

Minutes Skype teleconference 2nd November 2014

Start: 19.00 GMT / End: 21.44 GMT

Prepared by Hans Nagtegaal, edited by Brian Hoeniger

Present:

*	Name	Representing	*	Name	Representing
BG	Brian Graham	PDGA Executive Director	HA	Haukur Árnason	Iceland
BH	Brian Hoeniger	PDGA International Director	RC	Renita Cameron	Italy
HN	Hans Nagtegaal	2015 PDGA EuroTour Manager	GK	Gatis Kurzemnieks	Latvia
BW	Bernd Wender	Austria	DG	Darius Gricius	Lithuania
DS	Dinko Šimenc	Croatia	PB	Peter Buijsrogge	Netherlands
SF	Sinus Frank	Denmark	RK	Richard Kollar	Slovakia
RL	Rainer Lipand	Estonia	CR	Carlos Rio	Spain
TA	Tapani Aulu	Finland	BL	Boris Lazzarotto	Switzerland
FH	Frank Hellstern	Germany	NW	Neil Webber	United Kingdom

* Initials used throughout minutes.

Announced absence:

Paul Francz (2014 EuroTour Manager), Christer Köhler (Sweden), Florence Dumont (France), Daniel Hatvani (Hungary)

Absent:

Fabienne Werner (Belgium), ??? (Czech Republic), Yuri Zelentsov (Russia), Ingar Sandum (Norway)

Minutes:

BH: welcomes all, and starts the meeting.

PDGA headquarters report (Brian G) 10 mins

Waiting for BG to contact and make report from PDGA Headquarters, item deferred.

2014 EuroTour review/handover and 2015/2016 ET planning (Hans) 20 mins

HN: reviews ET2014, and proposes ET2015 calendar. Some argument about whether or not any country should be awarded two events. As ET2015 is scheduled to be last of "old" style EuroTour, it is "ok"d, and Amsterdam Open will be made into final ET2015 event, with on-the-spot overall award ceremony.

2013 Sula Open TD will be sent final warning request for sanctioning + player fees by HN, if fees not received by stated deadline TD will be suspended per USA delinquent TD standards.

DG: Suggests to move either Vilnius Open or Konopiste Open to a date in June, to spread the calendar a bit more; DG will confirm possible move. Other dates as per first choice dates.

2015 Calendar (* one of these dates possibly moved to June)

7-8 march	The Battle at Bluebell Woods	UK	B	Seamus Scanlon	11756
4-5 April	Dutch Open	NL	B	Peter Buijsrogge	28282
18-19 April	Copenhagen Open	DK	A	Sinus Frank	25808
2-3 May *	Vilnius Open	LT	B	Darius Gricius	41932
8-10 May *	proDG.cz Konopiste Open 2015	CZ	B	Kryštof Novák	55426

22-24 May	Tali Open	FI	A	Markus Stigzelius	24915
4-5 July	Prodiscus Estonian Open 2015	EE	B	Rasmus Sepp	49264
29-30 August	Belgian Open 2015	BE	B	Fabienne Werner	57312
12-13 September	Studengau Open 2015	AT	B	Werner Mooshammer	42621
19-20 September	3rd Amsterdam Open	NL	A	Hans Nagtegaal	44969

Pdga-europe.com Report & future (Sinus/Hans) 10 mins

HN (as SF has sore throat): review of current website, and what could be improved.

Facebook will be more prominent, group members will receive invitation to become admin so they can provide content.

Mention of forum sparks discussion that TA, SF, HN, BH partake in, about where and when to implement this.

BG offers infrastructure at pdga.com to host pdga-europe.com.

Consensus is to have SF and HN convene, and suggest plan of action.

PDGA headquarters report (Brian G) 10 mins

BG mentions five-year plan with five strategic goals:

- Growth: Viewership and social media growth, develop PDGA Schools Program, increase women's play
- Player Experience: Quality of events must go up – especially Majors, NTs, Worlds
- maintain or exceed current yearly growth of 12-18% membership active membership
- Marketing: Quantify DG playing population, measure Broadcast impact, develop sponsorship/advertising
- Organizational Excellence in all aspects of PDGA operations

(Editor note: much of above text copied from Strategic Plan Outline)

Sustainability of the sport

How to be sustainable:

- Education of providers (designers, manufacturers), users (players) and people that facilities are shared with)
- Course design (stricter guidelines)
- Tech standards (reviewing all tech standards)
- Liability (signage on course, to warn passers-by of flying discs)

BG advised that PDGA Leagues are currently a manual and time consuming process for the office. There will be better Leagues IT capability within the next year. Countries who have alternative League formats to the current PDGA leagues format that they want to be able to sanction should send an outline of their proposed League format to BG.

2015 PDGA International Program Guide Review (Brian H) 20 mins

BH reviewed the changes to the International Program Guide (ex PDGA Europe Guide)

BH asked BG who advised national DGC events (ie Swedish Championships) which are open only to host country players will be classified by PDGA as XA, XB or XC events. The EDGCs could be sanctioned as an XM (Major) event if desired by Europe. There were no questions from the countries on Part 1 of the Guide which pertains to all PDGA countries outside of USA/Canada.

2015 PDGA memberships events and payments processes (Brian H) 15 mins

Membership renewal, same prices, preferred that player registers online directly; CC's may also do in batch, but need to ask Memberships Manager for instructions.

Event registration only online. No longer via XLS spreadsheet. TD needs to be current member & official in order to register event. When submit button is pressed, office receives event registration information, even if payment does not follow, any registering events which do not pay directly will be added to country account by the Office Manager.

