

ZEPHYR COVE DISC GOLF PARK



PROPOSAL



EXPANSION | RETRO-FIT | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT |
STEWARDSHIP | COMMUNITY | RECREATION |
ENVIRONMENT | TOURISM | ECONOMY

APRIL,2015.ZEPHYR-COVE.NV

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prepared by:



ZEPHYR COVE DISC GOLF PARK PROPOSAL:

expansion | retro-fit | program development | stewardship | community | recreation

BACKGROUND: THE DISC GOLF PHENOMENON IN TAHOE

Beginnings

It is difficult to estimate the total number of disc golfers in the world and even more difficult to distinguish between avid players and occasional or recreational players. One clear measure of the persistent growth of this low-impact, accessible, outdoor activity is the number of courses that have been constructed throughout the country and the world since the first permanent course was established in Pasadena in 1975. When the first Tahoe course was developed in Bijou Park in South Lake Tahoe under the watch of P&R Director Russ Thaw in the late 1980's there were only about 300 courses in existence. A group of local disc golf activists at the time, including Craig Getty, Tim Parsons, Dan Thrift and Brian Jonas began to see the effects of crowding at the Bijou Course about a decade later and decided to establish a 'wilderness' course in the hills above Zephyr Cove Park in Douglas County, NV where they could find solitude and engagement in a beautiful natural setting. By this time there were approximately 1000 courses in existence.

Growth

Today there are more than 6000 courses established worldwide. Although the reality that Zephyr Cove course receives much less play than the Bijou course, it is only in part due to its topography and vegetation. Demographics seem to play a larger role. A lot more disc golfers live close to the Bijou course and golfers tend to play their 'local' course much more frequently than other courses in the surrounding area. Regardless, the overall growth of disc golf has left its mark with an increased sense of crowding at Zephyr Cove, especially during summer months. This uptick could also be explained by (1) a desire for disc golfers over time to seek more challenging/picturesque terrain, which Zephyr offers (2) the opening of the landscape due to the fuel thinning project in 2009, and (3) the impact of the preeminent online resource for traveling disc golfers which rates courses: Dgcoursereview.com.

Future Mecca

Tahoe is becoming a disc golf mecca for locals and tourists alike, drawn to the unique alpine and high desert settings that challenge and engage players. There are 12 courses within a 70 mile radius of Zephyr Cove Park (<http://www.lakesideinn.com/activity/disc-golf>), and with its high rating on [dgcoursereview.com](http://Dgcoursereview.com) of 4.26 out of 5.0 it continues to draw more disc golfers each season. In addition, recent tee area and green improvements using native materials by local activist Russ Wey has made the course more amenable to a wider audience. A "retrofit" of the course is in order which continues the incremental course improvements implemented over 17 years by Craig Getty and Russ Wey more recently which protect the natural ecology while reducing the perceived sense of crowding, while also connecting youth programs to the course via the proximity of the library, elementary school and high school.

STAKEHOLDERS

Avid Tournament Disc Golfers – This group can be characterized by disc golfers who play often during the season, are competitive with themselves and/or others to achieve consistently low scores and often like to test themselves in sanctioned PDGA (Professional Disc Golf Association) tournaments. Camaraderie and competition between these players is strong. Although far fewer in actual numbers, this group traditionally has had the strongest influence on course design decisions which impact recreational and beginner players due to the organized nature of events and meet-ups in which they engage. This group is likely to plan day-trips to courses out of their area, especially if they are well regarded.

Avid Recreational Disc Golfers – This group may play just as often as Tournament Disc Golfers if not more often but their interest is more likely to be competition between friends informally and/or exercise/camaraderie. These golfers are also likely to travel.

Recreational/Occasional Disc Golfers – Being in this category or one of the “Avid” categories is not mutually exclusive, but “Rec” players generally have different motivations. While all disc golfers hopefully enjoy the “walk in the woods with friends” aspect of the game, Rec players may value this even more over a focus on competition, and may be more likely focused on personal improvement or relaxation. Rec players may be very skilled at disc golf, play often or occasionally choose disc golf as one of many outdoor activities they may enjoy. This group likely far outnumbers the “Avid” disc golfer categories but their voice is less often heard by designers due to the less organized nature of their participation and less frequent play overall. Disc golfers who have participated in the activity in years past often re-engage in the sport prompted by new courses, layouts and expansions close to their homes. Weekly doubles and triples events could help to engage this group start observing their behavior.

