

Dear prospective member of the European Go Instructors Network,

Thank you for your interest in joining the European Go Instructors Network. To help us understand your qualifications and aspirations as a Go instructor, please complete the following application form. Your responses will be instrumental in building a strong and supportive community of Go instructors in Europe.

Section 1: Personal Information

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Full Name: Darius Dobraniş
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Contact Phone Number: +40755073559
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Country: Romania
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Town: Bistriţa
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Teaching Format: Atsumi Go Club
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Section 2: Go Instruction Activity

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Number of Active Students (U18 Only):
Short History of Your Activity:
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">Starting Year: 2020Highlights: As an active player, student, and worker, I usually don't have much time for teaching. However, I try my best to find a window of opportunity. At my peak I had around

10 students of all levels. About their results, I will provide details in the section below..

Calendar of Organized Events:

- 2021, 2022, 2023 National Championships of Romania
- 4 regional competitions

Teaching Structure:

- Lesson Duration: 2hours group lesson, 1hour private lesson
- Lesson Frequency: weekly
- Number of Age Groups: U12, U16, U20

Participation at Other Events:

- All Romanian Championships, EYGC, EGC, Paris Open

Notable Results from Students:

- Several national titles during the years
- Very good scores in EGC Open (8/10 wins x3 players)
- 7th place EYGC U12

Plans for the Future:

- Modest plans because is not my main occupation. Still, I plan to start beginner groups and try to form a local community.

Section 3: Support and Challenges

How Can NA or EGF Help Improve Local Activity:

As a member of Federal Bureau of Romanian Go Federation, there are several initiatives I have been working on. Given that in the Go community many people have plenty of ideas but only a few are willing to actively work on them, I would like to limit my ideas to this

extent. However, I'm open to discussing these ideas further upon request.

Challenges Encountered:

- The challenge lies in increasing the game's popularity among both children and adults. Currently, it lacks compelling attractions – there are no prominent streamers, limited social media presence (I would say present at all), and an absence of widespread excitement. The commonly mentioned niche clichés about the game often don't hold up, leading to a lack of genuine enthusiasm.
- Lack of identity of the game. What is it and where does it come from? Should I invest that much money for a game that is almost inexistent in Europe and dying in Asia? Compared to chess, not many people know about its origins, but is popular enough to be played, regardless.
- From my perspective, as an instructor with a good Go level and decent resources, I have everything I need for teaching performance-level students. There are several online sources regarding any subject. Therefore, I want to focus on beginners and attracting new people.

Additional Topics:

- My next points will be focusing on attracting new students.
- Money. Without strong financial resources, nothing can be done. Instructors must learn to ask about money for their work. I feel like it is an ongoing state of belittling the game and make it look cheap and irrelevant without imposing some standards.
- In order to ask about money, we should learn how to sell the game. Make it a special class for developing thinking, logic and strategic thinking for "elite kids". Let's create a workshop about improving strategic business with the help of the game of Go.
- For new instructors, they should learn how to create a Go club or a community and how to keep it together.

Section 4: Additional Information and Links

- . My Facebook Go club page: <https://www.facebook.com/GOSiDansSportiv>
- . Romanian Go Federation page (managed by me):
<https://www.facebook.com/FRGO.ro>
- . Last results from the Romanian Go Championships (my personal profile):
<https://www.facebook.com/darius.dobranis/posts/pfbid0YFQ85PdbNGsajTqfLSVDxAVoRdRHbFVwGamrx9Jb3woKNiJ54CoBGqL1XnXTxUHA>

I tried to create a common basic knowledge of the game through my personal Facebook page and within my friends, so I really get a lot of interactions when posting something personal in matters of Go.

Additional Information:

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Media Links:

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By submitting this application, you acknowledge that your information will be used for membership evaluation within the European Go Instructors Network. Membership is granted upon successful submission of this form and providing a yearly activity report is mandatory.

Thank you for your commitment to promoting Go among U18 youth in Europe and for your interest in joining our network. We look forward to welcoming you into our community of dedicated Go instructors.

Sincerely,

Darius Dobranis, 23.12.2023

Please submit your completed application form to [catalin@eurogofed.org].