



INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

AGM & BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING DOCUMENTS

INDEX

Annual General Meeting Agenda	3-4
Annual reports from the Executive Committee	5-23
President: Thomas Weikert	5
Deputy President: Khalil Al-Mohannadi	8
Executive Vice President (Finance): Petra Sörling	10
Executive Vice President: Bruce Burton	12
Executive Vice President: Masahiro Maehara	14
Executive Vice President: Alaa Meshref	16
Executive Vice President: James Morris	18
Executive Vice President: Shi Zhihao	20
Executive Vice President: Nestor Tenca	22
Annual reports from the Continental Federations	24-36
Africa	24
Asia	26
Europe	28
Latin America	30
North America	32
Oceania	34
Annual reports from the CEO, Deputy CEO and Directors	37-53
Chief Executive Officer	37
Deputy Chief Executive Officer	40
Competitions	43
Development	45
Education and Training	48
Marketing	50
Operations.....	51

INDEX (follows from page 1)

Annual reports from Committees and OPC	54-70
Equipment Committee	54
Media Committee	56
Nominations Committee	59
Para Table Tennis Committee	60
Rules Committee	61
Sports Science and Medical Committee	62
Umpires' and Referees' Committee	65
Veterans' Committee	67
Olympic and Paralympic Commission	69
 Audited Financial Statements	 71
Audited Financial Statements 2017 (document to be distributed)	71
 Propositions and Resolutions (AGM)	 72-112
 Board of Directors Agenda	 113
 Annual reports from commissions and commissioners	 114-120
Athletes' Commission	114
Junior Commissioner	116
Technical Commissioner	118
Women in Sport Commissioner.....	119
 Propositions and Resolutions (BoD).....	 121-124
 Technical Leaflet T3 proposed changes	 125
 Administrative Technical Leaflet T7 rationale	 126
 Administrative Technical Leaflet T7 proposition	 127-148



INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation will be held on Tuesday 1 May 2018 at 09h00 at the Tylosand Hotel Congress Hall in Halmstad, Sweden.

AGENDA

1. President Welcome and Opening Address
2. Appointment of a Chair
3. Roll call of associations present and verification of proxies
4. Appointment of scrutineers
5. Confirmation of the minutes of the AGM held on 31 May 2017 in Dusseldorf, Germany
6. Presentations
 - 6.1 Event Awards
 - 6.2 Sponsor recognition
 - 6.3 Special Awards/Presentations
 - 6.4 ITTF Management Presentation
 - 6.5 ITTF Foundation
 - 6.6 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games
 - 6.7 Update on 2019 World Championships
7. Membership
8. Annual reports from the Executive Committee
 - 8.1 President: Thomas Weikert
 - 8.2 Deputy President: Khalil Al-Mohannadi
 - 8.3 Executive Vice President (Finance): Petra Sörling
 - 8.4 Executive Vice-President: Bruce Burton
 - 8.5 Executive Vice-President: Masahiro Maehara
 - 8.6 Executive Vice-President: Alaa Meshref
 - 8.7 Executive Vice-President: James Morris
 - 8.8 Executive Vice-President: Shi Zhihao
 - 8.9 Executive Vice-President: Nestor Tenca

(continue on the next page)

9. Annual reports from the Continental Federations:
 - 10.1 Africa
 - 10.2 Asia
 - 10.3 Europe
 - 10.4 Latin America
 - 10.5 North America
 - 10.6 Oceania
10. Annual reports from the CEO, Deputy CEO and Directors:
 - 10.1 Chief Executive Officer
 - 10.2 Deputy Chief Executive Officer
 - 10.3 Competitions Program
 - 10.4 Development Program
 - 10.5 Education and Training Program
 - 10.6 Marketing Program
 - 10.7 Operations Program
11. Annual reports from committees and OPC:
 - 11.1 Equipment Committee
 - 11.2 Media Committee
 - 11.3 Nominations Committee
 - 11.4 Para Table Tennis Committee
 - 11.5 Rules Committee
 - 11.6 Sports Science and Medical Committee
 - 11.7 Umpires' and Referees' Committee
 - 11.8 Veterans' Committee
 - 11.9 Olympic and Paralympic Commission
12. Finance
 - 12.1 2017 Audited Financial Statements
 - 12.2 2018 Budget and quadrennial forecast
13. Ratification of the work done by the Board of Directors and Executive Committee
14. Strategic Plan
15. Constitution Review
16. Propositions and resolutions
17. World Championship's 2020
 - 17.1 Bid Presentations
 - 17.2 Election
18. Future World Championships
 - 18.1 Deadline bids for 2021 World Championships – 30 September 2018
19. Next AGM: to be held in Budapest in April 2019
20. Any other business
21. Adjournment

2017 has been an extraordinary year for the ITTF, both on and off the court, with many outstanding events and milestones achieved. I look back on the past year with a great deal of pride. We can all be proud of it together.

We became the first International Federation to have every country on earth as part of the ITTF Family, achieving the milestone of 226 national associations, after the induction of the last 4 members -- the Bahamas, Cape Verde, Eritrea and Guinea Bissau -- was officially approved at the last AGM. This means that table tennis has now spread its presence to every corner of the globe and is being played in all countries and territories on earth.

Our athletes brought table tennis to a new level with exciting rallies, new records and personal achievements being witnessed throughout the year.

We saw one of the best World Championships of all time at the Liebherr 2017 World Table Tennis Championships, which broke all TV and social media records to be one of the most followed table tennis events on earth! We witnessed Ma Long and Ding Ning defend their World Champion titles in the most dramatic fashion in Düsseldorf, Germany; Tomokazu Harimoto made history by becoming the youngest-ever World Tour Champion at just 14 years old; and, of course, new Men's & Women's World Cup Champions were crowned: Dimitrij Ovtcharov and Zhu Yuling in Liège, Belgium and Markham, Canada, respectively.

The newly rebranded and revamped ITTF World Tour hit a record prize money of \$3.305 million and had the best-ever sports presentation, which showed our sport in the best-possible light to millions of fans around the world. The Kazakhstan capital of Astana put on an amazing show for the World Tour Grand Finals and Star Awards to finish the year in style.

Following the high standards set in Düsseldorf and Astana, it was the same in Markham at the Uncle Pop Women's World Cup, where new levels of presentation were set.

We brought TTX to the streets for the first time in Düsseldorf, along with the launch of the newly developed TTX app, to emphasize the concept of "Table Tennis Anytime Anywhere." More developments to TTX are expected over this next year, including reaching agreements with equipment companies and other new partners, bringing the sport to more people all around the world, and attracting more amateurs and "non-table tennis people" to play our sport.

The World Para Table Tennis Championships was restructured to feature team events in odd years, and individual events in even years, and we saw the success of the first-ever World Para Table Tennis Team Championships in Bratislava, Slovakia.

A Para Table Tennis meeting was also held in Copenhagen last year that reinforced the reality that it was impossible to sell Para Table Tennis events with the current structure of the calendar, therefore the goal is to restructure first before we start promoting. The future structure was discussed during the meeting. The ITTF will also hire a Para Table Tennis manager to run the Para Table Tennis competitions.

On April 6, 2017, the 3rd edition of the World Table Tennis Day was celebrated all around the globe. It was the biggest ever, with 450 events held in 93 countries to celebrate table tennis, making our sport truly popular, universal and inclusive.

Our new ITTF team has been growing from strength to strength ever since taking our marketing rights back in house, with record sponsorship and media rights income, bigger and better events, as well as record social media numbers in 2017. There is more exciting news waiting for us in the new year, together with the implementation of a new world ranking system that took effect on January 1, 2018.

The discussions and negotiations with Swaythling Club International went well in 2017 and we signed a mutual agreement that the World Veteran Championships will return under the ITTF umbrella.

Off the court, we had the 2017 presidential election, which was one of the most complex in our recent history. But it is now time for all members of the table tennis family to join forces together and work in unison to grow the sport we love and to take it to new heights.

After my re-election, I represented the ITTF at the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and at the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) meetings. There was detailed information and discussion about the IOC's AGENDA 2020; and finally, we secured a fifth medal event at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games with the addition of the Mixed Doubles event. This is a great sign of progress being made in our sport.

Raising the image of table tennis worldwide has always been one of my major goals but, in the background, we remain focused on the stringent implementation of the WADA Code, alongside the principles of Good Governance and Ethics. I'm happy that the ITTF Code of Ethics was implemented on 1st July 2017. These are topics that are vitally important for operating in a trustworthy atmosphere.

Our commitment is to have a clean sport to protect clean athletes, with no match-fixing, no betting-fraud, no doping, no manipulations in any area; it must be realised that if such items are not addressed, they are life-threatening for every association regarding reputation, image or financial income. Our goal must be to eradicate such practices! At the end of 2017, we started to collect the new participation conditions document from all players who want to participate in ITTF events, where the players agreed to the regulations mentioned above.

It is extremely important to work in a completely transparent manner and to work much more closely with continents to develop table tennis in all areas.

Our mission must be that our smaller and economically weaker regions receive our support via the Development Programme, with the aim to ensure that table tennis in such countries has a secure structure and basis for growth. It is not only equipment that may be needed, education and training are equally vital. This is what we want to achieve with our projects.

In general, the ITTF can act in this area as a partner by providing support, but we also need the support and commitment of the associations; this is still for me a personal goal. It is my policy to work in a transparent and realistic way. I will not make any empty promises about funds that do not exist, but I am working hard to extend our development programmes as far as possible.

May I take this opportunity to thank the continental and national associations who have supported the initiatives.

Coming up, our main tasks for 2018 will include the following:

We announced some new sponsors in 2017 and are in talks with a few other potential new sponsors and partners in 2018. We are also growing our professional staff to better service the sport and our members.

I have many plans to improve our sport. Steady progress is vital in order to remain a strong and powerful Federation. To make progress, there is a heavy reliance on member associations. In this respect, the response is always positive. My thanks for the outstanding level of support.

In 2018, we will have the Team World Cup in London, the birthplace of our sport; the World Team Table Tennis Championships in Halmstad, Sweden; an improved ITTF World Tour as well as hundreds of other table tennis events all around the world! We look forward to working with our organizers and all our members to promote our sport and to make 2018 the best year yet for table tennis!

Finally, I thank the members of the ITTF for the trust they have placed in me. I would like to extend a special thank you to my colleagues on the Executive Committee for their unwavering support in what has been an incredible year off the table. I thank the Chairs of ITTF Committees; the ITTF professional staff for their efforts; and last but not least, I thank all member associations and their athletes for their tremendous support.

It is a pleasure to work with you!

Thomas Weikert

DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Khalil Al-Mohannadi)

Report to the AGM

Document A2

In 2017, the ITTF had the WTTC and the AGM in Dusseldorf with the elections for the President's and Vice-President's posts. That was the most important point and topic of the whole year.

In my areas of responsibility, the two most important points have been:

1. To be in close contact with the 2017 WTTC Organising committee and to make sure that the 2017 WTTC and 2017 AGM will strictly follow ITTF WTTC and AGM Directives.
2. To fulfil all my duties as ITTF Deputy President (I was re-nominated after the elections).

Areas of Responsibility

- Asia Seamaster 23rd ITTF- Asian Table Tennis Championships 2017
- Deputize for the President –Inspection in Halmstad for the 2018 WTTC
- World Championships (Administration)
- World Championships (Technical)
- World Cups (Men's World Cup in Liege in 2017)
- Media & Promotion

In looking after my areas of responsibility, I have been in close contact with Cai Zhenhua (ATTU President), the ATTU Executive Board, Steve Dainton (previously ITTF Marketing Director and now new ITTF CEO), Karl Jindrak (Director-Competitions) and Arne Madsen (Media Committee Chairman).

We had our usual events:

- LIEBHERR 2017 World Championships (Dusseldorf, Germany)
- LIEBHERR Men's World Cup (Liege, Belgium)
- World Junior Championships (Riva del Garda, Italy)
- SEAMASTER 2017 ITTF World Tour Grand Finals (Astana, Kazakhstan)

I would like to underline the excellent collaboration between the Organizing Committees, sponsors and ITTF staff, which produced very good organization in all events. In particular, the organizers of the WTTC in Dusseldorf did an extraordinary job at the highest level.

I am very grateful to the associations of Germany, Belgium, USA, Italy and Kazakhstan, and to the ITTF staff for their exceptional contribution for the benefit of our sport.

The very detailed reports from the WTTC, World Cups, World Junior Championships and World Tour Grand Finals, produced by the ITTF Competition Managers, are available for your information and are ready for your attention.

Attendance at ITTF Executive Committee Meetings

- EC Meeting in Dubai
- EC Meeting in Dusseldorf
- EC Meeting in Halmstad
- EC Meeting in Astana

Attendance at ITTF Competition Events

- LIEBHERR 2017 World Championships (Dusseldorf, Germany)
- LIEBHERR Men's World Cup (Liege, Belgium)
- World Junior Championships (Riva del Garda, Italy)
- SEAMASTER 2017 ITTF World Tour Grand Finals (Astana, Kazakhstan)

Attendance at big events is giving me the opportunity to discuss with the Organizing Committees, ITTF Competition, Marketing and Promotion Directors about problems we have faced and improvements we can make in the future. Those discussions have produced many good proposals for the 2017- 2018 events.

I am extremely happy that the ITTF finally has a new Executive Committee that is doing great things, especially in the areas of competition and marketing. In both departments collaboration with Frank Ji, the owner of Seamaster and T2, is bringing a lot of satisfaction to players, organizers and fans around the world.

Attendance at the Annual General Meeting of the Arab Table Tennis Association in Hammamet, Tunisia on March 4, 2017 brought me great personal and professional satisfaction as I was elected the President of the Arab Table Tennis Association. In this role I attended:

- 2017 Arab Cup Championships in Muscat, Oman, August 15-20
- 2017 Arab Club Championships in Beirut, Lebanon, November 7-11

As President of the Arab Table Tennis Association, I am fully involved in all matters, including detailed questions and problems that member associations face on their way toward progressing in our beloved sport.

In conclusion, I would like to express my appreciation to ITTF President Mr. Thomas Weikert, my colleagues on the Executive Committee, and the ITTF professional staff for their support and co-operation. I am also grateful to all association members of the ITTF and the Arab Table Tennis Association who voted for me and who granted me the responsibility to act as the ITTF Deputy President and the Arab Table Tennis Association President for the next four years.

Khalil Al-Mohannadi

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT FINANCE (Petra Sörling)

Report to the AGM

Document A3

Since I was elected as an Executive Vice President in 2009, I was assigned to be responsible for a couple of focus areas in addition to the general duties within the ITTF Executive Committee (EC).

FOCUS AREAS

Para Table Tennis

It is a pleasure to have Para TT in my portfolio. I have a strong interest in this area and it is very positive to see that many associations now are fully integrated or have a very good working relationship between the two groups. Also, within the ITTF we are focusing on how to become more integrated and I'm proud that Para TT, since our last AGM in Düsseldorf, has converted from a Para TT Division to a Committee. We are also in the process of hiring more experts within this area.

Finance

In finance we have had some major changes. Michael Brown was appointed as the ITTF CFO last October. This work started in a very promising way with an updated finance policy in place as well as a new improved budget process. In October, as promised during the last AGM, we also followed up on our Risk Assessment seminar together with our auditors, and the ITTF Finance Committee was invited. For the very first time, the ITTF will also host a Financial Forum in Halmstad, before the AGM for those interested in gaining a better understanding of the financial state of the ITTF. The Financial Forum will be open to all delegates.

Staff

This year I have also actively assisted our president, our CEO and Secretary General regarding the ITTF's staff structure and human resource matters in general.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Since the last AGM in Düsseldorf, I participated in the following meetings of the EC:

- June, 2017 in Düsseldorf, Germany
- September/October, 2017 in Halmstad, Sweden
- December, 2017 in Astana, Kazakhstan
- February, 2018 in London, Great Britain

I represented the ITTF at the following events (chronologically sorted):

- ITTF European Championships 2017, in Luxembourg
- ITTF Women's World Cup, 2017, in Canada
- ITTF World Tour, Swedish Open 2017, in Sweden
- ITTF World Tour Finals 2017, in Kazakhstan
- ITTF World Team Cup 2018, in Great Britain

I represented the ITTF at the following meetings:

- Audit in Lausanne, Switzerland in 2017
- Para Division meeting in Denmark in 2017
- Risk Assessment workshop in Lausanne, Switzerland in 2017
- Staff structure & finance meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland in 2017
- Veterans meeting, Germany in 2017
- Staff meeting, Thailand in 2018
- Para meeting, Denmark in 2018

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for giving me the trust and confidence for another term. I also would like to thank our President Mr. Thomas Weikert. It is my pleasure to work with him and my colleagues on the new Executive Committee. It is really exciting to be part of this team and our re-start after the election period. Thank you all for your continuous support and thanks to the Continental Presidents, Board of Director members and committee members for your always kind cooperation. Last, but not least, I would like to express my gratitude to our professional staff and the new leadership; it is always a great pleasure to work together with you. I'm very proud to be part of the ITTF family!

Petra Sörling

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT (H. Bruce Burton)

Report to the AGM

Document A4

Since my last report, there has been a re-assignment of duties and I am presently attempting to get up to speed on several new areas of responsibility. Increased marketing revenues, the infusion of new staff, and the work towards a comprehensive Strategic Plan are very positive outcomes since we last met. It is very encouraging to see the sense of teamwork amongst the new Executive Committee. The following is a brief overview of my focus areas.

Competition Department

There has been a significant re-distribution of tasks within the Department. Responsibility for World Championships is now with Didier Leroy, World Tour with Vicky Eleftheriade, World Cups and Challenge events with Karl Jindrak, Junior events with Mounir Bessah, and Para Table Tennis events with recently-appointed Pablo Perez. In September I attended a meeting with the group, and our CEO, in Luxembourg. It was my first opportunity to interact with them collectively and to better understand the scope of their activities.

My involvement in this area seems to be rapidly expanding and I very much look forward to the challenges ahead. As we prepare to consider the recommendation of the Events Working Group at the BOD meeting in Halmstad, the input of the competition department will be critical, particularly with regards to the structuring of the Continental components of the proposed new WTTC structure.

High Performance and Development Department

Significant change has occurred in this area beginning with a re-naming of the High Performance and Development Department and the creation of an ITTF Foundation. This change in focus will see new resources and personnel directed at improving the overall level of our sport across all regions and at all levels.

Continued emphasis on our Corporate Social Responsibility will be better reflected through the creation of the ITTF Foundation. Under the leadership of Leandro Olvech we expect to build upon the recent achievements and accolades in this area. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the contribution of Glenn Tepper in this area for so many years. The tone that Glenn set and the wide ranging projects speak for themselves. On behalf of my colleagues, I wish him well in all his future endeavours.

Multi-Sport Games

Commonwealth Games:

At the time of writing, the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games are rapidly approaching. Along with Jens Lang as the Competition Manager and Graeme Ireland as the Technical Delegate, a very competent and experienced management team has been assembled. The fact that movie studios are being used as the competition venues means that there are some logistical challenges, but everything appears to be on track.

Birmingham, England has been confirmed as the host for the 2022 version of the Games. Table tennis remains as a core sport but there are currently some challenges in ensuring that we are on the Para programme since at the moment we are an optional Para sport. We are very hopeful

that ongoing discussions will lead to a positive outcome. To this end we maintain close contact with the leadership of the English Table Tennis Association and also with Mr. Alan Ransome, Chairman of the Commonwealth Table Tennis Federation.

Pan Am Games:

Good progress has been made in preparation for the 2019 Games in Lima, Peru. Just recently the qualifying procedure was agreed to by LATTU and NATTU and as a result the ITTF Pan Am Championships will serve as a significant event in the qualifying process. I am pleased with this outcome because it obviously enhances the marketability of the Championships.

Media and Promotion

On the Media side, I have maintained regular contact with Matt Pound and the Media Chair, Arne Madsen. During the past year we witnessed incredible media interest in the Dusseldorf World Championships and continued to set records on our social media platforms.

On the promotion side, we had yet another fantastic Star Awards held in conjunction with the World Tour Grand Finals, hosted in Astana by the Kazakhstan Table Tennis Association. It was very encouraging to see the success of these events in a new market. Hopefully this will generate even greater interest in new hosts for future events.

North America Relations and Events

On the North American scene, 2017 saw the presentation of a hugely successful Women's World Cup in Markham, Canada. Development initiatives continue in the smaller nations while the USA and Canada focus to a larger extent on implementation of a newly-signed commercial agreement with the ITTF. Efforts to bring high level events to North America continue and 2018 promises to be particularly exciting as a massive World Veterans' event takes place in Las Vegas in June.

Umpires and Referees Committee

The activity level of this committee continues to be very high. I have had regular interactions throughout the year with the new Chair, Mr. Young-Sam Ma, as well as with the Deputy Chairs, Werner Thury and Norman Tang. In addition to normal operations there have been ongoing discussions on the evaluation of Blue Badge umpires, the introduction of new informal uniforms, and the proposal for a new scheme for umpires at major events. With good cooperation from the Organizing Committees, this new scheme will be in place for a significant number of World Tour events in 2018.

