

Teleconference Minutes
Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)
June 3, 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.

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 8:34pm EST by Chair, Bob Decker.

MOTION (Andrews/Convers)

Approve the May Summit minutes as amended.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION (Andrews/Korver)

Certify the Aftershock D-Line, Sparkle Reef, Pure, Savage and Apache (retooled).

Motion passes unanimously.

Headquarters Update: *by Graham*

Finances:

- As of the end of March, the PDGA had a net financial position of \$450,232

- This is compared to a net financial position of \$239,476 at the same time last year but this increase is deceptively inflated due to the timing of expenditures as compared to 2008.
- Income (\$266,350) exceeded Expenses (\$99,254) by \$167,096 due to high membership season

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

Memberships:

As of 6/3/09, we have 11,580 active members

- Compared to 11,000 members at the same time last year
- This represents a 5% increase in membership thus far in 2009

- There is a delay in the audit as we are waiting for information from PDGA Canada. An extension was filed for our tax return for the same reason.
- Karolyn has been on the phones and has been getting in quite a bit of the delinquent fees from past events.

DiscGolfer Magazine Update:

- The second issue of DiscGolfer is currently being finalized and will be published soon.

Disc Golf Hall of Fame Classic:

- 151 disc golfers from 12 states attended the Disc Golf Hall of Fame Classic SuperTour event at the IDGC on May 30-31. The ribbon cutting for the Jim Warner Memorial Course took place. Farina Headrick was also on hand to unveil a bronze bust of Ed Headrick that will be part of his memorial museum. Concrete tee pads and tee signs were installed in the weeks preceding the event and the course received very favorable reviews.

Kalamazoo NT Event:

- The Lower Peninsula Open NT event in Kalamazoo, MI that was to take place on June 26-28 has been cancelled due to lack of sponsorship and help in running the event. Announcements have been made via the front page of the website, e-newsletter, PDGA radio and the magazine.

NT Visits:

- Graham attended the Steady Ed Masters Cup in Santa Cruz last month as the PDGA representative and Marshal. On the Monday following the event, he met with Farina Headrick and the DGA at their new office in Aromas, CA.
- Graham will be attending the US Amateur Disc Golf Championships in Milford, MI as the PDGA representative/Marshal next week and will be meeting with Jim Kenner at Discraft on the Monday following the event.
- These trips have proven to be very valuable as they allow our members to meet and talk with the PDGA Administrator face to face about issues that are affecting them. It also allows Graham to foster improved relations with our manufacturers as well as give the events better coverage on our website.

PDGA Tour: *by Gentry*

- As of 5/29 there were a total of 821 unique events (624 US, 13 Canadian, & 124 International) on the PDGA calendar. This is a 9.1% increase in US events compared to the same date last year and I believe the total increase in US events at the end of 2009 will be between 5 and 8%.

IT Update: *by Gentry:*

- In IT related news we have two projects that will be launching by the end of June. They are a new and improved course directory for the website and an online sanctioning agreement.
- I am looking forward to having the online sanctioning agreement ready to go because this will not only be a nice addition to tournament directors but it will also improve office efficiency.

Non-member fee:

- Ron Convers recently sent an email to the office asking about the increase in the non-member fee from \$5 to \$10 and any information on how this impacts our events. We should be able to get a good general

feeling if we compare 2007 when the non-member fee was \$5 vs. 2008 when the non-member fee was \$10.

- At first glance raising the non-member fee appears to have had no impact on the total number of events (14.1% increase) but there might be an impact on the total number of entries as the 5.7% increase was not as impressive as the 13% increase in 2007 or the 12% increase in 2008.

- To investigate further Gentry looked at the makeup of players who competed in B and C tier events in the US. The results indicate that the percentage of current members increased about 4%, the number of players with no PDGA number decreased about 3%, and the total number of non-current members dropped about 1%. Gentry believes these are expected results as the cost of a PDGA membership becomes more desirable to those players who are planning on competing in only two or three sanctioned events.

-This year we are ordering 2 desktop computers and another high-end computer for desktop publishing for the IDGC. This was already in the budget.

- Sponsorship money from the website is not as high as we were quoted. Advertising is down across the board. We are starting to put some of our own ads on the site as well which do not garner income. Such ads could be used to get information out to the players.

Disciplinary policy and process update: *by Andrews*

- Andrews talked to Brian Murphy regarding the document. The preamble to the document has changed so that we state what our disciplinary policy is. The first paragraph now reads as follows:

In order to promote and ensure the fairness of the sport to all of its members, the Professional Disc Golf Association reserves the right to determine and enforce disciplinary action as it sees fit. In doing so, it strives to be fair and consistent when sanctions are necessary and avoid being arbitrary and capricious in its rulings. It is with this in mind that we have established this disciplinary policy and process document.

