

MONTEREY STINGING JELLIES DISC GOLF CLUB

Board Meeting Minutes

DATE April 15, 2026	TIME 6:00 PM — 90 Min	LOCATION Monterey Moose Lodge	PRESIDING Scott Smitherman
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SECTION 1 — CALL TO ORDER & HOUSEKEEPING

5 min	Call to Order	Lead: President	Type: Procedural
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Meeting called to order. Quorum confirmed.

Executive Board of Directors			Ancillary Members		
Name	Position	Attendance	Name	Position	Attendance
Scott Smitherman	President	Present	Traci Pierce	Member at Large	Present
Lisa Gonzales	Vice President	Present	Peter de Gier	Member at Large	Absent
Paige Smitherman	Secretary	Present	Steve Thomas	Senior Advisor	Absent
Chad Gile	Treasurer	Present			
Cobi Lemus	Events Coordinator	Present			
Ryan Toole	Tag Round Coordinator	Absent			
Kelley Green	Maintenance Coordinator	Present			

10 min	Recent History Overview	Lead: Treasurer / Outgoing President (Chad)	Type: Information
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Outgoing president (Chad) provided a handoff briefing covering three critical standing matters:

- 2022 Use Agreement with the City of Monterey (10-year term) on file in shared drive. Key provisions: ADA accessibility improvement obligations, mowing restrictions, tournament permit requirements, and port o potty responsibilities.

- Environmental/Mowing Compliance — biologist report obtained allowing consistent mowing in lieu of annual \$1,200 surveys. City accepted this. Report must be preserved in club records.
- City Contact — Tyce(?) (Parks Department?) is the active liaison; cooperative and knowledgeable. Chad to send introduction email to transition this relationship to new leadership.

5 min	President's Opening Remarks	Lead: President	Type: Information
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President outlined the goal for this meeting: capture ideas and establish focus for the year — particularly around events — so the board can begin thinking about dates, advertising, and logistics. The emphasis is on realistic, achievable planning rather than trying to "boil the sea."

5 min	Approval of Agenda	Lead: President	Type: Action / Vote
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Motion to adopt the agenda as written. Seconded. Agenda approved by the board.

✓ VOTED — Agenda adopted as published

SECTION 2 — GOVERNANCE & COMMUNICATION

10 min	Board Roles & Responsibilities Review	Lead: President	Type: Discussion
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Roles confirmed. Event committees may be formed by any board member and can include non-board members. Each committee operates independently and reports back to the board when resources are needed. Cobi identified as primary events lead, with board support on logistics and resources.

10 min	Communication Channels & Tools	Lead: President	Type: Discussion / Action
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Board agreed on the following communication structure:

- Primary channel: Email for all substantive communication, decisions, and documentation.
- Group chat (text): Used only to flag emails or flag urgent matters — not for votes or decisions.
- Social media: Member-facing communications; all event posts to link to the club website.
- Board contact list (name, email, cell) to be collected at end of meeting.

Website identified as the key funnel for member acquisition — event posts across platforms should link back to the club site where memberships can be purchased.

5 min	Meeting Cadence	Lead: President	Type: Action / Vote
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Motion to hold three additional board meetings this year — before summer season, after summer season, and end-of-year review. Approximately quarterly. Seconded and approved.

✓ VOTED — Three additional meetings this year (quarterly cadence)

SECTION 3 — FINANCIAL REPORT & BUDGET

10 min	Treasurer's Financial Report	Lead: Treasurer	Type: Information
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Current balances:

- Bank account: \$5,248.88
- PayPal: \$2,000 (remaining after \$8,278 transfer to bank account)
- Total available: approximately \$15,500

Recurring annual expenses:

- Liability insurance (city-required, covers all club events): \$1,374/year (~\$110/mo) — already paid for this year.
- Port-a-potty & hand wash station: \$284/month (switched from \$590/mo vendor; serviced weekly).
- Course maintenance: estimated \$200–\$250/month (diesel, string, gas, tractor operator fees).

