



# 2025

ANNUAL REPORT

**AUSTRALIAN  
DISC GOLF**

# ADG BOARD



**JEREMIAH FLICKINGER**

**CHAIRPERSON**



**CHRIS FINN**

**DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON**



**EMILIE CAMERON**

**SECRETARY**



**MARTIN RYLAND-ADAIR**

**TREASURER**



**CHRISTIE HALES-THORNTON**

**STATE REP LIASON**



**PAUL ARDEN**

**DIRECTOR OF COMPETITIONS  
PDGA LIAISON**



**KEVIN COSTA**

**GENERAL BOARD MEMBER**



**WAYNE TOLVER-BANKS**

**GENERAL BOARD MEMBER**



**TENYSE DARK**

**GENERAL BOARD MEMBER**



**BENN KENNEDY**

**GENERAL BOARD MEMBER**



**SIMON TANNER**

**GENERAL BOARD MEMBER**

## HIGH PERFORMANCE

**KINGSLEY FLETT**

**JONATHAN JONAS**

**SALLY HILL**

**DARREN STACE-SMITH**

**AARON MORETON**



## TOURNAMENT SUBCOMMITTEE



**PAUL ARDEN**

**SUB COMMITTEE CHAIR**



**EMILIE CAMERON**

**SUB COMMITTEE MEMBER**



**MATT GREEN**

**SUB COMMITTEE MEMBER**



**NATHAN THOMAS**

**SUB COMMITTEE MEMBER**



**CLAYTON BECK**

**SUB COMMITTEE MEMBER**



**RYAN NICHOLSON**

**SUB COMMITTEE MEMBER**



**LUKE BAYNE**

**SUB COMMITTEE MEMBER**

## STATE SUBCOMMITTEE



**CHRISTIE HALES-THORNTON**

**STATE SUB COMMITTEE CHAIR**



**TENYSE DARK**

**QLD REPRESENTATIVE**



**WAYNE TOLVER-BANKS**

**NSW REPRESENTATIVE**



**MATHEW WALLIS**

**NSW REPRESENTATIVE**



**STEVEN FOX**

**SA REPRESENTATIVE**



**DR. MARTIN GONSALVES**

**VIC REPRESENTATIVE**



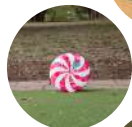
**MARGARET TRAIL**

**VIC REPRESENTATIVE**



**MATT GREEN**

**TAS REPRESENTATIVE**



**STEVEN KHOUPONGSY**

**ACT REPRESENTATIVE**



**JON MUNNIKHUIS**

**WA REPRESENTATIVE**

2025 was a big year for ADG. While there were big changes at the board level there was also consolidation and stabilisation.

The year began with a change of leadership as long time Chairperson Luke Turnbull stepped down for the role and Jeremiah Flickinger took the reins. Jeremiah brought a new management style and worked to improve the efficiency of the board. Our board structure remains the same, with subcommittees working on different aspects of ADG's operations. Strengthening communication between these committees will be a priority as we move into 2026.

In August, we welcomed Erica Buckett to the team as administration and communications director. This role was created after a review of our human resources, workload and pressure points. In her short time with us, Erica has enhanced member and club communications, streamlined operations and implemented new processes. By reducing the administrative burden, the board can now dedicate more time to strategic initiatives.

Towards the end of the year we rolled out our safeguarding children policy and framework. This important work involved extensive consultation with state representatives, consideration of community feedback, and the development of educational resources to help clubs understand their responsibilities. The board will now turn its attention to promoting the other National Integrity policies.

While 2025 saw slower growth compared to previous years, player numbers have remained steady—a reassuring outcome given that many organisations experienced declines after a pandemic surge. We were also pleased to see a slight increase in the proportion of players in female divisions. In May, we partnered with Birdie Babes to introduce a national women's tournament during Women's Disc Golf Week. This work will continue in 2026 with the return of the Women's Global Event. Another key focus this year was supporting Tournament Directors and encouraging new TDs through our mentoring program and Aussie Disc Golf Day promotion.

