

General Assembly Meeting 2014

Attendees

Les Lanphear	San Diego	3	
James Sedgewick	None (CGA)	0	
Mohan Sue	NoVa	5	
Terri Schurter	Winds Across Calm Water	1	
Matthew Herschberger (2015 Congress Director)	Gotham Go Group	4	
Andy Okun (AGA President)	Santa Monica Go Club, Prez	4	
Terry Benson (AGF President)	Brooklyn	3	
Lloyd	Cleveland Go Club	2	
Chris Kirschner (AGA Board, VP of Planning)	Seattle Go Center	11	
Paul Wright	None	0	
Gurujeet Khalsa (AGA Chairman of the Board)	XYZ Go Club	3	
Edward Zhang (AGA Board)	Capital Go Club	1	
Josh Larson	Twin Cities Go Club	5	
Lisa Scott (Volunteer Coordinator)	None, Baltimore proxy		3
Paul Barchilon (Youth Coordinator, AGF Board)	Boulder Kids and Teens	<u>3</u>	
		48	

164 total votes, 41 needed for quorum

Call to Order: Andy Okun 3:39pm EDT

1. Approval of 2013 Minutes
 - a. Small changes (spelling, titles) suggested and made
 - b. Khalsa moves to approve, Kirschner seconds. Unanimous approval.**
2. Board Report
 - a. Progress being made on moving the AGA online, especially through Bob Gilman and the AGA room on KGS. Moving closer to the possibility of online rated games
 - b. Professionals and strong players expressed interested in a longer tournament with better prizes. This would also support the new pros with tournaments more similar to international tournaments. This resulted in the current 9-game Open and NAMT format at the Congress. AGA put \$10,000 into the prize fund for the tournaments to have better prizes.
 - c. Will be de-briefing Karoline Li on all of her work as Tournament Coordinator, and possibly streamlining the system.
 - d. Agreement with Nihon Ki-in that was announced last year is resulting in closer relations.
 - e. Board will be looking into a Rewards Program that will support chapters along the lines of airline miles for promoting go or doing other desired activities. Clubs could then redeem the points for additional services.

3. President's Report

- a. Ted Terpstra, current Executive Vice President, just elected to the Board of Directors, and Bob Gilman, current Central Region Board Member, will be stepping into the role of Executive Vice President.
- b. Susanna Pfeffer taking over as Pair Go Coordinator from outgoing coordinator Rachel Small.
- c. Paul Wright is the new Education Coordinator, a new post conceived in part by Chris Kirschner, to make a more systematic policy effort.
 - i. Paul explains that this position is designed to continue our new efforts and to help start school programs and bring go into schools. This will be done in coordination with the AGF.
- d. AGA is financially very healthy. This year we ran a large surplus through budgeting for a number of programs on which money was not spent. The board is preparing to consider amending the budget as new items worthy of spending are located.
 - i. Large surplus from 2013 Congress.
 - ii. Income from Membership was steady.
 - iii. Will be looking for ways to spend the organization's money on services that benefit the members and chapters.
 - iv. Explanation and discussion of details of financial report.
 - v. Barchilon questions the amounts listed for spending on youth in lines 60512 and 60513. Okun clarifies that this was the amount spent at the 2013 Congress, not for the 2014 Congress, and that the AGA treasurer very carefully accounts on a cash basis.
 - vi. There is a discussion of how the reserves should be spent and managed in a way that is fiscally responsible both in returning services to members and chapters, and in keeping necessary reserves.
 - vii. Lloyd and Wright both believe that the AGA should be building up a managed reserve, not just spending it or saving it.
- e. Have coordinated for free venue for Cotsen and Pandanet renewal
- f. Membership total is slightly lower; 2013 was a little under 2200, 2014 is a little over 2100. It should be noted that deceased life members are included in this count for lack of a mechanism for removal.
- g. Iwamoto North American Foundation is set to convene for the first time at the Pair Go Championship in Japan in November. The foundation is over \$2 million, may be closer to \$2.5 million. The foundation is set up to support go in North America. 6 members: AGA President, Thomas Hsiang and Dave Weimer are AGA designates; Chairman, CEO, and Vice-Chairman of Nihon Ki-in **??NAMES??**.
- h. Regulations
 - i. Steve Burrall, Karoline Li, and Chris Kirschner have updated tournament regulations, as discussed at a meeting on 8-16-14. Minor changes that

need greater consideration were noted, and changes will be made and implemented before the next congress.

- i. AGA Rankings
 - i. Jan Boley is working on analyzing math and creating programming necessary to regularly distribute rank certificates.
 - j. International
 - i. Increase in number of tournaments to which we are invited. Some of the older tournaments, especially in Japan, have been cancelled, but others have taken their place.
 - ii. World Mind Sports Games will not be in Brazil. The first choice currently is Baku, Azerbaijan.
 - iii. A team went to the PCK Cup in China this year. We won the cultural competition.
 - iv. Second Samsung Amateur Prelim; 4 Europeans, 3 Americans, 1 South American. Our Michael Chen won it.
 - k. Thoughts on having the congress in a hotel.
 - i. Generally positive, although different stipulations for the hotel are mentioned. Key are the availability of food options of all price-ranges and transportation.
 - ii. Being in a hotel would make possible more center-city congress sites.
 - l. Upcoming Congresses
 - i. 2015: St. Paul, MN
 - ii. 2016: Potentially Boston or Toronto
 - iii. 2017: Potentially West Coast, possibly California (not Seattle)
 - iv. 2018: Potentially Toronto
 - m. Presentation of 2015 Congress in St. Paul, MN.
 - i. Presentation is well-received.
 - ii. Benson moves to accept, Lloyd moves to accept. All in favor except 2015 Congress Director.
4. Meeting Adjourned 5:08 pm EDT.