

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

November 14, 2017

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm EST by Board President, Justin Menickelli

Present: Shawn Sinclair, Dave West, Bob Decker, Kevin McCoy, Justin Menickelli, Nate Heinold, David Foss, Elaine King

Quorum present? Yes

Others Present: Joe Chargualaf, Dan Roddick, Steve Ganz, Seamus Scanlon

Old Business:

Meeting Minutes

MOTION (EK/DW)

Approve the meeting minutes of the 2017 Fall Summit.

Yes: SS, DW, BD, KM, JM, NH, DF, EK

Motion passes 8-0

-----*Begin PDGA Staff Reports*-----

Executive Director's Report

11/14/2017 Board Teleconference

By: Joe Chargualaf, Executive Director

Office Report - Chargualaf

Finance

As of Sep 30, 2017, the PDGA had a net financial position of \$1,495,053.76 as compared to 1,200,746.78 at the same time in 2016, representing an increase of \$294,306.98.

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

Discs:

- “uControl”, “uDrive”, and “uPutt” from Sportme
- “Stinger” from Discraft
- “Hyperion” by Ozone Discs.

2017 Director's Cup

The IDGC hosted approximately 60 Tournament Directors, State Coordinators, PDGA volunteers, and other representatives for the fifth annual Directors Cup. This exclusive invitation-only event took place at the International Disc Golf Center in Appling, GA on the weekend of November 11-12, 2017. The Director's Cup is an educational event designed for our volunteers that help make the PDGA and the sport of disc golf a success.

2017 TEAMS Tradeshow

Joe attended the 2017 TEAMS tradeshow in Orlando, FL. TEAMS stands for Travel, Events and Management in Sports. As has become the trend, the PDGA had a full calendar and met with approximately 60 cities and organizations looking to bring disc golf events and more courses to their communities. Most were interested in learning what it takes to submit a competitive Majors bid package, and several are installing new disc golf courses for this specific reason. These tradeshow are showing a great ROI as the PDGA received first time bids from several cities who learned about our Majors through previous tradeshow.

Memberships- Allen

As of November 8th, 2017, the latest assigned new member PDGA # 101,608. At the same in 2015, the latest assigned new member PDGA # 79,055 and 2016 it was PDGA # 89,731. From 2015 – 2016 at this time, 10,676 new members joined the PDGA. From 2016 – 2017 at this time, 11,877 new members joined the PDGA. Therefore, 22,553 new members joined the PDGA since November 8th, 2015 to November 8th, 2017.

As of November 8 th in –	2015	2016	2017	2015 - 2016 % Growth	2016 - 2017 % Growth	2015 - 2017 % Growth
Ace	326	319	321	-2.15%	0.63%	-1.53%
Eagle	77	81	91	5.19%	12.35%	18.18%
Professional	6,145	7,164	7,978	16.58%	11.36%	29.83%
Male	26,915	31,337	36,211	16.43%	15.55%	34.54%
Active Members	29,056	33,939	39,231	16.81%	15.59%	35.02%
Amateur	22,911	26,775	31,253	16.87%	16.72%	36.41%
Birdie	406	453	560	11.58%	23.62%	37.93%
Female	2,141	2,602	3,020	21.53%	16.06%	41.06%
Multi-year Members	2,746	3,009	5,637	9.58%	87.34%	105.28%

Please note the October first switchover date for multi-year members, but the report is from the same day for each calendar year, so please see chart below for more information.

For the first time in the PDGA's history, we are over 3,000 active female members.

Multi-year Member Report

As of 11/8/2015		As of 11/8/2016		As of 11/8/2017	
EXP Date	PDGA Members	EXP Date	PDGA Members	EXP Date	PDGA Members
12/31/2015	-	12/31/2016	-	12/31/2017	-
12/31/2016	2404	12/31/2017	2628	12/31/2018	5137
12/31/2017	157	12/31/2018	138	12/31/2019	232
12/31/2018	44	12/31/2019	79	12/31/2020	116
12/31/2019	58	12/31/2020	77	12/31/2021	50
12/31/2020	4	12/31/2021	3	12/31/2022	9
12/31/2024	2	12/31/2024	3	12/31/2024	3
12/31/2112	76	12/31/2112	75	12/31/2110	13
12/31/2200	1	12/31/2200	6	12/31/2111	9
				12/31/2112	48
				12/31/2200	20
Total	2746	Total	3009	Total	5637

