

Teleconference Minutes
Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)
January 7, 2009

Board Members:

Present: Todd Andrews, Chris Bellinger, Ron Convers, Bob Decker, Matt Gillis, Juliana Korver and Rick Rothstein

Quorum present? Yes

Others Present:

Executive Director: Brian Graham

Other: Dave Gentry – Tour Manager, Dan “Stork” Roddick – Director Special Projects, Chuck Kennedy (joined the discussion at 10:15pm)

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 8:35pm EST by Chair, Bob Decker.

MOTION (Andrews/Convers)

Approve the December 3rd 2008 teleconference minutes with proposed change.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION (Convers/Andrews)

Certify the Groove, Blowfly II, and Tsunami D-Line.

Motion passes unanimously.

Gateway Voodoo: presented by Graham

- Homberg is waiting for paperwork and fees before he tests the Voodoo for approval.

Executive Director's Report: presented by Brian Graham

- As of December 1st, we have a net financial position of \$219,629 which is an increase of \$61,966 over last year at this time.

- In November 2008, our expenses totaled \$55,584 and our income totaled \$29,318 which is expected at this time.

- The new member fulfillment system is working very efficiently. This year our turn-around time for memberships is 7-10 days.

- An agreement has been made with John Jokinen regarding his debt

- John Duesler accepted the position of marketing director.

- The office is in need of new COI forms from Bellinger, Convers and Gillis.

PDGA Tour Report: presented by Dave Gentry

- We ended up with 998 events for 2008.
- US events are up 14% from last year our total number of entries are up 7% and the total purse is up 13%.
- We are switching hosts for the website (all but the message boards) effective tomorrow. We anticipate that the website will be down for an hour during the transition.

Moderation Task Force: presented by Gentry

- Korver, Jeff LaGrassa and I have met a number of times. We expect to have our recommendations to the board next month. There are a few things that will change. 1. Moderators will be anonymous when they respond to people. This is in an attempt to prevent personal attacks targeting moderators. 2. We want to create both public and private sections of the discussion board where the private areas can be read only by current members. 3. The new software that we will be using should make things easier for the moderators and it also integrates seamlessly with Drupal.
- A discussion ensued regarding what should and shouldn't be allowed on the message boards.
- It was suggested that we modify discussion board rule #10 to help users understand what constructive criticism is. This would be more clear if we included some examples.

Executive Director Annual Evaluation: presented by Decker

- Decker is expected to review the Executive Director annually. This was overlooked last year.
- Decker posted a proposed procedure for the current evaluation.
- Graham will post a document regarding previous staff evaluations to the Yahoo group.
- Board members will email their ED evaluations to Stork by January 21st.

2009 Budget discussion and final approval: presented by Graham

- The last draft of the budget is draft #5. There were very minor changes made since draft #4.
- We've been waiting on magazine estimates before approving the budget.

MOTION: (Rothstein/Andrews)

Approve draft #5 of the 2009 budget.

Passed Unanimously

New PDGA Publication: presented by Rothstein

- Are we promoting a sport or are we promoting the tour? Can we do both?
- Discussion regarding what we should or shouldn't include in our publication.
- It was suggested that we create a survey to see what the members want
- How many issues are we going to create?
- We will have a newsletter minimally every month.
- It was recommended that we go to quarterly publication.
- The first magazine should probably be out in March or possibly April.

- Graham will post the survey to the Yahoo group by the 16th for the board to review. The board will have a week to respond with additions or modifications for the survey.

Super Class: presented by Graham/Kennedy

- Vintage class specifications were written in the 90's, but were never put into the tech standards. The vintage class specifications are now identified in the super class document. This is strictly a technical specification update.

MOTION: (Convers/Korver)

Approve the Super Class documents as set forth on the PDGA Yahoo group.

For: Korver, Andrews, Bellinger, Gillis, Convers Against: Rothstein, Decker

Motion Carries.

Player of the Year Award Process: presented by Graham/Kennedy

- The goal of the new proposed new process was to include elements that are objective and easily automated. We wanted to make this simple enough that players can understand it. All players will have an event rating. People will be compared using their event rating for their best two NT or Major and top 5 B tier or higher events.

- This system ranks everyone based on the average rating of those events. We can have these standings listed online so players can follow along throughout the year.

- By the end of the year, this will produce 5-7 candidates. Additional criteria will be quantified for the candidates including worlds finish, head to head, and average of the strength of field ratings in the 7 events used for their average rate.

- The board discussed whether there should be a voting component to the equation.

- We will continue to discuss this next month.

Technical Standards Targets: presented by Graham/Kennedy

- Where do specifications fit and where competition guidelines fall do.

- How can we address catch ability? Just because a target has a certain number of chains or a particular configuration, doesn't mean that it will catch well. Committee decided to go just with design as opposed to performance, trusting the market to work for us as to whether an item works well or not.

MOTION: (Convers/Andrews)

Accept the proposed tech standards as put forth.

Passed Unanimously.

Player Behavior: presented by Graham

- There has been some disturbing behavior by some of our top players. This is not an isolated incident. There were issues with at least 3 of the top events last year. This behavior contributed to losing the location of the Player's Cup as well as having the course pulled.

- Graham recommends that this be turned over to the disciplinary committee.

- Bellinger questions whether the disciplinary committee has the authority to deal with this. It seems more reasonable to expand their charter so they can deal with this or just rule on it ourselves.
- Decker suggests that we let the disciplinary committee do the research and start to conduct interviews.

Editorial Policy: presented by Stork

- Stork suggests the following statement be used as a metric for our staff with regard to all PDGA publications:

Material should not breach prevailing community standards of good taste and decency or be likely to cause serious or widespread offense, taking into account the context, medium and audience.

- We could also just say we use someone else's standards such as the BBC who keeps their list updated at all times or the Disney standard.
- Such a list would be an internal document for staff to reference when creating content for any of our future publications.

MOTION: (Convers/Korver)

The following text: **Material should not breach prevailing community standards of good taste and decency or be likely to cause serious or widespread offense, taking into account the context, medium and audience.**, be included in future standards for PDGA Media.

Passed Unanimously

Supporting Members: presented by Gentry

- This will be moved to the next meeting due to the late hour.

Action Items:

- Graham: Post staff evaluation documents to the Yahoo group
- All Board Members: Write an Executive Director evaluation and email to Stork by January 21st.
- All Board Members: Put together a quick list of what they think should be included in the publication. Have this completed by Jan 15st.
- Graham: contact some of the top players to ask their opinion regarding the new POY policy.
- All: review the disciplinary procedures.

MOTION (Andrews/Convers)

To adjourn.

Motion passes unanimously.

- Meeting adjourned at 12:03am
- Minutes submitted by Secretary, Juliana Korver