Beginners and Families – Disc golf is a great outdoor activity because most anyone can have fun with it right away. The sport is often introduced to friends and family members by players who are already hooked and want to share the experience. Doubles or “Best Disc” play formats are great for introducing new players, especially because it is difficult to get length off the tee at first, until technique and muscles are honed. Playing from shorter tees when available or playing on layouts when the pin positions are shorter help boost the enjoyment factor for beginners, and for 'tag-along' friends/family members.

Children – Older children in middle school or high school can often have the mental and physical attributes necessary to enjoyably experience a “full-size” course layout, with an ability to strategize and link together tee shots with fairway layups to achieve par on most holes. A coordinated program with Whittell Middle/High School has promise, especially if a course retrofit links into the back of the school. But for younger children the scale of the main course is not ideal for learning and engagement. A course designed for younger children could incorporate a range of friendly hole lengths, from 45' par 2s to 70'-180' par 3s to 250' par 4s. A 6 to 9-hole children's course would take up about 1/8 of the acreage required for an adult course because the 'spray' of errant shots by young children can be much more easily contained. Such courses would allow educational experiences accompanied by parents, teachers or instructors, to engage children in physical activity outdoors while learning about

physics, strategy, concentration, etiquette, cooperation, geology, biology and vegetation. Introducing disc golf to children in this way would prepare them well for enjoying play on the main course while becoming proud stewards of the land. (see Figs. 1 & 2)

