

State of Disc Golf Par 2023

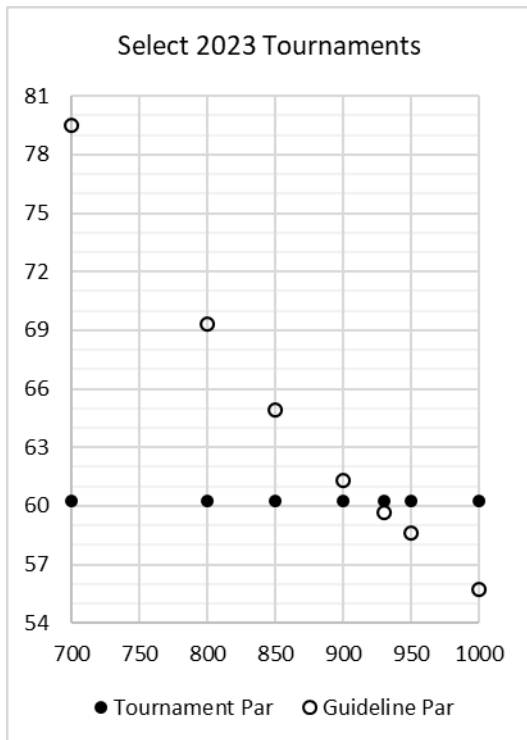
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By Steve West Disc Golf, LLC

For most of the events in 2023 where at least a few 1000-rated players showed up, and the biggest female-only events, the tournament par was compared to the par suggested by the PDGA Par Guidelines.

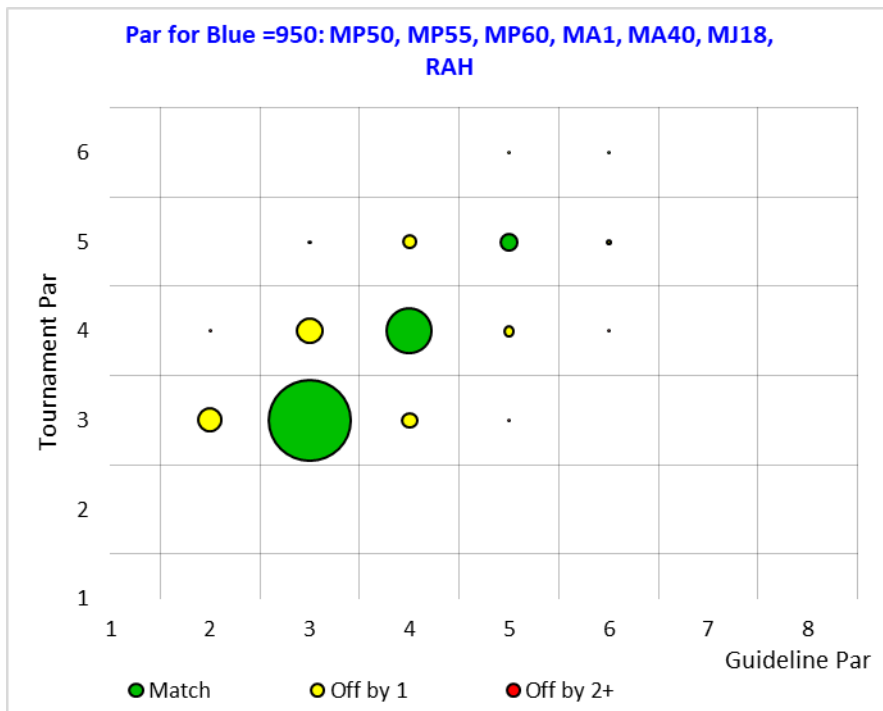
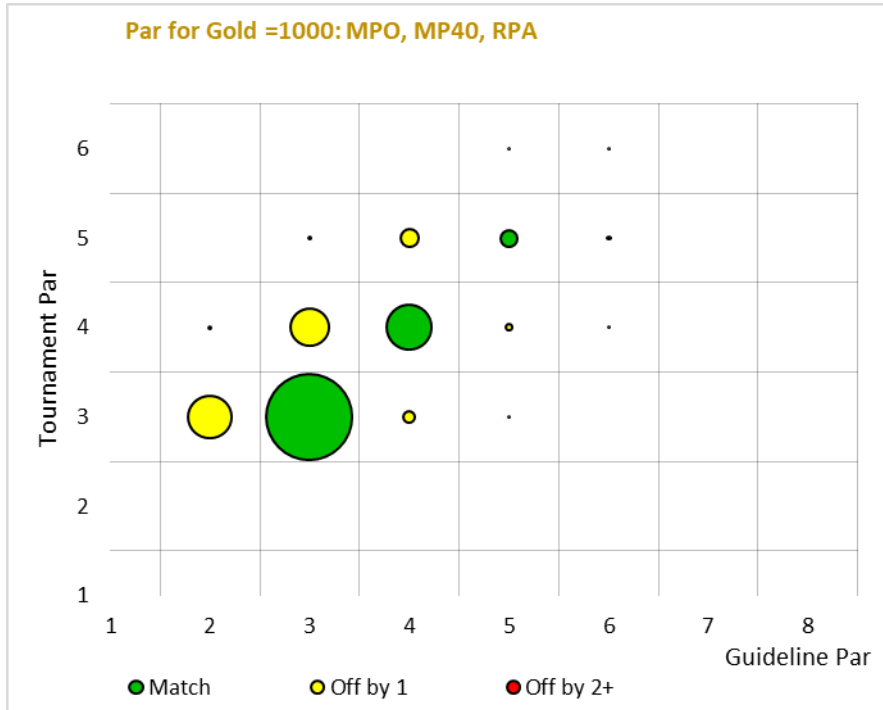
For different divisions, the par guidelines suggest pars that represent different skill levels. This paper explores whether the players at these events were experiencing pars that would be appropriate for their division.

