



# Starting Simple with Disc Golf Data

Chris Bawden  
November 2023

# Chris Bawden

PDGA #80545



- 15+ years of data experience
- 20+ years of disc golf experience
  - dgputtheads.com website
  - Disc Golf Data



**FILTERED**

BEST	AVG
1	13.556
10,000	2,377.67
1089	1,020.702
42	175.184

\*\* Not including special events, leagues and

Search

[all]  
2016  
2017  
2018  
2019

Event Name	Month	Year	Evt Rtg	Place
<a href="#">Michigan</a>		2023	1040	2
<a href="#">Disc Golf</a>		2023	1049	2
<a href="#">United States Disc Golf Championship</a>	Oct	2023	1056	1
<a href="#">DGPT Playoffs - MVP Open presented by</a>	Sep	2023	1026	25
<a href="#">2023 PDGA Professional Disc Golf World C</a>	Aug	2023	1054	6
<a href="#">DGPT - Discraft Great Lakes Open</a>	Aug	2023	1031	18
<a href="#">DGPT - LWS Open at Idlewild presented b</a>	Aug	2023	1041	4
<a href="#">DGPT - Discraft Ledgestone Open</a>	Aug	2023	1023	23
<a href="#">DGPT Silver - Mid America Open</a>	Jul	2023	1040	3
<a href="#">European Open 2023 presented by Discm</a>	Jul	2023	1051	2
<a href="#">DGPT - ET#6 - PCS Open 2023 presented I</a>	Jul	2023	1029	14
<a href="#">DGPT - The Preserve Championship powe</a>	Jun	2023	995	110
<a href="#">DGPT - The TruBank Des Moines Challen</a>	Jun	2023	1008	

<https://statmando.com/player/kyle-klein/profile>

# Agenda

- What Is Data?
- Why Use Data?
- Simple Process
- Getting Started
- Examples

# Approaching A Basket

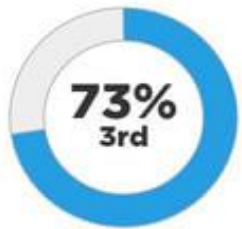


A photograph of two people walking away from the camera on a path through a wooded area. The person on the left is wearing a bright green shirt and dark pants, carrying a large orange and black bag. The person on the right is wearing a dark t-shirt, grey pants, and a white cap, carrying a white bag. The ground is covered in fallen leaves, and the trees have yellow and green foliage. The text "What Is Data?" is overlaid in the top left corner.

What Is Data?

**A record of past observations about  
your disc golf performance.**

# Currently Available Disc Golf Data



FAIRWAY HITS



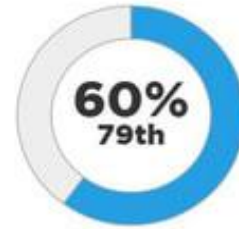
PARKED



CIRCLE 1  
IN REGULATION



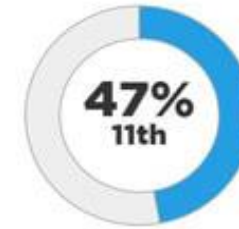
CIRCLE 2  
IN REGULATION



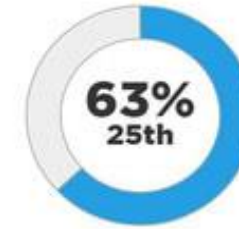
FAIRWAY HITS



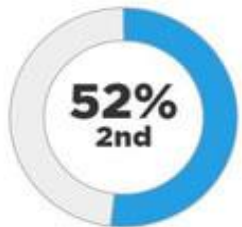
PARKED



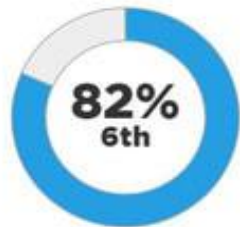
CIRCLE 1  
IN REGULATION



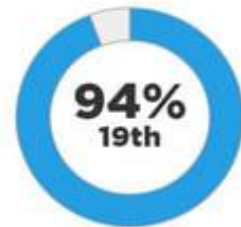
CIRCLE 2  
IN REGULATION



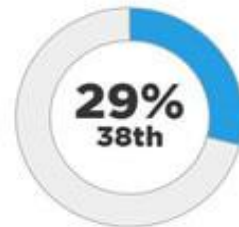
BIRDIE %



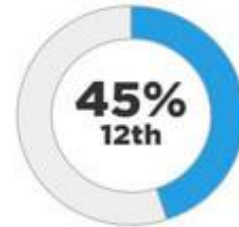
SCRAMBLE



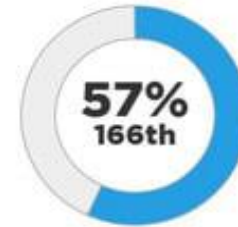
CIRCLE 1 PUTTS



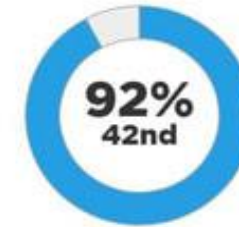
CIRCLE 2 PUTTS



BIRDIE %



SCRAMBLE



CIRCLE 1 PUTTS



CIRCLE 2 PUTTS



# Birdies

Decrease from 30% to 20%

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Are you playing more difficult courses?

