

2010 PDGA Election – State/Province Coordinator Candidate Statements

Alaska – Edan Badajos, #31776

I have spent the last 15 years working outdoors in Alaska doing a variety of different jobs. I currently work for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game conducting clam surveys. I also work for Bulletproof Nets building salmon and herring seines for the commercial fishing industry. In the past I have worked as a lab analyst and volunteer coordinator for the non-profit organization Cook Inletkeeper. I have also worked as a laborer building trails and fighting forest fires for the U.S. Forest Service.

I have been a member of the PDGA since 2006 and have been the Alaska State Coordinator since 2008. I first learned about the game of disc golf in 1996 in Arcata, CA. I played casually off and on until 2003 when a disc golf course was built in the town of Juneau, AK where I was living and going to school. I then began playing more regularly and competing in tournaments. I competed for three years as an amateur and I have been competing as a professional since 2008. In 2004, I moved to Homer, AK and was disappointed to find that the nearest disc golf course was 250 miles away in Anchorage. I then decided to build a disc golf course on my property and I am now the proud owner and operator of the Moose Pretzel Disc Golf Course. I am also a certified PDGA official and I have hosted and been the tournament director for 10 PDGA sanctioned events in the last three years.

I am a dedicated member of the Alaska disc golf community and if elected as State Coordinator, I will continue to work toward the advancement of the sport in our great state. I am a participating member of the Alaska Disc Golf Association and I have worked with the club the past two years to create the best possible schedule for tournaments. I am very familiar with the various disc golf communities around the state. From Fairbanks, to Anchorage, to Juneau, I will do everything possible to encourage more participation and bigger and better events. And locally, besides running my own private course, I am currently working with the City of Homer to open a public disc golf course in town. If elected, I will continue to volunteer my time and energy because I love the game of disc golf and I want to see the sport grow and succeed in Alaska.

California (south) – Suzette Simons, #11957

I have been a PDGA volunteer since 1999 in Iowa City, IA. Member of the Minnesota Frisbee Association from 2000 to 2004. Served as South Zone Representative in 2001. Served as President of the Minnesota Frisbee Association from 2002 to 2004. Member of the So Cal Disc Golf Association from 2004 to present. Served as President of the So Cal DGA since November 2004 to present. Annual Tournament Director for Sunrise Showdown – 2006 to present. Annual Tournament Director for So Cal Championships 2005 – present. I have run or been a key volunteer for numerous PDGA events, Majors and NT's. Served on PDGA Competition Committee 2007 to present. Serving as current PDGA State Rep for Southern California. Took over remaining term upon the death of Tim Selinske in August, 2009.

Florida – Bryan Moore, #18790

I've worked in the publishing industry for more than ten years as partner in Positive Change Media, Inc which sold in April 2009. Services included promotional campaigns, marketing research & development, ad & web design, sales & account management, circulation, office management, and special event management. I've also served multiple years as site manager for Efest Florida, a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to operating one of the largest green living, music and arts festivals in Florida.

Active touring pro sponsored by Discraft, in my eighth season competing in the open division. Nominated for PDGA Rookie of the Year in 2003. Committed to promoting PDGA tournaments, charity fundraisers, and fun events for all ages & all skill levels. Conducted youth clinics for boys & girls, organized a variety of tournaments, introduced disc golf to regional media outlets including radio stations & print magazines, and introduced our sport to non-profit organizations including the Boy Scouts of America. I've also served four years on the Sarasota Sky Pilots board of directors (2007-2010).

(Florida – Bryan Moore)

Florida is an amazing place with so much opportunity to grow the sport of disc golf. My goal as the PDGA State Coordinator is to help expand disc golf to youth groups and schools. My intention is to build a network of teachers and volunteers that become strong advocates for more disc golf courses being built in our city, county and state parks systems. The overall value of our sport is unmatched when compared to other athletic installations, plus disc golf teaches sportsmanship and fair-play without the economic barriers of traditional golf. Our state has great potential to rapidly develop another 30 courses and become one of the premier states for disc golf.

My second goal is to help brand and market the Fabulous Florida Tour to more companies and corporations. The FFT comprises most of the PDGA tournaments held in our state and has the potential to land several key sponsors. I'll work closely with FFT officers Shawn Harrigan and Val Mullikin, along with the tournament directors to engage meaningful advances in sponsorship opportunities.

As the state coordinator I will also help enforce lower entry fees to PDGA tournaments in Florida, by following the PDGA guidelines for prices. A lower entry fee should help increase participation at our events.

Lastly, I will offer a one-day qualifying event to decide the coveted PDGA State Representative spot at the 2011 United States Disc Golf Championship. The one-day event will have a modest entry fee, will be centrally located, open to all players, and will be restricted to Florida residents.

