# Board Meeting Minutes

American Go Association  
Meeting Date and Time: February 27 2022, 8:00 pm EDT/5:00 pm PD

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Overview

Summary
The board discussed whether to hold an in-person US Go Congress in 2022. After reviewing the results of the member survey, input from the local organizing team, and advice from the VP of Events, the board gave authorization to proceed with planning and registration for an in-person congress. Consequently, Lisa Scott resigned as VP of Events. Other topics discussed included routine reappointments and notification of vacancies, as well as status updates on ongoing projects.

In Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board</th>
<th>Officers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Scott (Chair, Central Region)</td>
<td>Andy Okun (President)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Devin Fraze (Central Region)</td>
<td>Samantha Fede (Secretary)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Kirschner (Western Region)</td>
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<td>Les Lanphear (Western Region)</td>
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<td>Stephanie Yin (Eastern Region)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dan Ritter (Eastern Region)</td>
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<td>Justin Teng (At-Large Member)</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Invited Guests</th>
<th>Observers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eric Wainwright (Congress Director)</td>
<td>Steve Colburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Barchilon</td>
<td>Terry Benson</td>
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</tbody>
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Notable Motions

1. The January, 2022 Minutes were approved unanimously.
2. The slate of reappointments were approved unanimously.
3. The board decided to go ahead with planning and opening registration for an in-person Congress, and asked the President to evaluate the feasibility of the Congress after one month. The motion carried with six yays and one nay.
4. Lisa Scott resigned as VP of Events as a result of the decision to hold an in-person Go Congress.
5. The board formed a committee to oversee the presidential selection process.
Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order
   Called to order at 8:04pm EST

2. Approval of Minutes
   a. Dan moves to approve January Meeting Minutes, Chris seconds, unanimous, January 2022 Meeting Minutes approved

   a. Summarized the open positions and positions that need to be filled as well as those due for reappointments
   b. Chris moves to approve slate of reappointments (see Appendix) (in AGA Positions and Descriptions (September 2021)), Dan seconds, reappointments approved unanimously.

4. President's Report
   a. Treasurer going well, has spent the week dealing with reappointments

5. Update on COVID and Congress
   a. Description of Situation: Congress directors are okay with moving ahead, VP of events is not. President is unsure but notes that the board will need to approve a larger potential loss.
   b. Summary of Survey: 402 responses, membership is supportive of either canceling or proceeding, but attendance is likely to be low
   c. Discussion:
      i. Paul expresses belief that Congress could be a fun and successful event that is safe due his belief that COVID will be endemic.
      ii. Chris mentions that the number of single rooms can be limited, and that additional screening measures could make doubles safe.
      iii. Lisa mentions that it’s important to realize that these measures would require additional volunteer hours but that we can’t compensate for those.
      iv. Eric mentions that there are outdoor activity options, and that there are 136 rooms, but there are no offsite options likely to be available and it will be a barebones option.
      v. Lisa reflects that everyone on the call loves the Go Congress but asks the board to consider the responsibility of the AGA and what everyone is hoping to achieve by having Congress this year.
      vi. Devin responds that he agrees but thinks we should think about it from what the membership wants and not from a paternalistic standpoint.
      vii. Dan mentions that he thinks the Go Congress is very important, and is very important to energize organizers and influencers within the AGA and in the US go community in general. The sense he gets from the local community is that the lack of in person play and events (particularly Go Congress) is draining and we should not cancel unless utterly necessary, particularly since it seems that organizers are willing.
      viii. Lisa: Although I take the point, most of the people who will come are the regulars, and COVID has honestly expanded go online. I think a hybrid
event that is designed to connect online players with local clubs will achieve a lot of this. I don’t think the high level of go enthusiasm is worth the risk when we can do other things like that.

ix. Dan: I agree that the hybrid event is a great idea, but I think both are necessary.

x. Lisa: We don’t have the bandwidth to do both.

xi. Chris: No one is suggesting both.

[Cross talk]

xii. Chris: I don’t think 200 is okay for attendance. I want to see 250 or 300. I agree with Paul that we need data to decide.

xiii. Lisa: We have data, we have the survey data.

xiv. Les: I support having a congress, things look good now, I don’t think we need to cancel yet, we can always do it later.

xv. Lisa: There’s opportunity cost- the cost of canceling on folks again, volunteer time, no time to plan an alternative event, and just burnout for our volunteers.

xvi. Justin: I support going ahead, and I think we have time to cancel before we need to make a final decision.

xvii. Chris: We need to decide earlier. But we could get the organizers to put the registration up now and then we can look at data in a month.

xviii. Eric: There’s some additional questions we need to figure out like the number of single rooms.

xix. Stephanie: I generally support going ahead.

xx. Chris: I move that we go ahead with Congress planning and re-evaluate after the initial push for registration. Les seconds.

[Before the vote, Paul prompts Lisa to discuss her position on going forward]

xxi. Lisa: I do not agree with this, I don’t think it’s possible to carry out this event in relative safety, in a way that is financially responsible and enjoyable, so I will be voting Nay and I will be resigning as VP of Events.

xxii. Paul: So please keep that in mind, Lisa is an amazing and key figure and she has made it possible to make these Congresses great for the last decade, and I will need more help from Board members, and organizers to make up for it.

xxiii. Chris echoes the need for understanding HR impacts.

xxiv. Les accuses Lisa of using this as a nuclear option.

xxv. Dan asks what all Lisa takes responsibility for regarding the Congress.

