



Chains of the Plains

Disc Golf Newsletter

By Patrick Kitten (Lubbock) and Jerry Kingston (Abilene)

Fourth Ever!

Volume 4, Issue 1

July 1, 2006

In this issue:

- Send a note if you want to be added to the electronic list for the newsletter.
- Send a note if you don't want this newsletter and want to be pulled off of the list.
- Regional course information
- PDGA – Join, members, tour, results, discussion page, more
- Disc golf quotes and anecdotes : “Girls” and “Age”
- July and August 2006 regional events:
 - Big Cup Charity in San Angelo on July 16, 2006
 - Top of Texas in Amarillo on August 26 & 27, 2006
- Tree-mendous regional highlights – special course features: trees
- Sales



FIRST THINGS FIRST!!!

Please let me or your local DG contact listed below, know if you want to receive this, approximately every two months (ish), newsletter. Just send me a note (patrick.kitten@wausau.com or 806-798-8386 or 806-787-4524)

Another 'first things first' item. This Chains of the Plains is reaching you near July 4th. Remember where we are (a free land) and who got us here. I vacationed recently in Philadelphia (visited the Betsy Ross house, Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, etc.), Washington's crossing of the Delaware site near Trenton, central Pennsylvania, and Baltimore. During our travels, we visited Gettysburg. Wow, what an amazing place. So many lives lost in one area. What an amazing part of our struggle to attain freedom. **Remember.**

The CP DG Matrix (Mr. Anderson)

We all know that we have great courses in our region. Our obstacle is distance. So, we must support each other when and where we can. Let's communicate and help each other out as best we can in our region. Keep the course information coming in.

PLEASE spend a little time to organize your local course/club events (weekly, monthly, and annual) and send a clear update to me (Patrick.Kitten@wausau.com). Can you help fill them in for your course, or other courses? Do you know of someone who can give me a call to fill them in? We're progressing well, but I'd like to keep improving the course information. Send anything you think is worthy, from a picture to comments.



Texas

- Lone Star Disc Alliance
- Texas Disc Golf

<http://www.lsdga.com/txlinks.php>

<http://texasdiscgolf.org/>

City, Course Location, Club Name	Contact Information	Course Information	Weekly & Monthly Events	Annual Events
Abilene Cal Young Park	Jerry Kingston (325) 695-4764 (325) 829-6579 Jroc4life@cox.net Alan Rogers (325) 695-4764 Chris Young (800) 390-1540	18, concrete tees, 5908' & 6147'	Saturday 2:00 handicapped singles, \$5, \$2 ace pot Tuesday 6:30 (as light allows), \$5, \$2 ace pot	➤ Ice Bowl – 2007 ➤ Wild Hair C-Tier - June 2007
http://members.cox.net/dg23837/index.htm The Wild Hair was the first PDGA sanctioned event in five years in Abilene. Jerry sure did it right as there were 74 players!				
Abilene Will Hair Park		9, natural tees, 2839'	Sunday 10:00 Random Doubles	➤
Amarillo Thompson Park Texas Panhandle DG	John 'Rock' Stewart (806) 670-3172 johnrock@cox.net Pat Amerson (806) 359-5836 Mike Wilting 806-372-3740 mwilting@cox.net	18, concrete tees, 6665' & 7544', and alt. pin positions	Sat 80% handicap singles 3:00, 1 st Sun singles 1:30 singles, 2 nd Sun doubles 3:00, 4 th Sun singles 3:00 *	➤ Top of Texas August 26&27, 2006 ➤ Ice Bowl – 2007 ➤ DisCrazy Shootout C-Tier - May 2007
http://www.geocities.com/Yosemite/1896/ (* April to November times in order are 4, 1:30, 4, and 4). DisCrazy was a big success...77 players, lots from NM. Rock is looking/planning another course near Amarillo. "A new course will be installed soon about 20 miles southwest of Amarillo. The High Plains Baptist Church Camp got the funding approved...for a new 9 hole course to be installed on their property (approx. 340 acres, plenty of room). At first it will be set up for beginners and kids that use the camp facility, but eventually it will be opened for all the Disc Golfing public to use."				
Big Spring Birdwell Park Innerpole DG	Greg Brooks (432) 267-1465 (432) 267-6335 gbrooks@apex2000.net Tommy Tune (432) 267-4652 (432) 213-0608	9 (27), concrete tees, 2998'	Wednesday evenings as light allows	➤ 14 th Ever DiscOver Big Spring Tourney October 1, 2006
http://www.innerpole.com/ Greg indicated that a group is planning to put in a course at Moss Lake, near Big Spring.				
Big Spring Comanche Trail Park Innerpole DG	Greg Brooks (432) 267-1465 (432) 267-6335 gbrooks@apex2000.net Tommy Tune (432) 267-4652 (432) 213-0608	27*, concrete tees	Sunday afternoon League Play	➤ West Texas DG Champions Tourney April 2007
http://www.innerpole.com/ The full 27 holes were used at the WT DG Champions!				

