotstamp is fun to have but does not typically alter the flight characteristics. Unusual hotstamps and disc colors often become collectors' items.

A short and incomplete synopsis of some golf disc flight characteristics:

- Wham-O 71 Mold — Fairly stable. One of larger diameter golf discs (22.5 cm). Round, deep rim. Good for approach and "float" shots.
- Wham-O 86 Softie — Very slightly unstable. Small diameter. Beveled edge. Soft plastic. Good putter.
- Innova-Champion Roc — Very stable. Average diameter. Beveled edge. Good all-around disc.
- Innova-Champion XD — Slightly unstable. Average diameter. Beveled edge. Good driver.

## DIRECTORY

### PLAYERS' ASSOCIATIONS

#### Freestyle Players Association

P.O. Box 2412 Ft. Collins, CO 80502, 303-484-6932

#### Guts Players Association

2045 W. Michigan Ave. Marquette, MI 49855, 906-225-0879

#### Professional Disc Golf Association

P.O. Box 240363 Memphis, TN 38124, 901-323-4849

#### Ultimate Players Association

P.O. Box 1209 Chelsea Station NY, NY 10011, 212-645-6498

#### United States Disc Sports

462 Main Road, W. Hampton Bch, NY 11978, 516-288-3371

#### World Flying Disc Federation

Sodermalmmsgatan 34, 852 35 Sundsvall, Sweden

### REGIONAL CLUBS

#### Airwaves (Mid-Atlantic)

4311 Alta Vista Dr., Fairfax, VA 22030

#### Frisbeerians

462 E. 33rd St. Erie, PA 16504, 814-825-3822

#### Greater Cincinnati Flying Disc Association

520 Beaumont Ct. Ft. Wright, KY 41011

#### PITTSBURGH FLYING DISC SOCIETY

1818 Morrell St. PGH, PA 15212, 412-724-0321

PFDS *Flyer* J. Gary Dropcho, 734-0321

Schenley Park Course Pros K.B. Clark, 364-2718 Steve Kohman, 431-1985

Pittsburgh Summer Ultimate Todd William, 531-0396

Youth Programs Mark Licata, 422-7333

Disc Activators (Freestyle) John Gyenes, 422-3472

Mars Ultimate and Golf Society Ken Scott, 625-9083

#### Tri-State Frisbee Club

207 Spring Run Lane Downingtown, PA 19335, 215-363-0464

### FOOTBAG

#### World Footbag Association

1317 Washington Ave. Suite 7 Golden, CO 80401, 303-278-9797

#### American Footbag Association (Pennsylvania)

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## CMU SPRINGS TO 5TH NATIONALLY; CRASH IS 8TH AT EASTERNS

By Gregg Wolf

Spring of 1988 was a great season for Pittsburgh Ultimate. At the college level, CMU's Mr. Yuk finished fifth in the country at the National Collegiate Ultimate Championships held in Santa Barbara over Memorial Day weekend. The Yuk Truck started slowly, losing to Kansas University (17-14), but got up to speed and rolled over Wesleyan (17-10), University of Texas (17-12), and Winona State (17-9), while losing to the eventual champions UC Santa Barbara (17-10).

The Yuksters ended pool play in a three-way tie (with UT and KU) for second place, and just missed advancing to the semi-finals by a single point. UT went on to beat Stanford and face The Black Tide from Santa Barbara in the finals.

Mr. Yuk was awarded the Spirit of the Game award (in conjunction with Wesleyan University) for their adherence to the true ideals of the game. Congrats to co-captains Darren Weidenman and Paul Drake for their skillful leadership on and off the field.

In the Open Division, Crash finished in the top eight for the first time at the Eastern National Championships held in Philadelphia, June 4-5.

Crash, who had earned a spot at Easterns by sending eight gutsy guys to finish third at the regional competition, started out by spanking the College Brats (13-2), before disintegrating against the Earth Atomizers of Boston (15-12). Inspired by the tenacious defense of Mike Gentile, Crash managed to put it back together and defeat Coffee & Doughnuts (15-11). In the quarterfinals, though, Windy City of Chicago blew out the hometown boys (17-7), with a little help from erstwhile Yuk-man Ronnie Papanek. Congrats, thanks and good-bye to retiring captain Jeff Soller, who will be leaving this summer to get in on a little of that West Coast action.

On a final note, the Legion of Doom, nine guys drawn from the ranks of Crash and Mr. Yuk, brought home the silver from the Poultry Days tournament held in Versailles, Ohio, June 11-12. The sun beat down relentlessly, as team after team cracked in the Doom-Zone. The Legion marched into the finals after pulling one out 17-16 from under the Chix & Stix from Chicago. But they didn't have the legs (or wings) to keep up with Poultry in Motion, going down 17-13 after an 11-9 lead.

# WFDF DISTANCE RECORD FALLS; PHOENIX RISES

The World Flying Disc Federation outdoor distance record was broken at the U.S. Open at La Mirada, CA, in late June. In very little wind, Sam Ferrans threw a 175-gram Phoenix 190 meters.

"It could go further with a more favorable wind," said Tim Selinski, of Inno-Champion, makers of the Phoenix. Selinski reported that all of the top throwers at the Open were using the new disc.

"It's a radical disc and requires a high, nose-down throw with a radical turn over," said Selinski.

Jim Herrick won the Men's Overall trophy, marking the first time in six years that someone other than Scott Zimmerman has won the overall at the U.S. Open.

