



INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
INFORMATIONAL ITEM
Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department
Parks Maintenance Division

Date: February 22, 2024
To: The Honorable Board of County Commissioners
Thru: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator
Michael C. Zito, Deputy County Administrator
Beth Powell, Parks, Recreation & Conservation Director
From: Brad Dewson, Parks Superintendent
Subject: Introducing the Opening of the New Dick Bird Disc Golf Course

Playing disc golf has plenty of benefits, especially for your physical and mental health. Over the past few years, there has been a massive increase in the number of people playing this sport. If you play disc golf consistently, you will notice yourself becoming more creative, stronger, healthy, and happy. The sport is inexpensive and therefore inclusive. Disc golf courses are easy to install, and they can offer the highest return for a park with a very low-cost investment.

In November of 2019 Indian River County Parks Maintenance Division installed a 9-hole disc golf course at Kiwanis Hobart Park. Since that time the course has been expanded into an 18-hole course. Treasure Coast Disc Golf Club has adopted Kiwanis Hobart Park as part of the County's Adopt-A-Park program. Besides litter control they help in maintaining the course and assisting in course improvements. Having this course and the daily traffic from players has discouraged people from misusing the park. The Hobart course is the second most used Treasure Coast course out of the nine courses in the area according to the U-Disc scoring app. The course is home to 4-5 tournaments per year bringing in players from neighboring counties.

The success of the Hobart course has led Parks staff to build an 18-hole course at Dick Bird Park. The course is designed as a shorter course meant for beginners and intermediate players as well as advanced players working their short game. The intent of the shorter course was to offer disc golf in a second location, close to the Intergenerational Recreation Center, where beginners of any age can be introduced to the game of disc golf through regular recreation programming. This course is currently open to the public and will be totally completed in March of 2024.