El Paso Album Park	Tom Bussard (915) 474-1007 Tom@CorrosionControl Company.com Alex Bachicha (915) 204-9599 albachicha_2000@yahoo.com	18, natural tees	Sunday 11:00 And most Friday evenings	
Fort Stockton Stakitas Park	Joe Acosta (432) 290-4517 Jeremy Bueno Frankie Muniz Rudy Acosta (432) 336-2883 (432) 360-9080	18, natural tees, xxx	Sunday morning's apx 9:00.	➤
Need an e-mail contact				
Levelland Levelland City Park	Rocky Lawless (806) 894-0144 (806) 441-1359 rick@tricaremedical.com	18, concrete tees, 6559'		➤
Lubbock Mackenzie Park Windriders DG Club Tech Disc Golf Club	Patrick Kitten (806) 798-8386 (806) 787-4524 patrick.kitten@wausau.com	21, concrete tees, 7700' & 7100', and alt. pin positions	Thurs – semi- random doubles at 6:00 as light allows Sat – semi- random doubles at 2:00 Sun – singles apx. 2:00, and HCSSS events	➤ Big Arms on the Brazos – B-Tier ??? 2007 ➤ Cotton Pickin' DG Tourney – C-Tier Oct 14&15, 2006 ➤ Ice Bowl – 2007 ➤ The Wild Thing March 2007
http://parks.ci.lubbock.tx.us/Disc%20Golf.htm OR http://members.cox.net/olp/LWR/sponsorship.htm The new Tech Disc Golf Club will begin having occasional events in 2006 http://www.orgs.ttu.edu/techdisc/homepage.htm The BAB 2006 was hot and long. There were about 4-5 of the top 10 players in Texas that shot it out in the open division (winner got \$501!). The date for the BAB 2007 likely will move away from Father's Day weekend. The Windriders will be hosting a monthly-ish Hub City Sunday Slinger Series: Am Worlds Prep (July 9 th , 9:00 am, Backwards Play, Skills, Putting, Long Drive), Video Days, Portables at McAlister or Buffalo Lakes, SpeedDG, High Points Wins, All Mixed Up, Disc Ace Race, Glow Sticks, and an end of year DG Wrap-up/Membership event, etc. Contact Patrick. Thursday night play started April 6 th through October 26 th . Visit the PDGA, then Affiliated Club, then Lubbock Windriders for a discussion section. http://www.pdga.com/msgboard/postlist.php?Cat=&Board=Club965				
Lubbock McAlister Park Windriders DG Club Tech Disc Golf Club	Patrick Kitten (806) 798-8386 (806) 787-4524 patrick.kitten@wausau.com	(yet to be installed, coming soon!)		➤ Hub City Slinger 2007?
Pro and Rec and triple positions marked. We will be utilizing the basket system similar to courses in KC where the basket will slide into a pole that sticks out of the ground a few feet. The pin and lock are located just under the basket portion. Patrick 806-798-8386.				
Midland Midland College	Lee Almagur (432) 685-4739 ferleal@midland.edu	(presently removed, baskets in storage)		➤
Lee is looking to place the baskets somewhere in Midland in a park or other available land. Lee asked for help in finding the best location and then for installation of the course.				

