

Board of Directors Teleconference Minutes
Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)
August 11, 2010

Board Members:

Present: Todd Andrews, Rick Rothstein, Matt Gillis, Juliana Korver, Dave Feldberg, Cris Bellinger, Bob Decker

Quorum present? Yes

Others Present:

Executive Director: Brian Graham

Other: Dan “Stork” Roddick – Director Special Projects.

Newly Elected Board Member who will take office September 1st, 2010: Avery Jenkins, Dave Nesbitt

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 8:37 pm EST by Chair, Todd Andrews

MOTION (Feldberg/Korver)

Approve the minutes from the August 11th teleconference.

Decker, Feldberg, and Bellinger abstain.

Motion passes.

MOTION (Korver/Feldberg)

Certify the Mission and the Hurricane from DGA.

Motion passes unanimously

Headquarters Update *by Graham*

At the end of June 2010, the PDGA had a cash position of \$786,143 compared to a cash position of \$623,357 at the same time last year, representing an increase of \$162,786.

At the end of June 2010, the PDGA had a net financial position of \$804,698 compared to a net financial position of \$644,554 at the same time last year, representing an increase of \$160,144.

The finances of the PDGA continue to be healthy with several months of operating expenses in the bank as is good business practice.

The following chart will provide you with a snapshot of our finances over the past six years:

Year	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Net Income	Cash Position	CP Change	Net Financial Position	NFP Change
2009	\$1,356,749.00	1108599	\$248,150.00	\$405,192.00	219.92%	\$389,733.00	171.00%
2008	\$1,154,071.00	\$1,053,052.00	\$101,019.00	\$184,241.00	123.42%	\$227,914.00	156.26%
2007	\$1,109,362.00	\$1,085,188.00	\$24,174.00	\$149,279.00	106.51%	\$145,852.00	187.03%
2006	\$952,249.00	\$884,323.00	\$67,926.00	\$140,157.00	133.52%	\$77,984.00	73.94%
2005	\$752,203.00	\$782,750.00	-\$30,547.00	\$104,971.00	77.17%	\$105,472.00	73.96%
2004	\$732,133.00	\$689,507.00	\$42,626.00	\$136,019.00	-	\$142,615.00	-

Membership

As of 8/4/10, we had 13,802 active members

- Compared to 12,573 members at the same time last year
- This represents a 9.8% increase in memberships thus far in 2010

Worlds DVD

River's Edge Digital Media of Red Wing, MN did an excellent job on the daily videos for the PDGA website and delivered all contracted items on time. The office will continue to coordinate with them over the next month on the delivery of the DVD.

DiscGolfer Magazine

Rick Rothstein and Graham have been working closely with Randy Signor on the transition of editing responsibilities over to him. Randy is currently working on issue 7 with an anticipated delivery date in late September.

Andrew Sweeton contacted the office to discuss the creation of voice recordings of DiscGolfer magazine for the sight impaired. Andrew has offered to record the material himself with the hopes that the recordings can be available on our website.

Elections

The 2010 PDGA elections took place from July 1 – July 31 and have now been completed. 13,676 ballots were sent out to eligible members with 3,094 members voting, representing a participation rate of only 22.6% of eligible voters. Elections results were published on the PDGA website on Monday morning August 2nd. A runoff election is currently being conducted for the

position of Mississippi state coordinator with only members in that state eligible to vote. Newly elected board members and state/province coordinators will officially take office on September 1st.

Professional World Championships

The 2010 PDGA Professional World Championship took place at the Lemon Lake County Park in Crown Point, Indiana on July 27-31st with 308 competitors from 38 states and 5 countries. The event ran very smoothly with only a few normal challenges that can be expected at an event of this size. The office is working closely with the host club to finalize the finances and tournament report. The Lake County Parks district was impressed with the event and expressed interest in bidding on a future Am Worlds.

Amateur World Championship

The office is currently working with the host team to wrap up the finances and final tournament report.

Office Staffing

Karolyn O’Cull returned from maternity leave to her job as administrative assistant on July 19th and the current intern will be finished this Friday.

PDGA Fall Summit

The 2010 PDGA Fall Summit is tentatively scheduled for Thursday Sept 16 and Friday Sept 17 at the International Disc Golf Center. These dates precede the Augusta Classic SuperTour on Sept 18-19 at the IDGC.

Tour Update by Gentry

As of August 3rd there were 1063 events (880 US, 22 Canadian, 161 International) on the PDGA calendar. This is an 8.9% increase in US growth compared to 2009 is very encouraging but this figure will probably be closer to 6% or 7% at the end of the year and close to 1000 US events.

Comparison of PDGA Tour events on 8/10/2010									
	2006	2007	% Change	2008	% Change	2009	% Change	2010	% Change
US	589	656	11.40%	728	11.00%	808	11.00%	880	8.90%
Canada	9	9	0.00%	7	-22.20%	17	142.90%	22	29.40%
International	43	97	125.60%	133	37.10%	143	-7.50%	161	12.60%
Total	641	762	18.90%	868	13.90%	968	11.50%	1063	9.80%

Here is a comparison of the 2010 US Tour from January 1st to June 30th. The 2010 statistics are not final but they do provide us an excellent comparison to previous years. It is interesting that pro attendance is essentially even compared to 2009 although amateur attendance is up almost six percent.