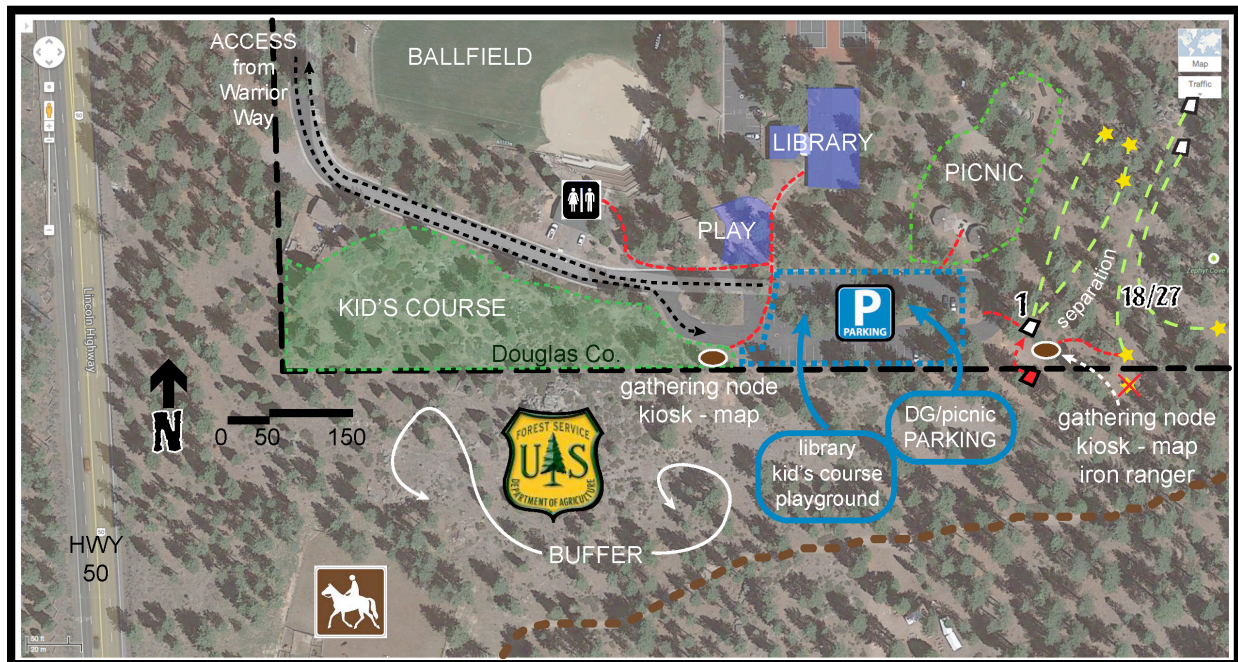


Fig. 1 SOUTH PUBLIC INTERFACE & LAND USE PLANNING

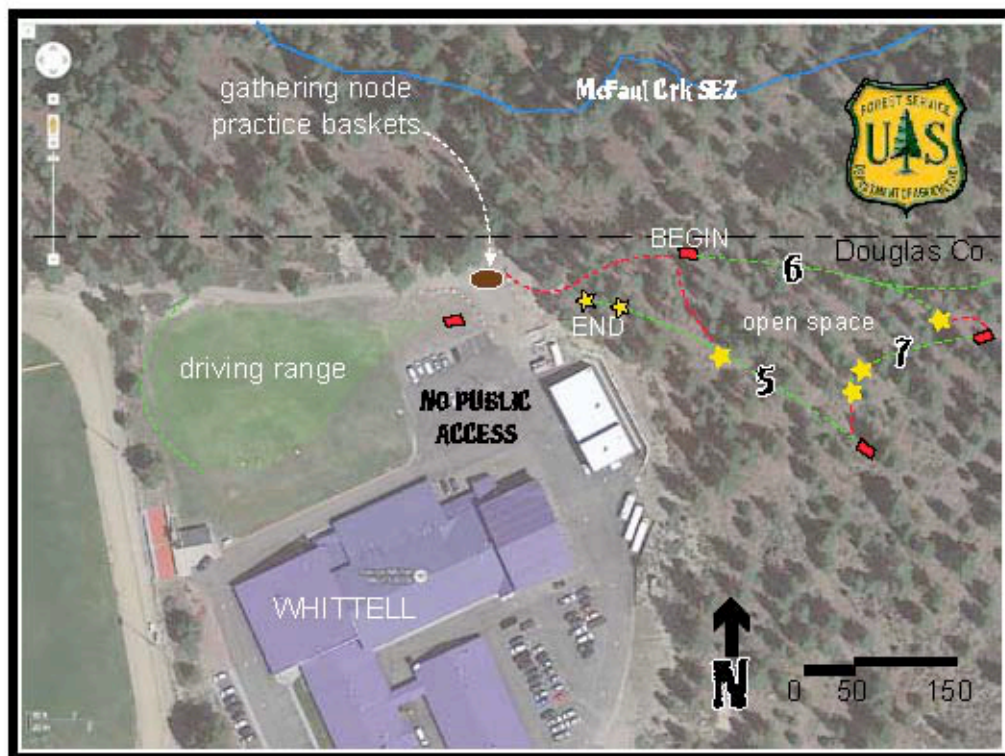


Fig. 2 NORTH SCHOOL ACCESS, PE PROGRAM & 3-HOLE LOOP

Library Patrons – Currently the far end of the parking area near the gazebos is utilized by disc golfers who want to park close to the hole-1 tee. Library patrons tend to park both in the library/tennis lot off Warrior Way or closer to the ball-field near the library side-entrance. Adding holes to the main course next to this parking area towards the stables would complicate the flow of parking for library/park users and create confusion at tees for disc golfers (see Fig. 1). In addition main course holes in this area would be out of character with the 'wilderness' course concept, squeezed between surrounding land uses, with views of the highway, parking lot, access road and horse stables. A distinct children's course in this area would be more appropriate and encourage youth cognitive development with the strategic planning required to play disc golf. To small children the landscape features such as rocks, shrubs and trees would screen much of the manmade surroundings. In a smaller area the landscape would feel 'grand!' A program could be developed where children check out youth discs from the library in order to boost patronage and engagement in a learning community. Funds could also be potentially raised for the Library by selling/renting discs to the general public & establishing a Disc Golf Info Center of sorts. The signage on the children's course could double as a short interpretive trail to young disc golfers and their families or for library patrons who want to learn about the local ecology. Parents and guardians could use the library facilities while children engage in short rounds on land with open sight-lines without bleeding into adjacent USFS property.