Odessa Comanche Trail Park		9 (18), natural tees, 5004'	Sunday 2:00	➤
Plans to put in more holes to get to 18. Need Odessa info, contact, e-mails, etc.				
Plainview	???	??		➤
There is a core group of regular players that play object DG on the Wayland campus. The city has agreed to consider installation of a disc golf course if the group would just organize. Dimmitt is also considering the installation of a course.				
San Angelo Brentwood Park Concho Valley DG	Carl Wamsley (325) 450-8090 (325) 949-9199 carlw@skge.com Richard Murdoch (325) 234-9720 Jason Moore (325) 653-4809 jason@corteseflag.com	9, natural tees, 2837'	Wednesday Ript round of singles at 6:00	➤
http://www.conchovalleydiscgolf.iwarp.com/ A new course is being developed at Picnic Bend Park. Hopefully at least 14 holes if not 18. It will add some elevations to San Angelo disc golf.				
San Angelo Middle Concho Park Concho Valley DG	Carl Wamsley (325) 450-8090 (325) 949-9199 carlw@skge.com Richard Murdoch (325) 234-9720 Jason Moore (325) 653-4809 jason@corteseflag.com	18, natural tees, 6653' & 4689'	Sunday random doubles at 2:00 (cash payout)	➤ Big Cup Charity July 16, 2006 ➤ The FYB May 2007 ➤ Crush on the Concho March 2007
http://www.conchovalleydiscgolf.iwarp.com/ Jason Moore says, "We have started doing gorilla Minis, or "Ash minis" as we are going to call them once a month. We will set up a 9 hole temp. course at local parks all over town and play 18 holes. Dates and park names will be announced on the cvdga website."				
Seymour Seymour City Park	Judy Gilbert (940) 888-3148	18, concrete tees, 4414'		➤
Need more info, e-mails, etc.				
Sweetwater Newman Park	Junior Hernandez (325) 201-6792 Armando DeLoera (325) 235-1124 r_mondo76@yahoo.com	9, concrete tees, xxxx		➤
Sweetwater now has 18 baskets in the ground! A tourney, Fire in the Sky, was held on July 1.				
Snyder				➤
There are things brewing in Snyder about a disc golf course....more later.				
Wichita Falls Lake Arrowhead	Gary Robison (940) 761-2747 garsusrob@sbcglobal.net	18, natural tees, very rough, 4802'	None	➤ None

Very limited play.				
Wichita Falls Lake Wichita	Gary Robison (940) 761-2747 garsusrob@sbcglobal.net	18, concrete tees, 6100' & 6500'	Sun 3:00 doubles	➤
Wichita Falls Lucy Park	Gary Robison (940) 761-2747 garsusrob@sbcglobal.net	18, concrete tees, 5383'	Sat 11:00 singles	➤ Junior Disc Golf June 2007
http://www.wfdgc.com/Home_Page.html http://www.jdgc.org/default.aspx				



New Mexico

- New Mexico listing of courses www.nmdgc.org
- New Mexico info and newsletters <http://users.kitcarson.net/ttace/discgolf.htm>

Our friends in NM are having the Rabbit Run on May 20/21, the NM DG Championships on June 10/11, and a Does Challenge on July 8/9.

City, Course Location, Club Name	Contact Information	Course Information	Weekly & Monthly Events	Annual Events
Cloudcroft Zenith Park	Kurt Johnson (505) 687-2504 shaunapaylor56@hotmail.com	9 (27), natural tees	Tuesday apx. 5:00 form April to October	➤
Kurt also will coordinate occasional monthly events at Cloudcroft.				
Clovis Ned Houk Park	Matt Quick (505) 742-2329 mquick73@hotmail.com Curtis (505)742-3284	9, natural tees, 2534'		➤
Matt is looking into moving a few holes and/or adding holes.				
Mayhill Camp Chimney Spring	Camp Chimney Spring (505) 687-3520 Kurt Johnson (505) 687-2504	9 tone poles, private, natural tees, 1966'		➤
Kurt is planning on having a few occasional monthly events at Mayhill.				
Roswell Enchanted Lands Park	Henry Orona (505) 627-6207 (505) 420-5486 oshow_111@yahoo.com Mike Orona (505) 317-5814 (505) 623-0659	9 (18), concrete tees, 3055' & 3753'		➤
Henry and Mike are looking into getting a little more organized with weekly and monthly events.				
Ski Apache (Ruidoso)	Kurt Johnson (505) 687-2504 shaunapaylor56@hotmail.com	9, fly pads		➤
http://www.skiapache.com/summeratskiapache.html Ski Apache Disc Golf usually opens each May to September and then has an annual event in August. The course is yet to be open this summer due to the high fire hazards.				