Florida – Jack Hicks, #28773

I have worked in the IT field for over the past 15 years. For the last 10 years, I have been consulting for a software development company. I work with clients all over the world, assisting with product installation, configuration and integration with other products in their environment. Additionally, I often analyze client environments and make recommendations on areas of potential risk and increased efficiency.

Originally I was a ball golfer and heard about disc golf from a friend. The first time I picked up and tossed a disc was in 2006. Since that first throw, I was hooked. I went out and purchased a set of discs and a bag. Two months later I entered my first amateur tournament, the 3rd Alabama Amateur Open. I finished 13th out of 35 in the Intermediate division. Since then, I have competed in over 49 PDGA Sanctioned events. Additionally, I served on the board for the River City Disc Golf Association and was the 2010 Jacksonville Open Tournament Director. Prior to 2010, I was co TD for the 2008 and 2009 Jacksonville Open.

Like most of you, I have a passion for this sport of ours. Since my introduction to the sport, I have participated in many tournaments, assisted and ran my share of tournaments as well. Namely, The Jacksonville Open, which is known for its generosity both to the golfers and their charity. I am seeking the position of Florida State Coordinator and feel my experience and passion for disc golf is a great fit for this position. The Fabulous Florida tour is by far the best series I have been affiliated with and I would like to do my part in making it better.

Iowa – Justin McCluen, #12468

I've been self employed with 3 different businesses in the last 12 years. Currently I'm a contractor with Fed Ex Ground Package Systems.

I've been playing disc golf for 16 years. I've been involved with many projects as a member of the Des Moines Disc Golf Club including several course installations, tournament planning, and some course design. I've played in approximately 20 states on roughly 150 courses. I haven't achieved as much as I would've liked as a player, but I do have a few wins as a Pro and have qualified for the USDGC on 3 separate occasions. But the most important thing is all the people I've met and the friends I've made in this game.

I am running for the State Coordinator of Iowa for several reasons. I want to be more involved with all the work being done in our state. We have an incredible community of players and clubs, and I want to do what I can to keep up the momentum our state has with all of it's great courses and tournaments. In addition to the usual duties involved with this position, I hope to work with neighboring State Coordinators to better improve travel between our

(Iowa – Justin McCluen)

bordering states and consolidating players to create bigger fields which hopefully will lead to further growth. I feel that I'm very well suited for this position because of my experience, good communication, and presence at most of the big events. Thanks for your consideration.

Iowa – Tim Miller, #15936

My mission as the Iowa State PDGA coordinator will be to “Ensure the highest quality tournament experience for the disc golf players”. I plan to recognize what makes a great tournament and help others with improvements. I will actively work with and communicate to all Tournament Directors in the State of Iowa. We will work together to develop a more robust process for determining the official PDGA tournament schedule each year. I will bring a high level of professionalism, energy and results to the PDGA disc golf community in Iowa and surrounding states.

- Currently serving as the Black Hawk Metro Disc Golf League Project Manager with the City of Cedar Falls for two (2) new disc golf courses coming in 2011
- TD – 2010 PDGA C-tier Waterloo Open
- TD – 2010 Black Hawk Metro Ironman
- TD – 2010 PDGA C-tier Hickory Hills Doubles
- Proud Iron Lion Disc Golf Team Member 2009 & 2010
- TD – 2000 to 2010 Annual New Year's Day Food Pantry (11 years)
- Assistant TD – 2008 & 2009 PDGA B/C-tier Iron Lion Safari
- TD – 2006 & 2007 Pinecrest Ridge Invitational
- Assistant TD – 2006 PDGA B-tier Dispatch/Argus
- Assisted the City of Princeton, IL with the design and promotion of a 9 Hole course Fall 2006
- Assistant TD and volunteer to the Peoria Open (many times)
- TD – 2006 PDGA C-tier Iron Lion Safari
- City of Geneseo Park Board Member – 2000 to 2005
- TD – 2004 Richmond Hill Rumble
- TD – 2003 Richmond Hill Players Tournament
- TD – 2002 PDGA B-tier Maple City Open
- Co-designer of the 18 Hole Eastern Avenue Disc Golf Course, Davenport, Iowa August 2002
- TD – 2001 & 2002 PDGA B-tier Camden Doubles
- TD – 2000 PDGA B-tier Maple City Open
- Assistant TD – 1999 PDGA C-tier Geneseo October Open
- Designed, Raised Money and Installed the 18 Hole Richmond Hill Park Disc Golf Course, Geneseo, Illinois August 1999
- Past Quad City Disc Golf Club President (multiple times)
- Co-founder of the Quad City Disc Golf Club in February 1999

Illinois – Brett Comincioli, #19235

I have been a physical education teacher and coach for the past 11 years. My biggest strength has been organizational skills. I interact with a wide variety of people of all ages on a daily basis. Organization and communication has helped me successfully serve two terms as state coordinator.

