

Minutes: AGA Board Meeting, Sunday, 22 May 2005

Present: Roy Laird, Harold Lloyd, Jeff Shaevel, Allan Abramson, and Mike Lash

1. Approval of Minutes of 1 May Meeting

- O Minutes were approved by consensus of the Board.
- O Policy adopted that if no comments are received within one week on draft minutes, then the minutes will be considered approved.

2. President's report

O Budget discussion

- O Noted that the administration costs appeared to be too low
- O Also noted that Bill Cobb said that he did not need the \$500 earmarked for tournament development
- O Ing money
- O Mike said that he did not want to spend all of the budgeted Ing money, in advance of receipts
- O Allan responded noting that we have previously agreed to spend only the Ing cash-in-hand, as a conservative approach
- O Allan requested more details on publication costs, and AGA wages, per prior commitments to providing more detail
- O Allan and Roy noted that education is more properly the province of the AGF; Roy suggested that since the \$2500 budget item for education could be removed, this could help raise the line item for administrative expenses
- O Roy asked for more detail on the migrant program, and the Ing regional funds: what results from these programs?
- O Mike agreed to revise the budget per these comments, and to send a new version within two weeks

O Marketing

- O There was some confusion over whether the marketing funds were available now, or were just a budget item for next year
- O Allan clarified that the funds were in the 2004 budget
- O Mike then agreed to announce the availability of the funds; Roy and Allan agreed to assist Mike in reviewing the applications

O Assembly Agenda

- O Board members had not received Mike's email, so he will send it again

O 2004 Congress Finances

O Mike reported that Terry Benson has been making progress, and that a settlement negotiation with RIT was near

O Terry has devoted many hours to this problem, and clarified the issues

O Allan asked if Terry had accounted for all the expected income; Mike agreed to check with him on this point

O The Board was satisfied that Terry has been doing the AGA a great service in his investigation

O Mike Bull joined the meeting at this point

3. Old Business

a. Approach to Board decisions: informal consensus or formal voting?

Decision on approach

O The Board confirmed that the decision made at the last meeting was fine: informal consensus would be the equivalent of a formal vote of the Board, unless someone requests a vote

b. Financial support for Go Camps - Policy discussion

O The AGA budget for the camps generally has not been needed; serves as back-stop for the camps

O Roy suggested that camp money be moved to the Ing budget; Mike Lash agreed

c. Ing funding for Congress participants

O Funding of \$11,000 for youth scholarships previously agreed to, is ok for now

O Board noted that the door was open to further requests, if needed

d. AGA membership categories: continue discussion; consider President's paper

O Mike Lash noted that most people who had contacted him, wanted to retain the youth fee of \$10, although an increase to \$12 probably would be ok

O Roy noted that historically, raising the full dues had proved to be easier than changing the youth membership fee

O Allan said that he had read support for consolidating membership categories in many of the comments received

O Mike Bull then suggested consolidating into two categories: youth at \$10, and full members at \$30

O Allan recommended also changing foreign membership to \$30, too, for equity

O Mike agreed to draft a proposal consistent with this discussion, for broad membership review and discussion on the internet

e. Yuan: proposal to merge US Open and Ing, and expand to ten rounds: discussion

O Held over to next meeting; Allan to contact Yuan in the interim

5. New Business:

a. Need for more volunteers: consider open "job fair" for volunteers at the Congress?

O Board agreed to hold the "job fair" at the Congress

b. Thomas Hsiang's email on participation in international organization promoting GO for the next Olympics

O The Board agreed to providing the requested one-time participation fee of \$5000, joining both the EGF and Asian associations in pledging funds

O Funds most likely not needed until next year

c. Invitation to Li Ang, 3P, by Micah Feldman, to visit from China for some months

O Micah had communicated with Allan that the INS wanted an invitation letter from an organization, not an individual

O Micah would assume responsibility for Li Ang, as well as ensure that he would travel to clubs for teaching

O Board agreed by consensus that Allan was authorized to send an appropriate letter for the immigration authorities

6. Open discussion: NONE

7. Adjourn: At 8:30 PM EDT

CLOSED SESSION WAS HELD ON PERSONNEL ISSUES