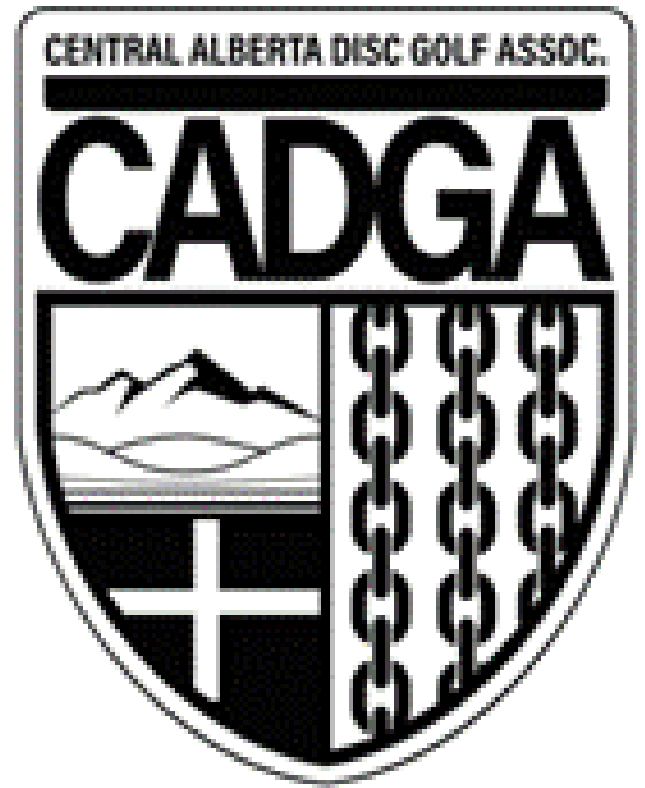


Disc Golf in Rocky Mountain House

- The Town of Rocky Mountain House Council recently approved funding for the installation of a Disc Golf course.
- The Central Alberta Disc Golf Association (CADGA) has assisted the Town in identifying potential locations for a Disc Golf course. The two locations under consideration are Riverview Park and adjacent to the high school campus.



What is Disc Golf?



- Disc Golf is a low impact sport that people of all ages and skill levels can play together at the same time. There are more than 10,000 registered Disc Golf Courses throughout Canada and the United States, most of which are installed by urban and rural municipalities.
- Disc Golf is played much like traditional golf. Instead of hitting a ball into a hole, you throw a disc (Frisbee) into a suspended metal basket. The goal is the same: to complete the course in the fewest number of strokes (throws). A disc is thrown from a tee area to each basket (hole). As players progress down the fairway, they must make each consecutive shot from the spot where the previous throw has landed. Finally, the "putt" lands in the basket and the hole is complete.
- Disc Golf courses can be found in a range of terrains from large open parks densely-treed areas. Holes vary by length and level, which is reflected in the par score, typically in the Par 3-4 range.
- There are few other recreational activities that offer the high benefit-to-cost ratio of Disc Golf.

Community Benefits of Disc Golf

- In studies measuring participation in recreational activities, **"throwing a Frisbee" is consistently ranked in the top-ten.** A Disc Golf Course serves a broader portion of the community than many narrower interest activities with higher cost and skill or fitness levels required to even begin to play. Men and women, young and old, families with small children – all can play Disc Golf. **Because Disc Golf is so easy to understand and enjoy, no one is excluded.** Players merely match their pace to their capabilities and proceed from there. From recreational to professional level of play, the sport of Disc Golf can be enjoyed by all.
- **The Town of Rocky Mountain House course will be free to play!** Most courses in Canada and the United States are located within municipal parks where residents can play for free. The equipment itself is quite inexpensive – discs designed for golf generally sell for \$10-\$20 each and only one is needed to get started playing the game. Some local/regional sports stores carry the discs although many players choose to purchase their discs online to acquire a disc with a specific brand, weight and colour.
- A Disc Golf Course will provide an inexpensive form of recreation for people of all age and skill levels and will be a great addition to the recreational facilities offered by the Town of Rocky Mountain House. A disc golf course will increase foot traffic in the selected area throughout the day. **The influx of purposeful visitors would discourage the presence of individuals who are only in the area to cause mischief such as vandalism or littering.** It will also discourage people to rough camp in any treed areas.
- **Disc Golf is an environmentally-friendly sport.** Unlike traditional golf, a Disc Golf Course weaves its way through the natural landscape through grass, fields and forest. The impact of a Disc Golf Course on flora and fauna is minimal.
- Disc golfers generally take great pride in where they play, **helping to reduce litter on the course.** In the long-term, a new course would also help in the conservation of the area by giving young people in the community a stake in its preservation and protection.

