



THE INTERNATIONAL GO FEDERATION
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The 34th Annual General Meeting of the International Go Federation

Meeting Minutes

Date: 13:30 – 16:00, June 6th, 2015
Venue: Montien Riverside Hotel, Bangkok Thailand

Agenda

1. IGF President's opening greetings (Mr. Chimoon Park, Acting President)
2. Approval of the 33rd AGM minutes (Annex 1)
3. 2014-2015 Operations Summary Reports:
 - (a) The 35th WAGC in Gyeongju
(2014 July 4 - 11): Office Director, Jaeho Yang
 - (b) The 25th IAPGC
(2014 October 25 - 26): Director, Hiroko Taki
 - (c) The 4th SAWMG
(2014 December 11-17): Vice President, Thomas Hsiang
 - (d) 2015 SportAccord / IMSA Updates
(2014 – 2015): Vice President, Thomas Hsiang
 - (e) The 13th WSO
(2015 February 24-25): Director, Hiroko Taki
 - (f) The 2nd Bailing World Open
(2014 March – 2015 February): Vice President, Siming Liu (Yi Wang)
 - (g) 2014 Anti-doping activities: Director, Martin Finke
4. 2014 financial summary & 2015 budget reports (Annex 2, 3)

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5. Auditors' reports: Thailand & Australia

6. 2014-2015 IGF Secretary Reports (Annex 4)

7. 2015-2016 Operations Progress Reports:

- (a) The 36th WAGC in Bangkok
(2015 June 5 - 12): Director, Korsak Chairamisak
- (b) The 26th IAPGC
(2015 December 5-6): Director, Hiroko Taki
- (c) The 14th WSO
(2016 February): Director, Hiroko Taki
- (d) 2015 Anti-doping activities: Director, Martin Finke
- (e) The 37th WAGC
(2016 May - June): Vice President, Siming Liu (Yi Wang)

8. Election of 2015 Auditing Countries

9. Election of 2015 - 2017 Vice President & Directors (Annex 5)

< Candidates >

Eduardo Lopez: Counselor IAGF / IGF Vice President

Hiroko Taki: WPGA Vice President

Jaeho Yang: KBA Secretary General / IGF Office Director

10. Items brought for AGM

- (a) IGF Development Committee (Annex 6)
- (b) IGF Membership Applications (Annex 7)
- (c) Matters with the Membership fees (Annex 8)
- (d) IGF Code of Ethics (Annex 9)
- (e) IGF pins for donors (Annex 10)

11. Date for the next AGM

12. Other businesses

Minutes

The Annual General Meeting began at 13:40 with all panels present and most representatives. The meeting was held at Vimarntip, Montien Riverside Hotel 5F. All panel members were introduced as the meeting started.

Item 1: IGF President's opening greetings

Mr. Park highlighted the meaning of having the first WAGC outside the three countries, and expressed gratitude to the Go Association of Thailand for organizing the 36th WAGC in Bangkok. Then, he stated that the IGF should take continuous steps towards its missions.

Item 2: Approval of the 33rd AGM minutes (Annex 1)

The minutes were approved.

Item 3: 2014-2015 Operations Summary Reports

(a) The 35th WAGC in Gyeongju

A report was made by Mr. Yang. The 35th WAGC was sponsored by Gyeongju city and Gyeongsang Province. The tournament attracted a lot of media attention, and 87% of participants answered either satisfied or very satisfied at the satisfaction survey. Overall, it was a successful tournament.

(b) The 25th IAPGC

A report was made by Ms. Taki. The 25th IAPGC was held from Oct. 25 to 26, 2014. Many Pair Go Promotion Partners (PGPPs) participated the event to congratulate the 25th anniversary. Also, several special events were organized: Japan, China, Korea professional pair go matches as an exhibition game, and the 1st World Student Pair Go Championship was organized along with the IAPGC. Total of 8 pairs participated in this tournament and a Korean pair won the first place. This student pair go tournament will continue this year. Also, a special book to commemorate the last 25 years of the IAPGC was made and sent to all players, partners, and sponsors.

(c) The 4th SAWMG

A report was made by Mr. Hsiang. The event was the last edition signed with Beijing. It was held from December 11 to 18, and there were 96 medals in the 5 sports. China won the most medals, but small countries also won some medals, leading to happy results for all participating countries and territories. Also, online tournaments were organized for Chess, Bridge, and Go, attracting over 300,000 players.