To further enhance spatial legibility of the park uses (library patrons, picnickers, adult golfers and youth golfers) tee-1 on the main course could be re-oriented to allow a formal gathering area for disc golfers to be developed between tee-1 and hole-18 so that socializing can be moved away from the parking area, while improving group flow tee-ing off on hole-1. (see Fig. 1)

Bicyclists – Eventually, it is envisioned, a dedicated bike trail will circle Lake Tahoe. Although this complete vision may not be realized any time soon, a connection between Roundhill and Zephyr Cove is the next phase slated for completion by the USFS, perhaps in the next 2 years? Connectivity to the Stateline Core and Nevada Beach would greatly enhance opportunities for non-motorized recreation by locals and tourists alike. Activities could be linked and planned throughout the day! A phased expansion of Zephyr Cove Disc Golf Course to *Zephyr Cove Disc Golf Park* could accommodate this trend, while creating legible and engaging node of activity to be more readily accessed by recreational enthusiasts on bike and on foot. By offering disc golf experiences to all levels, it could become a more broadly accessible facility to families' broad interests/abilities.

Local Agencies – The implementation of new disc golf course tee signs, way finding signage and trail cues could be an opportunity for environmental education, outreach and stewardship lessons throughout the course extents. TRPA's Regional Plan Update, the 2011 USFS Ski Area Recreation Act and other local planning documents and trends encourage year-around outdoor recreational tourism strategies. The climate is ripe to leverage disc golf as an accessible, interpretive recreational form in the Tahoe basin. Funding, support and expertise from the Nevada Tahoe Conservation District, Nevada Division of Wildlife, the USFS, the Tahoe Rim Trail and others could support course improvements while creating a sense of stewardship and understanding of the genius loci, while also offering outreach/PR opportunities for participating agencies/organizations.

Local Businesses – Yearly and/or seasonal tee-sign sponsorships could be solicited from local businesses that stand to benefit from exposure to the growing disc golf community. As Tahoe becomes more of a regional mecca for 'disc golf tourists', Zephyr Cove Park is situated nearly at the nucleus of this disc golf region. Lodging and resort establishments have the opportunity to cater to the itinerant disc golfer. Eating establishments, providers of disc golf equipment and providers of alternative recreational services can also be targeted.

Community/Public Good – It is often cited that a lack of productive, engaging youth activities can lead to drug abuse and illegal activities. Disc golf can be an alternative form of recreation for many children and young adults who don't relate well to conventional sports. It offers unique opportunities for growth, development and character-building in natural environments. In the past disc golf was a popular activity for Whittell students, in large part due to introduction of disc golf through the inclusive *Disc N Dig Festival* from 2002-05 (see appendix, p13). The annual event sparked regular play and they became reliable stewards of the land they were enjoying. They responded admirably to signage that explained the pack-it-in-pack-it-out philosophy, and from contact with adult disc golfers. Today few Whittell students seem to use the course. Re-engagement with disc golf could not only enrich athletic programs during school hours but could help engage students with the environment and community around them after school, while offering a diversion from miscreant temptations. Positive attributes of disc golf participation introduced during youth could carry on throughout players' lifetimes.

COURSE DESIGN PRINCIPLES

anchoring tee-boxes

- prospect/refuge
- sense of place
- sense of command over the fairway
- sited on natural, stable terraces or saddles when possible, avoid low-points and drainages
- sub-graded and surface-graded to drain

pin-position rotation

- *rest* fairways/land | *rehabilitate* with grass-seeding, loosening compaction and mulching strategies
- *educate* golfers about current rehab zones with notices at main kiosk area
- gradually *change* positions for variety, challenge or novelty: *notify* golfers of planned changes/dates at main kiosk map and on proposed website: zephyrcovediscgolf.org
- adjust pins to *avoid* fairway overlap: *create* audio/visual separation with adjacent fairways, especially at similar elevations – an exception to this principle is when an abrupt elevation change allows close proximity of fairways and interesting glimpses or vantage points onto other sections of the course: these 'previews' enhance overall understanding of course-flow & create anticipation – decrease perception of crowding
- *rotate* to pins that utilize flatter and/or sandier terrain during wet seasons
- whenever possible *locate* pin positions where at least two open and fair approaches are available from the tee to cater to different styles & abilities, and to *spread-out* fairway trampling over time

