

Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2007 of the European Go Federation

20th July 2007 at Villach EGC, Austria

0) Present

Executive:

President: Tony Atkins,

Vice-Presidents: Martin Stiassny & Oleg Gavrillov,

Treasurer: Hans Kostka,

Secretary: John Gibson,

Officer Tournaments: Matti Siivola,

Officer Ratings: Ales Cieply

Auditors: Peter Zandveld, Arnaud Knippel

Official representatives of 31 Countries:

Armenia:	Victor Zilberberg
Austria:	Simon Gemel
Azerbaijan:	Gambaz Jafarov
Belarus:	Michael Kuznetzov
Bosnia:	Dragan Barisic
Bulgaria:	Yoni Lazarov
Croatia:	Ozward Gabrijel
Cyprus:	Dimitris Regginos
Czechia:	Martin Kovarik
Denmark:	Jannik Rasmussen
Finland:	Suvi Leppanen
France:	Antoine Fenech
Germany:	Michael Marz
Hungary:	Andras Kosztyu
Ireland:	John Gibson
Italy:	Gionata Soletti
Lithuania:	Olaf Martens
Luxemburg:	Cuong Nguyen
Netherlands:	Frank Janssen/Rob Friedrichs
Norway:	Pal Sannes
Poland:	Michal Parkola
Portugal:	Jose Teles de Menezes
Russia:	Victor Bogdanov
Serbia:	Krstic Dejan
Slovakia:	Martin Strelka
Slovenia:	Gregor Butala
Sweden:	Leif Pettersson
Switzerland:	Lorenz Trippel
Turkey:	Mehmet-Emin Barsbey
Ukraine:	Igor Golinej
United Kingdom:	Ron Bell

Belgium, Israel, Romania & Spain were unrepresented.

Also present was Robert Jasiak of the EGF Rules Commission.

In addition to the 42 above 18 observers were present.

1) Opening

Tony Atkins opened the meeting at 6:15pm.

2) Guest Speaker

Mrs Taki from the World Pair Go Association gave a presentation on the History and development of Pair Go starting from 1990 and plans for future development of international Pair Go.

3) Representation

Representatives from 31 countries were accorded voting rights.

4) Agenda

The agenda was accepted with addition of item reappointing IGF officials.

5) Minutes

The minutes of 2006 were accepted.

6) New Members

Five countries are still working on becoming members of EGF.

7) Reports

7a) President, Tony Atkins, mentioned two important anniversaries; the 50th congress and his 30th year as a player. Also strong player's commission to consider matters of interest to strong players with regard to EGC Championship and Mind Game Olympics in Beijing discussed. Also mentioned were three children's teams going to Japan for the Oza.

7b) The Secretary, John Gibson, had only taken over in September and had little to report.

7c) The Treasurer, Hans Kostka, reported on the state of our finances which are healthy but was disappointed with late payers. A number of ways of improving this were discussed. The matter of some countries only sending minimum was discussed. Italy asked that countries that did not pay fees in time not be accorded voting rights and also proposed that fees should be paid by 31st March. Some countries have problems making payments because of bank restrictions. The proposal to charge late payment fees was passed by 15-7-3. Austria proposed fees based on number of rated players. Italy also proposed that players representing their country should be members of their association, but this is the countries' own problem. Use of Paypal should be investigated.

8) Auditors' Report

The Auditors reported that the accounts were an accurate reflection of the financial position. They were passed unanimously. They also felt that some countries did not pay their full fees. Austria raised the matter of 2000 euro spent on travel to Japan.

9) IGF

Martin Stiassny's report mentioned the IMSA (Go, Chess, Bridge, Chinese Chess and Draughts) event in Beijing in October 2008. The Pair Go Association will act as Pair Go sponsor. A deadline of 30th September is to decide what to do if no general sponsor is found. Maybe 300+ Go players expected. The KPMC dates were 9-16 October in Suwon with 70 countries expected, with the Philippines back. The new President of IGF is Okabe Hiromu. Germany mentioned that the IGF Directors have our approval.

10) Commission Reports

No written reports were received from any commissions.

Rules reported their ongoing activities.

Youth events ran as normal.

Ratings continued successfully

11) Elections

All the existing executive and Auditors were re-elected unopposed.

12) Budget

The budgets were presented for 2007/8 and 2008/9 with no disapproval.

13) Commissions

The proposal for a strong players Commission (defined as 6 Dan or stronger) was passed 18-6-6. Austria mentioned that they had a Top 6 commission which works; Italy favoured a think tank in conjunction with the Rules Commission.

14) European Go Congresses

a Italy 2006

Good parties, no full financial feedback, equipment hard to get back, invites for visas were slow resulting in some non-arrivals.

b Austria 2007

70-80 visas organised, good Pro programme, good scheme to cater for 47 Lithuanian players, lack of Chinese Pros discussed, Simon negotiated but not fixed a deal in time due to slow Chinese response.

c Sweden 2008

150 entries already for Leksand, internet site up, 450 beds booked locally; many side events organised; transport good and pros invited from Japan, Korea and China.

d Netherlands 2009

Groningen is the venue. 250 beds booked in Congress centre, website up egc2009.com

e Finland 2010

Venue city still to be decided, 4 cities are under consideration.

f 2011 France (near Nice) and Poland (Krakow) proposed. France won the vote 20-5

g Germany 2012 (75th anniversary), Cyprus and Luxemburg 2013 and Russia 2014 (Sochi) expressed interest in future Congresses.

15) European Tournament Calendar

The following were approved:

a EYGC 2008: Czechia (Mikulov) 2009: Bosnia proposed

b Student 2008: France (Cannes) 2009: Poland (Krakow) proposed

c Pairs 2009: Czechia (Prague or Brno) proposed

d Ing 2009: EGCC

e Women 2009: Provisionally Czechia with Pair go above

f Teams 2008: France (Cannes) maybe with Student above

Teams 2009: Romania proposed

Netherlands stated an interest in the 2010 Students.

16) Rules Changes

a Proposal to accept EGF General Tournament Rules passed 13-0 after two amendments. Austria asked why rules so long for such a simple game. Also mentioned was that Ing Foundation sponsors us for 100000 euro on condition that we use their rules. The proposal to remove 'simplified' was accepted and the appeal clause was passed 11-1.

b EGF System Rules passed 7-1.

f Swedish proposal withdrawn.

c, d, e Much discussion on these complex matters. It was agreed not to change anything this year.

17) Team Captains

World Pair Go: NO CZ AT DE FI PL FR RU ES to play. Captain not decided.

WAGC: IGF Director selected.

18) Member proposals

a Romania proposed a Promotion and Marketing Commission.

19) AOB

a Czechia proposed that documentation be circulated earlier.

The meeting closed at 10:40pm

John Gibson Honorary Secretary