

2019: TGA Tournament Structure – Who’s In Charge Here ?

The TGA runs three major tournaments each year - Origins, Gen Con, and Railcon - and sanctions others. This document explains how the Train Gamers Association works, who is in charge of things, and who to see with suggestions, comments, and complaints. The TGA is a non-profit organization overseen by a Board of Directors, and the Board has established this structure to run its tournaments:

MAJOR TOURNAMENT SENIOR LEADERSHIP (Senior Directors):

These Senior Directors work closely together to manage convention and sponsor relations, all volunteer activities, and all aspects of the TGA’s tournament preparation and on-site operations. They assist and back each other up in these roles.

Trella Bromley is the Senior Director of Tournament Operations. This position has primary responsibility for the operational side of establishing and running our major tournaments.

Jeff Jackson is the Senior Director of Tournament Systems. This position has primary responsibility for the rules, systems and processes by which tournaments are run and games are organized and played.

CONVENTION LEADERSHIP (Head Conductors):

Each tournament has a Head Conductor, appointed annually and overseen by the Senior Directors. Head Conductors have autonomy as to logistics and management of their conventions, within guidelines established by the Tournament Systems and Rules Committees. 2019 Head Conductors are:

Origins – **Ken Gutermuth**

Gen Con – **Ken Bachman**

Railcon – **Trella Bromley**

CONDUCTORS AND VOLUNTEERS

At any point in time there will be a designated Conductor on Duty, plus other Volunteers helping to run the tournament. **Justin Moul** assists the Senior Directors by coordinating volunteers for Origins and Gen Con in advance of the tournaments. At the conventions all volunteers work under the direction of the convention Head Conductor(s), supported by the Senior Directors.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS, CONCERNS ?

For any issue regarding a game in progress, you can speak to the Conductor on Duty. If you do not know who that is, ask any Volunteer to help you find out. If the issue cannot be resolved by the Conductor on Duty, it can be escalated to the Head Conductor or to a Senior Director.

For issues regarding the convention rules or organization, please talk to Trella or Jeff. If you wish to volunteer to help (thanks!), please talk to Justin or either Senior Tournament Director.

2019: What Else Does the TGA Do ?

OTHER TOURNAMENTS (beyond Origins, Gen Con, and Railcon):

Phil Cottrell, our Regional Tournament Manager, is in charge of sanctioning conventions that wish to run an official Puffing Billy Tournament or other sanctioned events. He is assisted by Debbie Gutermuth. They have information about becoming a conductor, getting started, and sanctioning a PBT, modified PBT, or other TGA affiliated train game tournament. If you represent a local convention that might be interested in running a TGA-sanctioned event, please talk to Phil or Debbie, or ask one of our Volunteers how to get in touch with them.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS TRACKING:

Phil Cottrell is the newly appointed TGA Results Coordinator. Phil will be working with the Senior Tournament Directors to develop a new approach for tracking results and PB points over the years. Ideas welcome!

TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIPS AND SPONSOR RELATIONS:

Trella Bromley, Jeff Jackson, and Ken Gutermuth manage TGA Sponsor Relations. Please contact one of us if you are interested in sponsoring a tournament at our major conventions, or supporting the TGA in other ways.

FORMAL TGA ORGANIZATION:

The Train Gamers Association is a non-profit corporation, overseen by a Board of Directors with an Executive Committee. The Board is elected by the Voting Membership, which is a subset of TGA membership.

OFFICERS: Chairman: Ken Gutermuth
 President: Bart Pisarik
 Treasurer: Chris Meyer
 Secretary: Ken Bachman

2019 BOARD: Ken Bachman, Trella Bromley, Chip Charnley, Ken Gutermuth, Jeff Jackson,
 Chris Meyer, Justin Moul, Bart Pisarik, Brian Tipper

VOTING MEMBERS: Ken Bachman, Dave Beery, David Belew, Trella Bromley, Anthony Carver*, Chip Charnley, Phil Cottrell, Debbie Gutermuth, Ken Gutermuth, Ed Hewlett*, Charles Hooks, Brian Humphreys, Jeff Jackson, Michael Jacobs, Kevin Jaekley, Cathy Lizama, Chris Meyer, Dave Mitton, Justin Moul, Cheryl Orosz*, Bart Pisarik, John Puddifoot*, Daniel Schuster, Richard Sheaves-Bein, Al Stiles*, Dave Thornburg, Brian Tipper, Eric Verheiden, Wayne Williams*

*Past Board Member

If you have questions about the organization, please ask any of the Voting or Board Members.