

Board of Directors Teleconference Minutes
Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)
December 17, 2013

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 8:34pm EST by Board vice-president, Rick Rothstein

Board Members:

Present: Bob Decker, Kevin McCoy, Karolyn O’Cull, Rick Rothstein, Shawn Sinclair, Dave West

Quorum present? Yes

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

Old Business:

Meeting Minutes

MOTION (O’Cull/West)

Approve the meeting minutes of the November 2013 teleconference.

Yes: Decker, McCoy, O’Cull, Rothstein, Sinclair, West

Motion passes 6-0

Closing of On-line Motions

Online Motion – Approve the 2014 European Masters in Stockholm Sweden as the PDGA Europe Major for 2014, as recommended by Brian Graham and Brian Hoeniger.

Motion passes 6-0

Technology Report - Ganz

Steve Ganz reported on the successful launch of the new PDGA website and discussed current options available to us for hosting, including a proposal from Acquia for management services with three cost options. Graham stated that due to the long term nature of the most cost effective option that he and Ganz preferred, he wanted the board to be made aware of it and have the opportunity to discuss it. Discussion ensued and the consensus from the board was support in favor of the 3-year option as recommended by Ganz & Graham pending completion of due diligence and legal review of the contract.

Ganz also discussed API’s and his wishes for the PDGA to share our data with third parties in the disc golf marketplace for online tournament registration systems. Graham expressed his support of this change in policy and stated that it would be in line with discussions by past boards regarding the PDGA as a major data store for the sport. Roddick also expressed support and discussed the benefits to the PDGA and the industry as a whole. Discussion ensued. Dave West discussed the potential for turning this into a future revenue stream.

MOTION (McCoy/West)

To allow the use of PDGA data for third party use in online tournament registration systems.

Yes: Decker, McCoy, O’Cull, Rothstein, Sinclair, West

Motion passes 6-0

(Steve Ganz thanked the Board and left the meeting)

Memberships - Nicholson

As of 12/11/13, the PDGA had 20,143 active members and lifetime membership # 62250 had been issued

- Compared to 17,884 active members at the same time last year
- This represents a 12.6% increase in memberships thus far in 2013

Office Report - Graham

Finance

Draft 1 of the 2014 PDGA financial budget has been completed and will be presented tonight for review. Bob Decker, Dave West, and Brian Graham met via teleconference with our auditor Pennington & Berry on November 26th to discuss and outline expectations for our 2013 financial audit. An engagement letter was provided to the office for our 2013 audit and has been signed and returned.

Tech Standards

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

- The "Servo" disc from MVP Disc Sports
- The "Mantis" (2013 Ace Race disc) from Discraft
- the "Antidote" disc from Salient Discs
- 4 discs; the "View", "135G UltiPro Junior Ultimate Disc", "150G WaKa Freestyle Disc", and "175G UltiPro Ultimate Disc" from Yikun Sports

Tour Report – Sweeton

2013 Tour

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	1888	1888	1815	1478	33	304	10	8	61	460	1044	13	6	2	38	1	0	7	28	137
2012 YTD	1693	1683	1625	1329	23	273	8	6	55	394	949	10	4	1	36	4	1	5	24	128
Difference	195	205	190	149	10	31	2	2	6	66	95	3	2	1	2	-3	-1	2	4	9
% Difference	12%	12%	12%	11%	43%	11%	25%	33%	11%	17%	10%	30%	50%	100%	6%	-75%	-100%	40%	17%	7%

- 1) We have 1,888 total events in the 2013 database and 1,815 of them are unique events. All events have paid their sanctioning fees and met all sanctioning requirements and are thereby listed on the online calendar. We currently sit at 12% growth of the tour over 2012. Of significance was the 17% growth of B-Tier events which remain an attractive option to TDs who wish to run a higher level event without having to deal with the hassle of a membership requirement.
- 2) Since the last tour report, the eighth Ratings Update for 2013 events was published on 11/19. The next Ratings Update is scheduled for 12/17 and will be published on time.
- 3) The 12/17 update will bring us to 1,779 completed and imported events of the 1888 total number of importable events, leaving us with 109 outstanding. Of those 109, 19 are already in hand; we continue to pursue the other 90, although 24 of the events either just happened this past weekend or have not yet occurred.

2014 Tour

- 4) The 2014 Majors, NT, and A-Tier schedule along with the full 2014 Tour Standards were finalized and released on November 22nd, ten days ahead of schedule. At that time the online sanctioning for 2014 events was also made available.
- 5) To date, 144 events have already been submitted for 2014, and 137 of those have met all sanctioning requirements and are thereby listed on the online calendar.

