

Board of Directors Teleconference Minutes
Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)
March 8, 2011

Board Members:

Present: Dave Nesbitt, Juliana Korver, Todd Andrews, Bob Decker, Avery Jenkins, Cale Leiviska
Dave Feldberg entered the teleconference at 9:33pm.

Quorum present? Yes

Others Present: Executive Director Brian Graham, Dan Roddick

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 8:35pm EST by Chair, Dave Nesbitt

Old Business:

Meeting Minutes

Tabled by Dave Nesbitt until Dave Feldberg enters the teleconference.

Closing of On-line Motions

Nesbitt reported on the closing of two online motions related to oversight:

ONLINE MOTION: A majority vote is required to consider an oversight issue valid.

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

No:

Motion passes 6-0

ONLINE MOTION: A tie vote with regard to an oversight issue is to be considered an invalid oversight issue.

Yes: Nesbitt, Korver, Jenkins, Leiviska

No: Andrews, Decker

Motion passes 4-2

Headquarters Update by Graham

2010 Year End Financials & Audit Update

Just this past week while at the Memorial Championship in Arizona, the office finally received the last key pieces of missing information needed to complete the December and 2010 year end financial report so that will be my priority this week. The most important of that being year end reporting and financial resolution of our website ad network income from our consultant, Ciphent showing that PDGA.com generated \$25,538.71 in 2010 from outside ad networks.

The PDGA office is continuing to work with our auditing firm on the 2010 year end financial audit which is usually completed in early May.

Memberships

As of 2/23/11, we had 8,329 active members

- Compared to 7,381 members at the same time last year
- This represents a 12.8% increase in memberships thus far in 2011

PDGA Staffing:

Tour Manager Hiring Update

Andrew Sweeton of Skillman, New Jersey was officially offered the tour manager's position on Monday February 7th and he will report to work at the PDGA office on April 4th. An announcement on his hiring will appear in the next issue of DiscGolfer, as well as in an article at PDGA.com after March 20th.

Memberships Manager Hiring Update

Sara Nicholson of Columbia, South Carolina has been hired as the new PDGA membership's manager and she will report to work at the office on March 28. Sara earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of South Carolina in 1999 and brings a wide range of organizational experience and success including past employment with AmeriCorps, Yellowstone National Park, Big Sky Park & Resort, and the Columbia South Carolina Parks and Recreation Department. She joined the PDGA in 2007 as member #33589 and regularly competes in sanctioned disc golf tournaments. An announcement on her hiring was published at PDGA.com yesterday and will appear in the next issue of DiscGolfer magazine.

Administrative Assistant/Office Manager Hiring Update

Karolyn O'Cull has confirmed that she and her husband will be moving to Germany and that she will be leaving the PDGA at the end of May. The final pool of candidates to fill her position has been narrowed to three and a final decision on her replacement will be made over the next two weeks.

PDGA Tour Trailer Update

The PDGA tour trailer and StarShade tent made its debut at the Memorial Championship NT event last week in Arizona. Due to site limitations, the tent was only set up for the day of the finals at the Fountain Hills course for the Memorial Experience, a community expo and concert held in conjunction with the event, which was presented by the PDGA. The tent was the anchor of the expo with the live internet broadcast being shown under it, and it resulted in numerous positive comments from members and other visitors. One hundred golf discs were distributed to spectators and an expo raffle was held with dozens of disc golf prizes given away to visitors. Brochures, DiscGolfer magazines, and tour programs were also available. The tour trailer was also a huge success and many of the contents were used by the Memorial event staff in hosting their event including the wireless internet network, handheld radios, laptop, laser printer, megaphone, PA system, feather banners, leaderboards, signage, tools, and other items. The trailer was packed up after the event and pulled to Texas by Dave Nesbitt, where it will be next used at the Texas States NT event and Tim Selinske U.S. Masters Championship.

Disc Organization Summit

PDGA Board president Dave Nesbitt and Executive Director Brian Graham will be attending the WFDF World Overall Championship in Fort Collins, Colorado in July to represent the PDGA at a disc organization summit initiated by the PDGA. Others planning to take part in the summit will be representatives of USA Ultimate, the Freestyle Players Association, Guts Players Association, World Flying Disc Federation, and DDC. PDGA special projects coordinator, Dan "Stork" Roddick has been chosen to moderate the meeting.

