

‘I am very excited about this’

DISC GOLF continued
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Manangan qualified by winning her amateur division at a sponsored event in Buxton, Ore., last February.

“I am very excited about this,” she says. “For every division win there you get an invite to nationals so that was pretty cool to win.”

Manangan’s Tribal roots come from her mother’s side of the family. Her mother is Rosetta LaBonte Manangan. The family lived in Portland and then Eastern Washington in the wilderness near the Canadian border. Being outside is a major reason why Manangan loves disc golf so much.

Out of the eight tournaments she has competed in thus far, she has won her division four times.

There are approximately 750 competitors registered for nationals, which take place at 11 different disc golf parks in the Austin area. Manangan will be competing at two of them.

“They look pretty flat, which is a good thing for me,” she says. “Also, the trees are smaller than what we have here.”

Manangan’s biggest challenge while disc golfing is throwing for distance and courses with hills while she excels on the flats.

She says she is most looking forward to mixing with the professionals and attending clinics, as well as



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Tribal member Jasmine Manangan lets a disc fly at Leverich Park in Vancouver, Wash., on Tuesday, Sept. 27. Manangan recently won the amateur division in the National Amateur Disc Golf tournament held in Buxton, Ore., which qualified her to take part in the national championship scheduled for Oct. 26-29 in Austin, Texas.

the experience itself.

“I’m a bit nervous too, because all of them are probably going to be really good players,” Manangan says. “My goal is to do it for the experience and qualify again, and then work more on placement for next year.”

Just as the name suggests, disc golf is similar to conventional golf in terms of rules, scoring (the lower the better) and etiquette. Disc golf differs from traditional golf as it is much more affordable, with each disc costing approximately \$15. There are also a number of free courses to play. Players throw a disc at each basket on the course and the winner is the person with the lowest number of total throws in getting their disc into the basket.

According to the Professional Disc Golf Association, the sport provides upper and lower body conditioning, aerobic exercise and mental stimulation. Additionally, those with limited fitness levels and people of all ages can participate.

“I’m excited for the social aspect of this event and the whole experience,” Manangan says.

She’ll arrive in Austin a few days before tournament play begins on Oct. 26 to scout out the courses and practice.

“The area looks beautiful and I haven’t played the courses yet so this is a good opportunity to do

that,” Manangan says.

She encourages other moms of young children who want to try something new to give disc golf a shot.

“It’s hard to find activities to do with little kids that everyone can enjoy,” Manangan says. “I would encourage them to give this a try and to remember to have fun with it. There’s lots of running around and imagination involved when you take little kids. Disc golfing is a huge stress reliever so I play every day.”

When she’s not disc golfing, the Vancouver resident is typically working at Granite Dental as a dental assistant, watching her younger son compete in cross country and track, or cooking.

She hasn’t had the opportunity to play disc golf at either of the two new courses in Grand Ronde, which were installed last spring. There is an 18-basket, professional-level course located east of uyxat Powwow Grounds next to Fort Yamhill State Park called Spirit Mountain Disc Golf, as well as a nine-basket course at the Tribal campus. The campus course starts at the old powwow grounds in front of the Governance Center and winds behind the baseball field, down the dirt road and ends near the Clothes Closet close to the community park.

“It’s cool that they have those out there now and the whole area is so pretty,” Manangan says. ■

Proposal comes from disenrollment proceedings in 2015

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to disenrollment.

“We came to this decision based on you, our membership, voice who basically said we need a remedy here, we need a fix,” Kennedy said. “Our heart is breaking because our Tribal members are subjected to disenrollment. They’re subjected to feeling like they are alienated from their people because of disenrollment.”

The proposal comes in reaction to the divisive disenrollment proceedings that occurred in 2015 during which Tribal members were provisionally disenrolled. Eventually, the Tribal Court of Appeals ruled that the Tribal members who were identified for disenrollment because they allegedly did not meet enrollment criteria were to remain in the Tribe because the government had waited too long to start proceedings against them.

Unlike regular Tribal Council elections, a constitutional amendment election will be run by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which will require Tribal members to register separately to vote. From there, at least 30 percent of those who register to vote must cast a ballot for the results to count and 66.7 percent of those voting must approve the

History of Tribal Constitution elections				
Date	Yes	No	% yes	Topic
July '99	757	292	72.1	Enrollment
Feb. '08	636	513	55	Grand Ronde blood
Feb. '08	700	450	60.9	Parent on the roll
Feb. '08	880	277	76	Relinquishment period
Nov. '11	457	536	46	Enrollment
June '12	407	222	64.7	Primary election
March '15	391	220	64	Term limits
March '15	230	381	37.6	Remove BIA
July '16	382	670	36.3	Initiatives, etc.
July '16	412	639	39.2	Enrollment
March '19	601	345	63.5	Split siblings
(Bold signifies successful amendment election)				

amendment before it can change the Constitution.

In March 2015, Tribal voters were asked to remove the Bureau of Indian Affairs from supervising Grand Ronde constitutional amendment elections, but voters overwhelmingly rejected the idea with 62.4 percent wanting to retain federal oversight.

Senior Tribal Attorney Holly Partridge said that registration packets were scheduled to be sent out by Friday, Sept. 23, and Tribal members must return their registration forms to New Mexico by Tuesday, Oct. 4.

“That is the shortest registration process timeline we have had for an election,” she said.

Partridge said that if Tribal members had not received their packets from the BIA by Tuesday, Sept. 27, they should contact Greg Norton at the BIA at 503-231-6723 or via e-mail at greg.norton@bia.gov.

A voter list will be posted on Oct. 7 and Tribal members should ensure that their name is on the list. Ballots will be mailed out no later than Oct. 10 and must be returned by Nov. 2. There is no in-person voting for a BIA constitutional election.

Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez said there would be two meetings held on Tuesday, Sept. 27, and Thursday, Sept. 29, via Zoom to review the timeline and process for the election. Four

longer hybrid in-person/Zoom educational meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, at Portland State University’s Native American Student & Community Center, Room 110; in Tribal Council Chambers in Grand Ronde at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 18; in Salem at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, in a location yet to be determined; and in Tribal Council Chambers in Grand Ronde at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 26.

“I would say this is one of those decisions that will have repercussions for generations to come,” said Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier. “I happen to be one of the council members who was here for most of the disenrollment proceedings ... It was just a very negative experience in watching the way Tribal members turned on each other and the way it just divided this Tribe. I don’t want to leave that for future generations. ... This is just something that we need to close the door on.”

Tribal Council members Michael Cherry and Brenda Tuomi also spoke in support of the proposed amendment.

For more information, visit the Tribal government’s website at www.grandronde.org or contact Hernandez at stacia.martin@grandronde.org. ■