

Board of Directors Teleconference Minutes
Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)
March 12, 2013

Board Members:

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

Quorum present? Yes

Others Present: Executive Director Brian Graham, Dan Roddick

Proceedings:

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

Old Business:

Meeting Minutes

MOTION (Shive/O’Cull)

Approve the meeting minutes of the February 2013 teleconference.

Yes: Duffy, Jenkins, O’Cull, Rothstein, Shive, McCoy

Motion passes 6-0

Closing of On-line Motions

None

Headquarters Update

Memberships - Nicholson

As of 3/6/13, the PDGA had 11,143 active members and lifetime membership #58019 had been issued

- Compared to 9,042 active members at the same time last year
- This represents a 23.2% increase in memberships thus far in 2013

Office Report - Graham

Finances

The 2012 year end PDGA Europe financial report was recently received and were the last outstanding documents needed to finalize our year end organizational financial report.

Tech Standards

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:

- Seven discs from Prodigy; M-1, M-2, M-3, M-4, PA-1, PA-2, and PA-4.
- One discs from Prodiscus; Laseri
- One disc from latitude 64; Mace
- Four discs from Westside Discs; Giant VIP Air, Stag VIP Air, Sword VIP Air, and Warship VIP Air".
- One disc from Dynamic Discs; Suspect

Tour Report – Sweeton

2012 Tour (Final Report)

2012 Stats were finalized in the February Ratings Update on 2/26/2013

2013 YTD vs 2012 YTD Tour Breakdown																				
	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
2013 YTD	857	790	830	711	15	104	10	8	53	247	426	13	5	2	30	1	0	1	4	30
2012 YTD	773	716	742	627	7	108	8	6	56	211	396	6	0	1	13	2	1	3	12	27
Difference	84	74	88	84	8	-4	2	2	-3	36	30	7	5	1	17	-1	-1	-2	-8	3
% Difference	11%	10%	12%	13%	114%	-4%	25%	33%	-5%	17%	8%	117%	500%	100%	131%	-50%	-100%	-67%	-67%	11%

- 1) We have 830 unique events on the 2013 calendar and 790 of them have paid their sanctioning fees and met all sanctioning requirements and are listed on the online calendar.
- 2) The first Ratings Update for 2013 events is scheduled for March 26th. Of the 161 events completed in 2013 so far, 137 reports are in hand and more should arrive before the data crunch is finalized later this week.

Data Items

- The 2013 Touring Pros list is calculated and posted
- 2012 POY/ROY work was delayed due to a data file problem; it will be done later this week or early next after the TD Report work for the Ratings update is completed.
- EOY Divisional Awards will also be done later this week or early next week

2013 Worlds

2013 Am Worlds invitations are calculated and we are just waiting to hear back from five members whose DOB in the database is clearly incorrect before posting later today.

2013 Pro Worlds invitations will be worked on after the ratings update work

---- End Tour Report

Technology Report – Ganz

New Website

- Bluespark has completed their major development and continue to refine and fix bugs as testing continues.

- Training sessions conducted by Bluespark on new systems.
- Staging server has been built and deployed in our production environment within Amazon Web Services
- Remaining "big rocks" are integrating with the PDB and building and testing new APIs for course directory, member updates, etc. Progress here is slow due to the dependency on and limited availability of Theo.

Android App

- Second Beta was released to our test group this past weekend.
- Getting close to being feature complete with just a few key items left to implement.
- User interface still requires a fair amount of work. Seeking additional resources to help the team get to the finish line.

Tournament Registration

- On track to eclipse 2012 online tournament registrations by at least 25%
- Automated payments to PDGA now implemented. Transfers from Disc Golf Scene are made 8 days after each tournament ends.
- New wait list feature launched. Automatic wait list creation per division, class or tournament based on player caps set in advance.

Tournament Manager

- Fast Tournament Switching. Tournament directors who run multiple tournaments per year can now switch between their tournaments without having to logout and back in.
- Single Member Lookup. Following positive response to the Players page that performs automatic eligibility checks on uploaded player data, I've implemented a direct input single member lookup by PDGA number.
- Export to Excel. Tournament directors can now export tournament data in a TD Report friendly format. This is especially useful for tournament directors who use Tournament Manager to enter round scores. No more double entry.

PDB (PDGA Database)

- Efforts underway to optimize remote administration of the PDB. The current system was built solely for those working on the same LAN as the PDB. With a fiber connection to the Internet imminent at headquarters, we can take advantage of performance gains and begin to eliminate the inefficiencies of this legacy system.
- Project to rewrite the online synchronization methods will occur in conjunction with new website integration project.
- Remaining "big rocks" are integrating with the PDB and building and testing new APIs for course directory, member updates, etc. Progress here is slow due to the dependency on and limited availability of *key consultants*.