--- End Tour Report

US Sports Congress

Brian Graham attended the United States Sports Congress conference in Reno, NV on Dec 9-11, meeting face-to-face with CVB's and Sports Commissions from across the country. During the conference, North Lake Tahoe announced a \$5000 grant to help market and promote a new national level disc golf event in that community. Fort Myers, FL also announced a grant for the installation of concrete tee pads on two of its courses to make them suitable for higher tiered sanctioned events. The PDGA was asked to facilitate the addition of disc golf as one of the official pre-conference activities for attendees of the 2014 US Sports Congress in Savannah, GA.

PDGA Media Manager

Following an extensive application and interview process, Matt Gregoire was offered the position of PDGA Media Manager and Content Producer on Dec. 5th. Matt is a former recipient of the PDGA Volunteer of the Year awards for his work on PDGA social media and event coverage. He will begin work with the PDGA on Monday, January 13th and will be visiting the PDGA office for a week of orientation with office staff. Matt will remotely from his home in Indianapolis, IN and he will be directly supervised by technology director, Steve Ganz.

PDGA Europe Teleconference

Brian Graham and PDGA International Program director, Brian Hoeniger hosted our annual teleconference with PDGA Europe country coordinators on Sunday, December 1st. Many topics were discussed including potential participation in the European Expo in Italy, as well as delivery of the 2014 PDGA guide to Europe and related processes.

- End of Headquarters Update

Committee Reports

Disciplinary – Shawn Sinclair informed the board that he had tendered his resignation as chairman of the disciplinary committee and outlined his proposal to restructure the committee and process. Discussion ensued and Decker reminded the board that the current committee structure had been organized to protect the chairman from legal liability and expressed his reluctance to change it. Graham stated that the office could handle any disciplinary cases in the interim but not on a permanent basis as the office staff needed to remain unbiased and continue to serve as administrator of the policy between the committee and the accused offenders.

Action Item: Brian Graham and Shawn Sinclair to identify candidates to consider for the position of chairperson of the disciplinary committee.

New Business

2014 PDGA Budget - Graham

Brian Graham gave the board an overview of the budgeting process and informed them that the process was behind schedule this year as a result of several factors including completion of the transition from cash based to accrual based accounting, transition of accounting software, and the delay in the completion and adoption of the strategic plan. Decker reminded the board that they should refrain from micro-managing the process and limit budget related inquiries to bigger picture items.

WFDF Agreement – Roddick/Graham

Dan Roddick told the board that he felt detailed discussion on this topic be conducted at a later time when all board members were present. Graham agreed and reminded the board that a draft agreement to renew a working relationship between the WFDF (World Flying Disc Federation) and the PDGA had been uploaded for board review. Roddick gave the board a short history of the past relationship between the organizations and recent discussions between WFDF leadership, Executive Director Brian Graham, and himself. Roddick stated that a special meeting may be necessary to discuss the proposed agreement.

Dress Code Proposal - Graham

Brian Graham gave the board an overview of a proposal from Holly Finley to amend the dress code. Graham stated since this rule resided in our competition manual, the proposal had been forwarded to the competition committee for review and recommendation. Graham expressed office support of proposed changes and read the following recommendation from the committee:

The PDGA competition committee has reviewed the dress code proposal and is in favor of amending the dress code as follows:

We recommend to simply add section 3.4.D.2.A:

3.4.D.2.A – Women may also wear well-tailored one-piece tennis dresses with minimum 1 inch wide shoulder straps.

This keeps it very simple. Since it is a “may also” clause, it automatically supersedes the previous requirement concerning collar/chest covering and when announcing this change it is also much simpler to explain an additional rules item than it is to explain the modification of an existing rules item.

For a 2015 printing of the rules we can modify this into a more cohesive section, but this approach would accomplish the goal for now.

MOTION (Rothstein/Decker)

To adopt the changes to the dress code (add section 3.4.D.2.A) as recommended by the competition committee.

Yes: Decker, O’Cull, Rothstein, Sinclair, West

No: Duffy (by proxy)

Abstain: McCoy

Motion passes 5-1

Long Term Strategic Plan - Graham

Brian Graham requested that the recently completed long term strategic plan be approved or adopted so that he could publish a summary to our members and budget accordingly. Decker and Rothstein stated that they did not necessarily agree with every part of the document and questioned whether adoption of it meant that all of it would be implemented. Graham stated that was not the case and that the board would have the opportunity to review and approve individual components of the plan prior to implementation. West recommended that the document merely be adopted as a directional document. Decker agreed that was probably the best course of action.

MOTION (Rothstein/Decker)

To adopt the strategic plan as a directional document for the PDGA.

Yes: Decker, McCoy, O'Cull, Rothstein, Sinclair, West

Motion passes 6-0

MOTION (Decker/O'Cull)

To adjourn the meeting.

Yes: Decker, McCoy, O'Cull, Rothstein, Sinclair, West

Motion passes 6-0

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45pm EST.