

**Board of Directors Teleconference Minutes**  
**Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)**  
December 13, 2011

**Board Members:**

*Present:* Dave Nesbitt, Bob Decker, Dave Feldberg, Rebecca Duffy, Avery Jenkins, Kevin McCoy, Peter Shive, Pete Wyngaard

*Quorum present?* Yes

*Others Present:* Executive Director Brian Graham, Dan Roddick

**Proceedings:**

*Meeting called to order* at 8:33pm EST by Chair, Dave Nesbitt

New board member Pete Wyngaard was welcomed and Rebecca Duffy was wished a happy birthday.

**Old Business:**

*Meeting Minutes*

**MOTION** (Duffy/McCoy)

Approve the meeting minutes of the November 2011 teleconference.

Yes: Nesbitt, Decker, Feldberg, Duffy, Jenkins, McCoy, Shive, Wyngaard

Motion passes 8-0

*Closing of On-line Motions*

a. To approve the POY/ROY procedure as modified and presented for use during only the 2011 season.

Yes: Duffy, Jenkins, Shive, Nesbitt, Decker

Abstain: McCoy

On-line motion passes 5-0-1

b. That the draft3 version of the 2011 Fall Summit minutes be approved for publication.

Yes: Jenkins, Duffy, Nesbitt, McCoy, Decker, Shive

On-line motion passes 6-0

c. That the Spring 2012 Board Summit be held on 21-23 February 2012 in Las Vegas NV

Yes: Jenkins, Nesbitt, Decker, Shive

No: Duffy

Abstain: McCoy

On-line motion passes 4-1-1

d. To appoint Peter Wyngaard to the Board to serve the remaining term of Cale Leiviska.

Yes: Nesbitt, Decker, Duffy, Jenkins, McCoy, Shive

Motion passes 6-0

e. That the Board approves the Primary Details of the PDGA League Program.

Yes: Jenkins, Duffy, Nesbitt, McCoy, Decker, Shive

On-line motion passes 6-0

*Office Report – Graham*

*Memberships*

As of 12/8/11, we had 16,360 active members

- Compared to 15,096 members at the same time last year
- This represents a 8.4% increase in memberships thus far in 2011

## Finances

At the end of September 2011, the PDGA had a net financial position of 789,278 and a cash position of \$415,679, representing an increase in net financial position of \$18,642 at the same time last year. Cash position lags behind net financial position in September due mainly to the timing of membership deposits that did not hit our account until early October.

October 2011 financial reports are in the process of being completed and a summary report will be uploaded to the Board Yahoo Group later this week. The finances of the PDGA continue to be healthy with several months of operating expenses in reserve.

The first draft of the 2012 PDGA budget has been uploaded to the Board Yahoo Group for review, comments, and questions. The budgeting process will continue over the next couple of weeks until such time that the board is happy with it and is ready to entertain a motion for approval.

## Tour Report – (by Sweeton)

2011 YTD vs. 2010 Tour Statistics																			
	Totals			Location			Tier Level												
	Total	Dual	Unique	US	Canada	Intrntl	Major	NT	A	B	C	A/B	B/A	B/C	C/B	XA	XA/XB	XB	XC
<b>2010</b>	1271	50	1221	1015	24	182	9	9	55	360	692	13	2	3	34	2	7	0	35
<b>2011 YTD</b>	1385	50	1335	1089	21	225	9	9	55	383	797	10	0	4	33	4	1	4	26
<b>diff</b>	114	0	114	74	-3	43	0	0	0	23	105	-3	-2	1	-1	2	-6	4	-9
<b>% diff</b>	8%	0%	9%	7%	-14%	19%	0%	0%	0%	6%	13%	-30%	-100%	25%	-3%	50%	-600%	100%	-35%
2010 Tour Participants																	86,596		
2011 Tour Participants YTD																	89,232		
2010 Tour Pro Payout (Includes \$120K+ for Japan Open and USDGC)																	\$2,216,051		
2011 Tour Pro Payout YTD (No Japan Open or USDGC Payout)																	\$2,130,741		

- The December Ratings Update is on schedule to be released on or before 12/20.
- As of 5pm on 11/12 we only have 48 TD Reports outstanding from the entire 2011 Schedule (Note:18 of those were either this past weekend or are scheduled for later in December.)

