



**Treasure Coast Disc Golf Board Meeting – Minutes**  
**Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024 @ 8 p.m.**  
Location: Virtual TEAMS

**ROLL CALL:** Present: President David Keith, Secretary Erick Gill, Treasurer Brian LaPorte; At-Large Officers: August Lightfoot, Bryan Botson, Jeff Porreca & Michael Castro

Absent: Vice President Ryan Jouppi; At-Large Officers: Jeff Daugherty, Mark Baldwin & Robbie Keen

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MC Open Recap:** We had 115 players compete and raised \$950 from the raffle, shirt and club disc sales. Overall it was a great event; no major issues or complaints. Erick and August both said they heard some minor negative feedback about the vendor Tri-Fly. Basically, that their selection of discs was limited / pricey. “Your \$20 voucher didn’t get you much.” This was our first time working with Tri-Fly and maybe since they opened their new permanent location – the selection in the mobile truck was limited. That feedback is appreciated and holds some validity. But at least we tried something different and it will be taken into consideration for future events. There was a lot of positive feedback over having assigned tee times vs. a shotgun start. August said the PDGA did send him feedback that hole 7 was too easy. It averaged 2 strokes for the MPOs. PDGA said nothing was wrong or had to be done, but they wanted to share that feedback.

**Practice Basket Markers:** Erick really liked David’s putting challenge that he set up at Gordy for the holiday members event. David said in his hometown – they made concrete putting markers around the practice baskets at their course. Since there was a left over bag of concrete from the new basket install at Gordy – Erick mixed it and poured it into 45 red solo cups. Let them harden and then spray painted the tops orange and used stencils to paint 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 & 45 on them. We have 3 sets of these. He measured out and install them at Gordy and Indian Hills around the practice baskets. We have one extra set for Rotary – once Kris & Lance get Gary’s old basket installed there. These are only a few inches in the ground and can be easily dug / moved if we want to change them up.

**Hole 1 at Halpatiokee:** Jeff P said during the MC Open the question came up – where exactly does the pad end on hole 1? Is it the end of the sidewalk or at the end of the slope? The group felt that it probably should be the end of the sidewalk and for future tournaments – we should make that clear in the caddy book – maybe even put some flags down. August said he also got feedback that we should put a second mando on hole 14 on some trees further back / closer to the basket – instead of the no-fly zone to avoid the tee pad for hole 15. Everyone agreed that would be a good idea.

**Torino Regional Park – PSL:** Erick said the City of PSL’s assistant parks director let him know that he is recommending that a disc golf course be included in that master plan. It’s not a done

deal. It still needs to be approved by the city council, but it's a good start that the staff is pushing for a course there. The hope is that we can get that built on the separate 40-acre rectangle to the east. There's no timeframe and Erick isn't sure about the budget, but the board is going to suggest that the city hire a professional designer – John Houck could be affordable and has recently done work for St. Augustine and Fort Lauderdale (Snyder). Erick asked the Parks staff to keep him in the loop of when it might go before the council, so we can attend the meeting and/or submit emails of support.

**New Course in South Vero Beach/ING Center:** Brad with Indian River Parks Department let Erick know that the county has purchased 18 baskets for the ING Center on Oslo Road in south county. Brad and ET Baker, who works for the city, are designing the course. It will be a short pitch-and-putt course with some wooded technical shots. Brad wanted to see if TCDG was interested in adopting the park/course, like we did with Hobart. Club members Elliese Shaughnessy and Skyler Champman reached out to the Parks staff about running a mobile vending business and wanted to adopt the park. Brad felt the Club should have first right of refusal. The board all agreed to let Elliese and Skyler take the opportunity. If it doesn't work out or something changes – we can revisit it in the future. Erick wasn't given a timeframe on when the course would be completed, but Brad said the baskets are in and he wanted to get them in the ground soon. As for pads – he said they plan to use temporary markers for a few months and let people play it and give feedback before pouring concrete – like we did with Indian Hills.

**Swag:** August suggested purchasing some club stamped discs and shirts (various styles) and maybe hats. He said Innova has been offering some good deals on special plastic. The group liked the idea and gave August the green light to order some club discs – using the traditional logo, but making it smaller and offset (like a doubloon). Mike suggested on the shirts ordering some three-quarter sleeve / jersey-like shirts in camo or different colors on the sleeves with the traditional club logo on the chest and something different on the back. Maybe the shirts can have this year's date as well to make them more of a collector's item. It was suggested we get a variety of colors – something darker. The last few tournament shirts have been lighter colors. August is also working on getting a sample trucker hat with a leather TCDG patch on the front. August and Mike will get some prices on shirts and we can put out a poll to see what people are willing to spend/buy. The discs seem like a no-brainer. The last set of TCDG-stamped discs we bought sold out quickly.

