

Board of Directors Teleconference Minutes
Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)
February 3, 2010

Board Members:

Present: Todd Andrews, Cris Bellinger, Matt Gillis, Dave Feldberg, Bob Decker (joined the meeting at 9:40pm), Juliana Korver and Rick Rothstein

Quorum present? Yes

Others Present:

Executive Director: Brian Graham

Other: Dan "Stork" Roddick – Director Special Projects, Dave Gentry – Tour Manager.

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 8:33 pm EST by Chair, Todd Andrews

MOTION (Feldberg/Gillis)

Approve the minutes from the 12/12/09 teleconference as corrected.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION (Korver/Gillis)

Approve the minutes from the 1/13/10 teleconference as corrected.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION (Gillis/Rothstein)

Certify the Chainmaster Lite by Ching as a standard target.

Motion passes unanimously.

Headquarters Update *by Graham*

- December 2009 and 2009 year end financial reports are currently being finalized
- Year end active members - 14,205 which represents a 9.4% increase over the previous year.

- As of 1/31/10, we have 5,250 active members compared to 4,631 members at the same time last year; this represents an 13.3% increase in membership thus far in 2010

Organizational Membership

- Organizational memberships are ready to be offered once the IT committee has completed some minor changes to the database including the development of a new membership code.

IRS Letter

The PDGA office received a letter from the IRS informing us that we are being penalized \$9,300 because our form 990 was filed late last year. The PDGA's accountant has accepted full

responsibility for this filing oversight, which was reported to the board a few months ago, and has agreed to pay all related penalties. The accountant will be submitting a letter to the IRS this week seeking relief from the penalties for reasonable cause.

Rankings/Ratings

The 2009 year end ratings and rankings have been completed and published at PDGA.com. The 2009 Players and Rookies of the year are currently being tabulated and will be announced at PDGA.com within the next week and published in DiscGolfer.

2009 Year End Financial Reports

Work is underway on the 2009 year end financial reports and will continue until they are completed in early February.

Youth Golf of America

Youth Golf of America has invited the PDGA to participate in the youth golf expo section of Florida's Largest Golf Show on Feb. 26-28. Brian Graham made contact with YGOA at the US Sports Congress last year and they are very interested in forming a relationship with the PDGA to use disc golf as a tool to introduce kids to the game of golf.

International Disc Golf Center

New IDGC brochures have been created and printed and will be distributed through the Georgia welcome centers, Columbia County convention and visitor bureau, and PDGA info packs.

Future Majors Bids

An announcement is forthcoming at PDGA.com that the PDGA board will be accepting bids at the 2010 spring summit for the 2011 Pro Worlds, 2011 & 2010 Tim Selinske U.S. Masters Championship, and the 2011 & 2012 U.S. Women's Disc Golf Championship.

Memorial IPTV Broadcast

Marketing director, John Duesler is attempting to put together a live internet broadcast of the 2010 Memorial, similar to last year's USDGC broadcast. In order for the broadcast to become a reality, we will need to reach a certain level of pay-per-view subscribers and sponsorships by February 5th to underwrite the costs. The ball is in the court of the viewers. If the demand and commitment of the pay-per-viewers is there, we will move forward with the broadcast.

Tour Update *by Gentry*

The 2009 tour was wrapped up earlier this week. We had a great year and in terms of US events can be summarized as a solid year of 10% growth (10.8% increase in events and 9.9% increase in total attendance). I was also pleasantly pleased to see that the total purse amount showed a minimal increase as the entire tour was about \$14,000 short of two million and actually decreased 0.8% compared to 2008.

The next big tour milestone that could happen next year would be 1000 US events. This will require a 7% increase and is difficult to predict at this time.

On a sad note it appears that our streak of 100% reporting has come to an end after four years (2005 to 2008). There was an Alaska event in June that never sent in a TD report and we have been unable to contact the tournament director.

National Tour Rules Proficiency Exam

Gentry spoke to Ciphent last night and they believe that they have discovered the quirk with the Rules Proficiency exam restarting for some people. Hopefully this will be fixed soon.

As of yesterday 71% (134 of the 188) competitors registered for the Memorial have taken and passed the Rules Proficiency Exam. A reminder was sent out yesterday afternoon to the 54 players who haven't passed the exam. It is likely that a handful of players will have to take the exam in Arizona and we are prepared for this scenario.

IT News

The next phase of the website migration will be starting next week and I have a meeting schedule later this week to finalize the plans. This next phase will be exciting as the majority of our legacy code that deals with events, statistics, and players will be converted. I don't know the exact time table but it should only take two or three weeks to complete. If anyone is interested in doing some testing please let me know via email.

This conversion has also enabled us to bring in some historical tournament results from the old PDGAIS system that we used in the late 90s through 2001. Not all of this data has round scores but it will be a step forward and will provide a solid foundation for the import of historical data.