YTD summary:

- Income: ~\$1,600 via PayPal + ~\$1,000 cash from membership drive (not yet counted).
- Expenses: ~\$6,700 YTD — includes approximately 8 months of back-owed port-a-potty invoices from prior leadership.
- Membership drive revenue: ~\$2,600 PayPal + ~\$1,000 cash; cost ~\$1,375 (discs + tags). ~15 of 80 tags remain.

Note: Prior leadership did not maintain detailed expense records. Treasurer is reconstructing history and recommends implementing receipt tracking and reimbursement process going forward.

5 min	Annual Budget Discussion	Lead: Treasurer	Type: Discussion
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Formal annual budget deferred to next meeting once event calendar and project scopes are finalized.

Immediate priorities identified:

- 501(c)(3) conversion: Chad to assess prior work and develop a cost/timeline roadmap for board review and vote. Benefits include grant eligibility and potential sales tax exemption on purchases (e.g., baskets, tee pad materials).
- Club Venmo: To be set up by new leadership to accommodate growing member preference over PayPal.
- Weekly round revenue: Standardizing \$1 minimum to play (toward ~\$450/month in recurring expenses). Optional buy-ins for CTPs, and ace pot available on top.

✓ VOTED — \$1 minimum fee per weekly round play

SECTION 4 — EVENTS & TOURNAMENT PLANNING

10 min	2026 Event Calendar Draft	Lead: Events Coordinator	Type: Discussion / Action
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Club is permitted to hold up to 4 closed-course sanctioned events per year (airport land use authority limit; max ~160 participants). No venue rental fee under the use agreement. Existing liability insurance covers all events. City permit required for closed events (typically waived). PDGA sanctioned events require regional coordinator approval (Kristine King) and a certified TD.

Proposed 2026 event calendar (dates subject to confirmation against Disc Golf Scene and regional tournament schedule):

Event	Type	Proposed Date	Notes
Kelp Classic	Tournament	Jul 25–26 (TBD)	Returning after ~6-year hiatus. Different layout from Jelly Jam. Strong demand from former members.
BBQ Fundraiser	Fundraiser / Social	???	BBQ catered at cost; surplus to club. This event could be used for new tee pads at Ryan Ranch
Jelly Jam	Tournament	Oct 3–4 (TBD)	Established event. Historically coincides with air show weekend. Advertise earlier to improve turnout.
Ryan's Rage (Charity)	Fundraiser / Doubles	Nov–Dec (TBD)	666 format (best/alt/worst shot). Charity drive (e.g., toy drive). Goal: \$1,000 raised for charity

Also discussed: Beginner/Newcomer Clinics (see Section 6), Summer Putting League was approved prior to meeting – dates not set yet – sponsored by DGA.

5 min	Event Ownership & Committees	Lead: President	Type: Action
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Board agreed that each major event will have a dedicated committee lead. Committees may include non-board member volunteers. The board serves as a resource and approval body.

- Cobi: Primary events lead; to form committees for Kelp Classic, Jelly Jam, and Ryan's Rage.
- TD Certification: Cobi to complete PDGA online TD certification (required for sanctioned events).
- Weekly round coverage: Group chat to be established with rotating volunteer TDs so no individual is solely responsible every week.
- BBQ/Catering: Cobi's father available to cater at cost for monthlies and after select tournaments; food proceeds go to club.

SECTION 5 — COURSE MAINTENANCE & DEVELOPMENT

5 min	Course Conditions Report	Lead: Maintenance Coordinator	Type: Information
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Course is in good condition overall. Two recently purchased mowers are performing well. Top/hillside are bushy (seasonal) but lower levels are playable. Weed eaters need tuning — target this weekend. Mowing appears to be getting done consistently by volunteers.

10 min	New Tee Pad Project	Lead: President	Type: Discussion / Action
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A local supplier has remnant synthetic turf available — enough for 17 five-by-ten tee pads plus several smaller pads. Supplier is motivated to move inventory quickly.

