



Annual Report 2023

5 year Growth



% of tournament players playing their first event

% of tournament players playing in a female division

President's Report Luke Turnbull

Each year as I write the President's report, the topic is invariably growth. 2023 is no different, as we returned to our regular event schedule with six majors and just one ADGC, with ADGD, and many other events scattered throughout the year. You are the reason for this growth – the clubs, the players and the volunteers who put their time, effort and money into the sport being what it is today. Whilst the COVID boom may be what triggered the explosion of players, the people doing stuff are what make it sustainable – so thank you.



While growth of new members slowed slightly this year, the growth of tournament players and event attendance did not. 2023 saw nearly 1100 tournament players with the events this year attracting an average of 52 players. To give this some perspective, we had more tournament players in 2023 than we had total members back in 2017. To support this growth in players, more courses were added around the country, with new facilities in Melbourne, Adelaide, Newcastle, Sunshine Coast, and country Victoria providing new locations to play.

The ADG board also grew with a restructure taking place to start 2023. We introduced two new subcommittees: the tournament committee, focusing on the tour, events and the issues that arise from them, and the state representative body, focusing on issues arriving from the states, allowing better collaboration and coordination of activities. This allowed the ADG Board to focus more on longer term strategic goals. The first of these – development of Australian Disc Golf's first Strategic Plan – is documented more in the report below.

As we move towards 2024, we are looking forward to starting the implementation of the projects outlined in the strategic plan and yes, more growth! Hope to see you all as part of it for another year.

Board and committees

2022 ADG Board

ADG Board-Chairperson: Luke Turnbull

ADG Board-Deputy Chairperson: [Vacant]

ADD Board-Treasurer: Martin Ryland-Adair

ADG Board-Secretary: Emilie Cameron

ADG Board-Director of Competitions: Paul Arden

ADG Board-State Representative Liaison: Simon Tanner

ADG Board-Director of communications: Ashley Weidner

ADG Board-General member: Nicole McPherson

ADG Board-general member: Benn Kennedy

State Representative Body

State Representative - ACT: Sam Ockerby

State Representative-NSW: Mat Wallis

State Representative-NSW: Kevin Costa

State representative-QLD (and board liaison): Simon Tanner

State representative-QLD: Brian Clevenger

State Representative-SA: Ryan Nicholson

State Representative-SA: William Brennan

State Representative-TAS: Edward Hesline

State Representative-TAS: Matt Green

State Representative - VIC: Darren Stace-Smith

State Representative-WA: David Kynaston

Tournament Committee

Tournament Committee and Board Liaison: Paul Arden

Tournament Committee: Matt Hill / Patrick Robinson

Tournament Committee: Emilie Cameron

State rep roundup Simon Tanner

This year was the first year with a separate state representative committee. This body was formed to share ideas, discuss how things are going and what they need and hear what the board is working on. The state representatives serve as the primary contact for clubs and players in their area. This was designed to help spread the load of state administration that previously fell on a few select members of the board. A few of the things state reps have assisted with this year include:

- Tournament administration within their states
- Fielding questions from players and clubs and bringing these to the board when they don't have the answer available
- Discussing issues that their state is dealing with and getting advice from other states on how they have dealt with those issues
- Feedback on the strategic plan
- Updating and administering the TD mentoring program
- Keeping club affiliation details up to date

The Strategic plan has helped guide a lot of the direction that the state rep committee will follow going forward. We hope to strengthen the bond between the players, clubs and their state representatives to help be the conduit through which the cohesive growth of the sport we love continues throughout all of Australia.



Annual Highlights

Strategic Plan

This year we worked with a sports consulting company to develop a strategic plan to set our agenda for the next 5 years. Prior to this we did not have a strategic plan but the recent growth highlighted a need to set our priorities and direction to ensure our vision and values are met.

Mike McLaughlin from McLaughlin Sports Consultancy was engaged to develop the plan. To help guide the process a project reference group (PRG) was set up after an open call for applications. The group consisted of Luke Turnbull, Emilie Cameron, Dave Kynaston, Jason Vidot, Corey Wakefield, Hayden McPherson and Chris Scott. Development of the plan was based on a review of ADG documentation, review of the AFDA survey results (with responses from 264 disc golfers), meetings with the project reference group, a jam session with 23 key stakeholders and reviews by the PRG and board of the draft documents. The final plan as well as a 1 page summary were delivered in July 2023. A town hall style meeting was held to present the plan to our members and answer any questions.

The Strategic plan sets out a series of projects and a suggested timeline for their completion. Already commenced are a review of our HR to map key personnel to key projects and identify gaps. We have also commenced setting up our National team Program and reviewed the new AFDA National Integrity framework documents for roll out next year.

You can find the plan on our website at www.australiandiscgolf.com/adg-strategic-plan.