- *avoid* location of pins to create more than two long/difficult holes in a row which require near maximal power from the tee and/or fairway during public play times – layouts for high level tournaments are an exception – since the course is challenging on golfers' legs, at least allow their arms to rest at frequent intervals with shorter, more technical holes and down-hill finesse shots – *allow* Zephyr's natural features to create hazards, risk/reward instead of sheer distance

landmarks & course legibility

- landmarks can include abrupt slope changes, long-views across the Lake, granite rock clusters or exceptional tree specimens (age, size or unique form)
- *identify & link* series of landmark features and utilize them to *draw* disc golfers through the landscape, help *locate* discs & *prevent* mental fatigue during physical exertion
- use landmarks, especially rock clusters on slopes, to *nestle* pin positions – rock groups perform as backstops, erosion control, orientation beacons and pin guardians
- *maximize* the effect of slope hazards – *place* fair, flat mulched & terraced greens at the edge of slopes to *engage* golfers in risk/reward decision-making
- identifying and utilizing the largest natural alleys formed by tree trunks, branches & foliage, both horizontally & vertically and using them as suggested fairways accomplishes several goals; *controls* the flow of foot traffic, *maximizes* potential sight-lines to pins from fairways, *encourages* orderly progression and *reveals* the play of holes to gallery onlookers during events

fairways & connector paths | Safety, Flow, Ecology & Psychological Rejuvenation

- mulch & terrace landing zones to accentuate landforms, to create fair throwing surfaces and to provide intermediate targets that reduce mental fatigue, while shoring up potential erosion
- mulch and reinforce trails with natural materials onsite when possible, or imported through coordinated programs with residents and/or tree professionals
- anticipate 'disc spray' and interpret 'desire lines' through fairways as they appear over time to guide future trail maintenance
- preclude the possibility of errant throws striking groups on neighboring fairways as patronage increases by extending connector paths, using elevation & vegetation as buffers, varying hole-orientation and utilizing clear sight-lines in conjunction with appropriate warnings on signage
- guide golfers to follow clear, one-way connector paths between holes to encourage them to stay-on-trails, along paths of least resistance, such that:
- buffer zones around connector paths and between fairways form a contiguous mosaic throughout the course extents allowing landscape ecology principles to take hold
- set course layouts to always include longer connector paths every few holes, preferably cross-hill or gradually uphill, to create fairway separation, to allow time for reflection or appreciation of landscape features, to mentally reset, forget about the previous hole and arrive at the next tee with a new landscape and psychological orientation
- Seed and cultivate stands, bands and borders of native bunch grasses to rehab disturbed soils, stabilize slopes and accentuate course features & flow-patterns per the expert consultation of Ed Kleiner of Comstock Seed

gathering/resting nodes

- identify and define level areas with natural/naturalistic seating elements with shade and views of play on at least two holes
- locate these nodes between hole-1 & hole-18/27, at breaking off points for alternate loops, at expansive views and at the climax of a series of uphill holes
- when possible develop these nodes such that the next node is visible from the current node to reassure golfers and pace their progression – this will also enhance the ability of fans, photographers and videographers to follow the rounds during events
- design additional seating away from the tee area at these nodes so that groups that want to rest, socialize or enjoy the view may do so without awkwardness when another group wants to 'play-through'

PHASING

Retrofit & Expansion

- Lakeview-9 Loop: tees, trails, landing zones and trail markers
- Open Lakeview-9 Loop for play with 'post' targets, get feedback, make adjustments
- Whittel-3: tees, trails and landing zones
- Install natural wood or dimensional lumber posts – complete graphic work for Lakeview-9 Loop signage
- Core-18 Retrofit: accelerated/planned volunteer work-days: hole-1 reorientation, combine holes 2 & 3, extend hole-4, shorten hole-5, remove hole-6, combine holes 15 & 16, add first round of pin-positions
- Add anchors and baskets to Lakeview-9 Loop and announce grand opening of all 27 holes, inviting tee-sign sponsors to see/play their holes

