



Annual Report

2019 ADG Board

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Martin Ryland-Adair
Emilie Cameron
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Todd Nowack
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Neil Roberts
Cameron Ford
Steven Wright
Ryan Nicholson
Paul Noesen

2019

Compiled by Emilie Cameron and Kingsley Flett

October 2019

2019

By the Numbers



71

Courses around Australia
9 new in 2019



471

Players played an event
243 (52%) played 2 or more
89 (19%) played 5 or more



33

Tournaments on ADG tour
10 A tier, 22 B tier
29 courses, 26 TDs



21

Clubs affiliated with ADG
Across 6 states and 1 territory

2019

Annual Highlights

ADGC 2018

If there was one word to describe ADGC 2018 it is big: big field, big course, big prizes and big start to the tour. Nestled on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin, the Weston Park tournament course features big open fairways, tight trees, off camber slopes, elevation, water and vegetation hazards, and iconic Canberra views. The hard work of TD Todd Nowack and a team of ACT club volunteers was evident around the course which was in top condition with sponsorship signs and hazards well set out. As a testament to the growth of our sport and the promotion of the event the biggest disc golf field yet assembled in Australia turned up to experience the event. The PDGA A-tier event ran over 3 days with 3 rounds of the 27 hole course. While the wind and chilly conditions tested many players, it was Geelong's Patrick Robinson and Cassie Sweeten who took out the top prizes.



Terry Miller Tour

And if ADGC2018 needed to get any bigger Terry “The disc golf guy” Miller turned up with his video camera producing live and post-production footage of the event. To get the full Aussie Disc golf experience Terry and travel mate Johnny Rumble Pecunia accompanied Luke Turnbull and Neil Roberts on a tour of the East coast of Australia visiting disc golf courses and clubs.



World team event

Every 2 years WFDF hosts the world team disc golf championships (WTDGC). The event is different to most others on the calendar as it is a team event with a match play format with both singles and doubles matchups. Each country's team is made up of at least 3 MPO, 1 FPO, 1 MA40 and 1 MJ player. After missing the event in 2017, Australia was proud to send a team to this year's event held in disc golf loving Estonia. The team, nicknamed the sugar gliders, consisted of Jonathan Jonas, Jacob Stanley, Andre-Kristopher Toomjoe, Priit Koiv, Kairi Koobakene, Sue Summers, Ken Summers, Matt Lamy, Shaun Batey and Archer Shaw. With a first-round matchup against eventual winners Finland and a close game against Spain, the gliders were relegated to the bottom pool. There they had some close games and their first win against Russia. By all reports it was a great experience to wear the green and gold.



Record number of Aussies compete overseas.

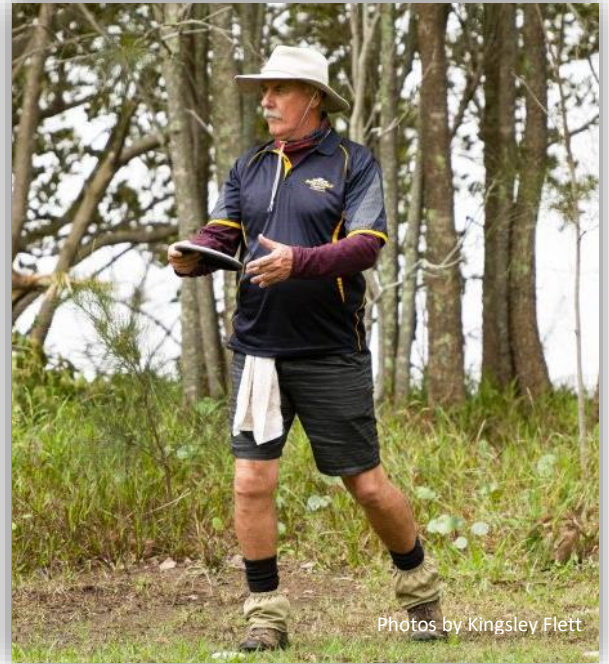
The northern hemisphere summer of 2019 proved to be the season that the most ever Aussie disc golfers have travelled internationally to compete. Jordan Wheeler has been on tour in the US