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Has the weather affected your game?

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If you have poor form, what is causing it?



## Fairway Hits

Increase from 40% to 55%

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Are you playing courses with wider fairways?

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Are you taking less risky shots?

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Has your consistency improved?



Why Data?



**Indication of  
*How to Improve***

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Practicing with bad form  
will not make you better!

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Helps identify hidden  
patterns

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Can prove or disprove  
existing beliefs

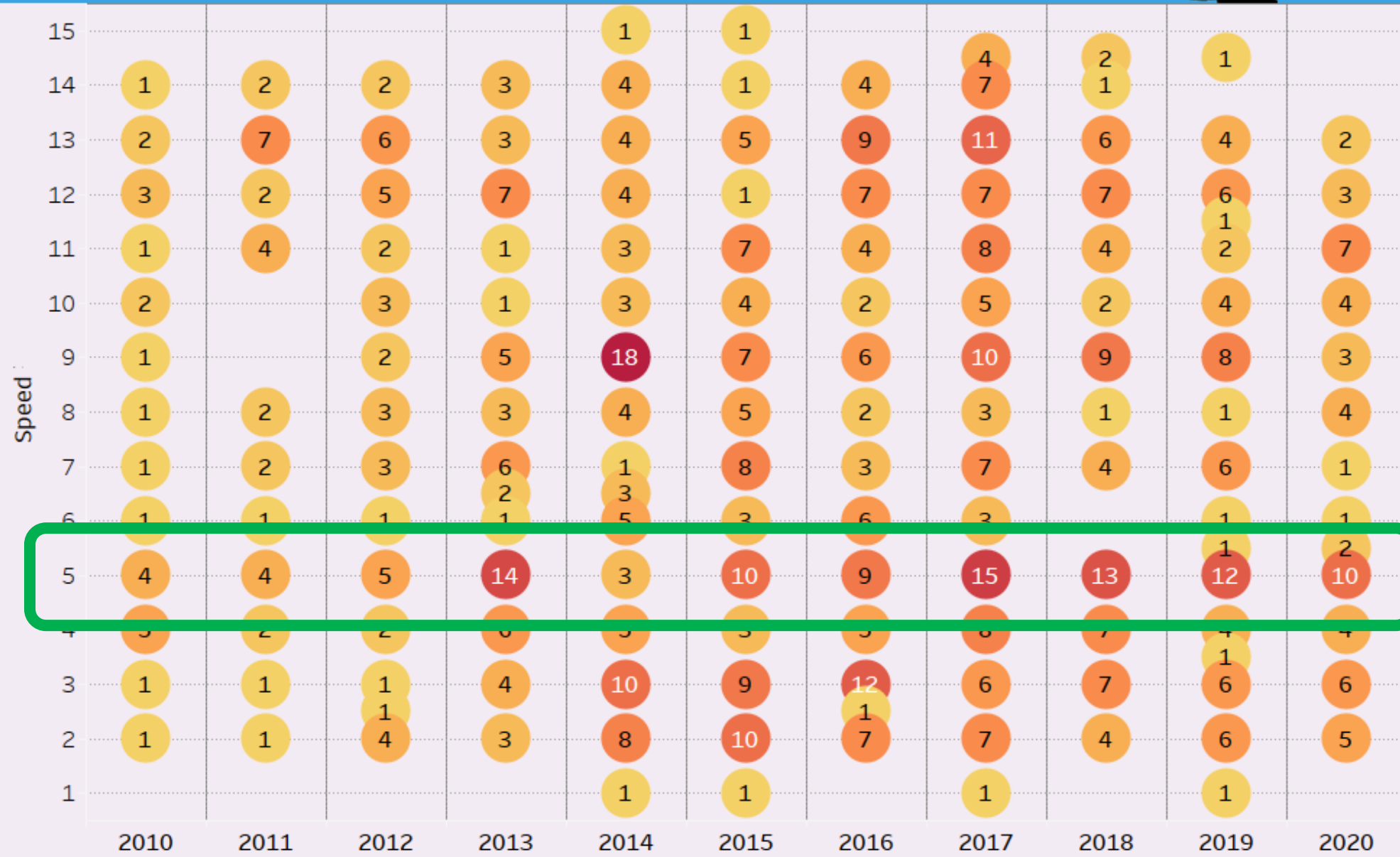
What is the most common disc type produced by manufacturers?

