



## Parks and Recreation Department City of Bellingham

### MEMORANDUM

**To:** Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members  
**From:** Steve Janiszewski, Park Operations Manager  
**Subject:** Proposed Disc Golf Course locations  
**Date:** January 11, 2023

The Whatcom Disc Golf Club is a non-profit organization with approximately 975 members across the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County. The Club currently helps to maintain and improve the 9-hole disc golf course at Cornwall Memorial Park through a Memorandum of Agreement in addition to holding tournaments and volunteer work parties. The Club also has participated in the planning and testing of a new 18-hole disc golf course at the Lake Padden Golf Course in 2022.

This group is interested in supporting additional locations to install disc golf to meet the growing interest in the sport. They are proposing the following locations:

- Queen Mountain Open Space
- Civic Athletic Complex
- Northridge Park

**Queen Mountain DGC-** This would be a really excellent location for an 18-hole, intermediate wooded course that would require little to no tree removal and would benefit the Parks' goal of providing more recreational activities on the north end of Bellingham. This East Coast style forest is brimming with opportunity for a terrific course. The topography and distribution of trees lends itself to disc golf.

This would be an opportunity to increase use at Northridge Park in a high-growth area. This city-owned park is not yet developed, and would provide a great place for a trial of the Finnish model of discgolfparke, which combine disc golf, forest, and a walking trail surrounding the course, offering recreational opportunities for all while preserving the essential character and ecology of the forest.

**Civic Field 18-** This track would fit in well with proposed expansion and redevelopment of the Civic Field Complex. These woods are critically underused, and collect litter and discourage legitimate use. A disc golf track would open up some of the dense underbrush without disturbing the canopy or mature trees.

#### Whatcom Disc Golf Club Proposed Course Options