[Andy and others can’t fully describe it]

xxvi. Chris moves to amend motion to make continuation of congress contingent on HR availability. Les and Devin express an unwillingness to second the amendment. No other seconds.

xxvii. Terry: We need data to know if people will register, Lisa keeps saying the survey data says this, but I’m not clear.
xxviii. Samantha: I am a PhD-level social scientist and I do this professionally. At the direction of this group, I created this survey, conducted it, and analyzed it. I feel strongly that out of 400 responses, 50 folks will go. I see no reason why anything would be different.

xxix. Chris: That’s only 8% of the people who got the email. So that would be 500 people.

xxx. Samantha: There’s a response bias that is consistent with likelihood of attending. So while I’m sure some people are not captured, it’s likely to be half, maybe a quarter. So 100-200 max.

xxxi. Chris: That was during COVID Omicron spike.

xxxii. Les calls the question, Yea (Justin, Dan, Devin, Chris, Les, Stephanie) Nay (Lisa), no abstentions.

xxxiii. Lisa: As of tonight, I resign as VP of events.

xxxiv. General expression of support for Lisa and regret for her resignation.

xxxv. Chris motions to go into executive session to discuss personnel, Dan seconds. Unanimous. Executive officers were invited to stay.

6. Ongoing Business
   a. Chris reports that he is working with Karoline Li to develop a system to properly record and aid retrieval of policies.
   b. Public notification of complaints proposal (introduced 11/7)
   c. Lisa calls for folks to start on their 2021-2022 Annual Report portions for release by June (per the by-laws).

7. New Business
   a. No new business

8. Appointment of President
   a. Chris moves to go into executive session to discuss personnel, Dan seconds. Unanimous. Executive officers were invited to stay.
   b. Executive session left at 10:05 EDT
   c. A presidential search committee has been formed consisting of Dan, Justin, Chris and Stephanie.

9. Adjournment
   a. Adjourned at 10:06pm EST
Appendix

AGA Volunteer Appointments

Current Vacancies

- VP of Competition
- VP of Services
- VP of Events
- Policy and Governance Committee
- Pools Coordinator
- Tournament Coordinator
- Pair Go Officer
- International Tournaments Officer
- Domestic Tournaments Officer
- Chapter Outreach Officer
- Coordinator for Membership Services
- Officer for TD Training
- Officer for Teacher Training
- Curricula Officer
- Marketing Officer
- AGA Store Officer
- Social Media Officer
- Asst. Treasurer

Vacancies As of 9/1/2022

- President of the AGA (Election in Process)
- Secretary of the AGA
- EJournal Asst. Managing Editor
Roster of Reappointments

All persons listed below were reappointed unanimously.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Person</th>
<th>First Appointed</th>
<th>Most Recent Appointment Start Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive VP</td>
<td>Chris Kirschner</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>John Pinkerton</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>VP of Development</td>
<td>Stephanie Yin</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VP of Communications</td>
<td>Chris Garlock</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>VP of Operations</td>
<td>Nate Eagle</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>VP of International Affairs</td>
<td>Thomas Hsiang</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Diversity and Inclusion Committee</td>
<td>Julie Burrall (Chair)</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Code of Conduct Committee</td>
<td>Lisa Scott (Chair)</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rules Committee</td>
<td>Terry Benson (Chair)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Coordinator</td>
<td>Paul Barchilon and Justin Teng</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Championships and Major Tournaments Officer</td>
<td>Paul Ohmart, Chris Kirschner, Devin Fraze</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordinator for Chapter Services</td>
<td>Bob Gilman</td>
<td>2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter Rewards Officer</td>
<td>Bob Gilman</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordinator for Education Services</td>
<td>Dan Ritter</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Person Ratings Officer</td>
<td>Robert Qi</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rank Certification Officer</td>
<td>Jon Boley</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>EJournal Managing Editor</td>
<td>Chris Garlock</td>
<td>2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGA Discord Channel</td>
<td>Sirocco, Sathya, Eva-Dee</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broadcast Executive Producer</td>
<td>Stephen Hu</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broadcast Line Producers</td>
<td>Eva-Dee Beech, Jared Meadows</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elections Officer</td>
<td>Arnold Eudell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archivist</td>
<td>Karoline Li</td>
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<td>IGF Rep</td>
<td>Thomas Hsiang</td>
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<td>NAGF Rep</td>
<td>Andy Okun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deputy VP of International Affairs</td>
<td>Hajin Lee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Topics</td>
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| Sept. 19, 2021 | Fall Meeting             | 2 hours  | 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  | "Retreat"               | 3 hours  | 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   | COVID and US Go                                                        | 1. COVID guidelines  
2. (if needed) Decision regarding 2022 USGC |                                               |
| Feb. 27, 2022 | Winter Meeting           | 2 hours  | 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  | 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       | Summer Business Meeting  | 1 hour   | Annual housekeeping                                                   | 1. AGA Annual Report  
2. Election of President  
3. Late-breaking issues |                                               |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Agenda Items</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 5, 2022</td>
<td>Annual Board Meeting</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
<td>Estes Park, CO (Presumed) and</td>
<td>Updates to the Membership</td>
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<td>Zoom</td>
<td>1. Annual Financial Report</td>
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<td>2. Annual Report of the organization</td>
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<td>3. Report on Membership</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4. Minutes of Prior Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 6, 2022</td>
<td>Chapter General Assembly Meeting</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
<td>Estes Park, CO (Presumed) and</td>
<td>Updates to the Membership</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Zoom</td>
<td>1. Annual Financial Report</td>
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<td>2. Annual Report of the organization</td>
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<td>3. Chapter Membership and Rewards</td>
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<td>4. Prior Year’s Chapter Assembly Minutes</td>
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