

Board of Directors Teleconference Minutes
Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)
May 10, 2011

Board Members:

Present: Dave Nesbitt, Juliana Korver, Todd Andrews, Avery Jenkins, Dave Feldberg , Bob Decker, Cale Leiviska

Quorum present? Yes

Others Present: Executive Director Brian Graham, Dan Roddick

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 8:32pm EST by Chair, Dave Nesbitt

Old Business:

Meeting Minutes

MOTION (Andrews/Korver)

Approve the meeting minutes of the April 2011 teleconference.

Yes: Nesbitt, Korver, Feldberg, Jenkins, Andrews, Decker, Leiviska

Motion passes 7-0

Closing of On-line Motions

No online motions

Committee Reports

Tech Standards – Disc & Target Certifications - Graham

MOTION (Decker/Korver)

Certify the TSC approval of the AP Spiderweb 3 target, and the Sword disc by Westside Discs.

Yes: Nesbitt, Korver, Feldberg, Jenkins, Andrews, Decker, Leiviska

Motion passes 7-0.

Disciplinary Update – Nesbitt

No Report

International - Feldberg

Trinidad and Tobago has expressed interest in speaking with the office in regards to the installation of disc golf course.

Information Technology – Andrews

No Report

Rules - Korver

Korver reported that rules committee chairman Conrad Damon has been made aware of the sanitizing of the rules Q&A's for publication in 2012.

PDGA Banking & Investment Recommendation Update – Decker
Nothing new to report.

World Rankings, Player & Rookie of the Year Procedures Going Forward – Feldberg/Nesbitt

MOTION (Decker/Leiviska)

To award co-player of the year awards to Nikko Locastro and Dave Feldberg for 2010.

Juliana Korver read the following statement and requested that it be entered into the minutes:

“I believe that the continuation of this discussion is the direct result of an abuse of power.

In no way do I believe that there was any incompetency displayed when Chuck Kennedy used the PDGA statistics to determine the 2010 Player of the Year. In no way do I believe that Chuck deceived or omitted details regarding his proposed calculations when the board approved this method for use. Chuck is known for his attention to detail. He is very deliberate in all that he does. He calculated the results in the manner that he intended when presenting this method to the board. Thus he calculated the results in the way that we agreed upon.

It is rare that there is a year where there is not a difference of opinion regarding the recipient of the POY in either the men's or women's division. This year is no exception. Arguments have been raised that everyone believes that it was given to the wrong person, but there has been no discussions about returning the method in which to determine this award back to a popular vote. Arguments have been raised that it is a joke that the Player of the Year is not the same as the top ranked player, but there has been no serious push to do away with the calculations and simply award it to the top ranked player.

For me the question is not if you agree with the results, but if you believe the results were reached honestly and fairly. I believe that they were. If the board believes there is a problem with the results, then we should talk about changing the method. I do not believe that we are at liberty to change the method retrospectively to alter the results that were obtained in the manner that was agreed upon and voted for by the board at the time.” – (End of Korver Statement)

Dave Nesbitt read the following statement and also requested that it be entered into the minutes:

“I don't disagree that Chuck did the calculations as he had always intended, and as he had done them in the past. You are correct that the calculations could have been done a different way, and in fact this different way would have been the way I would have done them if I had read the document and interpreted it without knowing what Chuck had done in the past. If you had an independent technical person take the raw data from Chuck and ranked them according to the document, it would be my premise that this independent person would use the method I had chosen rather than the method Chuck had chosen to rank them. In past years, this probably wouldn't have mattered as there probably was a clear winner in years past. In 2010 it does make a difference, thus my recommendation to award a co-player of the year.”
– (End of Nesbitt Statement)

The original motion was restated.

MOTION (Decker/Leiviska)

To award co-player of the year awards to Nikko Locastro and Dave Feldberg for 2010.