Successful Referee Conferences were held in China and Cyprus in 2018. A focus on the Advanced Referee Project continues and, toward the end of 2018, there will be a Final Workshop scheduled for the participants in ARP 2. The candidates emerging successfully from this workshop will be fully qualified to handle ITTF World Title events.

Conclusion

My appreciation goes to my colleagues on the Executive Committee for their co-operation and support over the past year. Finally a word of thanks to our professional staff and what they bring to our Federation. In late January I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the ITTF staff retreat in Phuket. It was a golden opportunity to meet all of the staff and it permitted an excellent exchange of ideas on work in each department, as well as planning for the future.

H. Bruce Burton

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT (Masahiro Maehara)

Report to the AGM

Document A7

This report covers my activities in 2017.

Events Attended

India Open (15th February to 19th February)

From the 15th to 19th of February, I visited India to see the India Open, which took place in New Delhi. During my stay, I had the opportunity to meet and exchange some words with the Board Members of the Table Tennis Federation of India. I felt that the competition presentation was shown very well.

Seamaster as ITTF World Tour & TTX Commercial Partner (27th February to 1st March)

I attended the Signing Ceremony for Seamaster as ITTF World Tour & TTX commercial partner, which took place in Shanghai. During my stay, we had some time to exchange information on what needs to be done for the future of Table Tennis and the possibility of new sponsorships for the ITTF to come.

ITTF EC Meeting, Dubai (10th March to 13th March)

At the EC Meeting held in Dubai, we looked into the upcoming events and their schedules.

Asian Championships, Wuxi (7th April to 17th April)

During my stay in Wuxi, I attended the ATTU EB Meeting (9th April) and the Congress Meeting (10th April) to exchange information with the members of Asia. I also took the time to observe the Asian Championships where Hirano Miu managed to defeat three Chinese players and become the Asian Champion for her 1st time and for the 1st time for Japan in 21 years.

Korean Open (17th April to 20th April)

I made a visit to the Korean Open to exchange information with the Korean members and other participants from around the world.

World Table Tennis Championships (25th May to 7th June)

With the support from the Deutscher Tischtennis-Bund, the organisation of the event, transportation for the players, and sport presentation was very good. The players and board members all expressed high opinions of the event.

Also, during the competition, I was given the honour to serve a 2nd term as an ITTF EC member. I will do all my best in order to further develop the Table Tennis World.

During this event, Japan for the 1st time in 48 years won the Gold Medal in Mixed Doubles and gained 5 medals overall, which made this event very meaningful for me.

I attended the following events / meetings:

27th May: TTX Reception, SSC Party
29th May: Equipment Committee Meeting 1
31st May: AGM
2nd June: BoD Meeting

28th May: EC Meeting 1, Draw Ceremony
30th May: ATTU Meeting
1st June: OPC Meeting
5th June: EC Meeting 2

Japan Open (14th June to 18th June)

I acted as the Competition Chairman. The event ended successfully.

T2 League (26th June to 29th June)

I participated at the Opening Ceremony for the T2 League in Malaysia.

45th Anniversary Diplomatic Ties in Beijing (3rd August to 8th August)

Visited Beijing to celebrate the 45th Anniversary of China and Japan's diplomatic ties, where we held a China-Japan Mixed Table Tennis competition. During this event I had a meeting with Cai Zhenhua (President of CTTA) and Shi Zhihao about the future of table tennis in both countries.

2017 Junior Sports Asia, Tokyo (25th August to 27th August)

With 19 cities from around the world taking part in this event, I had the opportunity to meet Gantulga Tsendsuren (President of Mongolian Table Tennis Association).

EC Meeting, Halmstad (21st September to 25th September)

I went to Halmstad for the inspection of the 2018 World Table Tennis Championships, and also attended the EC Meeting that was also held in Halmstad.

ATTU Meeting Japan, Fukuoka (14th November to 17th November)

JTTA held the ATTU Meeting in Fukuoka. At the meeting, we received reports on the events that were held this year and also had discussions about the Annual Fee and future events

World Junior Championships (28th November to 5th December)

During my stay in Riva Del Garda I had the chance to talk with the members of different national federations while watching the competition. At the end of the competition, I was given the privilege to act as the Medal Presenter.

The event was held and organised well by the Italian Table Tennis Federation, but we itemized some tasks that need to be cleared in order to keep this event.

ITTF Rough Diamond Training Camp, Luxemburg (10th December to 12th December)

I visited this training camp with Polona Cehovin, who was in charge, and Martin Ostermann (CTTCE) to discuss how we could develop this training camp. As for this year's camp, there was Zhang Yinning (Athens & Beijing Olympic Gold Medallist) as a coach with three other coaches and the quality of the training was very high.

World Tour Grand Final, Astana (12th December to 19th December)

13 th December: Draw Ceremony	14 th December: EC Meeting, Star Awards
15 th December: OPC Meeting, DCC Meeting	16 th December: ITTF Strategy Meeting
17 th December: World Tour Grand Finals, Award Ceremony	

Finally, I would like to mention that with Thomas Weikert as the President, and our new EC Members, and the ITTF professional staff, I look forward to having a great relationship and to working towards a better and further developed Table Tennis World.

Masahiro Maehara

This report covers the period from June 1st, 2017 until the end of January 2018 (the time of writing this report).

Areas of Responsibility:

1. Africa (Communications) – Continental Role
2. Supervise and follow up on Information Technology issues
3. Supervise and follow up on Equipment-related issues
4. Vice-President of Arab Table Tennis Federation - Regional Role

1) Meetings and Events Attended

DATE	EVENT	SITE	MEETINGS (MINUTES ON ITTF WEBSITE)
JUNE, 2017	WTTC	Dusseldorf, GER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC Meeting • BoD Meeting • Olympic & Paralympic Commission
SEPT, 2017		Halmstad, SWE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC Meeting • Update on 2018 WTTC preparations
DEC, 2017	WT Grand Finals	Astana, KAZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC Meeting • Olympic & Paralympic Commission • Development & Continental Council

2) Role Related to Communications with Africa – CONTINENTAL ROLE

DATE	EVENT	SITE	MEETINGS
JULY, 2017	African Cup	Agadir, MAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting ITTF-Africa EC members
SEPT, 2017		Lausanne, SUI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with ITTF Africa President and African Association Leaders Organizing Tournaments

The ITTF has started offering HIGH-BUDGET SPONSORED marketing agreements to continental federations to improve events and to overcome financial constraints.

In July, 2017 at the African Cup, I conveyed the message of the ITTF EC in terms of “**minimal requirements needed**” on behalf of ITTF-Africa to provide the proper environment to approve starting such a contractual agreement:

REQUIREMENT	PROGRESS	NOTES
BANK ACCOUNT	Pending	Expected to finalize within days of writing this report
NEW CONSITUTION	Pending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft prepared and approved by the African EC • Draft communicated with members for suggestions • Final draft to be presented to the African Council Meeting in African Top 16 (March, 2018 in Nairobi, Kenya) • Approval by General Assembly after the Council Meeting
FINANCIAL AUDITING	Pending	Auditor chosen by the EC and awaits approval of the GA
STRATEGIC PLAN	No active steps	

I would like to congratulate the associations of the highly-ranked **African players**, appearing in the **top 50**. The number of African players in the top 50 of different age categories has increased dramatically after

adopting the new ranking system. I am very grateful to the ITTF staff involved in this change which, like any new system, needs critical follow up to maximise the pros and find solutions for any cons.

I am very pleased with the solution reached between the Libyan TT Federation and its NOC, to resolve the internal conflict which could have affected ITTF recognition of this African Arab TT Federation.

*I would like to congratulate and wish good luck to **Ramzy Mabrouk** from the Tunisian TT Federation for his newly-appointed position as the **African Development Manager**.*

3) Information Technology

- TMS had been the IT Services provider of the ITTF, hosting our databases and our results management system.
- The ITTF had planned a smooth transfer to a new service provider, however, all negotiations to have a reasonable agreement with TMS failed. This led to a notified disconnection of their services on October 10th, 2017.
- With the professional contribution of ITTF Staff members (Dimos and Zoltan), they developed a tool which is used at the time of writing this report to help with historical data and basic statistics.
- A tender for the new ITTF IT project (**100% owned IT solution**) was held at the end of October, 2017 and after thorough review by our professional IT staff, BORNAN was assigned.
- Extensive IT development is in progress at the time of the writing of this report with special thanks to the close follow up of our dedicated IT staff member (Mohamed El-Dawlatly) and Mr. Raul Calin. Some fast results are being currently seen and a **new system with the latest technology** is to be delivered gradually, and it is expected to be fully implemented by the WTTC in Halmstad.

4) Equipment

I would like to thank the very active Equipment Committee, Chair and members, and the ITTF Staff in charge (Vicky and Emese) for their tremendous effort to accomplish so many jobs, some of which are listed here:

- Research on Equipment projects and update of Technical Leaflets accordingly;
- Supervise the testing of equipment submitted for approval or authorization;
- Update the lists of ITTF-Approved and Authorized equipment;
- Monitor UNAUTHORIZED use of the ITTF logo on equipment;
- Random testing on balls and nets last year;
- Taking part in the FIT Working Groups; and
- Studying issues with racket control and the practicality of current rules and the TRUE efficacy of its implementation

*A new position of **Equipment Manager** was advertised on the ITTF Website in November, 2017.*

5) Vice-President of the Arab Table Tennis Federation - Regional Role

DATE	EVENT	SITE	MEETINGS
AUG, 2017	Arab Cup	Muscat, OMAN	• EC and Extraordinary GA meeting
NOV, 2017	Arab Clubs Ch.	Beirut, LEB	• EC and Extraordinary GA meeting

Regional events provide me with the opportunity to collaborate and communicate with the Arab TT Associations and provide them with feedback regarding the ITTF plans and progress achieved. It is also a very good opportunity to understand their needs from the ITTF.

In conclusion, I would like to express my appreciation of the democratic policy of ITTF President Mr. Thomas Weikert. I would also like to thank my colleagues in the Executive Committee and the professional ITTF staff for all the support and cooperation on their behalf.

Alaa Meshref

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT (James Morris)

Report to the AGM

Document A7

Since my election as an Executive Vice-President, I have been assigned these areas of responsibility:

1. Strategic Planning
2. Continental Commercial Agreements
3. Veterans
4. Oceania Continent

1. Strategic Planning

The International firm Deloitte was contracted to assist the ITTF to develop a comprehensive Strategic Plan.

The process allowed input from our stakeholders and with Deloitte's widely-acclaimed experience, produce a plan that will be put before the AGM in Halmstad in Sweden. This, of course, is a huge step forward in strengthening the ITTF to become one of the top sports in the world. As I write this report, a comprehensive online survey is being circulated to our stakeholders to glean more relevant information.

2. Continental Commercial Agreements

To date the Continents of Oceania, North America and Europe have signed Commercial Agreements with the ITTF. The remaining 3 Continental Federations are all finalising discussions to also be a part of this important investment opportunity.

3. Veterans

President Thomas Weikert has met with the Swaythling Club International (SCI) Chair Eberhard Scholer with the mutual agreement to look at ITTF taking over the running of the World Veteran Championships. This is in the early days of discussion, but there is a strong will on both sides to see this integration take place by 2022/24.

The Veterans' Table Tennis scene is indeed a very strong part of global Table Tennis and SCI must be congratulated on the success of this current tournament. It is exciting that this great tournament could be part of our calendar, so watch this space.

4. Oceania Continent

The Fiji Table Tennis Association hosted the World Cadet Challenge and was successful in bringing the world's best Under-15 players to the region in what was a great tournament.

Through the commercial agreement with the ITTF, the Management Committee has been able to employ new staff, which will see a more professional approach to the organisation.

Bendigo in Victoria, Australia has been given the hosting rights for the World Junior Championships in 2018. This is the first time for this world junior event to be staged in Oceania. I would like to thank ITTF-Oceania President Anthony Ho and his Oceania team for the energy and work of promoting Table Tennis in this region.

5.Meetings Attended:

EC Meetings

- May, 2017 in Dusseldorf, Germany
- September, 2017 in Halmstad, Sweden
- December, 2017 in Astana, Kazakhstan
- February, 2018 in London, England

FEWG Meetings

- 2017 in Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Shanghai, and Rio
- January, 2018 in San Jose, USA

Strategic Plan Meeting

- December, 2017 in Astana, Kazakhstan

I would like to thank President Thomas Weikert for his strong but collaborative leadership and EC colleagues for their support. I am enjoying working with you all. I thank the dedicated staff through CEO Steve Dainton for their help and passion. I am looking forward to the work ahead to help have our sport at the top of the world.

James Morris

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT (Shi Zhihao)

Report to the AGM

Document A8

With a series of changes ushered in, 2017 was a special year for both table tennis and the ITTF. As an ITTF Executive Vice-President, as well as a table tennis person for many years, I'm very glad to see that all of the areas of our sport, including the ITTF itself, are trying to improve. And it is a great honor that my contribution has become part of it. Now, please allow me to report my work in 2017 as follows.

1. High Performance

High performance is a new project established in 2017. I'm very glad to be in charge of this new field and to see that besides the promotion, the ITTF has started to pursue a more professional path. During the limited time after the establishment of this project, I have had several deep discussions with the staff in charge and have set the following priorities.

- 1) To form a high-performance team with professional members, such as a team leader, world-class players and coaches, etc.
- 2) To establish high performance training centers around the world gradually. It could start from several specific centers and then slowly expand to all the continents.
- 3) High performance shall not only be a project, but also a concept, fully combined with all the ITTF fields.

In 2018, I hope to cooperate with all the related parties to further develop the high-performance project.

2. Marketing/ Commercial Asia

The promotion of marketing/ commercial Asia went smoothly in 2017. With the great effort of all the staff, several potential new sponsors have expressed the intention of cooperation with ITTF Events, which is great news for our sport. In 2018, we will actively continue the related work on this field.

3. Museum

The construction work of the whole museum building has come to an end. The inspection check will start at the end of January, 2018. The decoration inside the building will be completed in February. In 2018, the museum team will focus on the promotion and development of the table tennis culture around the world.

4. Olympic Games

The Olympic Games is also a new field I'm in charge of this year. During the discussions about the Games, a special working group was first established, and a lot of good ideas have come forward. Under the great effort of all the group members, it has been decided that the playing

system will be kept the same as the last Olympics, while the qualification system has been modified. The proposal has been submitted to the IOC.

2. Attendance in ITTF Meetings

In the past year, I attended the following meetings and competition events:

Executive Committee Meetings

- Dubai March, 2017
- Germany May, 2017

BoD Meeting

- Germany May, 2017

OPC Meetings

- Germany May, 2017

DCC Meeting

- Germany May, 2017

AGM

- Germany May, 2017

World Tour

- Chengdu June, 2017

As a conclusion, I'd like to express my gratitude to my colleagues on the Executive Committee and other friends in the ITTF family. Thank you for your kind cooperation and hard work in the past year. Although it might be late now, let's welcome a brighter 2018 together.

Shi Zhihao

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT (Nestor Jose Tenca)

Report to the AGM

Document A9

After the last election, under the leadership of our president Thomas Weikert, the ITTF has made important changes to reach the best standards regarding Olympic principles and professional organization. These are essential conditions to guarantee the institutional infrastructure to develop table tennis in every country and, in the same way, to get more TV hours and more sponsors. Definitely, to achieve the best for table tennis.

From the legal functions that I have as an Executive Vice-president and the specific role I was entrusted by the President, I have been supporting those changes.

As part of my responsibilities as an Executive Vice-President, I had the opportunity to represent our Executive Committee in the following activities:

1. I attended the **ITTF Pan American Junior Championships** that took place in the city of **Buenos Aires, Argentina**, from June 20th to 25th, 2017.
2. I attended the **ITTF Pan American Cup** that took place in the city of **San Jose, Costa Rica**, from July 28th to 30th, 2017.
3. I attended the **ITTF Pan American Championships** that took place in the city of **Cartagena, Colombia**, from September 11th to 17th, 2017.

Those events were very well organized and constituted a success in Pan American development.

On the other hand, another relevant work in the framework of my responsibilities, was about “Pan American Events and Structure” and the liaison between the Continental Organizations **LATTU Latin American Table Tennis Union**, and **NATTU - ITTF.NA** – with the main goal: to create The Pan American Confederation of Table Tennis.

The relevant sport events that took place in 2016 and 2017 in different countries were the first step. Now the challenge is to organize it politically. I gave LATTU my opinions about this important process for the future of a Continental Sport. Finally, on this topic, I appreciate the great work carried out by Raul Calin in supporting this Project.

Within my responsibilities as Executive Vice-President, I attended all the meetings of our Executive Committee to which I was summoned, and offer the following details:

- During the **ITTF World Championships** in Dusseldorf, Germany, from May 29th to June 5th, 2017, I took part in the **Executive Committee, AGM, BOD and OPC** meetings.
- I attended the **Executive Committee** meeting that took place in the city of Halmstad, Sweden, in August 23th, 2017.
- I also attended the **Executive Committee** and the **Olympic and Paralympic Commission** meetings that took place in the city of **Astana, Kazakhstan** during the Seamaster 2017 ITTF World Tour Grand Finals from December 14th to 17th, 2017. I enjoyed the play and the Gala Dinner to honor the stars of our sport.

- Finally, I want to sincerely recognize our President **Thomas Weikert**, colleagues from the EC, and members of the ITTF official staff, particularly CEO **Steve Dainton** for his new vision of our sport and for always supporting my work. I want to convey to all of them my enormous gratitude and recognition to all the associations members, especially to the Latin American Countries, for daily support in all actions and activities of the ITTF.

Nestor Jose Tenca

Africa has reached the number of 54 affiliated Associations in the ITTF, which matches the full quota of all African countries as full members of ITTF/ATTF. This puts a lot of pressure on us. The challenge for us is to ensure that such full quota is not only for numbers, but also for real participation, promotion and development of all members in the whole continent.

After the 2017 ITTF AGM, I had the pleasure in December to represent the ATTF at the ITTF Development & Continental Council in Astana (Kazakhstan), which was held in conjunction with the World Tour Grand Finals and 2017 Star Awards.

The African activities for the year 2017 were as follows:

2017 ITTF-Africa Juniors & Cadet Championships

It was held in Tunisia in April, 2017 with 14 participating countries. Thanks to the Tunisia Table Tennis Association for hosting such a successful event including the African Youth U21 Championships. ITTF/ATTF celebrated with them the their WJC event, which was conducted in Tunis and also the excellent organization of the third ITTF World Table Tennis day on the 6th of April 2017. It was a very nice celebration in Africa. Finally, we also had the African qualification for the 3rd Youth Olympic Games that concluded with 2 qualified boys (Youssef Abdel-Aziz – EGY & Nathael Hamdoun – TUN) and 2 qualified girls (Esther Oribamise – NGR & Marwa Alhodaby - EGY)

2017 ITTF-Africa Cup & African Clubs Championships

The African Cup was held in Agadir, Morocco in July, 2017 with 32 players from 8 different countries. Thanks to the Morocco Table Tennis Association, which took care of hosting the event within 3 months' notice after the withdrawal of Mozambique to do it. The ITTF-Africa Cup was the qualifying event for the 2017 ITTF World Cups, with the result of Quadri Aruna of NGR for men and Dina Meshref of EGY for women to represent Africa in 2017. Then we had the honour to have another qualifier by ITTF ranking: Omar Assar of EGY for men. It was the first time Africa had two qualifiers in a World Cup. It was followed by the African Clubs Championships with 13 Men's Teams and 9 Women's Teams, which concluded with Al-Ahly Club of EGY winning both events.

African Participation & Top International Results

- 16 African Associations took part in the LIEBHERR 2017 World Table Tennis Championships in Dusseldorf (ALG – BOT - CMR – CGO – CIV – EGY – GAB – LBA – MAR – NGR – RSA – SEN – SLE - SUD – TOG – TUN), with the best results of: ASSAR O./MESHREF D. reaching the round of 16 in XD, ARUNA Q./TORIOLA S. reaching the round of 32 in MD & MESHREF D./HELMY Y. reaching the round of 32 in WD).
- 16 African Associations participated in the Francophone Games in Abidjan (CIV) in July, 2017 (BEN – BUR – CGO – CIV – CMR – COD – DJI – GAB – GUI – MAD – MRI – NIG – SEN – SEY – TOG – TUN). Africa was there on the podium with a Bronze medal for Abeer Haj Salah (TUN) in Women's Singles.
- 9 African Associations participated in the Seamaster 17th Arab Cup in Muscat (OMA) in August, 2017 (ALG – COM – EGY – DJI – MAR – MTN – SOM – SUD – TUN) in five age

categories (Seniors-Youth-Juniors-Cadet-Mini Cadet). Africa was there on the podium with 18 Gold, 12 Silver & 9 Bronze for EGY, ALG, TUN & DJI.

