Minutes of Board Meeting
Word Game Players' Organization

Wednesday, September 2, 2026

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Eastern. Board members present:

Laurie Cohen, President
Bennett Jacobstein, Vice President
Tina Yates, Secretary
Peter Schwartzman
Shan Abbasi

Board members absent:

Jan Cardia, Treasurer
Josh Greenway

A quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda
The agenda was reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. The motion passed.

Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the June 2026 Board Meeting were reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The motion passed.

Committee Reports: Ratings and Tournament Committee
The Board received an update from the Ratings and Tournament Committee, including changes in committee participation and ongoing training of committee members.

The Board also discussed a proposal intended to encourage participation by new tournament players, including the possibility of offering a free or subsidized first tournament entry. Various approaches were discussed, including use of a standard credit and a possible pilot program. The proposal will be referred to the Ratings and Tournament Committee for additional input.

Committee Reports: Lexicon Committee
The Board received an update regarding participation in the NASPA Lexicon Committee. The discussion included the committee's process for reviewing additions and removals from the lexicon and the use of multiple reference sources and tracking tools. The Board also discussed the relationship between this process and WGPO's previous lexicon work, as well as the broader goal of cooperation within the competitive Scrabble community.

Committee Reports: Conduct Committee
The Board received an update regarding several conduct matters arising from recent tournament play. The discussion included the status of pending incident reports and prior disciplinary matters. No additional formal action was taken during the meeting.

2026 Elections
The Board discussed preparations and timing for the 2026 election. The voting period is

expected to run from December 1 through December 15, with nominations beginning later in the fall.

The Board also discussed membership of the Election Committee and the need to confirm availability of current members or recruit additional participants as necessary. Work also continues on updating member email information in preparation for the election.

Annual Meeting
The Board tentatively discussed a date for the annual meeting, subject to confirmation of Board member availability.

School Scrabble
The Board discussed the current status of School Scrabble and opportunities for WGPO to support or expand youth participation. The discussion included the possibility of developing a more structured WGPO initiative or working group rather than relying solely on tournament funding. No formal action was taken.

Email Communications Platform
The Board discussed options for improving WGPO's mass-email communications. Several email marketing platforms were reviewed based on cost, ease of use, user access, and compatibility with WGPO's existing systems.

Brevo was recommended as the preferred platform. The discussion included contact management, integration with WGPO's player database, user permissions, professional email addresses, and methods for collecting and distributing tournament information.

A motion was made and seconded to move forward with establishing a Brevo account as WGPO's primary mass-email platform. The motion passed. Initial implementation is expected to proceed over the coming weeks.

Next Meeting
The next meeting will be held on October 7, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. Eastern (via Zoom).

Adjournment
A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:29 p.m. Eastern.