- End of Office Report

US Post Office Periodicals Application - Graham

Brian Graham reported to the board on the status of a periodicals application with the US Post Office to get reduced rates for mailing DiscGolfer magazine to members. The post office had requested a resolution from the board stating that members would receive copies of the publication.

RESOLUTION (Decker/Korver)

That all full members of the Professional Disc Golf Association receive copies of the DiscGolfer publication.

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

Resolution passes 6-0

Committee Reports - Nesbitt

Tech Standards – Graham

MOTION (Korver/Leiviska)

Certify the TSC approval of the Ape by Innova, the Ibex and Trek by Vibram, and the Hurricane (SP Line) and Titanic (D-Line) by DGA.

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

Motion passes 6-0.

International - Nesbitt

Nesbitt reported on the status of translations of the rules and rules exam into other languages, and that there had been no bids submitted for the 2012 European Major.

Rules - Korver

Korver reported on the status of the review of rules Q&A's and process used by Conrad Damon in organizing them. Dave Nesbitt requested that the Q&A's be sent to the board for review before publication on the website.

Information Technology – Graham

Graham presented the board with the following monthly Tour and IT report from David Gentry:

Tour Update

As of 3/7/2011 there were 570 events (472 US, 13 Canadian, 85 International) on the PDGA calendar. At the same time last year there were 599 events on the calendar. We also have approximately 40 events that are "pending" due to unpaid sanctioning fees. This really puts us almost dead even with last year. I would prefer to see a small increase in the number of events but agreements are still coming in at a fast pace.

We will be announcing the players who are being invited to the World Championships later this week and plan on opening registration for both events on March 15th. I will also be doing a site visit with Rochester the weekend of 16th.

IT Update

The data transfer from the certified official's exam is now up and running. As of this morning we had 778 officials and they are coming in at a pace of roughly 5 to 10 per day. We also added a column to the pre-registration list to show who has passed the exam which proved useful for the Memorial.

I didn't have time to obtain a full update from Theo regarding the iPhone application but do know they have made a great deal of progress lately. I did speak to Theo recently regarding a release date for the first

version and he suggested July 25th which will correspond with the Am Worlds. We also need to leave up to four weeks for approval from the iPhone store which puts a finished product around June 25th which is the same time as the Beaver State Fling.

I have received feedback recently regarding the speed of the existing website. I spoke to Adam at Ciphent this morning and he is going to obtain some benchmark numbers of the current site compared to what it has been in the past. I will be sure to pass those numbers along once I receive them.

There are limited things that we can do currently with our existing platform of Drupal 5 which is no longer actively supported. We plan on moving to Drupal 7 in the near future which will open up a variety of tools which we can't currently use such as multi-threading, newer versions of PHP, and possibly even the elimination of Apache. We still have some items to resolve but the initial estimate was the end of April. I think that we are realistically looking at mid-to-late May since the month of April is very busy for the office. I will put together a document that covers this migration in time for the next teleconference.

Brian also asked me to quickly review the plans for improved tournament administration and pre-registration. I have also been asked to have something ready for the Spring Summit and my goal is to either have this ability completed by that time or a functioning prototype. There are several pieces that need to be coordinated for this to happen and a brief summary is listed below:

Web services: We are currently using web services for the official's exam which is an important first step. Conversion of existing tournament-admin to Drupal: Ciphent is waiting on my summary of the existing code which will be done early next week. We will then create a plan on how to best complete this translation.

Planning and specifications for further enhancements: I will be working with Theo on this and will have something completed by the end of March.

- End of Tour and IT Report

PDGA Banking & Investment Recommendations Update – Decker

Decker reported that this initiative was on hold pending completion of the 2010 end of year financial reports.

Using Players DGA Concept as Casual/Developmental Entryway - Nesbitt

Nesbitt reported on the concept to use an alternate name to market and appeal to casual and recreational players. Discussion ensued. Graham reminded the board that the office had been tasked with reviewing all membership levels and providing recommendations to the board in advance of the spring summit and that the two discussions would go hand in hand. Nesbitt reminded the board that any changes would not be implemented until the 2012 membership season.

