



DISC STANDARDS WORKING GROUP
USA Ultimate Approved Disc Process

USA Ultimate Procedure DSWG-001 "Disc Approval Process"

- 1.0 **Scope** – This document describes the USA Ultimate Disc Approval Process that USA Ultimate uses to designate a disc as a "USA Ultimate Approved Disc," "USA Ultimate Approved Championship Disc," or "USA Ultimate Approved Disc for U-12 Play". The following procedures will reference this document:
- 1.1 DSWG-002 Flight Test Pool & Testing Criteria for General and Championship Discs.
 - 1.2 DSWG-003 Flight Test Pool & Testing Criteria for U-12 Discs.

- 2.0 **General Guidance** – A USA Ultimate Approved Disc is defined as "Good enough for use by ultimate players (leaguers, competitors at tournaments, USA Ultimate members)." This means that the disc is good enough for leagues, non-championship tournament play, and for USA Ultimate members' general use. The leagues and tournaments may or may not be USA Ultimate affiliated.

A USA Ultimate Approved Championship Disc is defined as "Good enough for use in high level ultimate competition." This means that the disc is good enough for play in USA Ultimate championships events and associated qualifying events.

A USA Ultimate Approved U-12 Disc is defined as "Good enough for use by U-12 ultimate players." This means that the disc is good enough for U-12 Play in leagues, tournament play, or for USA Ultimate U-12 members' general use. The leagues and tournaments may or may not be USA Ultimate affiliated.

- 3.0 **Disc Approval Process** - The USA Ultimate Disc Approval Process begins when a Disc manufacturer contacts USA Ultimate (either Headquarters (HQ) personnel or directly to a member of the Disc Standards Working Group). Refer to Figure 1; USA Ultimate Disc Approval Process.
- 3.1 Disc Vendor notifies USA Ultimate HQ or the Disc Standards Working Group (DSWG) of intent to submit a Candidate Disc (CD) to the USA Ultimate for review. The vendor also specifies whether the CD is intended to be evaluated under DSWG-002 or DSWG-003 Flight Test Pool & Testing Criteria.



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- 3.1.1 USA Ultimate HQ alerts DSWG of vendor notification.
- 3.1.2 Disc Vendor sends 10 samples of CD, per technical specifications (see DSWG-002 or DSWG-003, as appropriate), to DSC for informal review.
- 3.1.3 Disc Vendor pays USA Ultimate Disc Testing Fee (\$1,500). Fee is non-refundable, regardless of the outcome of the Disc Approval Process.
- 3.2 Disc Standard Working Group Preliminary Review of the CD:
 - 3.2.1 Members of the DSWG determine if the CD warrants further testing.
 - 3.2.2 If CD is not deemed acceptable to minimum standards, including technical specifications (see DSWG-002 or DSWG-003, as appropriate), the disc vendor is notified.
 - 3.2.3 If CD is deemed acceptable for additional review by Disc Approval Committee (DAC):
 - 3.2.3.1 USA Ultimate HQ notifies DAC of CD to be tested.
 - 3.2.3.2 USA Ultimate HQ notifies disc vendor of request for additional discs.
 - 3.2.3.3 Disc vendor sends additional discs to USA Ultimate HQ for distribution to the DAC for formal testing.
- 3.3 Disc Approval Committee (DAC) Review of the CD:
 - 3.3.1 Members of the DAC determine if the CD meets USA Ultimate Approval standards or if the disc needs further refinement.
 - 3.3.2 If CD needs further refinement the disc vendor is notified of the disc deficiencies and the DAC awaits a new batch of discs to review.
 - 3.3.3 If the DAC believes the CD meets USA Ultimate Approval standards, the CD is deemed acceptable for additional review by the Flight Test Pool (FTP):
 - 3.3.3.1 USA Ultimate HQ notifies FTP of CD to be tested.
 - 3.3.3.2 USA Ultimate HQ notifies disc vendor of the requirements for additional discs of CD to be tested.



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3.3.3.3 Disc vendor sends additional discs to USA Ultimate HQ for distribution to the FTP for formal testing.

3.4 FTP Formal Testing of the CD:

3.4.1 FTP reviews CD with respect to the current USA Ultimate Disc Standard Requirements and fills out Disc Testing Questionnaire (DTQ).

3.5 Disc Standard Working Group reviews results from DTQ with respect to the current appropriate Disc Approval Criteria (DSWG-002 or DSWG-003) and determines if CD is approved.

3.5.1 Formal Disc Approval - Disc Vendor is notified that CD is approved (and at what level) and is provided with a summary of the DTQ results. CD is added to a list of USA Ultimate Approved Discs maintained on the USA Ultimate website.

3.5.2 Formal Disc Rejection - Disc Vendor is notified and receives summary DTQ results.

4.0 Terms of Approval and Retest Procedure – Once a Candidate Disc is approved in accordance with section 3 (above), the manufacturer must produce the disc with materials and process substantially equivalent with those employed for the samples approved.

4.1 Changes to material or process – if a manufacturer makes a change to the material or process (including secondary operations) of an approved disc they must notify USA Ultimate HQ and submit 10 samples for review by the DAC.