Selecting a Disc Golf Course Location

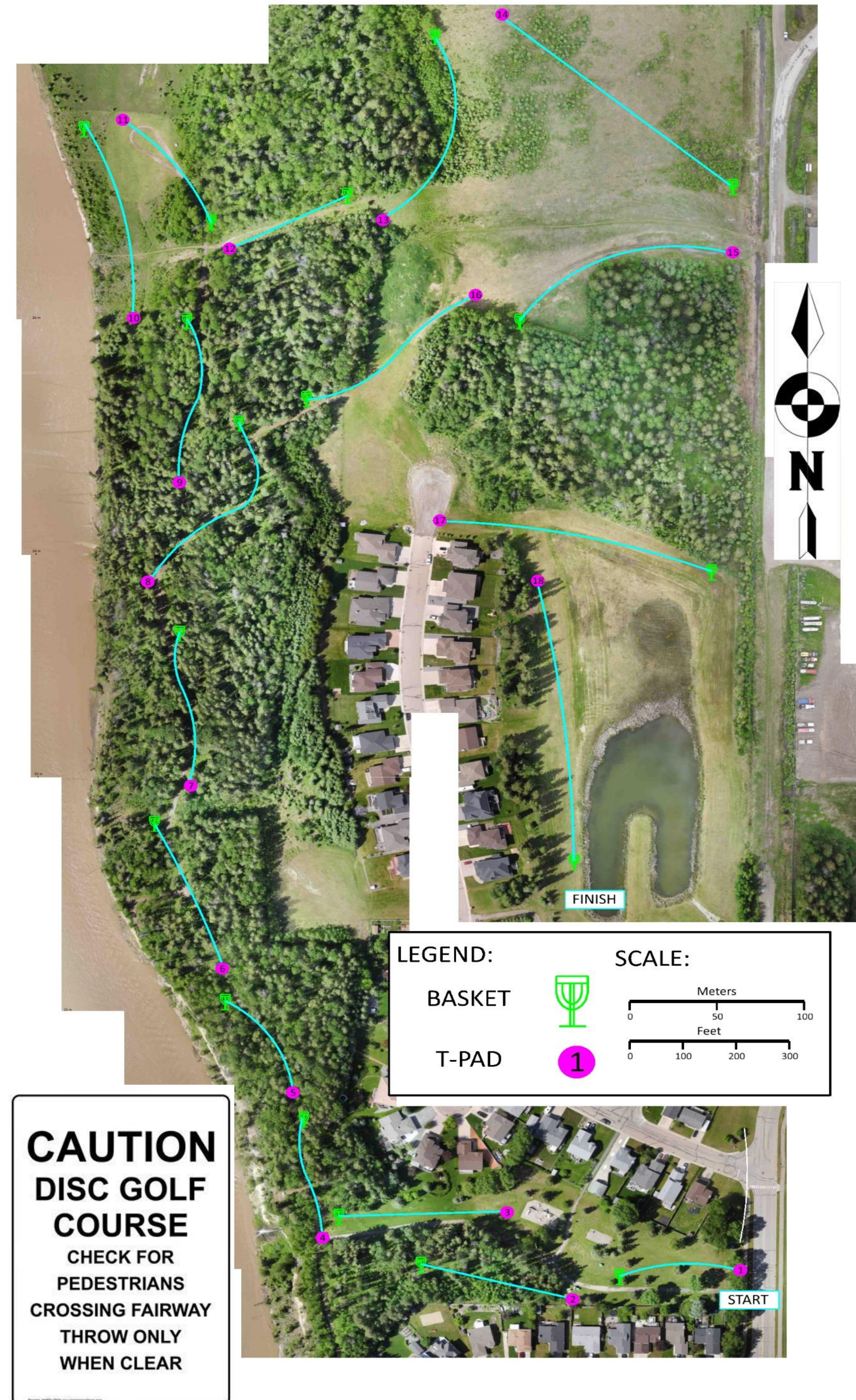
- When selecting sites for a potential Disc Golf Course, consideration is given to ensuring the continued safe use of the available space for ongoing recreational use by all other members of the community.
- To identify potential locations in the Town of Rocky Mountain House, CADGA conducted several site visits to review the existing site conditions, terrain and proximity to existing facilities.
- CADGA also reviewed the Rocky Mountain House Regional Recreation Master Plan which outlines the location of future recreation development, and the Town's Trail Master Plan
- Ideally, course locations should be located near parking facilities and rest room facilities.
- Based on a high-level review of the Town and available aerial imagery, two potential 18-hole course layouts have been identified: **Riverview Park** and **adjacent to the high school campus**.
 - Riverview Park has on-street parking available along 60 Street and 71 Avenue.
 - The high school location has available parking at the Lou Soppit Community Centre and Rocky Regional Recreation Centre, with restroom facilities available at the Helen Hunley Park.

Riverview Park 18-Hole

- A Disc Golf Course could be laid out in Riverview Park and along the River Flats trail system.
- The existing gravel trails provide perfect open corridors for Disc Golf holes.
- The treed areas and water hazards offer a fantastic opportunity for disc golf holes that would be challenging for experienced disc golfers.
- The complexity would make this course an ideal location for future tournaments and put Rocky Mountain House on the map as a disc golf destination in Alberta and Canada.
- A course layout sign would be erected near the Tee-pad for Hole #1. This would include general rules of the game for any new players.
- A 9-hole playing option can be incorporated within the course design.



- Safety signs will be required at all course entry points to ensure all trail users are aware they have entered a Disc Golf Course.
- In addition, check for pedestrian signs will be strategically located throughout the course to make sure players yield to trail users at all times. This is a general rule for all players, but signs provide trail users additional reassurance.



High School campus 18-Hole

- A Disc Golf Course could be laid out adjacent to the high school campus and along the trail system by the off-leash dog park.
- The existing trails and treed area north of the school provide perfect open corridors for Disc Golf holes, and be challenging for all levels of disc golfer.
- This location is very accessible for students.
- This course would make use of underutilized land.
- A course layout sign would be erected near the Tee-pad for Hole #1. This would include general rules of the game for any new players.
- A 9-hole playing option can be incorporated within the course design.

CAUTION

ENTERING
DISC GOLF
COURSE

WATCH FOR
FLYING DISCS

- Safety signs will be required at all course entry points to ensure all trail users are aware they have entered a Disc Golf Course.
- In addition, check for pedestrian signs will be strategically located throughout the course to make sure players yield to trail users at all times. This is a general rule for all players, but signs provide trail users additional reassurance.

CAUTION
DISC GOLF
COURSE
CHECK FOR
PEDESTRIANS
CROSSING FAIRWAY
THROW ONLY
WHEN CLEAR