PDGA Policies & Procedures Manual – Decker

Nesbitt reported on the status of the policies and procedures manual. Decker and Andrew requested information in advance of the summit so time would not be wasted reading the manual at the meeting and all board members would be prepared to discuss the contents.

Restructuring World Rankings, POY & ROY Procedures

Tabled by Dave Nesbitt until Dave Feldberg enters the teleconference.

Spring Summit Agenda

Nesbitt reminded board members of the upcoming spring summit to be held on April 27th, 28th, and a half day on the 29th at the International Disc Golf Center and requested that they submit agenda items.

Educational, Training & Competition Festival Proposal - Graham

Graham reported that Jay Reading had not yet submitted the requested proposal.

New Business:

Restructuring PDGA Board Election procedures - Nesbitt

Nesbitt reported on challenges due to the lack of continuity and lack of business skills in board member candidates, as well as related discussions with consultant Jack Kelly. Discussion ensued on the positives and negatives of extending board terms and using a nomination committee to identify suitable candidates. Stork urged caution when dealing with limiting board candidates. The board discussed options and ideas for strengthening the organization through stronger board members and whether a financial stipend or change in the length of terms might encourage more qualified candidates to run in the future. It was suggested that the PDGA should consider creating an advisory committee of former board members to help orient new board members to their new jobs. Nesbitt reported that the call for candidates will be slightly delayed until after related discussions at the summit.

Action Item: Brian Graham to consult with our attorney to ascertain if changes in the by-laws are required to extend terms or create a nominating committee.

Old Business: (previously tabled)

Meeting Minutes

MOTION (Feldberg/Andrews)

Approve the meeting minutes of the February 2011 teleconference.

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

Motion passes unanimously

Restructuring World Rankings, POY & ROY Procedures – Feldberg/Nesbitt

Nesbitt questioned the validity of the process used to determine the Players and Rookies of the Year and whether the board should review the results before they are published. Feldberg expressed frustration with the current system and stated that POY winner Nikko Locastro told him that the process was not accurate and that he intended to publicly state so upon receiving the award. Nesbitt his preliminary calculations showed that there was a statistical tie for Player of the Year. Graham stated that we needed to review the results and if they are found to be erroneous, admit the mistake and make a correction.

MOTION (Decker/Andrews)

That Dave Nesbitt check the calculations used to determine the 2010 Player and Rookie of the Year awards for accuracy.

Yes: Korver, Decker, Jenkins, Andrews, Leiviska

No:

Abstain: Nesbitt, Feldberg

Motion passes 5-0

Nesbitt will check the calculations for accuracy and present his results to the board at the April meeting.

New Business: (Continued)

Rules Exemption for PDGA Junior <9 and Junior <12 Members – Nesbitt

The board discussed whether Junior players should be exempt from the requirement to take and pass the officials exam in order to compete in the Am Worlds. Ultimately it was decided that Juniors should take the exam and that verbage be added to the Worlds invites and registration to explain the process.

Rules Changes – Increasing or Decreasing Rules Flexibility – Jenkins

The Board discussed whether there should be an increase or decrease in rules flexibility. Graham stated that flexibility is necessary in order to allow tournament directors to do the things necessary to ensure a successful event. Discussion ensued on whether we should allow radical changes to the rules at Major events.

Nesbitt passed the chairmanship of the meeting to Korver.

MOTION (Nesbitt/Feldberg)

That rule 803.09 B(3) be amended to read, “Within the designated Drop Zone, if provided. These options may be limited by the tournament director as a special condition only by prior approval of the PDGA Tour Manager.

Yes: Feldberg, Nesbitt, Jenkins,

No: Andrews, Leiviska, Decker, Korver

Motion fails – 3-2

MOTION (Nesbitt/Feldberg)

That all rules variances related to PDGA Majors be approved by the PDGA Board of Directors.

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

Motion passes unanimously

MOTION (Nesbitt/Andrews)

That rule 803.09 B(3) be amended to read, “Within the designated Drop Zone, if provided. These options may be limited by the tournament director as a special condition only by prior approval of the PDGA Tour Manager.”, and that it be implemented on 1/1/2012.

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

Motion passes unanimously

The Board went into executive session at 11:20pm EST and Brian Graham was excused from the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40pm EST