---- End Technology Report

Strategic Planning

The strategic planning process is well underway with Ethosphere Consulting. March deliverables from Pat Govang will include:

- Submission of final organizational analysis
- Submission of final SWOT analysis
- Submission of draft of top issues to be addressed by leadership

PDGA office / International Disc Golf Center

The PDGA office and the International Disc Golf Center are now open seven days a week from 9:00am-5:00pm EST. This expanded schedule will allow us to provide greater service to our members, especially on weekends when many sanctioned events are taking place.

Beach Sports Network

The Memorial NT Event was taped and post-production of our first Beach Sports Network program is currently underway by Michael Boornazian and Media Active with a scheduled broadcast date in early May. The PDGA office will be reviewing the progress of the show and offering input as part of the post-production process.

New PDGA Tour Trailer

Our new 7'x22' cargo trailer is ready and will be picked up from the trailer manufacturer on March 13. The trailer will be brought back to the IDGC where it will undergo retrofitting, equipment transfer, and the installation of a graphics wrap over the next six weeks before making its debut at the Disc Golf Hall of Fame Classic NT Event at the International Disc Golf Center on May 3-5.

Military Committee

The creation of the PDGA Military Committee was approved by the Board at the February teleconference and is currently being created. An announcement at PDGA.com seeking interested members to serve on the committee resulted in over 30 responses. Board liaison, Karolyn O'Cull is currently reviewing the responses for qualified candidates and a chairperson will be identified soon. A new Yahoo Group has been created for the committee and the committees matrix has been updated.

DiscGolfer Magazine

The Spring 2013 issue of DiscGolfer magazine was printed and delivered to the PDGA on March 1st. Members should have already begun receiving this issue of the magazine, which features a preview of the 2013 National Tour Elite Series and PDGA major events.

Office Internet

The PDGA office will soon be undergoing a major upgrade of our internet services from DSL to fiber optics. The new service will provide the office with a much needed faster and reliable connection.

Office Intern

The PDGA office is in the final stages of selecting a summer intern from a pool of interested candidates. Our internship program is in its fifth year and requires the intern to be enrolled in a related field in a college or university with an internship program.

Committee Reports

Course Design – McCoy reported that the course design guidelines had recently been updated and the revised documents published on the website.

Disciplinary – Duffy questioned whether Ice Bowl participants, non-members in particular, were held to the same rules and disciplinary actions as members. Discussion ensued and the consensus was that all competitors are held responsible for their actions and could be disciplined.

Military – Karolyn O’Cull reported that she had received in excess of 30 responses to our call for interested members to serve on the military committee.

PDGA Europe – Avery Jenkins was named the board liaison to this committee.

Ratings & Stats – Peter Shive mentioned recent discussions with Brian Graham regarding the process to determine our Player and Rookie of the Year awards, and questioned whether Graham was asking the board for a change. Graham indicated that while he would prefer a simpler ratings based process that would be easier to calculate and easier to understand, he was hesitant to change the process again.

New Business

Am Worlds Payout - Graham

Brian Graham gave the board a summary report of his meeting at the Memorial Championship with Am Worlds tournament director, Jeremy Rusco. Brian and Jeremy are proposing that the PDGA change its model for payout beginning with the 2013 Am Worlds to a true amateur model whereby all competitors would receive a large player’s package and enhanced experience while merchandise payout would be eliminated in lieu of trophies. Discussion ensued and the board was unanimously in favor of the proposed change in so long that the competitors continued to receive a fair return on their entry fees. The PDGA office will immediately get the word out to our members in advance of the invitation and registration process starting.

Team Golf – McCoy

Kevin McCoy proposed that the PDGA become more active in promoting team disc golf tournaments. McCoy expressed his wish that the PDGA create an annual premier team event in September of each year to help support and promote the concept. Graham advised the Board that the International Disc Golf Center already had a team tournament on the schedule for August 31 – September 1st named the National Team Challenge and he invited Kevin McCoy to be as active as he would like to be in planning and executing the event.

Action Item:

McCoy to have conversations with Jason Allind at the International Disc Golf Center regarding the National Team Challenge and how this event can be used to promote team play around the world.

IT Personnel – Duffy

Rebecca Duffy explained challenges by the office in accomplishing some IT tasks due to the limited availability of key consultants. Duffy questioned whether we had money in our budget to hire another IT contractor currently working with the PDGA. Graham warned that the two contractors did not possess the same skill set and advised that we speak with technology director, Steve Ganz before having further discussions.

European Open Discussion – Graham

Brian Graham gave the board a summary report of his meeting at the Memorial Championship with European Open tournament director, Jussi Meresmaa, as well as related email communications with International Program Director, Brian Hoeniger. Meresmaa is proposing that the 2013 European Open institute WADA testing at that event. Graham informed the board that Hoeniger had previously requested a formal proposal and additional information from Meresmaa, and advised that we wait for this information before discussion on the topic ensued.

Yammer Account – Duffy

Rebecca Duffy advised the board that she had set up a Yammer account for testing and requested that all board members join to explore its features. Yammer could potentially be a replacement for our Board Yahoo Group should we decide to move in that direction.

MOTION (O’Cull/Decker)

To adjourn the meeting

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

Motion passes 7-0

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:10pm EST.