## 2012 Tour Prep

- 1) The 2012 Schedule for PDGA Majors, NTs, and A-Tiers was released to the State Coordinators on November 30<sup>th</sup> so they can start scheduling B and C Tiers.
- 2) The 2012 Tour standards were completed early and are available on-line.
- 3) The 2012 Sanctioning Agreement was completed early and is available on-line.
- 4) We already have 154 events on the 2012 Calendar and 129 of them have paid their sanctioning fees.
- 5) NT Agreements were completed early and sent out. Three have returned already.
- 6) NT Press Release info documents are completed and sent out. Three have returned already.
- 7) The TD Resources page on the new website is complete. Documents still need refreshing.
- 8) 2012 outstanding Item for the Board:

The office needs closure on an item brought up to the BoD concerning the 2012 PDGA Tour. The BoD subsequently asked the office to survey the State Coordinators concerning the issue. We asked them the following:

“We believe that Tournament Directors are the heart of our sport and want to find a small way to provide compensation, even if it’s only enough to take their spouse out to dinner for putting up with their passion

for disc golf during months of planning and work to put on a tournament. So, we are considering placing a TD Fee into place for sanctioned tournaments. Currently it is an option for TDs to take a fee, but they rarely do as it impacts their tournament payout.

Our plan is to get rid of the TD fee as it currently stands and replace it by adding a per-player TD Fee that matches the per-player PDGA Fee. For example, a B-Tier currently has a \$3 per-player PDGA Fee. We would add a \$3 per-player TD Fee. Like the PDGA Fee, the TD Fee would come out of Gross Entry Fees. This would encourage TDs to actually accept the TD Fee as it would not impact the tournament's Net Entry Fee Payout %. If the TD should choose not to accept the fee and list themselves as a sponsor of the tournament in that amount, it would then increase the tournament's Net Entry Fee Payout %. In the case of charity tournaments, the TD could use the fee to help the charity if they so choose.

Q1 - Do you agree or disagree with this approach?"

The response was:

Agree – 58.3%

Disagree – 35.4%

No response – 6.2%

The office needs a go or no-go on this ASAP as we are finalizing the new TD report.

Discussion ensued amongst the Board members and it was decided to poll the members.

Action Item: Roddick to develop the language of the poll and work with the office to implement with a deadline of December 25<sup>th</sup>.

*IT Report – (by Gentry)*

*New Website*

The new website is scheduled to launch on Monday December 19th and this week will be critical for final functionality testing, load testing, and review of the final data conversion. If the launch date changes I will be sure to let everyone know as soon as possible.

If any board members are interested in being a “featured blogger” please let me know. My goal is to have at least a dozen featured bloggers consisting of board members, PDGA Staff, and other notable people in the sport. There will be a block on the right hand side of most pages showing the most recent additions from this select group.

***IT Planning – December 2011 to March 2012***

A high level IT task list that covers the remainder of the year and first quarter of 2012, has been uploaded to the Board Yahoo Group for review. This list is ordered by priority and dependencies. Due to the scope and complexity of the PDGAsignup integration it is possible that that this project may be completed until the second quarter of 2012.

In my opinion this list is fairly aggressive and there is minimal room for additional items until the second quarter of 2012.

If you find there are projects missing from this list that should be addressed within the next three months or items you feel are not prioritized correctly please let me know.

*ED Report Continued - Graham*

*Office Staffing*

Annual office staff reviews will be conducted later this week. Board President Dave Nesbitt will be visiting the PDGA office on December 19, to give Executive Director Brian Graham his review. Alan

Kane was formally offered, and accepted the new position of Events Manager for the PDGA, and he will begin work on January 2, 2012. Alan, who served as an intern for the PDGA office for the past two years, recently graduated from the University of South Carolina with a degree in Parks and Recreation Management. His primary responsibilities will be management of PDGA owned events, collegiate disc golf, and support of the PDGA tour.