Yes: Leiviska, Jenkins, Decker

No: Korver, Andrews
Abstain: Nesbitt
Did not vote: Feldberg
Motion passes 3-2

The board discussed the awards process moving forward. Roddick stated that the PDGA already has an in place system that already takes into account these skills in our ratings and world ranking systems. Feldberg and Stork stated their wish that the process be simplified and easier to understand. Korver and Decker stated their wish to do away with these awards due to the controversy surrounding them nearly every year. The Board tabled any potential changes to the process until the June teleconference and requested that Chuck Kennedy submit for consideration a more simplified process for determining the awards.

Summary Budget Release – Graham

Graham informed the Board that the office was still waiting on approval of the 2010/2011 summary budget for publication at PDGA.com.

MOTION (Decker/Andrews)

Approve the 2010/2011 Financial Summary document as presented by Brian Graham for publication at PDGA.com and DiscGolfer magazine.

Yes: Nesbitt, Korver, Feldberg, Jenkins, Andrews, Decker, Leiviska
Motion passes 7-0

Office Report - Graham

2010 Year End Financials & Audit Update

The PDGA's accounting software has been upgraded to Quickbooks Premier 2011 and the office is currently in the process of working with our local accounting firm to customize the new monthly financial reports for the board. The office will continue to work closely with the accountant to transition to a full accrual based system over the next couple of months.

The 2010/11 PDGA financial summary document, which shows 2010 actuals and 2011 budgeted income and expenses, was completed and uploaded to the board Yahoo group on March 22 for review and comments. The office requests review and approval by the board at the May teleconference so this document can be published to the website and in DiscGolfer magazine.

The PDGA office has been working closely with our independent auditing firm over the past two weeks to provide all requested information needed to complete our 2010 year end financial audit. The office expects a draft copy of the audit sometime in the next week to ten days.

Memberships

As of 5/4/11, we had 12,669 active members

- Compared to 11,987 members at the same time last year
- This represents a 5.7% increase in memberships thus far in 2011

World's Updates

Dave Gentry performed a site visit to Rochester, New York on April 15-18 to meet with the host team for the Amateur World Championship and to review the courses and reports that preparations are on track.

Brian Graham will be performing a site visit to Santa Cruz, California on May 21-24 to meet with the host team for the Professional World Championship and to review the World's courses which are being played in the Masters Cup.

A World's registration update is included in the tour report from Dave Gentry.

USA Ultimate Cooperation

Brian Graham has had e-mail correspondence and several follow-up telephone conversations with Tom Crawford and Andy Lee of USA Ultimate since the spring summit. USA Ultimate and the PDGA will begin swapping full page ads in our respective magazines beginning with the summer issue. We have also discussed the merits of joining forces to seek member benefits and other levels of support from prospective partners as we feel the increased number of members from our two organizations combined could net us better deals and benefits. We have pledged to keep the lines of communication and cooperation open as we move forward and will be meeting face to face again at the WFDF Overall World Championship in Colorado in mid July.

2011 PDGA Elections

Elections documents and a website story outlining the process are currently under development and will be published later this week at PDGA.com and in the summer issue of DiscGolfer, pending the related results and decisions reached at the May board teleconference. A notice to amend the bylaws of the organization was published on the website on Friday, May 6.

Staff Retirement Matching Funds

Our auditor has requested that the PDGA Board pass a resolution or some other way have it entered into our official record, the percentage of matching funds approved by the board for staff IRA's. As part of the budget process in 2008 the board agreed to budget 3% of staff salaries plus an additional \$1000 for management and other fees.

- End of Office Report

MOTION (Decker/Korver)

That the PDGA annually match up to 3% of staff salaries, and budget an additional \$1000 for management and other fees, for staff IRA's.

Yes: Nesbitt, Korver, Feldberg, Jenkins, Andrews, Decker, Leiviska

Motion passes 7-0.

State Coordinator Elections Update – Graham

Graham reported that the office had reviewed the state coordinators program and was recommending that no changes be made to the elections process in 2011. Marcy Borelli will be the office coordinator for the program moving forward and an increase in the amount of communications with these representatives will occur.

Dave N. reiterated that the Board has turned over responsibility for management of this program to the PDGA office by motion passed at the Spring Summit.