I picked up a disc for the first time in June of 2001. I joined the PDGA in 2003 and have been an active member since. I have played 114 PDGA Sanctioned events. I have assisted or have been the tournament director of 50+ sanctioned events. I have helped bring PDGA events into areas of Illinois that had not previously hosted PDGA sanctioned events. Those areas include Libertyville, Lombard, Streamwood, Aurora, Rockford, Streamwood, Bloomington, and Crystal Lake. I have supported many clubs in Illinois. I am currently the President of DISContinuum Disc Golf Club.

As State Coordinator my #1 goal has been to get the Illinois Tour out as early as possible without conflicts within the state. I have promoted the PDGA in any way I can. Illinois ranked #5 last year with 551 PDGA members. I have

(Illinois – Brett Comincioli)

played all but two of the 18 hole courses in Illinois. It has been a goal of mine to play every course in Illinois. I have updated the course directory many times when course information has not been correct. I have utilized the USDGC Exempt Spot and sent a player from Illinois each year. The IOS team has had a

USADGC Qualifer since 2005. I have done anything and everything I can do to help Illinois disc golf grow. I will continue to do so if I am reelected.

Kentucky – Josh Dobelstein, #14490

Owner of Disc Golf Shop and More LLC, Sales/Marketing/Promotion/Services

15 years of disc golf experience. I have a good relationship with most of the current KY Tournament Directors

Maine - Josh Connell, #17393

I have been playing disc golf for over a dozen years, more than half of which has been in the great disc golf state of Maine. In working for the man who has been the Maine state rep for the last eight years, Bob Enman, I've been at the heart of all things PDGA in Maine for years. All I want to do in the future is to continue the work that Bob has done to grow the organization and grow the sport in the state over the last fifteen years.

I plan to continue to run or have a hand in running every PDGA sanctioned event in the state, as well as running rules clinics and encouraging more players to join the PDGA. Maine has experienced exponential growth in recent years. I'd like to be the hand on the rudder maintaining the steady course.

New Hampshire – Rob Feeney, #33565

This time last year I was surprised and honored to be elected the state representative for the state of New Hampshire. I was surprised because I did not run, but instead I won as a write in. This year I ask for your vote to be the PDGA representative for the state of New Hampshire.

Since it has been less than one year, I feel that I am just getting my legs under me with my new duties as a promoter of disc golf. So far, I have been running a tag league at Bellamy Park, and helping a new course in Wolfboro to promote and attract disc golfers to their park.

I hope to be able to use my position to bring more PDGA sanctioned events to New Hampshire, and to support the growth of this great sport of disc golf for the next 2 years as your PDGA representative. If you should have any questions you would like me to answer before you cast your vote, please feel free to send an email to feeney_rob@yahoo.com and I will answer you promptly. Thanks for your support and consideration.

Oklahoma – Michael Treat, #26709

I began playing Disc Golf approximately five years ago. I quickly developed an interest in helping the TDSA in some capacity so I decided to run for an administrator position. I am currently the secretary and treasurer. My responsibilities include recording minutes at our monthly and annual meetings and I am responsible for recording all club financial matters, making deposits and other general treasurer functions. I have run weekly mini's at Riverside for the last four years. I was involved in the 2006 Am Worlds which was held in Tulsa. I was Co-TD for the Green Country Open NT and I have run multiple A-Tier tournaments. For the second year in a row I am the TD for the Oklahoma Open.

(Oklahoma – Michael Treat)

My platform is to continue and improve on the great work of our past State Coordinators. I would like to expand communication with our state PDGA members via a website or newsletter. I will be very supportive of the traditions in the state. I am fair and I have absolutely no agenda other than promoting the sport of Disc Golf in our region and supporting our PDGA members in the state.

Your State Coordinator will need to travel to various cities and park departments to make presentations for new courses and overall Disc Golf promotion. I have the time to devote to promoting Disc Golf across the state and I will pay for all expenses myself with no cost to you the players. Promoting Disc Golf should be the primary focus of a State Coordination

As you know, each State Coordinator is given one spot to the USDGC each year. I promise to award this via a competitive process. I will never keep the spot for myself or any family member. It will be awarded each year to whoever earns it in a competitive format.

I work well with others which will be critical due to the increasing number of tournaments in our surrounding states. I will work with my fellow State Coordinators to provide you the players the greatest possible opportunities to compete.

