

Christchurch Disc Golf Club Incorporated - Annual General Meeting 31st May 2020

Chairman's Report on the Operations of the Club for the year to May 2020

The last year has been a relatively quiet but steady year as the Club positions itself for more rapid growth.

2 new courses were installed during the year, an 18-hole object course in Ascot Park/QE2 in October, and a 9-hole basket course in Brooker Ave (Red Zone) in November. This takes the number of courses in Christchurch to 5 (63 holes).

The Club has strengthened its relationship with the Christchurch City Council, something that will continue. The Council appointed a senior single point of contact for the Club. The Club has submitted applications for 9 more courses in the city, has designed 4 of them, and has conducted walk-rounds with Council staff of 3 of them (the 4th was done by the Council, with no need for assistance from the Club).

We expect to progress applications for new courses with the Council and Community Boards soon.

Fundraising is an important next step for the Club. We have been unable to do much without our first annual set of accounts (the Club was incorporated in January 2020), which have only just been finalised. With our first set of annual accounts, we are now in a position to apply for funding (from both the private and public sectors), and to apply for the status of registered charity (as agreed by Members last year).

The number of players in Christchurch has grown significantly. There are an estimated 1,500 or more players in Christchurch now, and growing rapidly. Jellie Park has seen significant numbers of players at peak times (hundreds a day). Queueing is not uncommon, underlining the need for more courses.

In terms of our Strategic Plan 2019-2033 and our Capital Expenditure Plan JAN19-JUN20, we are perhaps 6 months behind schedule. This is due mainly to the dependency on producing our first set of annual accounts (something I had not anticipated a year ago), and to a lesser extent due to Covid-19. In all other respects, these plans are in robust good health.

The Club has received no complaints or queries from the Christchurch City Council or media regarding Covid-19.

A Club website was launched during the year, to provide a source of standing data, news and information beyond what can be provided on our Facebook page. We expect to refine this further over the coming year.

I myself have devoted somewhat less time to the Club in the last year, due to my commitment of time to the position of Chairman of NZDG. However, a major portion of my NZDG time has been committed to initiatives which can be expected to greatly assist the Club, for example the building of a new NZDG website (important source of information for new players, government bodies, donors, sponsors), building a relationship with Sport New Zealand, and mobilising resources to assist Clubs with fundraising initiatives (something I expect to bear fruit over the coming year).

Looking wider at Canterbury (ex-Christchurch), we now have 2 courses in Timaru, 2 courses in Tekapo, a fully basketted course in Twizel, and a course in Waimate. There are also initiatives afoot for new courses in Ashburton and possibly Hanmer, Ohau and Mount Cook. A sure sign of vigour. The Club stands ready to help such places if they do not yet have an incorporated Club (for example our Club is able to receive and disburse funds on their behalf, and to write letters of support - NZDG likewise). It is hoped that other champions will come forward from other parts of Canterbury.

Last, but not least, a word of thanks. We are a voluntary association of some 50 Members. Without them, and the selfless commitment of time and effort from the Members of our General Committee, we are nothing. My hearty thanks to you all.

Paul Deacon, Chairman