

MINUTES OF THE AGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sunday, 16 Oct 2005, 7 PM, EDT

Attending: Yuan Zhou, Bob barber, Willard Haynes, Roy Laird, Allan Abramson, and Michael Lash; Absent: Jeff Shaevel and Mike Bull

1. Election of Board Chairman

O Yuan nominated Allan; Roy seconded; approved unanimously

2. President's report

O Fujitsu - Jeff has agreed to run this online tournament

O IGS/KGS discussion

O Mr. Suzuki (IGS) has responded to Mike; his email will be sent to the Board

O Bill Shubert (KGS) has a premium service at \$55/year, including lessons and lectures. He is willing to offer it to AGA members at \$40/year.

O He has proposed that the AGA would collect this fee at membership renewal time, so he could be assured of current AGA membership status. He also would like this to be announced once in the E-Journal.

O He hosts our league room already, and may be willing to set up the Master's for AGA

O An extensive discussion raised concerns about appearing to endorse one vendor over another, whether this could be characterized as a member benefit, whether other vendors would have to offer a discount to obtain the same exposure, and so on.

O Consensus included (1) continuing to work with both KGS and IGS on mutually beneficial activities, (2) NOT including the KGS discount in AGA renewal notices, (3) the importance of AGA neutrality among the various vendors, and (4) the desire of AGA to promote vendors in a neutral way, such as a hyperlink in the weekly E-Journal

O Mike committed to discussing this outcome with Chris Garlock, E-Journal Editor, and then reporting back to the Board

O Pair Go

O Allan will be attending the amateur pair go championships in Tokyo in November, as the AGA guest official; this is an excellent opportunity for him to continue the discussions with Mrs. Taki and Mr. Suzuki, which started at the Takoma Congress

O Steve Burrall is interested in running a pair go tournament in Northern California; Bob Barber may do one in Chicago; Allan will do one in Virginia in February; Roy will set up a pair go page on the AGA web site

O Yuan suggested setting up a pair go rating system, and publicizing it, as well as the events; the Board agreed to look into his suggestions; Mike Lash to follow up

O Equipment for Chapters

O There is no Ing money to replenish our equipment supplies

O Willard noted that new student chapters can obtain equipment from the AGF; it is important to support non-student new chapters, too

O The Board discussed setting aside some of the Ing equipment provided each year for the Congress, for new chapters; perhaps if a new chapter had six AGA members, we could provide three sets from this set-aside, with the club paying shipping costs

O Mike Lash agreed to draft guidelines for consideration at the next Board meeting

O Ing funds

O If no new funding is received, no Ing activities can be supported, such as scholarships for youth at the Congress, Ing tournaments, and equipment services

O Bob agreed to immediately alert the 2006 Congress organizers of this possibility

O The Board may have to consider contributing to youth Congress attendees, later, out of AGA reserves

O Financial results of the 2005 Congress

O PLU has submitted its invoice, and the Congress should end with a comfortable surplus

O Financial results of the 2004 Congress

O After all the uncertainties of the accounting of Congress income and expenses, Terry Benson has estimated a surplus of \$5-7,000. Ulo Tamm, our Treasurer, has estimated a deficit of \$2-5,000. The difference appears to be based upon a complex set of factors.

O Mike Lash agreed to provide their documentation to the Board

O In discussion, the Board agreed that after all this time, and effort, especially by Terry, it needed to make a decision and close the record. The Board also wanted to show support for the Empty Sky Go Club.

O Roy moved, seconded by Willard, and approved unanimously, that we provide a \$3000 credit for Empty Sky (half of Terry's estimated surplus, consistent with past policy), which they can draw down from the AGA, upon request

3. Old Business

a. Confirm meeting schedule for rest of year (proposal)

13 November, 18 December, 15 January

O Allan will be in Japan on 13 November, but these dates were best for everyone else

b. Priorities for the year: open discussion [Held over]

c. Pro policy discussion, continued [Held over]

d. Initial discussion of policy for memorials [Held over]

4. New Business

a. Discussion of use of AGA reserves [Held over]

b. Approval to spend up to \$500 in support of Terry Benson's return trip to Japan for the international rules committee work that is ongoing

O The Board approved this request, by consensus

c. Initial discussion of IT issues, including tournament software [Held over]

5. Open discussion [None]

6. Adjourned at 8:24 PM