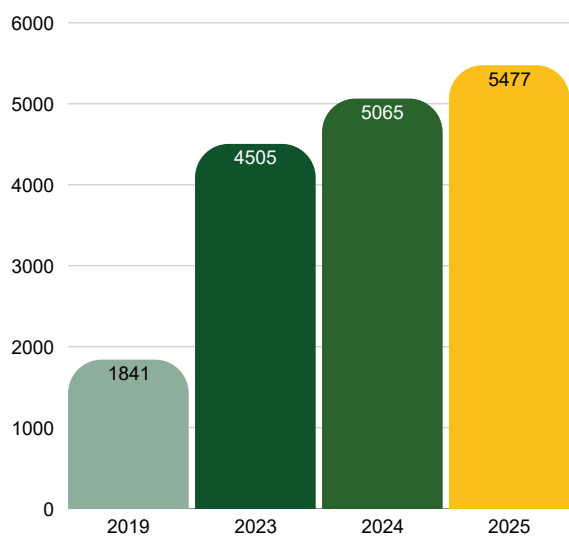
The board want to thank outgoing board and committee members Christie Hales-Thornton, Benn Kennedy, Clayton Beck, Jon Munnikhuis, and Margaret Trail for their dedication and contributions to ADG.

And while all this was happening in the background, big and little tournaments were happening around the country; clubs were installing and maintaining courses and players were enjoying the activities provided. Thank you to all the TDs, event and club volunteers who make this all possible, especially all those who stepped up for the first time this year.

