

## **Minutes of the 1999 AGA National Assembly**

### ***Present:***

Roy Laird	President
Cen-dao Lin	Eastern VP, IGF Representative
Larry Gross	Western VP
Jeff Shaevel	Central VP
Sam Zimmerman	Database Manager
John Goon	Membership Secretary
None Redmond	Education Coordinator
Bill Cobb	NOVA Go Club
Susan Weir	Ann Arbor Go Club
Stu Horowitz	Mile High Go Club
Haskell Small	Greater Washington Go Club
Ken Koester	Greater Washington Go Club
Terry Benson	President, American Go Foundation
Willard Draisin	Santa Fe Go Club
Jason Taff	Santa Fe Go Club
Chris Garlock	Editor, The American Go Journal
Craig Hutchison	AGA Archivist
Chris Kirschner	AGA Congress Liaison Officer
Chuck Robbins	Lancaster Go Club
Harold Lloyd	Cleveland Go Club
Duane Burns	Cleveland Go Club
William Gundberg	Arizona Go Club
Willard Haynes	Davis/Sacramento Go Club
Tom Taylor	Mustang Go Club
Bob Barber	No Exit Go Club
Dave Weimer	Rochester Go Club
Mike Peng	Houston Go Club

### **THE MINUTES OF THE 1998 MEETING WERE APPROVED.**

### ***OFFICERS' REPORTS:***

Roy Laird: Many new projects are underway besides the usual support for tournaments, etc., especially in the area of teaching, including new publications. There are 76 children at this year's Congress. However, membership is not increasing adequately.

Ulo Tamm: Our financial condition is good; we are spending at the right rate. There needs to be more regional spending of the Ing Funds. The Ing Funds are critical for many current activities; AGA income is basically flat. Roy: We need ideas for using our reserve funds.

Susan Weir: There were 33 kids at the 1999 Summer Camp, and we expect more next year. We are moving toward making the camp self-sustaining.

John Goon: We would like to see better membership growth. It has been basically flat this year. However, since 1995 there has been about a 6% annual increase. We need to focus more on outreach. Use the chapter list.

Sam Zimmerman: Clubs need to inform me of who is a member-just playing in a local tournament does not establish club membership.

Jeff Shavel: We are working on expanding, cleaning up, and improving the web page. You can now renew your membership on the web. We are creating a data base that can be instantly updated. Perhaps a membership data base on the web would be useful. We get 1500 hits per week from new people. This increase results from our links with Yahoo and the Game Zone. Perhaps there should be sections of the web site available by subscription or to members only, with books, reviews, professional stuff, etc.

Chris Garlock: The next issue (Summer) will be out in late September or early October, and the Fall issue will be out by the end of the year. So, there will be four issues this year. We have new features-more games, design changes. The great team effort by many people is much appreciated.

None Redmond: Ask teachers to be in touch with me. We want to develop more camps for kids, perhaps on both the east and west coasts, and we need to know who might be interested in running them. Also, please be in touch about the Teacher of the Year Award. We need more information about what is happening.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Stu Horowitz: We propose to have the Congress at Denver University in Denver, Colorado next year from August 5th to the 13th. We can have about eight rooms plus a large ballroom for the main playing area. There is plenty of dormitory space, though perhaps not as many singles as people would like.

### ***THIS OFFER WAS ACCEPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.***

Haskell Small: We are interested in having the Congress in the D.C. area in 2001. Ken Koester: Since D.C. had the first one in the present century, it seems appropriate for us to have the first one in the next century.

Jeff Shavel: We are also interested in having a Congress in Austin, Texas, in 2001 or later.

Sam Zimmerman: How about a mid-winter event? Hawaii, ski country, a cruise ship?

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Terry Benson: Regarding pairing systems, not enough information about members' opinions has been obtained yet, but preliminary results suggest that most people favor the present system for pairing the Open. I will continue to seek opinions, especially regarding mixing of bands. The biggest problem we have is the size of the 6 dan group, but everyone agrees an accelerated system would be much worse than what we have.

Williard Draisin: St. John's College loved us: we didn't trash the dorms. We used part of the profits to fund a workshop with Janice Kim and hope to have another one.

Sam Zimmerman: Sponsoring kids for summer camp is a great use of Congress profit funds.

## **FINAL REMARKS:**

Roy Laird: "This has been a challenging venue." The local team has been creative and maintained a positive attitude in difficult circumstances and deserves a lot of credit.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9 PM.