



# Australian Go Association Inc.

ABN 21 578 331 587

## **Minutes of the AGA Committee meeting 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

Present – Neville Smythe (NS), David Mitchell (DGM), Horatio Davis (HD), An Younggil (AYG), Daniel Li (DL), James Kaaden (JK), Matthew Crossman (MC)

Guest - Allan Hunt (AH)

Apologies – Raphael Shin, Erli Qiu (EQ)

Note – Action items are in bold.

The meeting commenced at 7.01pm (Sydney time)

### **Reading & approval of the minutes of the previous meeting & matters arising**

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and agreed a true record. There were no matters arising.

### **Invite Allan Hunt as a permanent observer**

Allan Hunt selflessly resigned the committee to avoid a Constitutional crisis. The new Construction limits the committee to 9 voting members and we had 10. The committee thanked Allan for his decision and unanimously invited him to attend all committee meeting until the next AGM.

### **2017/18 Current Financial Year Statement.**

Horatio had insufficient time to prepare a complete P&L but reported there had not been any significant expenditure since the last meeting and the accounts were healthy with our bank account balance standing at \$7,200 and a further \$200 in PayPal.

**Horatio will prepare a detailed P&L and circulate it to the committee this week.**

### **2018/19 Budget Forecast**

As with the P&L Horatio hadn't time to prepare the 2018/2019 Budget forecast. Using previous information, it was agreed that expected income would be at least \$1600 consisting of \$1,000 (bulk club registration) \$200 (4 sustaining memberships), \$300 (30 normal members), \$100 (donation – thanks to Billy Sun). Expected expenditure would be approx. \$800 consisting of \$300 (IGF fee), \$150 (Bank and Paypal fees), \$200 (Internet hosting), \$150 (postage) leaving a surplus of approx. \$800.



# Australian Go Association Inc.

*ABN 21 578 331 587*

The income estimates are on the conservative side, for example we have eight sustaining members listed but have assumed only 4); records show around 40 independent members and we've counted 30. The transactions for the digital tournament will no longer go through the books (to maintain the AGA's distance from events) but the income is matched by a similar expenditure so there is no major budgetary impact.

**Horatio will prepare a detailed budget and circulate it to the committee this week.**

Future meetings will decide how the surplus will be used.

## **Applications for grants**

There was discussion on the way and means of applying for grants and sponsorship now the AGA is an incorporated association.

JK reported his investigations raised a number of issues the AGA needs to address before we put any proposal. Gaining sponsorship or grant money requires a good proposal which also includes the completion of forms – businesses and governments don't hand out money for free. We also need to have a project that benefits the AGA and more importantly we need to deliver a benefit to the sponsor/donor, without that our application will fail.

JK and HD suggested that applications are likely to be more successful if the AGA also contributes to the project. A joint funding model is more acceptable as both the AGA and the donor would have 'skin in the game'.

DGM had carried out a detailed search and agreed that government grants are not easy to obtain – local governments & state governments are probably the hardest because we don't have a strong local presence. The federal government has a number of agencies that offer grants but we need to find the most appropriate. The strongest cases for Go are cultural and sport. Go as a sport has not worked in the past but NS pointed out Go may be an exhibition 'mind' sport at the 2020 Olympics in Japan so this should not be written off.

DGM found the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has a number of 'foundations' including an Australia Japan Foundation, Australia Korea Foundation and an Australia China Council. Each has approx. \$750,000 annual funding to support cultural projects.

The keys to most successful applications are a well-presented project that delivers to DFAT's strategic aims, deliver something above and beyond the day to day business of the organization, has a



# Australian Go Association Inc.

ABN 21 578 331 587

collaborative funding approach and if possible has a track record (i.e. something that's been successful in the past but can be extended with extra funding).

**DGM asked all members to visit and read the material on the DFAT website**

(<https://www.finance.gov.au/resource-management/grants/>)

DGM suggested that one options is the Australian Go Congress which meets most criteria, perhaps extending the Congress to more rooms with more activities would be one option.

HD asked if the AGA would take over the running of the Go Congress now it's an incorporated organisation. There was some discussion but it was agreed the AGA should have a hands-off approach to all tournaments because of the risk to all AGA activities. If the Congress failed it would take all of the AGA funds in one fell swoop and would impact all AGA activities.

JK suggested that a youth scholarship to send a young Australian to Korea to train would be an option. AH suggested teaching and education as another possibility.

**Committee members were encouraged to prepare suggestions for discussion at the next meeting.**

## Overhaul of AGA website

HD reported that he's looking at replacing the existing home-grown membership management system with CiviCRM, this would improve out membership management processes.

**HD will create a 'vanilla' WordPress site for the AGA website (australiango.asn.au) before 15<sup>th</sup> June and will send the administration credentials to JK and DGM.**

**JK & DGM will create a new website using the prototype model (<http://aga-inc.org.au/>)** which employs free templates & plug-ins and has no custom coding and allows multiple people to maintain information such as tournaments, club details etc.