- End of Office Report

#### *PDGA Website Status Update - Nesbitt*

Nesbitt gave the Board a summary report on the status of the development of the new website and weekly management meetings with Accuvant.

#### *US Sports Congress Meetings Summary - Graham*

Executive Director Brian Graham attended the 2011 United States Sports Congress in San Diego, CA on December 5-7. The USSC provided complimentary accommodations and registration for the event to events rights holders like the PDGA. The Sports Congress is comprised of a trade show and educational seminars related to the business of sports and sports management.

Brian met face to face with 38 different sports commissions, visitor's bureaus, and companies that service the sports industry to discuss various aspects of disc golf. Additionally a very interesting and encouraging meeting was held with the EVP Pro Volleyball Tour, who has television coverage of their events and is very interested in incorporating disc golf in some fashion into their 19 event tour.

#### *Committee Reports*

Tech Standards – Disc & Target Certifications - Graham

#### **MOTION** (Duffy/Shive)

Certify the TSC disc approval of the Jackal by DiscMania, the Lycan by Innova, the Zeppelin by Discraft, and the Warship by Westside Discs. Certify the TSC target approval of the Liberty by Disc Nation, the Vortex by Arroyo, the Zeppelin by Discraft, and the 2510 by Bentley Baskets.

Yes: Nesbitt, Decker, Jenkins, Shive, McCoy, Feldberg, Duffy, Wyngaard

Motion passes 8-0

Nesbitt reported on ongoing disc stiffness quality control discussions with a manufacturer.

Discipline – Nesbitt reported on two recent disciplinary issues, both resulting in suspensions.

Competition – Jenkins reported no activity.

Course Design – McCoy reported that he was working on an article for the course design committee on the use on bunkers.

Education – McCoy reported no activity.

Environmental – Duffy reported on Matt Benesch and committee members working on templates and other documents to address erosion.

Action Item: Register Rebecca Duffy for the DG Course Design Group.

International & PDGA Europe – Feldberg reported on discussions amongst PDGA Europe to implement a tobacco ban at European Tour events.

IT – Nesbitt referenced his website report from earlier in the teleconference.

Nominating – Roddick reported that the new proposed elections process had been completed and delivered to the office. The process expands the elections schedule and incorporates a mechanism for board candidates to create video introductions for the voters to view.

**MOTION (Decker/Shive)**

Approve the revised elections process

Yes: Nesbitt, Decker, Jenkins, Shive, McCoy, Feldberg, Duffy, Wyngaard

Motion passes 8-0

Ratings/Stats – Shive reported that two options for the Player and Rookie of the Year process would be presented later in the teleconference.

Rules – Nesbitt reported on the status of the revised rules Q&A's by the rules committee and the need for online approval before the end of the year.

Senior – Nesbitt reported on ongoing senior and state games discussions.

Women – Duffy reported on recent committee work and the DG for Women website, including an upcoming contest offering a free PDGA membership as a prize. Val Jenkins has accepted the chair of the committee and they have been discussing how to increase the number of Women's events.

Youth – Feldberg discussed recent disc carnival in Miami Florida w/ George Alvarez to introduce disc golf to representatives of several Latin American nations. Graham reported that the PDGA provided financial support of the event through our international development fund.

*Two (2) Options for 2012 POY/ROY Program - Feldberg*

Nesbitt gave the board a summary of the current Players and Rookies of the Year awards process.

Feldberg announced that two new processes were being proposed. Graham gave a summary of the two proposed processes, one being a ratings process developed by Chuck Kennedy, and the other being a points process based upon the PGA Tour of America developed by Dave Feldberg and the PDGA office. Documents outlining both processes were furnished to board members. Discussion ensued and the overall consensus was that a points based process was preferred by a majority of the board members. The Board felt it would be premature to approve a new process without more detailed review and study of the proposed process. The topic was tabled with the understanding that a final decision was needed by the January teleconference.

