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Disc Golf Growing in Popularity
Local Event Free for Spectators

Come see why everyone is excited about disc golf! The Atlanta Open, presented by ReMax, will take place April 17-18 at Central Park in Cumming, Georgia, and East Roswell Park in Roswell, Georgia. Ken Climo, the 2009 Atlanta Open Champion from Clearwater, FL, will defend his title in this tournament which offers players the 14th largest purse, \$15,000, out of all PDGA events. The Atlanta Open will also host at least seven past World Champions including the current World Champion, Avery Jenkins, and his sister, Women's World Champion, Valarie Jenkins. The Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau is a sponsor of the Atlanta Open and the host hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn Atlanta/North Alpharetta. The event is free for spectators.

According to the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA), disc golf is thought to have originated in the 1970s and today between eight and twelve million people have played the game. Like traditional golf, the object of the game is to get from tee to hole, or in this case basket, in the least amount of strokes. However, in disc golf, a disc or Frisbee is used in place of a ball. Like golf, there are 18 holes in disc golf and courses can range in size from five acres to 40 acres; courses can coexist with park features like picnic areas and playgrounds. Changing terrain makes the game challenging and, while formal disc golf courses exist worldwide – as well as locally at places like Wills Park, players can set up a course anywhere by establishing a tee – such as a tree, and a target, like a light pole – practicing getting from one point to the next in as few throws as possible.

Since 1976, PDGA, the governing body of the sport, has had over 42,000 members. The organization provides sanctioned events for competitors of all ages and skill levels. There are no greens fees or cart fees for disc golf, which makes it an affordable sport and disc golf is inclusive in that it allows any number of players to participate in a game. A regular Frisbee can be used to play and actual discs can be purchased at most major sporting goods stores for less than \$15.

Visit www.pdga.com for more information.

Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau

The Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau serves as the destination marketing arm for the City, promoting tourism to Alpharetta, Georgia, and attracting visitors to all 23 of Alpharetta's upscale and modern hotels. Visit awesomealpharetta.com for more information.

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