

WFDF Board of Directors

Position Sought: Chair- Disc Golf Committee

Candidate Statement of Interest: Michael Downes

I have been a fan of flying disc sports since I was a young child. When I first saw a disc fly through the air, I was instantly hooked, and wanted to know more about the physics of the disc, what made it fly so far and accurately, and how I could become more involved in the individual disc disciplines. I became a member of the Professional Disc Golf Association in 1998, and immediately began competing in tournaments around the Mid-Atlantic region of the US. In 1999, I won my first multi-discipline Overall event at the Delaware State Championships. Along with disc golf, MTA, Accuracy, and Distance were included in the event. This experience opened my eyes to the world of overall flying disc sports.

In 2003, I moved to Arizona to attend Northern Arizona University with a focus in Parks and Recreation Management. My degree allowed me an opportunity to begin organizing and running various sporting events, which is where I discovered my true passion: event planning and management. My experience as a player parlayed into an opportunity to develop and plan various disc golf clubs, courses, and events (including the 2005 Amateur Disc Golf World Championships in Flagstaff, AZ) over the next several years. In 2013, I was hired as the Events Manager for the PDGA. My goals as Events Manager are to provide a fair and consistent playing field for all competitors while properly branding the PDGA and its sponsors at each and every event. I attend every Major and National Tour event that is supported by the PDGA to provide assistance to local organizers; in 2014, I attended 22 events.

I am proud and honored to have been selected as chair of the International Disc Golf Committee in early 2014. The Committee has been working hard on a project to be announced in the coming months. Through our collaborative efforts, I am looking forward to further developing and redefining this unique relationship between the PDGA and WFDF.

MICHAEL J. DOWNES
111 AZALEA RD
AUGUSTA, GA 30904
MDOWNES@PDGA.COM



OBJECTIVE

Through our collaborative efforts, I want to further develop and redefine this unique relationship between the PDGA and WFDF.

EDUCATION

Coconino Community College
Associate of Arts in General Studies

Northern Arizona University

Bachelors of Science, Parks and Recreation Management (emphasis in Municipal and Commercial Recreation)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Attended every PDGA Major and National Tour event from 2013-14 to assist LOC with duties.
- Designed and installed a total of 6 disc golf courses in US; working closely with several local government and special interest groups.
- Coordinated and was director or co-director of numerous PDGA sanctioned events prior to being hired at PDGA.
- Created and managed the Verde Valley Disc Golf Club from 2011-2013; a group of individuals with the common interest of disc golfing and improving the community through recreation outlets and outreach.
- PDGA member (#13898) since 1998.
- PDGA Certified Official

RECENT EXPERIENCE

Professional Disc Golf Association
Appling, GA
January 2013- present
Events Manager

Wyndham Vacation Ownership Sedona Resort
Sedona, AZ
October 2010- December 2012
Activity Director/Hiking Specialist

American Dream Tours, Inc.
Flagstaff, AZ
May 2008- October 2010
Tour Guide/Driver

Flagstaff Athletic Club
Flagstaff, AZ
May 2008- August 2008
Camp Supervisor

SKILLS

Microsoft word, Excel, Power Point, Publisher. Management, organizational and leadership skills. Extremely outgoing. Passion for the outdoors. Professional disc golfer/course designer. Experience in running large events. CPR/ First Aid certified.

** Ask for References

Michael Downes

From: Brian Graham <bgraham@pdga.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 05, 2014 2:54 PM
To: 'Volker Bernardi'
Cc: 'Dan Roddick'; 'Michael Downes'; 'Robert Rauch'
Subject: RE: 2014 WFDF Board of Directors elections

Volker,

Item #5 under the Governance section of our Memorandum of Understanding with WFDF states, "the chair of the Global Disc Golf Committee will be selected by the PDGA, subject to the approval of WFDF in accordance with its Bylaws." Therefore please accept this email as the PDGA's official selection of Michael Downes as the chairman of the Global Disc Golf Committee.

I was not aware that we needed to officially nominate Michael Downes to chair the committee each year, especially since he was just appointed chairman of the committee 9 months ago. PDGA Committee chairpersons are all appointed positions. Does Michael still need to submit elections documents since he is not officially running in the elections?

My apologies for any misunderstandings as we navigate through this new relationship and get accustomed to the way that WFDF conducts business. Thanks!

Regards,

Brian J. Graham
Executive Director
Professional Disc Golf Association

International Disc Golf Center
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Appling, GA 30802

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<http://www.PDGA.com>

From: Volker Bernardi [mailto:volker.bernardi@wdf.org]
Sent: Wednesday, November 05, 2014 3:53 AM
To: 'Michael Downes'; 'Robert Rauch'
Cc: 'Brian Graham'; 'Dan Roddick'
Subject: AW: 2014 WFDF Board of Directors elections

Dear Michael,

Indeed these are interesting questions and I might be tempted to respond by saying that this just would not be the case and such a nomination would not be accepted by WFDF.

But there might be more to it and so let us please discuss this in Toronto. By fact I have yet to receive your nomination by PDGA and the election materials by the given deadline, which is 7 November 2014.