



GREATER
DENVER
AREA
SPORTS
ASSOCIATION

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

Dear GDASA Family,

As we look back at the year 2021, we are reminded of the challenges many faced not only here in Colorado, but also across the nation. Our country's democracy was challenged by ideological division during a time when we were struggling to establish some sort of normalcy as we moved from pandemic to epidemic.

During this time, the unity of our nation was challenged along many different fronts. Outside influences worked diligently to pit brother against sister, neighbor against neighbor, and friend against friend by comparing and contrasting the differences between and among each of us in ways which were not life giving.

In 2021, our country endured natural disasters such as winter storms, wildfires, drought, floods, tornadoes, and hurricanes, all of which cost our families, friends, and neighbors over \$145 billion-nationwide. Colorado alone experienced blizzards, drought, record breaking heat, tornados, mudslides, and on August 7th, our capital city was ranked #1 for the worst air quality in a major city-in the world.

It is during these times when we look to one another for comfort and connection. It is during these moments when the world's events seem heavy and we search for something to lighten our spirits. I am proud to see the Greater Denver Area Sports Association has helped to lighten the heaviness of everyday life through sport and social engagement.

The following pages tell a story of how GDASA has helped individuals to build and sustain relationships and community bonds during a difficult period in our world history. Whether it be connecting through golf, pickleball, softball, or simply attending an event as a spectator or guest, GDASA has proven itself to be a community convener within the LGBTQ+ community in Colorado.

As such, I am extremely proud to be the next commissioner of this fantastic organization. I am privileged in assisting in the continuation of building on the successes which have preceded me. I look forward to connecting with more of our members and developing relationships with our current and future community partners.

Lastly, I am humbled by the splendor which is the GDASA family. Each and everyone of our members live and breathe our mission each time they step onto the court, course, or field. It is our members who bring GDASA to life: GDASA is not about any single "me", it is about "you", it is and "we", and most of all, it is about US!

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Londell D. Jackson, M.Ed.

Commissioner | Greater Denver Area Sports Association





OUR MISSION

To create a safe and positive atmosphere for the LGBTQ+ community through engaging social and competitive sports within Colorado.

ABOUT US

The Greater Denver Area Sports Association (GDASA) is an LGBTQ+ sports association/league (non-profit 501c3) that believes in the spirit of both team and individual sports.

Getting its start in 2018, GDASA provides various sports at various skills levels, which allows us to reach our ever-expanding community. Initially starting off with a summer softball season, GDASA has grown exponentially and has added fall softball, tennis and golf.

GDASA encourages athletes to enjoy the competitive aspects of the game but more importantly, participate in the comradery and social conscientious of growing and building the LGBTQ+ community.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

Greater Denver Area Sports Association welcomes and encourages all individuals no matter of race, gender, age, orientation, identity or any and all other classifications. You are welcome and celebrated within our organization.



Denver's BEST LGBTQ+ Softball Tournament

After taking 2020 off due to COVID-19 the Greater Denver Area Sports Association brought back Denver's BEST LGBTQ+ Softball Tournament! Memorial Day Weekend 2021, May 27th-May 30th teams from all over the country descended on Denver for a high-altitude SHOWDOWN!

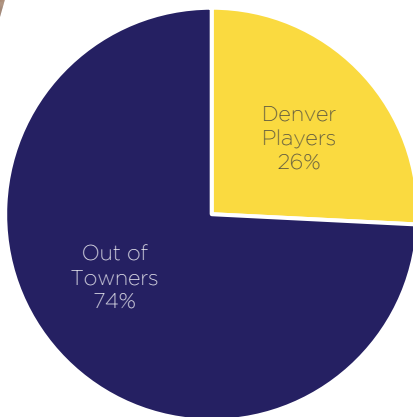
www.5280ElevationShowdown.com

www.facebook.com//5280ElevationShowdown

www.instagram.com//GDASACO

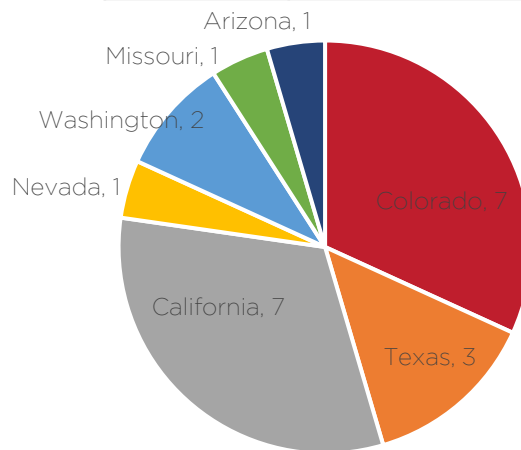
Players

283 Players
400+ Total Attendance

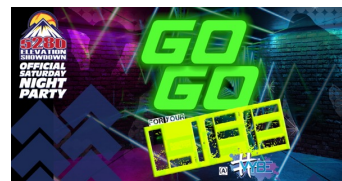


Teams

C Division	8 Teams
D1 Division	7 Teams
D2	7 Teams



Events



Colorado's Largest LGBTQ+ Softball League

The Greater Denver Area Sports Association is the home of Colorado's largest LGBTQ+ Softball league.