- Quadri Aruna (NGR), the winner of the 2017 ITTF-Africa Cup (MS) together with Omar Assar (EGY), the qualified player by ITTF ranking, participated in the LIEBHERR Men's World Cup in Liege, Belgium in October, 2017. Both players qualified to the main draw (round of 16).
- Dina Meshref (EGY), the winner of the 2017 ITTF-Africa Cup (WS) participated in the Uncle Pop Women's World Cup in Markham, Canada in October, 2017. She qualified for the main draw (round of 16).
- There was one WT (Challenge Series) event organized Nigeria in August, 2017, thanks to the NTTF & Lagos State for their tradition of professional organization and for being a part of the World Tour for the fourth year in a row with the title sponsor "Seamaster" this time. They have already applied to continue hosting the event in 2018.
- There were two GJC events organized in 2017 in Africa: in Tunisia in April and in Egypt in October. Thanks to FTTT & ETTF for their good level of representation for Africa to host such important ITTF-sanctioned events with remarkable success and with a good participation level from Africa.
- By the start of 2018, three African players were among the top 40 players worldwide, Omar Assar (16) and Quadri Aruna (20) in MS, and Dina Meshref (39) in WS.

Development & Education in Africa

We had a new policy of successfully hosting two Continental Development Courses, plus one Hopes Week/Challenge event in each of our 5 Regions in the year. The main African Hopes Week/Challenge was well organized in TUN (March).

Africa was a part of the ITTF Hopes Team in 2017 WCC through EHAB Omar (EGY).

Thanks to all professional Course Conductors and Camp Experts who came to Africa in 2017. Sincere thanks to BUTTERFLY and TRIOFLOR brands for their great and continuous support to our associations and competitions. They helped create a prestigious image at our events. Thanks to STAG and XIOM brands for the same support towards promotion of African associations. Thanks also to STIGA brand for sponsoring the official uniform for the African Cadet Team in the WCC for the sixth year in a row (since 2012), plus the Jury of ITTF-Africa events in 2017.

Special thanks to Mr. Michael Brown for his keen efforts to follow up all DP programs in Africa during the whole year up until his promotion to ITTF Financial Officer, and we wish a great success to the new ITTF Development Officer for Africa (Ramzy Ben Mabrouk – TUN).

Essential Recognition

On behalf of the ATTF EC, I thank Mr. Thomas Weikert, the ITTF President, and all ITTF new EC group for their support to Table Tennis in Africa, and all over the World.

Thanks also to the ITTF CEO, Secretary General, the Directors and all staff for their full-time engagement in helping our planning and activities even through obstacles in our continent.

Khaled El-Salhy

Continental President: Africa

Number of Member Associations

The Asian Table Tennis Union has maintained 44 member associations through the end of 2017.

Key Competitions

In 2017, the ATTU successfully held its 3 authorized events, including the Asian Championships in China, the Asian Junior & Cadet Challenge in Korea, and the Asian Cup in India. Events of various levels were all well organized. The TTF of India, one of the ATTU's most active member associations, staged the 2018 YOG Asian Qualification Event, ITTF World Junior Circuit Final, World Tour Indian Open, and initiated the Indian League, which attracted top players from Asia and beyond. The Kazakhstan TTA, the host of the 2017 ITTF World Tour Grand Final, made a breakthrough by bringing a world-title event into Middle Asia, and proved that many Asian associations are capable of organizing major tournaments. The TTA of DPR Korea staged one event in the ITTF Challenge Series, making their first step into the international arena. The year of 2017 also witnessed the contributions made by the associations of China, Japan, Korea, Qatar, UAE, Thailand, Jordan, Chinese Taipei and Hong Kong. Their long-time dedication in hosting ITTF World Tours and ITTF Junior Circuits continued to advance our sport.

In addition, the 9th ASEAN Para Games were held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in September; and the Asian Regional Championships were staged in Beijing, China in August. All types of players in Asia were able to join various events to showcase their skills and spirit.

Development Programs

Traditional development programs continued to be conducted in 2017. The ATTU-DHS Development Fund sponsored 4 member associations to participate in the 2017 China Junior & Cadet Open, one of the ITTF Junior Circuit Golden Series. This brought the number of associations that have benefited from the plan in the past 4 years up to 22, which is half of the whole number of ATTU members. The ITTF development fund for Asia was utilized to conduct training courses in different countries for different groups around the year. The participants' knowledge of table tennis was updated and their skills improved. In 2017, the ATTU renewed its Agreement of Understanding for development programs with the ITTF for the new term (2017-2020). Long-term cooperation between the two sides will lead to an even brighter future. Furthermore, the 2017 Asian Hope's Week and Challenge hosted by the Thailand TTA saw 3 boys and 3 girls qualify for the World Hope's Week and Challenge, where they competed on a broader platform.

One particular highlight was the very first ITTF-ATTU Tournament Organization & Competition Manager Training Seminar, which was held during the 2017 Asian Championships. This marked another win-win cooperation between the ATTU and the ITTF. A dozen candidates had been recommended by their associations to take part in the seminar where the ITTF Competition Manager and ATTU technical officials shared their expertise and offered instructions in event management. By training these candidates, both the ATTU and the ITTF will be able to increase its talent pool, and future Asian events can expect to see a Competition Manager from within the continent recognized by the ITTF.

Marketing Initiative

The DHS Company from China extended its Development Fund Agreement with the ATTU for another four years from 2018 to 2021, which allows the ATTU to continue its sponsorship of member associations to enter the ITTF Junior Circuit, to receive equipment assistance and to organize regional training camps. The ATTU highly appreciates the major support offered by the DHS Company, ATTU's Strategic Partner on our Development Plan. DHS is an indispensable player in the development of our sport in Asia and the world. Lagardere Sports also renewed its long-term agreement with the ATTU to market all ATTU events worldwide by giving live coverage of our events on both TV and the Internet. Nittaku will continue to offer equipment sponsorship to Team Asia in 2018.

Relations with Continental Organizations

The "China in North America" project jointly developed by the ITTF, the Chinese TTA and DHS, witnessed the Chinese national team coaches and young players sharing their advanced technique and concept of training to players from both the USA and Canada.

The Asia-Europe All Stars Challenge co-hosted by the ATTU and the ETTU will resume in 2018, offering a platform for exchanges between players and officials from our two Unions.

Election

The new leading organ of the ATTU was elected at the 2017 ATTU Congress Meeting in April. Fresh faces were seen among the Regional Vice Presidents and Committee Chairs. An Athletes' Commission has been set up, and the Veterans' Committee has been upgraded to the Education and Training Committee.

In the ITTF EC election at the end of May, three representatives from Asia, who were ITTF EC members for 2013-2017, were all re-elected as ITTF Executive Vice Presidents for 2017-2021.

ATTU 45th Anniversary

Founded in 1972, the ATTU celebrated its 45th Anniversary in 2017. An anniversary book entitled *Road to Glory* was compiled and distributed among our member associations and sponsors. Extensive photos of the past and present recorded historical moments among the development of our Union.

To conclude, I would like to thank the ITTF, continental organizations and all Asian member associations for their support and contributions in 2017.

Cai Zhenhua

Continental President: Asia

EUROPE (Ronald Kramer)

Report to the AGM

Document B3

Member Basis

The total membership of the ETTU is at present 58 Associations.

Competitions

Following detailed discussion within previous years' Congress meetings the first STAG Under-21 European Championships were very successfully staged in Sochi (RUS). Also, worth mentioning is the initiative of the Czech Association to organise a Minipingpong Festival to celebrate World Table Tennis Day. Since the ITTF AGM in Dusseldorf, the ETTU has organised the LIEBHERR ITTF European Championships for teams in Luxembourg (LUX) with 42 men's teams and 38 women's teams participating. The success of the event can be attributed mainly to the great organisation by the Luxembourg Association. The 60th European Youth Championships were very well organised in Guimaraes (POR) by the Portuguese Association, with 37 junior boys' teams, 34 junior girls' teams, 39 cadet boys' teams and 35 cadet girls' teams participating. In addition, the European Veterans Championships were very well organised in Helsingborg (SWE), while the Europe Youth Top 10 was staged in Worcester (ENG) in September and showed the great commitment and quality of our English colleagues.

Congress Meetings 2017

The Extraordinary Congress in Dusseldorf (GER) discussed the future of the Europe Team Championships, after a presentation by Heike Ahlert (GER) on behalf of the 'European Events Group'. After the Congress a questionnaire was sent to all member Associations. The replies constituted the basis for the proposals put to the Ordinary Congress in September.

ETTU's Ordinary Congress was held in Luxembourg (LUX), where the decision was taken to restructure the European Team Championships, with the first two stages played in groups in home and away matches. The Final Stage will then host 24 teams. In contrast with the former system, every registered team can be European Champion, and the home matches in the first two stages shall be used to promote table tennis in our countries. During the Congress a discussion was started about the remuneration of the President. It was decided to seek legal advice. This advice was given in December by two Luxembourg law firms, concluding that the remuneration was legal.

Development Initiatives

In 2017 the ETTU development program retained the 'Eurotalents' (Under 13) selection camps leading to selected boys and girls receiving invitations to further ETTU training camps and activities. At the final selection camp in Otocec (SLO), young players from 15 Associations participated and were evaluated by Istvan Korpa, Joze Urh, Michael Fuchs, Adrian Alexandru, Miran Kondric and Neven Cegnar. Five boys and three girls were selected, and they will join the previous intake of 19 players to receive additional support and training during 2018.

In August Under 18 players, Adina Diaconu, Andrea Dragoman, Maria Tailakova, Truls Moregard, Cristian Pletea and Vladimir Sidorenko, accompanied by ETTU Development Manager Neven Cegnar, travelled to Singapore for a training camp at the Singapore National TT Centre. We thank the Singapore TT Association for their kind cooperation.

Development support for member Associations continued with 7 Associations -- Estonia, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Lithuania, Norway and Scotland -- chosen from 11 applicants to receive funding for specific educational and technical training activities. Applications for increased financial support in 2018 for member Associations have been received.

In October the Annual Coaching Conference was held in Warsaw (POL) attended by 58 coaches from 21 Associations. Experts Li Xiaodong and Rikki Watanabe were the keynote speakers and presented lectures on “the analysis of the 6 stages of TT development” and “the new situation of plastic balls,” respectively.

Marketing Initiatives and Club Competitions

With the aim of supporting ETTU member Associations a marketing workshop was organised during the LIEBHERR ITTF European Championships in Luxembourg (LUX), with support of the ITTF’s marketing department. It was the follow-up of the successfully staged workshop in Budapest (HUN) in 2016. It may well become a yearly recurring initiative.

Although again better than in the preceding season, the first rounds of the 2017-2018 season showed that it is still not easy for all the participating clubs to make the necessary investments in the necessary improvement in the quality of presentation. The Management Board that was installed to manage the progress of the quality of our Men’s Champions League is functioning quite well. Most problems are of a technical nature and are being solved in close cooperation with the clubs. The Seamaster Women’s Champions League is also getting better and better, as are the ETTU Cup competitions.

The ETTU is very happy to acknowledge the support of its suppliers’ pool members and looks forward to intensifying its cooperation with them.

Athletes Commission

Petr Korbel was thanked for a job well done, as a co-opted member of our Executive Board. After elections for the Athletes’ Commission during the LIEBHERR ITTF European Championships, Galia Dvorak has taken over as a co-opted member of the Executive Board.

Finance

Under the guidance of our VP for Finance, the ETTU’s Executive Board and the secretariat has worked hard to further improve our financial situation.

Honours

During the Congress in Luxembourg, 13 members of the European Table Tennis family were decorated with the ETTU Badge of Honour for their contribution to our sport.

I wish to take the opportunity to thank my colleagues on the ETTU Executive Board as well as the staff for the loyal way they are working for the improvement of the ETTU’s performance.

Last but not least, many thanks to the ITTF, its newly elected President, its officials, and its staff, and the other Continental Federations for their inspiration, their support and cooperation, and the work we are doing together. The cooperation and work in the ITTF’s Future Events Working Group showed that we are all on the right track in renewing our sport.

Ronald Kramer

Continental President: Europe

The first quarter of 2017 was a very special period and with a lot of experience gained for the ULTM family and, I would say, for the entire Table Tennis community. We had the opportunity to participate in the General Assembly and elections of the ITTF, where the new Executive Committee and Board of Directors members were elected for the period of 2017-2021. This process could be called: "the highest democratic expression of the ITTF."

In 2017, we continued to execute the strategies for consolidating the four fundamental elements of the LATTU strategic plan: 1) the consolidation of the activities in the three regions; 2) the work towards the creation of the Pan American confederation; 3) the reinforcement of the institutional and administrative aspects of the LATTU and 4) the work on the transparency of the resources management.

For the first time there were Regional Hopes Training Camps, important activities for the LATTU which intend to improve the processes of learning of the technique at the earlier stages. Honduras, Jamaica and Chile were the hosts of the respective regional events. Paraguay hosted with excellency the Continental Hopes Training Camp and the Latin American Championships under 11 and under 13.

COMPETITIONS

The first Pan American Championships was certainly the most important competition held in 2017 in Latin America. Cartagena hosted the event and the athletes Hugo Calderano (BRA) and Adriana Diaz (PUR) were crowned champions in the single's events. We have to congratulate North America for the high competitive level of their athletes, which shared positions on the podium in different events.

I also would like to note the medals won by our Latin American teams at the World Cadet Challenge in Fiji.

INSTITUTIONAL RESULTS

The incorporation and the adoption of a juridical personality for LATTU was another important step in the growth of our organisation. Nowadays, it is possible to perform financial operations with the juridical personality of LATTU and not through personal accounts. This year we have also initiated the work for the creation of the disciplinary regulations for our institution.

EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The first year of the 2017-2020 quadrennial has begun with the new agreement and it has been very active in education. The following activities were held:

- 23 coaching courses ITTF/PTT Level 1 (19 self-funded)
- 1 coaching course ITTF Level 2
- 1 coaching course ITTF Level 3
- 6 URC basic umpires' courses (2 self-funded)
- 6 URC basic referees' courses (3 self-funded)
- 1 URC AUT+ARE+BB course (self-funded)

- 1 new ITTF International Referee
- 4 Scholarships for players and 4 for coaches for World Hopes Week
- 1 Activity for Women in Panama
- 1 Olympic Solidarity Technical Course
- 1 Developing National Sport Structure (DNSS) Olympic Solidarity Course
- 1 Dream Building activity in Haiti
- 2 ITTF PTT Level 1 Course Conductors trained
- 7 equipment packages for associations (17 if we include those providing manuals)
- 2 New ITTF-PTT L1 Course Conductors running courses

World Junior Circuit and World Tour Events in Latin America

- Argentina, Guatemala and El Salvador Junior & Cadet Open, ITTF World Junior Circuit (3 events)
- Seamaster 2017 World Tour Brazil and Chile Open, Challenge Series (2 events)

Achievement

- There was a record exposure of the 2017 World Table Tennis Championships from Dusseldorf in our continent, with re-transmissions in Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Venezuela.

Juan Vila

Continental President: Latin America

NORTH AMERICA (Gordon Kaye)

Report to the AGM

Document B5

It is with great respect that I submit this report to the AGM as the new ITTF-North America Continental President. I would be remiss not to thank Tony Kiesenhofer, our out-going President, for his outstanding contributions to our Continental program over the last two years. Under his guidance and leadership, ITTF-North America has made significant progress – and I look forward to building on the strong foundation established during his tenure.

North American Development Program

As in previous years, ITTF North America completed all development activities as planned.

This year, we took a different approach to the **Women's Course**, which took the form of a 5-day training camp prior to the World Junior Championships in Italy. Under the guidance of USATT's High Performance Director, Joerg Bitzigeio and Canadian Women's Coach Yongjiang Liu, three American and three Canadian girls took part in an outstanding preparatory program.

The **PARA Table Tennis** camp was held in Las Vegas, Nevada with participants from the US and Canada. The camp was organized to fit in with the preparation plan for the 2017 US Para Open and the 2018 Para World Championships.

ITTF North America Hopes Challenge

Our Continental Hopes program continues to grow, with over 200 players participating across North America in 2017. Both USA and Canada held their regional and national Hopes activities to tie in to the ITTF World Hopes program. ITTF North America selected its World Hopes Challenge participants at the Continental Hopes Challenge at the Lily Yip Table Tennis Center in Dunellen, New Jersey. The winners represented North America in the World Hopes week in Luxembourg. Swathi Giri (ICC Table Tennis Center, Milpitas, California) also qualified for the World Cadet Challenge in Fiji.

Junior Training Camps

Thanks to the ITTF Development Department, the Chinese Table Tennis Federation, and DHS, ITTF-North America was fortunate to host two "China in North America" training camps in 2017. The first camp was held at the ICC Table Tennis Center in Milpitas, California from October 5-10, and the second camp was held in Markham, Ontario from October 12-16. The camps were a success, as forty-eight top US and Canadian junior players and ten coaches gained valuable experience training with, and learning from, the Chinese Junior National team players and coaches.

World Cadet Challenge

North America once again had a successful World Cadet Challenge, with the North American Girls team claiming the silver medal and the Boys team taking bronze. All eight North American players placed in the top-16 of the singles event, and the team of Rachel Sung (USA) and Amy Wang (USA) captured the bronze medal in girl's doubles.

Pan American Championship Events

2017 marked the first year of a full slate of Pan American championship events in cooperation with the Latin American Table Tennis Union. All three 2017 Pan American events were held in Latin America (Pan Am Junior Championships – Argentina; Pan Am Cup – Costa Rica; and Pan Am Championships – Colombia). Despite some minor technical difficulties, the events were well organized, and we look forward to continuing the partnership with LATTU in 2018.

International Events

For the second year in a row, North America was the site of a major international event when TT-CAN hosted the 2017 Uncle Pop's Women's World Cup presented by Polar Naturals in Markham, Ontario. Tony Kiesenhofer and his team produced a world-class event, with three sold-out days of the highest caliber both on and off the court. From the opening banquet all the way through the thrilling 7-game final between ZHU Yuling and LIU Shiwen, players, coaches, officials, dignitaries and officials were treated to one of the finest table tennis events in the world. Of particular note, the playing conditions and match presentation were superb – and we congratulate the entire team at TT-CAN for producing an amazing event.

Looking Forward

The future is bright in North America thanks in part to the collaborative work between USATT and TT-CAN in identifying further opportunities to commercialize the sport. We look forward to a great 2018 and beyond!

Gordon Kaye

Continental President: North America

ITTF-Oceania

In 2017, ITTF-Oceania took major steps forward as an organisation. ITTF-Oceania's vision of "inspiring excellence in life through table tennis" was formalised with the design of a 2017-2020 Strategic Plan. Thanks to the Commercial Agreement with the ITTF, ITTF-Oceania is able to increase its capacity and governance to design and implement programs with a focus on achieving objectives in the areas of:

1. Participation – to increase the capacity of National Associations to deliver inclusive participation programs and promote healthy lifestyle behaviours;
2. High Performance– to provide clear pathways for players, coaches, officials and administrators to transition from community to high performance;
3. Events– to establish and enhance sustainable, entertaining events;
4. Operations – to develop strong leadership through good governance and transparency; and
5. Communications – to better connect and engage with all stakeholders in a timely manner.

Events

2017 ITTF-Oceania Cup

The 2017 ITTF-Oceania Cup took place in Suva, Fiji. Eight Men and eight Women were invited to participate in the event, with a prize pool in excess of \$40,000AU; the event continues to be the largest prize money ever offered for Oceania athletes. David Powell of Australia retained the title, and Australia's Jian Fang Lay was crowned the Women's Single's Champion.

2017 ITTF-Oceania Para Championships

The 2017 ITTF-Oceania Para Championships were held in conjunction with the ITTF-Oceania Cup and the ITTF-Oceania Junior Championships in Suva, Fiji. 46 players from 10 countries competed in Team's and Single's events. This is a significant increase in participation from the 2015 edition in which 22 players from 5 countries competed.

2017 ITTF-Oceania Junior Championships

The 2017 ITTF-Oceania Junior Championships were also held in Suva, Fiji. Australia won both the Boys' and Girls' Team events, while Holly Nicolas of Australia was crowned the Girls' Singles Champion. Dean Shu broke Australia's dominance by winning the Boys' Single's title, becoming only the second New Zealander to ever win this event. The winners of the Junior Singles events were awarded a \$1,500AU scholarship each.

2017 ITTF-Oceania Youth Olympic Games Qualification Tournament

The event took place in Bendigo, Australia with athletes from 4 countries aiming to qualify for the 2018 YOG in Buenos Aires. New Zealand surprised the field by winning both qualification events. Hui Ling Vong defeated compatriot Jiayi Zhou in the Girls Final, while Nathan Xu defeated Yanglun Zhao in an all New Zealand Boy's Final.

2017 World Cadet Challenge

The Fiji Table Tennis Association hosted the World Cadet Challenge in Suva, Fiji in October 2017. Fiji became only the second country in Oceania to host this prestigious event. Team Oceania was made up of athletes from four different national associations. In the team events, Oceania finished in the 7th position in both the Boys' and Girls' events.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Fiji Table Tennis Association and the Local Organizing Committee, which consisted solely of volunteers who managed to deliver an exciting event, with large crowds, wonderful hospitality and full TV production for all competition days. I would also like to thank the support of the ITTF in making this event a success.

2017 ITTF World Tour – Australian Open

Table Tennis Australia hosted the 2017 ITTF World Tour – Australian Open. The platinum event was held on the Gold Coast in July, 2017. In the Men's Singles, Vladimir Samsonov became the first-ever player to win an ITTF World Tour event in every continent by defeating Simon Gauzy from France. Chinese Chen Meng won her second ITTF World Tour title by defeating her compatriot Wang Manyu in the Women's Singles final.