- Estimated cost per pad: ~\$75 - \$135 depending on negotiated price (target: ~\$1.25/sq ft).
- Full course estimated cost: ~\$3,000 (not including discounts or sponsorship trade).
- Scott has designed a two-frame tee pad construction plan; materials (excluding turf) ~\$125/pad.
- Next step: Obtain one sample roll this week, install on a tee pad, test at a weekly round, then bring to board vote before full purchase.
- May offer tournament sponsorship (naming/poster recognition) in lieu of cash for sample.

Note: Budget had previously allocated ~\$500 for rubber tee pads. This synthetic turf option may be more cost-effective pending sample approval.

5 min	Course Improvement Workdays	Lead: Maintenance Coordinator	Type: Discussion
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First work party scheduled for next Sunday. Focus areas:

- Weed eating and cleanup under greens and trees
- Clearing debris, deadfall, and thistle (hole 1 hillside)
- Volunteers asked to bring gloves, rakes, wheelbarrows

Tractor schedule (Scott McDonald's tractor):

- Next use: End of May / early June
- Follow-up: Approximately August

Three ADA-oriented course improvements identified (also fulfilling use agreement obligations):

- Trail between holes 16–17: Widen and smooth rutted path for carts, strollers, and mobility-impaired players.
- Hole 3 descent: Design a lower-slope pathway (details to be planned offline).
- Holes 24–26 tee pad area: Frame and backfill; may request mini excavator from Ray.

Ranch Hands Volunteer Program — voted into effect:

✓ VOTED — Ranch Hands volunteer hour incentive program approved

- Hours logged via existing Google Form at kiosk; leaderboard on website.
- Reward tiers to be finalized (e.g., 5 hrs = t-shirt, 30 hrs = hoodie, higher = free tournament entry).
- Exclusive Ranch Hands branding/merch to differentiate the program.

SECTION 6 — MEMBERSHIP GROWTH & RETENTION

5 min	Membership Update	Lead: Board	Type: Information
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Approximately 65 memberships sold this cycle (80 tags printed; ~15 remaining). Some membership decline noted from prior years. Lost and found program continues to run well; funds being directed to gas and maintenance costs.

5 min	Growth Initiatives	Lead: Board	Type: Discussion
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Strategy agreed: focus on attracting brand-new players rather than experienced players from other local clubs. Key initiatives:

- College Student Discount: \$20–\$25 membership (vs. \$35 standard). Two-month trial approved by vote.

✓ VOTED — College student discount approved for 2-month trial

- Military/Veterans discount: Discussed, not yet voted on. Outreach to NPS/DLI recreation programs planned.
- Monthly Beginner's Day: Last Sunday of the month proposed — experienced members volunteer as ambassadors to introduce new players.
- Social media / YouTube: Cobi has a personal channel plan that can cross-promote club events. Kyle Neely identified as a potential collaborator. Physical signage at kiosk to reach members not on social media.
- CSUMB outreach: Board to connect with CSUMB disc golf club; a representative was expected at this meeting but did not attend.
- Rotating Saturday rounds at other courses (Cypress, Oaks, Salinas, Royal Oaks) to build cross-community relationships.

SECTION 7 — WRAP-UP & NEXT STEPS

5 min	Open Board Discussion	Lead: President	Type: Discussion
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Additional items raised:

- County Course Development (Nick): \$100,000 allocated by the county for four new courses — Royal Oaks (upgrades), Travel Camp Course (east Garrison area), Toro Park (one or two courses), and San Lorenzo Park/King City. Funds must be committed by July 1st. Club's donated baskets at Royal Oaks to be retrieved once new baskets are installed. Nick to request DGA permission to donate existing baskets to First Tee Salinas.
- Proposed inaugural Royal Oaks event: Bring-Your-Own Team Challenge (6-person teams; triples, doubles, and singles rounds with cumulative scoring). Camping available at Royal Oaks during events.
- Parking for events: Upper gravel lot no longer accessible (CB Richard Ellis restriction). Alternatives to explore: Moose Lodge lot, Monterey Streets Department lot, organized street parking.

