

## 2009 PDGA Election – State/Province Coordinator Candidate Statements

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### Alabama – Chris Pierce #24826

Thank you to all who urged me to run for the PDGA State Coordinator of Alabama this year. I will strive to serve you well!

My number one goal is to see that Disc Golf is seen in a positive manner by the general public. I have been dedicated to promoting the professionalism and growth of disc golf since joining the PDGA in 2004.

Starting as just a player of events, I've taken on more and more duties and obligations in Disc Golf as time has gone by. My first step was becoming a PDGA Certified Official in 2005, which was shortly followed by directing my first tournament. It seems I get nearly the same enjoyment out of putting together events for others as playing in them myself. I hope to continue to serve the disc golfers of Alabama and the surrounding areas by coordinating and running quality events that benefit the players and clubs around the state and region.

Nowadays, I serve as an Officer-At-Large for Disc Golf Birmingham and I promote and run disc golf events along with my better half, Carrie (PDGA# 35921) through an organization called Solstice Disc Sports. We run 5 to 6 events per year including an A-Tier in Birmingham. A lot of times I feel like I'm doing the state coordinator job already, but with your vote we can make it official!

This year, by the urging of Bill Bullington (SC incumbent), he, myself and others organized the Yellowhammer State Tour & Points Series. This is a disc golf tour for the state of Alabama. The goal was to avoid scheduling conflicts between in-state events and surrounding areas and to give an extra reward for players with the points series aspect. We've had great success thus far and have generated a cohesive tour with all of the biggest events in the state. Thanks to our generous sponsors, we should have a nice bonus payout for the qualified players as well.

With your vote for the State Coordinator position, I will continue to work with the local hosting clubs to refine and improve the Yellowhammer State Tour.

With the growing number of events on the schedule, it is becoming increasingly more difficult to book a tournament without having a competing event nearby. We also run events outside of Alabama, so I have experience in coordinating with other clubs and individuals out of state. I have, and as State Coordinator, I will continue to work with the State Coordinators of Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi & other tournament promoters to avoid scheduling conflicts with events in Alabama.

Thanks so much for taking the time to read this and taking the time to vote!  
See you on the course!

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### Alberta – Craig Burrows-Johnson #10658

I have been a member of the PDGA since 1996, playing mainly in Alberta. I've also had the pleasure of playing in tournaments in BC, Montana, and most recently Nevada and Pennsylvania. During my disc golf 'career' I have been very interested in course and basket design having organized over 20 tournaments along with many other disc golf events. I consider the 18 basket disc golf courses at Lethbridge, Park96 in Calgary, the Nordic Centre in Canmore and Wetaskiwin, the innovative aluminum and plastic Trapshot basket (PDGA sanctioning pending), and successfully lobbying the Province of Alberta to make disc golf an official sport of the Alberta Seniors Games to be my most notable achievements in our sport. I respectfully request your vote and future support for PDGA Provincial Coordinator for Alberta.

### Alberta – Steve Mallett #13450

It is my pleasure to submit my candidacy for the Alberta PDGA post to you. Unfortunately, little has been done for the PDGA in Alberta since I left the post several years ago when I felt I wasn't 'producing' - and was about to start

**Alberta – Steve Mallett #13450 (continued)**

raising a young family. Since very little has happened in Alberta on the PDGA front since then, I feel that it is time to put my name forward once again.

I just read the Spring 09 Discgolfer magazine, went online to see if I had indeed missed the May 29 deadline for application, and noticed that Alberta is on the list of vacancies - and that the deadline had been extended.

It would be a thrill and an honor to once again work for the PDGA towards the betterment of Disc Golf.

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**Arkansas – Evan McKee #28702**

As the PDGA State Coordinator for Arkansas I will continue promotion of disc golf thru education, public relations and competition and to be available to assist others to do the same.

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**Armed Forces Overseas – Scott Reek #12824**

My experience in the sport of disc golf started in 1997 when I joined the PDGA. Shortly after that I became actively involved in the Kansas Disc Golf Association and I ran the KDGA from 2000-2003. I have also assisted with PDGA promotions in Europe and the Armed Forces serving as the APO State Coordinator for 4 Years. I am currently the President of the Appleton Wisconsin Area Disc Golf Club, course liaison for the Fox Valley Courses, run several events, teach and educate local area youth kids about our beloved sport through the local park departments.