2017 Pacific Mini Games

Vanuatu hosted the Pacific Mini Games in December, 2017. Ten Pacific Island Countries competed in Teams, Singles, Doubles and Para Table Tennis events. Vanuatu dominated the Teams' events winning Gold Medals in both the Men's and Women's Team Events. Vanuatu's dominance continued in the Singles' events where they won Gold in both categories. Yoshua Shing from Vanuatu won 4 Gold Medals and took home the award for best male athlete of the Pacific Mini Games across all sports. In para table tennis, Fiji asserted its dominance by winning all 4 Gold Medals available.

I also commend Vanuatu for organizing their first-ever major regional table tennis event. I look forward to Vanuatu and the other Pacific Island countries coming forward to host more regional and future international table tennis events.

Development Program

ITTF-Oceania renewed the continental development program for 2017-2020, ensuring that the ITTF-Oceania Development program will continue to be one of the primary activities of ITTF-Oceania. In 2017, a total of 7 activities took place, which involved participants from 11 National Associations. Courses were funded through Olympic Solidarity, the Agitos Foundation and the ITTF Development Program.

Stag continues to support the development of the sport in the region as the official equipment supplier of the ITTF-Oceania Development Program.

Smash Down Barriers Pacific Sports Partnership Program

The Smash Down Barriers program aims to use table tennis as a tool to improve the lives of people with disability in Fiji, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. The program continues to promote the participation in the sport and has raised significant interest in countries that are not currently involved. This fact is supported by the high number of countries involved in the 2017 ITTF-Oceania Para Championships. In 2017, ITTF-Oceania launched the Smash Down

Barriers manual in English, Spanish, French and Arabic. It is hoped that coaches around the world will be inspired to promote social inclusion through the manual.

What's Happening Next

2018 will be an exciting year for ITTF-Oceania. There are a number of new initiatives to be implemented in accordance with the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan:

- The ITTF-Oceania Tour – the inaugural tour consists of 6 events held in Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Tahiti, Tonga and Vanuatu. The tour will offer a minimum total prize money of AU\$18,000 with a view to provide further competition opportunities for Oceania athletes. Furthermore, the ITTF-Oceania Tour becomes the sole qualification process for the ITTF-Oceania Cup and each event will offer equal ranking points.
- ITTF-Oceania will be implementing an ambitious plan to host world events in the region and our team is hosting the 2018 ITTF World Tour – Australian Open and the 2018 World Junior Table Tennis Championships. In subsequent years, ITTF-Oceania will partner with member associations to bid and host more ITTF events in the region.
- A new Participation program will be tested in 2018. Similar to the Smash Down Barriers program, the aim is to use table tennis to implement social change by targeting disadvantaged children living in developing countries. For example, the program will use table tennis to teach children about healthy diets and preventing non-communicable diseases, promote gender inclusion, and reduce domestic violence. All these issues have been identified as high priority in Oceania by the UN.
- Furthermore, a new High-Performance program called Elevate will be implemented in 2018. The program aims to support athletes under the age of 15 to access further training and competition opportunities.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work by the ITTF-Oceania team who work tirelessly to increase the capacity and governance of the organisation:

- Christian Holtz – Executive Director
- Rowan Fajerman – Participation Officer
- Patrick Wuertz – High Performance Officer
- Ignacio Rizo Patrón – Events Officer
- Wade Townsend – Communications Officer

I would also like to mention the contributions made by James Morris and Michael Brown. I thank James Morris for his leadership and vision to design and implement the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan and Michael Brown for his dedication and hard work as Oceania Development Coordinator.

Finally, I thank all sponsors and volunteers in the Pacific region for their efforts for table tennis and, of course, a huge thanks to the ITTF elected and paid staff for the guidance and energy you give us.

Anthony Ho

Continental President: Oceania

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (Steve Dainton)

Report to the AGM

Document C1

Overview

It is fair to say that 2017 was a memorable year for the ITTF and also for my personal role within. As Marketing and Commercial Director at the start of the year, it was an amazing opportunity for the ITTF when, after more than 15 years, the commercial rights were taken back in-house to be managed exclusively by the ITTF. Despite the fact it was mainly an inheriting of contracts from TMS International, it was very encouraging to see that with the rights back in-house, an immediate interest from new and potential commercial partners developed. Later in August it was a great honour to be asked by President Weikert and the Executive Committee to assist him and the newly-elected Executive Vice Presidents by serving as the Chief Executive Officer. In this capacity it has been very rewarding to proceed at full pace to assist the EC with the promised reforms of their new mandate.

Staff Restructuring

The first priority as the new CEO was to conduct a review of the staff structure to ensure it was in line with their new vision. Therefore, since the last AGM, there have been some significant changes. The CEO position now moves towards a more commercial and strategic role within the ITTF. As a result, it was decided to create the position of Secretary General, filled by Mr. Raul Calin, to ensure continued Olympic relations and general traditional federation management. As well, a Chief Financial Officer (CFO) was deemed important for our future given our ever-increasing financial responsibilities, especially in the new era of financial governance, and therefore, Mr. Michael Brown was hired. Four Director positions were created for Competitions, Marketing, Development/High Performance, and the newly created ITTF Foundation. Ms. Polona Cehovin was hired as the Development/High Performance Director and Mr. Leandro Olvech as Director of the Foundation. The other two positions will be filled later in 2018-19 to make up the core ITTF Staff Management Team.

"Heads" of different sectors within the key areas were then created to make up the key Senior Staff. In Marketing, Mr. Matt Pound was the natural choice as Head of Media, and Ms. Kimberly Koh as Head of Sponsorships. In Development, Mr. Dejan Papic was appointed Head of Education and a new area of High Performance was created to push forward the need to help more associations reach the highest level of performance - a head is currently being sought. In competitions, Mr. Didier Leroy was appointed as Head of World Championships and Continental events, Ms. Vicky Elefthriade was appointed as Head of World Tour and Competition Services, Mr. Karl Jindrak as Head of World Cups and Challenge events, and Mr. Mounir Bessah as the Head of the Global Junior Program. The most recent addition is Pablo Perez as Para Table Tennis Manager.

These many changes and new hires are reflected in the entire Staff structure as shown here:

https://d3mjm6zw6cr45s.cloudfront.net/2018/01/ITTF_Organisational-Chart_17Jan18.pdf

We also said farewell to a number of staff in 2017 and I take this opportunity to thank all of them for their service to the ITTF: Ms. Judit Farago, Mr. Glenn Tepper, Ms. Habiba Besic, and Ms. Daniela Gomes. Mr. Anders Thunstrom, a major contributor to our commercial success, also concluded his ITTF-related duties. The ITTF is indebted to all of them for their hard work and they leave the ITTF in a very healthy position upon which to build the future.

Strategic Plan

The second key responsibility as CEO was to start to prepare for a strategic plan to be presented to the AGM in 2018. Having worked recently with Deloitte on various projects, it was agreed to continue to work with them on the ITTF strategic plan. Working closely with the new Management and the EC responsible, we are pleased to present our work in Halmstad, while also encapsulating the views of as many stakeholders as possible. The strategic plan will be our “guiding light” over the next years.

Commercial Success

With the marketing rights back in-house, ensuring success in this area was another key priority. Already a record amount of income was set to be made through the commercial deals in place with long-term partners such as: Liebherr, Tissot, China Unicom as well as our numerous Equipment and Media partners. The following new deals absolutely ensured 2017 would be the best year on record for ITTF commercial income:

1. Seamaster (Shipping) – 2017 started off in fantastic order with the signing of a strategic partnership with Seamaster for the World Tour. The signing allowed the World Tour to reach its highest prize money ever, reinstate the million dollar grand finals, and at the same time beef up our commercial team.
2. GoDaddy (Internet/Websites) – One of the first-ever American sponsors to sponsor ITTF events in recent times, GoDaddy came on board for a number of Tour events after the successful Women’s World Cup in the USA and the Grand Finals in Qatar.
3. TATA Tongchuang (Doors)– Assisted by TMG, TATA Tongchuang became a World Championship sponsor in Dusseldorf.
4. Uncle Pop (Snacks) – The Women’s World Cup in Canada, another new market, allowed one of our major events to acquire another sponsor for the ITTF.

With this ever-growing commercial success, it was decided to expand and to work more closely with the continents to assist them in growing their commercial assets and interests. Strategic partnerships were formed with the Oceania Table Tennis Federation, the North American Table Tennis Union, and the European Table Tennis Union. Meanwhile, negotiations started with Africa and Latin America, and discussions with Asia are slated to begin in the near future.

TTX also made its “soft launch debut” in Dusseldorf during the World Table Tennis Championships and the plans to grow this youthful version of the sport continue at a steady pace. Equipment and the App are now being finalised and soon full-version events will become part of the ITTF events calendar.

Future Events

Continuing the important work of the Future Events Working Group has also been key to ensuring that future strategic and commercial growth can be achieved. Arguably, reform to our most important event, the WTTC, is the most important aspect needed to ensure global growth in our sport as well as more activity in all of our 226 member associations.

The Future Events Working Group, armed with the deep analysis of Deloitte, have now produced their final recommendations and it will be fantastic for the future of table tennis for the ITTF Board of Directors to ratify their work. Ensuring all 226 members are part of the World Championships is the huge and important goal.

Conclusion

Working to deliver a strategic plan, restructuring our professional staff, establishing some new directions in our Development approach, and improving our commercial situation and financial turnover have been our key priorities in the short time since the last AGM. In addition, we have worked hard to ensure we will have table tennis activity in all 226 member associations connected to our most important event, the World Table Tennis Championships. All of this has surely made it a very active period since our last AGM.

We are looking forward to the next few years as we modernise our events, grow our commercial interests and work more closely with the continents to ensure that table tennis grows to new heights all over the globe.

Steve Dainton

DEPUTY CEO (Glenn Tepper)

(Responsible for DEVELOPMENT and EDUCATION & TRAINING Programs)

Report to the AGM

Document C2

1. Development and Education & Training Programs 2017 Highlights

The first year of the 2017-2020 ITTF-Continental Development Agreements and 19th year of the ITTF Development Program was successfully completed with over 170 courses as well as over 30 major equipment packages provided.

A total of US \$1.2 million dollars went to direct ITTF-Continental Development Programs, while over US \$0.4 million dollars was provided for Education & Training, noting also that many “education” and “training” courses also occur within “development.”

The aim of having “Every Country on Earth” as a member of the ITTF became a reality! This 19-year project was realized at the 2017 ITTF AGM with the addition of the last 4 countries on earth -- Eritrea, Cape Verde, the Bahamas and Guinea Bissau -- making a total of 226 members. No other sport has achieved this milestone!

The ITTF Administration Course was released. This online course comprises 8 modules, with 55 topics and takes 18 hours to fully complete. It is the next step in “ITTF DNA-Developing National Associations.”

The third World Table Tennis Day, now on April 6 every year, brought this event to new heights with 453 events across 93 countries, involving 90,000 people.

The ITTF Athlete Development Model continued to be strengthened with Hopes, “Rough Diamonds,” Seamaster and World Cadet Challenge Camps, and “With the Future in Mind” Scholarships. All provided excellent talent identification and pathways to the top.

Development and Education & Training Programs continued to offer many and varied programs including: Continental Development Programs (Continental Development Officers, World Cadet Challenge Continental Teams, Continental Federation administrative support, Coach Education, URC Courses, PTT Courses, Women's Courses, Training Camps and Equipment Assistance); Hopes Program (including National, Regional, Continental, and World Hopes weeks as well as World Hopes Team and World Hopes Ambassador); World Table Tennis Day - April 6 every year, continued to expand its reach, as the chance for everyone, everywhere to celebrate our passion for table tennis; Online Education (through ITTFEducation.com and Spins and Skills Coaching videos); ITTF Coach Accreditation Scheme including the first intake of the ITTF Bachelor of Sports Coaching specializing in Table Tennis in Split, Croatia successfully completing their first year of study; our social programs through DreamBuilding (including work with United Nations and “Peace and Sport” and Refugee Projects in Jordan and Turkey) using table tennis as a vehicle for social change; the ITTF International Training Center Network; “With the Future in Mind” Scholarships; PTT Projects in Nepal and Oceania; and Mentorship Program supporting our players and coaches.

All of those programs, courses and activities form part of a plethora of support for table tennis worldwide through Development and Education & Training.

The International Olympic Committee and Olympic Solidarity have been a strong partner of the ITTF since the beginning of the ITTF Development Program in 1999, and the ITTF continued to work closely through Technical Courses, “Developing a National Sports Structure” Courses, Scholarships for Coaches (managed by Development), and “With the Future in Mind” Scholarships, and Scholarships for Athletes-Buenos Aires 2018 and Tokyo 2020 (managed by Education & Training).

(Alphabetically) Butterfly, the Chinese Table Tennis Association (CTTA), Double Happiness, the Foundation for Global Sports Development, the German Table Tennis Association (DTTB), Nittaku, Stag,

Tibhar and XIOM again all supported Development and/or Education & Training projects with funding and/or equipment.

2. International Conferences

The ITTF Development and Education & Training Programs were represented at the following International Conferences:

ASDEG (ASOIF Development & Education) Forum - Switzerland - Glenn Tepper, Leandro Olvech, Polona Cehovin, and Michael Brown.

International Forum on the Development of Table Tennis – China - Polona Cehovin

Peace and Sport Conference - Monaco - Leandro Olvech

3. Farewell and Thank You!

Personally, my wonderful journey of 19 years with the ITTF will come to an end.

The journey included 2,183 Development and Education & Training Program courses; 1,379 equipment packages; 6,700 coaches accredited through the ITTF Coach Accreditation Scheme and multiple international awards.

Deepest thanks to those that contributed to the success in 2017 and, all the way back to 1999, including:

ITTF Presidents

Current ITTF President Thomas Weikert, and former ITTF President Adham Sharara who initiated the ITTF Development Program in 1999, for their strong commitment to Development and Education, a cornerstone and critical part of ITTF success.

ITTF Executive Committee

The ITTF Executive Committees, past and present, for their support and advice.

ITTF Continental Vice Presidents

ITTF Continental Vice Presidents, past and present, for their close co-operation and leadership.

Development and Education & Training Staff

The passionate and hard-working Development and Education & Training staff including: Leandro Olvech, Director - Development; Polona Cehovin, Director - Education & Training; Michael Brown, ITTF and Africa-Oceania Development Co-ordinator, Dejan Papic, Education & Training Co-ordinator, and Daniela Gomes, Development and Education & Training Projects Officer for their contributions to Development and Education & Training.

Continental Development Officers: Michael Brown (Africa), Afshin Badiie (Asia), Neven Cegnar (Europe), Ramon Ortega Montes (Latin America), Mireille Tallon (North America) and Michael Brown (Oceania) for their untiring efforts in implementing the Continental Development Plans.

We should also mention those staff that served the ITTF as Development and Education & Training staff previously including (in the order they were first hired): Mikael Andersson (SWE), Babatunde Obisanya (NGR), Evelio Alvarez (CUB), Zita Pidl (HUN), Steve Dainton (AUS), Roman Plese (CRO), Surendra Suwal (NEP), Andrew Hubbard (NZL), Scott Houston (AUS), Lilamani De Soysa (SUI), and Ahmed Dawlatly (EGY).

All course conductors and ITTF staff, past and present, connected with the Development and Education & Training Programs.

The Manufacturers and Supporters

Butterfly and Stag for their kind and unwavering support of the ITTF Development and Education Programs since 1999.

Double Happiness, Nittaku, Xiom, Tibhar and Ipong for funding special projects for multiple years.

The German Table Tennis Federation for their ongoing equipment support since 2006.

The Foundation for Global Sports Development for their ongoing support of the ITTF Development and Education & Training since 2009.

Olympic Solidarity, in particular Pere Miro, and Coaches Department -- Yassine Yousfi, Carina Dragomir, and Cynthia Anami -- and Athletes Department - Edward Kensington, Olivier Niamkey, Silvia Lucciarini, and Frank Michellod for their close co-operation and support.

All of you have made a big contribution to the development and education of table tennis worldwide!

Glenn Tepper

This report covers the period of the last 12 months, so it is almost in line with the yearly calendar operation of the Competition Program. Here is a summary of what happened in 2017 as well as a short preview for 2018 and 2019.

Competition Program

The objective of the Program is the same since its start: to provide opportunities to the ITTF members to take part in international competitions, both at the elite level as well as in terms of mass and global participation.

As a “service provider,” the Competition Program is responsible for:

- Offering and coordinating the ITTF competitions through the ITTF Calendar;
- Supervising all the ITTF events;
- Ensuring the implementation of the contractual agreement between the ITTF and the organisers and its commercial partners; and
- Assisting organisers in running the events according to the Directives.

The 2017 ITTF Calendar included 76 tournaments in total. Compared to 2016, we had 42 (118 events in 2016) fewer events.

The LIEBHERR 2017 World Championships in Düsseldorf was an excellently organized World Championships by the German Table Tennis Association, in cooperation with TMG, and together with the city of Düsseldorf. It was, from my point of view and my 12 years working for the ITTF, the best-ever WTTC in terms of logistics, quality, service, and quantity in all areas. We didn't hear any problems or complaints in any area. All facilities had been set up with excellent conditions. The very professional local organising team, together with the venue management, did an excellent job in making the 2017 WTTC a success, and the cooperation with the ITTF Competition Department staff was very smooth as well.

We had another 2 World Title tournaments last year. Both the LIEBHERR Men's World Cup in Belgium and the Seamaster Women's World Cup in Canada were organized at a very high-quality level and we took the next step up in terms of presentation at those events. Even with a very small organizing team, both events were very successful.

The World Cups are very well-organized events and very well-accepted events by the players, media and the organizers. It is very important to keep the World Cups on that level and even increase the value of the World Cups in the future with higher prize money and to introduce more World Cups in the near future to our calendar.

In 2017 the World Tour went successfully, with 12 World Tour tournaments and 11 Challenge tournaments in total, plus the World Tour Grand Finals at the end of the year in Astana.

Last year we had World Title, ITTF World Tour and ITTF Challenge events in all 6 continents.

The WTGF 2017 were played for the first time without the U21 event and we paid out a certain amount to the best-ranked U21 players in 2017 based on a World Tour & Challenge U21 ranking.

The ITTF World Junior Circuit has a firm system with about 27 events last year, including five continents. Small associations repeatedly demonstrate that they can organise major and title junior events with high playing and hospitality conditions all over the world and many small Associations did an excellent job.

The ITTF's Competition Program and the Marketing Division assisted for the third time already all five Continents with a total of twelve continental events, such as 6 ITTF-Continental Championships and 6 ITTF-Continental Cups according to the contractual agreement between the ITTF and the Continental Federations concerned.

Plans for the Future

The Competition Department and the Marketing Department will work hard together to grow the World Tour and especially the World Cups with new concepts. We want to bring higher prize money to the Tour and to the World Cups to make the ITTF World Tour and the World Cups even more attractive for the players to participate. Our new Tour sponsor "Seamaster" brought a lot of financial support to make last year's World Tour and Women's World Cup more attractive.

Also, the ITTF Challenge will be an even more important Tour in the future to develop it as a link between the aspiring players and the top players. With the new World Ranking effective as of January 1, 2018, the ITTF Challenge will need to get some boost to become more attractive. The best way to make it more attractive will be to raise the WR points for the Challenge events. At the moment the balance doesn't exit, as the top players get more points and the weaker players do not get enough chances or possibilities to gain points to climb up the World Ranking. We need to take into consideration also the financial possibilities and limitations of maybe 80 - 90% of our Member Associations.

Tournament Management System, Online Entry System, World Ranking

Our developed Results Management System ran locally for the last time at the World Championships in Düsseldorf without any errors or problems; we could manage to show locally all results Live from all 32 tables. Our online entry system was shut down last year in October, together with the Database. A new company is now in charge of developing our new ITTF System, including the Results System, the online entry system, and the World Rankings.

Until the new System is in place, one of my colleagues, Dimos Messinis, helped the ITTF a lot. He developed in a very short time the following tools as a temporary solution in these areas:

The online entry system for the WTTC, the online entry system for the World Tour and ITTF Challenge, the World Ranking page and the Statistics page. All was done and developed by him (and Zoltan Bencsik helped with the WR and Statistics) in order to help us overcome challenges during this critical period between the shutdown of the old system and the rollout of the new system. Thanks to Dimos and Zoltan for your tireless and excellent work!

Administration and Communication

National Associations are in the stream of communication, either as participating associations or as host associations organizing ITTF events.

The administrative work for me as the ITTF Competition Director responsible for all ITTF events in 2017 was as follows:

- Preparing, announcing, distributing and posting the Prospectus, Directives, and Policies;
- Reporting on Inspections and on Competitions;
- Preparing together with Marketing contracts for organisers of ITTF sanctioned events;
- Announcing and collecting bids for different events together with Marketing;
- Finalizing and updating the ITTF calendar together with Marketing; and
- Evaluating all World Tour, Challenge, Junior and World Title events.

Acknowledgement

Finally, I wish to thank the Executive Committee for trusting in and supporting our work as well as all ITTF officials and professional staff colleagues for helping and cooperating in the most efficient way. I am grateful to the national associations who partner with us to reach our common goal: to show the best image of our sport both at the participation and organizational levels.

