## Acknowledgments

A big thanks goes to my friend and sounding board Kevin Kunz. He and I discovered disc golf together and played at least once a week since 2013. I want to thank my wife Jill and daughter Jordan. They supported me, even when I droned on about disc golf, sociology and often both at the same time. My deep gratitude goes to Matthew Hartwell, who helped with data collection and analysis for the book and co-authored one of its chapters. Elizabeth Boycan and Josh Sweeney also deserve thanks for providing research support. I was also fortunate to work with Jeralynn Cossman and Julia Wolf on a research project related to disc golf course locations. My recent career transition from studying terrorism to studying emerging sports would not have been possible without encouraging colleagues, such as Adam Dasari, Daniel Renfrew, Jesse Wokniak, Jim Nolan, Karen Weiss, Rachel Stein, Tyler Dupont and Christopher Oliver. I wish to convey appreciation to West Virginia University and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology for giving me the opportunity to work on this book.

My gratitude also goes to the readers of my disc golf blog *Parked*. What began as a hobby in late 2016 gradually found a readership, landed an Innovation Grant from the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA) and put out 110 articles over a five-year period. I am most grateful to the writers, photographers and artists who contributed their work to *Parked*. They include Vic Allen, Valarie Jenkins, Robert Hooker, Rebecca Burton, Lauren E. Lakeberg, Kristian Vernegaard, Kingsley Flett, Kaycee Glattke, Kari Toivonen, Jill Woods, Jim Palmeri, Jesse Wright, James McDonald, J. Gary Dropcho, Dillan Carr, Dee Leekha, Coltin Calloway, Chris McDowell, Chris Bawden, Brian Wells, Boyce McCoy, Bill Newman, Cory Wiebusch,

Bill Flynn, Ben Owens, Bailey Mareu, Asbjørn B.V. Hauberg, Alex Colucci and Adam Snavely. I am indebted to the PDGA for supporting *Parked* and providing multiple data sets for this book.

I learned much of what I know about the disc golf movement by playing with and interviewing disc golfers, interacting with them online through *Parked* and related social media, talking to people face-to-face, working with the PDGA and collaborating with other disc golf media. It would be impossible to thank everyone who provided helpful information or influenced my thinking about disc golf, but among them are Steve Hill, Steve Dodge, Steve Ganz, Shelby Dering, Seth Munsey, Sean Jack, Sascha Vogel, Sarah Hokom, Rick Rothstein, Phil Burton, Pete Crist, Nick Buysse, Mike Plansky, Mahmoud Bahrani, Madison Walker, Justin Menickelli, Jussi Meresmaa, Josh Smith, Josh Lichti, Johnny Sias, John Houck, Joe Feidt, Jeremy Koling, Jenny San Filippo, Jeff Spring, Jason Lee, Greg Hackett, Dan "Stork" Roddick, Charlie Eisenhood, Brian Hoeniger, Brian Graham, Alex Williamson, Adrian Southern and Andrew Fish.

Finally, I would like to thank Mary Al-Sayed, Elizabeth Graber, Paul Smith Jesudas, Brian Halm and Madison Allums from Palgrave Macmillan. Mary's initial support of the book and the Palgrave team's consistent backing thereafter were essential to the completion of this project.