In most cases, the tournaments did not offer different layouts or pars for all divisions. As a result, the average par per 18 holes was about the same for all divisions. The following chart shows the average actual par per 18 holes compared to a par based on the skill levels suggested for various divisions.

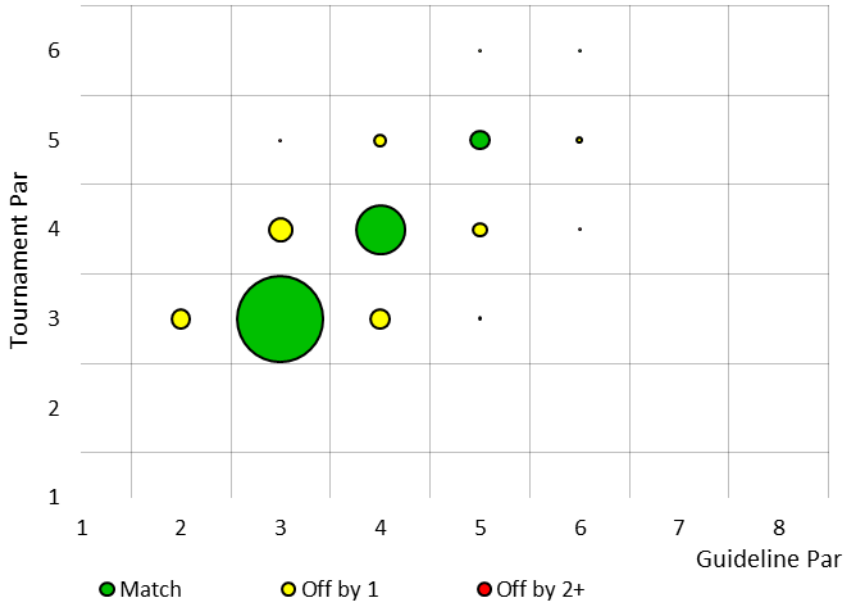


We can see that in a broad sense, par is being set too low for the top skill levels, and too high for lower skill levels. FPO (at 930) is the best-served division, and White (900) and Blue (950) skill levels also get to see pars that are near their skill level. Which is good, because there are more players around these two skill levels.

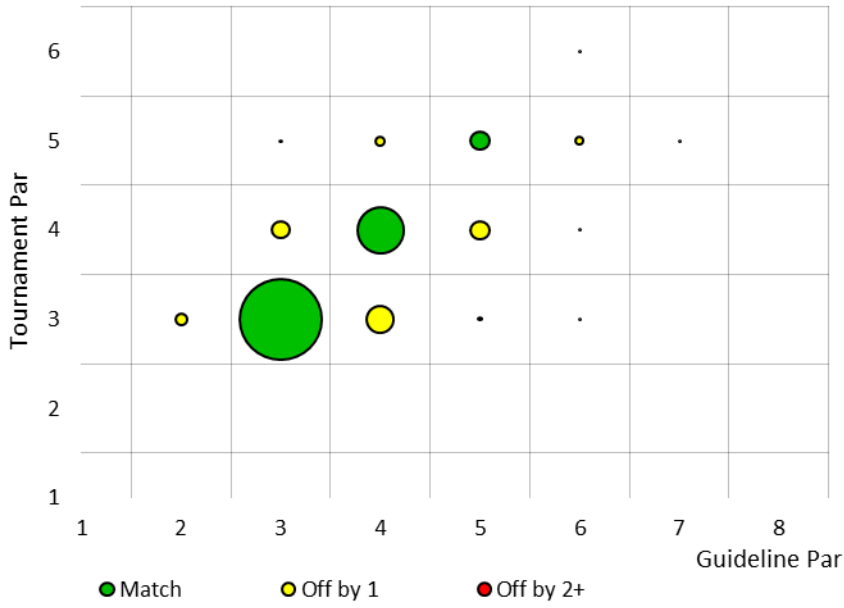
The following charts show more detail for each skill level. The size of the circles represents the number of holes with each combination of tournament par and guideline par. Green shows the holes where the tournament par matched the guideline par. Yellow indicates the two pars were within one parlecule of each other, and red means the two pars were two or more parlecules apart.



