

Teleconference Minutes
Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)
September 2, 2009

Board Members:

Present: Todd Andrews, Cris Bellinger, Bob Decker, Matt Gillis, Dave Feldberg (joined at 9:47 EST), Juliana Korver and Rick Rothstein

Quorum present? Yes

Others Present:

Executive Director: Brian Graham

Other: Dave Gentry – Tour Manager, Dan “Stork” Roddick – Director of Special Projects.

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 8:32pm EST by Chair, Bob Decker.

MOTION (Bellinger/Andrews)

Approve the minutes as modified from the August 12th Teleconference.

Yes: Bellinger, Decker, Korver, and Rothstein

Abstain: Gillis

Motion passes.

Headquarters Update: *by Graham*

Finances:

As of the end of June, the PDGA had a net financial position of \$644,554 but this total is misleadingly high due to the fact that it includes Pro/Am Worlds Entry fees in the amount of \$160,975. The net financial position discounting the Worlds entry fees is \$483,579.

As of the end of June, the PDGA had a net financial position of \$483,579 discounting Worlds entries.

- Compared to a net financial position of \$300,010 at the same time last year
- Income (\$175,984) exceeded Expenses (\$101,927) in June by \$74,057

The July 2009 financial report will be uploaded to the Yahoo Group upon completion.

Memberships:

As of 9/2/09, we have 12,891 active members

- Compared to 12,175 members at the same time last year
- This represents a 5.9% increase in membership thus far in 2009

USDGC Webcasting:

At this time, we are tentatively planning on moving forward with live webcasting of the 2009 USDGC in partnership with Sports Live Productions and TodoCast. To date no major sponsor has been found to underwrite the production costs of webcasting an event so SLP and TodoCast have expressed interest in covering the costs themselves to demonstrate to the PDGA and potential sponsors what can be done. John Duesler is in discussions with all of the parties involved and more information will be forthcoming.

PDGA Europe Meeting:

Brian Hoeniger and Brian Graham hosted a meeting of European country coordinators at the European Open in Tampere Finland last week to discuss the future transition of responsibilities to PDGA Europe. The meeting was very fruitful in terms of the country representatives expressing their satisfaction with the current relationship with the PDGA and their hesitancy to move to a more independent model. Brian Hoeniger will be giving the BOD a more detailed report on the meeting and our recommendations for moving forward at the fall summit in a few weeks.

Future Worlds:

The Houston Flying Disc Society has relayed to me that they would not be ready to submit a bid for the 2011 Pro Worlds until the 2010 spring summit. I recommend that we publicly announce that the BOD will be accepting 2011 Pro Worlds bids at the 2010 spring summit.

2009 Fall Summit

The 2009 Fall summit will take place on Sept. 17 (Thu) and Sept. 18 (Fri) at the International Disc Golf Center. Rooms have already been booked for attendees at the Hawthorne Suites at Belair Road and I-20.

PDGA Tour: *by Gentry*

As of 9/1/09 there were 1025 unique events (864 US, 18 Canadian, & 143 International) on the PDGA calendar. This is the first time in history that we have had over 1000 events on our yearly calendar! This represents remarkable growth considering there were only 500 events in 2003.

2010 NT Schedule:

A potential list of NT events for 2010 was discussed.

MOTION (Andrews /Korver)

Move to post the audit information to the website.

Motion passes unanimously.

Disciplinary policy update: *by Andrews*

Rothstein is editing the current version and we will discuss it at the Fall Summit.

Player Conduct update: *by Andrews/Bellinger*

This will be discussed at the Fall Summit.

