

Board Meeting Minutes

American Go Association

Meeting Date and Time: January 9, 2022, 8:00 pm EDT/5:00 pm PDT

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Overview

Summary

This meeting of the AGA Board had as its main topic of discussion developments of the COVID pandemic and their effects on go, particularly the US Go Congress. The Board authorized proceeding with the development of an in-person US Go Congress, and authorized a deficit of up to \$35,000.

In Attendance

Current Board

Lisa Scott (Chair, Central Region)
Devin Frazee (Central Region)
Chris Kirschner (Western Region)
Les Lanphear (Western Region)
Stephanie Yin (Eastern Region)
Justin Teng (At-Large Member)

Executive Officers

Andy Okun (President)
Samantha Fede (Secretary)
John Pinkerton (Acting Treasurer)

Congress Representatives

Eric Wainwright (Estes Park
Congress Director)
Steve Zilber (Cleveland Congress
Director)
Paul Barchilon (Youth Coordinator,
Estes Park Congress Deputy
Director)

Guests

Steve Colburn

Notable Motions

1. The Board authorized proceeding with Congress development, with the board to be notified if a loss of greater than \$35,000 is anticipated, to be confirmed before May 28th, 2022.

Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order

- a. Meeting called to order at 8:03pm EST.

2. Notice of Actions Taken

- a. John Pinkerton was unanimously appointed as Treasurer on December 17, 2021. His official term begins 90 days later, on March 17, 2022.
- b. John Pinkerton was unanimously appointed as Acting Treasurer on December 17, 2021, with his term as acting Treasurer to last until March 17, 2022.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. November Meeting Minutes- Chris motions to approve pending 48 hrs to suggest changes, Devin seconds. Unanimous approval.

4. COVID recommendations (other than Go Congress)

- a. Lisa acknowledges Chris's work maintaining/updating COVID recommendations on the AGA website.
- b. Summary of recent recommendation to postpone in-person tournaments / approach club meetings appropriately given local conditions for the month of January based on the Omicron variant spike.

5. COVID and Go Congress

- a. A final decision will be pending based on data collected in a survey (developed by Samantha & Lisa).
- b. Lisa's goal for the meeting: Parameters for a decision regarding the 2022 USGC-thresholds in terms of COVID or finances
- c. Important dates:
 - i. 1/28- can cancel up to 20% of rooms for a reduced fee
 - ii. 5/28- can cancel the entire event (will lose deposit of \$30,000 – funds from 2020 deposit carried forward)
- d. Break-even point versus losing deposit – 250 minimum attendance (given a 20% room reduction)
 - i. Currently we're obligated to have 168 rooms
 - ii. What financial losses are we okay with risking? Lisa suggests \$30,000
 1. Chris supports that level, but acknowledges there might be unexpected costs.
 2. Devin supports operating at a slight loss, particularly the \$30,000; Justin agrees with sentiment.
 3. Andy supports taking the risk regardless of financial loss.
 4. Les is concerned about having a congress based on current COVID rates – finances aside.
 5. Stephanie would like an in-person congress, but understands we can't make the decision right now. She wonders if the largest cost risk (room obligations) could be shifted to the players in the case of lower attendance.

6. Chris moves to authorize proceeding with Congress development, with the board to be notified if a loss of greater

than \$35,000 is anticipated, to be confirmed before May 28th, 2022. Devin seconds. Unanimous approval.

- iii. Cross talk about acceptable COVID rates – agreement that Omicron variant levels are unacceptable but acknowledgement that the COVID rates will look different in the summer (unpredictably so).
 - 1. Devin: The important part is to communicate the risks to our constituents, and then it's their risk to take.
 - 2. Chris: I am willing to take health risks for myself, but ultimately it is whether the local organizers are willing to take these risks. [Devin agrees]
 - 3. Samantha: We'll be asking about what the attendees think the health protection responsibilities of the AGA are.
 - 4. Eric: We'll be discussing that later this month, but we believe we have local support. I'm excited to see what the survey tells us about what people want.
 - 5. Paul: We won't feel pressured if the national organizers tell us to do it and we don't want to, we assure you.
- e. Parameters for policies related to in-person Congresses and COVID
 - i. Eric: We will be asking the YMCA tomorrow about flexibilities like holding events or eating outside.
 - ii. Lisa: The survey will tell us what precautions are acceptable to folks.
 - iii. [Cross talk about the survey timing / data collections]

6. Adjournment

- a. Chris moves to adjourn, Devin seconds, unanimous, adjourned at 9:36 ET

Appendix

Board Meeting Schedule for 2021-2022

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Written Reports</u>	<u>This Year Supplemental Issues</u>
Sept. 19, 2021	Fall Meeting	2 hours Zoom	Tournaments, Games, Rules, Ranks and Ratings	1. Annual Tournament Calendar 2. Report on Games and Tournaments Played 3. Report on Pro Play 4. Minutes of Prior Meeting	1.
Nov. 7, 2021	Strategy "Retreat"	3 hours Zoom	Long view of the organization	1. Strategy Memo 2. Strategic Plan Update 3. Minutes of Prior Meeting	
Jan. 9, 2022	Special COVID Meeting	1 hour Zoom	COVID and US Go	1. COVID guidelines 2. (if needed) Decision regarding 2022 USGC	
Feb. 27, 2022	Winter Meeting	2 hours Zoom	Admin, Communications, Congress, Staff, Education	1. Roster of Positions and Staff 2. Reappointments List 3. Minutes of Prior Meeting	
May 1, 2022	Spring Meeting	3 hours Zoom	Budget, Investments, International Affairs	1. Preliminary financials 2. Investment report 3. Budget 4. Report of the VP of IR 5. Minutes of Prior Meeting 6. Goals and Priorities check-in	

June 26	Summer Business Meeting	1 hour (presumed) Zoom	Annual housekeeping	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AGA Annual Report 2. Election of President 3. Late-breaking issues 	
August 5, 2022	Annual Board Meeting	3 hours Estes Park, CO (Presumed) and Zoom	Updates to the Membership	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual Financial Report 2. Annual Report of the organization 3. Report on Membership 4. Minutes of Prior Meeting 	
August 6, 2022	Chapter General Assembly Meeting	3 hours Estes Park, CO (Presumed) and Zoom	Updates to the Membership	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual Financial Report 2. Annual Report of the organization 3. Chapter Membership and Rewards 4. Prior Year's Chapter Assembly Minutes 	