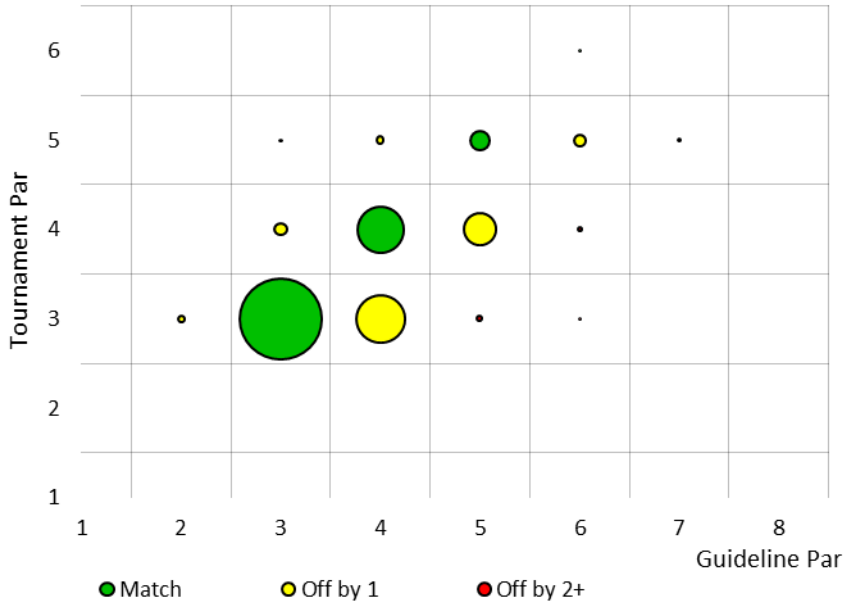
Par for Pink =930: FPO



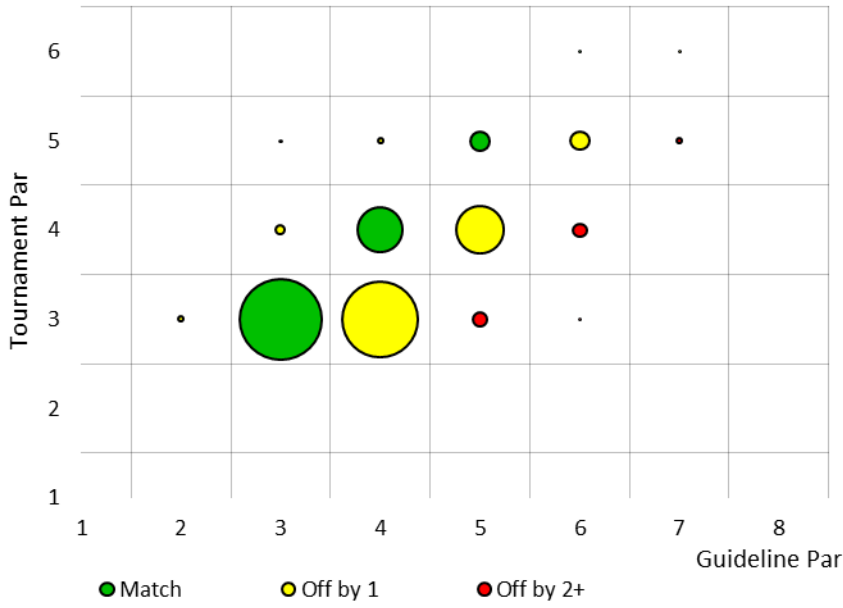
Par for White =900: MP65, FP40, MA2, MA50, MA55, MA60, MJ15, RAD



Par for Red =850: MP70, MP75, FP50, FP55, FP60, FP65, MA3, MA65, MA70, FA1, FA40, MJ12, RAE



Par for Green =800: MP80, FP70, MA4, MA75, MA80, FA2, FA50, FA55, MJ10, FJ18, RAF



Par for Purple =700: FP75, FP80, FA3, FA4, FA60, FA65, FA70, FA75, FA80, MJ08, MJ06, FJ15, FJ12, FJ10, FJ08, FJ06, RAG