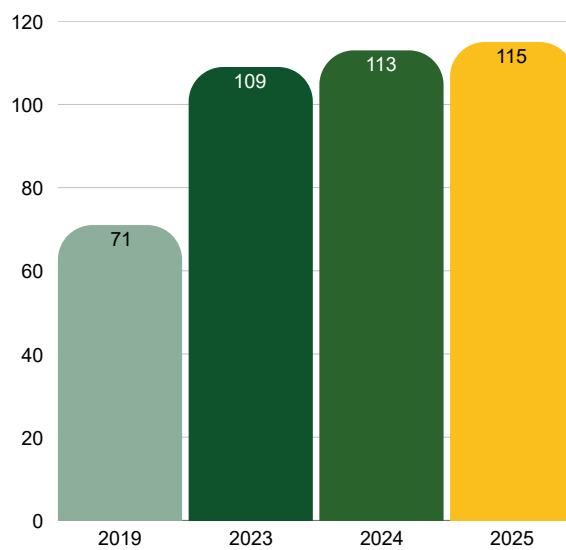
Thanks for joining us,  
ADG Board



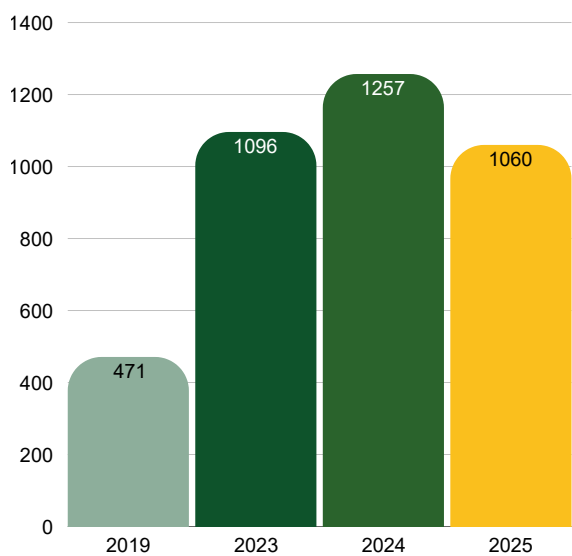
Members



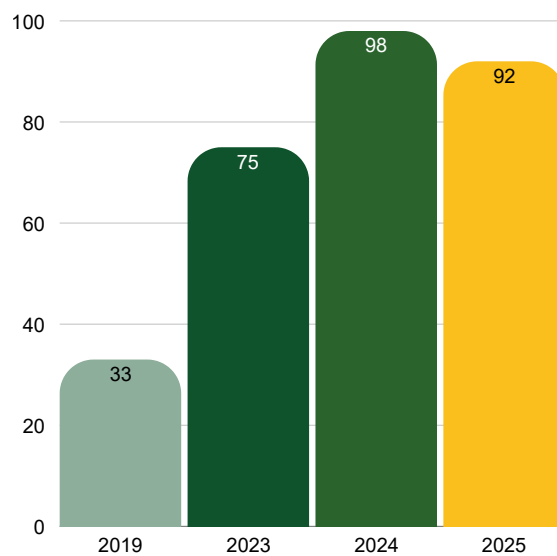
Courses



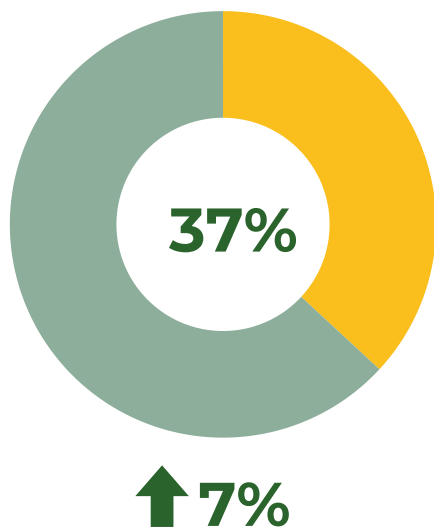
Active Members



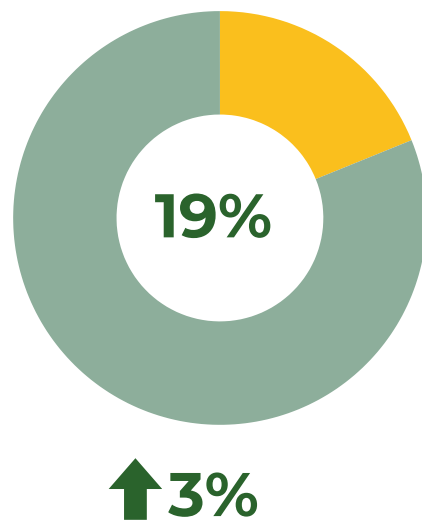
Tournaments



% of tournament players playing their first event



% of tournament players playing in a female division



# Welcome to Our New Administration and Communications Assistant, Erica

We've always been proud of our volunteer spirit, but as the sport grew, so did the workload. This year we welcomed Erica Buckett as an Administration & Communications Assistant to handle the essential backbone work like recording meeting minutes, reviewing policies, board coordination, member communications, and club support. Erica comes from a strong background in administration and is passionate about promoting the sport she and her family love. This frees up the Board to focus on what matters most: growing the sport through programs, events and infrastructure, ensuring a welcoming and safe environment for all and promoting Disc Golf in Australia. Investing in administrative support now means we can work harder for our members through better responsiveness, personalised guidance, stronger programs, and more strategic focus on growing the game across Australia.



## Tournament Standards: Making Competition Better for Everyone

Working alongside the PDGA's updated rules, we've refreshed our tournament guidelines to make events better for players, fairer for competitors, and clearer for the TDs who make it all happen.

We've set new minimum prize standards that show we're serious about supporting our pros: \$5,000 for ADGC, \$1,500 for ADGTour Majors, and \$250 for ADGTour events. Following the PDGA's lead on inclusivity, we've added FP40, FA50, and FA3 divisions to ADGTour events. Even better? If just one person registers for women's, junior, or 50+ divisions, we run it.

Our new expanded online sanctioning form makes sanctioning events simpler. We've added practical requirements for toilets and water at major events, safety protocols, and a handy checklist to keep things running smoothly. By dropping the unique basket requirement from 18 to 9 for ADGTour events, we've opened the door for more courses to host sanctioned tournaments: more events, more places to play, more chances to compete.

In 2026, we're raising the bar even higher with recommendations of multiple skills-based layouts for Majors and soliciting player feedback at the completion of events.



# Safeguarding Children & Young People

In January 2026, Australian Disc Golf will fully implement its Supplementary Safeguarding Children & Young People Policy, marking a significant milestone in our commitment to creating a safe, positive and inclusive environment for all participants. This policy, which supplements the Australian Flying Disc Association's National Integrity Framework, establishes clear operational standards for protecting children and young people under 18 years of age at all ADG-sanctioned activities.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our tournament organisers, club committees, and volunteers who have embraced this policy with the seriousness and commitment it deserves. We recognise that implementing a comprehensive safeguarding framework is a work in progress, and the ADG Board remains committed to prioritising the safety and accessibility of disc golf for all Australians.

## Key Policy Requirements

All children must have a completed Parental/Guardian Release Form and be supervised at all times. Tournament Directors and volunteers working with children must hold current Working with Children Checks and each club must nominate a Child safety officer. Comprehensive photography and media protocols protect children's privacy and safety.

## Support & Resources Provided

ADG has delivered extensive communications, targeted education sessions for organisers, comprehensive Q&A resources, ongoing support materials, and subsidies for costs incurred by obtaining required safety checks. Tenyse Dark has been appointed the Child Safety Officer for ADG and will help implement the policy.