competing in a host of tournaments including National and Disc Golf Pro Tour events, like the Ledgestone Open and the Silver Cup. In August he played in the Pro World Championships in Preoria Illinois in August. Toosje Frequin and Cassie Sweetten (Pictured) competed in the US Women's Disc Golf Championships in Spotsylvania Virginia in September. While Bruce McNaughton, Tim Bohan, Patrick Ferris Jr and Kim Holmes all played in the Amateur World Championships in York, Pennsylvania. Then there were the 11 players on the Australian disc golf team attending WDGTC in Estonia.



Bruce McNaughton - World champ

We all knew Bruce “The General” was a champ but now the rest of the world does too. In July Bruce McNaughton won the MA65 division at the amateur world championships in Pennsylvania, USA. In doing so he became Australia’s first disc golf world champion. The amateur world championships are a gruelling, week-long test of stamina, nerve and skill: with 6 preliminary rounds over 4 days, followed by an 18-hole semi-final and a nine hole final for the top four. Bruce knew he was in a good position mid-week as he’d built the early lead on the shorter, more technical courses that suited the playing-style of his rivals. With longer courses to come later in the week suiting his booming forehand drives, he knew he just had to stay consistent to be in with a chance. Going into the final round with a 6-throw lead, Bruce was nerveless in the final nine holes, streaking away with birdie after birdie, dominating the final round and increasing his lead to 11 at the end. Congratulations Bruce.



Michael Canci - Rob Hancock award

The Rob Hancock Memorial Award is given out each year by the AFDA for outstanding contributions to flying disc sports. This year it was awarded to Michael Canci recognising his long involvement in both playing and administrating disc sports in Australia. He is one of only a small number of disc golfers to receive the honour. Mick started playing in the 1980s, is a former world distance record holder and is currently secretary of Perth Disc golf club. Well done Mick.



Rhys' ace

Every player wants an ace. Even better if that ace is caught on camera. But this year Rhys took it one step further and got an ace on camera to win the Queensland championships. The walk off ace was captured by Oscar Feldberg media who quickly edited the footage and watched it spread. The ace was featured on Ultiworld and has since had 3600 views. Congratulations Rhys.



Australia's 70th Disc Golf Course Installed

Australia had its 70th disc golf course installed this year. The Bald Hill Park Disc Golf course, in Melbourne's south eastern suburbs, is a nice story of how driven individuals, clubs, municipalities and professional designers all come together to establish a community facility. The story begins three and a half years ago at a Melbourne Disc Golf Club community league day in Aspendale. That day the City of Kingston Mayor, Councillor Georgina Oxley, along with Councillors David Eden and Tamsin Bearsley, saw disc golf for the first time, tried it for themselves and were sold on what it could bring to the community.

It was a story of patience and persistence on many fronts: from the initial meetings with the City of Kingston's sports and recreation staff to Darren Stace-Smith, with the support of the Melbourne Disc Golf Club who all wrote letters of support to the council and got behind every community event, to the patience and persistence of Andrew Ferguson, from Recreational Activity Design, who went above and beyond plenty of times; patiently dealing with all of the requests that were made of him while having a major input on the design.



The project survived a vote at three council meetings: one to begin consultation, one to approve the project and one to approve spending the money to install. The story of Bald Hill Park illustrates the persistence, patience and cooperation required to make a course happen. Well done to all.