**HD will create a cut-down registration page** (basically the existing registration page without the header, footer or navigation) which will have the current functionality and links to Agatha so it can be included in the new site without disrupting membership administration.

## AGA Membership update

NS and MC reported there are 473 paid up members of which 8 had no email or postal address. **NS will investigate these people and try to get the required information.**



# Australian Go Association Inc.

*ABN 21 578 331 587*

It was agreed that members registered via a bulk club application may use their club address and email as their membership details.

JK said that all bulk membership applications must be vetted by the applying club to ensure they only register people who are current active players at their club either as club players and/or tournament players.

DGM was asked if this was acceptable in his role as Public Officer – DGM said this was acceptable provided the applicant is a living breathing people. It was agreed the validation of bulk club information is matter for the AGA Membership Registrar and the relevant club organiser to address.

## **Membership period**

Following on from discussions at the previous meeting DGM proposed that Bulk Club Membership runs from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> June. This was seconded by HD and passed unanimously.

DGM proposed that existing bulk memberships be extended from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019. This was passed unanimously.

There was discussion about making the same arrangement for the 30 to 40 direct members. It was agreed this was not a major issue because of the small number and that existing scripts already automate the administrative function.

HD said he would consider this and if he felt it beneficial would prepare a proposal to change the constitution for consideration at the next AGM.

## **Collegiate Tournament**

Due to technical difficulties DL was unable to present his report – **DL will email it to the committee in the coming week.**

DGM reported his discussion with DL about a selection process for 2019 and beyond. DGM proposed that DL be asked to suggest ideas for the process and to report later in the year. This was passed unanimously.

## **China cities tournament**

EQ is in China and was unable to attend the meeting. DGM reported that EQ has asked to rent the SGC rooms for the 14<sup>th</sup> July tournament between Shanghai and Sydney. AYG & DL reported that EQ had also



# Australian Go Association Inc.

ABN 21 578 331 587

booked a Homebush location. EQ is due back in the next week or so and it is expected he will resolve the location then.

## Creation of an advisory sub-committee

DGM proposed the creation of an advisory sub-committee to improve communications between key active members and the AGA Committee. The role of the sub-committee will be to feed information to the committee on ideas and activities and to receive information for their club or community.

There was discussion on the matter and it was agreed that between bi-directional communications between the AGA Committee and key organisers was essential. AHD was concerned that making a sub-committee for this purpose would result in a two-tier governance structure and suggested an advisory council would be a better model. He also suggested an email group for sharing ideas.

DGM proposed the AGA Committee create the AGA Council which will contribute ideas and information to the AGA Committee and to receive information from the AGA for their club and/or community. The motion was passed 6 in favour, 1 against.

**DGM will create a spreadsheet and all committee members should consider who would be suitable candidates for the AGA Council.** A final decision on membership will be made at the next meeting.

## 2018 AGA Survey

There was discussion of Allan's strategy and questions, Allan's main aim is to reach as many Go players in Australia as possible, not just AGA members. There were several suggestions including KGS, OGS, Reddit, Go Facebook pages and email direct to members. There was a discussion of the survey questions which was well received. **Allan will email the questions to the committee and will run the survey during July.**

## Assistance for small/remote clubs

DGM reported that the pilot for the small/remote clubs assistance proposal had been privately financed and would take place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June at Curtin University in Perth.

The idea of delivering one lecture per year to a small number of clubs over a teleconference link, recording them and posting the video for all AGA members was proposed by DGM in an email but DGM withdrew the proposal because a couple of committee members voted against indicating the need for discussion.



# Australian Go Association Inc.

*ABN 21 578 331 587*

**DGM reported that the results of the Perth pilot and the video will be used to support a proposal at the next committee meeting.**

## **International invitation**

In April a visiting group from Thailand invited an Australian Team to attend the International tournament in Thailand. Details have been received but no organiser can be found. **DGM will send an email to the organisers explaining the situation and asking for details of the 2019 event to be sent early in 2019.**

## **Revise rep point rules**

DGM proposed that the Rating subcommittee review the rep points rules document. The document has not been reviewed for sometime and there are issues that should be addressed. There was a brief discussion and the proposal passed unanimously.

## **AGA Teacher certification**

DGM proposed that the AGA have a certification process for teachers before they are listed on the AGA website. There was discussion and the proposal modified so the certification process is in two parts.

1. Proof of rank. A teach must prove their claimed rank either through existing rating records or by playing a rating game with the National Coach (the applicant will pay the National Coach's standard cost).
2. Approval. The full committee will review the application and make the final decision before the name is published on the website.

AY, JK, DGM & DL declared an interest and did not vote. The proposal was passed unopposed.

## **2019 State Championships**

DGM reported that Brenton Williams in Adelaide will be organising an inter-state tournament in 2019. Details of the event are still being determined.

## **AGA membership terms & conditions**

Due to the last of time there was not discussion on the AGA Privacy, Terms and Conditions document. Members were asked to review the document which would be tabled at the next meeting.

## **Any other business**



# Australian Go Association Inc.

*ABN 21 578 331 587*

There was no further business.

## **Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Monday August 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

The meeting closed at 8:35pm