

## **Hungarian Go Association - Report on completion of Ing project 2004-2005**

### **Project Summary**

During the year 2004 significant changes took place in Hungarian Go life. After a quite long period when only one central club existed - then some years of slow expansion in areas outside Budapest, a strong movement was undertaken with success towards establishing 10 Go clubs country wide. Our aim is getting closer and closer to establish a national sports-federation, which is one necessary condition of an official recognition of Go as a sport in Hungary. From now on, the reorganized Hungarian Go Association tries to combine the power of local initiatives and to organize distribution of central resources along a common streamline. The main objectives of our Ing project 2004 were therefore as follows:

- ? Helping the new member clubs with start of their own activities including Go teaching, club life, organizing tournaments (Ing sets and timers necessary as a base for local events – still central help needed to organize bigger tournaments)
- ? Harmonized actions for introduction of Go in schools, addressing other public channels
- ? Spreading knowledge about Ing rules, making Ing tournaments permanent part of the Hungarian Go Tournament cycle as a special tournament class (Ing rules are available in Hungarian as a result of an earlier Ing project)
- ? Organizing Go courses and camps for children, involving dan players as teachers during these events
- ? Ensuring continuously available refreshed information about the planned events on our Internet homepages both for domestic and international use

These goals have all been reached with the help of the present project, however we continue to suffer from lack of proactive players, which makes it very hard to increase the number of go events and reach a breakthrough in spreading the game in Hungary.

During the project, initial payments and subsequent presentation of the results was followed by a second payment to participating Go clubs, and the Project Board tried to make the use of granted resources more effective than ever before. The sum of 634299 HUF and Go materials we received was distributed quite evenly among most active groups as described below. A sum of 400000 HUF and the main part of Go materials was given out for support of local activities to the five clubs joined their efforts for the project application, while a smaller part was used centrally to serve as a core of the project.

#### **1. Central activities**

As a first step towards playing go, cheap 9x9 board and stones are a must to have. Our common interest was to produce such sets, which was done by Istvan Albrecht – the secretary of HGA. These sets were shown also on the Go Congress in Tuchola – creating interest quickly, and we have been using them since then continuously in schools. Connected to sport events and camps for

children it often happens that HGA is requested to demonstrate the game, the costs of such help was covered from the grant countrywide, like:

- ? Medals, cups, presents for children (excluding prizes in cash)
- ? Travel costs of teachers, demonstrators and organizers
- ? Communication and promotional costs (postage, flyers)

Others like:

- ? Purchasing Go boards
- ? Ordering Go books, journals

Of course these are paid fully by the person/club placing the order, only the procedure and ordering was done centrally

*With the remaining part of the Grant, we have plans to use it centrally, turning the autumn Hungarian Open into a really fully open, free Ing event giving every player a feeling of big family-like event.*

## **2. Project details of loGOsz Go Club**

This club was founded on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2003 in the town of Miskolc; the present number of members is 15. The executive consists of adult members of the club. They meet and play almost every week (some players are learning in Budapest recently); their long-term aim is making the game of Go known in the region.

Their results under the project:

- ? continuous participation on country-level events
- ? organization of Hungarian Go Camp'2004 in Nagyörvényes-Tiszalúc with two tournaments played using ING rules





- ? organization demonstrations of Go game in a library, school and college
- ? participating in the special Children Go Camp'2004 in Pápa with 3 children + 1 accompanying adult
- ? using Ing rules on closing tournaments of the children's course and club tournaments
- ? most recently starting a new go circle at Budapest, "Tan kapuja" Buddhist high school with dan level teacher (mostly Attila Teby) every week

### 3. *Project details of Takara Go School*



The school has been working on promotion of Go among children since 1993, and until 2000 they organized the Hungarian Youth Championships. Emphasis is on courses held in schools, and it is important that schools themselves support this activity. Following the beginners' courses, local children Go clubs were started in several schools like the one

working continuously for 12 years already at Csiki-hegyek utca in Gazdagrét (Budapest), and others in Szentendre, Bajza utca (Budapest), Medve utca (Budapest) and Kincsház (Budapest) elementary schools. Under the project they continued and extended earlier activities as follows:

- ✍ Continue the work in both school courses
- ✍ Organize the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Takara Kids Tournament

It is a new special children tournament series in beginner and advanced categories. Beginners are playing on 13x13 board without using clock, and each game is followed immediately by a second one, where the loser begins with 2 stones. The advanced category is playing a normal Swiss system tournament at the same time. The club is continuing to be active in:

