2011 in Review

New Course! Bud Pell at Ross Farm

This was an important year for the WSDGA. We added our longest and most challenging course and made the West Sound a true disc golf destination. Paul Wright tells this developing story.

It takes the efforts of many to design, install and maintain a disc golf course. There are many critical steps that took place to bring this project together. Step one was when Paintball Jim had the idea that the property adjacent to his paintball course might make a good disc golf course. He made arrangements for me to meet with Ron Ross, the property owner. Mr. Ross was open to the idea and over the course of several meetings opened up the property on which the Bud now sits. There is no way I can express my deep appreciation to Ron and Nadean Ross, and Ron Ross Jr., for the support and hours of help they provided in building the Bud. Many hours of heavy machinery work and mowing at no cost are just a couple of examples of their support.

While I was ultimately responsible for the final design decisions, I am grateful for the various suggestions I received from many people including Scott Papa, Tony Beckett, and Rick Bailey. The course design changed constantly throughout the building process and will continue to evolve. The goal of the design was to bring to our area unique and challenging golf shots and holes that are not commonly found in the northwest but are available in championship courses around the country. Some examples are Par 4 and 5 holes, landing zones, and elevated baskets.

The construction of the course was a labor of love nearly every day off for four months. I estimate I made over 100 trips during that time from home to the course and put in over 500 hours. John Cohoon was a frequent and able assistant. Mike Foster, Tony Beckett, and many other members of the WSDGA put in time and effort as well. Scott Papa contributed in many ways. He helped the WSDGA to purchase top quality Chainstar baskets at a discount. He also coordinated the production of the concrete sleeves and the donation of concrete from Home Depot. The association supported the idea of trying a new type of tee pad that is working very well. Chad Kozlowski has updated a couple of tee pads with concrete pavers.

The costs for this course were raised through two fundraising tournaments held at the Bud, the Whiners in the Woods raffle, a fundraising event at Ross Farm, donations from club members, and WSDGA dues. The Bud Pell at Ross Farm was named for a friend and disc golf volunteer, Bud Pell, who was instrumental in the development of the NAD and Fairgrounds courses. He passed away at age 74 in his sleep and was affectionately known as just plain Bud.

WSDGA Membership & Dues

The West Sound Disc Golf Association is now up to 204 members, with 69 active dues-payers in 2011. Several new events and competitions were continued for a second year, including the nationally recognized Ice Bowl, World’s Biggest Disc Golf Weekend, and the PDGA sanctioned Whiners in the Woods. Many members participated in the already established annual Senior Games, Bag Tag Challenge, and Fall Fling.

Remember that we need the support of all of you to make the West Sound Disc Golf Association a premier disc golf organization in Western Washington. Now that we’re beginning a new year, it’s time to renew your membership. The dues remain at $20. There are many good reasons to become a member. Your dues go toward course improvements and activities. Your membership gives the Association cohesiveness and stability.

Our Affiliate Club status with the Professional Disc Golf Association provides a savings of $5 for PDGA dues and subscription to DiscGolfer magazine.
**Course Improvements**

**N.A.D.**

Concrete for both the red and blue tee boxes provide variety at N.A.D. Until it is possible to buy a second set, the baskets will primarily remain in the “short” “A” position. Please help our volunteers by carrying out your own trash or choose a month to serve as a course steward.

**Fairgrounds**

Lost discs and playability have been topics of discussion for improvements at the Fairgrounds course. A summer “Weed N Feed” event, organized by Brian Jacobs, successfully prepared the course for the WWII tournament. During the winter months, Saturday doubles players have been clearing additional brush. Some shorter tee placements and other adjustments are being considered.

**Van Zee**

The Van Zee course is a nine hole lay out with two tee pads for each hole. The tee pad for hole three has been moved and the stolen basket will soon be replaced.

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**Thank You!**

Thanks to our many volunteers including John Cohoon for managing trash pick up at Fairgrounds; Cathy Cohoon for serving as webmaster, newsletter editor, and kiosk keeper; and Brian Thornton for designing colorful graphics, posters, and our new association logo.

