

CLARK COUNTY
STAFF REPORT



DEPARTMENT: Public Works / Parks Division

DATE: December 16, 2014

REQUEST: Approval for the creation of a new 18-hole Disc Golf Course at Frenchman's Bar Park

CHECK ONE: Consent CAO

PUBLIC WORKS GOALS:

- Provide safe and efficient transportation systems within Clark County
- Continue responsible stewardship of public funds
- Promote family-wage job creation and economic development to support a thriving community
- Maintain a desirable quality of life
- Improve environmental stewardship and protection of natural resources
- Increase partnerships and foster an engaged, informed community
- Make Public Works a great place to work

BACKGROUND: Frenchman's Bar Park is a 120-acre County regional park located on the Columbia River about two miles west of Vancouver Lake. Currently, Frenchman's Bar and the other parks in Clark County offer a wide variety of outdoor recreation opportunities; however, disc golf is not one of them. It is a fun, healthy, and environmentally friendly game that encourages outdoor activity, higher use of public lands, and can be played by all age levels and abilities. Disc golf is also currently one of the fastest growing recreational sports in the U.S. and worldwide. The sport also has many community benefits, including attracting tournaments and economic revenue, low impact exercise, aesthetic enhancement of the park, local school educational opportunities, and greater community engagement. The site selected for the course encompasses approximately 70 acres of the park that is currently unused with no future development plan. Installation and maintenance of the course is inexpensive and will be accomplished exclusively through grants, donation and volunteer labor with no anticipated expense by Clark County other than minimal staff time to coordinate volunteer efforts.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: The creation of this disc golf course is supported by the Parks Advisory Board and many motivated residents throughout the greater Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area who have a strong interest in seeing a portion of Frenchman's Bar Park developed into a disc golf course.

BUDGET AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS: Clark County will work with volunteers to maintain the course with regular mowing and trash removal and any expense is expected to be offset by revenue acquired through the adopt-a-hole program and the donation box at the hole-1 tee box. Any upkeep required will be done through volunteer work parties using donated funds held by the Clark County Parks Foundation. There are no foreseen policy implications. Permitting fees (if applicable) may be required through the City of Vancouver as the park resides within the city limits of Vancouver. These fees if necessary will also be funded through donations.

FISCAL IMPACTS Yes (See Attached Fiscal Impacts Form) No

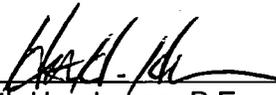
ACTION REQUESTED: Approval for volunteers within the community to begin acquiring funds through outreach effort and begin installation of the new disc golf course at Frenchman's Bar Park.

man OK

PW14-138

DISTRIBUTION: Please send a copy of the approved staff report to Public Works Administration.

Bill Bjerke, Parks Division Manager



Heath Henderson, P.E.
Public Works Director/County Engineer

APPROVED: 
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

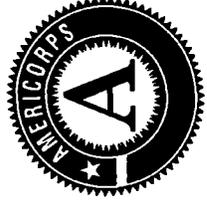
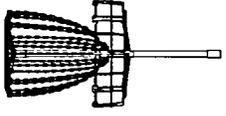
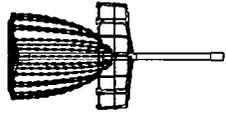
Dec. 16, 2014
SR 302-14

cc: Mark McCauley, Heath Henderson, Bill Bjerke, Lori Pearce, Public Works file

Frenchman's Bar Park Disc Golf Course



18 HOLE DESIGN CONCEPT
CLARK COUNTY PARKS
TIM FREEBURN



DISC GOLF BASICS

- The concept is the same as traditional golf, except instead of using a club to hit a ball into a hole, the player throws a flying disc (aka frisbee) into an elevated basket that is equivocal to the “hole.”
- Like traditional golf, the player starts at each hole’s tee box (known as a tee pad), and throws into the fairway, attempting to cover the maximum distance possible, eventually reaching the basket, and “putts” for the lowest score possible (the least number of throws).
- It is a fun, healthy, and environmentally friendly game that encourages outdoor activity, use of public lands, and can be played by all age levels and abilities.
- It is inexpensive: often FREE if you already own the discs needed, and discs are also quite inexpensive, ~\$15 each.

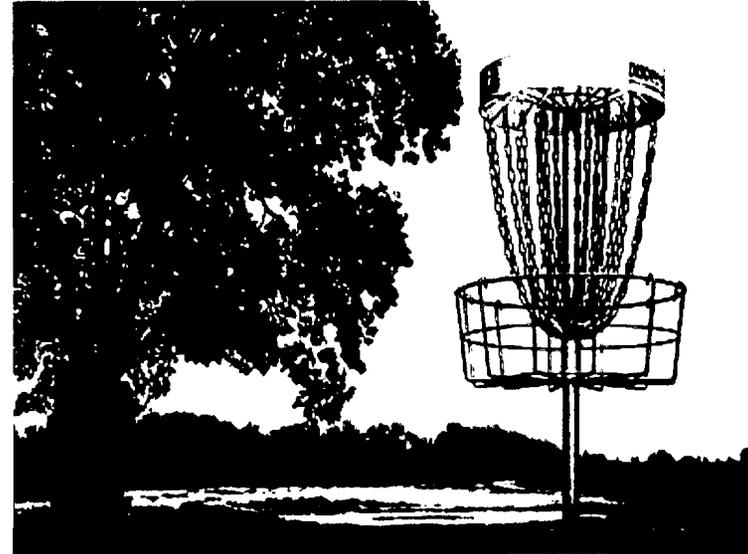


Image 1: Discraft Discatcher basket on unknown course. (Image courtesy: Discraft.com)

