

**AGA Board Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2016**

Attendance:

Samantha Fede (recording secretary)
Lisa Scott (Central Region)
Gurujeet Khalsa (Eastern Region, Chair)
Edward Zhang (At-Large)
Chris Kirschner (Western Region)
Andrew Jackson (Western Region)
Bob Gilman (Executive VP)
Martin Lebl (Central Region)

Missing: Diego, A Okun

5:04 meeting called to order

1st item: Approval of October minutes, Scott posted, no substantive problems

Scott moves to approve pending changes, Scott seconds
October minutes approved

Zhang responded with item for agenda. No other items for the agenda tonight.
Andrew Okun not attending so no president's report.

Zhang: State-Championship Tournaments

-Lebl joins the meeting-

There are administrative issues. What type of resident requirement we want to have for the big championship for each state?

6-12 months residency in a state or even US citizen/ green card?

Do we want more people involved in this or more domestic?

Khalsa: We don't want to limit these tournaments, discourage out of state players from participating. Criteria for "state champion" okay.

Kirschner: Do we want state championships folded into existing tournaments or administer them as separate tournaments

Khalsa: I was assuming that based on prior discussion (folded).

Jackson: This could be left up to individual states. There are some states with less go players. Shouldn't be centralized.

Kirschner: These are questions that the administration should investigate and come back to the board.

Khalsa: We don't have state organizations, just chapters.

Kirschner: I've outlined this in the framework previously sent out.

Zhang: One goal is to excite our local organizers. Maybe we can do centralized guidelines and then the states can choose what to do. Maybe the big state tournaments already existing can be used as a qualifier, and then the top 4 can be invited to a final that's more formal. And meanwhile P.R. can have enough time to be brought in. Heard concern from players/parents where qualifying players lose to non-qualified players (which it hurts their records for the tournament).

General Comment: Seems strange that for 50 state champions, there would be a few people who win multiple states? Or actual state championships. Residency requirements established by state or by AGA.

Kirschner: We don't have state administration, we need to reach out to the chapters.

Jackson: Next step- Reach out to chapters that have expressed interest and get some tangible data. Put article out in the EJ?

Zhang: I'm happy to take a lead on this. Some states will do this before others. I'm from Virginia and I can do a state championship. We have big clubs who aren't official AGA chapters. Are they part of the state governing bodies?

Jackson: No, we can't make decisions based on people not in the AGA. Is it a big club? This might be a bigger problem:

Gilman: What about all the members who aren't in a chapter.

General Comment: We want to consider them.

Khalsa: I don't think there are any major chapters who aren't paying membership. Back to the pairings... it's impractical to adjust the pairings to have it so that just the eligible people play each other.

Kirschner: It's not impractical, just difficult. We do it for the Masters.

Khalsa: Getting feedback from chapters is a good idea.

Gilman: Did Edward send out a proposed structure?

Kirschner: Edward sent it out a few weeks ago, it was a copy of what I sent

Zhang: I don't think I did (resend the copy as attachment). More like providing feedback to Chris. I just added a few things. For example, Project/financial wise, how can AGA support? Another item was the venue. Some small clubs might host events in coffee shops, but for state championship tournaments, should it be nicer? But (nicer venues) will be more expensive financially. What budget is AGA willing to provide to get them started.

Kirschner: We need to get a by-law in there. We need to contact chapters by phone (or at least email.)

Khalsa: We need to make a decision about what constitutes a state authority.

Kirschner: What the board needs is to know how this is done in the past

Khalsa: Nihon Ki-in sponsored a teaching workshop in Tokyo. I attended and there was representation from US/Mexico. We learned a lot. There was good content and relationships at Nihon Ki-In were very friendly and supportive.

Zhang: Asked about whether INAF would be interested in potential teaching activities during State Championship and providing funding.

Khalsa: Something we'll talk about with Andy Okun next week, also need to talk to Thomas.

Gilman: Question for Andrew. Rated go w/ OGS.

Jackson: Did you check on the website? Did it show up?

Gilman: Not yet, not sure what happened

Jackson: I'm not sure why, I'll check in with Brian [Lee]. We've expanded our broadcasting to include Ryan Lee and Stephanie Lin. We have broadcasts coming up through Nov/Dec. This has been my top priority, so that's why I haven't gotten back to you.

Khalsa: Cherry Shen is looking to move on from being chair of tournament director, so we need to find someone to replace her. People need to start thinking about that. Particularly necessary for overseas representation. Also we need a treasurer.

Zhang: How much time per week/per month are we talking about?

Khalsa: We'd have to ask Roy. Probably at year end it's a big responsibility. Tournament director is someone who needs to be able to respond quickly with fairly short notice. Think about candidates.

Zhang: In regards to the Treasurer position: I know some people, but are we ok with people in early 20s? Or prefer someone over 25?

Khalsa: Someone energetic. Youth isn't an obstacle. Don't want to put obstacles in the way of the job.

Zhang: It's too bad she didn't have an understudy

Jackson: Someone had been working with Cherry, Andy Okun might know.

Khalsa: What date for next meeting?

Jackson: How about sunday the 4th?

Agreed next meeting to me 12/4/2016.

Khalsa: Okay, 4th at the same time. In the next few weeks let's think about things we discussed at congress.

Jackson: Moves to adjourn, Lebl seconds. Adjourned at 8:40pm EST.