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**Washington Team Disc Golf January - March**

Kenny Benjamin reports that early in 2011, players from the West Sound region enjoyed participating in the 2nd year of Washington State Team Disc Golf. West Sound players fielded two teams. The N.A.D. team captain was Sam Huff. The Fairgrounds team captain was Carl Wark. Team Disc Golf involves players from various courses around the Puget Sound region who meet and compete in a handicapped, stroke play format of both singles and doubles. The handicapping system effectively allowed competition between opponents of different skill levels. The majority of matches were decided in only the last few holes and so provided great opportunities for all players. There were six Sunday meets for the ten different teams to play each other, after which a seventh and final event matched the teams based on their win-loss record to determine the champion. The N.A.D team went undefeated (with one tie) and became the 2011 champions! The championship prize was a brand new basket which was donated to the Bud Pell at Ross Farm course.

For 2012, Team Disc Golf will be visiting both the Fairgrounds course (February 12) and the Bud Pell course (March 25). Sam Huff and Carl Wark will serve as captains again. This year there are twelve teams total, with eight events on eight courses. For more information and results, visit www.watdg.com.
West Sound Bag Tag Challenge  April 23  - September 17

Sam Huff writes, “Thanks to all who supported the 2011 West Sound Challenge. Through the Discraft fundraising disc program, $500 was raised and donated to the WSDGA. The mission of the West Sound Challenge is to encourage friendly competition among the local players by creating a format for individual play and a series of organized group events. Based on feedback throughout the year, the West Sound Challenge is meeting its goal of bringing the disc golf community together at all skill levels.

The season started April 23rd and finished on September 17th. Individual challenges took place throughout the season and a Saturday morning “Monthly” event was held at each of the various local courses. There were a total of 48 players entered and each “Monthly” had from 20 to 30 players. One prize was awarded at each “Monthly” based on skill. A raffle was added to benefit players for participating, and the rest of the prizes were awarded completely at random.

At the final event, trophies were awarded based on the overall point totals of the best three finishes at the “Monthlies.” Congratulations to Scott Papa (Open) and Carl Wark (Amateur) in the Overall Points Titles. Also, special thanks to the players who helped me with running each competition. It takes a lot of help to make an event run smoothly.”
The West Sound Disc Golf Association is dedicated to promoting the sport of Disc Golf. Our goal is to foster a strong community for disc golfers in the West Sound region. We promote disc golf as an environmentally, socially and physically beneficial sport.

**WSDGA Treasurer’s Report**

The West Sound Disc Golf Association is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization and is chartered as a non-profit corporation in the state of Washington. In 2011, a very active year, Expenses exceeded Revenues. The year-end balance for the bank account was $670. Here is a summary of the Revenues and Expenses:

**Revenues**
- Membership Dues $922
- Donations (Personal & Business) $7,695
- WSDGA Fundraiser Events $2,968

**Expenses**
- Course Improvements $13,025
- WSDGA Operating Expenses $274
- Donations & Event Expenses $1,584

**Promotional Efforts**

Our WSDGA display boards presenting photos, newspaper articles, and other promotional information, have been on exhibit again at several county events, including the annual Kitsap County Medical Society Family Fun Run. On three Sunday afternoons in the summer, we hosted beginner sessions for the City of Bremerton Parks Department. Bremerton Kitsap Community Access Television (BKAT) has provided us with the opportunity to have a regularly scheduled broadcast of the video segments called Disc Golf Live!

**Ongoing Activities**

Every Saturday during Daylight Savings Time (March to November) at 9:00 AM at the N.A.D., players meet for “family-friendly” random doubles. This activity is advertised in the Bremerton Park Department brochure and is hosted by Dan Glynn. A hardy group of stalwarts, rain or shine, wind or snow, shows up for random doubles at the Fairgrounds on Sunday mornings. During the winter months, this group has been playing there on Saturdays instead, with a short work party afterward. Winter Team Disc Golf matches and monthly Bag Tag Challenges have provided many opportunities for competition and camaraderie.

**Upcoming 2012 Events**

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<td>January 21</td>
<td>West Sound Ice Bowl</td>
<td>N.A.D. Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>Washington State Team Disc Golf</td>
<td>Fairgrounds</td>
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<td>March 25</td>
<td>Washington State Team Disc Golf</td>
<td>Bud Pell @ Ross Farm</td>
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<td>May 4 - 5</td>
<td>WBDGW World’s Biggest Disc Golf Weekend</td>
<td>N.A.D. Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>West Sound Challenge Kick Off</td>
<td>(2011 bag tag version)</td>
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<td>TBA</td>
<td>Whiners in the Woods III</td>
<td>N.A.D. Park</td>
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