DISC GOLF AS A SPORT

- Disc golf is currently one of the fastest growing recreational sports in the U.S. and worldwide.
- Estimated number of new players is growing at rate of 8-12% per year.
- Number of new courses per year is growing at an estimated rate of 10-14% per year.
- Special Note: Clark County Parks currently has NO disc golf courses!

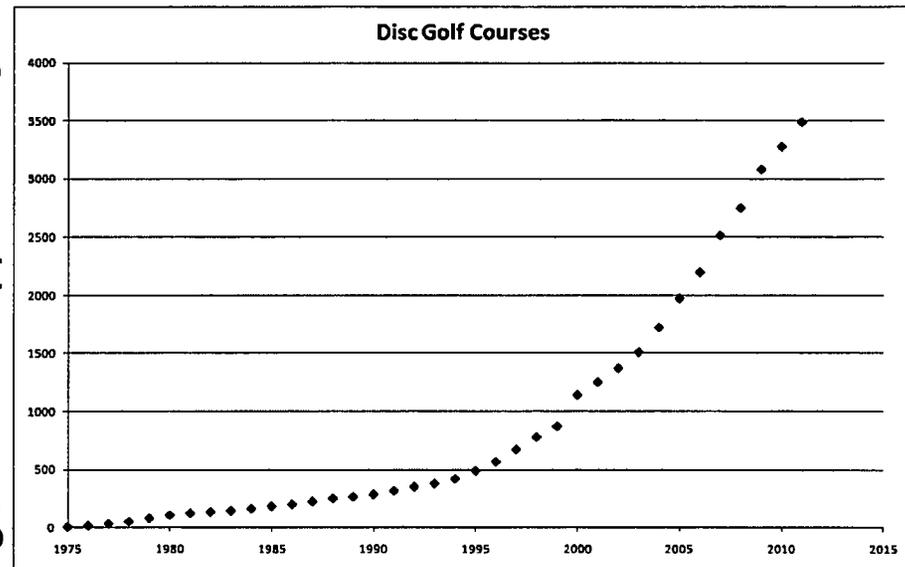


Figure 1: Number of new disc golf courses/year through 2011 was just under 3500 and continues to increase rapidly. (image courtesy: discgolfreview.com)

Community Benefits of Disc Golf

- **Economic**
 - Low cost of construction maintenance, and play
 - Quality “destination” courses attract players, tournaments and money to the local community and economy
- **Community Health**
 - Provides a low impact and safe means of exercise for all age groups and genders
 - Mental strategy is involved in negotiating obstacles
 - Reduction of mental fatigue
- **Environmental**
 - Aesthetic enhancement of park
 - Low resource impacts
- **Safety**
 - Crime deterrent as the park is utilized by more people
 - Many documented cases of disc golf courses acting as inexpensive solutions to unwanted activity within unsupervised, low-traffic park areas
- **Education**
 - Schools may introduce the course into their curricula for physics, physical fitness, ecology, urban planning, and other programs of study
- **Community Involvement**
 - Formal and informal games and tournaments bring community members together
 - Families and friends can share time together
 - Many documented cases of increased park user-ship and provides an activity that attracts people all year round

(Siniscalchi, Jason M., (2004) *The Personal and Community Benefits of Disc Golf to Rural America (and Beyond)*; Doctorate Thesis; School of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, West Virginia University).

