

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

May 9, 2017

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 6:05pm EST by Board President, Rebecca Duffy

Board Members:

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

Quorum present? Yes

Others Present: Brian Graham, Joe Chargualaf

Old Business:

Meeting Minutes

MOTION (McCoy/Nagtegaal)

Approve the meeting minutes of the April 2017 board teleconference.

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

Motion passes 7-0

Office Report - Graham

Finance

As of March 31, 2017 the PDGA had a net financial position of \$1,597,040 as compared to \$1,406,029 at the same time in 2016, representing an increase of \$191,011.

Profit & loss statement, balance sheet, statement of financial position, and year to date AR aging summary through March 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:

- "MD4" & "TDx" discs from Discmania
- "Diablo" & "Ninja" discs from Gateway Disc Sports
- "Crag" & "Launch" discs from Vibram
- "Journey-LS" & "Siren" discs from Gateway
- "X4" & "X6" discs from Prodigy
- "Punisher" & "Ringer GT", discs from Discraft
- "T2", "T3", "Strike Zone", and "Prodigy Pro Light" targets from Prodigy Disc

Memberships- Allen

As of April 30, 2017 the PDGA had 31,041 Active Members and PDGA member # 96238 had been assigned

- compared to 26,687 active members at the same time in 2016
- representing a 16.3% increase in members thus far in 2017

ED Transition

Incoming Executive Director Joe Chargualaf was in the PDGA office on April 25-28 for three days of discussions and training with outgoing and interim executive director, Brian Graham and the PDGA office staff. Joe will be put on the PDGA payroll beginning in May when he will continue additional training leading up to the full transition of Executive Director duties over to him on June 1, 2017. June is a month when several critical organizational processes take place, which includes preparations for our 2017 elections and the PDGA Pro Disc Golf World Championships at the International Disc Golf Center.

2017 PDGA Elections

The annual call for candidates for PDGA board members, US state coordinators, and Canadian provinces for the 2017 elections was made on May 1st. A separate call for candidates for PDGA Europe board members was made on May 3rd. The online elections which run during the entire month of July will once again be administrated by Intelligiscan, Inc.

PDGA By-Laws Amendment

In accordance with our by-laws, the following announcement was made on the PDGA website on Tuesday, May 2, regarding the potential by-laws amendment:

Potential PDGA Bylaws Update - Discussion Scheduled for May 9th, 2017

Per the requirement of the PDGA Bylaws, the PDGA Board of Directors provides this notification that they have scheduled a discussion regarding a possible change to the current bylaws of the organization. The Board of Directors is considering an amendment during their May 9th, 2017, meeting. To avoid a conflict of interest, this potential change to the bylaws would not allow employees or paid consultants to also be a member of the Board of Directors. This concept has been reviewed by our legal counsel and the following verbiage is being considered:

"No person shall be permitted to serve on the Board of Directors who is at the same time either an employee or a paid consultant of the Corporation."

If any member has any comments or concerns about this change, please [contact a Board of Directors member](#).

Published May 2nd, 2017 by authority of the PDGA Board of Directors.

Tour Report – Sweeton

1) 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	1947	1936	1577	47	323	9	6	92	522	1046	15	2	3	39	10	2	0	6	50	145
2016	1939	1915	1503	54	382	7	7	89	526	1086	15	1	5	28	11	5	1	2	12	144
Difference	8	21	74	-7	-59	2	-1	3	-4	-40	0	1	-2	11	-1	-3	-1	4	38	1
% Difference	0.4%	1.1%	4.9%	-13.0%	-15.4%	29%	-14%	3%	-1%	-4%	0%	100%	-40%	39%	-9%	-60%	-100%	200%	317%	1%

Important Note: the 2017 numbers are from 5/5/17 while the 2016 numbers are from 5/23/16, so they included over an additional half month of sanctioning.

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.

- Don't be alarmed by the chart above. It is important to note that the growth numbers are skewed because the 2016 data is from 18 days later in the year than the 2017 numbers. In the 18 day period from my last report (4/17/2017), we have increased by 154 sanctioned events, so if we were to assume a similar number in the next 18 days, the comparison would be 2,105 events for 2017 versus 1939 for 2016 which would be a growth percentage of 8.5%

- The second Player Ratings Update for 2017 events took place on April 26th which was one day later than normal due to my trip to the Bowling Green Amateur Championships. I had posted an announcement on the website several weeks prior to alert the membership that it would be delayed by a day and happily I didn't receive a single complaint.
- This past Tuesday May 2nd was the submission deadline for the next update, and we are in the processing stages now and are not expecting any issues in meeting the May 23rd publication date.

