



January 24, 2000

**2012 Plan Presentation  
Black Hills Disc Golf Confederacy**

**Disc Golf**

- a. One of the world's fastest growing new sports •••

Disc Golf is a free activity for the public. It's easy, fun and affordable for people of all ages and skill levels. The idea is simple and the rules are similar to the rules of traditional golf. Golf discs are specially designed to curve left or right, to maximize short-range accuracy or to maximize long-range drives. Players can carry one disc or many. Experienced players often carry ten or more in their disc golf bag.

Disc golf courses can easily fit into most public park settings, including under-utilized areas like greenways and undeveloped wooded land. Hills, trees, creeks and ponds can add character and shot variety to a disc golf course. In disc golf, trees are the primary obstacles that players must negotiate to get to the target. Perhaps best of all, disc golf courses require a minimum of maintenance.

b. Around the world ...

There are now more than 800 disc golf courses in the US and Canada, and there are over 200 courses in several other countries, including more than 50 courses in each of Japan and Sweden. The Professional Disc Golf Association has over 15,000 members, including 5,000 active touring members who compete in PDGA-sanctioned events.

The sport itself is growing worldwide at a rate of 15%. The PDGA estimates there are upwards of 5 million people worldwide who have played the game.

c. In Rapid City ...

In 1975, there were five disc golf courses in the United States, and in 1980 there were 60. Rapid City's current disc golf course, located on Omaha Street, was built in 1976, making it one of the earliest courses in the United States.

A new and challenging course in Rapid City could have an economic impact on the area by bringing disc golfers into the area from around the state and from surrounding states to participate in PGDA sanctioned events.

The current Rapid City course faces two threats.

- a. The extension of Jackson Boulevard tentatively planned for 2003 will effectively cut the Omaha Disc Golf Course in two.
- b. The Recreation Center Project currently considers the land that now hosts the Omaha Disc Golf Course and the Omaha Soccer Field to be their leading location.

## **Black Hills Disc Golf Confederacy**

The Disc Golf Confederacy was organized in May 1999 with the following goals:

**A. To develop and sponsor disc golf tournaments, leagues and other activities in the Rapid City area.**

The Disc Golf Confederacy sponsored three events in the summer of 1999, including the Worlds' Biggest Disc Golf Weekend (a worldwide event), the 1st Annual High School Challenge and the Disc Golf Confederacy Summer Open.

The High School Challenge was created as an annual event to bring students together from all five high schools in the Rapid City area in the spirit of friendly competition. The event was sponsored by National American University, and high school teams participated from Central, Stevens, St. Thomas More and Rapid City Christian. Attendance of participants and spectators was estimated at 200 for the first-time event.

**B. To encourage and promote disc golf in the Rapid City area to participants of all ages, through The Basket & Disc Loan Program for elementary school, middle school, high school and other youth groups.**

The Disc Golf Confederacy owns 30 extra discs and has purchased a portable basket. We will introduce the Basket & Disc Loan Program to all schools in the Rapid City area, as well as for the YMCA, Boys Club and any other youth organization that would like to check these items out for up to one week, at no charge. Physical Education programs can easily introduce disc golf into their curriculum, by using the loaned equipment on school grounds, outdoor or indoor, any time of the year.

We will also make club members available to personally introduce the sport in schools through demonstrations and single-session seminars.

**C. To work with Rapid City Parks & Recreation to research, design and build a new and challenging 18-hole course in Rapid City.**

## **The 2012 Plan Presentation**

### **What we're proposing.**

We're working with Rapid City Parks and Recreation, Public Works and City Planning to develop a new course in Rapid City, that depending on final design and land availability, will offer either 12 or 18 holes.

### **How much it will cost.**

Estimated costs are:

- 12 hole course • \$10,500 • Includes baskets, signage and concrete tee pads.
- 18 hole course • \$15,750 • Includes baskets, signage and concrete tee pads.

### **What the Disc Golf Confederacy can provide.**

Our club is new and still small, but growing. There aren't a lot of resources available to us for the purposes of fund-raising. We will however, provide a workforce of members to help build the proposed course and to help maintain it.

### **Expected maintenance requirements and costs.**

The proposed course will not need any additional maintenance.