## Our Commitment

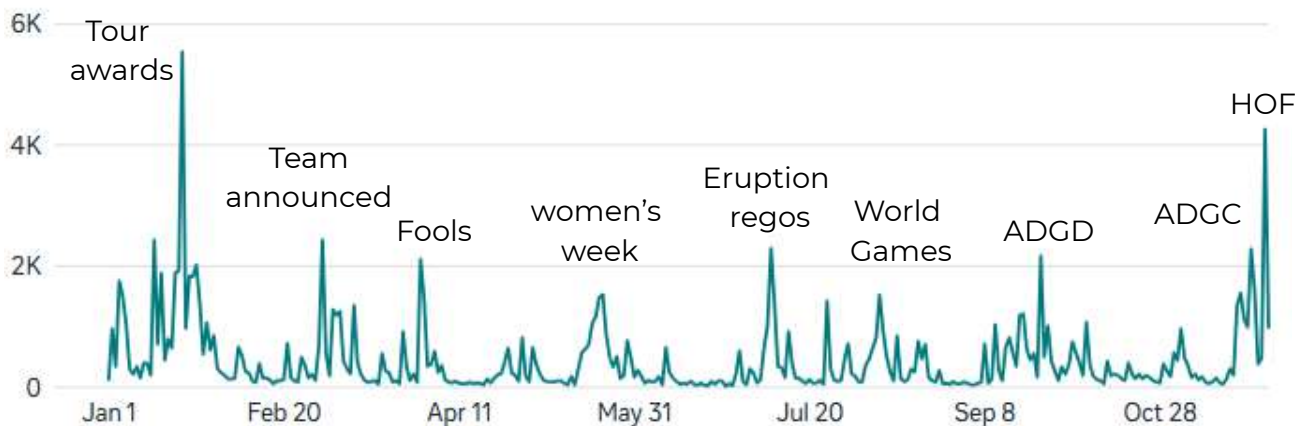
Creating child-safe sporting environments is fundamental to who we are and the legacy we want to build. The Board will continue to refine processes, provide support, and work collaboratively with the community to ensure disc golf remains welcoming, safe and accessible for participants of all ages.



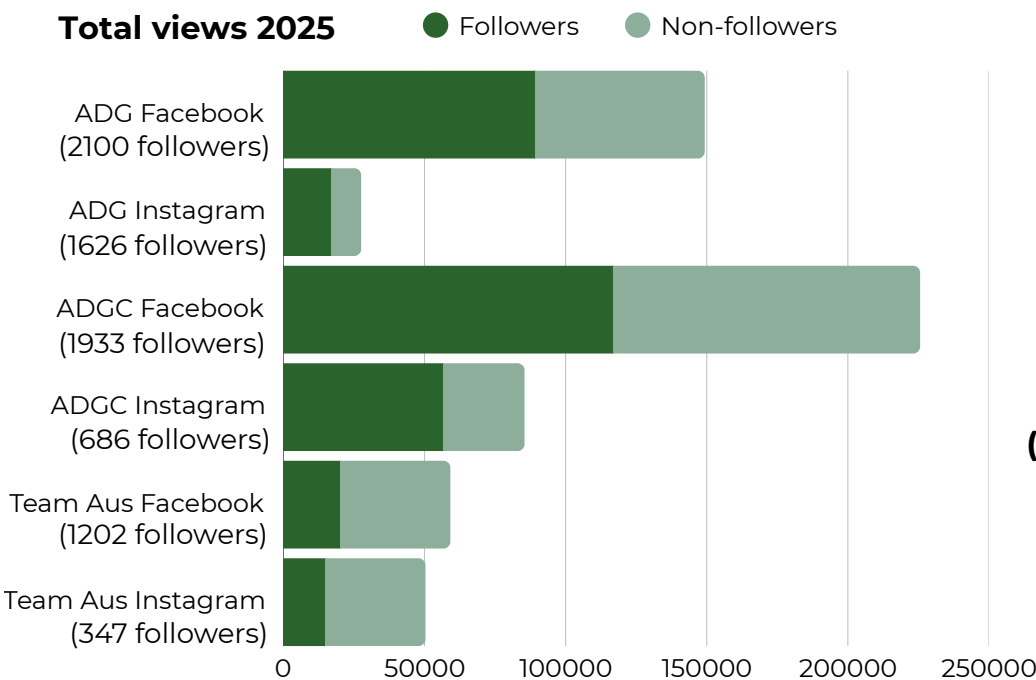
# Marketing and Communications

## Social Media Engagement

### ADG Facebook Views



### Total views 2025



**ADGC Live Views  
(PRKD MEDIA)**

**1,800**

**NSW Open  
(Gatekeeper/PRKD)**

**6,500**



Last month  
@cassie\_sweetten w...

Tue Aug 5, 8:28pm

25.5K 421  
4 4



The putt that won the  
match. Australia go 2...