Karl Jindrak

Director of Competitions

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM 2017 OVERVIEW

FACTS 2017

159 Activities were executed in 2017, including Coach Education, Training Camps, URC courses, Para Table Tennis, Women's, Marketing and Tournament Organization courses.

- **35** major equipment packages were distributed.
- **5** Courses were funded with support from IPC grants: Indonesia, Armenia, Mexico, the United States of America and Fiji.

Olympic Solidarity - Coaches Department

- **11** Technical and "Developing a National Sports Structure" Courses
- **3** "Scholarships for Coaches"

MEMBERSHIP

The current ITTF Membership has risen to **226** National Associations, which makes it the **first International Sport Federation (ISF)** to have a full house of all countries and territories on earth as a member. The Developing National Associations program has been launched in two of these countries, the Bahamas and Cape Verde, through equipment assistance and visits from ITTF experts advising them on their next steps developing table tennis and leading coaching courses. Local development officers are hired to guarantee a sustainable growth and to generate a lasting legacy in each country.

TABLE TENNIS FOR ALL

April 6, 2017 was the third edition of the **World Table Tennis Day** and marked the **breakthrough** of a much higher elite player participation on the one hand and more events celebrated worldwide on the other: 453 registered events in 93 countries contributed to continuing to raise the popularity, universality and inclusiveness of table tennis. Two **main events** were celebrated with the presence of ITTF President Thomas Weikert, raising the awareness on the International Sports Scene. The SportAccord Convention in Aarhus, Denmark and the **UN Headquarters** in New York, USA provided a good platform to promote the concept of Sport Simple in front of member states with permanent missions at the UN Headquarters.

ITTF COACH ACCREDITATION SYSTEM

One of our aims is for National Associations to become **self-sufficient** at ITTF-PTT L1 initially and later at higher levels. With this in mind, **5** ITTF Coach Accreditation Course Conductor Training Courses were held in 2017 in Singapore, India, Iran, Venezuela and Guyana. This led to **67 self-funded** ITTF Coach Accreditation Courses in 2017, which shows the process is working well. The ITTF Coach Accreditation System is also looking to add to the PTT education component by the inclusion of PTT courses for the Levels 2, 3 and High Performance (Level 4) over the coming years.

Level	1	2	3
2017 Courses	76	13	2

DREAM BUILDING

- **Ongoing Humanitarian Projects and Actions**

- *Table Tennis for NepALL*, aiming to promote the practice of Table Tennis among people with a disability, went through its second year
- The *Post Earthquake Project* in Haiti was followed up through an expert visit
- *ITTF-UNOSDP Dream Building in Uganda* has been supported (the project embraces 6 locations and has been running since 2012)
- *Nittaku Dream Building in El Salvador* went through its 7th year
- *Dream Building with Refugees* has been started through an educational program for Syrian Refugees and Host Communities in Turkey and the preparation of the ITTF – UNHCR Nittaku Dream Building with Refugees Project in Jordan (to be launched on April 6, 2018).
- *Emergency Aid* has been given to
 - Sri Lanka (after flooding);
 - Puerto Rico (after the hurricane); and
 - For the cause of the player Ian Lariba from the Philippines.

- **Partnerships:**

- *Ping sans Frontières*: The cooperation with this French NGO continued in 2017. Notably Ping Sans Frontières promoted World Table Tennis Day, with 10 events held in France and other countries. A highlight of the cooperation was the launching of the joint manual “Building Handcrafted Table Tennis Tables,” which already exists in French, English and Spanish.
- *DTTB Support*: The German Table Tennis Association (DTTB) provided equipment assistance to the ITTF Development Program as it has been doing since 2006.
- *Vincy Table Tennis Foundation* (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines): Launching of the “Guidelines for Sustainable Development.”
- *Peace & Sport*: Joined April 6 celebrations, refugees project in Jordan, Friendship Games in Burundi, and Table Tennis evening at the 10th Peace & Sport Forum.
- The *Foundation for Global Sports Development (GSD)* increased its support from USD 20,000 since 2013 (used for the DNA program) to USD 45,000 (for Refugee Projects and ITTF Development Program)
- *Seamaster* supported the ITTF DNA – Program with USD 50,000 and is planning to maintain this support in the future

- **“China in North America”**: In October, leading coaches from the Chinese National Team provided training camps in the USA and Canada for young players from North America, funded by the ITTF, Double Happiness and the CTTA.

WOMEN IN SPORT PROGRAM

Four Women’s Courses were held in three continents in 2017 (Bahrain, Croatia, Panama, Italy) and the ITTF endorsed the **successful candidature** of Frenchwoman Sarah Hanffou, who was selected for the EY Women Athletes Business Network Mentoring Program.

PROMOTION

Four new films were produced. Links:

2017 World Table Tennis Day Greetings:

<https://youtu.be/tq0Di3CCsbl>

2017 World Table Tennis Day Celebrations:

<https://youtu.be/8HLTcr4TEgs>

Pingsider | Mission 226 - Guinea-Bissau:

<https://youtu.be/ZZO10mjSYms>

Table Tennis Documentary - Tauramoa from Kiribati:

https://youtu.be/vCSGfzl_LKk

AWARDS

FICTS Festival	Sport & Society Film	2017 World Table Tennis Day Celebrations	Honourable Mention (2nd in its category)
FICTS Festival	Sport & Society Film	Mission 226 Guinea Bissau	Shortlisted
Sport Business Award	Best Mass Participation Event	World Table Tennis Day	Finalist
Sport Business Award	Best Sports Governing Body Initiative	World Table Tennis Day	Finalist
Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Creative Sports Award	International Category	Women's Program	Top 3 Shortlisted

Thanks to all contributors who made 2017 a successful year, especially our **course conductors** in the field and the **Continental Development Officers!** Thanks to the **Executive Committee** and **Continental Presidents** for their support, and to the **National Associations** for their cooperation on the implementation of all activities.

Last, but not least, thanks to our former Deputy CEO **Glenn Tepper** for his leadership and advice during the last 10 years and to our **President Thomas Weikert** for his support!

Leandro Olvech

Director of Development

EDUCATION AND TRAINING (Polona Cehovin)

Report to the AGM

Document C5

In 2017 we advanced in upgrading the more and more established portfolio of the different projects and activities that are held under the umbrella of the **Education & Training Program** by offering a diversity of new and/or enriched opportunities and incentives as follows:

1. ATHLETES

- Hopes:

The Hopes Program continues to grow further; talent identification activities are now held at the national, regional and continental levels worldwide with the **World Hopes Week & Challenge** representing the focal point of the Program. In 2017 the activity was held at the China Table Tennis College-Europe in Luxembourg in August, where 32 under-12 players, 16 girls and 16 boys accompanied by their coaches, successfully completed the ambitious program run by prominent Chinese coaches. The subsequent technical evaluations represented the basis for the selection of the **2017 Hopes Team** that later on successfully participated in the 2017 ITTF World Cadet Challenge in Fiji.

- Rough Diamonds:

For the first time the **worldwide selection of under-15 players** gathered twice this year, in Slovenia in September and in Luxembourg in December. The very positive response indicates that there's a great interest for international training opportunities for this age category, which is very crucial for their future pursuit of excellence and high performance.

- With the Future in Mind:

We are proud to having prolonged the cooperation with Olympic Solidarity for the 2017-2020 Olympic Cycle and in 2017 we have returned back to supporting players in the 15-17 age group with the aim of empowering them on their route toward the 2018 Youth Olympic Games. Out of the 23 supported players, 11 have already qualified, while 2 more will attend the Games through the allocated Universality Places. The usually very individual approach in managing the support was this year enriched with 3 major training opportunities, in China in June, in Slovenia in September and in Germany/Luxembourg in December that many gladly accepted.

- Dream Building Ambassador:

Bruna Takahashi of Brazil, a former Hopes Team member, was nominated for the ambassadorship and, by qualifying for the 2018 Youth Olympic Games, proved her abilities and also that she is a true role model for many players, especially girls in Latin America and also worldwide.

- Other:

- Seamaster Training Camp, CTTC, Shanghai/China: Thanks to the newly allocated funding from Seamaster, we could organize another training camp in 2017 that was targeting juniors and under-21 players.
- IOC Athlete Career Program: Following a successful application to the IOC, the ITTF was selected for the pilot implementation of the ACP Workshop, which featured three editions in 2017: in India in February, conducted by Vladimir Samsonov, and two sessions during the WTTC in Germany in May, run by Zoran Primorac.
- Anti-Doping Education: Besides the technical content that is normally the theme of educational sessions during our different gatherings, we are expanding the topics related to the education of athletes with the desire to promote fair-play and clean sport.

2. COACHES

In spite of the fact that education represents an important pillar of all the athlete-focused programs and projects, we kept further upgrading and expanding the different educational tools, in particular those available online on the **dedicated platform at ITTFEducation.com**.

Besides the content related to coaching, talent identification, planning and highly applicable scientific theory, the platform has been enriched with a "Knowledge Base" that aims at streamlining the many resources of different kinds and from various technical areas to one place. By the end of the year it endorsed more than 201 items, from articles, to research studies, videos, and presentations, including several interactive lectures that promote self-learning.

Moreover, we have also continued with the increasingly popular **Mentorship Program**. In 2017 three mentees were selected through an application process and were further directed to their mentors in China and Germany.

3. OFFICIALS

The year prior to the YOG has become traditionally the year of the **Young Umpires Project**, which was run exclusively through the ITTF educational platform in 2017. From the 69 young aspiring candidates, 42 were selected in the first phase. Following a process of practical assessment, the very best will be nominated to officiate in Buenos Aires.

4. NEW FUTURE DIRECTION

The last quarter of the year was very much dedicated to designing the program of the newly-organized **High Performance & Development Department** that is integrating the former Development and Education & Training Programs. With the vision statement "Performance driven, Partnership led and Athlete focused" the desire is to keep the many good developmental programs, projects and initiatives from the past, while strengthening the high performance route and also establishing a proper educational hub for the different profiles that are represented and active in our sport. The official announcement of the novelties and new opportunities will be rolled out during the 2018 World Table Tennis Championships.

I would like to take the opportunity to express sincere thankfulness, personally and on behalf of the Team, to all our collaborators, partners and supporters, namely the **National Associations** and **Continental Federations**, who are always at the center of our attention; the **experts**, who make sure things happen on the ground; and, above all, the **players, coaches and officials**, who by participating, acknowledge their interest and trust in our programs.

Big thanks also to the Executives – **Thomas Weikert**, ITTF President, for his support and trust; to the **Executive Committee**, and particularly to **Maehara Masahiro** and **Shi Zhihao**, the Executive Vice-Presidents in charge of our Program, for their availability and advice.

Last but not least, a very special note of thanks to the **sponsors and partners**, to all the **ITTF staff** for their precious and valuable cooperation, and finally to **Glenn Pepper**, for his guidance, assistance and for always being there, as a superior and also as a friend.

Yours in Sport,

Polona Cehovin

Director of Education & Training

MARKETING (Steve Dainton)

Report to the AGM

Document C6

PLEASE REFER TO DOCUMENT C1

OPERATIONS & OLYMPIC GAMES (Raul Calin)

Report to the AGM

Document C7

Staff Structure

With the Rio 2016 Olympic Games and the 2013-2016 Olympic cycle concluded, it was time for the ITTF to boost the commercial development of the institution. To achieve this goal, the human resources in the area of marketing and promotion increased as part of an overall modernization of the ITTF staff structure.

After serving a few years in the position of the ITTF CEO, Mrs. Judit Farago, ended her services in July, 2017, and in the middle of August, Mr. Steve Dainton assumed the position of CEO.

With this change, the ITTF wants to move from a more operational-based management to a more entrepreneurial and commercial-based model in view of the high competition in the sport market, where other International Federations have made significant improvements in the last few years.

Mr. Glenn Tepper, Deputy CEO and the longest-serving staff member, decided to leave the ITTF.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Mrs. Farago and Mr. Tepper for their guidance during the years we worked together.

Mr. Jordi Serra, former ITTF Executive Director and later Director of Operations and Olympic Games until December, 2012 returned “back home” and works again for the ITTF. We are sure his experience and knowledge will help the ITTF in the coming years.

From the Lausanne office, we saw the farewell of Ms. Habiba Besic, the Finance & Administration Manager, and the incorporation for the first time of a Chief Financial Officer (based in Singapore) to the ITTF. We want to thank Ms. Besic for her commitment during the fifteen years she worked for the institution.

Mr. Takuro Okada from Japan, completed a six-month internship, which came to an end in December. We thank Mr. Okada and the Japanese Table Tennis Association too for the positive experience.

Other Switzerland-based staff are: Ms. Françoise Dagouret in the area of anti-doping, Emese Barsai in the area of project management and Silvia Bernhard, who makes important contributions in the day-to-day management of the ITTF.

Personally, I have to say it was one of the most intense years working in the ITTF since my start in 2004. I changed from the role of Director of Operations & Olympic/Paralympic Games (until August) to the function of Secretary General. I still have the main responsibility of working with the IOC, ASOIF and other International Federations; being recently alleviated from the day-to-day financial duties allows me to spend more time on other important areas of responsibility for the organization.

Operations

As of August, 2017, the ITTF stopped operating the ITTF bank accounts that were still existing in Ottawa, Canada, which increased the financial activity in our Switzerland office. The ITTF also took our marketing rights back in-house after the few years in which they were managed by Table Tennis Marketing Services (TMS), a Canadian-based company.

This meant that from January, 2017 onward, all invoices for commercial contracts were issued from Switzerland, and while this change means additional work, at the same time it provides the ITTF with a better overview of the financial situation.

ITTF-funded development activities and sanctioned competitions, eventual prize money payments, salaries for Switzerland offices staff, service provider payments, travel contributions, services to providers and contributions for organizers of World Tours and World Junior Circuits and other events, according to the existing contractual agreements, were the core of the financial transactions carried out.

In total, over 3,000 bank transactions were made, reflecting the increase of operations compared to the roughly 1,500 transactions in 2016.

Finances

The 2016 audits were conducted in the months of March - April, 2017 and showed the excessive dependency the ITTF had on the Honorary President, Mr. Adham Sharara.

Although his volunteer contribution deserves appreciation and respect, we have to admit that it was not adequate for an International Federation with a yearly budget of over 10 million dollars to have the finances depending almost exclusively on one person, especially in the capacity of an honorary position.

I want to thank Mr. Sharara for his extra work during the period of January – April, 2017 in assisting our auditors, our Finance Vice-President and myself in finalizing the accounts, but I'm sure the entire ITTF will appreciate the professionalization in this area. The first signs will be shown in Halmstad and Mr. Sharara will be alleviated from this big responsibility.

Equipment

In 2017, over 400 invoices were issued for tests, approval of equipment and minor accessory equipment sales. Equipment tested included balls, flooring, tables, nets and racket coverings.

Anti-Doping

In 2017, operations continued looking more for quality of controls rather than for quantity. The ITTF Executive Committee approved in December an increase in the budget for 2018, allowing our Anti-Doping Manager, Françoise Dagouret, to implement a more "*smart testing oriented*" programme.

Para Table Tennis

With the exception of the African region, in which there were not any acceptable bids, the other regional events were conducted satisfactorily. 2017 also saw the first-ever World Para Team Table Tennis Championships, and I would like to thank the Slovak Paralympic Committee and the Slovak Table Tennis Association for their professional work to make it happen.

Support to Various Committees

In addition to the support provided to Para Table Tennis, the ITTF headquarters continued providing support to the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, the Annual General Meeting, the Olympic and Paralympic Commission, as well as these committees: Equipment, Nominations, Rules, Veterans, Sport Science and Medical as well as Umpires and Referees. The relationship with the Swaythling Club International keeps building momentum, and we are confident that this will have a positive effect on the Veterans' table tennis activities in the near future.

Support to Other Programs

Etsuko Enami continued providing support to the ITTF CEO, Development, Education & Training and Competition Programs in their communications to the ITTF-affiliated members.

Our staff also worked in close cooperation with the competitions staff related to appointments of umpires and referees and implementation of doping controls.

Multi-Sport Events

The 2017 Universiade in Taipei concluded satisfactorily and the ITTF assisted during 2017 in the preparation for the 2018 Commonwealth Games, the 2018 Mediterranean Games and the 2019 Pan Am Games.

Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games

The ITTF presented in February, 2017 its application to increase the number of events in both the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

We are extremely proud to report to this AGM that the IOC confirmed the Mixed Doubles event for the Table Tennis programme of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

The same pride is shared with you for the decision of the IPC to accept our request of two extra events, for a total of 31, and up to 37 extra medals at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. This is due to the fact that both semi-finalists will be awarded with bronze medals in all 31 events.

The first inspection in Tokyo was held in the month of June, 2017 and very recently, in January of 2018, the second inspection was held. The table tennis venue for the Games is already known and the work is already advanced in many areas.

Olympic Day

The ITTF was one of the three International Federations invited to take part in the 2017 Olympic Day activities, organized by the International Olympic Committee, on June 23.

Elizabeta Samara from Romania and Rachel Moret from Switzerland offered an exhibition for the many IOC members and distinguished guests attending the event.

Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games

Regular communications continue with the Buenos Aires 2018 YOG Organizing Committee, including the confirmation of the competition days and the schedule.

Conclusions

My sincere appreciation to the ten ITTF Executive Committee members, the six Continental Presidents, the Committee Chairs, the Commissioners and members of their committees / commissions, as well as to my staff colleagues.

Personally, I want to express thanks for the confidence and trust placed in me by the ITTF President, Thomas Weikert, and ITTF CEO, Steve Dainton, by appointing me to the position of Secretary General.

I want to thank also the International Olympic Committee, and in particular their Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer, Mrs. Pâquerette Girard-Zappelli and their Sports Director, Mr. Kit McConnell, and the Association of Summer Sport International Federations, and particularly their President, Mr. Francesco Ricci Bitti and their Executive Director, Mr. Andrew Ryan, for their support and guidance in 2017.

My last words are, as always, for you, the representatives of the 226 Member Associations. You are the ITTF. You are the true reason for our existence, and you are the ones to which all of us, from the staff, to the volunteers in different positions on committees and commissions, to the Executive Committee, owe our loyalty.

Respectfully submitted,

Raul Calin

Director of Operations & Olympic/Paralympic Games (until August 15, 2017)
Secretary General (since August 16, 2017)

EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE (Paul Schiltz)

Report to the AGM

Document D1

Committee Assignments after the Meetings in Düsseldorf

Paul **Schiltz**, Chair: tables, racket control, research; Torsten **Küneth**, Vice-Chairman: balls; Kagin **Lee**: racket coverings; Phil **McCallum**, nets; Atsushi **Hasegawa**: floors; Piet **van Egmond**: market scrutiny; and Wendy **Chim** and Ian **Zubar**: field-of-play in cooperation with the URC. The cooperation and coordination from Vicky **Eleftheriade** and Emese **Barsai** is great, and we highly appreciate the most helpful involvement and precious advice of the EC member Dr. Alaa **Meshref** in our work and reflections.

General

The Equipment Committee is continuously working with manufacturers to maintain and improve the quality of the different items of Table Tennis equipment; new good equipment was approved.

As usual, fruitful meetings with manufacturers and suppliers were held during the WTTC in Düsseldorf. The FIT Working Groups about various equipment items permit exchange of reflections with Equipment Committee members, discussion about concrete and practical steps for future developments of the sport and its equipment, regular communication on equipment topics and input on the envisioned financial participation of manufacturers in research projects.

Internally all full and corresponding members of the Equipment Committee are invited to contribute to the projects to be directed to the EC or BoD and to the discussions solving problems. I insist on involving everybody, and I am most happy about the excellent interaction with the ITTF Equipment staff. Thank you to those who have contributed so much.

Legal and marketing aspects are more and more considered in the projects and decisions of the Equipment Committee.

Good Governance

Thanks to the care of the Equipment Committee experts and the ITTF staff, the approval fees generate a yearly income of about \$1.3 million. The financial and administrative aspects of the equipment management are handled by the ITTF professional staff; the tests are outsourced to professional institutes; the test results are studied and decisions about (non-) approval are taken by the Equipment Committee experts, who also supervise research. The analysis of the situation shows some weak points: missing clear task definitions, informative work-flow, more precisely framed orientation for the Equipment Committee research.

The Equipment Committee worked out several proposals, which have been transmitted to the EC: General aspects of research in the ITTF and financial participation of FIT in research, research projects about balls and blade material, and higher initial fees. Task descriptions have been prepared.

A coherent administrative technical leaflet, "ITTF Equipment Approval Policy," has been addressed to the BoD: it should not only replace T7 abolished in 2011, but also be a directive for actions maintaining the high quality of equipment bearing the ITTF logo, creating data-bases, introducing transparent rules about withdrawal, deletion, re-integration and use of equipment after its withdrawal, introducing a charter of integrity, establishing an appeal possibility at EC against Equipment Committee decisions, etc.

Approved/Authorised Equipment – Evolution since 2014

Equipment (31.12.)	2017	2016	2015	2014
Balls	97	88	91	80
Tables	130	116	119	132
Nets	51	52	54	52
Floors	19	18	17	10
Racket Coverings	1548	1483	1483	1414

Balls

Based on all available feedback, the second generation of non-celluloid balls approved since 2016 meets the expectation to show an outstanding durability compared to the former version, which strongly improved the market standard. While approvals are rising, questions or concerns regarding the transition to non-celluloid have decreased. The normal uncertainties of a pilot phase are coming to an end.