Tour Report - Graham

May 17th Ratings Update – The office has processed over 150 events since the Summit and the Ratings Update is on schedule to be published on-time.

Pro Worlds - The registration is going well. As of 5am this morning, 289 players had registered and another 14 players who signed up but have not fulfilled the requirements of the official's exam or being a current member. The maximum capacity is 432 players plus the Senior Legends. Since registration is getting tight and the event is opening to amateurs on May 16th we are putting aside 30 spots.

Am Worlds - Current registration is 111 players which is not unusual for this time of year. We still expect 500+ players at the event.

Worlds Smoking Policy - We continue to receive comments on the policy and have received several inquiries concerning the policy and how it relates to event staff and spectators.

TD Resources and Training - This took a back seat to the crush of work for the Ratings Update. Andrew is starting work on this and documentation of process and procedures this week.

YTD Tour Stats

Data minus 56 Pending Events (events not yet paid for)

Date	Entries	Pending*	Dual	Unique	US	Canada	Intl	Majors	NT	A	A/B	XA	XAXB	BA	B	BC	XB
05/11/10	888		34	889	692	18	149	9	9	53	9	2	1	2	268	2	7
05/10/11	930	56	24	880	694	15	181	9	9	51	8	2	1	0	256	4	6
Difference	67		-10	-21	-8	-3	32	0	0	-2	-1	0	0	-2	-13	2	-1
%Difference	8%		-29%	2%	-1%	-17%	21%	0%	0%	-4%	-11%	0%	0%	-100%	-5%	100%	-14%

Data including 56 Pending Events

Date	Entries	Pending*	Dual	Unique	US	Canada	Intl	Majors	NT	A	A/B	XA	XAXB	BA	B	BC	XB
05/11/10	888		34	889	692	18	149	9	9	53	9	2	1	2	268	2	7
05/10/11	930	56	24	936	733	15	188	9	9	58	9	2	1	0	266	4	6
Difference	67		-10	77	41	-3	39	0	0	5	0	0	0	-2	-2	2	-1
%Difference	8%		-29%	9%	6%	-17%	26%	0%	0%	9%	0%	0%	0%	-100%	-1%	100%	-14%

* Stating in 2011 events are not added to calendar unless pre-event fees are paid leading to a larger increase in events that are pending or "unsanctioned".

- End of Tour Report

IT Report - Graham

New Website Update

We are still on track to launch the new website by June 28th. This launch will also include the online magazine, social media functionality, and conversion of the existing tournament-admin functionality.

Online Magazine Update

As I mentioned earlier an online magazine will be available with the new website. I could not find a solution where we could store the source files on our website and deliver an online magazine interface. We could always put up PDF files for download but the file size will be difficult to manage and we wouldn't be able to control access to the content. With this in mind we will need to utilize an online publishing company. If we decide to switch publishing companies down the road it will be possible since we possess the source PDF files.

Our leading candidate is Issuu as they appear to have all the functionality we need for only \$19 per month. USA Ultimate used Issuu recently for a recent online magazine trial. I am still working out a few

technical details such as support for the iPad / iPhone and hope to have a final decision soon. I will send out an update once we have reached a final solution.

Brian confirmed to Dave N. that electronic PDF versions of each magazine have been and will continue to be archived for future use as required.

Social Media & Discussion Board Update

The new social media functionality, which is primarily blogging, will be ready for the new website launch. We are also planning on having “featured bloggers” that will have more exposure than our normal users. These featured bloggers should ideally be disc golf insiders who are willing to share their thoughts and experiences. I haven’t started the search process yet but if you have any suggestions please don’t hesitate to ask me.

Users will also have the ability to comment on a user’s posts if we enable that functionality. I can see it being a useful tool but I can also see it easily abused. I really need to research comments and moderation capabilities in depth and will come back with a recommendation for the June teleconference.

In regards to the discussion board we do have one stumbling block. After some research we determined that it will be difficult to share users between the two systems due to conflicting password encryption methods. Initial conversion won’t be difficult but afterwards the choices are to either allow users to be created independently in both the new website and the discussion board or to shut down the ability to create new users in the discussion board. My assumption is that since we will be phasing out the discussion board that shutting down the ability to create new users is the best decision.