For those who like to keep track, here are some of the other WFDF world records, as of 1-25-88:

**DISTANCE: Women:** 124.73 m  
Bethany Porter (USA), 8/21/87, Ft. Collins, CO

**MTA: Men:** 16.72 s Don Cain (USA), 5/26/84, Philadelphia, PA

**Women:** 11.47 s Denise Garfield (USA), 10/5/80, Chico, CA

**TRC: Men:** 88.70 m Pekka Ranta (FIN), 6/7/86, Tali, FIN

**Women:** 60.02 m Judy Horowitz (USA), 6/29/85, La Mirada, CA

**FIELD GOAL DISTANCE: Men:** 109.73 m Scott Zimmerman (USA), 7/4/86, La Mirada, CA

**Women:** 54.87 m Judy Horowitz (USA), 10/22/81, Dallas, TX

**MINI DISTANCE: Men:** 91.15 m Craig Mauck (USA), 5/12/80, Amherst, MA

**MAXIMUM DISCS ALOFT (one per person):** 1,572 National Frisbee Festival (USA), 8/31/86, Washington D.C.

**CHEST ROLL:** 16 players Hampshire College Festival (USA), 10/4/81, Amherst, MA

**GUTS SPEED CATCH:**

**Men:** 119.14 km/hr Tim Selinski catching Al Bonopane (USA), 8/25/80, San Marino, CA

**Women:** 119.14 km/hr Sam Ferrans catching Al Bonopane (USA), 8/25/80, San Marino, CA

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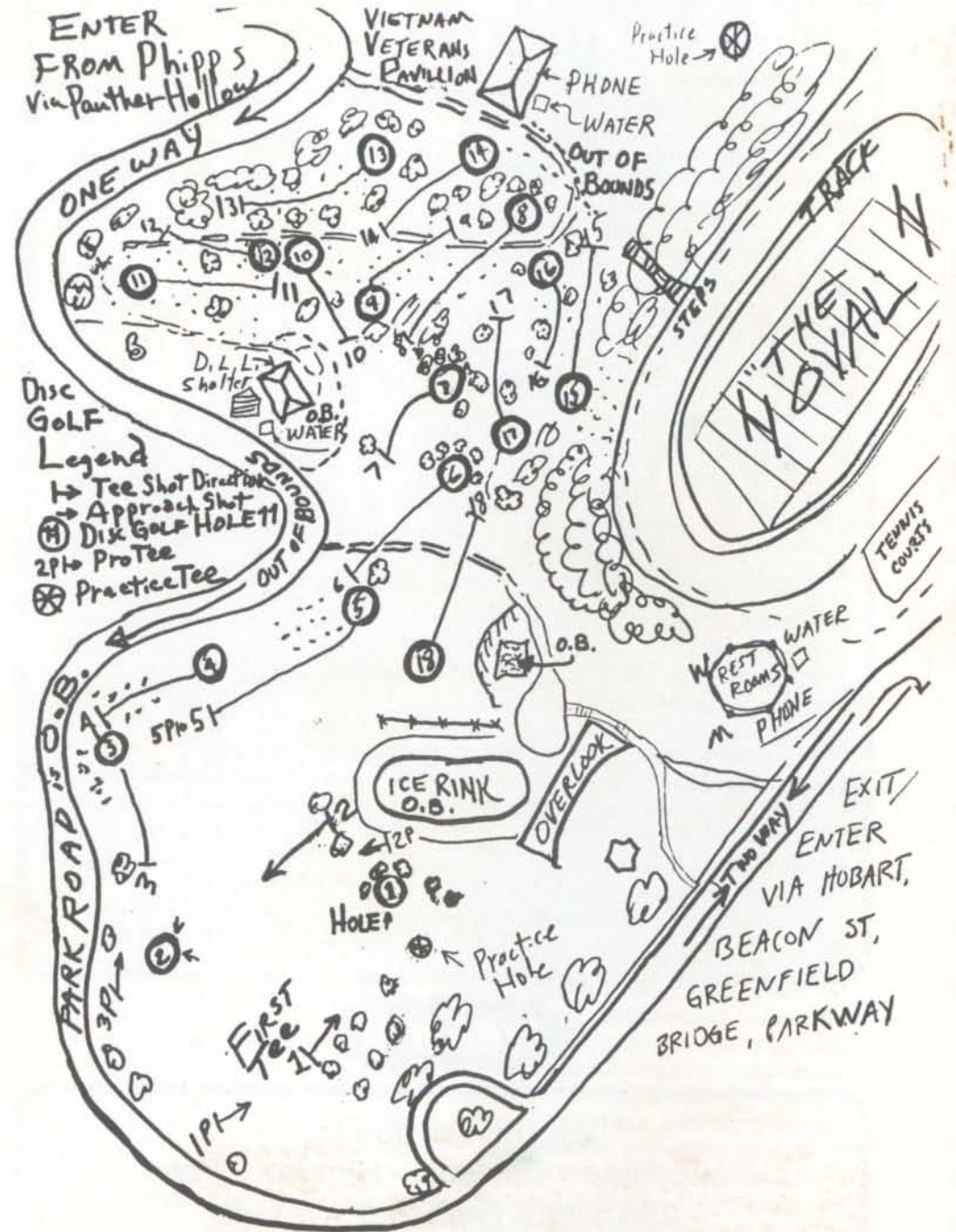
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# SCHENLEY PARK DISC GOLF LINKS AND ENVIRONS



HOLE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Front Nine
DISTANCE FEET	246	359	212	165	299	239	171	238	200	

10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Back Nine	TOTAL
168	216	176	208	185	180	156	184	228		3959



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