Random testing, postponed until the availability of the second generation balls reached the retail market, was resumed on a first set of 12 brands, and the vast majority of those have passed this random test.

Specifications in the Technical Leaflet T3 remained stable, and this allowed a small review and improvement of some descriptions in procedures, for transparency and for the benefit of manufacturers. This will enter T3 in 2018. However, the Equipment Committee needs to analyse the existing testing methods, requirements and tolerances and consider their eventual adaptation to the new reality of different materials. Balls are the most sensitive equipment item in our sport; consistency in quality and bounce is a priority.

Tables

We continue data-collection on tables: deflection of the table corners at table end or at net end under 80 kg load, unexpected rolling away or sliding on a slope, bounce regularity on only 9 points per half instead of 16. The Test Institutes will apply the new method for the friction determination before we may propose a change of T1.

Two topics remain under consideration:

- Reflection about criteria for “prime” equipment for the competitions of the highest level; and
- New finishes, but also new table top material, such as high-density fibreboard or even glass, shall not change the properties of the table top dramatically. The results of the friction and bounce measurements will be carefully analysed, and players’ feelings should be considered.

Nets

Contacts with the Testing Institute should assure that the height of the nets can be adjusted correctly.

Floorings

Problems with approved floors appeared, and re-testing has been ordered.

Racket Coverings

Technical Leaflet T4 was updated and approved in 2017. Companies that supply illegal products for treating rubbers will be removed from the LARC and their equipment will no longer be authorized.

Racket Control and Boosting

Since registered racket failures may lead to the suspension of players, the ITTF must ensure that the testing devices, methods and organization are correct. The testing personnel shall be skilled, careful and precise.

Anti-boosting testing methods are being further investigated in order to finally be able to apply existing or future rules. No rule should be introduced without adequate tools for their verification and application. A pilot phase may be started, where players remove their racket coverings after they have played their last match in the tournament. Coverings and blade will then be inspected on site, without consequences and results being kept anonymous. The observations shall then be discussed, and conclusions taken. The Equipment Committee is ready to prepare and achieve racket inspections as well as propose tools for the controls. Such a project, however, requires time.

Bag for Umpire Gear

We proposed to the URC our help in contacting the manufacturers in order to produce adequate bags in case the URC introduces an umpire and referee uniform without jackets, i.e., without pockets.

Paul Schiltz
Chairman

2017 has been another fantastic table tennis year, in which almost all media records were broken.

The Media and Marketing office has done a marvelous job in bringing the promotion of table tennis to the next level. Our staff has implemented many new ideas on the ITTF website, Facebook, Twitter, and other social media platforms, and integrated our work to get more media exposure and promotion and the number of followers on social media platforms have increased about 50% to 2,458,800 in January, 2018.

World Team Table Tennis Championships

The Liebherr 2017 World Table Tennis Championships smashed social and viewership records to become the most followed table tennis event in history.

The world's biggest table tennis event, which was held in Düsseldorf, Germany from May 29 to June 5, 2017, was followed by fans in 122 territories through TV broadcast and Over-the-top (OTT) platform streaming, reaching an audience of over 355.6 million worldwide.

The outcome was 945:57:10 hours on TV, 30,964 hotel night stays, 15,607 visitors to Düsseldorf, 53,505 ticketed attendance, 62% male and 38% female spectators and the tourism economic impact was calculated to be \$11,293,287.

- TV & OTT Broadcast: 122 Countries
- TV Viewership in China: 320.43 million
- Worldwide TV Viewership: 355.6 million
- ITTF.com Unique Visitors: 640,000
- itTV Viewership: 810,000
- Total Facebook Reach: 10.3 million
- Facebook Impressions: 34.7 million
- Facebook Engagement: 4.9 million
- Facebook Video Views: 4.3 million views; 2.7 million minutes viewed
- Twitter Impressions: 3.3 million
- Instagram Impressions: 7.5 million
- YouTube Video Views: 2.4 million views; 4.4 million minutes viewed
- Weibo Impressions: 240 million
- Media Articles: 12,400

The ITTF received 287 applications (a new record) for the media scholarships for interns.

Social/Digital Media Statistics:

In January, 2018 the ITTF had 2,458,800 followers on social media platforms, which is an increase of almost 50% in a year.

Facebook

Followers: 452,000; monthly total reach unique users: 7,600,000, monthly total impressions: 30,050,000

Twitter

Followers: 42,300; 2,600,000 impressions

Instagram

Followers: 125,900

YouTube

Subscribers: 212,200; average monthly views: 2,600,000

Tv.ITTF.com

Subscribers: 81,000; average monthly views 963,000

Weibo (China)

Followers: 1,516,000; average monthly impressions: 310,096,000

Wechat (China)

Followers: 27,700

Tencent video platform (China)

Followers: 1,700; total views 11,177,000

Olympic Sports Social Media Ranking in 2017

The ITTF achieved remarkable results in a survey made by TSE Consulting:

Most effective Olympic Sports Federations on Facebook:

ITTF number 2, after FIBA, with 1,643,555 interactions

Most active Olympic Federations on Facebook:

ITTF number 2, after FIBA, with 5.21 posts per day

Most effective on Instagram:

ITTF number 6

Most active on Instagram:

ITTF number 5, with 2.61 posts per day.

Most effective Federation on YouTube:

ITTF number 6 with 157,520,640 views; and average views per video: 23,808

New Website

A new website has been launched. The transition from the old website has been more problematic than expected. The main issue has been the former database, which was giving inconsistent data and then was shut off. Consequently, most of the capabilities of the website, such as results, rankings and stats have been unavailable, which has given the users a very poor user experience.

ITTF Star Awards

The ITTF Star Awards was held for the fifth time to celebrate the achievements of our table tennis stars. In the Kazakhstan capital of Astana, the table tennis stars were crowned in December, 2017 in the following categories:

Male and Female Star: Timo Boll, Germany and Ding Ning, China

Male and Female Para Table Tennis Star: Viktor Didukh, Ukraine and Neslihan Kavas, Turkey

Star Point: Ding Ning, China

Fair Play Star: Irvin Bertrand, France

Table Tennis Star Coach: Jörg Rosskopf, Germany

Breakthrough Star: Tomakazu Harimoto, Japan

The ITTF Star Awards is the most prestigious award given to recognize, honor and celebrate the STARS of table tennis: the athletes and coaches who have made table tennis their passion, career and life.

Since the inauguration of its first edition in Dubai in 2013, the ITTF Star Awards has been a year-ending finale that athletes, fans, and everyone in the table tennis community has been looking forward to throughout the year. Thanks to the Kazakhstan organizers for hosting another enjoyable and unforgettable Star Awards 2017.

Thanks to the staff and all who have contributed to the breaking of all social and digital media records, which made 2017 another exciting table tennis year.

Arne Madsen

Chairman

NOMINATION COMMITTEE (Chan Foong Keong)

Report to the AGM

Document D3

1. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Nomination Committee held one meeting during the 2017 WTTC in Dusseldorf, Germany as follows:

Date & Time : May 29, 2017 - 10:00

In attendance : Cherif Hajem, Bruce Burton, Khaled El-Salhy,
Glenn Tepper, Raul Calin, Abdulla Al-Mulla,
Andreas Georgiou, David Jackson, Sandra Deaton,
Philip Males, and Chan Foong Keong

2. COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2016 – 2018

CHAN Foong Keong	Malaysia	Chair
Abdulla Al-MULLA	Qatar	Deputy Chair
Andreas GEORGIU	Cyprus	Full Member
Sandra DEATON	England	Full Member
Philip MALES	Australia	Full Member
Ivam PASSOS VINHAS	Brazil	Full Member
Wahid Enitan OSHODI	Nigeria	Full Member
David JACKSON	Canada	Full member
Walter RONMARK	Sweden	Special Advisor

3. APPRECIATION

I wish to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Mr. Cherif Hajem, Mr. Walter Ronmark and the ITTF staff for their valuable advice and guidance for the committee.

I also like to extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all the Committee Members for their great effort and kind co-operation extended to me during the year.

Chan Foong Keong

Chairman

PARA TABLE TENNIS (Dorte Darfelt)

Report to the AGM

Document D4

In 2017 the Para Table Tennis Division was transformed into a committee. This structural change was discussed and agreed to in the fall of 2016 by the ITTF Executive Committee and discussed even more at the PTT division meeting in February, 2017 in Copenhagen.

There are always pros and cons when you make such a change and everything is not easy. I hope that over the next years we will see that the pros were the most, I also believe that.

Since as a division we had a different structure than the committees have, it also meant that we had to say goodbye to some of our former members. At this point I want to express my thanks to the former regional members who all worked for Para Table Tennis in their regional area. We also said goodbye to our long-time medical officer Jurak Stefak, but happily it was not a goodbye to his fine work and involvement; he is still working with classification as a volunteer and we are very happy for that.

We have had some new members and I am looking very much forward to meeting the whole committee when we will have our first meeting in October, 2018 during the PTT World Championships in Slovenia.

I am very pleased that we still have some very experienced members during this transition period. They can take care of our event and everything that pertains to it. I hope that neither the players, coaches, nor National Associations have felt that the transition has negatively influenced our events. I know that Georgios, Gorazd, Sheng and Emese as the ITTF staff member, and probably others too, have worked very hard to maintain the high level in our events.

But we are ready now to reach an even higher level and to do that I am happy that we now have a full-time staff member as Para TT Manager, Pablo Perez. I am sure that with him on board, and the knowledge that Emese and the committee members have, we will be a very professional committee.

At this point I want to express special thanks to Georgios, Gorazd, Sheng and Emese who have handled all the administrative jobs that occur before the actual event and, of course, also after. But we must not forget all the other people who help with the competitions, e.g., umpires, classifiers, technical staff and all others.

I also thank Mrs. Petra Sörling, ITTF Executive Vice President, for helping and supporting me personally when I have needed that.

Finally, I want to thank all who have contributed to Para Table Tennis all over the world.

Dorte Darfelt

Chairwoman

RULES COMMITTEE (Rudi Sporrer)

Report to the AGM

Document D5

During the 2017-2018 period, the main tasks of the ITTF Rules Committee were:

Questions / Interpretations on Rules

The Rules Committee had to deal with about 170 questions and inquiries about table tennis laws and regulations. More than 110 of them referred to players' eligibility and jurisdiction of associations.

Propositions to the AGM and Board of Directors Meeting 2018

This year there are no such propositions coming directly from the Rules Committee. But still the Committee is keeping an eye on possible contradictions and inconsistencies of our rules and will propose editorial amendments, if necessary.

As usual, the Committee has prepared written explanations and comments on propositions and resolutions to the AGM and Board of Directors Meeting 2018.

Review of the ITTF Handbook

The final wording of the 2018 ITTF Handbook was prepared by the Secretary General, Mr. Raul CALIN, in close co-operation with the Chair of the Rules Committee and other experts.

Ranking Default Policy

The Chairman of the Rules Committee again participated in the Ranking Default Policy (RDP) Panel dealing with default cases at ITTF sanctioned events, including Continental Championships, based on reports of the responsible ITTF competition managers.

Code of Ethics

According to the new ITTF Code of Ethics, the Chair of the Rules Committee has to officiate as chair of the ITTF Ethics Commission, composed of him, a member of the Executive Committee, a member of the Athletes Commission, plus one staff member.

Meetings

Two meetings of the Rules Committee took place during the Liebherr 2017 World Table Tennis Championships in Dusseldorf.

As usual, the first meeting was dealing with propositions for the AGM and the BoD meeting, the second one was considering final decisions taken at these meetings and was preparing proposals for the final wording for related new rules and regulations.

All full Committee members and some corresponding members participated in our meetings and we were pleased to welcome some distinguished guests as well.

Committee Structure

This is the right time to thank all Rules Committee members and in particular the Deputy Chairman, Prof. CHAN Cheong Ki, for their skilful and continuous contributions.

Let me also express my sincere thanks to our Secretary General, Mr. Raul CALIN; to my colleagues, the chairpersons of the Athletes Commission, the Umpires and Referees Committee and the Equipment Committee as well as to the Technical Commissioner, Mr. Graeme IRELAND, for their appreciated support.

Rudi Sporrer

Chairman

The ITTF's Sport Science and Medical Committee (SSMC) is proceeding with the work on the different fields of sports science, sports medicine and the anti-doping fight. Year 2017 was very successful in terms of our activities and published materials. Our primary responsibility at the present time is still the cooperation with WADA and the IOC regarding the anti-doping fight, injury and illness prevention, as well as the next ITTF Sports Science Conference and cooperation with other international racket sports federations.

We have accomplished some activities since the beginning of 2017, and we expect to accomplish others prior to the next WTTC in Halmstad, 2018:

1. In the *Journal of Human Kinetics*, we have published a special issue on Racket sports. 25 scientific papers have been sent to the journal editorial board. 16 of them have been accepted for the review process and all of them have been accepted for publication. The special issue was published in January 2017 (http://johk.pl/volume_55.html). This is table tennis' first special issue in a scientific journal with an impact factor.
2. In January, the *Proceedings of 14th ITTF Sports Science Congress and 5th World Racket Sports Congress* were finalized and sent to Thomson Reuters for the evaluation. The evaluation procedure took about half a year and, at the end, the document was included into the Conference Proceedings Citation Index (Web of Science), which gives high visibility to the papers presented at the congresses.
3. In March, 2017, Francoise Dagouret and I took part in the *WADA Symposium*.
4. After the WADA Symposium, I attended the *IOC Prevention Conference* in Monaco.
5. During my stay in Lausanne for the WADA Symposium, I started to prepare a copy of videos stored at the ITTF headquarters. The *video resources* compiled will be used only for scientific purposes. During my stay in 2018, other video files will be prepared for scientific analysis. We believe that data on the characteristics of the table tennis rally will be of interest not only to table tennis players, coaches, and researchers, but also to many laypersons as well.
6. On May 27-28, we organized the *15th ITTF Sports Science Congress* in Düsseldorf. I would like to take this opportunity to thank especially Michael Fuchs from Technical University Munich, and Matthias Vathauer from DTTB for their contribution to the work of the ITTF SSMC with regard to the scientific congress. Here are some interesting numbers: Abstracts received: 101; Total authors: 213; Registered participants: 102 (including the invited speakers and TUM/ITTF/DTTB "participants"); Countries participating: 33; Invited speakers: 2; Oral presentations: 28; Poster presentations: 54. Thanks to the Head of Education, Mr. Dejan Papič, we have documented all the presentations and some of them will be available on the ITTF website.
7. Two regular *meetings* of the ITTF SSMC were organized during the Congress and WTTC in Düsseldorf.
8. At the WTTC we provided *two workshops* on boosting and what shall be researched in table tennis. The response of participants in Düsseldorf was very good, so we decided to continue on with these kinds of educational topics for players and coaches at the WTTC in 2019. In 2018 we will have workshops during the conference organized by University of Halmstad.
9. After the WTTC we moved to Split. The ITTF SSMC has been playing an active role in the development of a global university-level coach education project, which was initiated by the SSCM member Prof. Goran Munivrana and organised in cooperation with the ITTF Development & Education programs. 20 students coming from 16 different countries worldwide enrolled in the University Degree Table Tennis Study programme, 18 have attended *practical workshops* in Split. The main aim of the project has been to provide an opportunity to both players and coaches within the table tennis community to acquire a

university-level education while pursuing their professional careers. The consensus within the SSMC is to continue to provide organisational help and support for such a project that benefits the whole table tennis community.

10. On August 25-28, I was attending the badminton championships in Glasgow, where we set all the details for the forthcoming 6th World Racket Sports Congress, which will be organized in Bangkok next May. The *Announcement for the Congress* has been sent out and can be found at www.racketsports2018.com. The ITTF is supporting this event.
11. At the end of September, 11 invited participants took part in a jointly organized *scientific meeting with the JTTF SSMC*. The meeting was organized by Dr. Shiro Matsuo. Over 50 Japanese scientists took part and presented recent trends in sports science and medicine related to table tennis development. Eight members of the ITTF SSMC took part at this three-day meeting in Tokyo. A representative from the scientific committee of the Badminton world federation was invited to present their activities. We used this opportunity also to have our third ITTF SSMC meeting where some new proposals for our future work were presented (see the Minutes of the meeting). We are expecting to have another meeting in September, 2018.
12. During the gathering in Tokyo, we had a *meeting with Tokyo 2020 medical officers*. Further activities in terms of medical support have been provided by Sachiko Yokota. Thanks to her and Dr. Shiro Matsuo, the ITTF SSMC will have a more active role at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.
13. In September and December, measurements on “*net height changes*” were organized at the Faculty of Sport in Ljubljana. Reports will follow before the WTTC in Halmstad.
14. In October, we will proceed with the study conducted last year in Otočec (Slovenia) during the final selection camp of the European Table Tennis Union (ETTU) as a part of the project “*Profiling elite youth table tennis players using a multidimensional approach.*” Students from the Faculty of Sport (Lj) were included in this year’s measurements. The ETTU, through Mr. Ronald Kramer, Neven Cegnar and Mr. Ivo-Goran Munivrana, supported the study by providing overnight lodging, meals, transportation, and compensation for the assessors on the site. We thank the ETTU for their support.
15. In October, we sent out an announcement for the scientific conference “*The Science and Practice of Racket Sport for Improved Performance and Health: Special Focus on Table Tennis,*” which will be held prior to the 2018 WTTC in Halmstad. The main organizer of this event is the University of Halmstad, represented by Prof. Lars Kirsten. I would like to take this opportunity to *thank* Mr. Mikael Andersson for his involvement in the organizational part of the conference.
16. In November, Tsung-Min and I were invited by the Shanghai Sports University and CTTA to the Second International Forum on the Development of Table Tennis. At the forum Tsung-Min gave a lecture on *Table tennis participation and cognitive performance* while I lectured on *Where do our ideas for TT research come from?*
17. By Christmas we finished and also printed the *Proceedings of 15th ITTF Sports Science Congress*, which was held in Düsseldorf. The authors have already received their copies and the book can be requested at the head office in Lausanne. Additionally, we have sent this book to Thomson Reuters for the inclusion into the Web of Science.
18. Finally, at the end of the year we were successful in publishing the last document of the 14th ITTF Sports Science Congress and 5th World Racket Sports Congress. Suzhou University Press financially supported and published *Science and Racket Sports V*. Thanks to Prof. Xiaopeng Zhang for his involvement in this project.
19. Our SSMC member Irene Faber was successful in announcing the *special issue* of table tennis by the *Journal of Sports Science* (2016 impact factor 2,539). The procedure is on its way and JSS has already published 7 papers online. More articles are expected to arrive over the near term. We expect final publication in the second half of 2018.

20. In the field of *anti-doping*, most of the duties have been provided by Francoise Dagouret and our anti-doping chief Dr. Matsuo Shiro. Herewith I would like to thank especially Francoise for her dedicated work and preparation of materials for WADA.
21. From April to December of 2017, Takuro Okada, a Member of the ITTF TUE Committee, completed an *internship at the ITTF office* in Lausanne, in order to extend his knowledge in the various anti-doping matters within an IF. The ITTF is very grateful to Takuro for the useful assistance he provided in the daily operations.
22. In November of 2017, the ITTF received its compliance "*Corrective Action Report*" from WADA. None of the required corrective actions are considered to be critical. Actions for improvement have to be implemented by May and August of 2018.
23. According to an agreement among SSMC members, we are proceeding to enlarge our *database on scientific and anti-doping scientific papers*, which are published in highly respected scientific journals. Thanks to Mohamed Dawlatly for promptly publishing all the papers on our website.
24. I would like to take this opportunity *to thank* former CEO Judit Farago, Steve Dainton, Raul Calin and Thomas Weikert for their contribution to the work of the ITTF SSMC with regard to scientific topics and cooperation with WADA and the IOC. I also would like to thank Mr. Masahiro Maehara for his support of our activities in the field of sports science and medicine. Thanks also to all members of the ITTF SSMC who are dedicated to the work in sports science, the anti-doping fight and medicine.

Tasks to be fulfilled prior to April-May, 2018:

- Updating the database of scientific papers that have been published in different scientific journals in cooperation with the Head of Education;
- Continuing activities on doping control and medical health proposals in Halmstad;
- Conducting activities for the conference, "The Science and Practice of Racket Sport for Improved Performance and Health: Special Focus on Table Tennis" in Halmstad;
- Conducting activities for the congress "6th World Congress on Racket Sports Science";
- Proposing to the ITTF EC to provide a budget for scientific research; and
- Helping NA's regarding anti-doping policy and carrying on other activities.

Prof. Miran Kondrič, PhD

Chairman

1. IR Conference 2017

IR Conferences in Beijing, China (October, 2017) and in Larnaca, Cyprus (November, 2017) were organised, with 85 International Referees participating from 5 continents. The head coach of Cyprus Adrian Simion, who is from Larnaca, as well as Wang Hao and Chen Bin, from the Chinese National Team, presented to all referees their expectations and experiences concerning the cooperation with match officials.