My goal is to continue to educate people about the sport of Disc Golf and other related flying disc activities. I want to expand the awareness of the sport and help with the growth of other local clubs, groups and organizations. I want to enhance the image of the PDGA and work on a growing infrastructure to continue its growth, making the Armed Forces Overseas into one of the largest disc golf communities in relation to amount of players, quality of courses, performance and education.

Overall I hope to increase the numbers, maintain our current PDGA enthusiasm for competition and promote the sport in a direction that I know everyone wants to see it go.

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**California (North) – Jennifer Knisley #13273**

I am the current Northern California PDGA State Coordinator and I would like to serve another two years. I have been involved with the PDGA and running disc golf tournaments since 1998. As the sport continues to grow and become popular, the need for a state coordinator increases. Working closely with the PDGA and tournament directors to avoid scheduling conflicts is a must. I have spent countless hours helping coordinate PDGA A and B tier events Northern California along with many charity events. Disc Golf is made up a diverse group of people including youth, seniors, men, and women. I volunteer because I enjoy giving back to the disc golf community and helping disc golfer's have the best experience possible.

Over that last two years I have furthered my education by taking two classes in Recreation and Leisure (Parks & Recreation) and program planning and event management. I have also been elected to the Park, Recreation & Open Space Committee for the town of Loomis. My goal for Northern California is to keep working towards more courses, not only to have new courses, but to help relieve the pressure of existing courses. Also, if I'm dreaming of new courses I would also like to dream of having the PDGA Worlds California someday too.

I feel I am qualified for this position and I hope you will re-elect me.

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**Colorado – John Bird #387**

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## **Delaware - Tony Mastrangelo #7129**

As State Coordinator, I intend to continue to spread the word by attracting new players to the sport. I'll work with our TD's in scheduling, promotion, and labor before, during, and after events. I'll promote the PDGA and gain memberships, promote the EDGE program, Disc Golf Foundation, and Affiliate Clubs program.

My main mission will be to coordinate a fresh new way in Delaware to choose a qualified member to send to the USDGC. It will not be based purely on disc golf skills or winning one tournament. Chiefly, the candidate will have a history with the Delaware Disc Golfers and a sheer desire to play in the USDGC.

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## **Georgia – Keith Johnson #10444**

I would like the opportunity to continue to be your State Coordinator in Georgia to help facilitate the flow of information about Events and the scheduling of PDGA Sanctioned as well as other Events in the state and surrounding areas. I would also like to help foster the continued growth of PDGA Membership in the state. I appreciate the opportunity given to me 2 years ago, and I would like the chance to keep helping Disc Golf grow in the state. Please vote for the candidate of your choice when you receive your ballot, and I would like the opportunity to be your candidate of choice if you have been happy with the ways things have gone the last 2 years.

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## **Idaho – Derek Ford #1929**

Start playing Frisbee tournaments in Hawaii in 1979 and while in school in Phoenix Arizona in 1980-1983. Joined PDGA while living in Phoenix. Move to Idaho and became involved with the local effort to get a disc golf course installed in Ann Morrison Park in Boise . Assisted in creating Idaho's first organized disc golf club (Gem State Disc Golfers) and spent 10+ years in a leadership position with the club.

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## **Indiana – John Cavaletto #19070**

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## **Kansas – Chris Smith #19983**

Physical Education teacher for an Intermediate (5-6) center. I have been the Kansas State Coordinator for the last several years. I do all of the scheduling for the Kansas Disc Golf Association Oz Tour. It makes sense that I handle both jobs, to avoid scheduling conflicts. I would love to serve Kansas Disc Golfers as the State Coordinator again.

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## **Louisiana – No Candidate**

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## **Manitoba – Darin Watson #40333**

I began playing disc sports in 1994, when I began attending pick-up ultimate at Assiniboine Park, and played that for the next 10 years. I remember trying disc golf out, about 10 years ago, but ultimate has been the focus of the disc scene in Manitoba for the last 15 years. Over the last 5 years, other commitments have not allowed me to play ultimate. During that time, my love for disc golf has grown greatly! I would love to help promote the sport in Manitoba. I think that the key is teaching the kids how to play the sport. It is truly a family sport that everyone can enjoy. I look forward to growing the sport in Manitoba!