Oklahoma

- Oklahoma disc golf

City, Course Location, Club Name	Contact Information	Course Information	Weekly & Monthly Events	Annual Events
Altus Altus City Park		18, natural tees, 5624'		➤
Need more info, e-mails, etc.				
Duncan Duncan Lake Chain Rattlers	Johnny Zumwalt (580) 439-6453 jzumwalt@pldi.net Jose Mendoza	18, natural tees, 6200'		➤Duncan Hill Climber – March 2007
Johnny has to mow and prep the course each year.				
Duncan Simmons Ctr Park	Thomas Lowry (580) 678-5447	9, natural tees, 2257'		➤Twin Oaks Open - October 7&8, 2006
http://www.jdgf.org/default.aspx . Need more info, e-mails, etc.				
Lawton Greer Park		18, natural tees, 4670'		➤
Need more info, e-mails, etc.				

PDGA



Remember to regularly check www.PDGA.com for:

- **Home** – The homepage has links to all of the major tourneys and sponsors. There are also quick updates of recent disc golf actions.
- **Rules** – **There are updated rules that went into effect on January 1, 2006.** For a full listing make sure that you go to the PDGA site and print them off or get a rules book.
- **Membership** – This section has information about players. You can search for a player to see what tourneys he/she played, results, and player ratings. There is also information on player classifications and membership applications/renewals.
- **PDGA Tour** – This is the location used to find out about tourneys (see Bigun's below). To narrow things down to our area, you can use the 'advanced search' feature and put in locations for Texas, New Mexico, and Oklahoma, certain date ranges, and certain types/sanction levels of events. Then you can print all of the sanctioned events within the region to help plan your DG endeavors.
- **Information** – This section is great to attain general disc golf information. There is information about course evaluations, affiliated club programs, course development, approved discs/targets, and so on. There is a very interesting section on 'disc golf demographics'. Course coordinators should be very familiar with this location. In fact, this information section is a great starting point if you have plans to work with a parks board or a city council.

- **Pro Shop** – The PDGA has assorted merchandise for sale such as course directories, bags, discs, membership.
- **PDGA Radio News** – The broadcast is an internet service to PDGA members and other disc golf enthusiasts that delivers a 20 minute audio broadcast each week. Every Tuesday morning, listeners will find a new show jam-packed with fast-paced, up to the minute, professionally produced content.
- **Contact** – There are nine primary contacts that are willing and able to answer your disc golf questions. In addition to the PDGA contacts you can find your state coordinator information as well.
- **DISCussion** – This is where things happen...all of the preparation and planning talk for events, smack talk, questions answered (or not), club and course information, and so on. Under the PDGA section the primary sections are Tournaments, Rules and Standards, Ratings and Skill Based Competition, PDGA Announcements, Course Evaluations, DG for Women, and International DG. Under the General Disc Golf topics you will find Courses, Throwing Techniques, Equipment, Players, and Course Design and Installation. Finally, under the Affiliated Clubs section there is a General section and a listing of the affiliated clubs. Lubbock Windriders Disc Golf Club is a PDGA Affiliated Club (there is assorted regional info/discussion at this site). The DISCussion section has a search feature that can be used to find recent discussion about a particular topic (city, event, etc.).
- **Course Directory** – One can find courses by zip code (US only), city/state, or country. You can use the feature to find out how far courses are from your location (all the way to New Zealand). When you select a course, there is then information about the course, directions to the course, and contact information (similar to the matrix information above). Did you know that there are now 128 courses listed for Texas, 39 for Oklahoma, and 16 for New Mexico? There is a new feature, Google Search, that shows the entire US. You can click on an area, set the radius you want, and the map will show basket markers for courses in the selection area. This feature is really nice for when you are traveling.