4.1.1 If the DAC determines the changes meet USA Ultimate Approval standards, the disc vendor is notified and is permitted to incorporate the changes into approved discs.

4.1.2 If the DAC believes the changes do not meet USA Ultimate Approval standards, the changes need to be re-submitted for approved per section 3.3 (above).

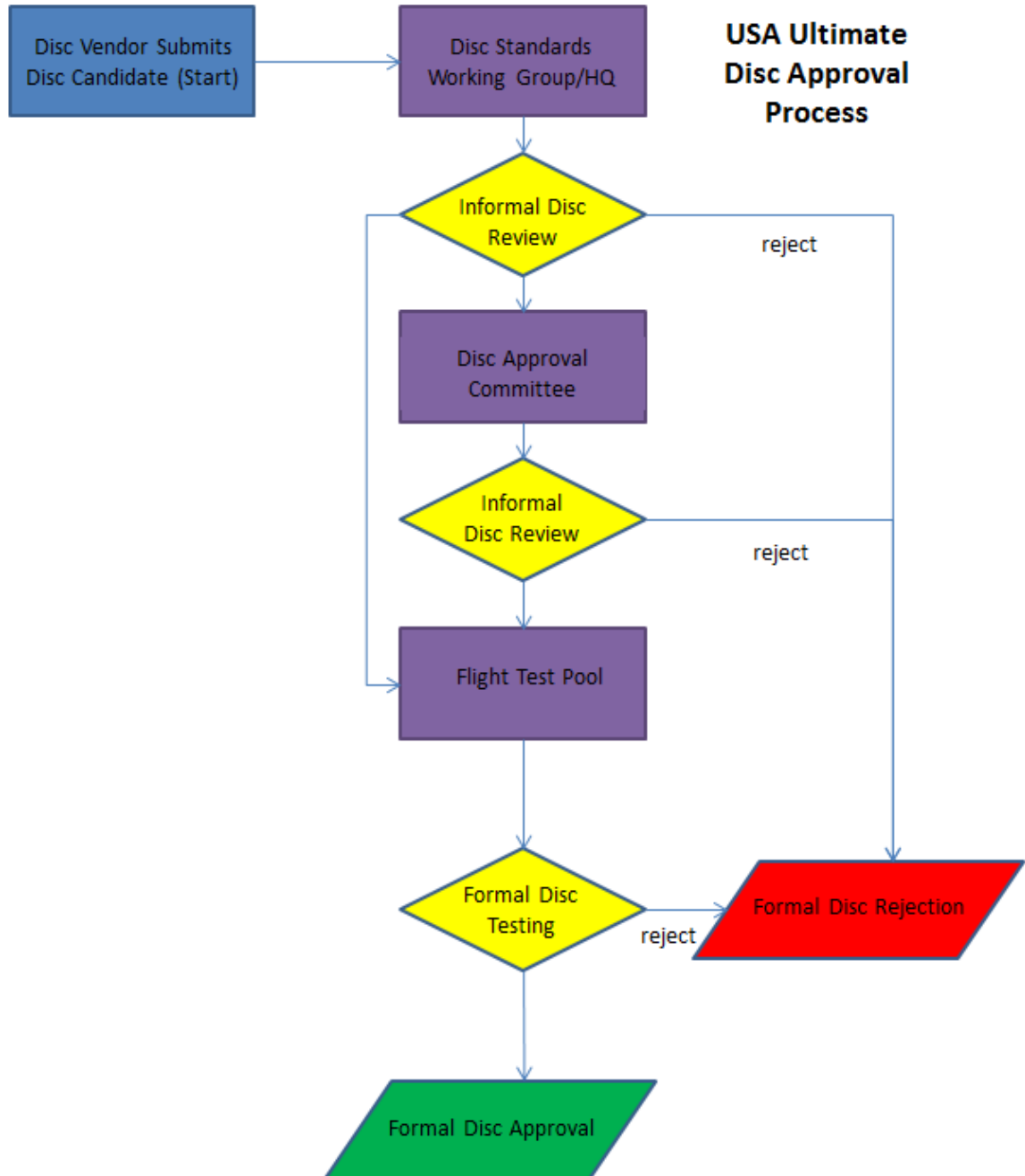


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- 4.2 Term of Approval – A Disc approved in accordance with section 3 has approved status for 3 years from the date of notification per section 3.5.1.
- 4.3 Retest – The disc manufacturer is permitted to submit 10 samples of the current production to USA Ultimate HQ 6 months prior to the approval expiration per section 4.2.
 - 4.3.1 If the DAC determines the disc meets USA Ultimate Approval standards, the disc vendor is notified and must pay a \$1,000 re-test fee. Once the fee is paid, the disc is granted an additional 3 year term per section 4.2.
 - 4.3.2 If DAC believes the disc no longer meets USA Ultimate Approval standards, the disc need to be re-submitted for approval per section 3.3 (above).
- 5.0 **Use of USA Ultimate Marks** – Approval of a disc at any level through the USA Ultimate Approved Disc Process does not confer any rights to use the USA Ultimate name or marks, or any rights to promote the disc as approved by USA Ultimate. Such rights may only be conferred through a separate licensing agreement.



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