

**Board of Directors Teleconference Minutes**  
**Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)**  
January 10, 2012

**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:**

*Executive Session called to order at 8:30pm EST by Chair, Dave Nesbitt*

Brian Graham was invited to join the teleconference at 8:54pm EST

**Old Business:**

*Meeting Minutes*

**MOTION** (Decker/Shive)

Approve the meeting minutes of the December 2011 teleconference.

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

Motion passes 8-0

*Closing of On-line Motions*

None

*Headquarters Update – Graham*

*Memberships*

As of 1/4/12, we had 3,841 active members

- Compared to 4,014 members at the same time last year
- This represents a 4.5% decrease in memberships thus far in 2012, which is not unusual or alarming this early in the new membership season.

*Finances - Graham*

At the end of October 2011, the PDGA had a net financial position of \$861,540 and a cash position of \$630,379, representing an increase in net financial position of \$149,971 over the same time last year.

November 2011 financial reports are currently being finalized. The finances of the PDGA continue to be healthy with several months of operating expenses in reserve.

A special teleconference, held on Tuesday evening January 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss and review the proposed budget, was attended by Dave Nesbitt, Bob Decker, Peter Shive and Executive Director Brian Graham.

Minor adjustments were made to the draft budget as a result of the meeting and the final draft of the 2012 PDGA budget was uploaded to the Board Yahoo Group on Friday, January 6th and is ready for Board approval.

## IT Report –Gentry

### New Website

The journey to get the new website launched has been a long and interesting journey. We have been making slow but consistent progress over the past month. All of the PDGA obligations have been completed and Accuvant is finishing up bugs that were discovered during functionality testing. The current plan is to have a fully functional website ready for extensive beta testing by Thursday January 12th. At that point we will be doing an extensive review of the site and determining if any changes need to be made before launch. If all goes well the new site could be launched as soon as January 17th although a day or two for fine tuning and modifications would not be unexpected.

### iPhone and Android Application Update

A new version of iPhone application was released on December 29, 2011. The primary new feature in this version is the ability to post an HTML scorecard on Facebook. This is the last planned version until the Android application is released. Our total sales also recently exceeded 2500 copies and it should be noted that the iPhone app has been out less than six months (released 7/26/11).

I spoke to Theo and he believes the Android version will be done in late March or early April. The biggest holdup currently is the development of the web services needed to communicate with the new Drupal 7 website.

### IT Planning – 2012 1st Quarter

Also attached is a revised IT Task List for the first quarter of 2012. We did an office review last week and identified the following tasks as critical:

- New Drupal 7 Website
- Division Code Change for Amateur Women – this will be done by the end of the week.
- Support for League Program – IT infrastructure analysis and design is underway
- Web Services for New Website – currently being developed by Theo Pozzy
- Conversion of Tournament Admin to Drupal – implementation to occur immediately after website is launched.

### Tour Report – Sweeton

2011 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>	1387	50	1337	1090	21	226	9	9	55	383	799	10	0	4	33	4	1	4	26
<b>diff</b>	116	0	116	75	-3	44	0	0	0	23	107	-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%

- As of 11am on 1/9/12 we have 19 TD Reports outstanding from the 2011 schedule (8 of those are from December.) We have another 12 TD Reports that will be imported later this week.
- Tour Participants and Tour Pro Payout numbers cannot be finalized until all 2011 TD reports are processed but here are the numbers to date:

<b>2010 Tour Participants</b>	<b>86,596</b>
<b>2011 Tour Participants YTD (31 Reports not yet imported)</b>	<b>90,433</b>
<b>2010 Tour Pro Payout (Includes \$120K+ for Japan Open and USDGC)</b>	<b>\$2,216,051</b>
<b>2011 Tour Pro Payout (No Japan Open or USDGC payouts &amp; 31 Reports not yet imported)</b>	<b>\$2,147,820</b>

### 2012 Tour Prep

- 1) The January Ratings Update is on schedule to be released on 1/24.
- 2) We have 273 events on the 2012 Calendar so far and 232 of them have paid their sanctioning fees.

- 3) Four of Six NT Agreements have been returned.
- 4) Four of Six NT Press Release info documents have been returned.
- 5) Andrew revised the Majors agreements and Alan Kane will be sending them out within the next week or two as he makes introductory contact with the NT and Majors Tournament Directors/Teams.
- 6) The Member Survey went out last week concerning the TD Fee question.
- 7) The latest revision of the new TD Report (without the new TD Fee) was sent by Chuck this weekend and we will be testing as time permits around the work on the new website.

