

NorCal Team Disc Golf Invitational: FORMAT & RULES

We will be playing a format that is referred to as, "Team Alternate Doubles". This is a format that allows disc golf to be played in a true team fashion. It is a format I adopted from playing in the National Collegiate Disc Golf Championships, and am excited to introduce into Northern California. The following information includes an example of the format, as well as an explanation on the rules, team set ups, and pairing guidelines. This may be confusing at first, so please bear with me.

"Team Alternate Doubles" Format Example

Monterey team members A & B are a doubles team, and are on the same card as Monterey C & D doubles team members. They are playing team Santa Cruz, which is paired the same way, and both teams are teeing off on hole one (yes, there is an 8some on the hole). Monterey players A & C tee off first, followed by Santa Cruz A & C. Monterey players B & D and Santa Cruz B & D take the next shots from their respective team members lies (B's play from A's lie, and D's play from C's lie). This "alternating" continues throughout the duration of the hole until completed. This same format is repeated throughout the match, with each individual team alternating who tees off first on every other hole. (i.e. – A & C tee off on odd hole numbers, B & D tee off on even hole numbers for the duration of the match.) Each team will declare which doubles pairing will be teeing off on which holes at the beginning of every match.

There will be 8-somes on each hole during the event: Two doubles teams per club (which are one team, see below) will face off against two doubles teams from another club. BUT, there will be the same amount of shots thrown on each hole as if it were a standard doubles match (since we are playing alternate format).

Scoring

Scoring for the duration of the event will be match play format. Teams receive 1 point for winning a match, and half a point will be awarded in the event of a tie in the match. Most points at the end of all 6 matches will determine the 4 teams that make the cut for finals.

For individual hole scoring in matches, the teams will take the best score out of the two doubles pairings for each hole. (i.e. - if Monterey A & B get a 4 on a hole, and Monterey C & D get a 3, while playing Santa Cruz whose players A & B got a 4 and players C & D got a 5, then Monterey would have won that hole because they would take their teams' best score on that hole, which is a 3. So Monterey would record a 1 on the scorecard, and Santa Cruz would record a 0.)

There is definitely some strategy to be had in this format of play. If Monterey A & B are parked for the 3, and Monterey C & D are still 75 ft out with a death putt for the 2, you better believe C

& D are running that putt, because their team members (A & B) are already guaranteeing them at very worst a 3 on the hole. OR, if Monterey C & D players are out of bounds off their tee shot and at very best are getting a 4 on the hole, then Monterey A & B players might consider playing more safe off the tee and playing for a 3, since their teammates (C & D) are out of bounds. This is where team communication and strategy come into play.

Seeding

Each team will have to “seed” their rosters and submit them before the tournament begins. What this means is that each team must have their players ranked and separated accordingly prior to the start of play. Each club needs to have the following teams separated amongst their 16 players:

Team #1 (club’s top 4 overall players)

Team #2 (the clubs next best 4 overall players)

Team #3 (the clubs next best 4 overall players)

Team #4 (two Masters players and two Womens players)

*All of the above teams are still apart of each clubs “overall” team. Each of the above teams will be competing for points in each of their respective matches. So for example, team Monterey is playing team Santa Cruz... if team Santa Cruz had their #1 and #3 teams win their matches, and team #4 tied their match, then for that round the Santa Cruz team receives a score of 2.5 points. And, conversely, team Monterey would score 1.5 points for that round (1 point for the Monterey #2 team winning their match, and .5 points for the tie with team #4)

Finals Format

The finals format will be true 4 person alternate golf. We will be taking the top 4 teams based on overall points to compete in the finals. For Finals, all teams (teams #1 - 4) for each club are going to be playing. Example: Monterey and Santa Cruz are the top 2 teams heading into Finals, with San Jose and Sacramento being 3rd and 4th, respectively. So, Monterey team #'s 1 - 4 will be playing Santa Cruz team #'s 1 - 4. And then San Jose team #'s 1 - 4 will be playing Sacramento team #'s 1 - 4.

Here is an example of the 4 person alternate golf format: On Monterey Team #1, player A tees off on hole #1, player B then plays from A’s lie, then C plays from B’s lie, and so forth,

throughout the hole. Then on hole #2, player B tees off first, player C takes next shot, then player D takes next shot, and so on. On hole #3, player C would tee off first, and then D would take the next shot, and so on. This continues through the entire 12 hole FINALS match. So each player will essentially have the opportunity to tee off 3 times each, if the match goes the entire 12 holes and is not mathematically over before then. This is TRUE team golf at its finest.

Doubles Pairings & Rules

Teams will have to keep their doubles partners and pairings throughout the remainder of the event. So for example, Team #1 cannot drop a player back to Team #3 after the tournament has begun. Vice versa, if a player is doing super well on Team #2, they cannot move up or switch places with a player on Team #1.

The individual doubles pairings (i.e. – Monterey player A and player B) will be together throughout the entire event. So if you have Monterey player A that is paired with Monterey player B, and they are on Team #1 with Monterey player C, who is paired with Monterey player D; this team, and the pairings (A & B, and C & D) will be the same throughout the entire tournament. This is where the Roncoe Showtime Rotisserie Oven saying comes into play here... "Set it, and forget it".

It is encouraged that some time and thought is put into the doubles pairings and associated teams so that doubles partners and team members all complement each other's games. For example, a couple fore hand dominant players paired with some back hand dominant players will make a more balanced team. The Masters and Women's players will be together the entire tournament as well. Unfortunately, until we are able to get teams with 20 or more members, and because this is the first year of the event, this is just the way it has to be to make things most fair amongst all teams.

Disc Golf Rules for Event

We will be following all PDGA standard rules and guidelines for play (when applicable) for this tournament. Two-Meter rule will be in effect. All o.b.'s & drop zones will be marked accordingly. There are no new or funky rules that will be introduced at this event. All players should have a good understanding of the basic rules and guidelines as set forth by the PDGA.

In Closing

I know this format is fairly new and foreign to most who will be competing, and I can assure you that after two holes of playing this format it will make a ton more sense. I HIGHLY recommend practicing this format beforehand. It will also shine a light on the true team aspect of this format, which encourages communication between players and teams throughout each match. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to ask, as I am more than happy to help. Thanks and I look forward to your club being a part of a ground breaking event!