COURSE OVERVIEW

BASKET

□ TEE PAD

→ APPROXIMATE FLIGHT PATH

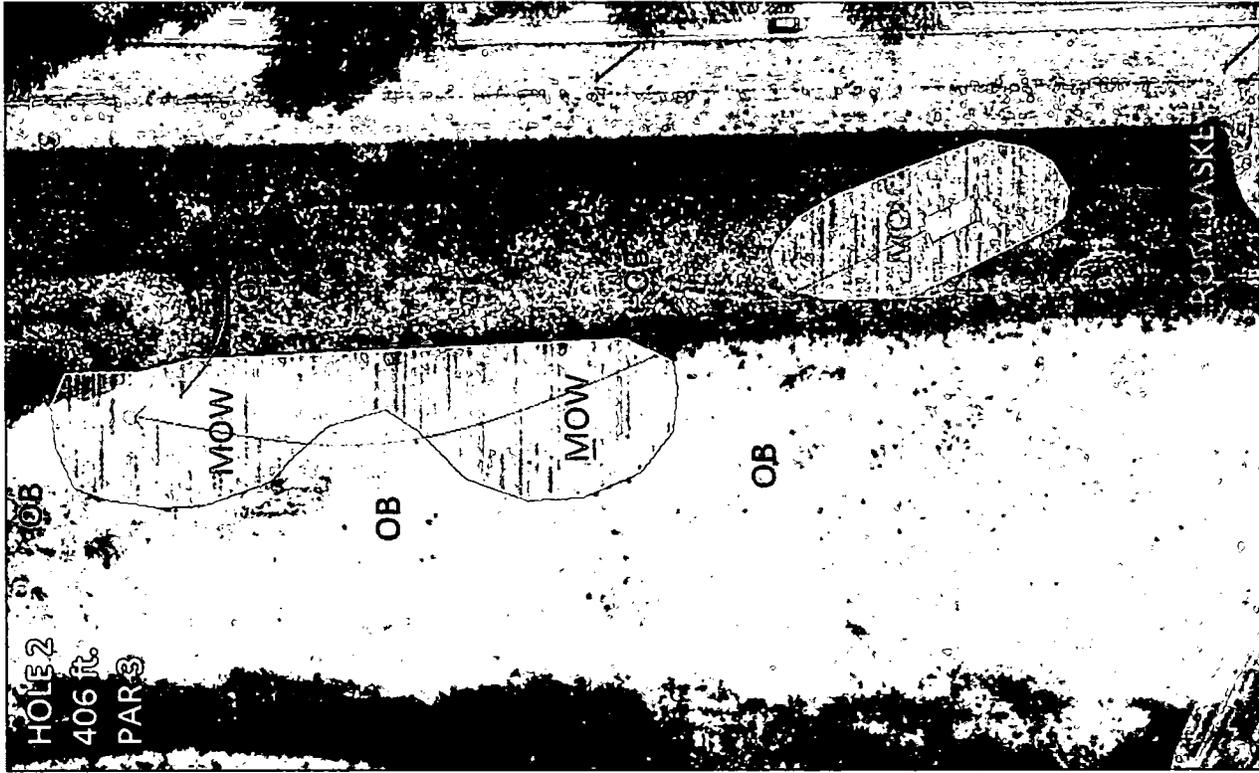
⬮ OUT OF BOUNDS

Frenchman's Bar Disc Golf Course

Hole	Length (ft.)	Par
1	668	4
2	406	3
3	423	3
4	853	5
5	1088	5
6	254	3
7	432	3
8	300	3
9	452	3
10	289	3
11	607	4
12	719	4
13	315	3
14	428	3
15	420	3
16	698	4
17	233	3
18	459	3
TOTAL	9044	62