Tour Report – Sweeton

1) 2017 Tour

2017 YTD vs 2016 YTD Tour Breakdown																						
	Totals		Location			Tier Level																
	Total	Paid	US	Canada	Intrntl	Major	NT	A	B	C	A/B	B/A	B/C	C/B	S	XM	XA	XA/XB	XB	XC	Leagues	
2017 YTD	3474	3472	2664	88	722	9	6	102	762	2018	18	2	6	58	1	12	8	0	11	133	328	
2016 YTD	2983	2980	2251	80	652	7	7	91	728	1730	19	1	7	39	1	13	4	1	11	64	260	
Difference	491	492	413	8	70	2	-1	11	34	288	-1	1	-1	19	0	-1	4	-1	0	69	68	
% Difference	16.5%	16.5%	18.3%	10.0%	10.7%	29%	-14%	12%	5%	17%	-5%	100%	-14%	49%	0%	-8%	100%	-100%	0%	108%	26%	

- As of 11/09/2017 we have 491 more events sanctioned than at the same time last year and we are only 26 events away from the milestone of 3,500 events. The US is at 18.3% growth, Canada is at 10.0%, and International is at 10.7% growth.

- The eighth Player Ratings Update for 2017 events took place on October 25th (a day later than originally scheduled.) The delay was caused by a half-day power outage at the IDGC which interrupted the testing publication to a staging server, which then caused the correction of a discovered data anomaly from the ratings team to not be able to be prepared until too late to meet the original publication timeline.

- Tuesday, October 24th was also the submission deadline for the November 2017 update, and all office work is completed for that update with the data files sent off to the ratings team and we are not expecting any issues in meeting the November 14th publication date. Errata for new members continues to be substantial.

2) 2018 Schedule

- The 2018 PDGA Major, National Tour, DGPT, DGWT, and A-tier schedule was publicly released on November 2nd along with the 2018 Tour Standards. The schedule may be viewed at: <https://www.pdga.com/pdga-documents/tour-documents/2018-pdga-tour-schedule>. It will be updated to remove references to the DGWT which announced they are taking 2018 off (but the three events still remain on the schedule.)

- The 2018 sanctioning form was also made available on 11/2 and we already have 60+ events on the 2018 schedule.

3) Other 2018 Documentation

To date the following work has been done on 2018 documents:

- Tour Standards - DONE
- Divisions documents - DONE
- Points documents - DONE
- Divisions, Ratings, and Points Factors chart - DONE
- Reclassification Criteria - DONE
- Pros Playing Am - DONE
- TD Reports – pending

4) Director's Cup Prep

The following documents were gathered, prepped, and copied for presentations at the IDGC Director's Cup on November 11-12:

- 2018 PDGA Tour Standards (Andrew)
- PDGA Mid-Event Suspension and Cancellation Guidelines (Andrew)

- PDGA Rules: About the 2018 Revision (Conrad via phone)
- Significant Changes to the PDGA Competition Manual (Andrew)
- What makes a GOOD event a GREAT event (Andrew)

Technology Report - Ganz

Rules Revision

- Preparing new rules revision for online publication
 - Includes desktop, mobile, pdfs, and ebook versions
 - Rules Q & A will use our FAQ application for easier edits.

Division Updates

- New age-protected divisions launched for use during the 2018 season.
- Refactoring Tournament Manager Players page.
 - Enabling sorting and export
 - Update validation for age-protected divisions
- Added new age-protected division support at Disc Golf Scene

Tournament Management

- Introduced Payout calculator for Tournament Manager
 - Currently in alpha testing with staff only.
 - Will introduce to power users soon.
- Adding capability to link to third-party live scoring systems (UDisc, Metrix)

Other

- Exploring options to enhance live scoring for the National Tour and Pro Worlds
- Planning 2018 PDGA Technology Summit for Minneapolis during January 5-7, 2018
 - This will be a hands-on working summit and focused on eliminating data transfer requirements
 - Attendees will be Steve Ganz, Peter Crist, Theo Pozzy, Chuck Kennedy, and Roger Smith

-----***End PDGA Staff Reports***-----

Committee Reports:

N/A

New Business:

PDGA Strategic Plan

JM opened the discussion by stating the importance of the PDGA Strategic Plan when the Board makes decisions for the organization. He stated that this will be an agenda item for all monthly teleconferences from this point forward. The focuses will be on priorities, goals, and objectives. The Board engaged in additional discussion about priorities and shared their initial thoughts of what they should be. Several priorities were presented, with the overall theme surrounding 3 key areas: membership support, growth/sustainment, and competition. DR reminded the group that priorities eventually turn into deliverables that someone must accomplish. EK recommended that the Board take on more initial project management and development tasks to allow the staff to focus on daily operations. When concepts are ready for implementation they would be turned over to the staff to execute.