- A. Maximum Distance Drivers
- B. Distance Drivers
- C. Fairway Drivers
- D. Midrange
- E. Putt/Approach



# Count of Discs Approved by Speed

*\*based on manufacturer speed rating*





**Fast and  
Meaningful  
Improvements**

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Smart decisions on what to practice

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Tracking progress tells you what works

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Goals indicate when to move on

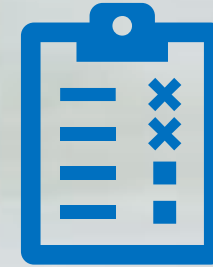
# Basic Process

# Two Types of Data Analysis



## Exploratory

Finding interesting things to help ask specific questions



## Testing

Trying different things and tracking

# Exploratory Phase



**GATHER DATA**



**LOOK FOR  
INTERESTING  
THINGS IN DATA**



**DEVELOP  
SPECIFIC  
QUESTIONS**



# Exploratory Example

Throw	Disc	Distance	Throw2	Risk (1-3)	Accurate?
1	Crush	Drive	Backhand	1	Yes
2	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
3	Corvette	Drive	Backhand	2	No
4	Buzzz	Approach	Backhand	1	No
5	Crush	Drive	Forehand	1	Yes
6	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
7	Corvette	Drive	Backhand	3	Yes
8	Undertaker	Approach	Backhand	2	Yes
9	Corvette	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
10	Drift	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
11	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
12	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
13	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
14	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
15	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
16	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
17	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
18	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
19	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
20	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
21	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
22	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
23	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
24	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
25	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
26	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
27	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
28	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
29	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
30	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
31	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
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34	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
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36	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
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38	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
39	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
40	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
41	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
42	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
43	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
44	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
45	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
46	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
47	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
48	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
49	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
50	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
51	Corvette	Drive	Backhand	3	No
52	Buzzz OS	Approach	Backhand	2	No
53	Undertaker	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
54	Ohm	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes
55	Crush	Drive	Backhand	2	Yes

# Testing Phase



**SET GOALS**



**MAKE CHANGE**



**TRACK RESULTS**

# Getting Started

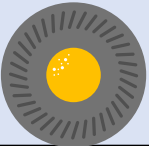
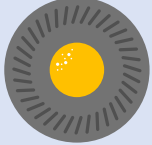
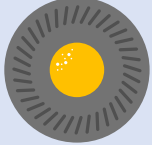
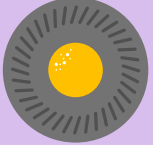
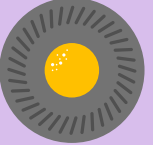
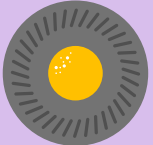
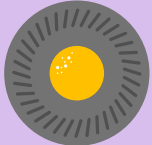
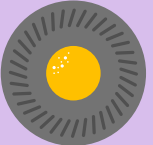
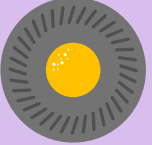
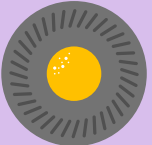


- Compare the accuracy of two discs
- Test which grip gives you the greatest distance
- Determine which shot type is most consistent
- Track which discs you throw most or least

# Start Simple

# Example: Throw Style



<b>Forehand</b>										
<b>Backhand</b>										





# Make One Change At A Time

If you make multiple changes, how will you know which change is working?

# What Is Important to You?

Throwing Technique



Environmental Factors



Bag Buildout



What Do You Do  
Differently?





# Simple Examples

# Example: Putting Percentage

Putting Percentages			
Beginning Percentage	Engage Legs	Flick Wrist	Adjust Shoulders
85%	90%	90%	95%

# Example: Throw Type



Distance From Basket (60-meter throw)			
	Straight	Anhyzer	Hookshot
1	5	2.5	2.5
2	7	7	5
3	8	1.5	3.5
4	2	6	1.5
5	5.5	5	3.5
6	1.5	6.5	2
7	6	2.5	5.5
8	8.5	4	3
9	2.5	3.5	2.5
10	5	2	3.5

