

Board of Directors Teleconference Minutes
Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)
January 8, 2013

Board Members:

Present: Bob Decker, Rebecca Duffy, Dave Feldberg, Kevin McCoy, Karolyn O’Cull, Rick Rothstein, Peter Shive

Quorum present? Yes

Others Present: Executive Director Brian Graham, Dan Roddick, Steve Ganz

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 8:34pm EST by Board president, Rebecca Duffy

Old Business:

Meeting Minutes

MOTION (Shive/Feldberg)

Approve the meeting minutes of the December 2012 teleconference.

Yes: Decker, Duffy, Feldberg, McCoy, O’Cull, Rothstein, Shive

Motion passes 7-0

Closing of On-line Motions

Motion: (McCoy/O’Cull) – Approve the 2013 PDGA financial budget. (Passed 5-1)

Tech Standards Certifications

Approvals of the following discs and targets in the past month by the tech standards committee were certified by the PDGA Board of Directors via online poll:

- Certify TSC approval of four discs (D1, D2, D3, and D4) from Prodigy Disc, Inc., a new disc manufacturer based in Georgia. (Passed 5-0)
- Certify TSC approval of three discs (Escape, Fugitive, Judge, and Trespass) from Dynamic Discs, a new disc manufacturer based in Kansas. (Passed 5-1)
- Certify TSC approval of three discs (EF Driver 1, EF Midrange 1, and EF Putter 1) from Eurodisc, a new disc manufacturer in Germany. (Passed 7-0)

Headquarters Update

Memberships - Nicholson

In 2012, the PDGA had a record 18,086 members and lifetime membership #56473 was issued.

- Compared to 16,609 active members at the end of 2011
- This represents an 8.9% increase in memberships in 2012

As of 1/2/13, the PDGA had 3,886 active members and lifetime membership #56570 had been issued

- Compared to 3,841 active members at the same time last year
- This represents a 1.1% increase in memberships thus far in 2013

Office Report - Graham

Finances

Work has begun on the 2012 year end organizational financial report and it should be finalized and available for board review later this month.

In preparation for our 2012 year end audit, the accounting firm of Pennington & Berry conducted observance of our year end inventory on Friday, December 28th at Breiner Enterprises, and the International Disc Golf Center on January 3rd.

Tour Report – Sweeton

2012 Tour

Final Tour Stats - 2012 vs 2011																				
	Totals			Location			Tier Level													
	Total	Paid	Unique	US	Canada	Intrntl	Major	NT	A	B	C	A/B	B/C	C/A	C/B	XA	XA/XB	XB	XC	Leagues
2012	1688	1688	1618	1323	23	272	8	6	55	390	947	10	4	1	36	4	1	5	24	127
2011	1384	1339	1334	1088	21	225	9	8	55	383	797	10	4	0	33	4	1	4	26	0
Difference	304	349	284	235	2	47	-1	-2	0	7	150	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	-2	127
% Difference	21.97%	26.06%	21.29%	21.60%	9.52%	20.89%	-11.1%	-25%	0%	1.8%	18.8%	0%	0%	100%	9%	0%	0%	25%	-7.7%	12700%

2012 Growth without Leagues						
	Totals			Location		
	Total	Paid	Unique	US	Canada	Intrntl
2012	1561	1561	1491	1204	23	264
2011	1384	1339	1334	1088	21	225
Difference	177	222	157	116	2	39
% Difference	12.79%	16.58%	11.77%	10.66%	9.52%	17.33%

- 1) After reconciling 2012 events that were cancelled, we ended up in 2012 with a total of 1,688 events, with 1,618 of them unique, and at this time all of them have paid their sanctioning fees. YTD we are at nearly 22% growth overall and are 21.3% ahead of last year for unique events. The US is 21.6% ahead of last year, Canada is 9.5% ahead, and International is at 20.9% ahead. 41.7% of the overall growth of the PDGA Tour in 2012 was due to the introduction of PDGA Leagues. That said, not including PDGA Leagues, we still had a stellar year with nearly 13% growth of the PDGA Tour.
- 2) The ninth Ratings Update for 2012 events was published on December 18th. The next update for 2012 events is scheduled for January 29th and should go off on schedule.
- 3) Of all 1688 events to be imported (includes 70 dual events) all but 97 have already been imported and gone through a ratings update. Of the 97 that have not, we have 39 events in-hand leaving 58 events we have not yet received. We continue to send reminders out to the TDs who have not yet reported.

2013 Tour

All 2013 Tour Documents are posted (except updated TD reports which will go up in the next few days.)

2013 Amateur and Pro Worlds, most US Majors, and National Tour event agreements have been sent out to the TDs for signature.

As of 1/7/2013 we have 279 events already listed in the database for 2013, and 249 have already paid their sanctioning fees and appear on the online schedule.