Sat Aug 9, 1:46am

16.1K 190  
13 4



ADG would like to  
congratulate our 202...

Wed Jan 22, 12:14am

7.2K 263  
34 10



Get ready.  
Registrations for...

Sat Jul 19, 12:20am

4.1K 57  
0 13

# ADG Tour Majors 2025

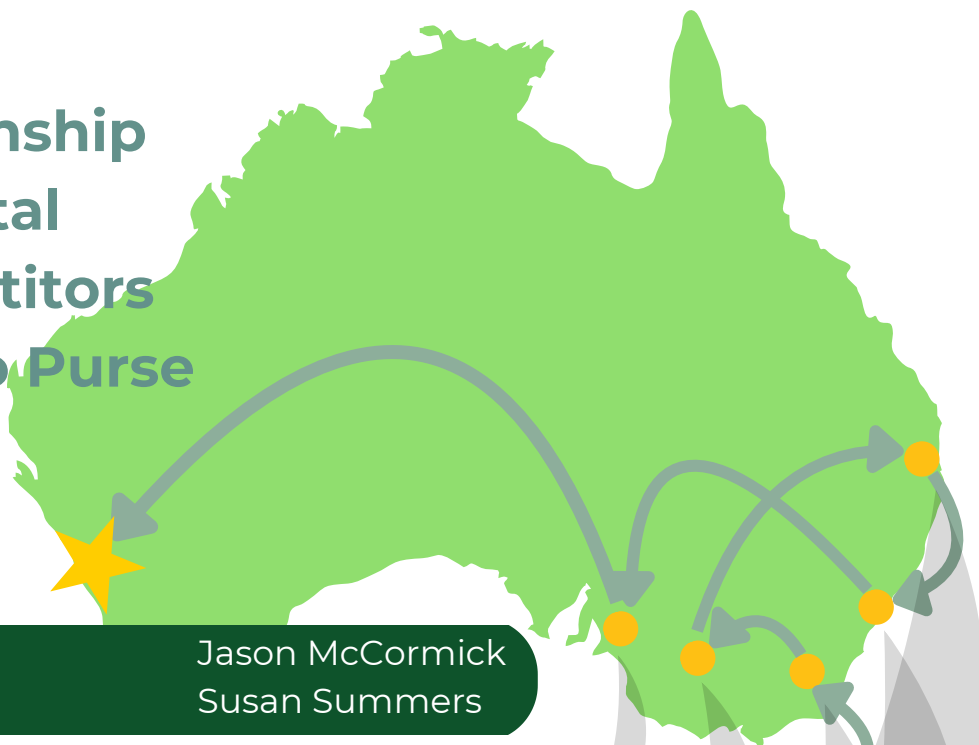
6 Majors

1 Championship

19 Days Total

915 Competitors

\$25,198 Pro Purse



ADGC

Jason McCormick  
Susan Summers

The Eruption

Michelle Schulz  
Ryan Nicholson

Vic Open

Jackson Adams

Queensland Open

Jason Vidot  
Nathan Thomas

NSW Open

Jonathan Jonas  
Peter Helyer

The Sizzler (ACT)

Eloise Millington

Tassie Open

Matt Green

Special Events

<https://www.australiandiscgolf.com/leaderboard/>

# Women's Disc Golf Week

## May 17-25 2025

ADG partnered with Birdie Babes Australia to host a nationwide virtual event during PDGA's Women's Disc Golf Week (May 17–25). Eight tournaments took place across the country, with results combined into a single virtual competition that celebrated the incredible women in our sport. The event saw 67 competitors across 8 events and 11 divisions. There were plenty of familiar faces on the scoreboard as well as newcomers. But it wasn't just new players that the event attracted, five women stepped into the TD role to run their local events for the first time.

Tenyse Dark, who runs Birdie Babes Australia, was the brains behind the event. Luke Turnbull and ADG offered technical assistance to get the virtual event happening. To help support the national tournament, ADG covered the PDGA and ADG fees and AFDA waived the MOU fees for female participants. The support and momentum created will continue in 2026 with the Women's Global Event happening in May.

Overall, the Birdie Babes National Tournament showed the power of creating a welcoming opportunity for female players of all skill levels to participate in something special while strengthening the women's disc golf community nationwide. <https://www.pdga.com/bbnt/results/2025>



# Inaugural Aussie Masters Tournament

## May 3 & 4, 2025

The inaugural Aussie Masters in Ballarat during May 2025 exceeded all expectations, bringing together close to 100 competitors for a celebration of masters disc golf. The brainchild of Jeff Brunsting and Anthony Pearsall, the event created the perfect mix of competitive play and social connection that the organisers envisioned.

