

Board Meeting Minutes

American Go Association

Meeting Date and Time: July 24, 2021, 7:00pm EDT/4:00pm PDT

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Overview

Summary

The AGA Board met at the end of the 2021 e-Go Congress in a meeting that was open to all AGA members. The board approved minutes of the May meeting and the July special meeting (called to discuss issues of Fair Play in online tournaments and Online Ratings). The board also approved the final budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. The board was also updated about the NAGF's plans to hold a Pro Qualification Tournament in August 2021 (since postponed due to the pandemic), and approved times and dates for meetings for the 2021-2022 term. These meetings are as follows:

- September 19, 2021 (Fall Board Meeting)
- November 7, 2021 (Annual "Retreat" and Planning Meeting)
- January 9, 2022 (Special COVID Meeting, if needed)
- February 27, 2022 (Winter Board Meeting)
- May 1, 2022 (Spring Board Meeting)
- June 26, 2022 (Summer Business Meeting, if needed)
- August 5, 2022 (Annual "Congress" Meeting)
- August 6, 2022 (General Assembly Meeting)

In Attendance

Current Board

Lisa Scott (Chair, Central Region)
Devin Frazee (Central Region)
Chris Kirschner (Western Region)
Les Lanphear (Western Region)
Stephanie Yin (Eastern Region)
Dan Ritter (Eastern Region)
Ted Terpstra (At-Large)

AGA Officers

Andy Okun (President, AGA)
Samantha Fede (Secretary, AGA)
Thomas Hsiang (VP International Relations)

Other

James Sedgwick (CGA president, NAGF board member)
Mark Rubenstein
Sathya Singh
Sirocco Hamada
Terry Benson (President, AGF)
Steve Colburn (Congress Director)

Notable Motions and Decisions

1. [May](#) and [July](#) AGA Board Meeting Minutes approved.
2. Final budget approved unanimously.

Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order

- a. 7:06pm EDT.

2. Opening Approvals/Confirmations/Notices

a. [May Meeting Minutes.](#)

- i. Devin moves to approve the minutes, Dan seconds. Vote is 5 in favor, 1 abstention (Devin), 1 nay (Ted, because has not read the minutes).
- ii. **May Minutes Approved.**

b. [July Special Meeting Minutes.](#)

- i. Devin moves to approve, Dan seconds. Unanimous, **July Special Meeting Minutes Approved.**

3. Administrative Updates

a. Board Election Results

- i. Dan and Devin ran unopposed and were re-elected to the board for the next term.
- ii. The Western region election deadline was being extended due to technical difficulties. A special meeting will be held to certify those results and elect the chair of the board for the next term.

b. Budget Approval

i. **Devin moves to approve the budget, Dan seconds.**

ii. Discussion:

1. Ted: Regarding NAGF program expenses (32,000), how much are other members contributing?
2. Andy: All the expenses are currently being provided by us, for the current year. Travel funding is current up in the air.
3. Ted: When is the professional go qualifications at NGC going to happen?
4. Andy: Third week of August, but there are still some details to be announced/determined.
5. Ted: The budget for the 50 states tournament plans for how many participants?
6. Andy: I think 5 or so for this year, which is not as many as we like.

iii. **Budget approved unanimously.**

4. President's report

a. NAGF (Pro Qualifier and Communication)

- i. NAGF is a joint CGA and AGA Venture.
- ii. Pro qualifier: Was originally planned before pandemic, is now being restarted. There will be 10-15 players. I-han Lui will be the TD.
 1. Lisa: What's going on with publicity/ broadcasting?
 - a. Andy: The dates have held us back but we're finalizing broadcasting for the final four (working with Hajin Lee and Chris Garlock.