- End of IT Report

Policies and Procedures Manual – Nesbitt

Nesbitt reminded Board members to review the draft of the Policies and Procedures manual as presented at the Spring summit and to send comments on the Table of Contents by June’s teleconference.

Fixing Women’s Disc Golf – Feldberg

Feldberg gave an update on proposed initiatives to address challenges and issues related to women members, and recommended a survey or questionnaire to solicit opinions and data. Korver reported that the Women’s Committee was dormant and needs new life. Nesbitt suggested seeking a new chairperson to head the committee and rally the women.

The “P” in PDGA – Andrews

Andrews discussed options for differentiating between competing and non-competing members of the PDGA and expressed the need to engage non-competing disc golfers to support the association. Nesbitt discussed a proposed business plan that had been drafted and sent to **sub-committee** members formed at the Spring summit for review which would have the National Tour financially stand on its own. Nesbitt had received comments from committee members Brooks and Jack Kelly, and requested feedback from committee members Jenkins, Feldberg, and Decker. Graham reminded the Board that the office staff had been tasked with reviewing the membership levels and several options were going to be sent to the Board for consideration.

Disc Golf’s Marco Polo – International Disc Golf Evangelism – Roddick

The Board discussed opportunities for the promotion and growth of the sport of disc golf around the world and how the PDGA might fund this type of initiative in partnership with equipment manufacturers. Feldberg reported on conversations he had with two manufacturers regarding a working relationship with the PDGA to launch such an initiative.

Officials Cards – Graham

Graham reported that the office was considering the benefits and detriments to not sending out officials cards and requested some feedback from the board on the topic. The cards are costly and time consuming to create and mail out and they are not used in any official capacity. Additionally the PDGA website now has the capability to show which members are current officials and a list is published on the website. The board unanimously agreed that the cards were not necessary and directed the office to make the decision.

New Business

Amending Bylaws for PDGA Board Composition – Decker

Nesbitt updated the Board on recent changes to the bylaws and the related announcements, as well as related discussion and feedback from members on-line. Several Board members reported that the vast majority of members who they had spoken to on the topic of expanding the board with appointed members had been positive and they were in support of the changes. Nesbitt asked Board members if they felt that the Board was moving too fast on these changes. The Board was unanimous that they had adequately discussed the merits of the changes over the past months and were ready to move forward with the changes. Discussion ensued on whether the appointed Board members should be full members with the same responsibilities as the elected members or if they should have a more limited role. All generally agreed that these appointed members should have full responsibilities as other members.

MOTION (Nesbitt/Decker)

That the Board amend the bylaws of the association to allow a minority of PDGA Board members to be appointed by the elected members of the Board in accordance with the procedures established from time to time by the Board.

Yes: Nesbitt, Korver, Feldberg, Jenkins, Andrews, Decker, Leiviska

Motion passes 7-0.

Action Item: Nesbitt/Decker

E-mail text of the proposed changes to the bylaws to Brian Graham to be forwarded to our attorney for review. The final text of the proposed changes are to be ratified by the Board after legal review.

MOTION (Decker/Korver)

After the results of the 2011 elections are published, that the PDGA Board appoint two new Board members beginning in 2011, one for a two year term and one for a three year term, with three year terms for all future appointees.

Yes: Nesbitt, Korver, Feldberg, Jenkins, Andrews, Decker, Leiviska

Motion passes 7-0.

Surveying our Membership – Graham/Roddick

The Board discussed the need to engage our members more often and to solicit more feedback via surveys and polls. Graham recommended that the association perform a comprehensive member survey to include demographic information, as one had not been performed in over ten years.

Action Item: All Board Members

Bring one survey question to the June teleconference which should be asked of members.

MOTION (Andrews/Korver)

To adjourn the meeting and enter into executive session.

Yes: Nesbitt, Korver, Feldberg, Jenkins, Andrews, Decker, Leiviska

Motion passes 7-0.

The Board went into executive session at 10:43pm EST

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:00pm EST