5 min	Action Item Review & Assignments	Lead: President	Type: Action
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The following action items were confirmed before adjournment:

Action Item	Owner	Due By	Priority
Finalize and distribute communication channel plan (email + group chat protocol)	Paige	Next meeting	High
Confirm recurring board meeting schedule (3 more meetings this year)	Scott	Next meeting	High

Distribute full financial report to board; set up receipt/reimbursement process	Chad	Next meeting	High
Develop 501(c)(3) conversion roadmap and cost estimate for board vote	Chad / Scott	Next meeting	High
Send copy of Use Agreement and environmental report to new leadership	Chad	Immediately	High
Send intro email to Tyce? (City Parks) to transition relationship	Chad	Immediately	High
Set up club Venmo account	Chad	Next meeting	Medium
Draft 2026 event calendar with confirmed dates; check DGScene for conflicts	Cobi	Next meeting	High
Assign event leads / form committees for each major event	Cobi / Scott	Next meeting	High
Complete PDGA Tournament Director certification	Cobi	Before first event	High
Contact turf supplier; obtain sample roll for tee pad testing this week	Scott	This week	High
Develop tee pad project scope, materials budget, and timeline	Scott	Next meeting	Medium
Organize work party (next Sunday); post flyer at kiosk and social media	Scott / Kelley	This week	High
Get weed eaters tuned up and ready	Scott	This weekend	High
Schedule course improvement workdays (min. 2)	Kelley	Next meeting	Medium
Launch Ranch Hands program: tracking spreadsheet, merch tiers, logo design	Board	Next meeting	Medium
Publish college student discount (\$20–\$25); run 2-month trial	Scott / Paige	Immediately	Medium
Prepare membership growth proposal (military, senior, beginner outreach)	Scott	Next meeting	Medium
Establish monthly Beginner's Day event; recruit ambassador volunteers	Scott	Next month	Medium
Research parking alternatives for large events (Moose Lodge, Streets Dept.)	Board	Next meeting	Low
Reach out to CSUMB disc golf club re: collaboration	Board	Next meeting	Low

2 min	Adjournment	Lead: President	Type: Procedural
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Motion to adjourn. Seconded. Meeting adjourned. Date of next board meeting to be confirmed via email.

ITEMS REQUIRING FURTHER DISCUSSION

The following topics were raised but not fully resolved at this meeting. Recommended for the next board meeting agenda:

Topic	What Needs to Be Decided
501(c)(3) Conversion	Full roadmap, cost estimate, and board vote required before initiating.
Tee Pad Purchase Decision	Pending sample test and board vote. Price negotiation, full budget, and funding plan needed.
Annual Budget	Deferred to next meeting pending event calendar and project scopes.
ADA Proposal Development	Three formal accessibility proposals required for city per use agreement (Year 4 deadline). Partner endorsements from Special Kids Connect / NorCal DGC recommended.
Event Parking Solutions	Upper lot no longer available. Moose Lodge and Streets Dept. lots need active outreach before next large event.
Military / Senior Discounts	Mentioned but not voted on. Include in next membership discussion.
Summer Putting League	Details and announcements in progress
Sunday Doubles Revival	Historical staple — board to decide whether to adopt as an official event or keep informal.
Ranch Hands Merch & Tiers	Logo, hour thresholds, reward tiers, and fulfillment process all to be finalized.
Royal Oaks Inaugural Tournament	Team Challenge format proposed. Timing, logistics, and county coordination needed.
DGA Basket Donation (Royal Oaks)	Nick to request DGA permission to donate baskets to First Tee Salinas.

MEETING NOTES

Secretary / Note-taker:

Paige Smitherman

Date: 04/15/2026