Join the PDGA – checkout the benefits of joining the PDGA

Course Evaluations – All course coordinators and interested individuals should take a look at the course evaluation program. You will find that there are many ways that a course/amenities/club can be improved. Maybe someone has expertise in a certain area and could step up to improve things. In time, all courses will likely be evaluated and graded.

Affiliated Club Programs - bundled memberships (if a club sends in membership applications together, then they are \$5 off), Affiliated Club members also get to take the officials test for free, and the club also gets the discussion board space.

Biguns' – Here is a listing of some of the bigger national and regional tournaments.

- Am. Worlds – <http://www.2006amworlds.org/> Tulsa, Oklahoma, July 24-29, 2006, hosted by the Tulsa Disc Sports Association. Several Lubbock and Big Spring players attended Am Worlds in Flagstaff in 2005 and had a blast. If you did not get an invite and want to go, all other interested players who are 2006 current members can get their names on the waitlist.
- Pro Worlds – Augusta, Georgia – August 7-12, 2006
- US DG Championships – Winthrop University, Rock Hill, South Carolina, October 12 – 15, 2006
- US Women's Championships – Peoria, Illinois, September 29, 2006 to October 1, 2006
- US Amateur Championships – Michigan, September 8 – 10, 2006
- The Players Cup – Crystal River, Florida, November 17 – 19, 2006

A few disc golf links

- Titledisc.com <http://www.titledisc.com/>
- Play-It-Again Sports <http://www.playitagainsports.com/>
- DGA <http://discgolfassoc.com/>
- Discraft <http://www.discraft.com/>
- Innova <http://innovadiscs.com/>

Quotes and anecdotes

While on one of my trips, I happened to come across a small book related to golf quotes/cartoons. The book was 'Compliments of American Airlines, excerpts from Get A Grip, by John M. Capozzi, In Association with the Editors of Golf Digest. Many of the quotes are applicable to our disc golf world. I broke out many of the quotes into different categories such as practice, quality of play, competition, girls, age, bosses and work, prayer, water, and weather. I will put in a new category for the next few newsletters.



In past newsletters, I put information in about 'practice', 'quality of play', and 'competition'. This time it's 'girls.' There are a few things that we need at the course...more birdies and more girls! The only thing better would be, "Twwiiiiinnns!" I am seeing more female players out at the courses playing casual DG. I saw that Amarillo and Abilene had really good female turnouts for their respective recent tourneys. Anything we can do to get the female players out will surely attract more guys, but likely will get more junior players out as well.

Girls

- "Give me good clubs (discs), fresh air and beautiful partner...and you can keep my clubs (discs) and the fresh air." (Jack Benny)
- The (disc) Golfer's Prayer: God, grant me patience...right now. (from Get a Grip, John M. Capozzi)
- "(Disc) golf is like a love affair. If you don't take it seriously, it's not fun. If you take it too seriously, it breaks your heart." (anonymous)
- "(Disc) golf is like marriage: If you take yourself too seriously it won't work...and both are expensive." (from Get a Grip, John M. Capozzi)
- "If you think it's hard to meet new people, try picking up the wrong (disc) golf ball." (Jack Lemmon)

As our sport grows, we will begin to see very good older players. When I started playing a few years ago, there were only a few older players around. Here in Lubbock it was Rob and Vicente. I could never beat them. I found that so cool. Now I'm one of the old farts, actually an old crippled fart (ooh think of that for a while, ha). I absolutely have a blast playing with my peers in Advanced Master and soon to be Pro Master (maybe) divisions. Shoot after a few days of rest, several back pops, a hand full of Tylenol, and lots of luck us old guys can still compete with some of the young guns.

Age

- "The goal of every golfer should be to live long enough to shoot his or her age." (from Get a Grip, John M. Capozzi)
- "In (disc) golf, some people tend to get confused with all the numbers...they shoot a "six," yell "fore" and write "five." (from Get a Grip, John M. Capozzi)

Unusual and interesting things about our regional courses

Most courses have something unique about them, whether it's weather, water, or something else. The CP has covered the weather in our region, water on the courses, and the very unique/signature holes at our regional courses. In upcoming newsletters we could discuss courses with the best on-course camping most/least elevation, course signs, most OB (artificial, natural), and of course the best place to have a post-round drink!