ACTION: JM asked all the Board members to list their top 5 priorities and submit to him by Dec 15, 2017.

2018 Majors Schedule

JM mentioned the Majors scheduled was released on Nov 2, 2017 and asked if there were any questions, concerns, or comments. NH mentioned that since the DGWT will not operate in 2018 we need to follow up with the Konopiste Open to see how this impacts their events. As the European Major for 2018 he wants to ensure that it continues operating at the same high level of a DGWT event.

ACTION: PDGA Staff (Tour Manager) follow up with the Konopiste Open TD and report back any concerns to the Board as needed.

Rules and Competition Manual Feedback

JM asked the group if there were any comments or concerns for the Board to address with the recent RB and CM release. He also acknowledged all the hard work put in by our volunteers on the Rules and Competition Committees. SS stated that the PDGA Tour Manager has developed a document for release that explains all the changes. NH mentioned his main concern are about the CM rules 1.10.A and 1.10.B, and the high volume of feedback received from TDs. SS stated that the CC has been evaluating the feedback concerning 1.10.A and 1.10.B. Lengthy discussion ensued. The general concern from the group revolved around the additional workload these changes may cause on TDs, potentially stifling female divisions who often play up or down to make full divisions, and the need to develop an IT solution to track 1.10.A. In an effort to minimize negative impacts during the 2018 season, and to allow more time to develop implementation options for 2019 that meet the intent of these two rule changes, the following motions were made:

MOTION (JM/NH)

To suspend CM rule 1.10.A for the 2018 season.

Yes: DW, BD, KM, JM, NH, DF, EK

No: SS

Motion passes 7-1-0

To suspend CM rule 1.10.B for B-Tiers and below the 2018 season.

Yes: SS, DW, BD, KM, JM, NH, DF, EK

Motion passes 8-0-0

Fulfillment

JM asked the group if they have any feedback concerning our current fulfillment services. Discussion ensued on the desire to modernized current operations to include providing enhanced services to our members. Overall consensus was our current fulfillment operation meets today's membership requirements, but we need to see the other options and services available on the market. DW suggested we hire a fulfillment consultant to help identify our requirements.

MOTION (DW/BD)

The PDGA to hire a fulfillment consultant to provide options and a draft RFP for potential fulfillment services.

Yes: SS, DW, BD, KM, JM, NH, DF, EK

Motion passes 8-0-0

Target Certification Specifications

DR provided an update to a Board task from the 2017 Fall Summit to explore potential options for a secondary path for basket certifications. This task stems from a request from Prodigy Disc Golf to consider their T3 target for Championship level certification even though it does not have the "traditional" set of inner chains as currently defined as a standard. Prodigy asserts that the cross chains of the T3 constitutes inner chains. DR explained that the Tech Standards committee researched the options, and believe they identified specifications which provides an alternative approach to Championship level certification which should provide a high level of catching consistency without the use of the inner change assembly. DR commented that this design concept may provide a option for manufacturers to develop target using less material, cost less to ship, and potentially provide Championship level catching performance. Discussion ensued. DR stated

he will reengaged with the TSC and present a proposal for Board consideration via the Board Yahoo Group.

Waiver Policy

NH began the discussion by stating he supports X-Tiers as a way to test concepts, equipment, and formats, but we should not approve waivers that limit the type of throws available to players during PDGA sanctioned events. This concern stems from a recent approved waiver request to restrict overhand throws during a Collegiate X-Tier event. NH said he's concerned this may establish negative precedence that opens the door for other similar requests. KM doesn't see a problem with this, however, it shouldn't be granted for sanctioned collegiate events. DF also concerned about the precedence this sets, and feels like limiting the type of throw changes the fundamentals of the game, which we should not do. JM said we should continue encouraging innovation, and X-Tiers is where we can accomplish this. Additional discussion ensued. NH asked if the Board should provide more guidance to the staff on what to consider when approving waivers? DR mentioned that this discussion gives us an opportunity to discuss the PDGA's role as a steward of the game and how we should/shouldn't provide direction for the sport. Do we even know how to define what is fundamental in disc golf? DR provided examples within other sports where fundamentals were thought to be true, only to be redefined later. Recommended the Board further explore our role as stewards of the game and what is/isn't fundamental. JM stated we will explore this topic further and continue discussions at the 2018 Spring Summit.

MOTION (DW/BD)

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

Yes: SS, DW, BD, KM, JM, NH, DF, EK

Motion passes 8-0

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 pm EST and the board entered into executive session.