2) 2017 Worlds

Pro Worlds

- To date there are 183 registrants for Pro Worlds – 141 MPO and 42 FPO. Although this is less than the 288 spots we made available, it is important to note that it is the first year with minimum ratings requirements yet we are still approaching the numbers from past Worlds for those two divisions:

Past 5 Years			
Year	MPO	FPO	Total
2016	158	35	193
2015	143	48	191
2014	144	40	184
2013	131	25	156
2012	144	30	174
Average	144	35.6	179.6

- We have seen very little registration (7) from Internationals and Canadians. This may be due to fears concerning access to a US military base as well as the general current unstable situation concerning policies for traveling to the US. Laura can fill the Board in on steps being taken to help mitigate these concerns.

Amateur & Junior Worlds

- Thirteen (13) International players and six (6) Canadian players have registered to date.
- Registration for all invitees will open on Friday, May 12th.
- Registration for Invitees to choose a different division opens on Friday, June 2nd.
- Registration for all 2017-current Amateur members will open on Friday, June 16th.

Pro Master Worlds

- Five (5) International players have registered to date
- Registration for Canadian invitees will open on Friday, May 12th.
- Registration for all invitees will open on Friday, May 19th.
- Registration for Invitees to choose a different division opens on Friday, June 16th.
- Registration for all 2017-current Pro members will open on Friday, June 30th.
- Registration for 2017-current Amateur members with a minimum rating opens on Friday, July 14th.

3) Cancellation of Events due to Dangerous Weather

This is a hot topic due to the recent occurrence of cancellations at high-profile events (especially those that caused First Place ties.)

Many people have put forth ideas (some thoughtful, some just plain silly) on how to potentially handle this outside of our current rules.

I'm working on a decision tree to help TDs make sound decisions concerning when and how to cancel an event properly. Between Mike and I, we've have spent a lot of time talking to both TDs and Touring players concerning this and I'll be meeting with the Competition Committee next week with this topic as the primary agenda item.

--- End of Tour Report

Technology Report - Ganz

PDGA.com

- Working on PCI compliance certification.
- Added flag to mark members on the disciplinary action list as suspended.
 - suspended members player profiles will marked as suspended
 - suspended members will be highlighted within PDGA Tournament Manager
 - suspended members will be prohibited from registering for sanctioned events on Disc Golf Scene
- Released downloadable reports for membership, events, and commerce
- Refactored statistics search for major performance increase.
- Added additional location data for international events.
- Created ability for staff to issue refunds for commerce transactions.
- Engaged with Conrad Damon for work on automatic grouping and tee-time assignments
- First face-to-face meeting in 5 years with Bluespark in Baltimore during Drupalcon.

Disc Golf Scene

- Registration
 - multiple simultaneous registrants
 - infrastructure for alternate payment methods
 - infrastructure for API/mobile UI
 - added unit tests to the entire registration process
 - eliminated technical debt
 - added current PDGA status check to registration list
- Scoring API
 - added ability to post scores via API for beta test by uDisc and PDGA leagues
- League integration
 - began steps to designate and link PDGA leagues to DGS leagues

--- End of Technology Report

Media Report - Gregoire

- Advertising
 - reorganization of the ad server (Google DFP) for our direct sales and Google AdWords placements of creatives on PDGA.com
 - increased the number of advertising slots available for the newsletter from 2 to 3 and implemented a new position rotation policy for 2017 clients
- Event Coverage
 - worked with the The SpinTV to create a new process for managing media at large-scale PDGA events, one that I hope is eventually implemented for all large-scale PDGA events currently only being done for events that The SpinTV (currently only applied to events partnered with The SpinTV)

- working closely with CCDG, Jomez Productions, SmashBoxxTV, The Disc Golf Guy, The SpinTV, and Prodigy Disc YouTube channel creators to make sure we have live and/or post-production coverage for both MPO and FPO at our NTs and Majors
- partnered with Emerging Sports TV for their 2017 season which is now airing during prime time on CBS Sports, featuring Glass Blown Open coverage and PDGA branding/commercials
- working closely with the Disc Golf World Tour and the Disc Golf Pro Tour to help provide viewers for their events, which now feature much more PDGA branding than their previous events
- working with Ultiworld Disc Golf for content sharing and article assistance for current and future events
- Continuously working on and updating the World Championships pages of [PDGA.com](http://pdga.com) (pdga.com/2017proworlds, pdga.com/2017amworlds, pdga.com/2017mastersworlds)

--- End of Media Report

Committee Reports

Competition – Shawn Sinclair reported on an upcoming competition committee meeting to discuss a number of competition items and the revision and update of the competition manual later this year.

Rules – Shawn Sinclair reported on the rules committee discussions leading up to the rules revision review by the board. Sinclair reported that the committee should have the revised rules ready for board review in about two weeks. Rebecca Duffy questioned why the rules committee was still not using the Yahoo Group as all other PDGA committees do, and informed the board that she would once again contact Conrad about it.