Masters age players have been a strong demographic in Australian disc golf for some years now. The age protected divisions often make up the bulk of the field in many Aussie tournaments. The idea of a tournament that specifically catered to 'the old and bold' has occasionally been floated, but it took the leadership and enthusiasm of Victorians Jeff Brunsting and Anthony Pearsall to make the idea a reality.

Jeff and Anthony took a unique approach, canvassing the preferences of the eligible players prior to organising the event. The event was supported by Bespoke Disc Golf and GUF. Prizes were awarded in a massive 12 divisions from MP40 to FA70. Players also battled for the Charlie Mead encouragement award for the player achieving the highest tournament rating above their PDGA rating. Charl Du Plessis took out this coveted prizes scoring 67 points above rating for round 2.

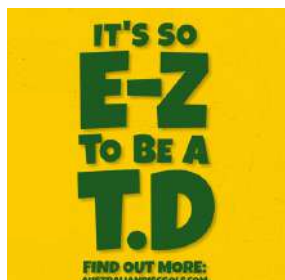
The weekend showcased tight competition while reinforcing the strong sense of community that makes masters disc golf special. With such a successful debut, the Aussie Masters is set to become an annual fixture.



Photos: Kingsley Flett

## Aussie Disc Golf Day 2025 September 20 & 21, 2025

Aussie Disc Golf Day returned for a sixth year on September 20-21, 2025. The nationwide virtual event brought together 16 tournaments and 430 participants across the country. This year was a little different as we turned our attention on the people running events and celebrated the Tournament Directors who make our sport great. ADG's TD mentoring program was highlighted with clubs encouraging new TDs to give it a go. The focus on Aussie Disc golf day events being smaller, local tournaments provides the perfect opportunity for aspiring TDs to try their hand at running an event with support from experienced mentors. To give TDs a small token of appreciation, ADG had shirts made up for all those running Aussie Disc Golf Day events. <https://www.pdga.com/aussiediscgolfdays/results/2025>



## Aussie Disc Golf Championships 2025 November 20-23, 2025

It was WA's turn to host ADGC in 2025. Fresh off hosting the WFDF team championships in 2024 the Mundaring club was ready for the challenge. Jason McCormick took the helm with experienced organiser Sue Summers as assistant TD and a dedicated group of volunteers helping out. Prodigy discs came on as presenting sponsor. With 2 Championship level courses ready to go it was possible to host players across all divisions on the same 4 day weekend. 125 players took up the call and played a truly epic event. Many divisions came down to the final holes on the final day to be decided. Kingsley Flett was there capturing the highlights and drama of the event. PRKD media broadcast the feature card live each day as well as trialling a new idea- a static camera on hole 1 capturing all the action as players teed off to start the round. The event ended with a rowdy awards ceremony culminating in an emotional speech from MPO champion Blake Houston who recalled how back in 2021, Chris Finn had told him he would one day be a national champion. Dreams can come true.



Photos: Kingsley Flett

## Team Australia at The World Games 2025 August 8-10, 2025

The 2025 World Games in Chengdu, China marked an important milestone for disc golf, with the sport returning as a medal event for the first time in 24 years. The World Games, is an international multi-sport event featuring more than 30 non-Olympic disciplines. The disc golf competition featured 16 national mixed-doubles teams competing across three days on a purpose-built course at the Guixi Ecological Park, Chengdu China.

Australia was invited to compete following the outstanding silver-medal performance of the Aussie Sugar Gliders at the 2024 World Team Championships. Representing the nation in Chengdu were Blake Houston (MPO) and Cassie Sweetten (FPO), supported by the experienced caddy team of Jarrath Sweetten and Ken Summers, and led by Team Manager Aaron Moreton. The team was chosen by a experienced selection panel consisting of Kris Kohout, Jason McCormick and Kevin Costa.



Both athletes arrived in top form: Sweetten returning from injury after a remarkable rehabilitation and Houston continuing his rapid rise on the international stage. Across the tournament, Team Australia displayed resilience and determination in a series of tightly contested matches. After a challenging pool stage against Canada, Norway and Lithuania, the team progressed to the 9–16 bracket, where they delivered nail-biting performances against France and Germany, including multiple playoff holes and a lightning-delayed final round. Australia concluded the event in 14th place, the gold medal was secured by the USA pairing of newly crowned World Champion Gannon Buhr and Missy Gannon.