(d) 2015 SportAccord / IMSA Updates

A report was again made by Mr. Hsiang. The World Mind Sport Games (WMSG-III) has a promising candidate city, Macau that wants to host the event in October 2016. In the drafted plan, the participation level will be around 1,000 athletes, with 250 for Go. The host will provide full accommodation, plus partial travel support. It is promising, but not finalized yet.

For the annual SportAccord World Mind Games, SportAccord could not find any host for 2015. They proposed to change it into a bi-annual format to start in 2016. In the meantime, Ms. Chen Zelan told us there were several cities interested in hosting the elite invitational event directly with IMSA. So we need a new name for this event. In terms of income to IGF, our management fee and prize fund will be similar to 2014. The confirmation has not been received yet.

If this event materializes, as it seems likely, we will move the SportAccord event to June in 2016 and go from there. The host for that event will most likely be from Europe.

The second item is the IMSA development fund. In 2013, we received €25,000 from IMSA that went to support a teaching program in Venezuela and a Go symposium in US. This year, I sent in a proposal of €30,000 to fund our Olympic application processes. This was passed. So some time in the near future, we should receive this money to be used for applying for IOC recognition.

The third item is the expansion of IMSA. Xiangqi is now a full member of IMSA. Chen Zelan, the vice president of WXF, has taken on the position as vice president of IMSA. Poker continues to be an observer. E-games, Scrabble, billiard, and dart may join as observers also.

(e) The 13th WSO

A report was made by Ms. Taki. It was held on February 24 and 25, 2015, in Tokyo. 16 students from 12 countries and territories participated and the winner was the Chinese player. Also, the tournament was sponsored by Pandanet and the Pair Go Association as a part of Go promotion for the young generation.

(f) The 2nd Bailing World Open

A report was made by Mr. Wang. The preliminary of the tournament was held in Beijing and 317 players participated from the world. For playing at the preliminary, players bore their own travel expenses. The winner's prize was 1,800,000 RMB (about 300,000 USD) and the second place 600,000 RMB (about 100,000 USD). For main tournaments, three cities hosted different rounds, those were Gui Yang, Dongan, and Hebei. The finalists were Qiu Jun and Ke Jie. Many fans rooted for Qiu Jun because nowadays young players are strong in most tournaments. All final games were broadcasted live on CCTV. Ke Jie won the tournament, and became the youngest world champion.

(g) 2014 Anti-doping activities

A report was made by Mr. Finke. Last year in Korea, the WAGC carried doping tests for 3 top players (in-competition) and 1 randomly chosen player (out-of-competition). All results were negative as expected. So far, the IGF has no concern regarding doping, but one issue is to have our new regulations approved by the WADA. For several months, the IGF had discussions with WADA and the new draft was approved by the IGF board through an online election last March. Then, WADA had a proposal to change a few additional points to make the codes stricter. Yet, the same codes were already adopted by other mind sports federations

<Annex 1>

and the IGF needs tests only at the WAGC. Thus, agreeing to WADA's change was proposed and accepted.

Item 4: 2014 Financial Report and 2015 Budget: (Annex 2, 3)

A report was made by Ms. Lee. IGF has two accounts: Main and IMSA accounts. The main account is denominated in JPY. The income was about 15,000,000 JPY, mostly from special subsidies from Korea, China and Japan associations. The expenditure structure was similar to previous years. Total expenditure added up to about 9,000,000 JPY, so the IGF had about 6,000,000 surpluses. For this year, we are not expecting much change, only except that the travel support for IGF Directors and staff can be higher as Bangkok is away from the main three countries.

IGF's IMSA account is denominated in US dollars, and it has a simpler structure. The main income in this account was the SAWMG, from which the IGF received \$50,000 management fee, and \$400,000 prize money. 10% of the total prize money was contributed to the IGF for the development of Go as agreed in the last board meeting. Main expenditures were travel expenses for SportAccord Convention and SportAccord IF Forum. For the management of SAWMG, we spent about \$30,000. As a result, there was about \$56,000 surpluses. For this year, SAWMG is not likely to be organized. Yet, the IMSA has agreed to offer 30,000 euros for the IGF's IOC Recognition application. For expenditures, travel expenses will incur as last year.

Item 5: Auditors' reports

A report was made by Mr. Smythe and Ms. Namasonthi. They both confirmed that the IGF had healthy and sound financial standing.

