



Australian Go Association Inc.

ABN 21 578 331 587

Minutes of the AGA Committee meeting 4th February 2019

Present – Neville Smythe (NS), David Mitchell (DGM), An Younggil (AYG), James Kaaden (JK), Tony Purcell (TP), Erli Qiu (EQ), Allan Hunt (AH)

Apologies – Raphael Shin (RS), Daniel Li (DL)

Note – Action items are in bold. *If a member requires more information about a specific topic, please email the Secretary-General (Secretary@AustralianGo.asn.au)*

The meeting commenced at 7.02pm (AEDT)

Welcome to Tony Purcell

The Committee welcomed Tony to the Committee.

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.

Appoint Public Officer

The meeting unanimously appointed David Mitchell to continue as Public Officer.

Review of minutes of AGM

The draft minutes of the AGM were read and no changes were forthcoming. The draft minutes of the AGM will be presented at the next AGM.

Review of Committee processes

DGM requested all member confirm they have access to the Google Drive document repository and if any problems are encountered to contact him immediately.

DGM reminded the committee of their role and responsibilities as a committee member of an incorporated organisation. These are detailed in documents in the 'Committee satchel' in the document repository but in brief require all committee members to be aware of the finances of the organisation and to support the association and committee decisions.

There was discussion about the frequency of AGA Committee meetings. The committee agreed to continue meeting every two months on a Monday evening.



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Sub-Committee processes

DGM explained the AGA Committee establishes sub-committee to address specific projects or on-going tasks. New sub-committees can be appointed at any time.

The committee discussed the purpose and people for each sub-committee and made the following appointments.

- Ratings
 - An Younggil, Neville Smythe and Tony Purcell were appointed
- Rating system working group
 - Neville Smythe and Tony Purcell were appointed
- School
 - David Mitchell, An Younggil & Daniel Li were appointed
- University
 - Daniel Li & Cary Jin were appointed
- Pairs & Overseas
 - Erli Qiu and Yoko Usami were appointed
- Web Master
 - Matthew Crossman was appointed with assistance from Neville Smythe and David Mitchell
- Web Content
 - David Mitchell & James Kaaden were appointed
- Appoint publicity officer
 - Allan Hunt was appointed

DGM will notify sub-committee members who were not at the meeting.

Finance report (JK)

James reported that the association is currently running an \$89 deficit for the first half of the financial year, this is not an issue because bulk membership fees of \$1000 are paid in the second half of the year.

Direct memberships have reached the same level as last year in just 6 months which is good. There were some questions about **the number of sustaining members which will be resolved by JK, NS and TP after the meeting.**



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Bank charges are a significant cost to the association amounting to 10% of total income. JK proposed **approaching ANZ asking them to waive the fees or establish a different account type with no fees and if they did not agree to move to another bank, perhaps ING** who do not charge bank transaction fees. The committee unanimously agreed with this action.

JK also observed that our account which holds approx. \$7,300 earns no interest and being eaten away with the effects of inflation. **JK was asked to investigate options to invest \$5,000 of those funds in an interest bearing account** (or something else) so inflation will not eat away the real value of our reserves.

JK projected a surplus for 2018/19 of approx. \$500.

NS informed the meeting that he will pay the IGF fees directly and will submit the expense to JK for payment, this will avoid bank fees.

Membership report

Neville reported current membership stands at 475 paid up members including 11 sustaining members which is an increase from previous years. DGM noted that the new sustaining members were from WA who appreciated the remote lecture and the AOGC and consequently are supporting the AGA.

It was noted that QGS have not submitted their membership list for 2018/19 – AH will discuss this with Horatio Davis and get the list to NS & TP as soon as possible.

TP has and is happy with the Membership registrar role.

DGM observed there are a significant number of members who do not have postal addresses or email address and therefore do not comply with NSW DFT. The majority of those are people who register through bulk club memberships. The Sydney Go Club has introduced a membership form, **DGM will attached a copy of the form with these minutes.**

TP has been looking into this problem and is considering asking for other information that can uniquely identify people. This is necessary because of the similarity and spelling options for some Asian names. There was discussion on TP suggestion that date of birth be collected at tournaments; DGM suggested the email address. **TP and NS will work on this issue and report at future meetings.**

SportsAccord on the Gold Coast

SportsAccord are running an Expo for sports and game at the Gold Coast between 5th and 10th May and the AGA may be able to have a stand and carry out promotional events including teaching and demonstrations.



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There was an initial meeting with SportsAccord with Horatio Davis and Allan Hunt and an agreement to follow up on the details. There has been no communication since and AH believes there has been a breakdown in communications. AH agreed to reach out and re-establish communications and take control of the process on behalf of the AGA. NS and EQ will assist and the committee will be copied on key communications.

There was discussion about An Younggil 8P as National Coach attending and giving teaching lessons. It was unclear how this could be financed. AH will determine if there are any funds from SportsAccord to cover the costs.

Remote lectures

DGM confirmed that remote lectures to Perth and The Gold Coast have taken place and were very well received. The previous committee agreed to 4 remote lectures, DGM proposed the remaining two lectures, targeting Melbourne and one other be confirmed by the committee. This was passed unopposed.

JK observed the audio quality during the lecture was poor due to extraneous noise in the remote lesson room. It was suggested that we could simply record Younggil's comments on a separate stream provided he repeated questions. This will be tried out at the next remote lecture.

2019 Australian Digital

Horatio has confirmed (via email) he will organise the 2019 Australian Digital Tournament under the auspices of the QGS. The planned commencement date is early March and will run for 7 weeks; no other details are available at this time.

DGM proposed to supply 3 copies of Go with the Flow to be used as prizes, there would be postal costs. This was passed unopposed.

AGA Council

DGM explained the original intent of the AGA Council but has found a large number of problems with the detail. DGM proposed this matter be dropped. There was discussion on the various issues, especially titles which are often important when dealing with Asian organisations. It was agreed that people could be given appropriate titles by the AGA Committee where it will assist.

DGM observed that people outside of the AGA committee and sub-committee structure are currently doing things without an AGA Council. Brenton Williams is planning a 'Go State of Origin' event later this year; Mark Ahn is talking to the Singapore Go Association to establish a sister relationship between Singapore and Melbourne or Singapore and Australia.



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ABN 21 578 331 587

The committee agreed unanimously to drop the AGA council idea.

Any other business

Chinese Alumni Association

Erli will be attending a dinner on Feb 24th with the Chinese Alumni Association and wants a letter to thank them for their assisting in staging the 2018 Sydney Go Festival. **DGM will draft a letter; EQ will the name and title of the people for the letter.**

Gender balance

Allan has done some work on the imbalance between male and female players. TP asked that **AH prepare a proposal and actions that will help with this matter – AH Agreed.**

Rep point rules

DGM has prepared **revised Australian Representative Point rules which will be circulated with the minutes** and will be considered at the next meeting.

AGA Ranks

In Europe player ranking expires when a player has not participated in a tournament in the past two years. DGM observed that many AGA ranking are historic and should not be used. **DGM will prepare a discussion document for the ratings sub-committee to discuss.**

Next meeting

Monday 8th April 2019, 7:00pm

The meeting closed at 8:35pm