Board Meeting Minutes
American Go Association
Meeting Date and Time: January 9, 2022, 8:00 pm EDT/5:00 pm PDT

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Overview

Summary
This meeting of the AGA Board had as its main topic of discussion developments of the COVID pandemic and their effects on go, particularly the US Go Congress. The Board authorized proceeding with the development of an in-person US Go Congress, and authorized a deficit of up to $35,000.

In Attendance

Current Board
Lisa Scott (Chair, Central Region)
Devin Fraze (Central Region)
Chris Kirschner (Western Region)
Les Lanphear (Western Region)
Stephanie Yin (Eastern Region)
Justin Teng (At-Large Member)

Congress Representatives
Eric Wainwright (Estes Park Congress Director)
Steve Zilber (Cleveland Congress Director)
Paul Barchilon (Youth Coordinator, Estes Park Congress Deputy Director)

Executive Officers
Andy Okun (President)
Samantha Fede (Secretary)
John Pinkerton (Acting Treasurer)

Guests
Steve Colburn

Notable Motions

1. The Board authorized proceeding with Congress development, with the board to be notified if a loss of greater than $35,000 is anticipated, to be confirmed before May 28th, 2022.
Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order
   a. Meeting called to order at 8:03pm EST.

2. Notice of Actions Taken
   a. John Pinkerton was unanimously appointed as Treasurer on December 17, 2021. His official term begins 90 days later, on March 17, 2022.
   b. John Pinkerton was unanimously appointed as Acting Treasurer on December 17, 2021, with his term as acting Treasurer to last until March 17, 2022.

3. Approval of Minutes
   a. November Meeting Minutes- Chirs motions to approve pending 48 hrs to suggest changes, Devin seconds. Unanimous approval.

4. COVID recommendations (other than Go Congress)
   a. Lisa acknowledges Chris’s work maintaining/updating COVID recommendations on the AGA website.
   b. Summary of recent recommendation to postpone in-person tournaments / approach club meetings appropriately given local conditions for the month of January based on the Omicron variant spike.

5. COVID and Go Congress
   a. A final decision will be pending based on data collected in a survey (developed by Samantha & Lisa).
   b. Lisa’s goal for the meeting: Parameters for a decision regarding the 2022 USGC-thresholds in terms of COVID or finances
   c. Important dates:
      i. 1/28- can cancel up to 20% of rooms for a reduced fee
      ii. 5/28- can cancel the entire event (will lose deposit of $30,000 – funds from 2020 deposit carried forward)
   d. Break-even point versus losing deposit – 250 minimum attendance (given a 20% room reduction)
      i. Currently we’re obligated to have 168 rooms
      ii. What financial losses are we okay with risking? Lisa suggests $30,000
         1. Chris supports that level, but acknowledges there might be unexpected costs.
         2. Devin supports operating at a slight loss, particularly the $30,000; Justin agrees with sentiment.
         3. Andy supports taking the risk regardless of financial loss.
         4. Les is concerned about having a congress based on current COVID rates – finances aside.
         5. Stephanie would like an in-person congress, but understands we can’t make the decision right now. She wonders if the largest cost risk (room obligations) could be shifted to the players in the case of lower attendance.
   
   6. Chris moves to authorize proceeding with Congress development, with the board to be notified if a loss of greater
than $35,000 is anticipated, to be confirmed before May 28th, 2022. Devin seconds. Unanimous approval.

iii. Cross talk about acceptable COVID rates – agreement that Omicron variant levels are unacceptable but acknowledgement that the COVID rates will look different in the summer (unpredictably so).
   1. Devin: The important part is to communicate the risks to our constituents, and then it’s their risk to take.
   2. Chris: I am willing to take health risks for myself, but ultimately it is whether the local organizers are willing to take these risks. [Devin agrees]
   3. Samantha: We’ll be asking about what the attendees think the health protection responsibilities of the AGA are.
   4. Eric: We’ll be discussing that later this month, but we believe we have local support. I’m excited to see what the survey tells us about what people want.
   5. Paul: We won’t feel pressured if the national organizers tell us to do it and we don’t want to, we assure you.

e. Parameters for policies related to in-person Congresses and COVID
   i. Eric: We will be asking the YMCA tomorrow about flexibilities like holding events or eating outside.
   ii. Lisa: The survey will tell us what precautions are acceptable to folks.
   iii. [Cross talk about the survey timing / data collections]

6. Adjournment
   a. Chris moves to adjourn, Devin seconds, unanimous, adjourned at 9:36 ET
## Appendix

### Board Meeting Schedule for 2021-2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Written Reports</th>
<th>This Year Supplemental Issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 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  
| 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     | Special COVID Meeting | 1 hour Zoom | COVID and US Go                             | 1. COVID guidelines  
2. (if needed) Decision regarding 2022 USGC |                                           |
| 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 |                                           |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Agenda Items</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 26</td>
<td>Summer Business Meeting</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>(presumed) Zoom</td>
<td>Annual housekeeping 1. AGA Annual Report 2. Election of President 3. Late-breaking issues</td>
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