

PDGA 2016 Board of Directors Elections



A Board of Directors is a requirement for non-profit status and is mandated by the PDGA bylaws. In addition to semi-annual summit meetings, the Board and staff conduct monthly teleconference calls and ongoing communication to accomplish required business. Some of the Board's main activities include: setting PDGA policies; hiring and supervision of an Executive Director responsible for headquarters, staff, and ongoing operations; financial management including annual budget; identification of responsible future Board members; and representing the membership's visions for the future of the sport and the association.

Two at-large Board member positions will be elected this year and the two candidates receiving the most votes will serve three year terms from September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2019.

For additional information on the PDGA elections process: <http://www.pdga.com/elections>

2016 Board Candidates:

- Kevin McCoy, #9453 - Georgia
- Shawn Sinclair, #10819 - Tennessee
- Patrick Van Tuinen, #41571 - Michigan

Kevin McCoy, #9453

Location: Senoia, GA

Born: 1974

Gender: Male

Education: Independence CC, East Central University, Texas Wesleyan University

Occupation: Project Manager

Leaving the game better than I found it, is a slogan we had at Twisted Flyer and a motto that I live by. I feel that we have accomplished that in my first 5 years on the Board, but I also feel there are many challenges facing us as the sport is growing expeditiously. As a Board member, I provide the perspectives of a local club organizer, a league and tournament director, a course designer, a disc vendor, and a touring professional.

My past 5 years of experience with the BoD has been very productive. I was able to push through PDGA Sanctioned Leagues in my 1st term. It has been a very successful program, but I am committed to the continued growth and development of leagues, making leagues better with technology advancements and developing multiple gaming options. Plus using leagues as a platform to introduce new players to disc golf that will create member growth to the PDGA. I also want to use leagues as a resource to recruit new parks to add disc golf to more local communities.

In my 2nd term I have been the chairperson of the Majors Committee, and we are taking on the challenges of our sport growing out of our current Major events molds. The player participation at Worlds has outgrown our models and we are looking at ways to make these events more sustainable and to continue to highlight our top players as well as provide quality events to our amateurs and our age protected players.

I take my position on the Board very seriously and I'm here to do work to make the PDGA the best it can be for ALL disc golfers. I am looking for your vote! If you know me as a player in the past or you've seen some of my past work as PDGA State Coordinator of Oklahoma, Co TD of Tulsa Am Worlds, or my last five years on the board, you can be assured that your vote won't be wasted because I want the job of making this game the best it can be.

Disc Golf Experience:

- PDGA Board Member (2011-16)
- Board Committee chair for Majors Committee and liaison for Course Design
- Co-TD 2006 Amateur World Championships plus 25+ other PDGA events
- Oklahoma PDGA State Coordinator (2001-2007)
- Tulsa Disc Sports Association Administrator (1998-2007)
- Columbus Disc Golf Club President (2016-present)
- Course Designer of 17 courses in Oklahoma and Georgia (2004-present)
- 100+ Professional PDGA Wins, 4 Time World Doubles Champion, Winner of multiple NTs, A Tiers including the Vibram, Glass Blown, Ledgestone, Hall of Fame, etc.
- PDGA Marshall for 2 Amateur Worlds (2003, 2015)

Shawn Sinclair, #10819

Location: Nashville, TN

Born: 6/21/70

Gender: Male

Education: Sonoma State - BA kinesiology 1994, Sonoma State - Teacher Certification 1996

Occupation: United State Postal Service

With your help, I'm looking forward to serving another three years on the board of the PDGA. I feel extremely privileged to have served on the board for the last three years, during which time we experienced explosive growth in members, courses, discs, disc manufacturers, and tournaments, including two new tours. I'm excited for the future of disc golf as we move in a new direction with the world championship events. The media exposure through ESPN, YouTube, podcasts, and other outlets is truly amazing.

It's common for lovers of disc golf to wear many hats – player, tournament director, and board member perhaps – but I think I may have worn more than most over the years. On the competitive side, I have experience as an amateur player, regional local pro, touring pro, elite pro, and international player. I have run and continue to run multiple events per year from non-sanctioned charity events to A-tiers as well as been instrumental in helping with multiple NTs and over 20 majors as a PDGA marshal for Pro and Am Worlds and USDGC. I've lobbied for the creation of courses, I've presented to city councils, and I've donated time, money, and manpower to pushing this sport forward. I have also had the great joy of playing disc golf in every U.S. state as well as on four continents. I make an effort to talk to local players to find out what challenges they've faced during tournaments and while working with the PDGA. I'm currently on the PDGA rules committee, and I was the chairperson for the disciplinary committee for nine years. I'm a former schoolteacher with a degree in kinesiology, and I have given countless disc golf lessons and clinics around the world.

During the last three years on the board, I've made an effort to be approachable so that any PDGA member would feel comfortable coming to me with any issues, and quite a few of you have taken me up on that offer. If I'm re-elected, I will continue that policy and encourage members to come to me with questions, ideas, or concerns.

I look forward to seeing how our sport grows over another three years.

Patrick Van Tuinen, #41571

Location: Wyoming, MI

Born: 1986

Gender: Male

Education: MBA in Accounting and undergraduate in Finance and Management

Occupation: Corporate Controller

I greatly enjoy the sport of disc golf and I am impressed with the growth over the recent years. There are more and more tournaments year after year and they are filling faster than ever. The 2015 and 2016 Am Worlds are perfect examples; the tournaments both filled up and people were turned away and could not attend. I find this to be unacceptable and believe that this growth needs to be managed to help promote and create success with the sport. I have 10+ years of professional experience that would be an asset to the PDGA. I want to see the continued growth and success of the sport. Thank you.