Kid's Course

- rough-in a layout for the Library Kid's Course (independent timeline)
- organize 'test' rounds with 6-12 year olds and adjust course layout accordingly
- develop a course map, kiosk and signage with participation of local children
- develop educational/interpretive signage on tee signs in collaboration with local agency experts
- install 6-9 holes with circular tee-pads, trail-work, signage, greens and baskets

PARTICIPATION: IN-KIND WORK & FUNDRAISING

Weeklies recreational doubles (or triples)

Work Days (in conjunction with selected weeklies)

Annual and/or Seasonal **T-sign sponsorship** by local businesses/agencies

Iron Ranger Donation Box/Suggestion Box (scorecards)

Sanctioned A-Tier **PDGA tournaments** and events: local economic boost

Locally organized tournaments and events

Local agency/organization programs (NTCD, USFS, Kahle Kid's Club, TDFD, etc...)

Private or Public **Grant Solicitation**: Environmental Education, Low-Impact Outdoor Recreation Recreation, Geotourism. Climate Change

COLLABORATIVE TEAM OF EXPERTS | COMMUNITY PRIDE & ACCOUNTABILITY

- **Michael Plansky**, Masters of Landscape Architecture, Cal Poly Pomona 2013 with honors (Masters Thesis on Disc Golf Course Design), TRCD Demo-Garden Specialist 2011 & 2012, Lake Tahoe Master Gardener Training (2013), Residential & Commercial landscape designer, Community activist (Disc n Dig Festival 2002-2006) CO-LEAD DESIGNER, TEAM BUILDER, PUBLIC OUTREACH – Marla Bay, Douglas County contact: 775.580.7475 (landline) mikeplansky@gmail.com (email)
- **William McKissock**, Lifetime builder, designer, craftsman and artist – Lifetime Tahoe resident, raised children in Douglas County school systems, Douglas County, Kahle, youth volleyball coach & nonprofit traveling club team co-manager – CO-LEAD DESIGNER, TEAM BUILDER, PUBLIC OUTREACH – Zephyr Cove, Douglas County contact: 775.292.0990 (cell) wivgolfing@gmail.com (email)
- **Lynda McDowell**, Executive Director, Tahoe Rim Trail 1995-2008: planning, funding and implementing the installation of remote alpine hiking-trail networks - TRAILS & GRANT ACQUISITION, Minden, Douglas County
- **Robert McDowell**, LTBMU USFS Forest Planner, Nevada Fire Safe Council Volunteer, (ADVISOR on RECREATION, ECOLOGICAL IMPACT & USFS LANDS COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS) Minden, Douglas County
- **Russ Wey**, Disc Golf Activist, Course Builder & Designer, disc golfer since 1970's MASTER BUILDER, NATURAL PAVING & TERRACING, DESIGN CONSULTATION, South Lake Tahoe, CA
- **Dan Deegan**, Expert in land data gathering, map-making and analysis (GIS, LIDAR etc.) TECHNOLOGY & WEB CONSULTATION, INFORMATION UPDATING, TRACKING, COURSE DESIGN CONSULTATION, Stateline, Douglas County
- **Ed Kleiner**, Owner/Manager of Comstock Seed, expert in the propagation, cultivation and establishment of native/adapted grasses & wildflower mixes – COURSE-FLOW, EROSION-CONTROL, ECOLOGICAL SUCCESSION & AESTHETICS CONSULTANT
- **Whittel Middle/High School physical education program**: EDUCATIONAL DISC GOLF PROGRAM DEVELOPERS (TBD), Douglas County
- **Douglas County Library**, Zephyr Cove Branch, representative (TBD)

This team of experts, or a close approximation thereof, could serve as a well-vetted initial board of directors if a non-profit 501(c)3 status was sought from the IRS for a *Zephyr Cove Disc Golf Collective*. This status could help attract grant funding, create accountability, and help ensure timely implementation of improvements and programs that benefit the community. Money from The Disc Golf Park funding sources mentioned above could be held by Douglas County and applied for by application by the *Nonprofit Collective* for incremental, phased improvements.

