

## **American Go Honor Society Bylaws**

**Note.** The Executive Board should make the General Board, which refers to all AGHS officers, aware of the existence of the bylaws at the start of each term. All individuals shall read the bylaws prior to completing the AGHS application and/or service.

### **Article I. Name**

The organization is the “American Go Honor Society,” also referred to as “AGHS.”

### **Article II. Purpose**

#### **Section 1. Mission**

The mission of AGHS is to organize and run tournaments for youth Go players, promote the game of Go among their peers, and provide a supportive and positive learning environment where each individual can develop leadership skills to contribute to the growth of Go in the United States.

### **Article III. Executive Board**

#### **Section 1. Composition**

The Executive Board, comprising the President(s) and Vice-Presidents(s), shall serve one-year terms unless re-elected as the policymaking board of AGHS with the power to control and manage the organization’s affairs and assets.

#### **Section 2. The Advisor**

The Advisor, often appointed by the American Go Foundation (AGF), shall counsel AGHS to ensure smooth transitions and long-term success, voting only to break ties. They shall be knowledgeable in AGHS and AGF’s affairs and assets. They shall ensure incoming Executive Boards receive full access to the AGHS bylaws and presidential communications prior to their term.

#### **Section 3. Executive Board Eligibility**

Consists of active AGHS officers in grades 8 to 11 from the previous term, selected by the outgoing Executive Board.

#### **Section 4. Incoming Executive Board Selection Process**

The outgoing Executive Board, with the Advisor, will choose the new Executive Board based on demonstrated ability and performance, prioritizing rising seniors.

### **Section 5. Renewal Process By Election**

Executive Board members not exceeding grade level requirements in the preceding term may be re-elected by the General Board with a two-thirds affirmative vote. The Secretary shall call for re-election for the next year's Executive Board at the end of the membership year.

### **Section 6. Announcement of New Executive Board**

Outgoing Executive Board shall announce successors by July 31, and incoming Executive Board shall announce General Board by August 30 prior to term.

### **Section 7. Executive Board Vacancy**

In case of vacancy, the remaining officers may elect a successor from the current General Board by majority vote to serve the remaining term.

### **Section 8. Termination of Executive Board**

Executive board officers may be removed by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the General Board, with the approval of the Advisor.

## **Article IV. General Board Officers**

### **Section 1. Composition**

Includes President(s), Vice-President(s), Secretary, Treasurer, Tournament Directors, Promotion Head, Media Marketing Manager, Website Manager, and Graphic Designer(s). The Executive Board may adjust the positions.

### **Section 2. Election Process**

Officers, excluding Executive Board positions, must apply for their roles. The Executive Board shall decide the application and criteria for selecting incoming officers. All officers must be in grades 8 to 12 during their term(s). Selection shall be based on application quality and, for returners, demonstrated ability and

performance during their term. Selections shall be unbiased against birthplace, disability, ethnicity, gender, race, residency, or sexual orientation.

### **Section 3. Notification of Leave**

Officers are required to notify the Executive Board in advance of any planned leave, such as family vacations or exam dates, at their earliest convenience. For absence from a General Board meeting, officers must inform the Secretary at least 48 hours in advance. Failure to comply with these notification requirements may result in disciplinary measures, including strikes, votes for termination, or immediate termination, to be determined by the Executive Board.

#### **Section 3.1 Emergency Situations**

In the event of an emergency, such as an accident or a family crisis, officers are not obligated to disclose specifics, and the 48 hours policy does not apply. Officers are asked to notify the Executive Board at their earliest convenience.

#### **Section 3.2 Extended Leave and Substitute Elections**

In the event of an extended leave of an officer, the General Board may elect a substitute by an affirmative two-thirds vote. Extended leaves and temporary replacements are discouraged except in emergency situations.

### **Section 4. Removal of General Board Officers**

May be removed by an affirmative two-thirds General Board vote. The replacement shall be an active AGHS officer or an AGHS applicant of the term.

### **Section 5. Strike System**

Starting in the 2024-2025 term, the AGHS shall operate on a four-strike policy. The Executive Board is responsible for ensuring that strikes are completed as mandated. The Executive Board can issue strikes for missed board meetings without a 48-hour notice, excluding emergencies, and for other valid reasons. The Executive Board shall notify the officer in question privately by email and/or meeting of each strike before any disciplinary action is taken, including votes for termination, and promptly inform them of termination.

#### **Section 5.1 Strike 1**

Officers who miss one board meeting without a 48-hour notice or the equivalent offense automatically receive one strike. No immediate disciplinary action is required.

