

European Mahjong Association General Assembly 2013

September 20, 2013, 9:30-12:30, Weingut Schlossberg, Bad Vöslau, Austria

1. Appointment of note taker:
Gemma Collinge appointed as note taker.
2. Report of the president.
Available as a separate document.
3. Report from EMA member organizations.
In the future member organizations should submit a short report prior to the general assembly. The president has summarized the information from member organizations in a separate document.
4. Admission of new member organizations (in alphabetical order):
Czech Republic: unanimously admitted
Switzerland: unanimously admitted
Ukraine: not present at the meeting, unanimously admitted
5. Existing committees

1. Report of the Chairman for Mahjong Competition Rules:

Chairman is Tina Christensen, members: Morten Andersen, Per Starbäck, Norbert Luckhardt, Jérôme Bonifas and Robert Rijnders. The MCR rules being updated. The rule committee is still working and a proposal can be anticipated by the whole board. Jérôme Bonifas was replaced by Quentin Porcherot (or Frédéric Petit) and Robert Rijnders was replaced with Anton Kösters.

2. Report of the Chairman of referee quotas Morten Anderson:

In the past this was decided ad hoc and there was no formalized structure. In the previous General Assembly, a committee was appointed consisting of Morten Andersen, chair, Sébastien Berret, Axel Eschenburg and Mark Chizhenok.

Quota proposal is point 7.2 on agenda.

Referee proposal is point 7.4 on agenda.

The committee will be disbanded unless items remain open.

6. Sittings of future European and world championships

1. OEMC, Strassbourg, France, July 4-6 2014 has been accepted by the Board.
2. Riichi World Championship 2014, Puteaux, France, July 17-20 or July 24-27 2014 proposal has been accepted by the EMA Board and the Japan Professional Mahjong League.

This should be finalized very as soon as possible by mid-October. New rules are in process and should be available January 1st. This is not a MERS tournament. The EMA does not intend to discuss the rule sets further.

The schedule will be confirmed mid-October and quotas and figures will shortly follow.

3. EC Riichi 2016

No proposals have been received yet. There is encouragement to countries to submit proposals by a proposal deadline set at 1st January 2014 by the assembly for 2015. Otherwise, the original year of 2016 will be the target and proposals will be accepted for the later date but this will not necessarily be by the 1st January 2014 date.

7. Items for the General Assembly

- 1) Tournaments for the Reunion Island has already been accepted by the Board.

Suggestion that the proposal is amended so that Reunion Island is treated as a separate country that has its own quotas. (Currently, they share the quota with France.) The proposal has already been accepted by the board however, and it is passed.

- 2) A proposal for player quotas has already been accepted by the Board.

There were no further discussions on this.

- 3) MERS tournament requirements and member organization requirement

There is a drafting group consisting of Tina Christensen, Sébastien Berret, Olivier Boivin and Axel Eschenburg.

This was to make this more consistent across the member organizations as some were more detailed than others.

-MERS Certification Form

The application form for MERS certification form is accepted. The maximum amount of information available at the time should be entered. No protests after two weeks and a MERS certification request will be approved rather than asking for votes on each one.

-EMA Requirements

There is a comment on the requirement for every country to participate in a workgroup/committee. However, this should be changed to them being encouraged to be involved.

-Mahjong Europe Ranking System

Players who are not a member of a country's member organization, will not be admitted to the rankings. They will however be allowed to play in EMA tournaments still.

- EMA Requirements and Guidelines for MERS Tournaments

It is proposed that the minimum number of participants that must come from EMA member countries be altered from the original document sent out.

Old:

- Mers 1 must have at least 20 participants, with at least 10 players from EMA member countries.
- Mers 2 must have at least 32 participants, with at least 16 players from EMA member countries.
- Mers 5 must have at least 100 participants, with at least 50 players from EMA member countries.

Proposed:

- Mers 1 must have at least 16 participants
- Mers 2 must have at least 16 participants
- Mers 5 must have at least 80 participants

It was suggested that the limit regulations are reworded to allow a Mers 2 tournament to become a Mers 1 tournament (forgoing their original Mers 2 allowance).

The proposal to adjust a Mers 2 to 20 was voted on and rejected 10 votes to 9.

The General Assembly agreed on 16 participants.

It was proposed that Mers 5 is lowered to 60 participants

The proposal to adjust Mers 5 to 60 was voted on and the majority voted that the Mers 5 tournaments remained at 80 (12 votes).

Following descriptions in the document will be adjusted.

- Tina suggests that there is a distinction between requirements and guidelines. Therefore, some of the information in this document will be removed and placed into a guidelines document (for example, 3.1, 3.2 and 3.8).

- There is a discussion on the maximum number of tables per day by decreasing it by one from the original document.

Original:

MCR shouldn't have more than 5

RCR shouldn't have more than 6

This was voted on and it was unanimous on both MCR and RCR tournaments.

New:

MCR shouldn't have more than 4

RCR shouldn't have more than 5

Tina suggests that a committee be established to work on this document.

4) Referee Quotas

Suggestion that countries who send more players need to send referees. This is only a guideline, and volunteers will be accepted. If the referee quota is not met, then requests are made to countries. If a country doesn't send the referee requested, there are two proposals:

Proposal: Reward a country who does send a referee by giving them an extra seat.

This was voted in by a majority 11-5. This will then be passed back to the committee for adjustment.

5) Changes to Statutes

Paragraph 4 with the member organizations. Those member organizations that have recently joined will be added.

Paragraph 7 has been clarified.

Paragraph 9

9.3 Adjustments to the description of the Board to reflect reality.

9.5

There was an issue with the Presidium when people dropped out, there needs to be a method of replacing members.

The addition of 9.5 allows for replacement of members.

There were no protestations to these changes.

8. Creation of New Committees

Requirements and Regulations Committee

Sébastien Berret (FR)

Olivier Boivin (FR)

Axel Eschenburg (DE)

Tina Christensen (DK)

Anton Kösters (NL)

Russia – delegate to be decided

EMA Riichi Rule Committee

Tina Christensen (DK)

Simon Naarmann (DE)

Alexander Wankmüller (AT)

Ans Hoogland (NL)

Frederick Petit (FR)

Russia delegate – to be decided

Gemma Collinge (UK)

Krzysztof Sasinowski (PL)

9 Elections

Tina Christensen (DK) offered herself as the only candidate and she will resume the role.

Vice Presidents:

Axel Eschenburg (DE)

Sébastien Berret (FR)

Both want to be candidates. No other candidates. They are both reelected.

Presidium Candidates

Anton Kösters (NL)

Gemma Collinge (UK)

There are no other candidates so they are elected.

10. Announcement of one Board member from each member not represented in the Presidium. The names and email addresses are collected in a separate document.

11. Time and Place for Next General Assembly

Tina suggest 2015 and at the WMC if it runs. If the WMC does not run, it will need to be a major tournament within central Europe that is easy to travel with. This will be discussed by the Board as the situation becomes clearer.

12. Any Other Business

Arbitration Committee (not strictly an EMA issue, but it arose during the tournament so it will be handled now for convenience)

The committee is suggested to be five players.

The suggestions are as follows:

Quentin Porcherot (FR) – Who will be the head of the committee

Szymon Lasota (PL)

Martin Lester (UK)

Ans Hoogland (NL)

Peter Hamilton (AT)

There was no other business and the assembly was closed.