#### *Office Report - Graham*

##### *Office Staffing*

Alan Kane began work as the new Events Manager for the PDGA on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Alan will be working in the PDGA office on Mondays and Tuesdays, and remotely from his home in Columbia, South Carolina until such time that he secures housing and moves his family to the area. An announcement of his hiring was published at PDGA.com. His primary responsibilities will be management of PDGA owned events, collegiate disc golf, and support of PDGA tour events.

##### *Office Process Schedule*

The 2012 PDGA Office process schedule has been completed and uploaded to the Board Yahoo Group. The document was improved and enhanced to allow for additional schedules to be created on sub-categories, like Tour or Magazine, etc.

- End of Headquarters Update

#### *Committee Reports*

Tech Standards – Disc & Target Certifications - Graham

##### **MOTION** (Shive/Decker)

Certify the TSC disc approval of the Clutch by Legacy, ESP Driver by EMSCO, ESP Midrange by EMSCO, and the ESP Putter by EMSCO.

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

Motion passes 8-0

Nez reported on discussion amongst the TSC regarding the injection of air bubbles into discs to change the density.

Discipline – Nesbitt reported no activity. Shive inquired about the status of a members suspension.

Competition – Jenkins reported no activity.

Course Design – McCoy reported no activity.

Education – McCoy reported no activity.

Environmental – Duffy reported that the committee was working on rough draft of an environmental pamphlet for BOD review.

International & PDGA Europe – Feldberg reported on scheduling, ratings, and growth. Nesbitt discussed ongoing discussions on the financial viability of the European Championship.

IT – Nesbitt reported Android app to be beta tested in March or April and the iPhone app would be updated in conjunction with the launch of the Android app.

Nominating – Roddick reported that the elections schedule had been updated and integrated and everything was on schedule.

Ratings/Stats – Shive requested that the 2010 POY standings needed to be clarified and updated.  
Action Item: Nesbitt to send Graham calculations for publishing.

Rules – Nesbitt reported on the status of the rules revision process for 2012.

Senior – Nesbitt reported no activity.

Women – Duffy reported on recent committee work regarding the potential creation of a Woman's tour or series with the goal of increasing participation.

Youth – Feldberg discussed ongoing work by George Alvarez.

#### *Disc Golf Planet TV Proposal - Graham*

Graham reported that DGPTV had replied to his inquiry and requested support in the amount of \$3,500 in order to broadcast the Memorial. The draft 2012 budget currently has a line item of \$12,000 in support for DGPTV in 2012 for broadcast of six events. Nesbitt requested that the Board make a decision on support for broadcast of the Memorial with more discussions to take place at the spring summit. Nesbitt expressed concerns over the business model and the appearance of weak footing in terms of sponsor support. Several others expressed support for the Memorial broadcast with further discussions to take place at the summit. Stork suggested polling the membership on the topic.

#### **MOTION** (Feldberg/Decker)

To provide DGPTV with financial support in the amount of \$3500 to broadcast the Memorial with re-evaluation of DGPTV broadcasts at the spring summit.

Yes: Decker, Jenkins, Feldberg, McCoy, Wyngaard

No: Nesbitt, Shive

Abstain: Duffy

Motion passes 5-2

#### *2012 Budget - Graham*

Nesbitt reported that a special teleconference was held on Tuesday evening January 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss and review the proposed budget and minor adjustments were made as a result of the meeting. The final draft of the 2012 PDGA budget was uploaded to the Board Yahoo Group on Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> and is ready for Board approval.

#### **MOTION** (Decker/Jenkins)

To approve the 2012 PDGA financial budget as presented by executive director, Brian Graham.

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

No: Shive

Motion passes 7-1

*2012 POY/ROY Program - Feldberg*

Nesbitt discussed the need to make a final decision on the process for determining the annual Player of the Year (POY) and Rookie of the Year (ROY) awards, and turned the floor over to Dave Feldberg to explain the proposed points method, and Peter Shive to explain the proposed ratings method. Discussion and questions ensued and Nesbitt requested a vote on the two methods.

Points Model – Duffy, Wyngaard, Feldberg, Jenkins, Nesbitt

Ratings Model – Shive, McCoy

Abstain – Decker

Points model passes and will be used to determine POY and ROY awards beginning in with the 2012 awards.