During its inaugural season, the league welcomed 7 teams to a summer of fun and now in its 3rd year, the league has more than doubled in size, added a fall season and a Womens+ division.


Softball is so much more than winning & losing games. GDASA sees softball as a way to connect the LGBTQ+ community to each other and its allies. Softball brings people together on the field and builds friendships and bonds off the field.

 www.GreaterDenverASA.org

 www.facebook.com//GDASACO

 www.instagram.com//GDASACO

Summer Softball

Teams

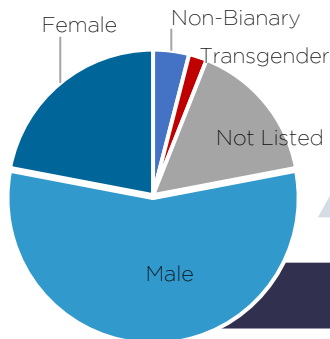
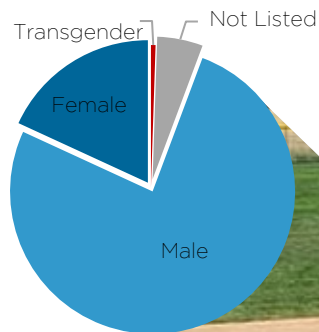
Upper	4 Teams
Middle	5 Teams
Lower	2 Teams
Womens+	2 Teams

Fall Ball




Teams

3 Teams	Mixed Skills
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Highlights

- Addition of 2 new teams - one open team and another a Womens+ teams
- New home for GDASA Softball, Kennedy Sports Complex. Currently using 2 fields, but there is room to grow.
- 37% increase in Softball membership year over year
- GDASA joined the Amateur Sports Alliance of North America (ASANA) providing support of LGBTQ Women+ which includes non-bianry and transgender



Colorado's only LGBTQ+ Golf League

Golf? Really? Of course! Who doesn't like golf? It's the perfect socially distant sport for all skill levels. The golf league has been a sleeper sport showing that golfers also want a league of their own!



Greater Denver Area Sports Association

- www.GreaterDenverASA.org/Golf
- www.facebook.com/GDASACO
- www.instagram.com/GDASACO

Summer League

Weeks

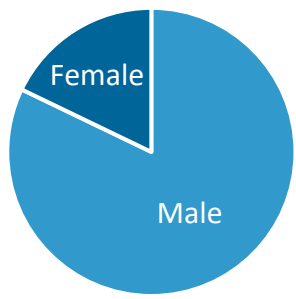
Thursdays for 14 weeks

Players

28 golfers - 14 teams of 2

Course

City Park Golf Course



Highlights

- 100% Participation in theme nights.
- Comradery following the days round. Nearly everyone hangs out afterward which leads to forming close-knit friendships
- Great mix of LGBTQ and Ally participation

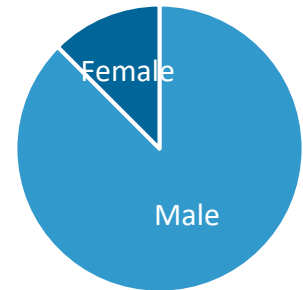
End of Year Scramble Tournament

Players

32 golfers - 16 teams of 2

Course

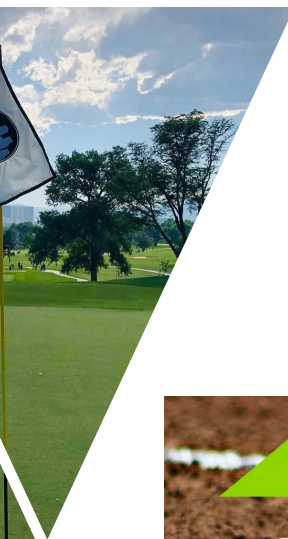
Overland Golf Course



Highlights

- Friendly competition with participation from both in-league and outside-of-league members
- Support from the community to assist with making each year better for the members in what we're able to offer





2021

Highlights



Pickleball

GDASA + Steve and friends launched an exploratory group on Facebook to gauge the interest in the countries fastest growing sport, PICKLEBALL. Meet the Denver Pixies pickleball group.



ASANA

GDASA is proud to be the newest member of ASANA, the Amateur Sports Alliance of North America. ASANA is a non-profit dedicated to the participation of the LGBTQ Women+ in amateur athletics. Providing a safe space for not just cis-gender females but also non-binary and transgender people to participate in sport!



