

# Board of Directors Teleconference Minutes Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)

April 18, 2017

## **Proceedings:**

*Meeting called to order at 6:07pm EST by Board President, Rebecca Duffy*

## **Board Members:**

*Present:* Kevin McCoy, Shawn Sinclair, Dave West, Justin Menickelli, Hans Nagtegaal, Rebecca Duffy

*Quorum present?* Yes

*Others Present:* Brian Graham, Joe Chargualaf

## **Old Business:**

*Meeting Minutes*

## **MOTION** (McCoy/Nagtegaal)

Approve the meeting minutes of the March 2017 board teleconference.

Yes: McCoy, Menickelli, Nagtegaal, West, Duffy

Motion passes 5-0

## **Office Report - Graham**

### *Finance*

As of February 28, 2017 the PDGA had a net financial position of \$1,484,414 as compared to \$1,299,013 at the same time in 2016, representing an increase of \$185,401.

Profit & loss statement, balance sheet, statement of financial position, and year to date AR aging summary through February 2017 have been uploaded to the BOD Yahoo Group for review.

### *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 since the last meeting:

- "Sleipner" disc from Guru Disc Golf
- "Machete" disc from Discraft
- "MaxGlide" disc from Best Disc Golf Discs
- "Sabot" disc by Millennium
- "Firestorm" disc by Innova Champion
- "Ahti", "Fortress", and "Pine" discs from Westside Discs
- "Cypress" disc from Above Ground, a new manufacturer based in California
- "X2" and "X5" discs from Prodigy Disc
- "Bryce", "Gobi", and "Sarek" discs from Latitude 64
- "Albatross" and "Merlin" discs from Daredevil Discs
- "Panic" disc from Axiom Discs
- "Discrait" target from Trindem OU, a new target manufacturer based in Estonia
- "River Pro" disc from Latitude 64
- "Mayhem" and "Tenacity" discs from Axion Discs
- "Dimension", "Limit", "Relativity", and "Teleport" discs from MVP Disc Sports
- "Falk" disc from Kastaplast

## Memberships- Allen

As of April 18, 2017 the PDGA had 30,036 Active Members and PDGA member # 95830 had been assigned

- compared to 26,534 active members the same time in 2016
- representing a 13.2% increase in members thus far in 2017

## ED Transition

Incoming Executive Director Joe Chargualaf will be in the PDGA office on Tuesday through Thursday of next week undergoing training and transition of duties from interim ED, Brian Graham. Joe will visit the IDGC one additional time in early May for additional training, in addition to other online and telephone training that will take place during the month of May. Joe will be put on the PDGA payroll beginning in May and will officially take over as full time Executive Director on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Brian Graham's last day with the PDGA as interim executive director will be May 30.

## Tour Report - Sweeton

### 2017 Tour

2017 vs 2016 Tour Breakdown																				
Totals		Location				Tier Level														
Total	Fully Sanctioned	USA	Canada	Intrntl	Major	NT	A	B	C	A/B	B/A	B/C	C/B	XM	XA	XA/XB	XB	XC	Leagues	
2017	1789	1781	1465	42	282	9	6	90	487	952	15	1	3	36	10	2	0	6	47	125
2016	1634	1619	1282	41	311	7	7	85	460	901	15	1	3	27	10	5	1	1	8	103
<b>Difference</b>	155	162	183	1	-29	2	-1	5	27	51	0	0	0	9	0	-3	-1	5	39	22
<b>% Difference</b>	9.5%	10.0%	14.3%	2.4%	-9.3%	29%	-14%	6%	6%	6%	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	-60%	-100%	500%	488%	21%

Since 2016 numbers included a large number of Vibram Birdie Bashes which will not be sanctioned in 2017, the XC numbers have been normalized to show a truer picture of growth.

- So far in 2017 we have 1,789 events in the database compared to 1,634 at this time last year which is an increase of 9.5%. The US is at 14.3%, Canada is at 2.4%, and International events are off the pace from last year at -9.3%. The change in sanctioning for those non-US events from February to April appears to be sluggish compared to the same period in 2016. However, none of the red numbers are alarming at this time, and many are relatively minor differences for this early in the year.
- 2016 Stats at this time of year did include a large amount of Vibram Birdie Bashes which are not being sanctioned this year. These XC events have been removed to provide a more accurate picture of 2017 growth.
- The first Player Ratings Update for 2017 events took place on March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- April 4<sup>th</sup> was the deadline for the second update for 2017 events and we gave completed processing of those events and sent them to the ratings team. The publication date was originally scheduled for Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> but since I will not be able to return from the Amateur Championships at Bowling Green in time to complete the processing, it will be delayed a day to Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.

### 2017 Worlds

#### Pro Worlds

- The first three registration tiers for Pro Worlds has garnered 104 registrants to date.
- Open registration for all 2017-current Pro members opens Friday morning (4/21) at 12:01am.
- Registration for 2017-current Amateur members with a minimum rating opens on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Amateur & Junior Worlds

- Registration for International (non-North America) invitees opens on Friday morning (4/21) at 12:01am.
- Registration for Canadian invitees will open on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Registration for all invitees will open on Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Registration for Invitees to choose a different division opens on Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Registration for all 2017-current Amateur members will open on Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup>.