Women’s – Hans Nagtegaal reported that the women’s committee would be having a teleconference later tonight.

PDGA Europe – Hans Nagtegaal provided the board with a short report on PDGA Europe including the number of active members and finances to date.

Majors Committee – Kevin McCoy reported on preparations for the Pro Worlds and expressed concern that the committee was not as far along regarding course redesign of the Jackson course as they had hoped. Sinclair added that he would be talking with TD Zach Shafer tomorrow and would get more information on where he stood with work to be accomplished.

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 and requested that board members help promote the event via social media.

New Business:

Mini Discs - Menickelli

Justin Menickelli brought up the topic of mini discs that many manufacturers are now producing that are too big to be legal marker discs and too small to be legal golf discs and the confusion they may be causing to players. Some of these discs have been stamped as PDGA approved when they are not. Brian Graham reminded the board that we had an established procedure in place to address these types of issues and that they should report violations like described to Jeff Homburg and the Technical Standards Committee, and Jeff would contact the manufacturers.

Mandatories – Menickelli

Justin Menickelli brought up a clarification that the rules committee was requesting regarding mandatories and made the following motion:

MOTION (Menickelli/McCoy)

To accept the rules committees proposed edits regarding mandatories in the rulebook.

The floor was opened and discussion ensued. Graham questioned whether and why the rules committee was rushing to get this one rule changed now when the overall rules revision was to be delivered to the board in about two weeks according to Shawn Sinclair’s committee report. Hans Nagtegaal stated that there was some confusion in Europe over the rule and that it needed to be clarified as soon as possible. Graham suggested that the board take a straw poll and if

the consensus was that they were in favor of the rule, Nagtegaal could then alert the parties in Europe of the clarification that would be taking place in the upcoming revision. A straw poll was taken and the board was in unanimous favor of the language so Nagtegaal was tasked with sending the clarification to PDGA Europe.

The motion on the floor was withdrawn by Justin Menickelli.

Bylaws Amendment – West

Dave West informed the board that he had introduced a slight addition to the proposed by-law amendment to better clarify the board's intent and to address some questions and concerns received by members. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that the addition of the words "(with a signed contract)" would better clarify the intent of the amendment.

MOTION (West/Menickelli)

To amend the current PDGA by-laws to add:

No person shall be permitted to serve on the Board of Directors who is at the same time either an employee or a paid consultant (with a signed contract) of the Corporation.

Yes: Sinclair, Menickelli, West, Nagtegaal, Duffy, Decker
Motion passes 6-0

Action Item: The PDGA Office is to update the bylaws with the approved amendment, update the documents on our website, and make an announcement to our members.

Future of the National Tour – McCoy

Kevin McCoy had to leave the teleconference to attend to PDGA business at a trade show so Rebecca Duffy introduced a question posed by tour manager Andrew Sweeton who was seeking an official directive from the board regarding the PDGA's stance on providing the Disc Golf World Tour, Disc Golf Pro Tour, and PDGA Europe EuroTour with scheduling priority over other sanctioned events. Discussion ensued and the consensus of the board was that the PDGA should allow these tours to have scheduling priority over A-tier and below events, but not over PDGA Majors and PDGA National Tour Events. Brian Graham argued that this was not what the other tours were requesting and recommended that the Board should simply give tour manager Andrew Sweeton a directive that he should coordinate scheduling with the DGWT, DGPT, and PDGA Europe EuroTour and allow him the flexibility to make the decisions that would best serve the overall schedule. Discussion ensued and the board issued Graham a directive to allow Andrew Sweeton to coordinate scheduling with the other tours.

Disciplinary Process – Sinclair

Shawn Sinclair presented the board with a proposed set of guidelines to be used by the disciplinary committee in determining punishment for members who compete in sanctioned events while suspended. Discussion ensued and it was the consensus of the board that the proposed punishments could be used as a general guidelines but that each case continue to be considered individually and according to its own unique circumstances.

PDGA Awards – Graham

Brian Graham alerted the board that the annual awards process had begun early as a result of the earlier June date of pro worlds this year. The call for candidates for the Bob West Sportsmanship Award was published yesterday and Graham would soon be providing the board with information on the candidates for the two awards that are determined by vote of the board, which are Senior Player of the Year and Volunteer of the Year.

PDGA Europe By-laws – Nagtegaal

Hans Nagtegaal requested and was provided with a couple of clarifications on questions related to the by-laws for PDGA Europe that came about as a result of Dutch law.

MOTION (Menickelli/Decker)

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

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

Motion passes 6-0

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49pm EST and the board entered into executive session.