

MINUTES OF THE AGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sunday, March 26 2006, 7 PM, EST

Attending: Mike Bull, Willard Haynes, Bob Barber, Roy Laird, Allan Abramson, Mike Lash

Not attending: Jeff Shaevel, Yuan Zhou

1. President's report

a. First discussion of draft budget

O Bob – Is a net income of \$1600 "normal" ? => Mike – Yes, normally about in balance

O Allan – Travel allowance seems too low, with more international travel happening?

=> Mike – Will add the \$1600, to make the total \$2600

O Roy – On the new proposals for reserves, in the past we chose not to fund workshops, since these pay for themselves: restrict the funding to new areas/clubs, as seed money?

- General agreement with this approach

O Mike - \$4000 in Ing money was moved into education support

O Mike B – The regional pot is too small – For example, Jujo's youth tournament alone should be at \$1000

O Allan – No identification of marketing allotment anywhere? Identify this as carryover?

O Mike – Will identify this as \$10,000 in reserves, plus any carryover

O Mike – Will rework the numbers in the next 30 days, and send as a final proposal

a. Other items from President

1. Memorial policy (Mike draft for discussion)

O Revision now includes language on spending AGA funds for memorials

O Several Board members had not seen the latest revision, so Mike agreed to send it for comments within one week (comments to Roy, Mike and Allan); if no major comments, it will be posted as approved Board policy

O Mike followed up with Roy Laird on web site posting: this now will be done

2. Tournament software

O Mike followed up with the Asian associations, but no firm responses yet

O Roy – European software should be checked into, too

O Mike B – Northern California's software could be checked, too

O Reviewers will include: Chuck Robbins, Mike Bull, Allan, Dan Chao, Ray Hunley and Jon Boley

O Mike B – How about setting up a pairing server? => Mike – Will put this onto the list for future consideration

3. Rating system backup: Noted in President's monthly report = easy to back up to CD's and now routinely backed up among three people = no problem

4. Archive storage status: Noted in President's monthly report = he is arranging for local commercial storage
5. Any other items from President: None
2. Old Business
 - a. Pro policy discussion, continued
 - Allan spoke recently with Harold, who agreed to continue working on an options paper = this is good news
 - b. Initial discussion of IT issues (Jeff)
 - Jeff was absent, so this item was carried over to the next meeting
3. New Business
 - a. Status of marketing ideas (Allan)
 - Allan – Would like to start with a pilot advertising program for a specific target audience: prefer chess or anime as targets? => Board unanimous for anime audience
 - Board recommended that Allan work with Roy, who has VIZ contacts, and with Joel Sanet, who previously had worked this issue: agreed
 - b. Status of 2005 Assembly minutes (Mike L)
 - Assembly minutes are about ready to distribute
 - Roy – They need better formatting
 - Mike B – Will send in some comments
 - c. Congress sponsorship
 - This item is subject to discussion and follow up among the Congress Directors and others, and should be resolved soon
 - d. Limited membership voting issue: final discussion
 - Mike B – Added his voice endorsing voting for limited members to the Board majority
 - Willard – Still would like consideration of eliminating this category entirely: just members, with two dues levels: regular and youth => Agreed to consider this; suggestion was to go in two steps: voting first, then consideration of elimination next year – Plan is to set this up for Assembly as two separate issues
 - Dues discussion
 - Mike B – Reduce the amount, and have one price for everyone?
 - Willard – Keep it at \$30, but if you renew through your club, make it \$25?
 - Will put the dues discussion onto the next Board agenda
 - e. Tournament invitation from North Korea
 - Mike sent out more information on State Department requirements
 - f. Status of Board priorities

O Status of action by board members on recruitment of executive positions: no progress

O Status of action by board members on fundraising activities: no progress

4. Open discussion: None

5. Adjournment: Moved by Willard, seconded by Roy, approved by voice vote.