- ✍ Deepening the knowledge of Ing rules - Go promotion activity
- ✍

#### **4. Project details of the Kelenföldi Go Club**

Kelenföld is the name of that part of Budapest, where most of their members are living, and their central club is located, Kelenföldi Go Club was founded in 2003 with 14 members, 9 of which were never members of a Go club before - including both Chinese immigrant dan players and children who began playing Go in 2003. Under the Ing project in year 2004/2005 the following activities took place:

- ? Continued beginners' course in the elementary school where it was started in year 2003. (Budapest, Köbölkút street, at south-west part of the Gellért-hill.)
- ? Another elementary school where a Saturday-only Japanese supplementary school is operating, and a special school for children of Chinese immigrants in Budapest were contacted. These schools got promotion material and talks are ongoing to start a Go course, KGC would offer teacher and tools.
- ? Support family-Go-playing, what is one of the club's basic aims. The club has excellent teachers – like Tibor and Rita Pocsai



? The main event during this project was the handicap-Ing tournament held on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005, which replaced the former Hungarian Champagne Cup. Winner was again Rita Pocsai.

##### **5. Project details of Go Club in Pápa**

Zoltán Bárdos is working as a teacher of mathematics in a boys' college since 1997 in this small town located in west-Hungary. Establishing a go circle in the college fortunately fully met the ideas of school leadership to use each possibility of bringing cultural values inside the walls of the school while also having fun. Combined with listening music – the Go club meeting each Thursday seems to be quite popular, usually there are more than 10 students participating on the “lessons”. Main part of the

Grant they received was needed to make available more teaching materials (Go World, stones, clocks, Go boards) for them and for possibility to practice Ing rule playing as well.



The best student, Zoltán Fódi has already reached 3 kyu starting from 7 kyu one year ago together with the present project. Most of other students are around 15 kyu, participating on as much tournaments as possible is essential for their further development. Another part of the Grant was used to help them traveling to more tournaments.

Another important event they succeeded to organize is the summer children's Go camp, where Csaba Méro 7 dan, who is the Hungarian Go Champion, came to teach the boys. In 2005 a similar event is planned like it was in 2004 between June 27<sup>th</sup> – July 3<sup>rd</sup> with the same teacher but with more participants and making it longer. To facilitate and make this event successful, and available for more children from all over the country, equipment and cash received from the Grant was essential.

#### **6. Project details of Duna Go Club**

Peter Fornai initiated the Duna Go Club in the winter of 2003. After 3 months they already had 15 members – 12 of them under the age of 24. The club's president maintains the <http://go.lap.hu> information portal page about the game of go which functions as an excellent starting page for all Hungarian go players. The club concentrates its operation in universities and colleges (ELTE: [www.elte.hu](http://www.elte.hu), BME: [www.bmf.hu](http://www.bmf.hu), BGF: [www.bgf.hu](http://www.bgf.hu)).

ELTE, the oldest and largest university in Hungary (established in 1635, and served as origin of playing Go in Hungary, starting from the 1970's) actively supports the club (e.g. by providing the necessary room for meetings) which maintains close relationship with the Student Union.

Their purpose is to spread Go among the younger generation and to unite and support those who are interested with technical and intellectual help so they can reach better results.

#### **Project achievements:**

1. Getting new members from the younger generation mostly by recruiting and education. New members are mostly coming out from the University of ELTE (where there are about 30.000 students and where we built out a good relationship with the university establishment, and

where some of our club members have even participated in teaching activities of the university.) Spreading the game of Go for people mostly between the age of 10-26 is progressing well, they have managed to recruit new members and young people even from towns far away from the capital.



2. The University of ELTE provides them with computer room, overhead projector to demonstrate games for students. What was needed, however, are go boards, stones and clocks for games. For evaluation of games, practices – inviting teachers they needed financial sources. They plan to go further towards professionally printed teaching material.
3. They made good use of the centralized resources and training materials, also for training-the-trainers and more experienced players by organizing “study” trips.
4. The club organized its first country-level competition. Currently, students of 3-4 colleges/universities used to participate on own and countrywide Go events.
5. Promotional activity based on the electronic network of ELTE, and its News. Members of our club can easily create the graphical and design work for these.
6. Working on finalizing the club’s homepage, which is at the <http://dunago.hu> address. Those students who are programming students did the programming work. On this server they provide the ING Rules, training room and a database, etc.
7. The long-term goal they are working on, and seems to be coming closer, is to achieve that Go is taught to students as an official subject. Viktor Fornai, as the go sport commissioner of the University of ELTE Student Association has achieved that the game of go can be taken as an official sport related subject at the university during this last term.

