

IGA AGM 2008 Meeting Minutes 27/10/2008

Attendance

- Noel Mitchell
- Eoghan Barry
- John Gibson
- Arthur Cater
- Olivier Deme
- Ian Davis

2008 Events Review

Ladder

The committee was satisfied that the ladder tournament has been a good experience overall though improvements are much needed with regards to the rules. Eoghan Barry has offered to submit a proposal for new rules. The objective is to clarify existing rules and reduce ambiguity.

It was also suggested to increase incentive to play in the ladder by offering special prizes to those who have achieved exceptionally well, such as the best progression of the year.

It was agreed that a separate committee for the ladder tournament wasn't needed and that the IGA committee would act as referee committee.

Micro Tournaments

Three micro-events took place during 2008 falling short of the four initially intended at the last AGM.

Everybody agreed though that these were highly positive and similar events should be organized in 2009.

Mentoring

Some mentoring was conducted during 2008. The committee decided that this offer to all IGA members should be better advertised on our web site.

International and National Events

IGA players played in four major international events during the course of 2008.

Also, 4 main go tournaments took place in Ireland (Cork, Galway, Belfast, Dublin).

Financial Report

Arthur presented the financial situation of the club at the end of 2008.

Due to better membership and high number of participants in the Irish Go Congress 2008, the club managed to raise its funds from 795.95 Euros to 924.99 Euros.

It was decided that some of this money should be reserved for sponsoring IGA players

to participate in Irish and British Go events.

It was agreed to keep membership fees unchanged (20 Euros per year for employed, 10 Euros for unemployed and students).

Dun Laoghaire Festival of World Cultures

John volunteered to participate in promoting the game of Go at the Festival of World Cultures next August.

A new idea would be to offer short training sessions in return for a small fee.

Sponsorship

The club still has OK Sports vouchers which it should use for tournament prizes.

John suggested that the IGA should seek membership from Chinese companies in Ireland.

Ian suggested to investigate the possibility to be sponsored by Google.

Embassies are still good candidates to sponsor the club.

Go Equipment

New Go equipment is urgently required to be able to organize the Irish Open 2009 as more participants are expected.

In particular, a minimum of 10 clocks is needed along with a few go sets.

John said new new go equipment was available this year through the European Go Federation. However the club might be able to borrow equipment from the Go center in Amsterdam for the Irish Open.

Olivier proposed to check if it was possible to buy cheap clocks on the Internet.

Ian volunteered to investigate the possibility to buy Go equipment from Chinese shops in Belfast.

Irish Championship

The committee pointed out the fact that the Irish Championship tends to drag largely over its intended deadlines.

It was suggested to shorten the championship by organizing a week-end kick-off event during which a significant amount of games would be played, followed by a short period of a few weeks during which all remaining games should be played. The venue for that week-end event should rotate between Dublin and other major club cities in the country.

The Ladder Tournament will still be used as a criteria for qualification to the Irish Championship.

Korea Points

Ian proposed a change in the allocation of Korea points. Details of the new rules affecting Korea points will soon be published on the web site.

Committee Members

Olivier and Noel have formerly resigned from their position of Secretary and President of the club.

The IGA is pleased to welcome Ian Davis as new President and Eoghan Barry as new Secretary.

Olivier and Noel will remain on the committee.

Arthur was re-elected Treasurer.

The committee is thus made of the following members:

- Ian Davis (President)
- Eoghan Barry (Secretary)
- Arthur Cater (Treasurer)
- Olivier Deme
- Noel Mitchell
- Stephen Flinter

Irish Go Congress 2009

Olivier agreed to be the Irish Open head organizer for the last time this year. He will be helped by volunteers. Eoghan offered to help and possibly prepare himself for being head organizer next year.

Arthur will be head organizer for the Rapid Tournament.

Ian will look into printing leaflets advertising the event which could be distributed at other Go events abroad.

Web Site

Everybody agreed that navigation is not easy on the IGA web site. It is difficult to find specific information.

Eoghan will work on reorganizing the layout of the main page to improve on this.

Others

The committee decided to display the recently printed leaflets advertising the IGA inside supermarkets, take-aways, restaurants, etc.

Actions

Action	Assigned
Submit new rules proposal for the Ladder Tournament	Eoghan
Seek sponsorship from Chinese companies based in Ireland.	John
Seek sponsorship from Google,	Ian
Investigate the possibility to borrow go equipment for the Irish Open 2009.	John
Investigate the cost of buying more clocks online	Olivier
Investigate possibility to buy Go equipment from Chinese shop	Ian

in Belfast	
New organization for Irish Championship (including week-end event).	IGA committee and Top8 committee.
Finalization of Korea Points allocation.	Ian. Approved by committee.
Prepare leaflets advertising Irish Go Congress 2009.	Ian
Update web site home page to ease navigation.	Eoghan
Display IGA leaflets in supermarkets, take-aways, etc.	Committee
Update the website to specify new committee for the Ladder Tournament	Olivier
Redirect secretary@irish-go.org emails to Eoghan.	Stephen
Redirect president@irish-go.org emails to Ian.	Stephen
Redirect ladder@irish-go.org emails to committee@irish-go.org	Stephen
Update website to promote mentoring	Olivier
Prepare participation in Festival of World Cultures	John