## Pro Master Worlds

- The Invite Package goes out today (originally scheduled for Friday, but we were all too busy with the NCDGC.)
- Registration for International (non-North America) invitees opens on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Registration for Canadian invitees will open on Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Registration for all invitees will open on Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Registration for Invitees to choose a different division opens on Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Registration for all 2017-current Pro members will open on Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Registration for 2017-current Amateur members with a minimum rating opens on Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup>.

--- End of Tour Report

### *Committee Reports*

Senior – Dave West reported on the progress of the committee on their planned fun senior event on July 9-11 at Kent State University in Ohio.

PDGA Europe – Hans Nagtegaal reported on discussions amongst the committee related to the upcoming elections for PDGA Europe board members.

### **New Business:**

#### *PDGA Smoking Policy*

The Board discussed whether the PDGA smoking policy should be extended to additional tiered events as it is currently only in effect at PDGA Major events. Brian Graham explained that the policy was passed in 2011 and it was the intention of the board at that time that the topic be revisited and future consideration be given to enacting the policy at other tiered events. Graham suggested stair step the policy if they wanted to enact it at additional events and that they start with the National Tour events first since we have staff present at those events and they receive a higher degree of media coverage and spectatorship. Hans Nagtegaal expressed support for enacting the policy at all PDGA sanctioned events, citing our professional sports image. Kevin McCoy stated that he preferred to let the players police themselves and that we not pass a PDGA rule but allow local laws and park rules to determine if smoking is prohibited on the course. Discussion ensued with board members discussing the challenges of a blanket policy at all sanctioned events versus just the higher tiered events.

#### **MOTION** (Menickelli/West)

To extend the current PDGA smoking policy to include PDGA National Tour Events beginning in 2018.

Yes: West, Menickelli, Duffy, Sinclair

No: Nagtegaal, McCoy

Motion passes 4-2

#### *PDGA Sponsorship Policy*

The PDGA Sponsorship Policy was discussed and Shawn Sinclair questioned whether the policy should be reviewed to consider prohibiting the acceptance of sponsorships from companies such as legal marijuana dispensaries, that might be harmful to the image of the association and sport. Brian Graham stated that the PDGA had a pretty good sponsorship policy in place which allowed flexibility so that the tournament directors could consult with the office if they needed

assistance in making a tough decision. Graham went on to say that he was not aware of any issues in the past that the current policy did not adequately cover. Discussion ensued and the consensus of the board was that our current policy was sufficient and that changes were not necessary at this time

#### *Fall Summit*

The board discussed the 2017 Fall Summit in hopes of setting a date and location. Brian Graham stated that he had uploaded the IDGC events calendar to the Yahoo Group for board review, and recommended that it be held in October in conjunction with the Disc Golf Hall of Fame Classic, which is the final event in the 2017 NT series and the planned location of the Hall of Fame inductions this year. Discussion ensued about other options and it was ultimately agreed upon that the Fall Summit would take place on Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 16-17, following the HOF Classic at the PDGA International Disc Golf Center.

#### *NASC Symposium Report – Graham*

Brian Graham submitted the following report:

##### NASC Symposium Report

March 27-30, 2017

Sacramento, CA

Hosted by: National Association of Sports Commissions

Brian Graham attended the NASC Symposium in Sacramento, CA on March 27-30, 2017 in his capacity as interim Executive Director of the PDGA, and a member of the NASC Events Rights Holders Committee. The PDGA once again had a full schedule and Graham conducted the maximum of 54 one-on-one appointments, and 12 event overview appointments, meeting with a total of 102 destinations and sports service companies to discuss PDGA events. Included in those appointment sessions were meetings with the sports commission and/or Convention and Visitors Bureau representatives for a number of cities that will soon be hosting PDGA Major events including Grand Rapids, Quad Cities, and Charlotte, as well as by many who are interested in our bid process.

The PDGA remains one of the most highly requested sports organizations at these shows by sports commissions and is highly respected amongst other sports governing bodies who often seek our advice on how they can emulate what we have achieved. The PDGA donated a disc golf starter set (bag, discs, mini, towel, DiscGolfer magazine, stickers, hat, brochures) to the NASC Sports Legacy Auction and the winning bidder turned out to be Talty O'Connor, the founder and owner of another large national sports conference (SPORTS Relationship Conference) that we attend each year.

Brian will be bringing Joe Chargualaf up to speed on these conferences as part of training and transition of ED duties and recommends that Joe attend them in the future. Brian will be attending these sports conferences moving forward as he introduces the National Barrel Horse Association to them, and he would be happy to assist Joe to get him acclimated and introduced to the right people.

#### *PDGA By-Laws Amendment - West*

Dave West requested that the board make a plan of action for announcing and passing the proposed change to the PDGA by-laws, which would disqualify paid employees and paid consultants from running for and holding a PDGA board position. Our attorney has written the new by-law language and the language has been reviewed and approved by the board. Graham and Menickelli were in agreement that we should not rush something like this through without allowing the membership adequate time to review it and provide feedback to the board prior to voting. Dave West was tasked with writing an article/announcement for the PDGA website. Once published, we will allow 2 weeks for member feedback before the board considers voting on the proposed amendment.

#### **MOTION** (Duffy/Sinclair)

To adjourn the March board teleconference and enter into executive session.

Yes: Sinclair, McCoy, Menickelli, West, Nagtegaal, Duffy

Motion passes 6-0

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28pm EST and the board entered into executive session.