HOLE 2

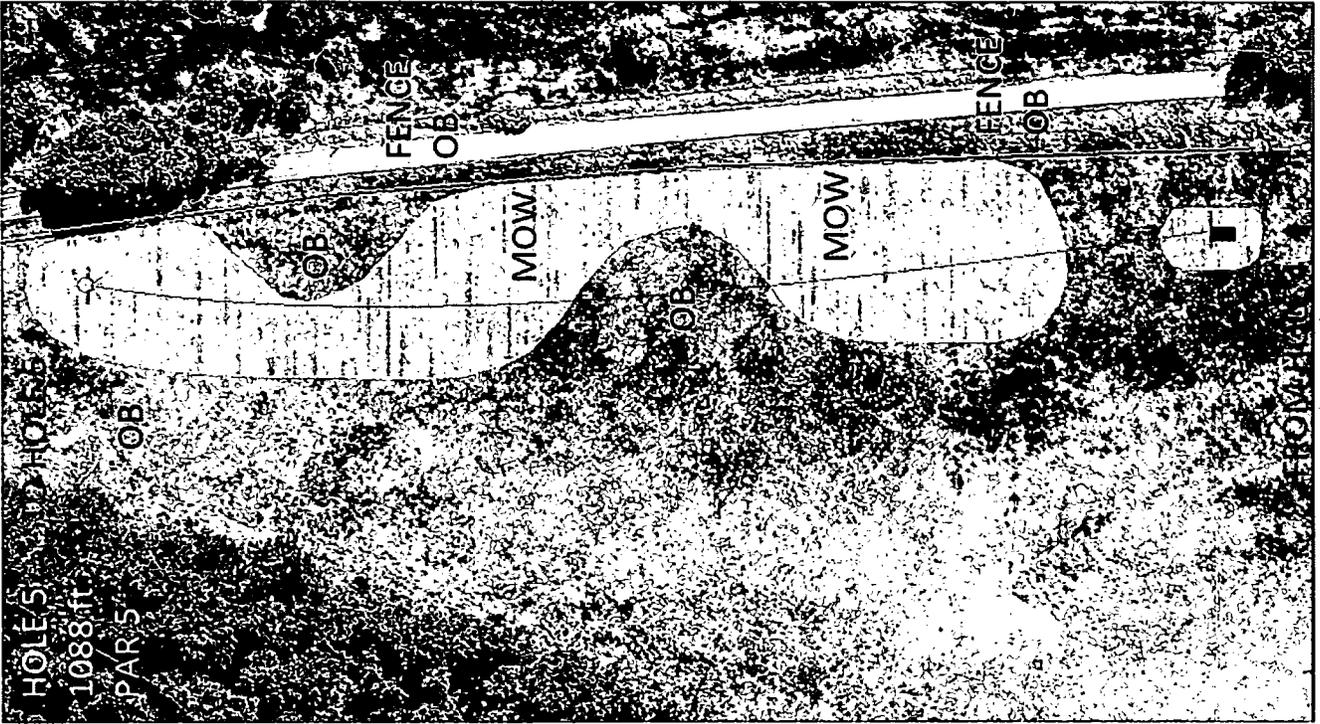


HOLE 3

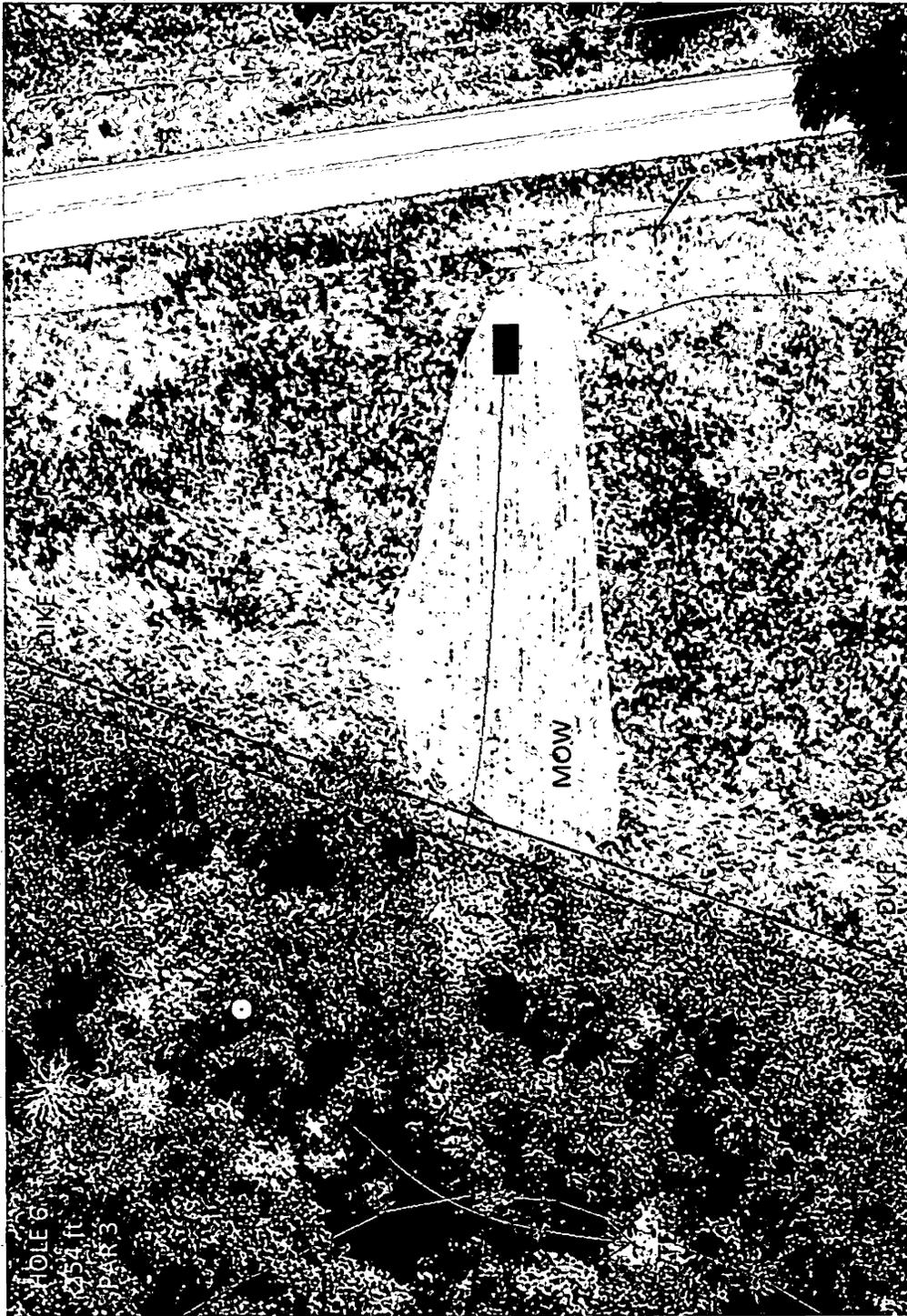


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HOLE 5



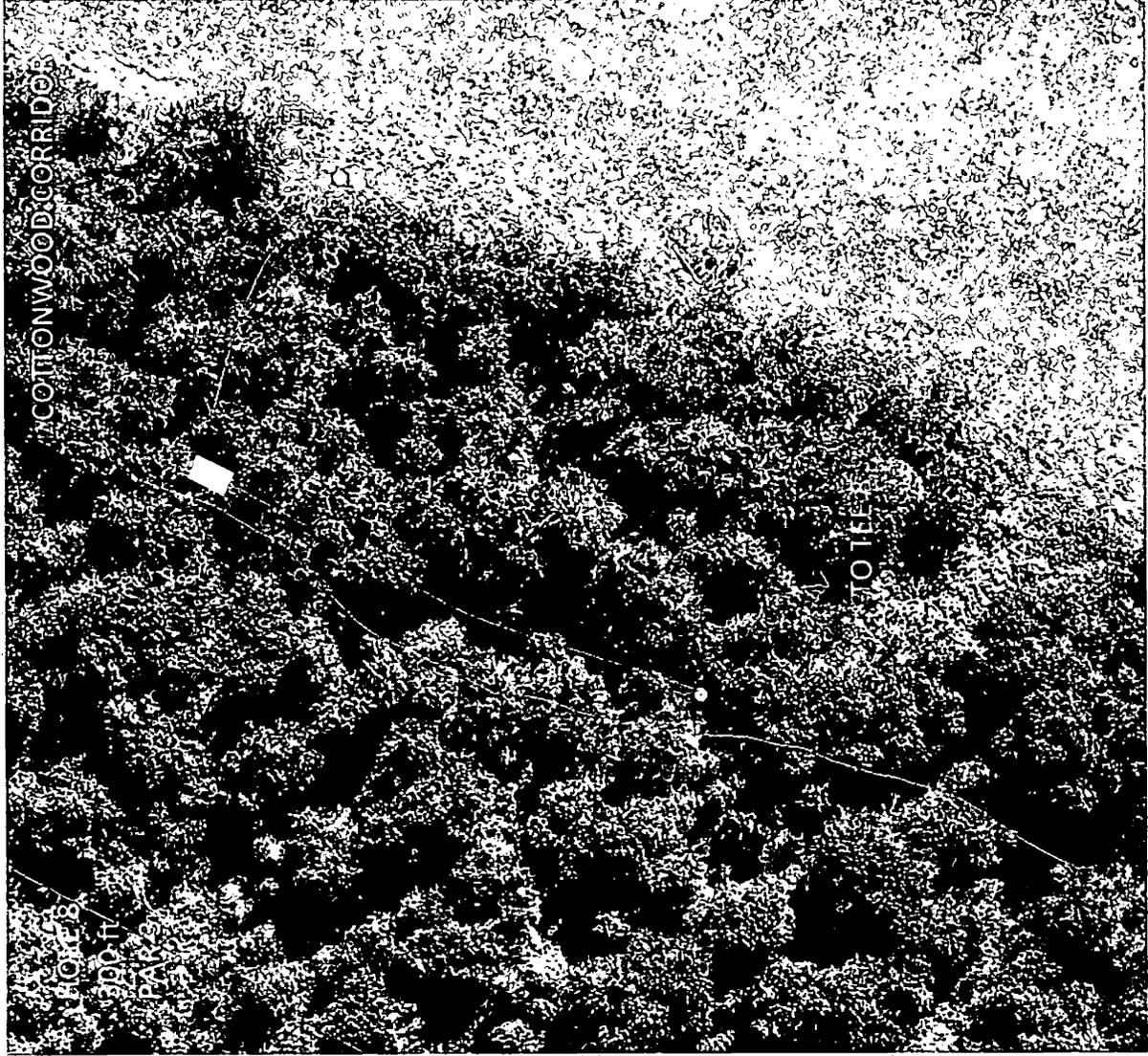
HOLE 6



HOLE 7



HOLE 8



HOLE 9



HOLE 10



HOLE 11



HOLE 12



HOLE 13

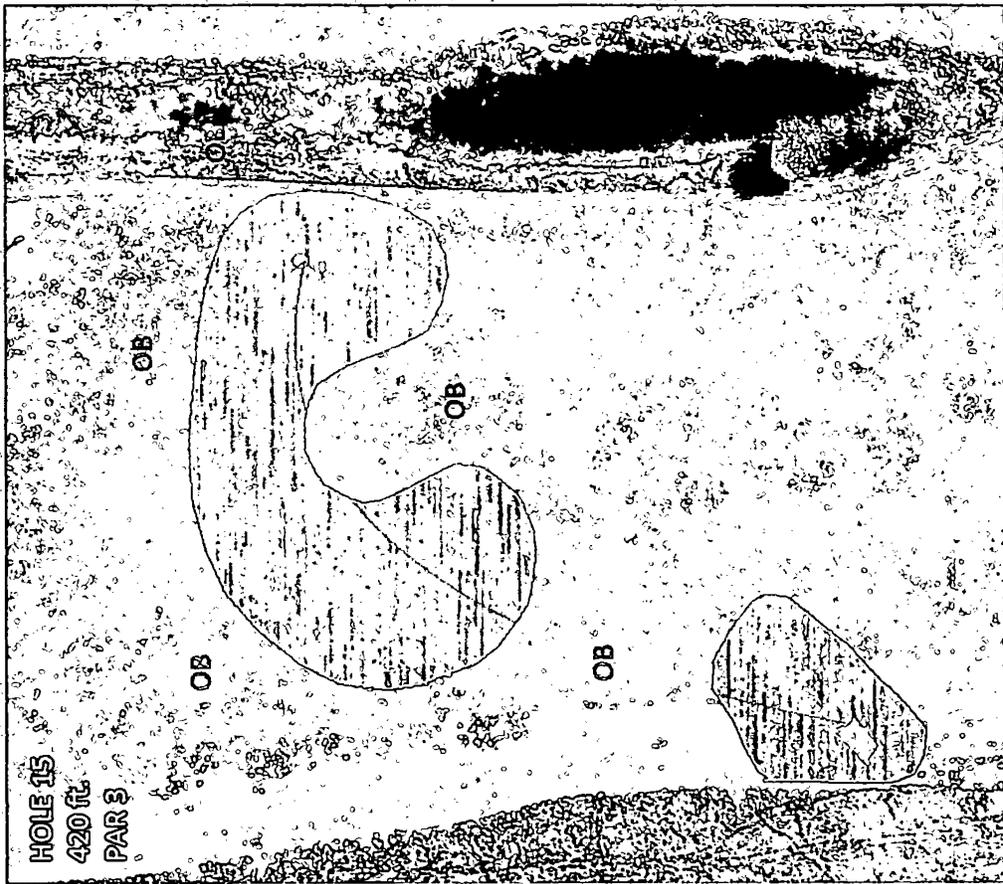


HOLE 14

HOLE 14
428 ft.
PAR 3



HOLE 15

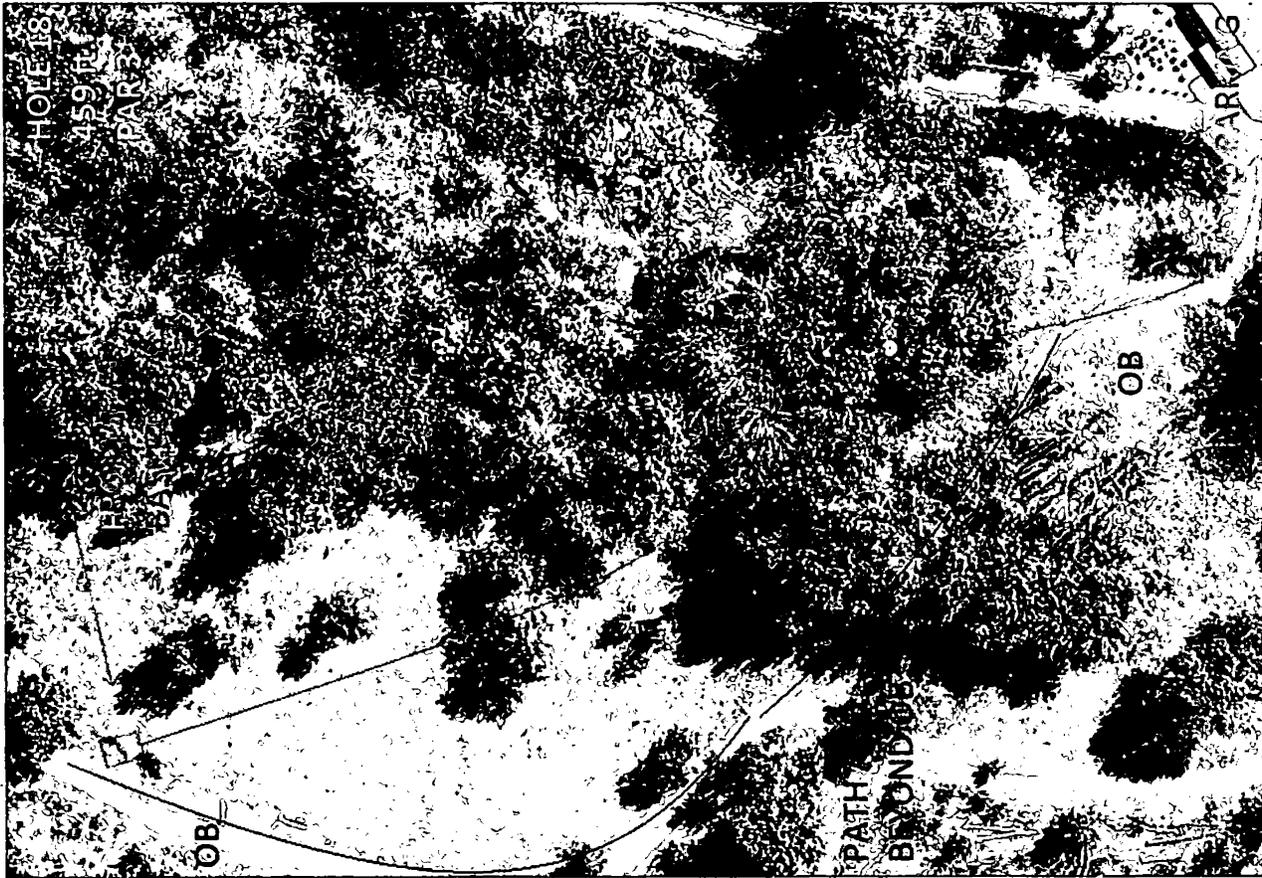


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HOLE 17



HOLE 18



Frenchman's Bar Disc Golf Course Details

- 18 holes, most holes are par 3, four par 4's, two par 5's, total par 62 (even par = 62).
- This could be built all at once, but we propose that it may also be built in two phases, South Phase and North Phase, as funding becomes available/is appropriated.
- Generally, all areas outside of the MOW areas will be staked off as out of bounds. Any other out of bounds areas will be marked with stakes and laid out on site as necessary.
- Fences and roads and any other obstacle that forms an obvious boundary will also be out of bounds.
- All wetland type areas (i.e. any areas that hold water during the winter months and off season) are out of bounds and generally off limits.
- It is recommended that these be marked as sensitive habitat to encourage people not to enter them. It is likely that golfers will encroach into these areas when hunting for errant discs.