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## Minnesota – Bill Ashton #2747

1980-1987 tournament staff - Minnesota sky of 10,000  
tournament staff - Minnesota star of north games  
tournament staff - Minnesota Frisbee Association Hacky Sack & Frisbee Festival  
tournament staff - 1980 MFA Frisbee Fly In sponsored by KDWB  
tournament staff - Minnesota Majestic (1987-1991) (2001-09)

### Copyrights:

- Minnesota disc golf guide 1986
- Sure-Putt 2006

### Flying disc game inventor:

- Sure-Putt 2006

### Complete design/installation credits for Minnesota disc golf courses

- \* 1. Austin - Todd park (original 12-hole saucer course layout)
- \* 2. St. cloud (original saucer course layout)
- \* 3. Winona - Mankato park 18-hole expansion
  4. Winona - Lake park (original design)
  5. St. Paul Highland park (phase 1 - picnic area)
  6. St. Paul Highland park (relocation - phase 2)
  7. South St. Paul (donated first hole - helped install original front)
  8. Eagan - Northview park (designed and sold mach v baskets)
  9. Apple Valley - Alimagnet park (designed and sold Innova baskets)
  10. Faribault - Wapacuta park (designed and sold Innova baskets)
  11. St. Paul highland park (relocation phase 3 - referred sale to DGA)
  12. Springfield (city course - assisted design and sold Innova baskets)
  13. Reeve, Wisconsin (designed and sold Innova baskets & sure-putt game)
  14. Burnsville (red oak park - redesign & course upgrade)

\* denotes: Disc golf courses that we're started by utilizing used and recondition parts from old courses that Bill Ashton of disc concepts purchased. Baskets were bought and salvaged from areas where disc golf wasn't successful (Taylors Falls, Bayport, Minnehaha and Buck Hill).

Enough baskets were purchased and reconditioned to help start new courses in Austin, St. Cloud and Winona on very low budgets. Today, each of these cities courses are very popular and now have upgraded DGA baskets. The Austin course at Todd park has developed into Minnesota's first 27-hole configuration.

### Member:

- Minnesota Frisbee Association (MFA)
- Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)
- International Frisbee Association (IFA)
- Disc Golf Course Designers (DGCD)

## Minnesota – Mike Snelson #9537

Here are the responsibilities I am willing to work on as your Minnesota State Coordinator:

As State Coordinator I will be able to reach more individuals and groups looking to get more involved with the PDGA. My past experiences, club memberships, and volunteer work will continue to foster goodwill, as I have for over fifteen years in the disc golf industry;

As your State Coordinator I will continue to work with the various tournament directors and clubs within Minnesota to ensure that there are no conflicts relating to scheduling within the state of Minnesota;

### **Minnesota – Mike Snelson #9537 (continued)**

I will work with the various course designers to assure that courses are listed and evaluated to the best of my ability. Being a course designer I know the importance of accurate information for the course directory. Course evaluation is also one aspect I will strive to accomplish;

I will continue to promote the EDGE and Disc Golf Foundation programs within the State. I started an affiliate club through Fairway Flyerz, and think this is a great program to gain exposure for local clubs throughout the state;

I will provide feedback on the annual Tour Standards to the PDGA Tour Manager, coordinate state qualification for events such as the USDGC, USADGC, and other qualified entry tournaments, be active in voting for and recommending candidates for select annual PDGA Awards as well as perform other duties as determined by the State Coordinators, PDGA Board and staff.

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### **Missouri – John Chapman #5559**

- PDGA member since 1990
  - Played in 1990, 1991, 1992, 2000, and 2007 Amateur World Championships.
  - Played in 1994, 1997, and 1998 Professional World Championships.
  - Tournament Director: 1997, 1998, and 1999 Mid-America Open, Columbia, MO
  - Tournament Director: 2005 Kansas City Wide Open
  - Assistant Tournament Director: Kansas City Wide Open: 1999-2004, 2006-2009.
  - Assistant Tournament Director: PDGA Amateur World Championships, 1999 and 2003.
  - Tournament Director: 2009 PDGA World Disc Golf Championships
  - PDGA Marshal since the inception of the program in 2004.
  - Member: PDGA Rules Committee, 2002-current
  - Member: PDGA Competition Committee, 2004-current
  - Member: PDGA Disciplinary Committee, 2002-2004
  - PDGA Competition Director 2004-2006
  - PDGA Missouri State Coordinator: 1999-2005, 2007-current
  - PDGA Region 10 Coordinator: 1997-1999
  - Treasurer, Kansas City Flying Disc Club, 2002-2005, 2008-current
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### **Nebraska – Steve Stump #27901**

I began playing disc golf in 2003 at the age of 50. Since becoming a member of the PDGA in 2005, I have increased my PDGA rating to 932 and rising. I am a tournament director a certified PDGA official and Regional Director for Region 3 in Nebraska for the NebDisc Tour. I am very involved in promoting disc golf in Nebraska and have run many successful events. I have played a significant part in the growth of the sport in the western part of the state.

