

AGA Board meeting 8/15/06, US Go Congress

Present: Mike Lash, Roy Laird, Jeff Shaevel, Willard Haynes, Paul Celmer, Bob Barber, Gordon Castanza, Barbara Burrall (minutes)

Observers: Larry Gross, Kevin Purvis, Cynthia Gaty, Terry Benson, Mike Malveaux, Chris Kirschner

New board members elected:

Roy Schmidt (Central)

Gordon Castanza (West)

Chuck Robbins (East)

Approval of minutes: Sunday, July 9, 2006

Bob Barber approves, Jeff Shaevel seconded, all agreed

President's Report

Archives: Mike Lash stated that seventy boxes of archives and memorabilia were sent to and picked up by David Doshay, the new AGA archivist. There is additional material in possession of Craig Hutchinson that may be shipped after his death to the archives. Barber: Other archival material was reportedly in possession of Princeton at some point. Spoke to Paul Matthews from Princeton, and he does not think the Princeton library had any go materials, but it isn't clear if the materials are boxed and not on shelves (Karl Davis Robinson collection). David Doshay will contact the Princeton librarian to see what is in storage somewhere.

Lash asked David Doshay for an overview of what is presently in the archives received from Hutchinson in 6 months.

Shaevel: Recommended for Doshay to hold on to all old books or historical materials in the collection.

Ing Funds:

Lash: AGA no longer receiving an annual grant. We will submit individual grant applications for tournaments, youth programs, etc. Submit all requests through Ernest Brown from American Ing Goe. We received no funds this or last year before the Congress. Several proposals were recently submitted. Mike Bull reported on Sunday of Congress week that the AGA will get \$51,000 from ING, possibly for activities requested for this year. We need a breakdown of what activities are meant to be funded by this donation. Possible programs meant to be funded:

1. \$12,000 NAMT
2. \$12,000 ING

3. \$17,000 Congress youth scholarships
4. \$5,000 Redmond Cup
5. \$5,000 balance unaccounted for.

Haynes: Since money has been allocated by the AGA for some of these activities for this year, the Ing funds meant for these activities should be saved and put to this use for next year to assure their continued funding.

When the Ing funding comes, we must insist that detail be provided concerning what activities are being funded.

Ing and Masters: Ing Foundation has suggested informally that these be combined into one tournament. Shaevel: The separation between pro and am has been obscured and mixed in some ways. Therefore, it seems reasonable to do this. Most strong players agree with this.

Congress surplus:

Discussed policy to encourage chapters that host the congress to use the money over a period of time (not just sit in account). If unused, a small amount will go back to AGA. Therefore, there will be an incentive to spend the money to promote Go. Most are beginning to do this. Malveaux asked if chapters have to use it all up in one year. Lash said no, we are just trying to encourage chapters to put their funds to use. It may only be 5-10 chapters that have this money at any one time. This will be researched and discussed next meeting.

Tabled until next meeting.

Empty Sky: Board had approved \$3,000 for them to use. They were not aware of this! Lash encouraged the chapter members to find useful ways to use it.

Analysis of equipment expenses:

AGF Board Chairman presented a proposed financial analysis of AGA and AGF expenditures on equipment. He stated that AGF and AGA responsibility for expenditures has often been often confused, because both entities use the same warehouse and shipping service, and have on occasion shared the purchase of items to be distributed. Equipment was often sent out when requested without inventory accounting. After 2003 the shipper began to catalog this. Benson began a spread sheet from Aug, 2003.

AGA was paying all shipping costs in past and this was not fair. AGF equipment was often going to AGA chapters (thought about \$10-\$15K range). Taking into account additional factors, it now looks like the \$5,000-7500 range is about what AGA may owe AGF for this.

Way to Go: some chapters have taken large numbers: some expense has been due to over-use by chapters. Demo Boards, Ing boards: We need to know where all these are and if they are being used appropriately, or should be requested to be returned.

Lash: Current equipment policy is in place. AGA is now out of the equipment business. AGF deals with beginning teaching equipment. Now we must just clean up the past business. Terry Benson will prepare a detailed summary for Mike Lash to bring to the Board.