Tee Pad Installation

- Tee pad locations will be graded and leveled prior to installation of tee pad. Compacted gravel may need to be laid as a substrate to pour concrete onto in some cases.
- Tee pads are to be 5'x10' poured concrete with textured surface for traction and player safety.



Images: <https://nextadventure.net/community/blog/blue-lake-work-party>

Basket Installation

- Baskets will be installed using steel sleeves installed in concrete per manufacturer specifications.
- Requires approximately 1 cubic foot of rock and concrete each.

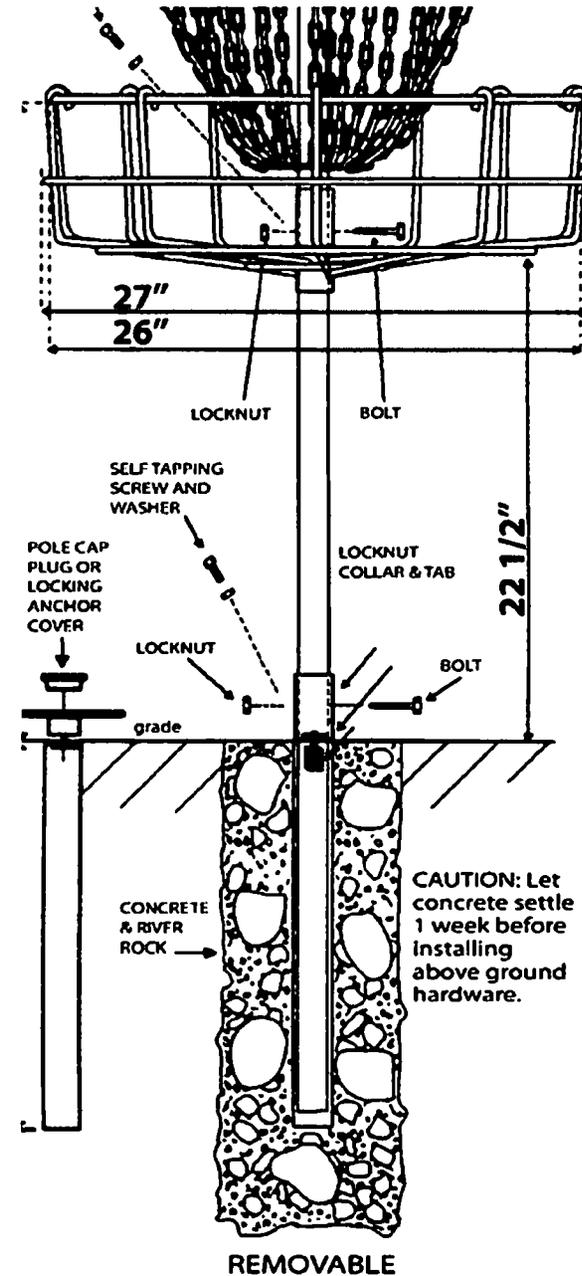


Figure courtesy Discraft Chainstar

Some Development Details



- Most areas are largely open and already established. A few holes will require some maintenance to remove under brush, branches, and a few small trees to clear disc flight paths. This work will be performed by volunteer work parties before the course opens.
- Other work parties will be organized on an as needed basis by local disc golf associations and myself to maintain the course on an ongoing basis once the course is complete.

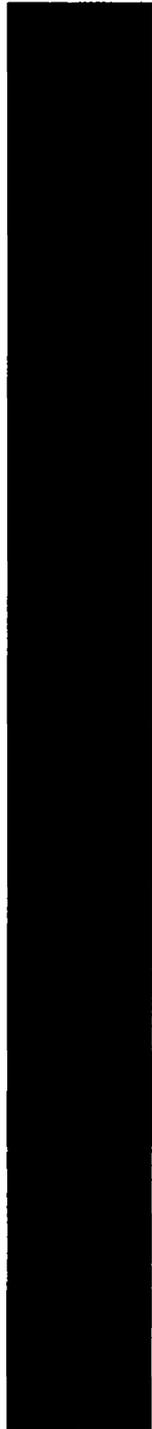
Some Development Details

- It is possible that 2 of the holes, as currently designed, may require a simple bridge built to traverse the storm drainage swales that cut across these holes.
- These will be simple, inexpensive wooden structures similar to the image to the right.
- Cost estimate is about \$250 each and would be paid for by funds raised.
- These will be built and installed by volunteers, under county supervision to county standards.