Item 6: 2014-2015 IGF Secretary Reports (Annex 4)

A report was given by Ms. Lee. In order to communicate with Go fans and member associations in a timely manner, the IGF launched SNS channels on Facebook and YouTube. On Facebook, there are 1400 followers, and on YouTube about 8,000 total views so far. Also, to connect with the fans in China, the IGF is planning to open a page on WeChat.

The IGF homepage was updated with a global event calendar. Using this function, Go players can see Go events around the world at one place, and they can easily find more information using the links. Also, the Ranka team is working on building the IGF database to manage tournaments and players information more systematically.

Doping regulations and doping page were updated on the IGF website. Especially using the link provided by the SportAccord, now players can check all substances of their medicine before coming to a competition.

WAGC rules were clarified and now any player who became pro before the WAGC takes place cannot enter the competition.

Item 7: 2015-2016 Operations Progress Reports

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(a) The 36th WAGC in Bangkok

A report was given by Mr. Chairasmisak. The Go Association of Thailand was excited to have the chance to organize the WAGC. The sports authority of Thailand was also happy that there was an international sport event in Thailand that involves more than 30 countries. This year we have 57 countries and territories.

(b) The 26th IAPGC

A report was made by Ms. Taki. The tournament will be held in Dec. 5-6 in Tokyo. The 2nd World Student Pair Go Championship will be also organized, and 16 pairs will be invited. The WPGA plans to expand the student version each year.

(c) The 14th WSO

A report was made by Ms. Taki. It will be held at the end of February, 2016. Dates are not finalized yet. The directors will be informed as more details are available.

(d) 2015 Anti-doping activities: Director, Martin Finke

A report was made by Mr. Finke. Following the previous examples, there will be doping tests on the last day of the WAGC. Top 3 players and 1 randomly selected players will be tested and so far there was no concerning signs.

(e) The 37th WAGC

A report was made by Mr. Wang. China is committed to organizing the 37th WAGC in China, but the location and dates are yet to be finalized. Also, there is change in leadership of China Qiyuan, so it's difficult to work on the tournament yet. Mr. Wang then added that China is willing to talk if any other country is interested in hosting WAGC.

Item 8: Election of 2015 Auditing Countries:

Thailand and Australia were reelected as auditing countries.

Item 9: Election of 2015 - 2017 Vice President & Directors (Annex 5)

Four directors (Mr. Lopez, Ms. Taki, Mr. Finke, and Mr. Yang) were due their terms, and Mr. Finke expressed his wish to step down from the Board. All other Directors were reelected for another term of 2 years.

Mr. Finke stated that he enjoyed working with the IGF in the past years, but had to step down due to his busy schedule at work.

Item 10: Items brought for AGM

(a) IGF Development Committee (Annex 6)

It was explained that the IGF Board will study further about setting the IGF Development Committee, and no decision will be made at this meeting.

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(b) IGF Membership Applications (Annex 7)

Four membership applications were submitted: Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, and the Asian Go Federation. Iran's application was accepted. For Nigeria and Pakistan, it was agreed to hold their applications until the IGF sends delegates to investigate.

The Asian Go Federation was accepted as a new associate member of the IGF.

(c) Matters with the Membership fees (Annex 8)

It was stated that the IGF will work with the members that have not paid membership fee over two years. By principle, the IGF will give the members more time to build their community and pay the fee. The IGF will support where it's needed, as well as the regional federations such as the EGF or the IAGF.

(d) IGF Code of Ethics (Annex 9)

New draft for the IGF Code of Ethics was presented. Mr. Smythe briefed the codes at the meeting. The IGF Codes were designed to be concise but cover all necessary areas. In addition, the new code includes the IGF's existing code of conduct as a part of "Fair Play." Serious issues such as illegal betting and game fixing were covered. Also, the codes apply to not only players but also the officials and organizers. On a special note, the new Code of Ethics requires setting up an Ethics Commission.

Two amendments from the draft were suggested: 1) Ethics Panel -> Ethics Commission; 2) comes into force on June 6, 2015. The Board agreed to recommend the Code of Ethics to the General Meeting.

(e) IGF pins for donors (Annex 10)

Three designs for the IGF pins for donors were presented to the floor, and design A was selected for the IGF donors' pin.

Item 11: Date for the next BM

The next AGM was suggested during the 37th WAGC as a custom.

Item 15: Other businesses

Meeting concluded at 14:50.