

MINUTES OF THE AGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sunday, 26 February 2006, 7 PM, EST

Attendees: Willard Haynes, Bob Barber, Yuan Zhou, Allan Abramson, Mike Lash

1. President's report

- Status of report to Ing Foundation on past two years
Mike reported that Chris Kirschner spoke with Mr. Yang in Seoul, at the rules committee meeting. He re-established this direct link to the Ing Foundation. We will send them the annual reports from the past few years, and a complete budget package. We expect this to produce some new funds from the Ing Foundation. The Board expressed its appreciation for Chris' work.
- Status of analysis of historical Ing budgets
- This is now moot, given the progress noted in item a, above.

2. Posting professional policies on the AGA website:

- Mike asked the Board to provide guidance on what to post
- Willard noted that we have already posted the policy on international representation
- He added that we needed procedures for certifying US pros, and for training people to become certified
- Allan added that we need procedures for the dual level top leagues for pros and other strong players, and ways to provide more support for our resident pros, such as paying for them to visit our clubs
- The Board asked Mike to proceed to develop these procedures

3. Memorial policy

- Mike committed to providing something for discussion next month
- He noted Terry Benson's many good suggestions
- Allan said that he had had several discussions with Chris Garlock about putting notices of member losses into the E-Journal, and the Yearbook. Chris has agreed to do this

4. Old Business

a. Pro policy discussion, continued

- Allan to report on status of Harold's work -- Allan has not been able to reach Harold yet, but will continue trying to contact him
- Mike to report on discussion with Roy on posting pro policies on the web site-- we have the means to do this; just need the materials

b. Initial discussion of policy for memorials (See above discussion notes)

Staffing: Discussion of how to obtain more volunteers

- Bob announced that Laura Kolb has volunteered to help Chris on the "shodan challenge"
- Mike asked if there were any way to provide some perks for volunteers, such as free memberships
- Yuan suggested that we pay volunteers in critical positions (need to define which)
- The Board asked Mike to consider options, and present them in the next draft budget

5. New Business

c. Initial discussion of IT issues (Deferred, in Jeff's absence)

- Jeff to present his issues and recommendations
- Allan to report on input from Ray Hunley on the status of the new tournament software (This item is now moot, in light of above discussion)
- Mike L to report on follow up with Asian Associations on tournament software

d. Status of marketing ideas (Allan) (Held over to next month)

e. Plans for backup/succession for the rating system (Mike L) (Discussed above)

f. Status of search for home for archives (Mike L) (Discussed above)

g. Status of 2005 Assembly minutes (Mike L)

- Mike recently received the notes on the assembly meeting; need to be put into formal minutes format, and reviewed by the chapters

h. Congress sponsorship

- Bob received email from Congress organizers, noting that someone in Japan was offering \$1000 in equipment, in return for credit as a Congress sponsor; he will try to obtain more information on the details, for the Board

i. Pair Go status

- Allan has received commitment from the Japan Pair Go Association to set up a pair go room on PandaNet for AGA members, only
- This will take a few months to work out, but the site was demonstrated for him in Tokyo in November, and looks great to him

j. Limited membership voting issue

- Allan reported that four Board members are in favor of giving limited members back the "vote", but he had not formally heard back from the other three members
- Jeff is in favor, and recommended a new name for the category, other than "limited"

- Willard said that he would prefer to eliminate the category entirely, noting that other game organizations usually have just members, and a discounted youth category; failing this, he would support the "vote"
- He added that he was against letting members opt out of the Yearbook; a member should get everything; Bob was not sure that others would agree with this point
- The Board instructed Mike to take the necessary steps for the membership to resolve by the end of the Congress
- On the related, but separate, issue of the subscription price of the Yearbook, the Board agreed to reduce it to \$15; this would make it easier to "sell" to libraries

k. Tournament invitation from North Korea

- Mike said that any traveler would need State Department approval
- He was not sure about any conditions or limitations on such travel
- Willard noted that the individual application requests AGA endorsement, and this might be a State condition, too
- The Board agreed that more information was needed on any State Department requirements
- Yuan and Bob both said that this is Go, not a political issue, and that we would be endorsing the cultural exchange, not the government

4. Open discussion (None)

5. Adjournment

=> Moved by Willard, seconded by Bob, and approved by all