Hall of Fame

This year ADG had the pleasure of inducting a very worthy recipient into the ADG Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame recognises those who have made a significant contribution to the sport of disc golf and Paul Arden has certainly done that. Back in 2006 Paul was part of a small group of players who recognised the need to form a national association. The ADG was born. Paul took on the task of creating a national tour with a points system based on events played through the year. Paul has managed the tour ever since, liaising with PDGA, TDs and players to ensure it is all running smoothly.

Not only is Paul a founding member of the ADG but also Melbourne disc golf club of which he was recently made a life member for his integral role in the club. Paul has been playing Disc Golf since around 2004. During this time he has played extensively in Europe, Japan, and the USA including participating in five PDGA Worlds events. He has spent many years running tournaments and fulfilling the role of PDGA country coordinator.

Paul continues to be on the board as our longest serving board member and is not stopping yet.

See past inductees at https://www.australiandiscgolf.com/hall-of-fame/



Australian Disc Golf Championships

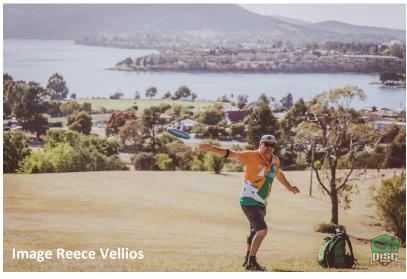
For the first time since 2015 the Australian Disc Golf Championships returned to Hobart's Poimena. Known for its spectacular outlook, quality teepads and steep hill it is a beautiful course that has earned its reputation as one of the countries best. This year for the first time ADGC was held over 2 weekends. The first weekend saw competitors in the MJ15, MA2, MA3, MA50, MJ15, FJ15, FA2, FA4 and FA40 divisions brave the fabled Poimena roll aways. The second weekend it was time for MPO, FPO, MP40, MA1, FA1 and MA40 divisions to take to the course. All up there were 207 competitors, the biggest ADGC to date.

Sean Gottschling was TD for the whole event. He led a team of Volunteers who took on roles helping get eth course ready, the event ready, organising sponsors and spotters and officials on the day. For the first time ADG took more of a role in the organisation of ADGC particularly with the registrations handled by Paul Arden. Kingsley Flett and Reece Vellios of Disc Connection told the stories of the event through their photos and Alex Brindle produced all the graphics.

This year we were excited to also be live streaming the event. All three rounds of the MPO and FPO lead cards were live streamed by PRKD media. The streams have already amassed a total of 5.4K views. Most viewers were from Australia (52%) and the USA (24%) with the rest from Estonia, New Zealand, Canada, UK and Sweden.







Aussie Disc Golf Day

Aussie Disc Golf Day was back in 2023 for its 4th year. The theme this year was bring your mate. This followed from a survey done by U-Disc which found that 78% of people found the sport through a friend. To help encourage people to bring a mate to their first event a prize was offered to the clubs whose event had the most new players attend. As with past Aussie disc Golf days smaller events held around the country are combined into a huge virtual event with competitors vying for top spot in their divisions on the national scale.

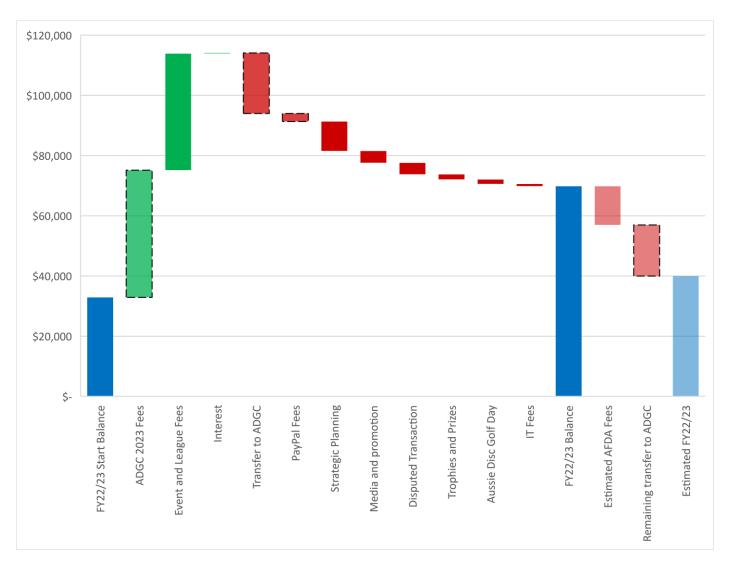
So how did it go? 364 players took part in 11 events. This included 20 people who played 2 events. A massive 64 people took part in their first tournament. The biggest event of the day was held in Newcastle with 73 players. They won the discs with Brisbane and Sunshine coast coming in second and third.





Financial Report 2022/23

The ADG financial year ran from the 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023. As of the 31st August 2023 ADG held \$69846.63 in its bank accounts. This is compared to last year's financial position of \$32877.19 as of 31st August 2022.



Australian Disc Golf Financial Information 2022/23

Year Ahead-2024

