

2024: Train Gamers Association Major Tournament Structure

The TGA is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization overseen by a Board of Directors. The Board has established an independent Tournament Management Committee, consisting of two Senior Directors and a Regional Director, which has full authority and responsibility for all aspects of TGA tournaments.

MAJOR TOURNAMENT SENIOR LEADERSHIP (Senior Directors): These Senior Directors work together to manage convention and sponsor relations, convention volunteer activities, and all aspects of the TGA's major tournament preparation and on-site operations.

Trella Bromley is the Senior Director of Tournament Operations. This position has primary responsibility for coordinating logistics with Origins and Gen Con, creating and submitting playing schedules, and supporting on-site operations.

Jeff Jackson is the Senior Director of Tournament Systems. This position has primary responsibility for the rules and systems by which tournaments and games are organized and played, developing and implementing the structures and processes under which TGA convention volunteers operate, and for working with the Headquarters Conductor and Head Conductor to manage on-site operations.

CONVENTION ON-SITE EVENT MANAGEMENT: Each major tournament has a Head Conductor (HC) and a Convention Headquarters Conductor (HQC), appointed and overseen by the Senior Directors. Head Conductors have autonomy as to logistics and management of their conventions, within established guidelines. The Headquarters Conductor manages the HQ area, coordinates data entry and convention admin, and works with the Head Conductor to ensure everything runs smoothly. For 2024:

Origins Head Conductor – **Ken Bachman** Gen Con Head Conductor – **Jeff Jackson**

Railcon Head Conductor – **Jeff Jackson** PAX Head Conductor – **David Belew**

Convention Headquarters Conductor (all major cons) – **Amy Beery**

CONDUCTORS AND VOLUNTEERS AT ORIGINS AND GEN CON: At any point in time there will be a designated Conductor on Duty, plus other Volunteers helping to run things. **David Belew** assists the Senior Directors by coordinating volunteers for Origins and Gen Con in advance of the tournaments. All volunteers work under the direction of the convention Head Conductor, coordinating with the Headquarters Conductor, and supported by the Senior Directors.

PAX UNPLUGGED: PAX is not yet designated as a Major Tournament, however we are expanding our presence there and its status may be upgraded to a Major in the future.

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. For general concerns or Code of Conduct issues, please talk to Amy or Jeff. If you wish to volunteer to help (thanks!), please talk to David or anyone on the Tournament Management Committee.

2024: Beyond the Major Tournaments - What Else Does the TGA Do ?

REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS (all except Origins, Gen Con, and Railcon): Phil Cottrell, our Regional Tournament Director, is in charge of sanctioning conventions that wish to run an official Puffing Billy Tournament or other TGA-affiliated events. He has information about becoming a conductor, getting started, and sanctioning a PBT, modified PBT, or any other TGA affiliated train game tournament or other kind of event. If you represent a local convention that might be interested in running a TGA-sanctioned event, please talk to Phil, or ask one of our Volunteers how to get in touch with him.

TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIPS AND SPONSOR RELATIONS: **Jeff Jackson, Andi Wynn, Phil Cottrell, and Trella Bromley** 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.

TGA SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE: **Patricia Hermon and Andi Wynn** are managing our growing social media presence. Talk to them (or to Phil) with any suggestions, or if you'd like to help.

TGA ADMINISTRATION. FORMAL TGA ORGANIZATION 2024:

In addition to the tournament side of things, the TGA corporation has an administrative side to keep things running smoothly and to ensure we comply with our articles of incorporation. This is headed up by the President of the TGA, **Melissa Mendick**. She is in charge of overseeing and managing all day-to-day operations of the TGA; essentially everything that is not part of managing the tournaments.

She is supported by Officers that are elected annually. Voting Members are TGA members who have been recognized by the Board for their sustained contributions to the TGA, and who provide input on various issues as requested by the organization.

OFFICERS: President: Melissa Mendick
Vice-President: Justin Moul
Treasurer: Brian Tipper
Secretary: Ken Bachman

BOARD: Ken Bachman, Dave Beery, David Belew, Phil Cottrell, Jeff Jackson, Melissa Mendick, Michael Mendick, Justin Moul, Brian Tipper

VOTING

MEMBERS: Deborah Anderson, Ken Bachman, Amy Beery, Dave Beery, David Belew, Paul Bonday, Alan Borowski, Janet Bromley, Trella Bromley*, Beth Bromson, Jack Burnham, John Butler, Anthony Carver*, Chip Charnley*, Sue Charnley, Phil Cottrell, Robin Cottrell, Jonathan DeSimone, Rick Dutton, Debbie Gutermuth, Ken Gutermuth*, Jef Halberstadt, Megan Harper, Tricia Hermon, Ed Hewlett*, Charles Hooks, Brian Humphreys, Jeff Jackson, Michael Jacobs, Kevin Jaekley, Roger Jarrett, Amanda Lacy, Lynne Lewellen, Mark Liberman, Cathy Lizama, Jen McConnell, Devin McCullen, Anthony Medici, Melissa Mendick, Michael Mendick, Chris Meyer, Dave Mitton, Lori Moo, Justin Moul, Heather Munn, Todd Nixon, Bart Pisarik*, Jason Plumley, John Puddifoot*, Robert Rich, Bob Roby, Charlie Rucker, Richard Sheaves-Bein, Grace Simrall, William Spear, Al Stiles*, Paul Stoffels, Dave Thornburg, Rachel Thurston, Brian Tipper, Jessica Tipper, Eric Verheiden, Pat Wolf, Andrea Wynn
*Past Board Member

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