US Tour Comparison 1/1 to 6/30							
	2007	2008	% change	2009	% change	2010**	% change
Pro Players	9307	9894	6.30%	10871	9.90%	10864	-0.10%
Am Player	21934	23086	5.30%	25308	9.60%	26810	5.90%
Total Players	31241	32980	5.60%	36179	9.70%	37674	4.10%
Pro Purse	\$735,456.00	\$823,954.00	12.00%	\$844,888.00	2.50%	\$877,012.00	3.80%

** 2010 Stats are not final and will see a minimal increase

Unsanctioned Divisions

Gentry spoke to both LS Discs and Dynamic Discs about running tournaments with unsanctioned divisions over the past month. Jeremy Rusco (Dyanamic Discs) reported that he did an unsanctioned division at the Lake Malvern event due to pressure by the parks department and has no active plans to continue with such a divisions in the future.

Bren Nordegren (LS Discs) has used unsanctioned divisions more frequently and feels this is a tool to attract more players. Bren feels that his attendance does increase minimally as there are players who dislike the \$10 non-member feel. We did discuss using a discount for PDGA members versus an additional fee although he indicated that vocal complaints aren't really the issue more than lack of attendance. Bren also noted that unsanctioned divisions wouldn't be a consideration if the event was going to fill.

The office has also talked to our insurance company and Steve Gordon indicated that hosting non-sanctioned divisions is a problem as those players would not be covered by our insurance policy. Graham will be letting both Jeremy and Bren know this information and plan on modifying the 2011 sanctioning agreement appropriately.

Am Worlds

The Am Worlds books are nearly finished and the final numbers will be completed by the Fall Summit.

Committee Reports:

Disciplinary committee: A week ago a case was voted on and submitted by the committee. Andrews now needs to send forward it to the 3-person subcommittee consisting of the Vice President and the Treasurer to get their approval.

International committee: Brian Hoeniger will be attending the international event in France where they will be holding the next international PDGA meeting. Nesbitt expressed concern over the price of sending Hoeniger to the meeting versus the amount of time that was spent in the meeting.

National Tour: There was a meeting 2 days ago and they are close to presenting a schedule to the board shortly. Graham spoke to several potential NT TD's at Worlds. Nesbitt asked if there has been any thought about re-structuring the payout structure. Graham requested for a sidebar meeting with Nesbitt, Gentry and Duessler on the subject.

Women's Committee: A week ago Karolyn O'Cull created an online women's survey with questions supplied by Burl (women's committee chair). Karolyn sent a link to Korver and Burl for review. Korver responded with some questions regarding goals and direction and is waiting for a response from Burl.

O'Cull has suggested that we use the survey to ask women about leagues and methods in their regions that have been successful in getting women out to play disc golf. And that we then use that information to create a resource for women to emulate successful programs in their own area. Karolyn is putting together questions for such a survey.

Fall Summit Agenda and Scheduling by Graham

The fall board summit is scheduled for Sept 15th and 16th at the IDGC. Graham asks all the BOD members to send agenda items as well as the approximate amount of time each item will take.

Disc Golf History Project by Stork

An update on the History Project: We have had an increasing number of researchers at the website and at the office looking for quality information on the history of disc golf. The good news is that people are looking to PDGA for such things. We have been saying that we want to get a higher quality of information available to these researchers. So Stork has been working on an approach that would revolve around a very rich time-line. What we are working for is a time-line that would have a lot of linkable information in it. We would be able to populate this time-line in a way that people would be able to link out to additional resources. We want something that we can have a number of people collaborate on. Stork has been compiling a committee that would use a wiki-like approach where updates will be vetted. They also want to be able to deliver this in multiple forms (pdf, doc...) but it would primarily be web-based.

One of the challenges so far is determining which of the soft wares to use. It has gotten a little more dicey with the currently wars between flash and Macintosh. The final decision on the platform has not yet been made.

Rules Review Process *by Stork*

Stork asked all board members to take a look at Conrad's progress website and if there are minors or moderates on there that we feel strongly about including in this revision, send a message to Conrad or Stork. Feldberg expressed a particular interest in the relief issue (number 12).

Korver presented a case that occurred at the Pro Worlds that brought up the question of whether we can assess penalties retroactively.

Korver expressed interest in having the committee look at the misplay issue for the current rules revision.

Rothstein suggested that we make the list of potential rules changes public. Stork doesn't see any reason why there shouldn't be a public list of what rules are in the queue. There is no reason why members should be able to see what the committee is working on.

UPA has made a practice of minor and major rules updates. Just because something doesn't get into this update, don't think that the issue is dead.