### **Section 5.2 Strike 2**

Officers who miss two board meetings without a 48-hour notice or the equivalent offense automatically receive two strikes. No immediate disciplinary action is required except for a meeting with the Executive Board.

### **Section 5.3 Strike 3**

Officers who miss three board meetings without a 48-hour notice or the equivalent shall face a vote for termination at the next Board meeting, not to exceed two weeks' time. During votes for termination, the Advisor must be present, the officer in question must exit the meeting during the vote, and all officers must discuss the matter in a civil and respectful manner.

### **Section 5.4 Strike 4**

Officers who miss four or more board meetings without a 48-hour notice shall face immediate termination.

## **Section 6. Termination Process for Officers**

Terminated officers shall be permanently removed from all AGHS records, emails, and titles. The Executive Board is responsible for seeing their notification and full removal at their earliest convenience. In the vacancy of the Executive Board, the Secretary shall be responsible.

## **Article V. Duties of Officers**

### **Section 1.**

The President(s) shall:

- a) Preside over all chapter meetings.
- b) Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.
- c) Promote AGHS growth and development.

- d) Prepare meeting agendas.
- e) Make interim decisions for AGHS, subject to General Board ratifications.

## **Section 2.**

The Vice President(s) shall:

- a) Coordinate with tournament directors, promotion head, and treasurers to coordinate tournaments, promotions, and events.
- b) Supervise non-officer volunteers.
- c) Initiate and manage AGHS initiatives.
- d) Appoint special committees as necessary, subject to General Board ratifications.

## **Section 3.**

The Secretary shall:

- a) Keep an accurate record of attendance and notes of General Board meetings, including informing the Executive Board of on leave and no-show officers.
- b) Act as the custodian of the organization's records.
- c) Facilitate communication between the Promotion Head, Graphic Designer, Media Marketing Manager, and Website Manager with the Tournament Director(s).
- d) Call the meeting and motions to order and preside until a presiding officer is obtained if the Executive Board is absent.
- e) May adopt Promotion Head's responsibilities.

## **Section 4.**

The Treasurer shall:

- a) Communicate with the AGF to request funding.
- b) Order and ship prizes for tournaments.
- c) Maintain a budget summary of prize expenses and save all expense-related receipts.
- i) Preside meetings in the absence of the Executive Board and Secretary until a presiding officer is obtained.

## **Section 5.**

The Tournament Directors shall:

- a) Establish rules and structure of AGHS tournaments.
- b) Oversee tournament pairings and volunteer management.
- c) Resolve tournament disputes.
- d) The Head Tournament Director, if applicable, shall lead the Tournament Director(s) and preside over meetings in the absence of the Executive Board, Secretary, and Treasurer until a presiding officer is obtained.

## **Section 6.**

The Promotion Head shall:

- a) Act as public relations officer for the chapter.
- b) Create promotional press releases in AP style.
- c) Write post-event press releases in AP style within one week.
- d) Coordinate with the Graphic Designer, Media Marketing Manager, and Website Manager for publication on AGHS platforms.
- e) Coordinate with AGA for publication in the E-Journal.

## **Section 7.**

The Media Marketing Manager shall:

- a) Timely manage and promote AGHS social media platforms, prioritizing Instagram and Facebook.
- b) Create social media posts adhering to AGHS style guidelines.
- a) Ensure translations and seek translators when necessary.
- b) Collaborate with the Graphic Designer, Promotion Head, and Website Manager.

## **Section 8.**

The Website Manager shall:

- a) Timely publish General Board profiles and press releases with graphics while adhering to AGHS style guidelines on the AGHS website.
- b) Enhance and modify the AGHS website as needed.

- c) Collaborate with the Graphic Designer, Promotion Head, and Media Marketing Manager.

## **Section 9.**

The Graphic Designer shall:

- c) Timely design graphics (banners, illustrations, logos, etc.) adhering to style guidelines.
- d) Enhance and modify AGHS style guidelines as needed.
- e) Collaborate with the Media Marketing Manager, Promotion Head, and Website Manager

## **Article VI. Meetings**

### **Section 1. Scheduling**

The General Board has the power to choose the date, time, and frequency of meetings.

### **Section 2. Quorum**

A quorum requires more than half of the General Board members present.

### **Section 3. Procedures**

Meetings follow parliamentary procedure. Any officer may propose a motion seconded for consideration. The Secretary calls for the vote of the motions.

## **Article VII. Committees**

The General Board may appoint committees and initiatives based on a majority vote.

## **Article VIII. Parliamentary Authority**

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11th edition, govern AGHS, unless inconsistent with AGHS bylaws or any special rules.

## **Article IX. Amendment of Bylaws**

Amendments require a two-thirds officer vote for adoption.

Approved June 26, 2024.