Tech Standards Committee Update: *by Stork*

We have been discussing disc variance. This has become an important part of new disc marketing. This has been a bit of a challenge. In particular, it has made it more difficult to meet our goal or list all the

approved discs. Our hope is that in the field, a person will know the status of the disc they have in their hand. The gap that we have had is that we don't have any consistent identification of the discs (on the discs). Once it has been certified, it is then optional for the manufacturer to indicate that it is certified or even what the model of the disc is. So a disc can be approved and then it can be manufactured without any identification at all which could cause confusion. At some point it seems obvious that we should begin to require better identification on discs. Some kind of PDGA Approved in the mold or stamped on the disc and that the model should be included as well. The problem with models is that we have so many special runs (for example World's Biggest). The committee wants to know if they are going down the right road here and if the board would be receptive to a future suggestion that we require manufacturers to show better identification.

Andrews recalled a former proposal similar to this that was put forth a few years ago and suggested that we find that proposal in the minutes and revisit it.

The board was receptive to this concept.

Disabled disc golfers: *by Andrews*

There is a fairly large contingency of deaf disc golfers in Oregon. Andrews talked to someone about a disabled disc golfers committee. Couldn't find people interested in serving on the committee, but did get an offer by the Deaf Disc Golf Associate to act as a reference to the PDGA on any relevant issues. They have also suggested that the PDGA revisit the idea of having closed caption included in any DVD's that are made as well as having someone who can sign at the larger events.

Online Registration: *by Andrews*

The IT committee had a meeting last night and would like to see the PDGA build its own system that is fully integrated into the website.

Make this an agenda item for the October meeting. Gentry will be talking to Ciphent to get some cost estimates.

Bellinger mentioned that if we move forward with this project, there will be a fair amount of development needed and therefore it may be better to push forward instead of delaying it.

Graham voiced his approval of this concept, but mentioned that we currently have a pretty long wish list with regard to the website and its functionality.

Ideally we want to minimize the manual procedures that the PDGA uses and automate as many of them as possible.

Super Class: *by Rothstein*

Last weekend there was a Super Class A tier event that had only 13 players. There was a discussion regarding its validity in light of such poor attendance.

There has been very little buzz about this and it has been a disappointing year regarding the concept. The general feeling is to let it continue, however, it seems like it should probably be sanctioned at the XC level.

Louisiana State Coordinator: *by Graham*

Mike Kernan was elected as the LA state coordinator with 2 votes as a right in. It has come to the PDGA's attention that he is emphatically encouraging tournaments in LA not to sanction any of their events with a message posted on the southern National's forum.

In addition, he has just recently been suspended from the PDGA forum for another year, which makes him a member not in good standing and can thus be removed from his position.

There is another active member who is interested in the position for the state of LA.

One of the things that we need to clarify here is that people who are volunteers or even employees of the PDGA have the right to disagree with the PDGA and have critical opinions of our programs, but such criticism should be given in a constructive way.

Election of Officers

Todd Andrews has been elected as President

Cris Bellinger has been elected as the Vice President

Bob Decker has been elected as Treasurer

Juliana Korver has been elected as Secretary

USDGC variance of the rules issue

Harold Duval wants a variance such that there would be a 1.5 meter circle around each basket and that any disc that lands in the circle must be played from the circle. Players could move around the circle to play from any location on the circle.

Harold asked for this variance. Gentry told him if he got approval from the rules committee that he would then approve it. It was discussed in the committee and received no support. Harold asked Gentry for the variance anyway and Gentry declined. Harold has since responded informing Gentry that he will precede with the variance.

This puts the PDGA in a very tough position. How can we sanction an event that blatantly ignores PDGA protocol? The board adamantly agrees that we can not back down on this issue and that if an event wants to be a PDGA sanctioned event, it must abide by PDGA rules.

A very lengthy discussion entailed regarding rules and variances and the USDGC.

MOTION (Feldberg/Korver)

Adjourn.

Motion passes unanimously

- Meeting adjourned at 10:51pm
- Minutes submitted by Secretary, Juliana Korver

Action Items:

BOD – Send itineraries for the Fall Summit to the office

Graham – look into the cost involved in subtitling DVD's

Andrews – get Graham more information on Nathan Boyes and subtitling of DVDs'.

Graham – look into the timeframe with regard to Mike Kernan, the election, his post

Graham – talk to Harold