

# Minutes: AGA Board Meeting

## Sunday, 12 June 2005

Present: Yuan Zhou, Willard Haynes, Jeff Shaevel, Harold Lloyd, Roy Laird, Allan Abramson, and Mike Lash

### 1. Approval of Minutes of 22 May Meeting

O Allan noted that the one comment on the draft minutes had been incorporated, and the minutes sent out as final earlier in the day

### 2. President's report

O Budget discussion continued

O Mike Lash said the Ing funding will be limited to cash on hand (about \$20,000), which would cover Congress expenses for Ing purposes

O Assembly Agenda discussion

O Draft agenda had been distributed to the Board

O Mike Lash said he would send a memo on the proposed category/fee changes to the chapter leaders

O 2004 Congress Finances update

O Terry Benson is in the final stages of settling accounts with Rochester

O Tournaments

O Mike noted the need for a volunteer for the position of National Tournament Director

O Idea of a tournament directors' school is not moving yet, for lack of someone to lead it; expect this to carry over to next year

O Update of the previous Tournament Director's Handbook still is pending; same issue of lacking someone to do it

O Mike Lash threw out the idea of paying for the National Director's position, but the Board was reluctant to move down this path so quickly

O One possible criterion for positions which could be paid was to consider the number hours required, eg, National TD position and E-Journal position each required large number of hours to be done well

O Another thought was not to pay them directly, but to allocate funds for administrative support for such positions

O Also consider waiving Congress registrations for these few positions?

O Discussion will need to continue for a while...

- O Bylaws revisions
- O Ready to roll out the proposals
- O Roy will post on the web site
- O Ballots will be sent out, preferably electronically
- O Hard copies to those with no email addresses on file

### 3. Old Business

#### a. AGA membership categories: continue discussion; consider President's paper

O Concept is to reduce to two categories, youth at \$10 and AGA at \$30 (both for domestic and foreign members)

O Board can change the fees, but the Assembly has to approve category changes

O Mike Lash will send this out to the Chapters for discussion...

#### b. Yuan: proposal to merge US Open and Ing, and expand to ten rounds: discussion

O Willard asked why the first game should be delayed to Sunday afternoon; Yuan responded that this would give more time to the director to get organized

O Yuan noted that the Congress is the only time in the year for the strong players to meet face-to-face, and more games would attract more strong players

O North American pros could play in the Open, but this would diminish their availability for other activities at the Congress

O Decided to hold a broad open discussion this year, for decision next year

O Will bring this issue to the Assembly in August

O Noted that if Ing funds used, then Ing rules might apply; may need to coordinate this with the Ing Foundation if we want AGA rules to apply

O Another issue is whether we provide for 32 or 64 playing slots: to be discussed...

#### c. Pro relations update discussion

O Willard reminded us that we wanted ability to produce US-certified pros

O Agreed that we need to start talking with the pros and the strong players, and generate a range of options for AGA discussion

O Harold will write to a group of pros and strong players; will send the Board a draft for comments

#### d. WAGC system revisions

O Mike just sent out a new proposal: to be discussed next time

5. New Business:

a. Minigrant operation - Willard

O Willard proposed rolling this program into an overall central assistance program; a "one-stop" approach for financial assistance, since many activities constitute membership development

O Currently, Willard and Fred Baldwin are the two available to evaluate applications

O Mike Lash will follow up with Willard, and come back next time for discussion

6. Open discussion

O NONE

7. Adjourn: Moved by Roy, seconded by Willard, approved by all.

CLOSED SESSION ON PERSONNEL ISSUES: Deferred to next time