

Minutes
USGPA BOD
March 1, 2005

The meeting was held via conference call and was called to order at 8:10pm EST.

Four members were present: Steve Taylor, Gene Marsh, Frank Townsend and Dave Nesbitt.

Members not present were: Dave Bradshaw, Greg Lauer and Mike Daniels.

The first order of business was further discussing on the Hall of Fame. It was decided that issues that would benefit from feedback of the entire community would be placed in the discussion board of open discussion. The board unanimously approved that the discussion of the HOF be opened up for general comment.

Membership Dues and Benefits

A further discussion was had on the membership fees and benefits that must take place in order to raise money and add the necessary structure to our organization. The board suggested the following membership dues structure but deferred action until the next meeting so that more board members could be present for the discussion and vote.

Yearly Dues - \$25

USGPA Mini, laminated membership card and membership number, USGPA t-shirt and recognition on the website at time of dues payment.

Founder/Lifetime Dues - \$500

USGPA Mini, laminated membership card and membership number in first 100 numbers, USGPA Polo, permanent recognition on the website, other

Non-member Tournament Participation Fee

If someone wishes to participate in one of the sanctioned tournaments (at this point the IFT, US Nationals (Chicagoland) and the High Desert Classic) they must either become members of the USGPA or pay an additional \$10 in registration fees for any tournament they wish to enter.

Constitution and Bylaws

Dave Bradshaw could not attend the meeting and he has done the research on this so it was tabled until the next meeting.

Drugs and Alcohol at Tournaments

There was a brief discussion about these elements and their affect on attracting younger players and their parents perception and acceptance of their children's participation. There we several view points on this but with only 4 members present nothing overly formal was accomplished. This will be an issue that is put out for discussion and input from the wider community.

Promotional Material and Videos

Agreement was universal that this items need to happen soon. Video should be captured at the IFT since it is the earliest tournament available and the current footage is really not of sufficient quality to create a professional and current piece. The board will be seeking volunteers to work on this project in the very near future.

It was widely felt by the entire board that the best source of ready players would be to reach out to other portions of the disc community to expose them to the game of Guts. Also, efforts like the one in Parsons, KS need to happen on a more regular basis and for instance Gene Marsh is looking to host an event this summer and believes he can gather some interest in Ohio if he can get volunteers to come out and demonstrate the game.

On a possible related subject Steve Taylor indicated that he had received some feedback on selecting teams to international play since it appears that the World Ultimate and Guts Championships will be held in Vancouver in 2008. There is likely to be very high interest with the tournament close by and the format provides for only two teams from each country. It was suggested that the two items, getting people more involved than just showing up for a tournament or two and selection of national teams might provide some synergy. The following extremely rough concept was floated to the BOD.

Points System

The following system was generated in response to two items that need to be addressed and which if implemented correctly can work together quite nicely.

#1 - Participation in the World Ultimate and Guts Championships (WUGC) is limited to two teams per country. It is expected that this tournament will be held in Vancouver in 2008. We would assume that a Vancouver location would draw extreme interest from most US Guts players given the relative ease and low cost of participation compared to something like Finland creating a problem in determining player participation.

#2 - We need to grow the sport. The realities of the world indicate that we have 50-70 people involved in US Guts and we need them to actively participate in that process. Simply having most of our players attend a tournament or two each year will not get us very far.

The concept:

Players earn points through participation in tournaments, through fundraising success and through participation in defined outreach/promotional events such as the trip to Kansas that was just completed. Participation in international events, where participation levels are restricted will be offered to those folks with the most points first and then move on down the points list until the team(s) rosters are complete. Most international teams should have at least 8 people on the roster (more can be appropriate as well) and making the team doesn't guarantee playing time, that must be earned by each individual.

Those with the most points are offered a slot on the team(s) first, if they accept they are on, if they pass we keep moving down the list. If we get money flowing into this endeavor, these folks may also benefit by subsidies for these international tournaments.

Points would be awarded for participation such as:

Participation in a tournament

Tournament Directors

Travel to a tournament in excess of 750 miles

Winning a tournament

Finishing 2nd or 3rd

Participation in the most recent WUGC

Participation in a promotional event/demonstration

Participation on a USGPA committee

Fundraising/sponsorship success - points based on dollar amount maybe

This list needs to be refined and we need to 'test' it by running some simulations to make sure its fair and also rewards good play, but not to the extent that good play hinders the need for other participation efforts.

This idea sparked some interest but was tabled for further discussion at the next board meeting.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Steve Taylor