2. International Referee School

Two IR schools were held in 2017. For the first time Egypt was the host and in November Slovakia provided the necessary facilities. 12 new referees are now working in ITTF events. It has to be mentioned that Genevieve Lentz from South Africa is the first female referee in Africa and Simin Rezaie is also the first female referee in Iran.

3. New Approach "Match Officials 2018"

Match Officials 2018 shall ensure that the best umpires officiate in the most important events. A clear career pathway for match officials has been set and the daily allowance has been adapted to the status of events.

4. Nomination of Referees for ITTF Events

The URC is working closely with the ITTF office / organisers to confirm/facilitate nominations of referees for ITTF events and to include new referees and referees from different continents.

5. Match Officials Uniform

After two years' effort for searching for a sponsor, the ITTF-URC and the Marketing Department are close to finalizing a contract with a sponsor. If everything goes well, the new uniform will be launched during the WTTC in Halmstad.

6. Referee Tool Box

A toolbox with 13 documents is available for all referees. This is to provide guidelines and help standardise procedures in all tournaments.

7. Referee Report

The standardised written referee report (Excel spreadsheet) has been replaced by an electronic database. All assigned referees have access to the database. The database can be used for keeping records and analysis. This is also linked to other ITTF databases.

8. Referee Report/Frequently Asked Questions/Case Studies Document

The ITTF URC evaluated all referee reports and used the cases/recommendations of these reports for quality assurance and training. The cases were included in the FAQ and Case Study Document.

9. IU Exam

The bi-annual IU Exam will take place in 2018 and preparation of the exam paper is on track. As a pilot project, educational courses are planned to be offered to Associations in order to help candidates to prepare for the exam. Close cooperation has been undertaken with the Development Department. Two courses will be offered to each continent.

10.AUT, ARE and Evaluations

The URC conducted 4 AUT courses, 12 ARE's and evaluations for 22 events for a total of 765 evaluations. There were 46 new Blue Badge umpires.

11.ARE for Evaluators

Following the implementation in Suzhou, the course conductors and evaluators continue to take the mandatory ARE. This will ensure our course conductors and evaluators themselves are up to date with the current rules and regulations. Three new evaluators were selected after a thorough process by a panel of experts.

12.Recommended Walk-in & Walk-out Procedures

The recommended procedures have been implemented. The procedure has been circulated to all active referees and was uploaded onto the URC website.

13.Young Umpire Project

In preparation for the 2018 Youth Olympics, the Young Umpire Project (YUP) took place during the latter part of 2017. In collaboration with ITTF Education, an online forum was set up for young umpires from all continents to participate in a month-long training. Out of 42 candidates under the age of 25, 22 umpires passed the exam. They will be included for further consideration for umpiring at the Youth Olympic Games.

14.Survey on the Evaluation Process

A small working group comprised of players, referees, umpires and Competition Managers, was formed to look into the pros and cons of the current practices. Recommendations from the report will be further discussed for implementation.

15.Development Programme

The ITTF URC continues to work closely with the Development Department to train and educate match officials worldwide. URC trainers provided services in 2017 to Indonesia, Malaysia, Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Brunei, Laos, Mongolia, Somalia, Democratic Republic of Congo and Tunisia.

16.Acknowledgement

I wish to thank my fellow URC members, mentors and Special Advisors for their help and guidance. I would also like to thank the ITTF leaders and their staff members Emese, Silvia and Habiba for providing their full support to the work of the URC and for lending a hand in co-ordinating with the Associations, Organisers and other agencies for the successful hosting of tournaments.

Young-Sam Ma

Chairman

1. Composition of the Committee (Period 2017 - 2019)

Reto Bazzi (Switzerland / Europe), Chair; Galal Ezz (Egypt / Africa), Hyunsook Chung (Korea / Asia), Ina Jozepsone (Latvia / Europe), Paul Kyle (New Zealand / Oceania), Dean Johnson (USA / North America), Hans Westling (Sweden / Europe), Swaythling Club International (SCI) / World Veterans Championships Committee (WVC).

2. Committee Meetings / Communication

The following committee officials attended the meetings in May/June, 2017 during the World Championships in Dusseldorf / GER:

Reto Bazzi, Chair; Galal Ezz, Hyunsook Chung, Ina Jozepsone, Paul Kyle, Hans Westling (SCI/WVC).

During the year the Chairperson communicated with the committee members through e-mail correspondence.

3. Committee's Activities

3.1. Support SCI in Organising World Veteran Championships

The Chairperson was involved in the preparations for the 19th World Veteran Championships in Las Vegas / USA and the 20th World Veteran Championships in Bordeaux / FRA. In co-operation with the host association, the nomination of the Referee Team for Las Vegas was finalized. Since Alicante 2016 one of the Deputy Referees will be recommended by the next organiser and will normally be confirmed as Referee two years later.

In October, 2017 the Chairperson attended the first meeting between ITTF and SCI/WVC representatives in Dusseldorf / GER to discuss future responsibilities for World Veteran Championships. It was agreed to form an ITTF/ SCI Working Group to deal with further steps during an interim period.

I also attended the SCI AGM in Dusseldorf / GER and all meetings of the SCI Executive Committee and the WVC Committee during the last year.

3.2. Encourage Continental and National Federations to Promote Veterans' Table Tennis Activities

There was a continuation of the dialogue and good co-operation, especially with the Chairpersons of the Asian and European Veterans' Committees.

3.3. Support Continental and National Federations in Preparing Ranking Lists for Veteran Players

In Dusseldorf Igor Heller, Chairman Ranking Committee ETTU, Hilmar Heinrichmeyer, Chairman Ranking Committee of the German Table Tennis Federation (DTTB) and Michael Theis, Computer Expert SCI attended the second committee meeting. The

Chairman of the DTTB Ranking Committee presented his offer to use the "German" system for an introduction of the future "ITTF Veterans' Ranking List". In the meantime, it was possible to complete a first import of 65,375 individual match results from 12 World and European Veteran Championships between 2006 and 2017 into the system. 12,473 players from 14 age categories have been registered. Unfortunately, there are still quite a lot of players with incomplete information, including their birth dates. Therefore, the Chairperson of the ITTF Veterans' Committee contacted the respective associations to receive the necessary information. It is planned to have a first output of the ranking list by age category in February, 2018. Hopefully the efforts during the last year will help with the seeding process at the next World Veteran Championships in Las Vegas.

3.4. Update Veterans' Activities on the ITTF Website, SCI/WVC Section, in Co-operation with the SCI

With the support from Ian Marshall and efforts from Hans Westling and Ina Jozepsone, it was possible to publish more articles about Veteran events on the ITTF website in the last months. From June, 2017 to January, 2018 articles from the following events have been published:

- Toa Payoh East-Novena Singapore TTA Championships
- European Veteran Championships in Helsingborg / SWE
- 23rd Antalya International Veteran Championships in Kemer / TUR
- Australian Veteran Championships in Mandurah / AUS
- Amber Racket Tournament in Kaliningrad / RUS
- Ifo Veteran Open in Gothenburg / SWE
- Latvia Veteran Open in Iecava / LAT
- VETTS Southern Masters in London / ENG

The veterans' calendar was also regularly updated by Hans Westling and published on the website.

4. Appreciation

I take the opportunity to express my thanks to the committee members for their contributions during the last year.

I also express my sincere thanks to the chairpersons of the continental veterans' committees, the President and WVC Committee members of the SCI, Etsuko Enami and Ian Marshall for the always good co-operation.

Reto Bazzi
Chairman

Meetings

The Olympic and Paralympic Commission (OPC) met twice during the year 2017: at the World Championships in Dusseldorf, Germany, and at the World Tour Grand Finals in Astana, Kazakhstan.

OPC in Dusseldorf, Germany on June 1, 2017

At the June OPC meeting, we were honoured with the visit of the IOC President, Dr. Thomas Bach. Dr. Bach presented the IOC goals of having more youthful Games, more women participating, better gender equality, and better outreach, specifically the concept of going where the people are, to open the sport to all. The ITTF Global Junior Programme, the Gender equality existing in all ITTF competitions, including the Olympic Games, and innovative concepts such as TTX are certainly going in the same direction.

Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games: Carlos Leon was appointed as the first Technical Delegate for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and Sachiko Yokota was ratified as the Tokyo 2020 representative to the OPC (with voting rights).

A working group was established to determine the qualification system for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and to continue the work with the Olympic Team Format of play.

Buenos Aires 2018 YOG: The qualification events are already underway, with the first athletes already qualified and confirmed by their NOC's.

It was confirmed that for 2018 there will be two male and two female universality allocations.

The dates of the Buenos Aires 2018 YOG have been moved, as per the LOC request, to October 6 – 18, 2018.

Raul Calin was appointed as the Technical Delegate.

OPC in Astana, Kazakhstan on December 15, 2017

Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games: At the December OPC meeting, the conclusions of the working group for the qualification system and the team format of play were presented. It was decided to postpone the ratification of the qualification system until the final adjustments agreed upon at the meeting were written.

It was also agreed to confirm the format of play for the team event pending the successful test happening at the Team World Cup in London. At the time of writing this report, the Qualification System for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games has been confirmed and has already been ratified by the IOC Executive Board. The report on the Team World Cup experience with the new proposed format will be presented in Halmstad.

Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games: At the same meeting it was decided to dedicate more time to properly elaborate on the qualification system, taking into consideration the fact of the revision of the ITTF Classification Code, which is being aligned with the IPC requirements.

This transition period in the qualification system may provoke changes in classes of top players within 2018, thus it was advisable to shorten the qualification period for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games from 24 to 15 months, starting from January, 2019.

It is expected to get the system to be ready for confirmation at the Halmstad OPC.

At the same meeting in Astana, Mr. Edimilson Pinheiro was appointed as the Technical Delegate for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

For details on the progress with the different Olympic/Paralympic/Youth Olympic Games preparation, please read Document C7.

Respectfully submitted,

Raul Calin

Director of Operations & Olympic/Paralympic Games (until August 15, 2017)

Secretary General (since August 16, 2017)

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2017

Report to the AGM

Document E1

TO BE DISTRIBUTED

Propositions to the AGM 2018

2/3 majority required

1	<p>Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee, upon Resolution B of the 2017 AGM</p> <p><i>Constitution reform (attached document)</i></p> <p><i>Rationale: The 2017 ITTF AGM passed a resolution for the amendment to the ITTF Constitution to make it full compliant to the basic principles of good governance. Special consideration to be given to the establishment of transparent and enhanced dispute resolution mechanisms and adequate procedures to avoid conflicts of interests.</i></p> <p><i>In close cooperation with the International Olympic Committee and the Association of Summer Sports International Federations, and consulting all ITTF associations, the draft presented has been developed to try to align the ITTF constitution with the Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement, as suggested in the recommendation #27 of the 127th IOC Session held in Monaco on 8 and 9 December 2014.</i></p>
---	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

1 CONSTITUTION

CONTENTS

1. CONSTITUTION

CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1. Name	Current ITTF Constitution (1.1)
1.2. Composition	(1.2) - (1.2.2)
1.3. Principles	(1.3)
1.4. Objectives	(1.4)
1.5. Legal status	(1.2.2)

CHAPTER 2. MEMBERSHIP

2.1. Eligibility	(2.1.1)
2.2. Application and election	(2.1.2)
2.3. Suspension and termination	(2.1.3)
2.4. Rights of the Associations	(NEW)
2.5. Obligations of the Associations	(NEW)

CHAPTER 3. ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

3.1. Continental Federations	(1.18.1)
3.2. Continental Federations affiliation	(new)
3.3. Other Groupings of Associations	(1.18.2)

CHAPTER 4. HONORARY POSITIONS

4.1. Honorary President	(1.6.6)
4.2. President Advisory Council	(1.6.5)
4.3. Personal Honorary Membership	(2.1.4)

CHAPTER 5. GOVERNANCE

5.1. Annual General Meeting (referred as "AGM")	(1.5.1) and (1.19)
5.2. Board of Directors (referred as "Board")	New definition (1.5.2)
5.3. Executive Committee	New definition (1.5.3) 1.8 & 1.7.1.,2.3
5.4. Olympic and Paralympic Commission	(1.9)
5.5. Development and Continental Council	(1.10)
5.6. Committees and Commissions	(1.11)
5.7. Other appointments	(1.13)
5.8. Eligibility for office	(1.12)
5.9. Conflict of interest	new
5.10. Changes to rules	(1.20)

CHAPTER 6. ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

- 6.1. Management Staff (1.14)
- 6.2. Administration (1.15)

CHAPTER 7. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

- 7.1. Accounts 1.16.1)
- 7.2. Trustees (1.16.2)
- 7.3. Subscriptions (1.16.3)

CHAPTER 8. JUDICIAL PROVISIONS

- 8.1. Judicial bodies of the ITTF (NEW)
- 8.2. Procedural rules applicable to the judicial bodies of the ITTF. (NEW)
- 8.3. Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) (NEW)
- 8.4. Jurisdiction of Associations (1.21)
- 8.5. Unaffiliated players and organisations (1.22)

CHAPTER 9. FINAL PROVISIONS

- 9.1. Dissolution (1.23)
- 9.2. Concluding provisions (NEW)

Note: The yellow shaded text refers to a small change, addition/modification or an update of the Constitution.

The turquoise shaded text refers to a change related to Principles of Good Governance or a fundamental change

1. ITTF CONSTITUTION

CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1 NAME

- 1.1.1 The Federation shall be called the International Table Tennis Federation, referred to elsewhere in this Constitution by its abbreviated title "ITTF".

1.2 COMPOSITION

- 1.2.1 The ITTF shall consist of the affiliated table tennis organisations, referred to elsewhere in the Rules as "Associations", governing the sport in accordance with the principles of the ITTF in any territory generally regarded as constituting a national, historical or other unity.
- 1.2.2 Associations shall not be regarded as agents of the ITTF.

1.3 PRINCIPLES

- 1.3.1 The principles of the ITTF shall be general unity of action, mutual respect of Associations in their dealings with one another and the inadmissibility of discrimination against Associations or individuals on racial, political, religious, gender or other grounds.
- 1.3.2 The ITTF is committed to providing a sport and work environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Each individual has the right to participate and work in an environment which promotes equal opportunities and prohibits discriminatory practices.
- 1.3.3 The ITTF is committed to providing a sport environment free of harassment on any basis without exception.
- 1.3.3.1 The Executive Committee shall impose appropriate disciplinary sanctions from warnings to exclusions from all kind of activity in the ITTF, when a complaint of harassment has been substantiated. The same disciplinary sanctions shall be imposed if a false accusation has been substantiated.
- 1.3.4 The ITTF is committed to take a responsible approach to safeguarding the environment and managing resources through its practices in hosting events and in managing its operations.

- 1.3.5. The ITTF shall observe the general and fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, including, but not limited to, the Code of Ethics and Compliance; the Code of Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions, the Olympic Movement Medical Code and the IPC Handbook; and no provision of this Constitution shall be deemed to conflict with or derogate from those principles.
- 1.3.6 The ITTF shall co-operate with the IOC, ASOIF, GAISF, IPC, and other organisations that recognise it as the controlling and governing authority for table tennis throughout the world.

1.4 OBJECTIVES

- 1.4.1 The objectives of the ITTF shall be:
- 1.4.1.1 to uphold the principles of the ITTF and to develop the spirit of friendship and mutual assistance among Associations and players;
- 1.4.1.2 to regulate relations between Associations and between Associations and other organisations;
- 1.4.1.3 to seek continual improvement in the technical standard of table tennis and in the extent of participation in the sport throughout the world;
- 1.4.1.4 to foster friendly sporting competition and to eliminate unfair and unsporting practices such as match fixing, match corruption, irregular and illegal betting, doping or illegal equipment to enhance performance;
- 1.4.1.5 to establish and enforce the Constitution, ~~the Disciplinary Regulations~~, the Laws of Table Tennis, the Regulations for International Competitions, the Regulations for World, Olympic and Paralympic Title Competitions, the Anti-Doping Rules, ~~the Regulations against illegal betting and corruption~~, the Code of Ethics, the Anti-Harassment Policy and Procedures and any other ITTF regulations.
- 1.4.1.6 to publish the English standard text of the Laws, Rules and regulations mentioned in 1.4.1.5;
- 1.4.1.7 to encourage the publication of the regulations mentioned in 1.4.1.5 in other languages and to check the accuracy of such publications;
- 1.4.1.8 to promote and to supervise World, Olympic, Paralympic and ITTF Continental title competitions;
- 1.4.1.9 to employ the funds of the ITTF as may be expedient in the interests of international table tennis;

- 1.4.1.10 to endeavour to increase participation at all levels, to enhance the popularity of the sport, to develop new sources of revenue, and to manage the sport through a systematic planning process;
- 1.4.1.11 to encourage players, coaches and officials to present the sport positively in the best ways so as to enhance its image.
- 1.4.1.12 to encourage and to support the promotion of women in sport at all levels and to ensure significant representation of women in ITTF committees, commissions and working groups.

1.5 LEGAL STATUS

- 1.5.1 The ITTF is a not-for-profit organisation governed by article 60ff. of the Swiss Civil Code;.
- 1.5.2. The ITTF is endowed with legal status and its members, officers and employees shall not be responsible for its debts, unless it is by a grossly negligent or willful conduct.

CHAPTER 2. MEMBERSHIP

2.1 Eligibility

- 2.1.1 Any Association representing table tennis in a territory and complying with 1.2.1 ~~observing the principles of the ITTF~~ may be elected a member but it shall be recognised as representative only of the territory in which it controls and governs the sport.
- 2.1.2 Where one or more Associations represent table tennis in only part of an area generally regarded as constituting a unity, an Association representing the sport in any other part of the same unity may apply for membership, provided that
- 2.1.2.1 its separateness is due to circumstances outside the sport and of the players concerned;
 - 2.1.2.2 the jurisdiction it claims is clearly limited, in title and constitution, to the territory in which it controls the sport;
 - 2.1.2.3 it is otherwise qualified for membership.
- 2.1.3 In the consideration of such an application, the views of any Association already in membership from the same unity shall be taken into account and in no circumstances shall two Associations be recognised as exercising authority over the same territory.
- 2.1.4 An organisation located outside the territory of any Association may be granted temporary attachment to an Association for the purpose of receiving aid in development and competition; the extended territory shall be regarded as being within the member's control, but approval of the attachment shall be reviewed at each AGM and shall not be renewed indefinitely.

2.2 Application and Election

- 2.2.1 Applications for membership shall be made on a form approved by the Executive Committee.
- 2.2.2 All applications shall be submitted not later than 6 calendar months before the date of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) at which the application is to be considered, except applications from previous member Associations. Such applications may be accepted with immediate effect at the discretion of the Executive Committee, without the need to allow the 6 calendar months. Any such acceptance must be ratified at the next AGM.

- 2.2.3 The Executive Committee shall review all applications on behalf of the **AGM** ~~General Meeting~~ and make recommendations on acceptance.
- 2.2.4 Applications for membership shall be considered by the next **AGM** ~~General Meeting~~ and shall be accepted if they receive at least 2/3 of the votes cast.
- 2.2.4.1 In the consideration of an application in respect of an area for which there is a recognised Continental Federation, the views of that Federation shall be taken into account.
- 2.2.5 In the consideration of applications for combined membership by Associations formerly in separate membership, or for separate membership by Associations which were formerly components of an Association which has divided, or for recognition of changes in the territory in which an Association controls the sport, the views of the organisations concerned and any circumstances outside their control shall be taken into account; secession in other circumstances is not to be encouraged.
- 2.2.6 The representatives of an Association elected to membership at an **AGM** ~~General Meeting~~ shall be entitled to attend the meeting **and to vote after election.**
- 2.2.7 Election and membership of an Association shall not carry any implications in respect of the political, diplomatic or national status of the area concerned, but only to its conduct of table tennis therein.

2.3 Suspension and Termination

- 2.3.1 An Association wishing to resign from the ITTF shall give notice in writing to the Secretariat; the resignation may take effect at any time from the receipt of such notice until the 31st December of the same year but the Association shall be liable for the subscription due for that year. **The written resignation must detail the reason for resignation, proposed timing and all efforts that have made toward retaining affiliation. The Association and the ITTF must have first engaged in either direct or mediate discussions with the purpose of affiliation being retained.**
- 2.3.2 An Association which fails to pay its subscription for 3 successive years shall automatically be suspended from membership; it shall not be liable for subscriptions during the period of suspension and may be re-admitted to membership on payment of part or all of the subscriptions previously due, at the discretion of the **Executive**

Committee; the suspension in this case is a full suspension.