We are also getting ready to launch a new version of PDB (our internal office software) that will automate the financial tracking of sanctioned events. Once this tracking is in place it will become significantly easier to automate emails and reports of events with overdue fees. It should improve the speed at which events pay their fees and be a time savings to the office.

There is a concern about how we can notify TD's in an area regarding players who are suspended. Andrews suggested that we change our system by flagging pdga numbers when a TD enters them if the player is suspended.

PDGA Committee Reports

Disciplinary Committee: Todd and Shawn are working on a few items, but they need people to be more proactive on the committee.

Environment Committee: The quarterly teleconference will be next month.

International Committee: They are working to develop a system to qualify their top players to make sure that the top players get into events.

IDGC: A large stump removal project has been completed. Main goal is to get the facility in the best shape possible for the USMDGC.

NT committee: Feldberg has tried to contact a few people involved and has not gotten any responses.

Ratings & Stats: Feldberg will be contacting Chuck soon with his ratings ideas.

Senior committee: Don has sent a draft of an article for the Disc golfer about getting disc golf into the senior games in different states. A survey has been sent out to all legends.

Rules Committee: The committee has compiled a list of potential rules modifications. The committee will be working throughout the year, following the schedule laid out for them, to do a rules revision for 2011.

Memorial Pay-per-view broadcast

A certain number of people need to sign up to view the Memorial in order for us to go ahead and with the online broadcast. Bellinger addressed his concern about this type of marketing saying that if people sign up for the program and we don't meet the \$50,000 mark and the program doesn't show, then in the future, people may be less likely to sign up. The concern is that we should be more aware of the risks before we take action. Graham responded that, on the other hand, we have to take some risks in order to grow. We are trying to broadcast our events. Stork added that this will give us tangible, empirical evidence based on how people respond to something that was what the membership asked for. We are trying to do the things that the membership says they want done.

Tech Standards Update *by Stork*

- This is a preview of what will come up at the summit. For manufacturers, this was a pretty significant step towards standardizations in the industry. Cooperation has been surprisingly good. Perhaps because we went back to the manufacturers to see how practical our requests were going to be before we implemented them. At the summit, we will talk about everything that we more recently passed as well as what the consequences will be for those who do not comply. We had included those penalties because we had a pattern of intentional noncompliance from a very small number of manufacturers. A set of graduated penalties was put forth. We decided to implement the standards first and then roll out the consequences after a period of time that would allow the manufactures time to get used to the new requirements. So at the summit, the committee will be presenting the consequences and when we want to phase them in.

PDGA history project *by Stork*

- This has come from a number of different inquiries. We have determined that we really have an inadequate history component on pdga.com right now. Stork's suggested that the initial steps could be to creating a time line where we can lay out important dates in PDGA history. The time line could then be enriched with links out to backup documents. This would lend itself well to being created incrementally. Hoeniger has expressed an interest in helping out with this project. The aspiration for this is that we would be set up to take little bits and pieces from the general public.

- The board gave Stork their approval for him to continue pursuing this direction.

E-newsletter *by Graham*

- The board has given Graham their approval to proceed with a 1 year trial of the Multibrief E-newsletter.

Rules Discussion *by Stork/Korver*

- The rules committee has posted a list of potential items that they will be discussing this year that they

may recommend be changed for the 2011 rules revision. The process and the calendar that we have is one that calls for a certain amount of discipline on the side of the board and the committee. Right now, it is the board's duty to add anything that they want the committee to discuss that is not on the current list. On April 1st, the committee will come back to the board with a list of items that they feel are the items that should be pursued. At that time, the board will discuss the merit of the potential changes.

There are a couple of things that are new challenges with this year's process. For one, the competition manual didn't exist the last time a rules revision was done. There is another set of folks responsible for the competition manual. They should take their lead from the rules committee.

Refusal of Membership

- There is an individual who has caused trouble for the PDGA for years and it has been suggested that this individual not be allowed to renew his membership. This person has been defaming the PDGA and disc golfers in general for a very long time.
- There was concern that banning him sets a bad precedent and that maybe writing him up through the disciplinary process would be the way to go.
- A lengthy discussion ensued regarding our options to deal with this person and future problem members.
- Andrews has directed Graham to have our IT department blacklist this individual so his emails are not delivered. Andrews has also instructed staff and Bod members not to respond to any correspondence from this individual if it does get through.

Rules by Feldberg

- Feldberg wanted to discuss tightening up the rules to remove some of the gray area. (move towards ball golf's rules). Stork suggested that Feldberg write to the rules committee with his request. Feldberg suggested that we post a poll question to talk about certain rules to see the opinions of our membership. We received very positive feedback from the membership in the past when we did a survey regarding rules issues. Graham suggested that another option is to send out an email questionnaire.

MOTION (Decker/Feldberg)

To adjourn.

Passed

- Meeting adjourned at pm 11:03pm EST
- Minutes submitted by Secretary, Juliana Korver

Action Items

Graham: continue pursuing the e-newsletter.

BOD: Send any additional rules revision considerations to Conrad.