

## **IAGR Business Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Rome

Chair, Dennis Neilander, Nevada Gaming Control Board  
Vice Chair, Andre Wilsenach, Alderney Gambling Control Commission  
Secretary, Susan Hensel, Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

### **1. Opening:**

The meeting was officially opened at 3:25 p.m. by the outgoing IAGR Chair, Dennis Neilander, who welcomed all IAGR members.

### **2. Apologies:**

An official apology was recorded on behalf of IAGR Steering Committee members Trudy Smith Fuselier, USA, Larry Gregory, USA and Hases Per Sjoblom, Sweden.

### **3. Report from Chair:**

Outgoing Chair Neilander advised the membership that the IAGR name is being used to promote false games and lotteries. In some cases, there have even been claims that the game or lottery is associated with an IAGR office. Outgoing Chair Neilander stated that IAGR does not have an office and asked that, if any member receives an inquiry about a game or lottery sponsored by IAGR, the member indicate that IAGR is not affiliated with any company awarding any type of prizes or money.

Outgoing Chair Neilander acknowledged and thanked the individual members of the IAGR Steering Committee, incoming Chair Andre Wilsenach and Conference Coordinator, Kerry Koenig for the invaluable assistance they provided him during the past year.

### **4. Report of the Special Subcommittee to Examine the Bylaws:**

Outgoing Chair Neilander noted that concerns had been expressed during the 2007 Chicago conference regarding how individuals are appointed to the Steering Committee. He indicated that there is no clear guidance as to how an individual becomes a part of the Steering Committee in the IAGR Bylaws. As a result of these concerns, outgoing Chair Neilander stated that he decided to evaluate whether the Bylaws, which were originally adopted in 2000, were in need of modernization and clarification.

Under Article 5, Section 4 of the Bylaws, the Chair may appoint Special Committees consisting of two or more members of IAGR to carry out duties and functions as may be determined by the Chair. Outgoing Chair Neilander appointed incoming Chair Andre Wilsenach, Atle Hamar and Peter Cohen to a Special Committee to study the Bylaws

with a goal of identifying necessary improvements. Outgoing Chair Neilander indicated that he would like to see formal adoption of new Bylaws at the 2009 Business Meeting.

Outgoing Chair Neilander introduced incoming Chair Wilsenach to provide an overview of the Special Committee's work. Incoming Chair Wilsenach thanked Atle Hamar and Peter Cohen for their assistance. He indicated that the goal of the Special Committee was to create a discussion document that could be shared with the Steering Committee and the membership and that could form the basis for a report to the Chair. He noted that the discussion document had been provided to both the Steering Committee for its input and the membership prior to the Business Meeting.

Incoming Chair Wilsenach stated that there were five key recommendations in the discussion document. The first recommendation concerns the appointment of members to the Steering Committee. Incoming Chair Wilsenach indicated that under the existing Bylaws, both the Steering Committee and the regular membership may nominate members to the Steering Committee; the Secretary should be informed of the nominees prior to the election meeting; Steering Committee members should be elected annually by membership vote; and following the annual election of the Steering Committee, appointments to fill vacancies may be made by the Chair. To improve transparency associated with the election of Steering Committee members, it is recommended that in the future the names of potential Steering Committee members be submitted to the IAGR Secretary 15 days prior to the Business Meeting and that the Secretary distribute the names of nominees to the membership 10 days prior to the Business Meeting.

The second recommendation is in regard to the appointment of IAGR officers. The discussion document suggests that, because the Steering Committee is in the best position to assess member contributions, the Steering Committee be charged with electing officers. Incoming Chair Wilsenach pointed out that this change in the Bylaws would only affect the appointment of the Vice Chair. Under the current Bylaws, the Vice Chair automatically ascends to the position of Chair. In addition, the Chair is responsible for appointing the Secretary.

The next recommendation has to do with Jurisdictional Representation. Incoming Chair Wilsenach observed that adding a requirement to the Bylaws to have absolute jurisdictional representation on the Steering Committee would result in a Steering Committee too large to be manageable. As a result, it was recommended that geographical representation be an aspiration rather than a requirement. Incoming Chair Wilsenach noted that there is currently a geographical balance to the Steering Committee membership. In addition, he noted that the impact an individual has on the geographical balance of the Steering Committee is only one factor in whether someone is eligible for the Steering Committee. Other factors include the individual contribution of the person and whether the individual's nomination has regional support.

The fourth set of recommendations concerns the term of office for Steering Committee members. It is recommended that a Steering Committee member be limited to a five year term in office with an option for re-election although a minority view was that the term

be three years. The discussion document also suggests limiting the number of members on the Steering Committee to keep the committee a manageable size. The recommendation is to limit the Steering Committee to the Chair plus 12 members or the Chair plus 10 members. In addition, the discussion document recommends that a Steering Committee member no longer be able to serve should the member miss three meetings without permission. Finally, there was a recommendation that the Chair's term expire at the end of his or her term in office. However, the Steering Committee consensus is that the Chair remain on the Steering Committee for one year after the expiration of his or her term. Incoming Chair Wilsenach also discussed the possible creation of an advisory panel of past chairs to serve as a resource to the Steering Committee. He indicated that there is a question as to whether there is a need for an advisory panel.