I see disc golf growing in popularity in Nebraska and nationally. I would like to be a part of and help to move the growth of the sport in the right direction. Disc golf is a game that is fun for everyone. Families, friends or individuals can all play anytime and for very little investment. I will work to improve the way disc golf is perceived by the public and help it to become a desirable activity for young athletes.

I want to help bring disc golf to cities and towns in the state that do not have courses and to breath life back into the disc golf scene in towns where the courses have little use. I have already begun to do this by sponsoring iron man tournaments on courses in towns that have 9-hole courses that are close together.

Anita Jackson is our current state coordinator and has done a great job. She has run uncontested for several years. Anita has chosen not to seek another term as Nebraska State Coordinator.

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## **New Hampshire – No Candidate**

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## **New Mexico – John Hahn #1009**

Please accept my candidacy for the upcoming election for the state of New Mexico. I've been contacted by numerous players and they would hope I would run again.

- Pharmacist
- Past state coordinator
- Tour official
- Ice bowl coordinator
- Tournament director

## **New Mexico – Bill Leslie #14073**

I will actively promote disc golf throughout the state through any means available, i.e. newspapers, radio, tv, etc. I will continue to attend events such as health fairs, Senior Olympic Treks, school events, etc. to bring more awareness of the game to all ages and categories of people. I want to make the New Mexico tournaments scheduled to provide the maximum opportunity for attendance for all New Mexico players. I will continue to provide a point of contact for anyone interested in playing in the state or desiring more information about the game.

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## **North Carolina – Todd Gillihan #3355**

I have been a member of the PDGA since 1986, and the owner of Knotty Pines, a private disc golf course since 1992. For over 20 years, I have been a self-employed Income Tax Professional. My occupation has allowed me the time to promote the sport of disc golf during my off season. I have directed many successful PDGA events, including the State Games of North Carolina, The Horizons Park Classic, and The Yadkin Open. I promoted and directed the Piedmont Random Doubles Tour and the Western Carolina Homegrown Tour. Currently, I serve as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Forsyth County Disc Golf Club. My diversified experience in the sport of disc golf makes me uniquely qualified to be the PDGA Coordinator for the Great State of North Carolina.

Disc golf is growing with accelerating speed. In NC, the demand for PDGA events already exceeds the number of quality weekends in a calendar year. If elected, I will end the mandate that limits C-tier tournaments to one per weekend. Our State should be divided into different regions, allowing for a mountain and a coastal tournament in the same weekend. The State Coordinator should not stand in the way of the growth of our sport.

The State Coordinator needs to realize that the PDGA Tour does not operate in a vacuum in North Carolina. If elected, I will work with the director of the NC Homegrown Tour, and other tournament directors when shaping the schedule for the PDGA Tour to avoid such things as holding a PDGA Tour event and a Homegrown Tour event in the same area on the same weekend.

If elected I will actively encourage disc golf clubs to become affiliated with the PDGA, so that we may help them coordinate and promote their events. Above all, I will be open to new ideas as we take our sport into 2010 and beyond.

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## **Ohio – Paul Jay #10227**

- 11 year member of the PDGA
- Columbus Flyers DGC- President 2005-2009
- National Tour Tournament Director 2005-2009
- Course Designer

- Tournament player 1994-2005

**Ohio – Paul Jay #10227 (continued)**

Unfortunately, I had to retired from playing due to a spinal cord injury. But my passion keeps me involved and very close to the sport.

I am interesting in the state coordinators position because I have a passion for supporting and promoting the sport. I toured extensively while I was playing and have played in most all Ohio tournaments. I'm familiar with the history of the PDGA events in Ohio and their tournament directors.

The best part of all my duties has been interacting with people and discussing our great sport, all the while promoting the PDGA and everything I think organization stands for. I love the growth of our sport and am excited to be part of that.

Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy.