Cornhole For A Cause

GDASA's 5280 Elevation Showdown was excited to add a Charity Cornhole Tournament to the opening festivities. This year a portion of the registration fees went to the The Ryan O'Callaghan Foundation (ROFDN). They exist to provide scholarships, support, and mentorship for LGBTQ+ athletes, students, and youth



RCF
THE RYAN O'CALLAGHAN FOUNDATION
SUPPORTING TALENTED LGBTQ YOUTH

"We must begin to remove the variables that we cannot control and begin to respect & appreciate others for their actions."
- Ryan O'Callaghan, Founder

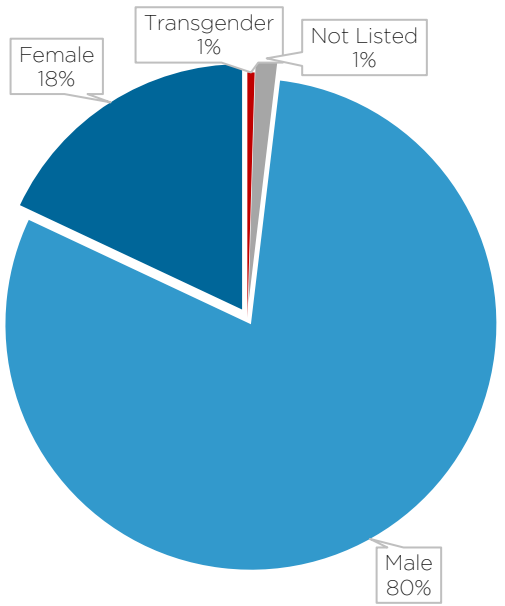
The Ryan O'Callaghan Foundation is dedicated to creating more opportunities for LGBTQ+ athletes as well as fostering a sense of community among players.

www.rofdn.org [f /ryanocallaghanfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/ryanocallaghanfoundation)



WATCH: In her latest "Fair Game," [Arielle Orsuto](#) shares the story of the [Greater Denver Area Sports Association](#) (GDASA), which creates a competitive and welcoming atmosphere to the LGBTQ+ community for recreational softball, tennis and golf!

<https://fb.watch/aMk7qPQwwN/>



Gender

Based on regular season registrations combined (Summer Softball, Fall Ball, & Summer Golf)

GDASA Social Media

f @GDASACO

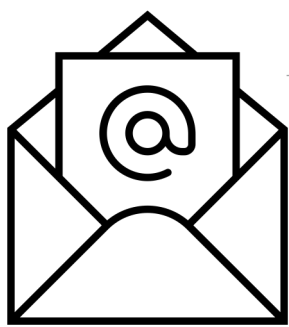
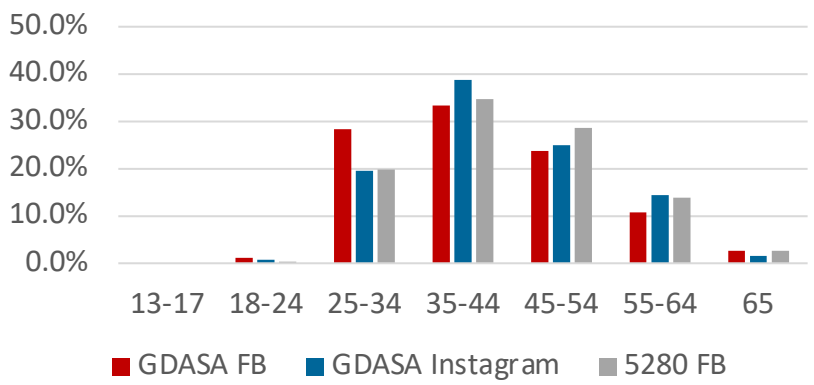
Likes	829	+ 24%
Reach	15,173	+ 101%

i @GDASACO

Likes	438	+ 28%
Reach	1,410	+ 100%

f @5280ElevationShowdown

Likes	555	+ 29%
Reach	4,532	+ 78%



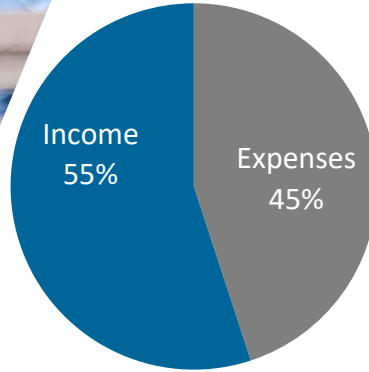
GDASA Database

498 subscribers | + 4%
69% moderately to highly engaged

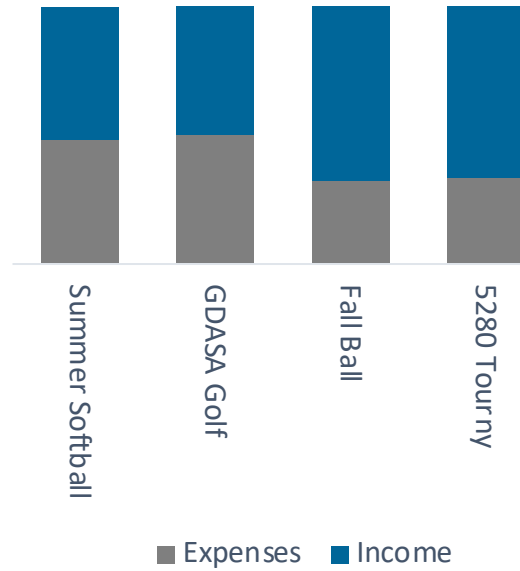


Financial Summary

Total Overall



By Sport



Partners & Sponsors



THE RYAN O'CALLAGHAN FOUNDATION
SUPPORTING TALENTED LGBTQ YOUTH



 www.GreaterDenverASA.org

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