- We still need to clarify things in this document such as talking about members instead of players. We need to clarify that it is the role of the president of the Board of Directors to make the final decision on all disciplinary matter.

- Andrews requests that the BOD and Disciplinary Chair, Shawn Sinclair, look this document over and discuss. Andrews would like to review again with Murphy in 2 or 3 weeks and hopefully approve this next meeting.

Player Conduct: *by Bellinger/Andrews*

- Andrews has been talking with Sinclair about what sort of actions to take. What are we looking for as far as code of conduct? We need to determine when and where we have jurisdiction .

- We have to have an ability to look at actions outside of play.

- We have stated in the policy document that we have the right to discipline our members anyway we see fit. So as long as we put forth a standard, we can make sure our members adhere to that. We just need to create a document to this regard.

- It would be good to check how other sporting organizations handle this.

- This is a matter of trying to make sure that in practice, the policy will be defensible. Maybe this is most easily done by testing it by example and by looking at other organizations. It will have to be very carefully worded.
- is there a different code of conduct for a pro than for an am? Maybe we set this up just for pros?
- For now, we need to strengthen what is in the competition manual. We need to enforce what is in the competition manual.
- The main thing that we need is to be cautious about having a good fit between what feels good to us and what we are willing and able to stand behind in practice. The farther those two are apart, the more problems we will create.

2010 Pro Worlds bid: *by Graham*

- Graham uploaded the requested information (event budget) for IN Worlds.

MOTION (Convers/Rothstein)

Move that we accept the Worlds 2010 bid as proposed.

No: Bellinger Yes: Gillis, Korver, Rothstein, Decker, Convers, Andrews

Motion carries.

2009 Elections: *by Graham*

- The deadline for submission of candidacy for the upcoming elections was May 29th. Five candidates, including all four incumbents (Decker, Convers, Korver, Andrews) along with David Feldberg, will appear on the ballot for the board of directors.
- Only 21 of the 30 states/provinces have candidates for the coordinators position but 5 of these candidates failed to meet the May 29 deadline. 3 of the 5 who were late are running opposed against candidates that announced their candidacy on time. I have personally called the current coordinators in the remaining 9 states/provinces to ask if I could keep their names on the ballot and I am waiting for their replies.
- Graham asked the board to extend the deadline for declaring candidacy for the state/provincial coordinators positions to Friday, June 19th and asked for input on whether to accept the candidacy of the 5 who missed the deadline.
- It was suggest that we extend the deadline by 2 weeks for only those states that do not have any candidates already.

MOTION (Bellinger/Convers)

Extend the filing deadline for the state coordinators. This extension is for this election cycle only and is valid only for the states that do not already have any candidates.

Motion passes unanimously

USEF: *by Graham*

- Graham has been speaking with Jerry Payne who is excited about getting this started.
- Our discussions have evolved into the PDGA having more control and Jerry getting some kind of commission from us. He doesn't have the resources to do fulfillment himself. Graham and Payne are still

in discussions and Graham is still working with Briner to get prices on the services and goods that we will provide them.

Innovation Grants: *by Graham*

- We received 7 applications by the deadline. They have been uploaded to the Yahoo group. There is a poll and the BOD members should vote for 5.

Additional trademarks: *by Decker*

- Sometime in the future maybe we will have a pro organization and an am organization under the PDGA. We could then have an ADGA. Lawyer, Brian Murphey, said we shouldn't go after it (the name ADGA) unless we plan to use it.

- It will cost around \$1500 to trademark ADGA.

- We could use Players Disc Golf Association as an umbrella over both the Professional Disc Golf Association and the Amateur Disc Golf Association.

- Should we also look into the Player's DGA?

- Graham has been directed to look into getting Players and Amateur DGA trademarked.

New Business

Convers had a conversation with Cliff Towne last week. There are 2 courses going in soon on Indian reservations. Convers asked Towne if there was any way to track courses on tribal land. It was suggested that it might be good to promote intertribal competitions.

Policy and Procedure manual

We already have a bunch of policies. We need to review the policies and organize them to make them more readily available so we know what we have.

MOTION (Convers/Bellinger)

Adjourn.

Motion passes unanimously

Action Items:

- (Staff) – Make sure the text we discussed at the summit is amended to the sanctioning agreement.
- (BOD) – Read over the disciplinary document and discuss on the Yahoo group. Goal to approve by next meeting.
- (BOD) – Come up with some ideas regarding a code of conduct for our players.
- (BOD) – Vote for Innovations grants in the next week and a half.
- (Graham) – Look into securing a trademark for Player's Disc Golf Association and for Amateur Disc Golf Association
- (Garlock) – Send out a blanket email to our state coordinators to try to find out what disc golf courses are on tribal land.
- (Graham) – Pull the policies that we currently have and put them together on the Yahoo group.

- Meeting adjourned at 9:13pm

- Minutes submitted by Secretary, Juliana Korver