

Irish Go Association

Minutes of the Irish 2021 Annual General Meeting

Held online (zoom meeting)

Present: Eoghan Barry, Arthur Cater, John Courtney, Ian Davis, Alex Delogu, John Doyle, Clara Flinter, Steve Flinter, James Hutchinson, Peter Kasko, Stephen Nulty, Pádraig O'Sullivan, Philippe Renaut, Niall Tuohy

1. Opening of Meeting

2. Minutes taken as read except for the following point:

- a. *"Harry van der Krogt agreed with Carol that this could cover 2019 plus the next 3 years, up to and including 2022. "*

This was not the case for 2020 payment and this verbal agreement was never enforced. The actual situation is that Ireland paid 200€ as a minimum fee for every member and that the entry fee level is again one of the major topic of the EGF to be discussed this year

The IGA will try to be part of the discussion on reduced price from the EGF. IGA had no votes at this year's EGF General Assembly because of the late payment of the member fees.

The EGF accounts are balanced now and Ireland has recovered its voting rights.

Accepted by Vote

3. President's Report -

Treasurer's Report: Accounts are at €1,000.

Online access to the accounts is needed, particularly now that we have paypal payments. The accounts are not balanced yearly as without any tournaments, the memberships are not covering the cost of EGF, IGF and web hosting and bank yearly fees.

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Communication channels:

Success of the DIsCORD Server

Creation of a Twitch Channel is suggested (AOB)

The need to unify Newsletter and Regular events communication through one single list of emails has been discussed

Memberships are one of the major questions for 2021: what should membership include or not. Becoming a member has been made easy thanks to Paypal, flexible payments so this needs to be communicated.

Accepted by Vote

4. Elections of Members

Philippe Renaut has been retained as President without Election

Pádraig O'Sullivan has been retained as Secretary without Election

John Doyle from (Cork) has been elected as Treasurer. John Gibson had announced he was stepping out shortly before the AGM.

5. Motion:

- a. A motion has been passed to nominate John Gibson as a Lifetime Honorary Member of the IGA in honour of his dedication and service to the game of Go both in Ireland and abroad.

This motion was proposed by Eoghan and seconded by Philippe and voted unanimously

- b. A motion has been passed to use Double Elimination for the last phase of the Top8. The qualification phase to enter the Top8 stays under specific rules depending on the number of players interested in entering the tournament.

This motion was proposed by Eoghan and seconded by Philippe and voted unanimously.

- c. A motion has been passed to have Rank Certificates delivered by the IGA for Members

This motion was proposed by Ian and seconded by Philippe and voted unanimously on the following bases:

- Based on EGF Ratings
- Electronic Certs delivered
- For ranks 20k, 15k, 10k, 5k, 1d

- d. A motion has been passed to address funding issues of the IGA through a working group on membership and budget

This motion was proposed by John Doyle and seconded by Philippe and voted unanimously on the following bases:

Working group composition: Philippe, Steve, Alex, John D., James

Need to increase membership by bringing in more new players.
Teaching games on Discord

6. AOB

- a. Change from KGS to OGS for Wednesday Meetups. The potential impact on the Dublin meeting has been highlighted, it was decided that it was easier to modify the Dublin meeting day after a one and a half year break than the online one.
- b. Discord: it was highlighted that with the importance of the Discord server to the community it was necessary for more people to have admin access.. A note has been made to make sure the Admin Access was available to a few people or that a backup could be set up.
- c. Newcomers: a discussion took place on how to attract/keep newcomers. This led to the following idea:
 - i. Make sure that the OGS Wednesday night was running with regularity and become an “Ireland Go Club” easy to join
 - ii. Welcoming New Members on Discord with a Bot informing them of this weekly meeting
 - iii. Advertising this meeting on Discord and the website
 - iv. Make sure that people gathering on Wednesday were available for teaching games
- d. Eoghan inquired to know if there was any opposition against additional implication of the Confucius Institute for Sponsorship. The sponsorship was approved.
- e. Future Tournaments:
 - i. Eoghan plans to organise a 1 day Tournament in Sept/Oct, ideally Sept in Dublin
 - ii. Cork - Possibly in. Nov/Dec
 - iii. Belfast - Sept possibly
 - iv. Galway - Unlikely in 2021
 - v. Online: Summer Cup - Frano-Irish Events. The Irish-French Online Matches received a very positive feedback. The idea of an Irish Go Congress has been triggered and is under review
- f. More meetings than just the AGM: we agreed on 2/year instead of just one.
- g. Review of the IGA structure.
- h. The President will write the Constitution and investigate the best possible structure. The Treasurer will investigate banking options in order to have a more accessible account that can be used for eventual sponsorships or may be needed in the future to be members of the EGF/IGF..

7. Actions summary

Communication:

- Update website with OGS weekly meeting and make sure the Discord server is advertised
- See if Paypal can allow “free amount” payments
- Update Discord server with a bot to welcome newcomers

- Make sure the OGS Ireland Room exists and is welcoming

Membership:

- Trigger the working group

Structure:

- Elaborate constitution document
- Study banking options
- Plan an EGM for September

Go events:

- Plan Dublin, Cork, belfast tournament
- Launch the Summer Cup and more franco-irish events
- Study the possibility of an Online irish Go Congress
- Trigger a weekly review on Twitch?

Motions

- Trigger motion 1 and 3

8. Appendix

1. Minutes of the AGM 2020
2. President Report for 2021