TA makes valid suggestions and remarks (as he is most active user of system)

(Insert, here are PDGA IT Director's answers to TA's questions:

Officials can recertify up to 3 months before their Officials expiry date.

The current pdga.com events registration system does not check for TDs status as they type in their event, this is done manually after event data has been received by the Office Manager.

TA mentioned some events that didn't get sanctioned, answer is:

When a sanctioning agreement is successfully submitted, the end user receives the following message:

"Your event sanctioning agreement has been received... If you would like to submit a sanctioning agreement for another event, please complete a new event sanctioning agreement."

FH and several others comment on "event can only be sanctioned when approved by CC", as there's no fool-proof way of guaranteeing that TD will not be able to register event without CC's approval. BH says national approval is the country's responsibility. TA noted he is cc'ed on all Finland event confirmation emails by the Office Manager (so other countries can contact Toni Giusto at office@pdga.com requesting this service)

2015 Worlds & USDGC qualification for International players (Brian H) 5 mins

BH explains Board is soon to vote on # of reserved spots for International and Canada players at Worlds, and which events are USDGC Qualifiers.

BG tells that PDGA will be reviewing "Majors" procedures and events.

2016 EDGC (Hans) 5 mins

Due to EDGF not being ready to deal with EDGC16 procedure and applications, BH asks HN to 'head' discussion on this subject. Group as whole will decide on granting of application.

4 event applications are/will be made: Denmark, Norway, 2 x Finland. Finland has selected Oulu's bid as it's bid. November 30th is event bid submission deadline, event to be awarded (at next teleconference or by on-line vote) by December 31 deadline.

No time to work on EDGC procedures or event standards before deadline. Deciding factor in standards will be whether or not 1 course + wave start, or potentially multiple courses.

BH: Suggests bid standards regarding size of field be 144 – 288 players.

Sub committees

Suggestion of creating EDGC sub committee sparks discussion about "how-to" within the group; both technically (yahoo groups vs. forum – again, where to host) and procedure-wise.

SF, BH, FH, HN, TA actively involved in discussion, regarding "rules of procedure".

Possible Sub's:

- ET committee
- Disciplinary committee
- EDGC committee (for now - until EDGF is ready)
- Web committee

Europe disciplinary sub-Committee update (Frank) 10 mins

FH to be lead in DC issues, he will distribute single cases among DC sub committee members as he sees fit. That person will gather information, and DC sub will make recommendation to PDGA DC.

If DC sub feels the need to, they may ask other CC's for their opinion, but ultimately they act with whole groups' mandate, and do not need to check with group prior to making recommendation to PDGA DC.

Two incidents from earlier in 2014:

"Sweden" will be passed on to PDGA DC as is, Sweden made compelling case.

"Czech Republic" will be left as is, no action to be taken. Short discussion with information from RK regarding possible issues with case itself, and Lukas Filandr resigning as CC.

BG: Explains how PDGA DC works, and how PDGA HQ/staff remain impartial.

BH: Suggested procedure: Issue at national event = Country will handle issue, and if they see reason to do so, they pass on to DC sub, who will investigate, and make recommendation to PDGA DC. (Issues at Euro events at

ET and above level go straight to the Euro DC)

Alternatively, a player may report an issue using the DC submission form, by including 10 signatures of PDGA members supporting the submission.

NW: Explaining DC procedures in Europe, as developed by/for BDGA.

Suggestion made that DC sub (and other sub's) members be (re-)elected at summer meetings during EDGC's. Suggestion approved.

2015 PDGA survey of country partners (Brian H) 5 mins

BH: Tabled idea of surveying the PDGA's partner country associations so we have better knowledge and understanding of our partners. It was agreed that weighted voting based on country/member size, as is done at WFDF, is not needed by PDGA Europe. SF mentioned that this could be a follow-up to a survey of a few years, BH said he would find that survey and review it.

RK: WFDF / WADA issue mentioned, with potentially dangerous situation for discgolf, as countries as a whole can now be sanctioned for infractions.

BG: Will look into this; as this is different to what was said by WFDF when WFDF-PDGA agreement was signed.

Evolving roles of and expectations on PDGA, PDGA Europe and the countries (All) 10 mins

BH: mentioning earlier talk with HN regarding exploring options re naming of bank account, what is involved in registering PDGA Europe in Netherlands.

HN will open bank account for ET matters, but will investigate future options regarding formalising PDGA Europe.

Suggested plan to have countries pay annual fee to PDGA Europe, with tiered fee system (larger country pays larger amount: 250, 100, 50, 0). This would give the PDGA Europe account a little more security, pay for such things as the PDGA Europe Awards, EuroTour logo banners, the missing ET medals, and future ideas to be ID-ed by the group. Countries agreed this is a good idea.

Expo 2015 (Renita) 10 mins

RC prefers to delay presentation until next teleconference (early December)

Mentions Nikko Locastro coming over to Italy, DGIO, and obtaining \$5000 Marco Polo grant for foundation of Disc Golf academy.

Any other issues 5 mins

HN: EuroTour redevelopment plan moved to December Teleconference.

BG: Quickly mentioning bid-package coming soon, regarding Country Team Worlds event, that PDGA-WFDF International Committee is currently working on. This event has been considered for launching in 2015, but 2016 is a more likely date.

RK: Splitting of divisions at ET events. CC's opinions will be collected in preparation for December Teleconference.

Next Teleconference

Will be 4-5 Sundays from now, BH to start planning in 2-3 weeks.

Topics will include:

Finalize ET schedule (HN)

ET Manager handover & fees collection (HN, PF)

2016 EDGC Bids (All)

PreFinal Draft of PDGA INT Guide (BH)

Hosting sub-Committee discussions (SF, HN)

Expo 2015 (RC)