This time let's talk about 'trees.' Disc golf is obstacle driven as opposed to fairway driven in ball golf. In ball golf the definition of a tree is an object deterrent to the hit ball that is 90% air and 10% wood. Our disc golf tree definition is the same only different. A DG tree is a strategically placed obstacle that jumps into the way of the flight of a disc. The DG tree is 90% wood and 10% air. Other related tree words would include: tree-jected, tree-jectory, tree-mendous, four-est, 'you got a birdie', 'barking up the wrong tree', and so on.

I'm sure that the courses in Cloudcroft, Mayhill, and Ski Apache have the most evergreen trees. These courses likely have the tallest trees as well. Now that the two-meter rule no longer applies, course strategy has changed. Tomahawks and thumbers likely will become a little more prevalent since there no longer is a stroke applied. I'd say that the mesquite courses would be ruled by San Angelo and Abilene followed by Ft. Stockton, Sweetwater, Odessa, Seymour, and Wichita Falls. Big Springs has a pretty good mix of mesquite and other trees as well. Large elm trees are prevalent, but not exclusive at the courses in Lubbock, Amarillo, Levelland, and Clovis. It is sad that most trees have a life span. Many of the elm trees are now beginning to die. This will be something that we'll need to address soon and on a continual basis. The course, or soon to be course, with the fewest trees will be the McAlister course in SW Lubbock. We will initially have mounds (baskets, tee pads, and between the two) to make the course interesting. Soon after there are plans to plant hundreds, if not thousands, of assorted sizes of trees (we hope). A couple of 'treesons' to play are a few unique tree holes that come to mind. Abilene has the #16 hole under the large tree for example. Lubbock has the #13 short location inside the small circle of trees, the Indian Burial Mound #9 long, and the Stonehenge #14 long. Most of the regional courses have some good 'tunnel' shots. Big Spring has the big peninsula shot that is 'protected' by large trees. Once again, I'm sure that I've missed pointing out some great tree holes. All in all, we need to ensure that our course trees are healthy and plant more of them.

Litter

Of course we should not litter, but we should also actively control those who do litter. We should pick up trash while we play as well. Do you carry a trash bag in your DG bag? Do you use it? Remember, good things happen to those who pick up trash....your close putts will begin to stay in the chains if you actively control litter. Try it. The region supports the PDGA's stance in taking an active role in educating players about not littering. For example, littering is a courtesy violation in the Rules of Disc Golf, and it is clearly stated that cigarette butts are considered litter. We should have regular trash pickup days at our courses.



Want to sell/buy something?

If you are from the region and want to place a note in this newsletter to buy/sell/trade something that is disc golf related, contact Patrick at 806-798-8386 or Patrick.Kitten@ausau.com.

Greg Brooks at Blum's Jewelers in Big Spring has disc golf jewelry for sale. Greg has supported disc golf for many years and has supplied the jewelry for many tournament events. Visit Innerpole.com for more information.

A Texas Tech architecture graduate and disc golf player from San Antonio, Kenneth Heinzmann, helped put Lubbock DG on a map. He used his skills and plotted/graphed/designed course overlays in color for use in making diagrams of the Mackenzie Park course. He made a version for the back of scorecards and another version for the course sign. He was extremely detailed in the design. Everyone who has seen the Lubbock course sign agrees. If you are in need of help with your local course map, contact Kenny at (210) 844-5403 or at texacobill88@hotmail.com

In the next issue (but subject to change):

- Regional course/tourney information – need updates!
- September and October 2006 regional events:
 - Big Spring Fling – Big Spring, October 1, 2006
 - Twin Oaks Open – Duncan, October 7 & 8, 2006
 - That Cotton Pickin' Disc Golf Tourney (C-Tier) – Lubbock, October 14 & 15, 2006
- More quotes and anecdotes
- More regional highlights