PRIMARY CONTACTS

Michael Plansky, 775.580.7475 (landline) mikeplansky@gmail.com (email)

William McKissock, 775.292.0990 (cell) wivgolfing@gmail.com (email)

APPENDIX

RELEVANT POLITICAL CLIMATE – GRANT SEEKING & RELEVANT LANGUAGE

Douglas County Community Services, Parks & Recreation Department

Mission Statement To continue to create and preserve quality parks and recreation opportunities, serving people of all ages and interests, that positively affect the community and enrich life.

TRPA Regional Plan Update

R-Recreation

R-3 GOAL: Fair share for outdoor Recreation

R-5 GOAL: Protect from over-use and rectify incompatible uses

POLICY: Regulate intensity, timing, and type and location of use to protect resources

R-6.1 GOAL: Efficient use of outdoor recreation resources

POLICY: Promote the use of underutilized recreation areas through programs that improve the public awareness of recreation opportunities...

CD-Community Design

GOAL: Ensure preservation and enhancement of natural features and qualities of the scenic views and enhance the quality of the built environment.

CD-1.1 Scenic Quality Ratings

VEG-Vegetation

GOAL: Provide a wide mix and increased diversity of plant communities

VEG-1.1 Manage for diversity, fire, defensible space, water quality and enhancement of wildlife habitat

VEG-3.1 GOAL: Conserve

POLICY: Identify uncommon communities and protect their natural values

- VEG-4.1 Protect and conserve individual and stands of Seral and Old Growth trees
- VEG-4.5 Retain trees of medium and small size sufficient to provide for large tree recruitment over time and provide structural diversity. Retain most vigorous in stand.

2011 USFS Ski Area Recreation Act

FROM: Heavenly Mountain Resort Epic Discovery Project
Volume II: EIR/EIS Responses to Comments
Lahontan, TRPA, LTBMU

A | Lauren Thomaselli, Recreation Manager, City of SLT, 10/23/14

4 Important elements identified for expanding recreation opportunities from The SLT Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan

1. Reflecting the needs and priorities of the community
2. Sustain existing environmental assets and protect ecological resources
3. Identify recreation facilities and programs that will support tourism and economic vitality of the region
4. Support, direct, and enhance recreation opportunities opportunities for both residents and visitors

Thomaselli was supportive of Vail Resort's Heavenly Epic Discovery Project Plan. She goes on to state her belief that it is important to

...connect with the land in a way that inspires stewardship and a sense of place that is unique. Ultimately memorable nature experiences create a triple bottom line benefiting the environment, the economy and the quality of life for residents by generating tax dollars for infrastructure improvements” (PAGE 7-60)

YOUTH DISC GOLF COURSE DESIGN MODEL: Inskip Youth DGC, Knoxville, Tennessee

story link: <http://hobnobknoxville.com/hobnobbin/youth-disc-golf-course-opens-at-inskip-park/>



NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS): SOIL DATA

Zephyr Cove Core-18 Course Extents Analysis

Tahoe Basin Area, California and Nevada (CA693)			
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
7411	Cagwin-Rock outcrop complex, 5 to 15 percent slopes, extremely stony	3.9	11.1%
7412	Cagwin-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 30 percent slopes, extremely stony	13.8	39.1%
7413	Cagwin Rock outcrop complex, 30 to 50 percent slopes, extremely stony	3.2	8.9%
7421	Cassenai gravelly loamy coarse sand, 5 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	1.4	3.9%
7422	Cassenai gravelly loamy coarse sand, 15 to 30 percent slopes, very stony	8.8	24.8%
7423	Cassenai gravelly loamy coarse sand, 30 to 50 percent slopes, very stony	4.3	12.2%
Totals for Area of Interest		35.3	100.0%

Note: The scale of the NRCS mapping is too large to capture several soil zones and variations that have been discovered on the course-extents through hundreds of hours of surveying hole layout options. Isolated pockets of more Clayey and Loamy soils have been identified and present their own unique design considerations.

An "eco-friendly" fourth annual Disc-N-Dig Festival set for this weekend



Jeremy Evans, Tahoe Daily Tribune, May 31, 2005



Ben Martin / Alphonso Canedo putts one in to make par at the third Disc-N-Dig at Zephyr Cove Park.