The team's campaign was made possible through significant community support. We extend our sincere gratitude to partners and sponsors, BE Ultimate and Revo Fitness, as well as everyone who supported the team.

# Australian Disc Golf Hall of Fame

As part of ADG's strategic goal to connect more people with the sport, the Board enhanced the Hall of Fame to elevate its prominence and prestige within Australian disc golf. The revitalised process encouraged more nominations, with a distinguished panel of past inductees reviewing submissions for merit and contributions. The enhanced Hall of Fame procedure continues to feature a formal induction ceremony at the Australian Disc Golf Championships, with proceedings filmed and inductees honoured with certificates and commemorative bag tags. The enhanced Hall of Fame now better celebrates our legends while inspiring the next generation of contributors.

## Hall of Fame Inductees 2025



**Bruce McNaughton**



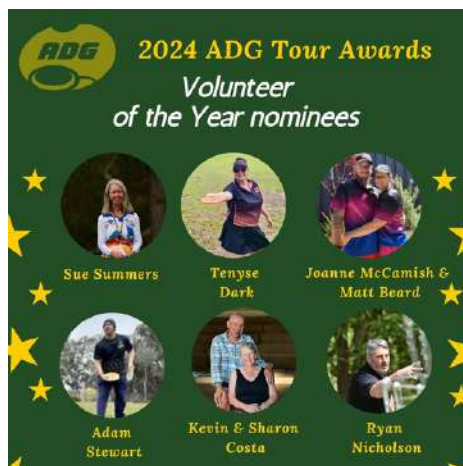
**Michael Rubock**

## Community Awards

### TD of the Year & Volunteer of the Year

In 2024, ADG launched the TD of the Year and Volunteer of the Year community awards to recognise the hard work and dedication of the members who make disc golf in Australia possible. The inaugural awards celebrated those whose tireless efforts behind the scenes keep tournaments running smoothly and clubs thriving. Michelle Shultz was recognised as TD of the year and Kevin and Sharon Costa as volunteers of the year. An additional award was added to recognise the work done by Kris Kohout mentoring a new generation of TDs.

Following the success of the first year, nominations were again opened in 2025, and the community response has been strong. The 2025 winners will be announced at the Tour Awards on December 12, continuing this important tradition of acknowledging the unsung heroes who strengthen and grow our sport across the country.



# Grants Program

## ● Bendigo Disc Golf

Received at \$1000 grant from ADG to assist with the installation of a permanent 18 hole championship level course at Quarry Hill Golf Course.

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## ● Wagga Disc Golf

Received at \$1000 grant from ADG to assist with the installation of a permanent 9 hole beginner friendly course at Rawlings Reserve, Lake Albert (Wagga)NSW

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## ● Media Grants

Grants promoting media coverage at NSW Open, QLD Open, Aussie Masters, and The Eruption were all approved.

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## ● Fees for Women's Week events

To help support women's disc golf week, ADG covered the PDGA fees for events run as part of the Birdie Babes National Tournament. AFDA also supported the event by waiving the MOU fees for female participants meaning we could do the same.

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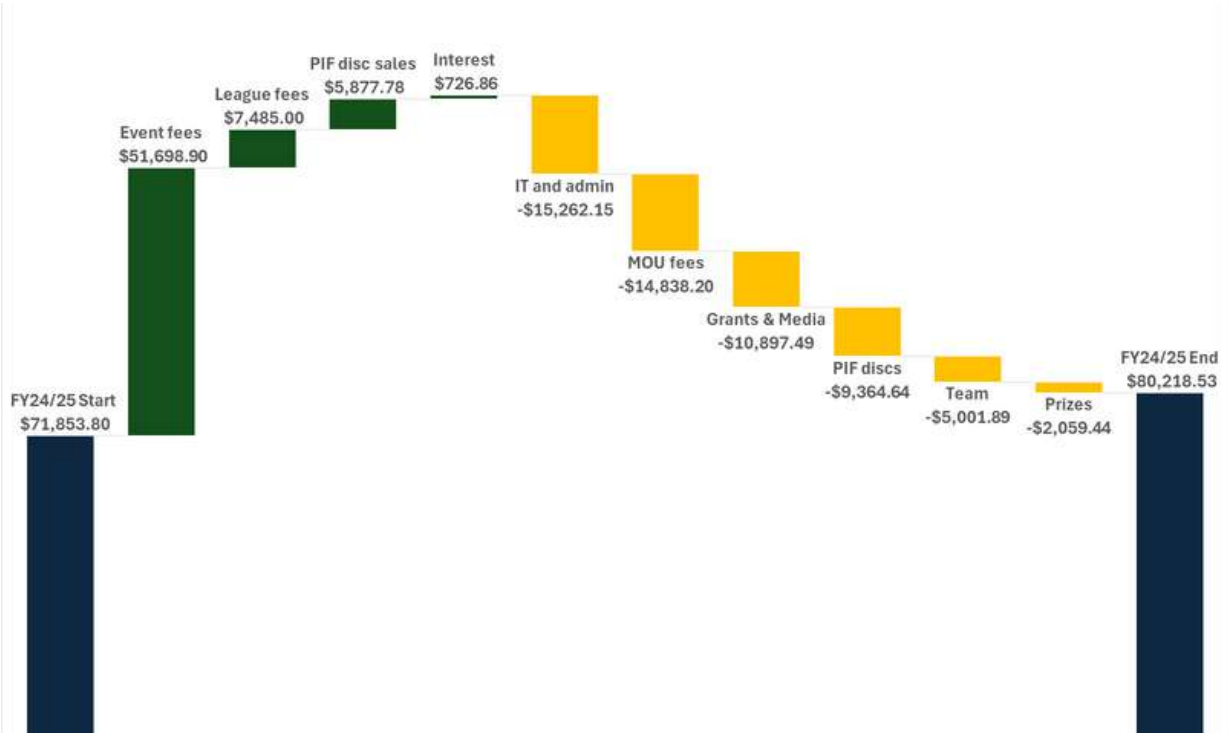
# ADG Financial Report