*PDGA Merchandise & PDGA Store Update – Graham*

Graham reported that the new online store at PDGAstore.com was launched on November 30<sup>th</sup> with a limited amount of merchandise. Additional merchandise and categories are being added on an almost daily basis. The link from our website currently takes you to our old online store, which contains a splash page and link to the new site. Once all of the merchandise has been completely moved over to the new store, the link will be redirected to go directly to the new store.

Graham also reported that the PDGA's newest merchandise licensee, Edward Gardere, recently launched his new Proforma store at PDGAmerchandise.com. A website story on November 30<sup>th</sup> announced the launching of this new licensee site and a link was provided under the "Pro Shop" pulldown menu at PDGA.com. Additional licensees, such as Discovering the World, will soon be added to the website and the office plans on improving the way that we communicate and do business with our merchandise licensees.

#### *Appointment of Board Members - Nesbitt*

The Board discussed the appointment of board members. The current Board is comprised of 8 members with seven being elected and one being appointed. Bob Decker has the appointed position which will expire in 2013, and Pete Wyngaard is completing the term of Cale Leiviska, which will expire in 2012. Nesbitt reported on efforts to include an international representative and a recent recommendation by international program director, Brian Hoeniger. Discussion ensued on the benefits and challenges of having an international board member. A decision was made to continue the search for an appointed member but that it did not necessarily have to be an international representative.

#### *Policies & Procedures Manual – Nesbitt*

Nesbitt provided Wyngaard with a summary of the ongoing development of a policies and procedures manual for the organization, and requested that he select a topic to review and refine.

#### *Update from Disc Festival Committee – Nesbitt*

Dave Nesbitt reported that the initiative to plan 2-3 disc festivals in 2012 has been tabled.

#### *PDGA League Program – McCoy*

Kevin McCoy gave the Board an update on the development of the PDGA League Program and still unanswered questions related to insurance coverage. Graham informed the Board that a new insurance policy had just been identified for 2012 and once finalized would undergo legal review before these questions could be answered.

Action Item: Insurance information and legal information to be provided to the Board upon finalization.

#### *Communication with Membership – Duffy*

Duffy reported on future articles planned for the website, including the introduction of Pete Wyngaard to the Board, as well as human interest stories and blogs.

#### *2012 Budgeting Process - Graham*

Brian Graham gave the Board an overview of the 2012 budgeting process and presented a draft for board review. Graham requested that Board members consolidate questions and requests for information into one email if at all possible so as to make the process more efficient and easier to track and manage. It was decided that a special teleconference would be held on January 3<sup>rd</sup> for budget planning and discussions.

#### **MOTION** (Feldberg/Wyngaard)

To extend the meeting 30 minutes.

Yes: Nesbitt, Decker, Jenkins, Feldberg, Shive, McCoy, Duffy, Wyngaard

Motion passes 8-0.

#### **New Business:**

#### *Rules Variance Request for 2012 USDGC - Graham*

Brian Graham gave the Board an overview of the rules variances requested by Harold Duvall for the 2012 USDGC. Dave Nesbitt gave a brief history of the use of stroke and distance at the USDGC, as well as

their intent to run a split format event in 2012. Discussion ensued and the topic was tabled until the January 2012 teleconference.

**MOTION** (Wyngaard/Shive)

To extend the meeting 10 minutes.

Yes: Nesbitt, Decker, Jenkins, Feldberg, Shive, Duffy, Wyngaard

No: McCoy

Motion passes 7-1.

**MOTION** (Shive/Wyngaard)

To eliminate the rules exam fee exemption for touring pros.

Yes: McCoy, Duffy, Wyngaard, Shive

No: Decker, Jenkins, Feldberg, Nesbitt

Motion does not pass.

**MOTION** (Shive/ McCoy)

To adjourn the meeting and enter into executive session.

Yes: Nesbitt, Decker, Jenkins, Feldberg, Shive, McCoy, Duffy, Wyngaard

Motion passes 8-0.

Meeting adjourned and the board entered into executive session at approximately 11:58pm EST