Estimated Cost Summary

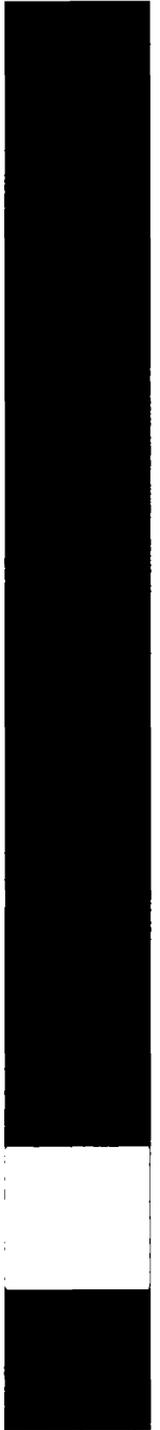
Item	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Details
<u>Expenses</u>				
Disc Golf Baskets	19		\$3,000.00	Purchased from Portland Parks & Rec.
Basket Ground Sleeves	37	\$17.00	\$629.00	2 per hole + practice basket
Concrete Tee Pads (5'x10')	18	\$150.00	\$2,700.00	4" deep = 0.60cu.yards/pad = 25qty. 80lb. bags/pad x \$3.75/bag
Concrete for Baskets (Sleeve Installation)	37	\$3.75	\$277.50	1cu.ft./sleeve x 37 sleeves = 37 cu.ft. * 2qty. 80lb. Bags/cu.ft. = 74 bags x \$3.75/bag
Concrete for Signage	19	\$3.75	\$142.50	1cu.ft./sign x 19 sleeves = 19 cu.ft. * 2qty. 80lb. Bags/cu.ft. = 38 bags x \$3.75/bag
Tee signs and information kiosk sign	19	\$100.00	\$1,900.00	
Padlocks	20	\$5.19	\$103.80	
		Total	\$8,752.80	
				Approximate expense per hole = \$486.27
<u>Income</u>				
Hole sponsorship	18	\$500.00	\$9,000.00	
		Total	\$9,000.00	



Other Expenses



- Garbage:
 - There should be several cans around the course and they will need to be emptied regularly by volunteers.
- Maintenance:
 - Occasionally, the ground around tee pads and baskets can get thoroughly worn and may require a layer of gravel or wood chips to stabilize the soil.
 - This expense can be picked up through the placement of a donation box placed at the kiosk at the first tee.
 - There are documented cases of this working at many other disc golf courses including Pier Park in Portland.



Summary:

- Disc golf is currently one of the fastest growing recreational sports in the U.S. and worldwide.
- Having a disc golf course in the community has many benefits including: economic boost, community health improvement, low environmental impact, aesthetic improvement, crime deterrent, educational benefits, and increased park user-ship and community interaction and involvement.
- Installation expenses are low and all costs including ongoing maintenance cost can be achieved through volunteerism.
- Adding this feature to the park provides many benefits to the public and the community we serve.

Contact info:

- Surely there will be other questions, comments and concerns. Please contact me at any time.
- Tim Freeburn tim.freeburn@clark.wa.gov 503-830-1667

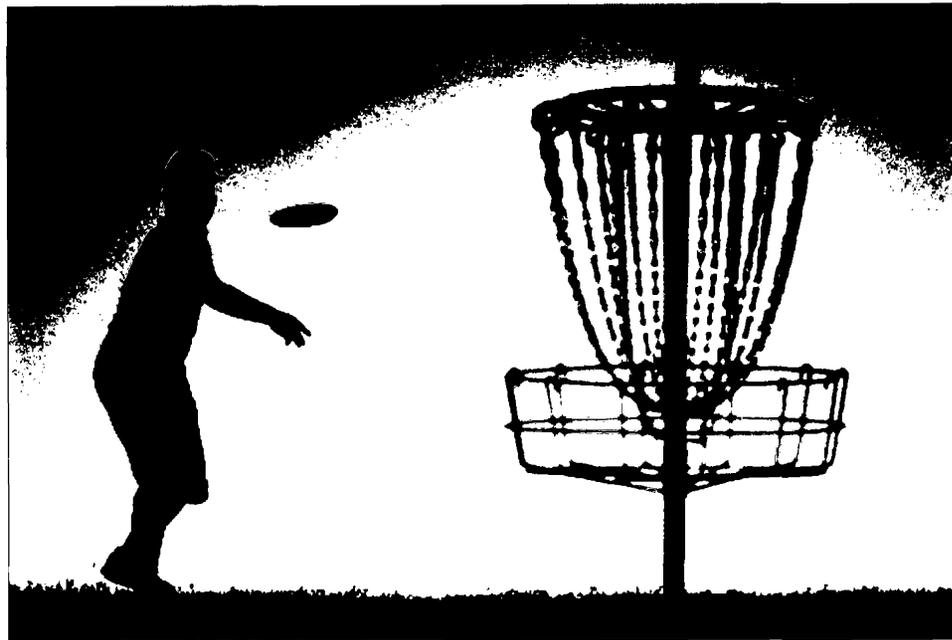


Photo: <https://susansternberg.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/use-1991-silhouette-cj-putts.jpg>



Logo Idea 1