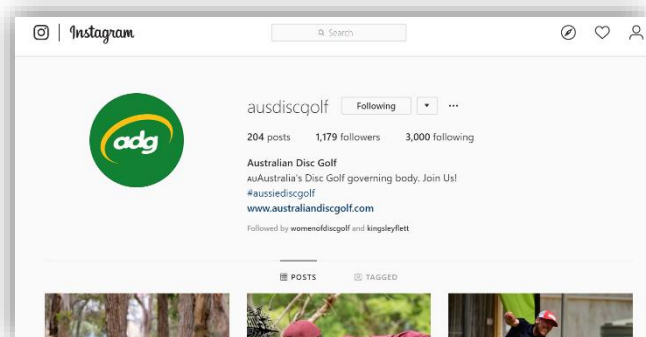
New Clubs

This year 3 new clubs affiliated with ADG. Welcome to Central West Disc Golf, Bendigo Disc Golf and Noosa Disc Golf Club. It is great to see our sport growing into regional areas and watching local communities get behind the new clubs. Bendigo Disc golf ran a very successful come and try day which saw around 100 locals trying the sport. They have also secured a local council grant to help with the installation of a course. Central West Disc Golf hosted the NSW Open which had massive community support- the Molong locals donated prizes, helped set up and run the event, served at the bar and cooked dinner for the players. Noosa disc golf has got a social league up and running and seen the numbers of players steadily increase. It was also great to see the resurrection of the Hobart Club this year. As Richard Sampson noted "In my 15 years in Hobart I have never felt such energy from a group of disc golfers here. It was so great to see a number of different people put their hands up for the different jobs we need to do. It felt momentous". Keep on eye down south as they have big plans.



Increased media engagement

Thanks to the hard work of ADG media guy Kingsley Flett our social media engagement really took off this year. Followers of the ausdiscgolf Instagram account increased 5-fold and facebook more than doubled. Followers enjoy seeing great photos from events around the country and stay up to date on what is going on. The ADGC page now also has a strong following, which is part of the legacy this event is building, year by year, as Australia's flagship tournament.



It's also worth noting that we haven't just preached to the converted and kept our stories and pictures to ourselves. Leading the way with media exposure was Kev and Sharon Costa and the Molong crew, who had 2 newspapers, 2 radio stations and 2 TV stations cover the NSW championships this year. Of note were the TV reports which were just regular, balanced sports reporting which was low on novelty and treated Disc Golf as it should - a credible sport played by skilled athletes.



Local newspapers in Queensland, Tasmania, Victoria and WA also carried news of events as well as a great article in the WA community News about the Golden Frolfing Turkeys charity fund-raising Nullarbor trip.



If we combine the broadcast area of the TV and radio stations with subscriptions of the various local newspapers, it adds up to hundreds of thousands of people who've now heard of disc golf as an established, developing sport.

The ADG was able to supply press-releases and quality images for many of these news articles and we will continue, in 2010, to build this capacity to tell our sports' story.

2019

ADG board discussions

Changes to 2020 tour

The ADG board has decided to make a change to the way that tour points are calculated. Currently point calculations take a player's 4 best results. From the 2020 tour 6 events will be taken. This change comes about due to the growth in the number of tournaments on the tour: In 2011 there were 12 events, in 2019 33.

ADG media coverage of events

The travel costs of ADG media or another media team travelling to an A-tier events will now be subsidized by ADG to the value of \$100. Travel costs will also be provided for Australian media to travel to ADGC. ADG see media coverage of events as an important step to increasing people's exposure to the sport. It helps to build a sense of occasion and the high quality coverage adds to the professional look of our sport. Please talk to the ADG board if you would like your event to take up this offer.

ADG Membership Suspension

This year the volunteers on our board had the unpleasant task of deciding to suspend the membership of one of our members for 12 months. This decision was made following lengthy deliberation; and with a process that afforded the member the fairest hearing possible. Several board members have commented how this issue has been the most difficult in their time on the board. It was a stressful time for all involved.

Membership to Australian Disc Golf is a privilege, not a right. We require that all our members show a level of respect in their communications with each other, both on and off the course. Australia's freedom of association laws includes the right of an association to accept or decline membership based on certain criteria. Item (b) in the ADG objects of association is to 'promote a spirit of goodwill and friendship for all people involved in disc golf'. In accordance with our rules of association (section 9), the committee may suspend a member if it decides that his or her conduct is detrimental to the interests of the association.