## 2024/25



Compiled by Martin Ryland-Adair, ADG Treasurer

The ADG financial year ran from the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 to the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025. As of the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 ADG held \$80,218.53 (plus an additional \$17,237.44 being held for ADGC) in its bank accounts. This is compared to last year's financial position of \$71,853.80, as of 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.



### Current Daily Event-Based Fees per competitor per day

|                                    |         |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| Leagues                            | \$1.00  |
| Sanctioned Events                  | \$3.50  |
| Tour Events                        | \$7.00  |
| Major Events                       | \$8.00  |
| Australian Disc Golf Championships | \$15.00 |

# Financial Overview

Overall it has been another solid year for ADG with participation rates stabilising, resulting in significant collections of event and league based income.

Event-based fees continue to be the major source of annual income for ADG. There has been a slight decrease in event-based income when compared to last year. This year ADG event-based fees amounted to \$51,698.90 compared to \$56,346.11 last year. However, they remain above previous levels (\$36,300 in 2022/23). We also had a decrease in league event-based fees collected from \$9,874 in 2024 to \$7,485 in 2025. Again this remains above pre2024 levels (\$2,428 in 2023). We also note that some invoices from this year were paid after August 31<sup>st</sup>.

We paid the 2024 AFDA/ADG MOU fees totaling \$14,838.20 in this financial year. We again provided a significant amount in grants and event promotions to the community. This included grants submitted as part of our grants program, Media coverage and PDGA fees paid for women's disc golf week events.

2024/25 saw a significant increase in IT and admin costs. This coincided with streamlining our systems, reducing the burden on volunteers and increased costs of operating with the number of members we now have. We anticipate this increase to persist in the future.

| Income          | 2023/24         | 2024/25            |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| ADG EBF Fees    | \$56,346.00     | \$51,698.90        |
| ADG League Fees | \$9,874.00      | \$7,485.00         |
| PIF disc sales  | -               | \$5,877.78         |
| Interest        | \$494.00        | \$726.86           |
| Total           | <b>\$66,714</b> | <b>\$65,788.54</b> |

| Expenses            | 2023/24            | 2024/25            |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Prizes and Trophies | \$1,618            | \$2,059.44         |
| Grants and media    | \$11,036           | \$10,897.49        |
| ADG MOU Fees        | \$16,903           | \$14,838.20        |
| IT and admin costs  | \$1,029            | \$15,262.15        |
| PIF Discs           | -                  | \$9,364.64         |
| Team Aus            | \$1,710.00         | \$5,001.89         |
| Total               | <b>\$32,296.00</b> | <b>\$57,423.81</b> |

# AUSTRALIAN DISC GOLF



## MAJORS 2026 \*

**Feb**  
13-15

Tassie Open

**TAS**

**Apr**  
23-26

Vic Open

**VIC**

**May**  
30- Jun1

Cataraction  
NSW Open

**NSW**

**JUL**  
10-12

Queensland  
Open

**QLD**

**AUG**

WA Open

**WA**

**TBC**

**SA**

**NOV**

Australian Disc Golf  
Championships

**ACT**