If there is an encompassing term to describe this weekend's Disc-N-Dig Festival, an event that highlights beach volleyball and disc golf, it would have to be "eco-friendly."

"These are two lifestyle sports that engage people in the outdoors and they are free," said festival director Michael Plansky. "They are real community building types of sports."

"So the whole idea of the festival is to get a diversity of people out there, no matter what your skill level is, and have a great time in the outdoors playing these two sports. Then at the same time, kind of expose people to alternatives for environmental sustainability."

The fourth annual event kicks off Saturday at Zephyr Cove with the beach volleyball tournament and solar powered music and ends on Sunday afternoon with disc golf and an organic barbecue.

The music lineup begins with Whittell High School senior Jerel Dutton, who writes his own songs, and continues with the Marones and Lavish Green, who will also be playing Saturday night at Lakeside Inn and Casino. In between, there will be booths educating people on bio-diesel fuel and spreading important messages from Tahoe Regional Environmental Education, the nonprofit group that will be the beneficiary of this year's festival proceeds.

And, of course, the other important thread is the participants who will be competing in two divisions (open, festival) in the sports of beach volleyball and disc golf.

"Meshing the two sports together is really a good thing," said Ron Russell, the 1999 world champion disc golfer who competed at last year's Disc-N-Dig Festival. "It brings together the outdoors and sports that aren't big money sports yet. It's a good group of people."

Although Russell can't compete this year, plenty of others jumped at the chance to get involved.

In 2001, the festival's inaugural year, there were 36 participants. In 2002, it grew to 46 and last year it reached the maximum number of entrants (65), which was filled the morning of the event. This year, Plansky secured all available spots by the end of May.

Teams consist of three players and each team member must play both sports. There are 10 teams in the open division and 10 in the festival division, the recreational division. While the scoring format has stayed the same all four years, the prizes participants are competing for has steadily grown.

Close to \$10,000 in prizes will be given out for the silent auction and how teams finish in the final standings. Prizes include anything from a 2005-06 Kirkwood season pass to \$100 dinner coupons to a disc golf basket.

"I got so much stuff to give away, probably more than I can," Plansky said. "It's just loaded with prizes. Everybody cleans up. I don't get any money from sponsors, but everyone comes away winning something."

Although locals make up the majority of the teams, people have come from all over the country to play volleyball and disc golf in an idyllic setting.

"It's one of the most picturesque courses I've ever played, and I've played over 600 courses," said Russell, a Michigan native. "Mike is real conscientious and is always trying to make the event bigger and better. It's just a great thing for the city. I hope to make it out there next year."

For the second straight year, the biggest sponsor is Full Sail Brewing Company out of Hood River, Ore. But almost 100 sponsors have helped fuel the event's success. Through selling raffle tickets for the silent auction, Plansky has also increased the amount of money raised for nonprofit groups, beginning with \$500 raised in 2003 to \$1,300 last year. This year, he's hoping to raise at least \$2,000 for TREE.

"Full Sail is a big supporter of disc golf and their market is rafting and rock climbing, a lot of the same things Tahoe is associated with," Plansky said. "They really like supporting the event. They believe in a lot of the same things the event is trying to promote."



3-Hole Pitch-n-Putt: Introductory “Picnic” Game

The Kid's 6-Hole course concept in connection with the Library will engage young children and their parents. But the library could also serve picnic area users of both small groups and large groups that rent the picnic facilities with the addition of 3 disc golf baskets. A Pitch-n-Putt disc golf game would offer an additional activity option for these patrons, bolstering the overall attraction of the picnic facility.

The Core-18 retrofit would move play on holes 1 and 2 away from the picnic area such that picnic users could observe disc golf action at a safe and comfortable distance. These park users could then easily satisfy their curiosity by trying the activity themselves. A simple game akin to “H-O-R-S-E” in basketball would introduce people of all ages and abilities to the basics of disc golf and prime them to further explore the activity on the Core-18 or Kid's Course depending upon ability. The game and etiquette would be explained by signage, but would be a suggestion only. All kinds of creative play and practice would be encouraged.

The Library could offer both disc golf equipment rentals and sales while also offering general disc golf course and facility information.



Zephyr Cove Park Picnic Area Enhancement/Integration