This is the first time an ADG member has been suspended in over ten years. Given that our membership is now over 1600, this suggests that most of our members understand the standard of conduct required to be an ADG member

New Rules of Association

Thanks to treasurer Martin Ryland-Adair our rules of association have been updated to reflect changes to the incorporation model rules put out by the WA government. A vote will take place at the AGM to adopt the new rules.

Why Disc golf

A new resource called “Why disc golf” is now available on the ADG web page. Kingsley Flett worked hard to create the comprehensive collection of up-to-date research illustrating the benefits of disc golf to the community. Research quoted on the page is either linked to, or stored as a PDF on our page for download and will be updated as new research is found. The page is designed to be used when making approaches to councils, schools, media and other entities to assist the case for disc golf.

Grants

The growth of our sport was evident in the high number of quality grants we received in the 2019 round of our grant program. Congratulations to Central West Disc golf who were successful in securing \$1000 towards the installation of a permanent course in Molong, NSW. The ADG board were impressed with the well thought out application and work already done to secure additional funds and engage the community in disc golf events. Grants were also provided to junior players Shaun Batey and Archer Shaw to help with the costs of attending WTDGC in Estonia.



2018/19

Financial Report

The ADG financial year ran from the 1st September 2018 to 31st August 2019. As of the 31st August 2019 ADG held \$19,653.80 in its bank accounts. This is compared to last year's financial position of \$18,838.63 as of 31st August 2018.

Event based fees are the major source of annual income for ADG. There was a decrease in event based income when compared to last year. This year ADG event based fees amounted to 7168.59 as compared to \$8285.68 last year. I note some invoices will be paid after August 31st.

This year ADG once again deducted the cost of the PDGA Registration Fees from the ADG EBF Invoice. This amount is \$50 US per event and will generally range between \$65 to \$75 Australian depending on the exchange rate at the time the event was registered. In all this year the total deductions have amounted to \$2160.67.

We incurred costs of \$349.03 for complementary PDGA membership for prize winners in each division of the 2018 ADG Tour and gave out Grants totalling \$4806.62 to aid the development of the sport.

The MOU between the AFDA and ADG continues. ADG has negotiated a rate of \$1.10 per competitor for B and C tier tournaments, \$2.20 per competitor for A-tier events and \$3.30 per competitor for Australian Disc Golf Championships. These charges applied as of 1st January 2012 and are per event not per day. In 2018 we incurred costs of \$2474.5. We currently owe the AFDA \$1374.45 in 2019 Affiliation Fees which will be paid after ADGC 2019, where upon I would expect the amount owed to be in excess of \$2000.

Martin Ryland-Adair

ADG Treasurer

2018/19 Major Expenditure Items

Item	2017/18 Amount	2018/19 Amount
Tour Trophies	\$382.80	\$428
PDGA Membership Tour Prizes	\$324.09	\$349.03
PDGA Registration Fees	0	\$109.83
Membership Cards	\$412.5	0
ADG Signs	\$1,031.61	0
ADGC Grants	\$1,819.5	\$4806.62
ADG MOU Fees	\$2,287.35	\$2474.5
Website Maintenance	\$425.62	\$574.54
World Disc Golf Championships	0	\$1,439.43
WDGC Player Fees	0	\$971.42
Total	\$6,743.47	\$11,153.37

2018/19 Major Income Items

Item	2017/18 Amount	2018/19 Amount
EBF Fees	\$7,857.18	\$7,168.59
League Fees	\$428.5	\$116.05
T Shirts and Discs	0	\$535
Australian Team Donations	0	\$3,940
Term Deposit Interest	\$135.54	\$208.9
Total	\$9,621.22	\$11,968.54

2020

Nov	SA	AUSTRALIAN DISC GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS
Jan	WA	WEST COAST DISC GOLF OPEN
Feb	ACT	ACT OPEN
Mar	TAS	TWO HEADS OPEN
Apr	VIC	VICTORIAN DISC GOLF OPEN
May	SA	SA OPEN
Jun	WA	PERTH OPEN
Jul	QLD	QUEENSLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS
Aug	NSW	ARMORY WINTER AMBUSH
Sep	QLD	THE CLASSIC
Oct	NSW	NSW OPEN