Future Worlds Course Review Process *by Korver*

There were some problems with both the Am and Pro Worlds courses that should and could have been alleviated prior to the events. Both events this year printed out ob rules for each course and both events did a mediocre job of it (in Korver's opinion who was a Marshal at both events). An example of a common problem is on one hole the documentation said the road is ob, then the next hole it would say the road and across, when in fact both situations should have said on and across is out of bounds. This might sound trivial, but when dealing with hundreds of disc golfers, it does become a problem.

The PDGA has people that review the Worlds courses, but this year some of the recommendations and warnings that the course reviewers issued were ignored. Korver suggested that if we are going to take a more active roll in running the World Championships, then we need to take a more active roll in course preparation or at least course documentation. One partial solution could be that the host club needs to send their documentation to us before it is printed. Of course it is impossible to tell if they have covered all issues without being at the course or at least with out knowledge of the course, but it would be a start.

Rothstein thinks we need to bring people in before hand to work on this issue. Stork thinks this really ends up being a tangible result for the players as well. This is a deliverable. When people are at large events like this, it is something people have come to expect. Feldberg added that the courses need to be marked in advance of the event. Worlds should be set up at least a week in advance. Graham said we need to have a representative there to make sure all these things have been done correctly. Graham is already compiling a list for next years worlds.

Nesbitt reminded the board that there was a discussions on a subcommittee at the spring summit regarding these issues. The office is pulling together documents to create a worlds manual. Sidebar on this later with Nesbitt, Gentry and Graham.

Age Protected Points Awards *by Korver*

Currently the PDGA recognizes all the divisional points winners and presents them with an obelisk at the Annual Awards ceremony. Awards are based on total points and not just the points that an individual acquired while playing in a specific division. For example, the Male Pro Master's points winner has been Ken Climo for the last 2 years even though Ken never played masters in either of the years for which he was awarded the trophy. The first year Ken won, he seemed angered and embarrassed by the award. The second time he won, he was much more gracious, but still used the spotlight to say that he believes the awards should be given to people who actually compete in those divisions. Korver suggested that we reconsider how the points awards are determined.

Nesbitt suggested that for age protected divisions, the majority of points should come from their specific division. Gillis suggested that we think about it and come back to this. Bellinger warned that we were not seeing the big picture and that we shouldn't change it without some serious thought.

BOD Meeting Attendance and Online Participation *by Korver*

Korver expressed her frustration with the attendance of Board Members at our monthly meetings and with the lack of responses by some to the Yahoo group. Avery suggested that we do more online instead of via phone calls.

The Wheel *by Graham and Stork*

Quest's non certified disc, the Wheel, was found in a Walmart recently. The disc says PDGA approved on it. The company was contacted and asked not to print PDGA approved on them anymore.

Graham has a call into the company to see if this is still a disc from the original run and to confirm that no more non certified discs have been created that say they are PDGA approved.

BOD Officer Elections Procedure and Scheduling *by Andrews*

It was determined that future teleconferences will be held on Tuesdays. On Sept. 7th we will have a quick meeting to elect officers: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Non PDGA Divisions at PDGA Sanctioned Events *by Graham*

At the very least events need to ask permission to do this. Decker wants to see the numbers to see if this really increases the turnout. Korver stressed that the main issue here is that we have events where part of the players are covered by the PDGA insurance policy and part of the players are not covered.

Graham added that we need to make it very clear in our tournament documentation that players who are playing in a non sanctioned division will be responsible for anything that happens to the non-sanctioned players as our insurance policy will not cover them.

Gentry is putting together a document that summarizes some of the legal issues that could come up for TD's who run non sanctioned events.

Conflict of Interest *by Nesbitt*

Nesbitt was both curious and shocked to see that the current conflict of interest statements don't show the sponsorship of board members. Nesbitt requested that the information be available to all other board members. The current conflict of interest system that we have consists of 2 pages. The first is a legal page that each member need only sign, but the second page lists all the companies and sponsorships that a board member is associated with. Stork emphasized the importance of the second page of the conflict of interest statements need to be posted online.

Final Thoughts

Nesbitt asked how the board deals with the oversights position now that the new by laws do not have a specific person in charge of oversights. Decker stated that the oversight director's position is now everyone's responsibility.

Rothstein wonders if it would be helpful for the board to meet in executive session every once in a while without staff or consultants to talk.

MOTION (Decker/Feldberg)

To adjourn.

Passed

- Meeting adjourned at pm 11:01pm EST

- Minutes submitted by Secretary, Juliana Korver

Action Items

- all board members need to submit agenda items for the spring summit
- All BOD members look at the rules progress website and communicate with Stork or Conrad on which if any of the remaining issues are items that we want considered and included in the next rules revision.
- Nesbitt will write to Conrad to address the tall grass issue at Pro Worlds and whether we can assess penalties retroactively.
- Stork talk to Conrad about having a public list of rules that are in the queue.
- Graham will make sure that all the second page conflict of interest statements will be posted online.
- Gentry: create a document that summarizes some of the legal issues that could come up for TD's who run non sanctioned events.