The final recommendation in the discussion document is in reference to honorary memberships to IAGR. Under the current Bylaws, an IAGA member is allowed to obtain an honorary membership. The discussion document suggests eliminating the honorary membership provision.

Incoming Chair Wilsenach discussed the implementation plan for the recommendations. He stated that the discussion document would be available for public comment until November 1, 2008. The document will then be redrafted to take into account the comments for discussion with the Steering Committee at its mid-year meeting in January 2009. The document will then be placed on the IAGR website with a goal of adopting amended Bylaws at the 2009 Business Meeting. The new Bylaws would be implemented in 2009 and 2010.

It was agreed that Peter Cohen takes over the Chairmanship of the Subcommittee from Andre Wilsenach and members were encouraged to forward any suggestions they have to Peter Cohen.

## **5. Succeeding Chair and Vice Chair of IAGR**

Outgoing Chair Neilander noted that the Chair of IAGR for 2009 would be Andre Wilsenach (Alderney, Channel Islands). Outgoing Chair Neilander stated that the membership needed to elect a new Vice Chair. According to the current Bylaws, the Steering Committee is required to nominate a Vice Chair. The Steering Committee has nominated Peter Cohen (Australia). Outgoing Chair Neilander also pointed out that the Bylaws provide that the membership can offer a Vice Chair nominee. The Bylaws require that the name of a nominee be provided to the Secretary five days prior to the Business Meeting. Secretary Hensel confirmed that she had not received any nominations for Vice Chair.

## **6. New Steering Committee Members:**

Outgoing Chair Neilander stated that there are two vacancies on the Steering Committee. The first vacancy was created by the resignation of Hases Per Sjoblom, Sweden, who has

accepted a new, non-gaming related position in Sweden's Ministry of Finance. The second vacancy was created by Nana Magomola, South Africa, who left the Steering Committee earlier in the year. Outgoing Chair Neilander stated that the Steering Committee was recommending to the membership, for its consideration, the appointment of Kaye McDonald, St. John's Antigua and Zukiswa Ntlangula, South Africa. Both nominees had confirmed their availability for the appointment. There were no objections from the membership to the appointments of either the Vice Chair or the new Steering Committee members.

#### **7. IAGR Website:**

Outgoing Chair Neilander reported that the IAGR website had been updated and redesigned. Secretary Hensel invited the membership to view the new site and stated that updating the look of the website to improve its appearance and usefulness was the first phase of the website's planned redesign. The next phase of the redesign will be the addition of a members' only section and will allow for interactivity between members. Secretary Hensel stated that the interactive portion of the website would be patterned after the Gaming Regulators European Forum website. Secretary Hensel thanked New Jersey for all of its efforts to date on the website. She also invited members to send her any content they would like to see on the website.

#### **8. Internet Working Group Update:**

Jenny Williams, United Kingdom, stated that the working group has agreed on a final draft of a Statement of Principles document. The intention is that the document be circulated along with procedures for making updates. The document will also be posted on the IAGR website. In addition to the Statement of Principles and associated technical guidelines, information is being gathered on best practice for compliance and enforcement.

#### **9. 2008 Conference Feedback Form:**

Peter Cohen, Australia, encouraged the membership to complete the conference feedback forms. He explained that the forms are important because they tell the Steering Committee what the members liked and did not like about the conference program. This information forms the basis for next year's conference program.

#### **10. IAGA/IAGR 2009 Conference:**

Outgoing Chair Neilander reported that incoming Chair Wilsenach has been working with incoming IAGA President Bob Miller to ensure that IAGR has a voice in upcoming conference locations. In determining where to hold the 2009 conference, several factors are being taken into account including the recent economic downturn, the value of the area's currency, and whether the venue is easy to reach. While a final decision has not yet been made, it is likely the conference will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. It was also noted that the 2009 conference will be held in early October not September. The

membership will be kept informed of plans for the 2009 conference via the website and e-mail.

**11. Longstanding Members of IAGR:**

Tributes were paid to outgoing member of long standing, Hases Per Sjoblom, Sweden who was thanked for his many contributions over the years.

**12. Assumption of Office & Duties by Incoming Chair:**

In assuming office, incoming Chair Wilsenach thanked outgoing Chair Neilander for his contributions to IAGR and the success of the annual conference. Incoming Chair Wilsenach thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve as Chair. He stated that his vision is to make IAGR into a working organization not just an organization that meets once a year. He added that outgoing Chair Neilander worked in that direction through his efforts with, for example, the Bylaws, the website and the Internet Working Group. Incoming Chair Wilsenach stated that those and other efforts set the table to make IAGR an even better organization than it is today. He thanked outgoing Chair Neilander and acknowledged that his job as Chair was not always easy, especially with Nevada going through a difficult economic phase.

**13. Additional Business:**

There being no additional items of business arising, the Business Meeting was closed at 4:05 p.m.