

Board Meeting Minutes

American Go Association

Meeting Date and Time: November 7, 2021, 8:00 pm EDT/5:00 pm PDT

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Overview

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)
Dan Ritter (Eastern Region)
Justin Teng (At-Large Member)

Officers and Presenters

Andy Okun (President)
Samantha Fede (Secretary)

Guests who have asked to attend

Steve Colburn
Eva-Dee Beech
Larry Gross

Notable Motions and Decisions

1. Justin Teng replaced Ted Terpstra as At-Large Board Member as of 9/20/2021.
2. Board approves a request to match donations to the AGF LGBTQ+ Congress Scholarship to send LGBTQ+ youth to congress, put to \$1000 annually.
3. Board intends to continue to work on the Strategic Plan approved in 2020, planning to complete many items one year later than initially scheduled. The initially approved [Strategic Plan is available here.](#)

Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order

- a. Meeting called to order at 8:22pm EST

2. Notice of new board member

- a. Justin Teng replaced Ted Terpstra as of 9/20/2021

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. Dan moves to approve, Chris seconds, unanimous, minutes approved.

4. President's Report

- a. No status update on filling the Treasurer position yet.
- b. Request a contribution to match donations to the AGF LGBTQ+ Congress Scholarship to send LGBTQ+ youth to congress.
Devin moves to match funds for the AGF's LGBTQ+ Congress Scholarship (up to \$1000 annually). The vote was 5 in favor, with 2 abstentions (Les and Chris).
- c. Update on Administrative Assistant Search (Lisa) – Posted job, got applications, reviewed them, reviewed and picked top candidates, but didn't get responses. Will need to start over, and we learned valuable lessons for the next review.
- d. Chair and President Work Update September-November 2021

5. Ongoing Business

- a. In-progress policies
 - i. Fair Play Policy- have gotten some feedback, ongoing discussion and will likely have discussion again. Some offline discussion via email.
 - ii. Privacy Policy- no progress but will be focused on going forward
 - iii. Personal Leave Policy (D&I Committee)- brief discussion, still in development.
- b. Policy documentation needed:
 - i. Chris is leading this revision, calls for volunteers to help, has recruited Karoline Li to help, Lisa and Devin will also help.
 - ii. Lisa acknowledges the great service in the creation of the concordance by Gordan Castanza in 2011-2012.
 - iii. Discussion of policies that need to be formally written up
 1. Broadcast Sponsor Policy
 2. Reciprocal Membership Policy
 3. Written policy on disaster management
- c. Strategic Plan Progress
 - i. Good progress (80%) on organizational improvement. Very little progress on other areas of the plan. Will push those Year 1 elements back to this year.
 - ii. Discussed board members taking ownership of various projects/items.

6. New Business

- a. Public notification of complaints – Introduce idea of transparent reporting / recruiting in a way that is helpful to the community and promotes accountability

within the AGA. Asks that the board thinks about this sort of policy and whether they would like to implement it, to be discussed at a later point.

- i. [DRAFT Reporting Documentation Disclosure Policy](#) from Samantha Fede (supported by Lisa Scott).
- ii. Devin expresses general support for transparency

7. Discussion of Long-Term Goals and Priorities

a. Board Perspectives on Goals and Priorities

- i. Dan discusses the need to reach out to clubs and local orgs and make sure they know the resources the AGA can help with.
- ii. Lisa asks how the Board feels about having a semi-annual chapters meeting to raise general concerns; Dan suggests such a meeting could be regional.
- iii. Chris mentions that State Championship and Major Tournament Support programs need to be restarted now that in person play *may* be restarted.
- iv. Lisa notes that the “Upcoming Tournaments” tab has disappeared from the AGA website, Nate Eagle will be notified. *Correction: the board was notified by the webmaster it has been moved to the upper right of the usgo.org homepage.*

8. January 2022 Special Meeting

a. Topics-Decision regarding 2022 USGC

- i. Come prepared to make determination of in-person play at that meeting
 1. *Update January 2022: In light of Omicron, the board may set parameters rather than make a decision*
- ii. CO organizers are ready to go in person, and acknowledge that attendance might be lower than typical.

9. Executive Session

- a. Les moves to enter Executive Session (to include Board and Executive staff) regarding personnel, Dan seconds, unanimous, entered executive session at 10:13pm EST.
- b. Exited executive session at 10:15pm.

10. Adjourn

- a. Dan moves to adjourn, Les seconds, unanimous, adjourned at 10:17pm EST.

