

## AGA Board Meeting Minutes 07/19/2019

### **In Attendance:**

Andy Okun (AGA president)  
Samantha Fede (AGA secretary)  
Martin Lebl (chair)  
Chris Kirschner (board member)  
Devin Frazee (incoming board member)  
Hajin Lee  
Terri Shurter  
Steve Zilber  
Lisa Scott (board member)  
Nick Prince (CGA vice president)  
Steve Colburn (board member)  
Stephen Hu  
Paul Celmer (board member)  
Gurujeet Khalsa (board member)  
Dan Ritter (incoming board member)  
Ted Terpstra  
Andrew Jackson (AGA EVP, remote)  
Terry Benson (AGF President)

### **Absent:**

Chris Saenz (board member)

Called to order at 1:15pm CDT

### **1. June minutes:**

Gurujeet moves to approve minutes, Lisa seconds, unanimous. June 2019 minutes approved.

Welcome incoming board members and thank outgoing board members for service.

### **2. President's report:** (see separate attachment)

Paul Celmer: Are our relationships with our sponsors good?

Andy Okun: Yes, they continue to be good partners.

Stephen Hu: Our twitch broadcasting hit a peak this Go Congress year of 9.3k views, we have approx. 2.2 million total views.

Andy Okun: We need good projects to fund, we are looking for ideas, we have money we can spend.

Terry Benson: Both the AGA and the AGF have a fair reserve in the bank, so we're well prepared even if there's a problem.

Lisa Scott: [Regarding congress escrow funds] since 2003, hos chapters get the money and have access to that fund over time. If you don't touch the funds for 5 years, then the money reverts. We contact the organizers annually to let them know the status of their account.

Andy Okun: We are also spending more for the chapter rewards program.

Terry Benson: We also have a bit of leftover money from previous (before 2003) congresses.

Terry Benson: We try to send our pros to latin american tournaments, it's our way of giving back, but it's hard to get players to go. We're paying airfare, and a stipend (\$500), and local groups are paying the local expenses. But the timing just hasn't been working for a lot of people.

Steve Colburn: Any thoughts on changing Masters eligibility other than just being open? To encourage greater attendance.

[James Sedwick (CGA president) joins]

Terry Benson: What eligibility are you thinking for the North American Championships?

Andy Okun: TBD. We will be seeking sponsorship for this.

Andy Okun: We've been discussing the possibility of having a North American Go Federation (with CGA)

[Lee Schumaker joins]

Terry Benson: What about Mexico?

Andy Okun: It might be awkward for them to be part of two federations. There are also some other central american countries that could be potential members.

Steve Colburn: Questions about the pro system come up all the time. We need more publicly available information.

Lisa Scott: We will have a very basic website for the next congress by the end of this meeting. The directors for next year are present. We have a strong statement of interest from Cleveland (Steve Zilber) for 2021. Maybe going forward we should have competition for congresses a few years out.

Andy Okun: I'm also looking at an experiment because we're a large regular event, we could ask whether there are cities (tourism bureaus) that could provide us incentives. I'm considering sending Lisa Scott (congress coordinator) to the SportAccord convention in November, where it's set up to introduce sports to venues.

Andy Okun: One thing to discuss is to have a conversation about where we can revive big tournaments that have a lot of people, like Cotsen (or previously Oza).

Andy Okun: I am proposing that the board meet fewer times per year than it does currently, with more robust reports from the president and supporting documentation provided by the executive for each meeting. The current proposal is for five meetings per year, including Congress.

Lisa Scott: When do we do reappointment of officers?

Andy Okun: March maybe? Or Congress.

Discuss dates for future meetings:

September 8th, 2019 at 8pm EDT

November 17th, 2019 at 8pm EST

Feb 23rd, 2020 at 8pm EST

May 17th, 2020 at 8pm EDT

August 7th, 2020 at 3pm EDT (1pm MDT, local Congress time)

Steve Colburn: Our organizational calendar for congress meetings worked really well this year so we will probably stick with it for next year

Steve Colburn: I've felt like we were pretty driftless these last couple of years. Can we define long term goals?

Andy Okun: I think this new structure will make our meetings more productive. We did have retreats and such in past years.

### **3. QA from visitors.**

Hajin: What's the formal process for moving NAGF forward?

Chris Kirschner: The board would like to see some documents.

Steve Colburn: We do have a reciprocity agreement on the organizational page.

Terry Benson: You haven't said much about teachers. If we need to do more, it's to get more teachers into more places.

Dan Ritter: We've been working on teacher compensation to get people into schools.

Terry Benson: There are things like risk management and fingerprinting needed for this.

Andy Okun: I think the bigger barrier is that process.

Dan Ritter: What are the next steps for moving this forward?

Andy Okun: Write up a proposal and plan, and bring it to me and the board.

Terry Benson: Do we need to consider teacher qualifications? We probably have a lot of enthusiastic people, but do they have the expertise?

Andy Okun: We do have a teacher certification process, this seems like a great extension.

Lisa Scott: And we could encourage more girls and women to teach and keep that population involved; women and girls have participated in teacher training at Congress.

James Sedwick: Do we have a standard curriculum or syllabus?

Chris Kirschner: It's not that it doesn't exist-- it's on the AGF website (etc).

Andy Okun: It could be useful to have a standardized form to show a certification and standard teaching curriculum to have more access to schools.

Terry Benson: I strongly suggest you give people a card to show their certification?

Andy Okun: Do we need to do risk management?

Terry Benson: I think so. It's not too expensive (\$15/20 a year), but the standards differ slightly by school. You can find out what they do for sports.

Chris Kirschner: Are you suggesting we take responsibility for this risk management?

Andy Okun: No, but I think it's good to run the names through risk management at the start.

Ted Terpstra: I threw a tournament in southern california,

Move to executive session at 2:35 pm CDT; Lisa moved, Steve seconded.

Motion to leave executive session at 2:56 pm CDT; Steve moved, Paul seconded.

Lisa Scott is elected Chairperson with a term beginning September 1, 2019.

Motion to adjourn at 2:57pm CDT; Gurujeet moved, Steve seconded.