

Teleconference Minutes
Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)
December 3, 2008

Board Members:

Present: Todd Andrews, Chris Bellinger (joined the conversation around 9:45pm), 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 (joined the discussion at 8:00pm)

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 7:35pm by Chair, Bob Decker

MOTION (Korver/Rothstein)

Approve the Latitude 64 Trident, Latitude 64 XXX, Latitude 64 Striker, and the Discraft Nebula.
Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION (Gillis/Andrews)

Approve the November 5th, 2008 teleconference minutes with proposed change.
Motion passes unanimously.

Executive Director's Report: presented by Brian Graham

- As of November 1st, we have a net financial position of \$264,114 which is an increase of \$58,920 over last year at this time.
- In September 2008, our expenses totaled \$70,590 and our income totaled \$17,211.
- Membership is up 8.9% over last year at this time with the total active number at 12,765.
- The United States has 11,386 members which represents a 6.3% increase from last year.
- Canada has 200 members representing a 10% decrease from last year.
- International members are at 1,179 representing a 16.3% increase over last year.
- The 2009 online membership system was launched today with two changes: no magazine opt-out option and all members will receive the official PDGA publication.
- A newly designed PDGA member fulfillment system will be launched this month and is expected to drastically improve fulfillment time.

U.S. Sports Congress:

- Graham will be attending the US Sports Congress in Savannah, GA on Dec 11-13 as a guest of the host, Innovations Consulting. Hotel accommodations will be covered by the US Sports Congress.

Innovation Grant Deadline:

- The deadline for receiving Innovation Grant applications has been extended to Friday, December 12th due to a limited response. Applications will be uploaded to the Yahoo Group on December 15th for BOD review. We will be awarding 5 grants in the amount of \$500 each.
- We have received 2 stories from previous grant award winners.

Sponsorship Update:

- Graham has submitted a proposal for sponsorship of the 2009 National Tour to the Trinchero Family Estates winery.

PDGA Tour Report: presented by Dave Gentry

- As of December 2nd, 2008, there have been 994 events on the PDGA calendar (842 US, 12 Canadian, 140 International). This represents a 14.7% increase in the number of events since 2007. Note: the total number of events has almost doubled in a five year period as the 2003 PDGA Tour contained a total of 500 events.
- With this growth, we are generating more work for the office staff. Graham is looking into ways to automate some of the office processes to alleviate some of the burden.

Flying Disc Magazine (FDM): presented by Brian Graham

- Issue 4 has been shipped and has been received by a large number of our members according to reports.
- The PDGA attorney sent the FDM attorney a response letter last week agreeing to purchase issue 5 prior to termination.
- Rich has offered to give us 4000 additional magazines for members who have opted out of FDM for the price of postage.

MOTION: (Andrews/Convers)

Accept issue 5 of FDM provided that it be delivered to the post office no later than December 31st 2008.
Passed Unanimously

Website Update: by Dave Gentry

- Since our last teleconference the contact page, the ability to upload unofficial results and to search statistics based on points and money has been added. We are currently testing the functionality to edit course data or submit new courses to the online directory and that functionality should be restored by the end of the week.
- We have received some negative feedback regarding the new advertising. There have been complaints about advertising in general but the two biggest concerns were inappropriate ads and the speed at which the new site was loading. We have had several conversations with Ciphent regarding these problems and they have gone back to Sportsgenic with our concerns.
- will see if we can put some house adds on the site
- There will be an announcement placed on the website telling the membership that we will create our own in house publication starting in 2010.

Rules Committee chairman – Conrad Damon: by Brian Graham

- Conrad has agreed to be the chair of this committee.

Motion: (Gillis/Korver)

Appoint Conrad Damon as the chair of the Rules Committee.

Passed unanimously

We should recognize Carlton Howard's dedicated and unprecedented service to the PDGA

Motion: (Convers/Andrews)

Purchase an obelisk to recognize Carlton Howard's dedication and years of service.

Passed unanimously

Environmental Committee Update: by Brian Graham

- Graham was contacted by Pat Ferrell, the current chair, who is going to have to step down from the chair. Pat will ask the committee if anyone is willing to take the chair and will report back to Graham with a recommendation for his replacement.

- Gillis wants to create some kind of guide that could be given to parks department that discusses the environment and disc golf. With this in mind, Gillis recommends that we look for someone who has writing skills to chair this committee.

2008 World's Financial Report: by Dave Gentry

- Total profit was \$10,752 which was split evenly between the host club and the PDGA for a total of \$5,376 each.

Marketing Director Proposal: by Brian Graham

- Graham uploaded a proposal by John Duessler to the Yahoo group.

- In 2008 we did not do a good job with marketing; we are in need of a marketing director.

- The BOD discussed the merits of Duessler's proposal.

- Graham was directed to move forward on this by clarifying the proposal with Duessler and by contacting Jim Oates who also expressed some interest in this position.

2009 Budget Update: by Brian Graham

- Draft 3 of the Budget was uploaded to the Yahoo Group.

- \$120,000 is budgeted for the in house magazine

- Our current bottom line is \$77,000 net income for 2009. We usually shoot for about \$50,000 net income.

- Graham requests that the board review the new draft of the budget.

Women's Committee Update: by Juliana Korver

- Korver has found plenty of women interested in serving on the women's committee, however, none of them are anxious to become the chair. Korver asked if as a board member she could be the chair of this committee.

- Korver discussed a potential project for the committee: to coordinate and train a group of volunteers to do live scoring for the top card of women at high profile events.

Motion: (Convers/Gillis)

Nominate Juliana Korver as the chair of the women's committee.

For; Andrews, Convers, Decker, Gillis Abstain: Korver

NT Committee critical path: by Brian Graham

- Everyone agrees that the board and the staff need to reconsider the NT and maybe even the idea of elite competitions and how we want elite competitions to be fostered in the program.

- Stork would like to put into place an annual procedure similar to what the board had with the rules committee.

- A subgroup of Gentry, Convers, Stork and possibly Graham will reevaluate the mission of the NT.

- Ideally we want applications out by the end of July or August so we can approve the NT locations at the Fall summit.

- The composition of the committee itself should also be reviewed by the board. We should have a variety of backgrounds to get a broad view of the process.

PDGA editorial policy: by Rick Rothstein

- This organization represents a large variety of people. There is a certain level or quality that we need to apply to our publications.

- Do we need a policy in place to deal with what words we allow in our publications and what words we do not? Should we review other publications to see what their policies are?

- Does this lend itself to an ad hoc committee to research other's editorial policies?

- Our policy should include accuracy.

New Business

- Things that are coming from the tech side – in the next day or so, we will have from Chuck, the final documents on super class.

- Next week we should get the final documents for your review for the target specifications.

- We should be thinking about this in house publication that we have committed to. This will be some sort of a synthesis between volunteers and paid staff. We need to think about how many people we should hire for this project.

- Board members should think about possible weekends for the spring summit. Possible weekends mid April through May.

- The voodoo is not on the approved list but one of the hotstamps says that it is PDGA approved

Action Items:

- Graham: post the innovation grant applications to the yahoo group.
- Graham: Move forward with finding a marketing director.
- Graham: Help an NT subcommittee reevaluate the mission of the NT.
- Roddick: Investigate editorial policies for other magazines.
- Graham: will check with Homberg to see if the Voodoo is approved or not and if necessary will contact McCormick.
- Board members: post your availability for the spring summit to the yahoo group.

MOTION (Bellinger/Gillis)

To adjourn.

Motion passes unanimously.

- Meeting adjourned at 10:11 pm

- Minutes submitted by Secretary, Juliana Korver