5.1

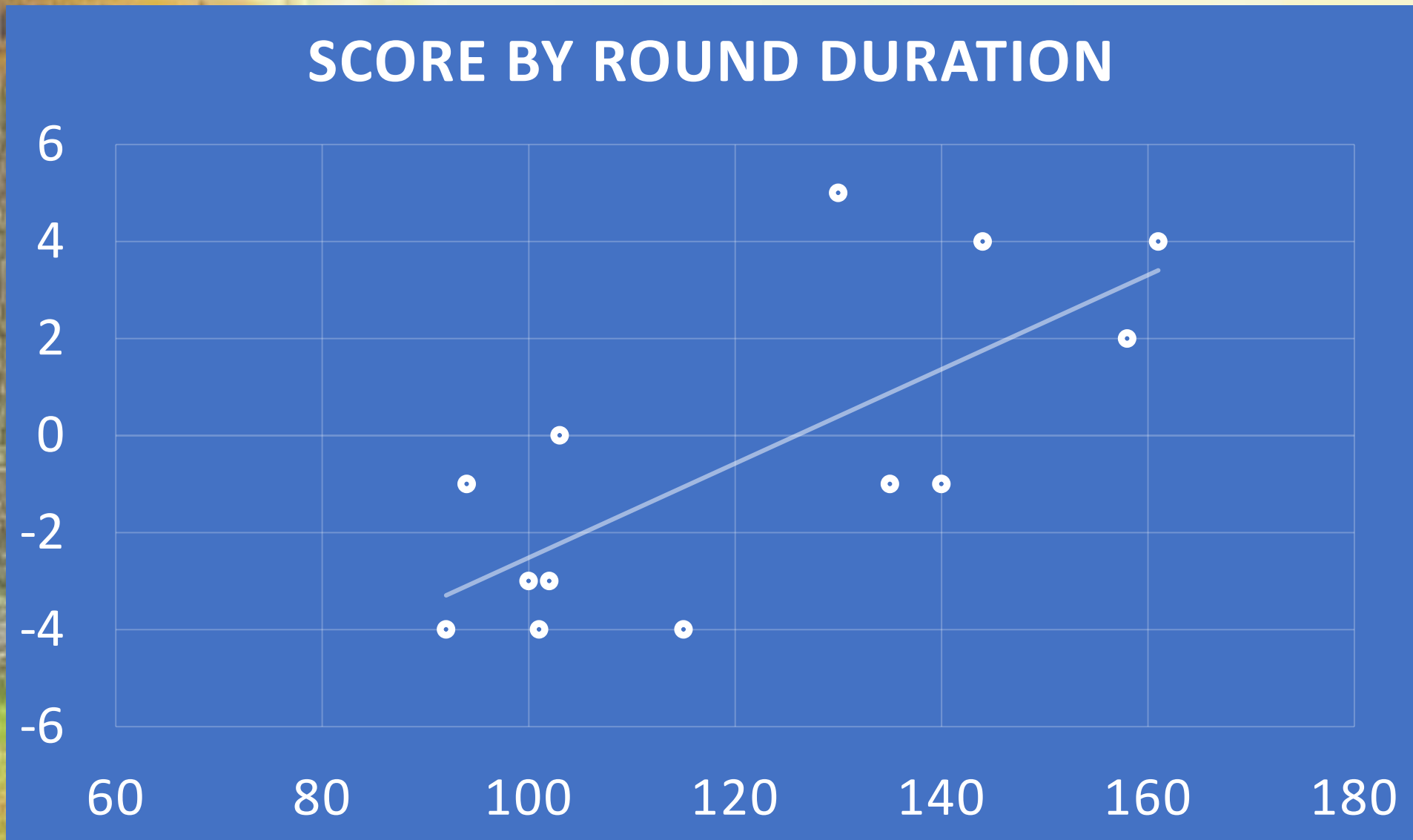
4.1

3.3

# Example: Exploratory

Score	Day of Week	Start Time	Duration (minutes)	Temperature (F)
-3	Saturday	8:00	102	65
-4	Wednesday	14:00	92	70
2	Saturday	8:00	158	65
0	Saturday	10:00	103	75
4	Wednesday	17:00	161	80
4	Friday	17:00	144	65
-1	Monday	11:00	140	65
5	Saturday	8:00	130	70
-4	Sunday	15:00	101	75
-1	Wednesday	17:00	94	75
-3	Saturday	16:00	100	60
-4	Friday	18:00	115	65
-1	Saturday	9:00	135	60

# Example: Exploratory



# Questions & Answers



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Instagram: @discgolfchris

Instagram: @dgputtheads

<https://www.dgputtheads.com/>

Disc Golf Data book on Amazon:



Get In Touch