As you may know, a new 501(C) 3 has been formed as an off shoot of the TDSA. It is called the Oklahoma Disc Golf Foundation and it will greatly enhance our chances of getting corporate donations as businesses and individuals can now record donations as a tax deduction. I feel I have the education and experience to work with the ODGF and potential corporate sponsors. I will be able to assist in presenting proposals based on sound business and financial principals.

In summary, I would sincerely appreciate your vote. I am one of you and I want to give my time and energy over the next two years to support Disc Golf and the players in all areas of Oklahoma. I will be fair and I will make myself available to you anytime you need my help. There is a lot more to this position than making the annual schedule. You need someone who will support and promote this great sport. Earning this position has been a goal of mine for several years.

If you give me the opportunity, I promise to do my best at all times.

Oregon – Dion Arlyn, 24781

I am currently a martial arts instructor at Aurora Martial Arts in Corvallis, Oregon. I have been teaching karate for over eight years, and hold the rank of third degree black belt.

I have been playing disc golf since 2003, as it happens to many in our sport I was hooked after one time of playing it. In 2006 I turned pro as well as began organizing disc golf tournaments. I now direct several events each year, as well as the Willamette Open, now in its 12th year and the first year it will be sanctioned as an A tier.

I currently am the coordinator of the Oregon Tour, a series of the best events Oregon has to offer. The tour is modeled after the Oregon Series, which ceased to exist in 2009. I stepped up to fill the void of a state series, and as such interact with the tournament directors in Oregon, which happens to be a large part of being a state coordinator.

I feel I am qualified to be Oregon's state coordinator for three reasons:

- 1.) I am a dedicated disc golfer who wishes our sport to grow and benefit both the state and its golfers.
- 2.) I have good relations with the tournament directors of the state, and am already in a position to coordinate dates and set expectations.
- 3.) I am willing to carry the responsibility of the title, and have a personal stake in the success of disc golf in our region.

Oregon – Rebecca Duffy, #33115

I run my own business and I have done part time business consulting for 12 years. I am in my second term serving as President for the Eugene Disc Golf Club—I am serving on a City Planning Committee in Eugene to plan future courses for the area for the past year. I am TD for the Eugene Celebration and have been competitively playing for 3 1/5 years. I am also serving on the Women's Committee for the PDGA.

Virginia – Bob Cannon, #26532

I began playing Disc Golf in 2004. In 2005 I became a member of the Spotsylvania Disc Golf Club (SDGC) and entered my first tournament. In January 2006, I became a PDGA Official and have served as President of the SDGC since 2007. Beginning in 2007, I have been the Tournament Director for the Loriella Challenge. I played in the Amateur Worlds in 2007 and 2008. In 2009, I started playing in the Professional Masters Division. I have served as an Assistant Tournament Director for the 2009 Virginia Open and the 2010 Grange Open.

Since discovering Disc Golf in 2004, I have committed to being involved in maintaining our local courses, public and private, and promoting the sport of Disc Golf. I have worked closely with the current Virginia State Coordinator and believe that I can successfully perform the SC duties. I have a good rapport with many of the Tournament Directors in Virginia and will strive to work closely with the clubs and TDs in our state and surrounding localities. I will represent the PDGA in a professional manner and will encourage others to join our organization.

West Virginia – Joshua Smith, #25139

Played "around the farm" object disc golf when I was younger. Picked up my first "real" golf disc in 1999 at a local 9 hole course in WV. Played at the Amatuer level as a PDGA member from 2004 until 2008 ultimately moving to Professional division in 2009. Assisted in design, maintenance, upgrades and implementation of several courses in WV including; Veterans Memorial Park in Clarksburg, The Mountwood Monster in Parkersburg, Seth Burton Memorial Disc Golf and Orange Crush both in Fairmont. I have also TD'd many disc golf tourneys in Fairmont and Parkersburg, WV. Best memories of the last 10 years would be hosting the first disc golf tourney at Mountwood, the ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of Orange Crush at the Seth Burton Memorial Disc Golf Complex and playing the USDGC in 2009 was also pretty great :-)

I will continue to work with Tournament Directors, clubs and courses throughout the state of WV to have greater cooperation. Assist TD's with any questions about concerning the PDGA including help with coordinating events, assistance in the completion of TD reports, resolve scheduling conflicts and installing/upgrading courses statewide.

2011 goals: Form a statewide disc golf point series consisting of PDGA tourneys at various courses in WV where players earn points for attendance, placement and volunteering at course work days and events. Utilize the web site wvdiscgolf.org to track player points to show up-to-date standings for the series. Series would run from spring to fall and culminate on a different pre-determined course each year. Working together with clubs and TD's statewide is essential for success in any and all PDGA events. I will continue to offer my assistance on behalf of the PDGA to further the disc golf community in WV.