Ken Koester's Tournament Director's Guide:

Copyright Ken Koester. AGA wants to acquire 100 percent of his rights to his document referred to as AGA's **Tournament Director's Guide**. Koester agreed to consider this. Lash asked Koester to make an offer. He asked for a life membership. He also wants attribution as the author in future editions. Lash is making the contract. There may be subsequent authors making additional contributions and these will be added when appropriate.

Castanza: Do we know that he actually owns the copyright?

Laird: The actual copyright is in question. However, having this contract will allow for a settlement in an amicable way. Revised in 2003, and appears current. There is much good material in this.

Kirschner: Does have anecdotal material and admixture between regulatory and advisory material. We need to clearly identify the regulatory material as separate. Kirschner feels that there should be two documents. The anecdotal approach is no longer appropriate. Rewriting is needed in considerable volume. However, the inclusiveness of the document is such and so helpful that it is worth the small cost of life membership.

Shaevel: May need to identify a committee to work on this plan.

Lash: Koester's offer was accepted for submission to the Board. When the contracting is done the current document will be made available and such a committee can then work from there.

Haynes: Moves to accept the proposal: All agreed.

Redmond and National Youth Tournaments:

This is the last year that this will be the way the World Youth representative will be chosen. Both Michael and None Redmond accept this. There will be a new National Youth Championship Tournament program. This will be supported by a series of live qualifier youth tournaments. Players must pay their own way to these tournaments. Qualifiers will be between Jan and April. Top 2 seniors and top 2 juniors will go to one venue in spring for the finals. Full compensation intended for finalists to attend the finals. Finals may be done during Memorial Day Weekend. Unclear at this point where money will come from. A grant from ING was requested for \$15,000. Must be a citizen to enter this tournament..

Winners of qualifiers will get some contribution to attend a Go camp the following summer.

AGF may be able to fund that contribution.

AGA will continue to support the Redmond Cup in principle. None Redmond asked Mike Lash if the AGA will continue to fund. She gave Lash a budget as follows:

1. 4 finalists to congress: air fare up to \$400 each: (\$1600)
2. Full comp: \$ 6-700 each: (\$2800)
3. Prize money: AGF supplies this
4. Ing Redmond (players up to age 30, 5dan and up): winner goes to Ing cup: prize money: \$1000

Total \$5000-5500 budget

Play begins after Jan 1. Request to Ing submitted for \$5,000 to fund this event

Laird: Not an appropriate use of AGA member dollars or reserve funds, but we will try to get Ing. We support them using the congress as a venue for the finals. It generates more excitement when played here. There are possibly other options for funding.

Board agrees that AGA membership dollars and reserves should not be used, but sponsorship or other funding sources may be appropriate and can be pursued.

International Representatives:

Tabled until next month

Certification of amateur players:

Kirschner: Active proposal is in the works. "Ready to float, but not to fly."

Board policies on public access to corporate records:

Lash: Unfounded allegations have appeared on rec.games.go. There is no official policy on this currently. No expectation of privacy as with corporations. Allegations/requests for information must be specific.

Haynes: Board meetings: Chess orgs: audio and video tapes are available upon demand for the cost of producing them.

Suggests that for financial records there be a policy.

Lash: Records should be available to any member requesting these. There has never been an audit of these and it is requested that there should be for the AGA's and board member protection. An informal audit has affirmed appropriate money use, but this is just informal. Finance committee will be involved and it would be best to find a member to do this pro-bono. Ben Bernstein may have ideas concerning this.

Nakayama award:

This has been done to recognize his significant contribution. Shaevel created the treasure chest award for this year. May not be annual, but occasional. Should not skip next year.

Lash: Qualifications for the award must be further defined. Generally, the award will be given for long term contribution to Congresses, specifically.

Tournament software:

Chris Sira says that he is in the process of rewriting Chuck Robbins' WinTD program. He expects it to be completed by next month. Lash will ask him to provide more details about access/compatibility.

Laird: Go Draw is available in Europe and we may not need to keep waiting for someone to actually complete such an update. This program can be adapted for AGA tournament use. Kevin Purvis is working with a volunteer on this adaptation.

Lash: Chinese Go Assoc has sent an entirely Chinese version which will be difficult for us to use.

Shaevell: He also plans to work on a proposal to define such a program/plan in October.

New Business:

None

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. All agree.

Sunday, Sept 17, 2006, 7PM, will be the next meeting.

-- submitted by Barbara Burrall