

## AGA Minutes 1-17-16

Present Martin Lebl, Ted Terpstra, Bob Gilman, Gurujeet Khalsa, Andy Okun, Diego Pierrottet, Chris Kirschner, Edward Zhang, (and recorder Lee Anne Bowie)

Meeting called to order at 8:04 PM EST

President's Report:

Budget:

One change based on feedback: investment income was optimistic. We saved a lot of money accidentally as funds not yet invested during recent market downturn, but we expect to be invested soon.

Marketing and PR budget are reduced to be more in line with what we have been spending.

After 2014 Hotel Pennsylvania said the last bill was wrong in double room count. We received 316-page bill without organization, \$7500 more than anticipated. We asked why we should pay and never received an answer. We offered small amounts but were ignored. Andy agreed to send document from Hotel Penn to Audrey to go over it. Perhaps Hotel Penn never billed us for double rooms.

Discussion of partial funding for regional tournaments was tabled for future discussion.

5:24 pm Andrew Jackson joined meeting.

Bob moved to approve the budget; Ted seconded. No further discussion. Budget approved without opposition.

Discussion of national invitations and tournaments

IMSA Elite Mind Games in Huaian, China. Our team is Eric Lui 1p, Mingjiu Jiang 7p, Ryan Li 1p and Sarah Yu 6d.

Separate tournament for men and women, double elimination, on line playoffs.

Ing Pro playoff was among Yang Hui ren 1p, Feng Yun 9p, Eric Lui 1p and Andy Liu 1p.

No specifics on Mind Sports in Macao.

Congress:

Team in Boston a few weeks behind but going quickly now. Possible Changes: 1. New model for compensating paid teachers: offer pros recompense per session and let them spend their expenses as they will. Prior was to give them free room and board and let them teach. Gurujeet requested a spreadsheet delineating old way versus new way.

Congress at Boston University: Legal Dept at BU only wants minors staying overnight with legally appointed guardian. If kids stay in dorms, must be with parent or guardian and guardian must have MA state background check. Alternative is to stay off-campus, which still requires AGA temporary guardianship paper.

Open Masters: There is not a separate NA Masters tournament. Now that we have our own professionals, we would like to provide a North American tourney both for honored players and AGA pros. Andy is asking board go-ahead before seeking funding. Scheduling would be good to have at congress, but times are difficult. Many suggestions, such as two rounds on Thursday and two on Friday before Congress, and two on Saturday, two on Wednesday and one final on Friday. General consensus that we are willing to fund a North American Tourney.

Certificates: have not found all correct addresses but all should have certificates soon. Chris commented that the rank certification data should be ready to use by mid-February.

Other tournaments: Problem with the last Jujo tournament being rated should be straightened out before the next one.

Next meeting: March 6<sup>th</sup> at 8PM EST. Ted moved to adjourn; Bob seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 EST.