- b. James: We've been struggling with format and trying to accommodate players but there are a lot of complications. We're trying to include as many players as possible so we have a full field.
 - c. Andy: This is "Open," not by invitation, so there's uncertainty about attendance.
 - iii. Deep Mind is sponsoring a youth and adult New Year's tournament, which will be in-person.
 - 1. James answers Terry's general inquiry about youth tournaments: There will be several groupings, probably for folks under 18. Details not yet finalized.
 - iv. Discussion of communications between NAGF/AGA.
 - 1. Lisa: Should there be a general assembly meeting w/ AGA reps? The by-laws seem to indicate something like that.
 - 2. Andy: I should be better about reporting as the AGA rep.
 - 3. Devin: Having an alternative communication system, e.g. Slack, for ongoing projects and updates seems important. Some suggestion that email is more practical.
 - 4. James: I think the comments about these assembly meetings is about making sure the AGA and CGA board members are comfortable with NAGF activities.
 - 5. Terry: Do Mexican players get invited to these NAGF events?
 - a. James: COVID continues to be an issue with visas and border issues, but they were invited.
- b. Update on international matters:
- i. IGF main event: (IGF led by South Korea) Amateur World Go Championships. Was in Russia this year, will be in China in 2022.
 - ii. IGF will resubmit a new application to be recognized by IOC.
 - iii. Other amateur events postponed until next year
 - iv. World mind sports updates
 - 1. Strong financials and organizational structure
 - 2. Have developed a strong surplus and will invest in developing countries.
 - v. World Pair Go Cup postponed until next year
 - 1. Ryan Li and Stephanie Yin will represent the AGA in the main competition.
 - 2. Parallel handicap competition with Lisa and Andy as representatives because they won the preliminary tournament in December 2019.
- c. Finances
- i. Modest surplus, balance sheet has expanded, Jitasa does book-keeping and is going to update the codes for future reports.

- d. Membership updates
 - i. Membership is about 12% down, but this is expected and reasonable considering the pandemic.
 - 1. Ted: How many complimentary memberships did we give this congress?
 - 2. Lisa: None that I know of.

5. Dates & Times of 2021-2022 Board Meetings

- a. Lisa summarizes the calendar of planned meetings for the year (see [below](#)).
- b. Dates and times preliminarily approved.

6. Annual report

- a. VPs and volunteers who lead sections should send a paragraph about activities.
- b. Soliciting volunteers to help with copy editing.

7. Summary of previous board meeting:

- a. Discussion of AI use, reported particularly at higher levels. A single report within the open. Some additional changes and documents that will need to be signed. Discussion of changes to standards of evidence and reports from the Fair Play Committee. Aim to have progress by August/September for standards.
- b. Chris: This is a lot in a very tight timeframe. Maybe we can make a document that authorizes Steve to implement a specific thing for City League but can be changed

8. New business

- a. Cross talk regarding the bylaws regarding proper notice and the general assembly meeting.

9. Adjournment

- a. Devin moves to adjourn, Chris seconds. Unanimous approval.
- b. Meeting adjourned at 8:54pm.

Board Meeting Schedule for 2021-2022 (Subject to Change)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Written Reports</u>	<u>This Year Supplemental Issues</u>
Sept. 19, 2021	Fall Meeting	2 hours Zoom	Tournaments, Games, Rules, Ranks and Ratings	1. Annual Tournament Calendar 2. Report on Games and Tournaments Played 3. Report on Pro Play 4. Minutes of Prior Meeting	1.
Nov. 7, 2021	Strategy "Retreat"	3 hours Zoom	Long view of the organization	1. Strategy Memo 2. Strategic Plan Update 3. Minutes of Prior Meeting	
Jan. 9, 2022	<i>Special COVID Meeting</i>	<i>1 hour Zoom</i>	<i>COVID and US Go</i>	<i>1. COVID guidelines 2. (if needed) Decision regarding 2022 USGC</i>	
Feb. 27, 2022	Winter Meeting	2 hours Zoom	Admin, Communications, Congress, Staff, Education	1. Roster of Positions and Staff 2. Reappointments List 3. Minutes of Prior Meeting	
May 1, 2022	Spring Meeting	3 hours Zoom	Budget, Investments, International Affairs	1. Preliminary financials 2. Investment report 3. Budget 4. Report of the VP of IR 5. Minutes of Prior Meeting 6. Goals and Priorities check-in	
June 26	<i>Summer Business Meeting</i>	<i>1 hour (presumed) Zoom</i>	<i>Annual housekeeping</i>	<i>1. AGA Annual Report 2. Election of President 3. Late-breaking issues</i>	

August 5, 2022	Annual Board Meeting	3 hours Estes Park, CO (Presumed) and Zoom	Updates to the Membership	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual Financial Report 2. Annual Report of the organization 3. Report on Membership 4. Minutes of Prior Meeting 	
August 6, 2022	Chapter General Assembly Meeting	3 hours Estes Park, CO (Presumed) and Zoom	Updates to the Membership	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual Financial Report 2. Annual Report of the organization 3. Chapter Membership and Rewards 4. Prior Year's Chapter Assembly Minutes 	