In summary the club completed a couple of tasks under this project. Their members have progressed nicely in the past one year and they have achieved better and better results on competitions. Thanks to their work the popularity of Go has increased considerably in the universities mentioned above and more and more beginner player gets interested. The <http://go.lap.hu> homepage (maintained by them) helped a lot in this purpose. This homepage used as an orientation point by go players of Hungary.

Currently, the meetings of the association are held in the freely provided facilities of the University of ELTE (at Budapest, Pázmány Sétány 1. Déli tömb) every Friday evening.

Tibor Rapai, President of KGE *and*  
György Csizmadia, President of HGA

### **Lithuanian Go Association - Report on completion of Ing project 2004-2005**

#### **Description of the project:**

Due to the geographic location of Lithuania, visits to other countries and participation in international tournaments are rather expensive for most Lithuanian players. Despite the very positive development of our Go community in the past 5 years, Lithuanian players have been seen very rarely at tournaments in other countries.

The EGC 2004 in Tuchola, Poland, presented us with a unique opportunity of allowing participation of a group of Lithuanian children. The near distance to the venue and the extraordinarily low costs for accommodation and food made this Congress very attractive.

#### **Report:**

For most of our children, this was their very first visit to a foreign country. That alone gave these children a unique experience: to meet people from other countries, to talk and play with them.

Altogether, 21 children from the age of 12 to 17 joined us on our trip (11 boys, 10 girls). Their ranks ranged from 15k to 2k. They were accompanied by 3 adults (Daiva Nevardauskiene, Jonas Kraujelis, Olaf Martens) who were responsible for the well-being of our children. Several other players from Lithuania and Holland (Paul van Galen) also gave us their support and a lot of help during the EGC.

During the 6 days our children used almost every minute to play with people from other countries, learn from stronger players, participate in the various tournaments and make new friends. The children's results of the main tournament were not very positive (on average only 1 win out of 5 games), but it seemed that this only increased their enthusiasm to take every opportunity to play and learn.

In fact, some of them made some huge progress during this one week at the EGC. So after the congress several children proved their increase in strength with excellent tournament results and were promoted to higher ranks. We are especially happy that the small group of children around 5-7k made significant progress. As there are not so many stronger players in Lithuania it is quite difficult for us to help them to advance further from that level.

But most importantly, not a single child has quit Go since this trip. In fact, the children's groups in Moletai and Kaunas became more active. Several new teaching projects were started in autumn

2004, most importantly a two-weekly course of lectures by dan-level players for the children's group at the Moletai gymnasium.

And at the moment, our national organisation is preparing another trip for 25 children, to the European Go Congress 2005 in Prague. This time, our members have put in even more personal efforts in order to raise money to finance this trip.

Olaf Martens, Vice-President, Lithuanian Go Association

### **Romanian Go Federation - Report on completion of Ing project 2004-2005**

The following events was partial supported from the ING Grant, the money is used only for children's expenses. This support does not exceed 20% of the total children's expenses.

- 1) **Summer Camp**, Eforie Nord, 24-30 June 2004, 30 children. Lessons and simultaneous with Dragos Bajenaru- 6d and Cristian Pop- 7d

<http://www.go-portal.org/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=58&Itemid=2>



- 2) **National Youth Championship**, Bistrita, 3-8 July 2004, 80 children. All tournaments are playing with ING rules. Also ING rules lessons, for children and Go teachers.

<http://www.go-portal.org/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=60&Itemid=2>



- 3) **Bucharest Grand Prix**, Bucharest, 2-3 October 2004, 40 children

<http://www.go-portal.org/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=66&Itemid=2>



- 4) **Saijo Cup**, Curtea de Arges, 9-10 October 2004, 40 children (300 EURO). Saijo Sensei (9p) and Catalin Taranu (5p) were present at this special event.

[http://www.go-portal.org/index.php?option=com\\_simpleboard&Itemid=27&func=view&id=80&catid=2](http://www.go-portal.org/index.php?option=com_simpleboard&Itemid=27&func=view&id=80&catid=2)

- 5) **Seminar** with the subject: “Introducing Go as optional subject matter in schools”, Bucharest, 3 June 2005. 15 participants from Sport and Educational Ministries, press, Go players and teachers.

The ING material was distributed to the children Clubs in Severin, Braila, Bistrita, Timisoara and Pitesti.

Mihai Opris, Secretary, Romanian Go Federation