

# Specific Design Element Standards for Recreational, Competitive and Tournament players

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Element	Recreational - Red Tees	Competitive - Blue Tees	Tournament - Gold Tees
<b>Effective Length*</b>	The <b>effective lengths</b> for holes typically range from <b>150 - 270 feet</b> with a few <b>over 325 feet</b> . Most rec course designs are <b>under 5000 feet</b> for 18 holes. The Recreational Disc Golf Association recommends total length be <b>under 4000 feet</b> for an 18-hole Recreational course.	The <b>effective lengths</b> for holes typically range from <b>185 - 310 feet</b> and from <b>380 feet</b> on up. Most competitive course designs range from <b>4800 to 6400 feet</b> for 18 holes.	The <b>effective lengths</b> for holes typically range from <b>230 - 360 feet</b> and from <b>450 feet</b> on up. Tournament course designs are typically <b>over 5700 feet</b> for 18 holes. Ideally, a tournament course layout should strive for a <b>World Class Par of at least 48</b> .
<b>Approach Throws</b>	The recommended length for approach throws ranges from <b>60-180 feet</b> with a maximum of <b>230 feet</b> from the desired landing area.	The recommended length for approach throws should range from <b>80-240 feet</b> with a maximum of <b>275 feet</b> from the desired landing area.	The recommended length for approach throws ranges from <b>100-300 feet</b> with a maximum of <b>320 feet</b> from the desired landing area.
<b>Water &amp; Doglegs</b>	No Recreational player should ever be " <b>forced</b> " to throw over water that is normally greater than 18" deep (50cm). Have an alternate flight path (usually to the left) that gives player the option to not cross water. A player should not be forced to throw more than <b>180 feet</b> (effective length) from the tee to reach the corner on a dogleg hole where a throw any shorter will not allow the player to reach the basket on the next throw.	A player should be given options to throw across or around water. However, if the terrain makes a throw across water necessary, the far side of the water should be no more than <b>240 feet</b> (effective length) from the tee. Likewise, a player should not be forced to throw more than <b>240 feet</b> (effective length) from the tee to reach the corner on a dogleg hole where a throw any shorter will not allow the player to reach the basket (or next landing area) with a good next throw.	A player should be given options to throw across or around water. However, if the terrain makes a throw across water necessary, the far side of the water should be no more than <b>300 feet</b> (effective length) from the tee. Likewise, a player should not be forced to throw more than <b>300 feet</b> (effective length) from the tee to reach the corner on a dogleg hole where a throw any shorter will not allow the player to reach the basket (or next landing area) with a good next throw.
<b>Par</b>	Par on each hole is primarily for Rec players using the Rec tees. Total par usually ranges from about 68-75 on an 18-hole course. Many holes should be par 4s. Using a hole's effective length, a hole <b>up to 200 feet</b> (60m) is at least a <b>par 3</b> ; from <b>200-280 feet</b> (60-85m) is a <b>par 4</b> ; from <b>280-400 feet</b> (85-125m) is a <b>par 5</b> . (Add 1 to par for each 150 feet (45m) additional).	For sanctioned play, most holes are considered <b>par 3</b> unless otherwise indicated. Courses with established <b>World Class Par (WCP)</b> values may have a WC par value for each hole ranging from 2 to 6. It's necessary to indicate higher pars where needed to provide for the proper penalty if a player is late. Holes with effective lengths <b>over 380 feet</b> are candidates for <b>par 4s</b> and holes <b>over 720 feet</b> are candidates for <b>par 5s</b> . Some tough holes in heavy woods could have a par higher than 3 or 4 even if they aren't as long as the reference lengths stated above.	For sanctioned play, most holes are considered <b>par 3</b> unless otherwise indicated. Courses with established <b>World Class Par (WCP)</b> values may have a WC par value for each hole ranging from 2 to 6. It's necessary to indicate higher pars where needed to provide for the proper penalty if a player is late. Holes with effective lengths <b>over 450 feet</b> are candidates for <b>par 4s</b> and holes <b>over 800 feet</b> are candidates for <b>par 5s</b> . Some challenging holes in heavy woods could have a par higher than 3 or 4 even if they aren't as long as the reference lengths stated above.
<b>Signs</b>	Each Recreational tee should have permanent signs indicating the hole number, length, teeing direction (if needed) and recreational par. Signs on Rec tees should always be equal to or better than those at longer positions on each hole.	At minimum, the hole number and length(s) should be indicated either on a sign or painted on the tee pad, board or marking stone. On wooded courses and/or other blind holes, it's valuable to indicate the direction of the flight path(s). If the hole has multiple pin placements, their locations should be indicated. If all placements are blind on a hole, recommend using a magnet or peg system to indicate on the sign where the pin is located that day.	At minimum, the hole number and length(s) should be indicated either on a sign or painted on the tee pad, board or marking stone. On wooded courses and/or other blind holes, it's valuable to indicate the direction of the flight path(s). If the hole has multiple pin placements, their locations should be indicated. If all placements are blind on a hole, recommend using a peg or magnet system to indicate on the sign where the pin is located that day.
<b>Tee Pads</b>	The Recreational tee pads should always be better or at least equal in quality to those in longer positions. The minimum recommended size is <b>4'x12'</b> .	Ideally the tee pads should all be the same type (i.e. all natural grass/dirt or all hard surface). The minimum recommended size is <b>5'x12'</b> with possibly some longer on long holes.	Ideally the tee pads should all be the same type (i.e. all natural grass/dirt or all hard surface). If permanent, make them at least <b>5'x12'</b> with possibly some longer on long holes.

\* *The Effective Length is a hole's measured length (by laser, tape, foot or wheel) plus or minus the elevation adjustment. The elevation adjustment is calculated by taking the vertical elevation change, multiply it by 3, then add it to the hole's measured length for upslopes and subtract it for downslopes to calculate a hole's effective length.*