Technology Report - Ganz

Steve Ganz gave the board an update and overview of ongoing IT work including:

- Ongoing development of phase 1 of the new website to include our own integrated memberships registration module and enhanced course directory
- Changes in the way in which data is exchanged between partners
- BlueSpark is very responsive and the working relationship has been very productive
- Online tournament registration is underway with new provider

Shive questioned the launch date of the new website. Ganz stated that he was not prepared to announce a date yet but that several of the bigger pieces were nearing completion and there would still be other smaller pieces of work left to be accomplished before launch. Ganz also stated that the online TD report would be included in the second phase of website development after the initial launch.

- End of Headquarters Update

Committee Reports

PDGA Europe – Feldberg reported on recent and ongoing discussions amongst the PDGA Europe committee related to event tiers and amateur events.

Ratings/Stats – Shive reported on the positive reception by members of the new process to address ratings manipulation. Roddick recognized the work of the committee and office staff on the roll-out of the new process to the public. McCoy aired concerns about penalized players being used as ratings propagators and Shive responded that under the process, they would not be used as propagators. Shive discussed the recommendation and reasoning of the committee not to break ties in World rankings.

Events Manager Hiring Update - Graham

Brian Graham reported that Michael Downes of Cottonwood, AZ had been hired as the new events manager for the PDGA. Michael joined the PDGA in 1998 as member #13898 and in addition to starting a disc golf club, is an experienced course designer and tournament director. He has a degree from Northern Arizona University in Parks & Recreation Management and has worked recently as a tour guide and hiking specialist at the Grand Canyon National Park and Coconino National Forest. Michael is certified in CPR and First Aid. He will begin work on February 4, 2013.

Strategic Planning Proposal – Rick Rothstein

Rothstein expressed his wish to re-discuss the proposal from Pat Govang to manage the development of a long term strategic plan for the association. He expressed a lack of confidence with the current board to accomplish this task without some sort of outside moderator or facilitator. Shive reiterated his concerns about cost and his preference for an approach in which the Board is heavily involved with Dan Roddick as facilitator. Roddick expressed his confidence in the abilities of Pat Govang and stated that while he could facilitate the process, it was not his area of expertise. Rothstein felt that if the proposal went back up for a vote, it would pass. Duffy requested time to speak with Pat Govang about the proposal before the vote. Graham stated that we should request a list of deliverables from Govang. The consensus was that the board would vote on the proposal via an online poll after Duffy's discussion with Govang and a list of deliverables had been received.

Action item: Graham to request a list of deliverables from Pat Govang.

New Business

Elimination of Supporting Member Program – Graham

Brian Graham gave the board an overview of the supporting level membership program and provided information and stats showing that it was not accomplishing its intended goals. The office staff requested that the program, in its current incarnation, be eliminated and that the board and staff re-address the subject in 2013 and consider creating a true supporting level membership. The \$10 discount on a new membership for competitors who paid a \$10 non-member fee in a tournament in the same calendar year will remain in effect.

MOTION (Shive/O’Cull)

To eliminate the Supporting Membership Program in its current state

Yes: Decker, Duffy, Feldberg, McCoy, O’Cull, Rothstein, Shive

Motion passes 7-0

Youth & Education Committees - Rothstein

Rick Rothstein discussed the overlap that exists between the Youth and Education committees and the challenges of managing two committees with similar goals. Roddick pointed out that neither of the committees had been very active. Graham recommended merging the two committees into one with Steve Lambert as the chairman.

MOTION (Feldberg/Shive)

Combine the Youth committee and Education committee into the Youth & Education committee w/ Steve Lambert as chairman.

Yes: Decker, Duffy, Feldberg, McCoy, O’Cull, Rothstein, Shive

Motion passes 7-0

Action item: Graham to discuss the new committee with Chairman Steve Lambert.

EDGE Program Discussion - Graham

Shive discussed some concerns that he had with the PDGA’s financial support of the EDGE program and whether it was brand neutral, or an Innova only program. Graham provided the board with some information and history on the EDGE program, as well as past discussions he had with EDGE and equipment manufacturers other than Innova.

Action item: Graham to inquire with EDGE whether the PDGA can facilitate involvement in the program from other equipment manufacturers.

501(c)(3) Update – Graham

Graham read a letter to the board from the PDGA attorney giving his advice on establishing a 501(c)(3) entity to accept charitable donations. Bob Decker reminded the board of his experience with non-profit entities and requested that he be able to speak with the attorney. Graham stated that he would forward the attorney’s recommendation letter to Decker for review before his conversation with the attorney.

MOTION (Shive/Decker)

To adjourn the meeting

Yes: Decker, Duffy, Feldberg, McCoy, O’Cull, Rothstein, Shive

Motion passes 7-0

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:00pm EST.