*PDGA League Program – McCoy*

Kevin McCoy gave the Board an update on the development of the PDGA League Program and the development of an 8-page Q&A. McCoy expressed interest in developing an incentive program to reward participation with PDGA memberships.

*Communication with Membership – Duffy*

Duffy reported on a future article to introduce Pete Wyngaard as a new Board member, as well as the need for monthly communications from the Board.

*Rules Variance Request for 2012 USDGC - Graham*

Brian Graham gave the Board a summary of the rules variances requested by Harold Duvall for the 2012 USDGC. Discussion ensued and a straw poll indicated that the current rules variance would not pass. The board tasked Brian Graham with speaking with Harold to let him know that they would approve stroke and distance on the five requested holes if standard PDGA rules were enacted on the remaining 13 holes.

It was the feeling of the Board that ratings should not be provided to DGU, but a member's officials status could be provided.

*Appointment of New Board Member – Nesbitt*

The Board discussed options and potential candidates to be appointed to the Board.

**New Business:**

*2011 Pro & Am Worlds Summary Reports – Graham*

Graham provided the BOD with summary financial documents of the 2011 Pro World Championships in Santa Cruz, and the 2011 Am World Championships in Rochester, NY, and answered questions from the Board.

*Rules Review Process for 2013 – Graham*

Graham notified the Board that the approved rules revision process had been uploaded to the Yahoo Group for their review, and a reminder had been sent to the Board and rules committee. He stated that it is crucial that the revision schedule be strictly adhered to in order for the office to stay on schedule for the 2013 membership and tour season. The BOD tasked Graham with inviting rules committee chairman, Conrad Damon, to the spring summit.

### *Tournament Director Compensation – Graham*

Graham gave an overview of the recent proposal to change the 2012 tour documents to allow for compensation for tournament directors at the same level as the player fees. The poll below was sent to state coordinators:

*The PDGA Board is currently considering an adjustment to the financial arrangements offered to our Tournament Directors.*

*We believe that Tournament Directors are the heart of our sport and want to find a consistent way to provide at least a small amount of compensation, even if it's only enough to take his or her spouse out to dinner. It takes a lot of patience to put up with a Tournament Director's passion for disc golf during the months of planning and work to put on a tournament. So, we are considering an adjustment to event accounting, which would put an automatic TD payment into the accounting procedure for sanctioned tournaments. Currently it is an option for TDs to take a payment, but they rarely do as it impacts their tournament payout.*

*The proposed plan is to change the TD compensation arrangement as it currently stands and, instead, include a per-player TD payment amount that matches the per-player PDGA Fee. For example, a B-Tier currently has a \$3 per-player PDGA Fee. Within the current entry fee, we would also designate a \$3 per-player TD payment. Like the PDGA Fee, the TD amount would come out of the Gross Entry Fees. This would encourage TDs to actually accept the TD compensation as it would not impact the tournament's Net Entry Fee Payout percentage. If the TD still chooses not to accept the payment they could then list themselves as a sponsor of the tournament in that amount, which would then increase the tournament's Net Entry Fee Payout percentage. In the case of charity tournaments, the TD could use the amount due to them to help the charity if they so choose.*

*In our history, we've long relied on the volunteer spirit of those hard-working members who produce and run the tournaments that are so important to the sport. As the responsibilities for those events become more and more demanding, we need to plan ahead in such a way that helps to make running tournaments an attractive proposition for talented event producers. Obviously, in the longer run, we're hoping to attract more and more funding from outside the sport, and that effort continues, but until we reach that goal we need to maintain the motivation of our key providers. The cost, of course is a somewhat reduced event payout, but it's the Board's feeling that most players realize that there is a tangible cost to the benefits that high-quality events provide. The assumption is that our members will agree that this is a fair tradeoff and an overdue recognition of the people who make our sport what it is today.*

*But, before the Board moves ahead, they are interested in hearing directly from the membership on this proposal. Please take this opportunity to share your thoughts on the question.*

The results indicated that 60% of state coordinators agreed with the proposed plan, 34% disagreed, and 6% did not respond. The same poll was sent to the membership and the results indicated 82% of the members who completed the poll agreed, and 18% disagreed.

### **MOTION** (Shive/Feldberg)

To approve the compensation of tournament director fees in line with proposed plan above.

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

Motion passes 8-0.

### **MOTION** (Duffy/Decker)

To adjourn the meeting.

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

Motion passes 8-0.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:15pm EST