**Goals / Objectives for 2024:** Erick suggest we try to set some goals/projects to tackle this year. David recommended signs at Indian Hills. (Erick is working to get the city to cover that costs, but still needs to nail them down). Erick also wants to get the alt-pin locations dug and set at Indian Hills before signs are made. Brian and Erick would like to put some work in at Torpey and get some type of real pads there. We won't be able to pour concrete, but can put down tiles/blocks like Hobart. After the tag drop – Brian and Erick will meet there and come up with a plan. Bryan B. said for a long-range goal – he'd love to see a redesign of Gordy that incorporated the back 9 as well, so we could have some long par 4 or 5 holes. Maybe bring in a professional designer.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Sponsor plates for Gordy Baskets:** Ray and the Vitalia Disc Golf Club donated funds to sponsor the new basket on hole 8. They want to call it the Veterans' Hole. The group agreed to move forward with getting the nameplates that Jeff P sourced – the cost was about \$300 to get all the plates made. Jeff is going to get those ordered so we can get those finalized and installed.

**Tag Drop Feb. 18:** We are set with the PSL Parks to have the tag drop on Sunday, Feb. 18 at McCarty. Board members will get there by noon to set up and start cooking. We'll have some tents/tables for people to sell/swap discs, eat some food and a putting challenge – whoever finishes it can win two Kraken discs. Instead of a raffle, David said we'll do some random name/number generator to do other giveaways. Erick said Chuck Jones donated some nice discs that can be used as giveaways or CTPs. August said he is planning to start back the Sunday sanctioned league – that went over well at Halpatiokee. This time – it will be a traveling sanctioned league and kick off that Sunday. This might also get some Palm Beach players up to join our league and help grow membership. The actually tag round will start around 3 p.m. Erick has all 100 tags/bottle openers.

### **2024 Tournaments**

- Up the 10-Mile Creek: April 27-28: Erick will be lead TD and not play that event. August is helping with the player's pack and updated logo. Innova has some great deals on player's packs/sponsorships.
- Blackwater Open: June 8-9: Michael said he can reach out to DiscMania to see what kind of deal they can offer us on stamped discs/players back. Everyone agreed it would be a good idea to switch it up for the different tournaments.
- Kraken: Nov. 2-3

### **Course Updates**

- Gordy: Other than the putting markers being installed, no updates.
- Rotary: Some of the bands around the baskets are starting to rust. Erick shared some photos with the city Parks staff, who said they would look into replacing the bands or possibly the entire basket. Erick let the city know if they are going to replace the baskets – the club would provide some recommendations.
- Lakewood Park: The county has hired a firm to address the drainage – hopefully that will be done this year. Then we can focus on getting real pads.
- Hobart: Brad with IRC Parks told Erick that the county is paying for and installing long pads. Timmy is working with Brad on the location of those pads. Flags are down where they are going. There are concerns about how some of the long pads have players throwing into/over the road or near other fairways/tee pads. Not sure when that will be finalized but Brad told Erick that he wanted to get the ING baskets done first.
- Halpatiokee : Michael said John V wanted to remind the board that he has wood available for additional benches to be built and installed.
- Indian Hills: Other than the putting markers being installed, no updates
- McCarty: No update

- Torpey: No update

**TREASURE/FINANCE REPORT:** The main account is at \$4,924. There is \$842 in PayPal; \$325 of that is from Vitalia's sponsorship of basket 8 at Gordy. The only outstanding/upcoming expense is the annual insurance and Brian said that is about \$1,000. The question was asked if we can take Liz B's name off the PayPal. Both Erick and Brian have tried to change that, but we can't without creating a whole new PayPal account. She doesn't have access to that. The account is managed through our gmail. We just need to let people know – it's OK to use and it is still the club getting the money. Brian said we also need TDs to turn in club money. The last deposit from the various leagues was in November. Erick said he would reach out to the TDs and asked them to bring their funds to the tag drop. If we don't start getting funds turned in – we may have to go back to TDs filling out and turning in sheets each week for accounting purposes. We do have to file taxes for the club's nonprofit status.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT/UPDATES:** We are at 50 members (about ½ of our renewals from last year). There seem to be some older members who haven't renewed. August asked if anyone knew why? Erick said he heard pushback about using the online form – people would rather just give cash to a TD. Which we can do, but we still need people to fill out the form so we capture their name/email. In the past that has been an issue of whether or not someone is a member because they aren't on the list. We also need to make sure if people sign up in February – even if they are “renewing” that they pay the \$25 rate since they missed the January deadline. We also need to make sure the Ace fund is only paid in full to members who have paid.

**PUBLIC COMMENT / OPEN DISCUSSION:** Erick said the club received an email this week from someone with St. Lucie Public Schools, asking if the club would be willing to work with a group of PE teachers to provide an overview of the sport. It looks like they are looking to do something with the club during the summer before schools start back. Erick replied that the club would love that opportunity. More details to come.