Appendix

Documentation and Public Availability of AGA Rule Violation Reports

Motivation:

Organizational transparency, inspired by the Clery Act (Title IX campus reporting)

This policy does not supersede policies established in the AGA Code of Conduct or Fair Play guidelines.

Policy:

Public Availability: When reports of AGA rule violations (e.g. Code of Conduct violations, Fair Play violations) come to the attention of mandatory reporters, an anonymized record of that report shall be publicly available within 1 month of becoming aware of the incident. At the request of the reporter, this will be delayed up to 6 months past becoming aware of the incident.

This policy applies to informal disclosures as well as official reports. Reports/disclosures can come from witnesses of an event that violates AGA rules.

Exceptions to this rule will be made in the case that even an anonymous and delayed public report could jeopardize the confidentiality, safety, or health of the reporter or victim.

Numbers for the current and previous two calendar years will be available.

Internal Documentation: Specific details of each report (including names, dates, details of the incident, and details of the actions taken in response) will be kept in a confidential and limited access document available only to the members of the Code of Conduct committee, the AGA Board Chair, and the AGA President. If one of these officials is named in the complaint, the detailed record of the complaint will be kept elsewhere by officials not involved.

Details may be omitted from internal records if the disclosure was not made with the expectation of official record, or if details are requested to be withheld by the reporter. Enough details should be included that if another complaint is made regarding the incident at a later point, it can be identified as a duplicate.

Definition of Mandatory Reporters: All executive officers and board members of the AGA are considered mandatory reporters, as well as individuals serving on AGA committees. TDs of AGA rated tournaments and AGA chapter representatives are also strongly encouraged to report incidents or disclosures.

The AGA Code of Conduct Committee, under the supervision of the AGA president, has the responsibility to document and make publicly available this information. Mandatory reporters

should consider their duty discharged if they pass their report to representatives of the CoC Committee.

Procedures:

Public Availability: Public reports will be posted on the AGA website using the following template and updated according to aforedescribed policies. Summaries will be sent out via the E-Journal annually reminding members of the availability of this report.

| Type of Incident | Location | # 2021 | Outcome / Actions Taken by the AGA (2021) | # 2020 | # 2019 |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------|--|--------|--------|
| Cheating | Online Tournament | 13 | 7 investigations that could not be substantiated, developed Fair Play policy | | |
| | In person tournament | 0 | | | |
| Harrasment, Sexual | Online | 3 | No action at the request of the reporters | | |
| | Tournament | 0 | | | |
| | Club | 0 | | | |
| Harassment, Other | Online | 8 | | | |
| | Tournament | 0 | | | |
| | Club | 0 | | | |
| Discrimination | Online | 6 | | | |
| | Tournament | 0 | | | |
| | Club | 2 | | | |
| Criminal Offenses NOS | Tournament | 0 | | | |
| | Club | 0 | | | |
| Other | Online | 0 | | | |
| | Tournament | 0 | | | |
| | Club | 0 | | | |

Internal Documentation: Internal reports will be kept using the [linked template](#) and updated according to aforedescribed policies. The information included will be:

- Reporter
- Individual Receiving Report
- Date Report Received
- Victim (Alleged)
- Perpetrator (Alleged)
- Date(s) of Incident
- Location(s) of Incident
- Type of Incident (Cheating, Harrasement [Sexual/Other], Discrimination, Criminal Offenses NOS, Other)
- Details
- Description of AGA Actions Taken as a Result
- Disposition (Unsubstantiated, Unable to substantiate, Substantiated, Victim declined to pursue, AGA declined to pursue)
- Status (New, Under Investigation, Closed, Withdrawn)
- Added to Public Reporting Numbers?

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 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strategy Memo 2. Strategic Plan Update 3. Minutes of Prior Meeting | |
| Jan. 9, 2022 | <i>Special COVID Meeting</i> | <i>1 hour Zoom</i> | <i>COVID and US Go</i> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>COVID guidelines</i> 2. <i>(if needed) Decision regarding 2022 USGC</i> | |
| Feb. 27, 2022 | Winter Meeting | 2 hours Zoom | Admin, Communications, Congress, Staff, Education | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 | <i>1 hour (presumed) Zoom</i> | <i>Annual housekeeping</i> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>AGA Annual Report</i> 2. <i>Election of President</i> 3. <i>Late-breaking issues</i> | |

| | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|--|
| 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 | |