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**Ontario – Kim Scott-Wood #19777**

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**Pennsylvania – Ray Rogers #4792**

My name is Ray "R-man" Rogers (PDGA# 4792). I have been a member of the PDGA for over 20 years and have seen an incredible growth to the sport of disc golf. I am running for the position of PA State coordinator. I feel my knowledge in the running of tournaments, as well as trying to scheduling them will make me the best choice for this position. I know a lot of the people involved in the clubs across the state as well as NY, NJ, DE, MD, and WV. I am currently a member of the Stonersville Dead Dogs disc golf club and I am involved with being the TD and or scheduling over 12 tournaments for the club during the year. I am also a member of the Lehigh Valley Disc Club (LVDC), and have been vice president of the club for 2 years.

Thank you for considering me for this position.

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**Quebec – Peter Lizotte #9189**

I moved back to my natal province of Quebec after a 25 year stint in Vancouver BC. Disc golf is still very small in Quebec and in the last 3 years I've worked hard to make contacts with disc golfers in the province and have 2 course proposal/installation projects in motion.

I anticipate rapid growth once a few more courses get installed in the province. There is an affiliate PDGA club in Montreal and several Quebec players that attend PDGA sanctioned events. The next few years may not see any sanctioned events here as the focus will be on course installation and the birth of a provincial body that will serve to help dig out the hidden DG 'enclaves' that do exist.

I will ensure that all visible DG activity will be mapped out, and offer my experience if requested, to assist in their development.

I will guide the players to the work the PDGA conducts and the possibilities there-in. Although I am a member of the ODGC (Ottawa Disc Golf Club) I feel I can improve my understanding of DG activity in the area as lots of that activity takes place across the boarder in Quebec. I will do that.

I look forward to all challenges pertaining to disc golf.

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**Rhode Island – Norman Fitzgerald #23891**

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## **Saskatchewan - Murray Gordon #19521**

I would like my name to stand as the Saskatchewan PDGA provincial coordinator. Flash Gordon with the help of the Gophertown Disc Golf Club has enjoyed 3 PDGA. Ice Bowls where the Kooz bear not only made an appearance, he threw a hole in one on #18! @ Diefendbaker Park Disc Golf Course... The S'toon. Food Bank has recieved \$1,250.00 and 705 pounds of non-perishable food from the past 3 P.D.G.A. Ice Bowls.

This year Murray Disc Golf course will have redesigned the back 9 holes and renovated the Murvanna Tournament Lounge and bathroom/club house facility. I have started a new career pumping gas at the Coop Gas Bar on Highway # 2 in Watrous, Saskatchewan. When my course is completed hopefully by the end of the summer of 2009 I will host the 1st Saskatchewan Tiger Lily Open disc golf tournament where the host will turn 57 and Lil'Miss Higgins and The Deep Dark Woods band from Saskatoon will play the Disc Golf Ball at the world famous Danceland at Manitou Beach, Saskatchewan. September 24th and 25th, 2009. The 2010 PDGA Western Disc Golf Championships will be hosted by Murray Disc Golf pending PDGA Tour Manager approval....See you there and Keep Disc'n

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## **South Dakota – Kayne Larimer #20631**

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## **Texas - Gary Duke #9426**

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## **Vermont – David Frothingham #27112**

I began playing disc golf in the fall of 2004. In the spring of 2005 and I began playing competitively and have been ever since. In 2006 I was a founding Member of the Green Mountain Disc Golf Club and have been President for the past 4 years. I have also been the TD or Co-TD of the Sap Bucket Open for 2006 - 2009.

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## **Washington - Eric Edgerton #14138**

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## **Wisconsin - Terry Miller #10738**

I have proudly served as the WI State Coordinator since the inception of the program nearly 9 years ago. I am continually strengthening bonds with the PDGA, tournament directors, manufacturers, and the parks departments. With excitement, enthusiasm, and countless hours of dedication I have watched Wisconsin emerge as one of the best places in the Country for playing disc golf. We currently rank in the top five in a number of categories including number of courses available to play!

I had the lead role as Tournament Director for the 2007 Amateur World Championships in Milwaukee. It was very successful with nearly 550 competitors from all over globe. The incredible complex at Highbridge hosted the Professional World Championships just one week later in Northern Wisconsin. These extraordinary events are a testament that the PDGA knows just how strong the Wisconsin disc golf community truly is. I am honored to help lead the way in 2009 and beyond.

We are very spoiled when it comes to the Wisconsin disc golf scene and I intend to keep it that way!

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