- 2.3.3 An Association that is suspended from membership shall, including but not limited to, not be entitled to nominate or enter players for any event held under the jurisdiction of the ITTF nor to attend or be represented at an **AGM or EGM (Extraordinary General Meeting)** ~~General Meeting~~ nor to nominate any person for election to the Executive Committee, Board of Directors (**referred to elsewhere in this Constitution as "Board"**), any committee, commission or working group nor shall any individual nominated by the Association be entitled to participate in the activities of the Executive Committee, Board, any committee, commission or working group; further:
- 2.3.3.1 no ~~technical~~ **match** official nominated by the Association shall officiate at any ITTF sanctioned event;
- 2.3.3.2 the Association shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the ITTF including but not limited to participation in development activities nor to receive any grants from the ITTF;
- 2.3.3.3 the Association shall not be entitled to host an ITTF sanctioned event save that where an ITTF sanctioned event has been approved prior to the suspension, the Executive Committee may establish a committee to oversee the organisation of such sanctioned event under conditions approved by the Executive Committee, at its discretion.
- 2.3.4 An Association which seriously and persistently fails to maintain the principles or to respect the Constitution and decisions of the ITTF may be censured, fined, suspended or expelled by an **AGM or EGM** ~~General Meeting~~ by a two-thirds majority; a suspension may be cancelled by an **AGM or EGM** ~~General Meeting~~ by a two-thirds majority.
- 2.3.4.1** In a case of a suspension, the **AGM or EGM** ~~General Meeting~~ may allow players from the suspended Association to compete in events under the jurisdiction and flag of the ITTF.
- 2.3.5 Before the **AGM or EGM** ~~General Meeting~~ suspends an Association, the Association must have been sent notice in writing of the proposed suspension at least one month before the **AGM or EGM** ~~General Meeting~~ at which the suspension is to be considered; the Association shall be afforded an opportunity to present its case at the **AGM or EGM** ~~General Meeting~~.
- 2.3.6 The Executive Committee may act to suspend an Association pending

the **AGM or EGM** ~~General Meeting~~, provided that:

- 2.3.6.1 clause 2.3.5 is applied;
- 2.3.6.2 **decision on the suspension is** ~~Executive Committee decides to suspend an Association~~ by a unanimous vote;
- 2.3.6.3 ~~the Executive Committee immediately informs all~~ **Associations are informed** ~~immediately~~ of the suspension providing reasons.
- 2.3.7 The Association which has been suspended or expelled may appeal to the Court of Arbitration of Sport.

2.4. Rights of the Associations

2.4.1 The Associations have the following rights:

- 2.4.1.1. To appoint up to 2 delegates to take part in the **AGM or EGM** ~~General Meeting~~ in which each Association has one vote cast.
- 2.4.1.2 To submit proposals or resolutions for inclusion in the agenda of the **AGM or EGM General Meeting** or the Board.
- 2.4.1.3 To nominate candidates for election or appointment within the ITTF according to the specific rules.
- 2.4.1.4 To enter players for participation in competitions organised under the authority of the ITTF according to the specific qualification rules of each competition.
- 2.4.1.5 To take part in and benefit from ITTF's assistance, development and educational programmes organised directly or through the Continental Federations.
- 2.4.1.6 To exercise all other rights arising from the Constitution or from any other ITTF **Laws and regulations**.

2.5. Obligations of the Associations

2.5.1 The Associations have the following obligations:

- 2.5.1.1 To fully comply with all duties and provisions of the Constitution, Laws and **Regulations** established by the ITTF as well as with all decisions taken in accordance therewith.
- 2.5.1.2 To apply the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules, ~~the ITTF Regulations against illegal betting and corruption and~~ **the ITTF Code of Ethics and the Anti-Harassment Policy and Procedures**.

- 2.5.1.3 To immediately notify the ITTF about any major change on the Association (Statutes, Constitution, change of President and/or General Secretary, its address and/or contact details)
- 2.5.1.4 To ~~cause~~ request their own members to comply with the ITTF Constitution. Laws and Regulations established by the ITTF.
- 2.5.1.5 To fulfil at all times the requirements necessary ~~conditions~~ for eligibility to membership
- 2.5.1.6 To pay the annual subscription to the ITTF.
- 2.5.1.7 In the event of any dispute leading to disaffiliation, the ITTF retains all the rights as the international governing body, as if the association was affiliated for the purpose of calling for information and/or specific obligation to be fulfilled by the Association.

CHAPTER 3. ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

3.1 Continental Federations

- 3.1.1 Associations may group themselves into Continental Federations for the purpose of promoting and regulating table tennis within a given continental area; such Federations shall be supported and encouraged by the ITTF, which shall co-operate with them in all matters, provided that the constitution, general principles, rules and policy of the Continental Federation conform to those of the ITTF.
- 3.1.2 Each Continental Federation shall provide the Secretariat with a copy of its Constitution and with details of any subsequent changes not later than 3 calendar months after the meeting at which they are made.
- 3.1.3 Upon request by a Continental Federation and approval by the Executive Committee, a Continental Federation may be allowed to use the ITTF name and logo as part of the “brand name” of the Continental Federation.
- 3.1.4 Membership of the Continental Federation shall be open to Associations whose address in the ITTF Directory is situated within the appropriate Continental area except where, for reasons outside the control of sport, an Association is not acceptable to its appropriate Continental Federation; in such circumstances, which shall not necessarily prevent recognition of the Continental Federation concerned, the Association failing to secure membership shall have the right to appeal to the ITTF to assist in securing membership or, failing that, attachment to another adjacent Continental Federation.
- 3.1.5 Organisations eligible for membership of the ITTF but not yet having applied for membership may, with the consent of the Board, be included in the appropriate Continental Federation for a period not exceeding 1 year but renewable by each AGM; the players of such an organisation shall enjoy the privileges of players of a member Association but only in the Continent concerned.
- 3.1.6 Parts of an Association which lie wholly within a Continental area other than that in which the address of that Association in the ITTF Directory is situated may, with the permission of the Board and the consent of their Association, be attached to the Continental Federation in whose area they lie for the purpose of competition and

the encouragement of table tennis; with the same permission and for the same purposes, Associations lying wholly outside but adjacent to the Continental area concerned may similarly be attached, with the consent of the Federation of the Continent of which they form a part.

- 3.1.7 The championship title competitions of a Continental Federation shall be open only to the players of its member and attached Associations and the ITTF shall recognise such competitions as the sole Continental title championships for that Continent.

3.2. Continental Federations affiliation

3.2.1 The Continental Federations shall be affiliated to the ITTF according to established criteria, proposed by the Board following a proposal of the Continental and Development Council.

3.2.2 The affiliated Continental Federations will renew every 4 years, in the year after the Olympic Games, specific strategic quadrennial agreements with the ITTF.

3.2.3 The affiliation of the Continental Federations has the following goals:

3.2.3.1 increase cooperation in events and marketing as well to develop table tennis cooperatively.

3.2.3.2 legalise the status of continental federations within the ITTF constitution.

3.2.3.3 provide development funding agreements to the affiliated continental federations.

3.2.3.4 provide the use of the ITTF brand and customised continental logo.

3.2.3.5 ensure marketing support and commercial strategic agreements through contractual Memorandums of Understanding with the ITTF.

3.2.3.6 link continental events to the ITTF world title events to reinforce greater marketing value and ensuring the participation of the top players.

3.3. Other Groupings of Associations

3.3.1 Grouping of Associations shall, in principle, include associations that share common objectives (promotion of table tennis in any of its forms or categories, organisation of competitions for specific titles or for areas united by language, history and/or culture)

3.3.2 Each recognised Grouping of Associations shall have the right to organise specific grouping competitions open to all the Associations of the Group provided that the Constitution is observed in respect of play with unaffiliated organisations.

3.3.3. Each recognised Grouping of Associations shall have the following obligations:

3.3.3.1 To fully comply with all duties and provisions of the Constitution, Laws and regulations established by the ITTF, as well as with all decisions taken in accordance therewith.

3.3.3.2 To apply the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules, the ITTF Regulations against illegal betting and corruption and the ITTF Code of Ethics.

3.3.3.3 To immediately notify the ITTF about any change on the Member Grouping (Constitution, change of President and/or General Secretary, its address and/or contact details).

3.3.3.4 To cause their own members to comply with the ITTF Constitution, Laws and regulations established by the ITTF.

CHAPTER 4. HONORARY POSITIONS

4.1 Honorary President

- 4.1.1 Any past President of the ITTF shall be automatically bestowed the title of "ITTF Honorary President" with a set of privileges decided by the Executive Committee from time to time. This title can only be revoked by a majority vote of the **AGM** ~~General Meeting~~.

4.2. President's Advisory Council

- 4.2.1 The President may appoint a President's Advisory Council to advise him or her on various matters. Members of the President's Advisory Council shall be invited to attend the **AGM and EGM** ~~General Meetings~~ as observers and they will have a set of privileges decided by the Executive Committee from time to time.
- 4.2.2 The terms of office of the President's Advisory Council shall coincide with that of the Executive Committee.

4.3. Personal Honorary Membership

- 4.3.1 ~~An official~~ **A person** who has given long, outstanding service to the ITTF may, on retirement, be appointed a Personal Honorary Member for his or her lifetime by the **AGM** ~~General Meeting~~ on a recommendation by the Board.
- 4.3.2 Personal Honorary Members shall be entitled to attend World Championships, with free hospitality, and to attend **the AGM and the EGM** ~~General Meetings~~ with the right to speak but not to vote.

CHAPTER 5. GOVERNANCE

5.1. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

5.1.1 The **Annual General Meeting**, referred to elsewhere in this Constitution as **AGM**, is the supreme and governing body of the ITTF and consists of the assembled representatives of the Associations.

5.1.2 The AGM ~~General Meeting~~ has the following functions and powers:

5.1.2.1 to amend the Constitution and the Laws of Table Tennis.

5.1.2.2 to elect the ITTF President, the ITTF Executive Vice-Presidents and all members of the Board, at an **AGM General Meeting** held in the year following the year of the Olympic Games. All members elected shall serve for a four-year term, ~~but and~~ shall be eligible for re-election ~~maximum 2 times~~ **not more than twice** in the same role. After 3 **full** terms any member should have 1 **waiting period term before opting for the same role.**

5.1.2.3 to appoint, in odd numbered years, the full and corresponding members of committees and commissions, on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee; except for the Nominations Committee which shall be appointed in even numbered years by the Executive Committee.

5.1.2.4 to designate the host Association of the ITTF World Championships

5.1.2.5. to delegate any of its powers to the Board or to the Executive Committee, on the request of at least one-quarter (1/4) of the Associations not in arrears.

5.1.2.6 to ratify the work done by the Board and the Executive Committee since the last AGM.

5.1.2.7 to decide to deal with a matter normally delegated to another ITTF body or decided upon by this body.

5.1.2.8 all the other functions and responsibilities mentioned from 5.1.8.1.1 to 5.1.8.1.13.

5.1.3. AGM. Representation of Members and attendance

5.1.3.1 Each Association shall be entitled to 2 representatives, referred to elsewhere in this Constitution as “delegates” at an **AGM**.

5.1.3.2 The Executive Committee members, the Board members, the ITTF senior staff, the Honorary Presidents, the Personal Honorary Members and the President's Advisory Council members are also allowed to attend the AGM ~~n-Meeting~~ with the right to speak but not to vote. All members of committees and commissions shall be entitled to attend the AGM ~~General Meetings~~ as observers, without speaking or voting privileges unless representing an Association. The Committee and Commissions Chairs and the Technical, Junior and Gender ~~Women in Sport~~ Commissioners, as expert advisers, will have the right to speak ~~on their specific concerned items~~. The AGM ~~General Meeting's~~ chair, exceptionally, can allow special guests to attend and speak at the AGM ~~General Meeting~~ too.

5.1.3.3 Representation by letter or proxy is not permitted.

~~5.1.3 Every year, there shall be an AGM Annual General Meeting, referred to elsewhere in this Constitution as "AGM" but an Extraordinary General Meeting, "EGM" shall be convened within 10 weeks of receipt by the Secretariat of a requisition in writing submitted by not less than 1/4 of the Associations not in arrears, representing at least 2 Continents.~~

5.1.4 AGM. Delegates

5.1.4.1 Delegates shall be appointed by the appropriate body of the Association they represent; they shall either carry the citizenship (passport) of this Association or shall have their main residence in the territory controlled by this Association for no less than 12 months. Delegates of Associations belonging to the same state unity, with the same kind of national passport, must have their main residence for no less than 12 months in the territory where the Association has the jurisdiction. The Executive Committee, under special circumstances, can ~~consider~~ grant exceptions from this rule in a case-by-case basis.

5.1.4.2 The ITTF will cover the cost of travel and accommodation for one delegate from each Association not in arrears to attend the ~~General Meeting~~ AGM the year of elections of the ITTF Executive Committee members according to the guidelines approved by the Executive Committee

5.1.5 AGM. Place and Time

- 5.1.5.1 An AGM shall be held at the place, and during the period, of the World Championships or, if the World Championships ~~is~~ **are** not held at the due time, at such other place and date as the **Executive Committee** may determine.

5.1.6 AGM. Notice of Meeting

- 5.1.6.1 Notice of the meeting, giving details of the place, date and time and the business to be transacted, shall be sent by post **or e-mail to:**

5.1.6.1.1 each Association;

5.1.6.1.2 the Executive Committee members;

5.1.6.1.3 the Board members, the ITTF senior staff;

5.1.6.1.4 the Honorary Presidents;

5.1.6.1.5 the Personal Honorary Members and

5.1.6.1.6 the President's Advisory Council members. ~~to the person and address to which the notice is sent shall be as last notified by each Association to the Secretariat.~~

- 5.1.6.2 ~~For an AGM~~ The notice shall be sent not later than 2 calendar months before the date of the meeting.

5.1.7 AGM. Notice of Business

- 5.1.7.1 Details in writing of **business and** propositions **and resolutions** to be dealt with at an AGM must reach the Secretariat not later than 3 calendar months before the date of the meeting.

- 5.1.7.2 Notice of the actual closing date in each year for the receipt of business and propositions shall be sent to all Associations by the Secretariat not later than 6 calendar months before the date of the meeting.

- 5.1.7.3 ~~Business and~~ Propositions **and resolutions**, other than changes to the Constitution or the Laws, of which due notice has not been given but which, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, relate to the business in hand **without introducing a new principle** or relate to an emergency may be admitted by a vote in favour of 2/3 of the votes cast at the AGM.

5.1.8 AGM Procedure

5.1.8.1 The agenda for an AGM shall include:

5.1.8.1.1 the appointment of a Chair;

5.1.8.1.2 a roll call of the Associations present ~~or represented by proxies~~ (5.1.10);

5.1.8.1.3 the appointment of scrutineers;

5.1.8.1.4 the confirmation of the Minutes of the previous AGM or EGM General Meeting;

5.1.8.1.5 the consideration of applications for membership;

5.1.8.1.6 the receipt of the Strategic Plan of the ITTF and the Annual General Report, including reports from the Executive Committee members, the Continental Presidents, the Committee Chair persons, the CEO and the Secretary General;

5.1.8.1.7 the receipt of reports from ~~committees and~~ the Olympic and Paralympic Commission, the Development and Continental Council and the Ethics Commission;

5.1.8.1.8 the receipt of the financial report, the audited statement of accounts for the previous year, the consideration of the next year and quadrennial estimate of income and expenditure and the appointment of Auditors;

5.1.8.1.9 the consideration of propositions and resolutions and the reports of ~~any~~ the committees or commissions that have studied them;

5.1.8.1.10 when appropriate, the election of President, Executive Vice-Presidents and the composition of committees;

5.1.8.1.11 the consideration of arrangements for future World Championships;

5.1.8.1.12 the announcement of the place and date of the next AGM;

5.1.8.1.13 the consideration of any other business.

5.1.8.2 No speaker shall speak more than once on a proposition except that the proposer shall have the right of reply and that the Chair may, at his or her discretion, allow a speaker to speak more than once to answer a query arising from his or her original statement.

5.1.8.3 The Chair shall decide how many speakers will be permitted to speak on a proposition and when the vote shall be taken, except that a motion "that the question now be put" shall be voted on immediately, without further discussion; if such a motion is carried

the proposition or any amendment before the meeting shall then be voted on immediately, without further discussion, subject to the right of reply by the mover of the substantive proposition.

- 5.1.8.4 A question once decided may not be reverted to for re-discussion and re-vote unless the Chair rules, as a matter of urgency, that a case has been made for supposing that the decision taken may jeopardise the whole welfare of the ITTF; a motion to challenge the Chair's ruling that the matter is not of sufficient urgency to justify reconsideration must be taken whenever it is moved.

5.1.9 AGM voting ~~and representation~~

- 5.1.9.1 Each Association **present** not in arrears shall have 1 vote.
- 5.1.9.2 Questions shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast except that:
- 5.1.9.2.1 changes to the Constitution, **suspensions or** expulsions from membership, the acceptance of belated or emergency business or propositions and the revocation of a World Championships option require a majority of 2/3 of the votes cast;
 - 5.1.9.2.2 changes to the Laws of Table Tennis require a 3/4 majority of the votes cast;
 - 5.1.9.2.3 dissolution of the ITTF requires a 4/5 majority of the votes cast.
- 5.1.9.3 If there is an equality of votes on an administrative or financial matter the Chair shall have a casting vote; if there is an equality of votes on any other matter the motion shall fail and the meeting shall proceed with the next business.
- 5.1.9.4 Voting other than in elections shall be either by a show of hands, by electronic device, ~~a~~ **by** roll call or ~~a~~ **by** secret ballot, as decided by the meeting on a proposition by the Chair.
- 5.1.9.5 Each President of a Continental Federation shall nominate 2 persons from his or her Continent, for approval by the meeting, to form a list of scrutineers.
- 5.1.9.6 For each vote requiring scrutineers, including elections, names shall be taken from the list in alphabetical order, omitting the representative of any Association having a particular interest in the item, which is the subject of the vote.

5.1.10 AGM. Elections

5.1.10.1. Where there are more candidates or options for a post or posts than the number of vacancies, as long as the simple majority (more than 50%) is not reached, additional ballots will be required. In this case, the candidate or option obtaining the smallest number of votes shall be eliminated.

5.1.10.2 If there is a tie for the lowest number of votes, a further vote shall be held amongst them to determine who is eliminated

5.1.10.3 Consecutive ballots will be organised until the election is decided.

5.1.10.4 At an election a ballot paper shall be considered valid only if the number of votes cast on this ballot equals the number of vacancies.

5.1.11 Extraordinary General Meeting

5.1.11.1. An **Extraordinary General Meeting, "EGM"** shall be convened within 10 weeks of receipt by the Secretariat of a requisition in writing submitted by not less than 1/4 of the Associations not in arrears, representing at least 2 Continents.

5.1.11.2 For an EGM the notice shall be sent not later than 1 calendar month before the date of the meeting.

5.1.11.3 The requisition for an EGM shall specify the business for which the meeting is to be convened and no other business except the confirmation of the Minutes of the previous **AGM or EGM** shall be transacted at such a meeting.

5.2. THE BOARD

5.2.1 ~~The Board of Directors, referred to elsewhere in this Constitution as "Board"~~ is the **a** legislative authority of the ITTF dealing amongst other responsibilities with all ITTF regulations, except the Constitution and the Laws of Table Tennis. The Board has also the following functions and powers:

5.2.1.1 to receive and consider reports from **Commissioners** and all committees **and Commissions** other than the Finance Committee, the Olympic and Paralympics Commission and the Development and Continental Council

5.2.1.2 to appoint the committee Chairs according to 5.2.6 and all the members of the Finance and Audit Committee and all the members

of the Ethics Commission.

5.2.1.3 to consider propositions regarding ITTF regulations, other than the Constitution and Laws of Table Tennis.

5.2.1.4 to award the host Association of the World Junior Championships, and other events, excluding the World Championships.

5.2.1.5 to approve the ITTF Administrative and Technical Leaflets.

5.2.1.6 to determine the ~~terms of reference~~ and number of full and corresponding members of each Committee .

5.2.1.7 to delegate any of its powers to the Executive Committee.

5.2.2 The Board shall consist of the President, ~~the~~ Executive Vice-Presidents, ~~the~~ Presidents of Continental Federations, the Chair of the Athletes Commission or his or her appointee and 32 Continental representatives ~~electd by each Continental Federation and confirmed by the AGM.~~

5.2.3 IOC members being players or officials of an Association or a Continental Federation ~~with table tennis as his/her main sport~~ shall become ex officio members of the Board.

5.2.4 All Chairs of committees and commissions and the Technical, Junior and Gender ~~Women in Sport~~ Commissioners shall be entitled to attend the Board meetings as expert advisers, without voting privileges but with the right to speak ~~on their concerned items.~~

5.2.5 The number of Continental representatives shall be proportional to the number of the ~~Continental Federation's member~~ Associations not in arrears ~~in that Continent~~ and shall not exceed 32.

5.2.6 The Board shall appoint, in odd numbered years, the Chairs of committees and commissions, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee; except the Chair of the Nominations Committee who shall be appointed by the Executive Committee in even numbered years and the Athletes' Commission whose Chairperson would be elected by the Commission.

5.2.7 The Board shall meet as required during the period of the ~~AGM~~ ~~World Championships~~ but shall otherwise conduct its business by correspondence.

5.2.8 Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Board may be filled by simple majority vote at a Board meeting, but no temporary substitute shall be permitted to attend a Board meeting or to conduct Board business in place of a member absent or indisposed.

5.2.9 Board meetings procedure

- 5.2.9.1 The agenda for a Board meeting shall be sent to all its members not later than 1 calendar month before the date of the meeting.
- 5.2.9.2 At its meeting the Board shall review all propositions and resolutions submitted to the Board and, where appropriate, refer them for consideration by committees.
- 5.2.9.3 The Chair at a Board meeting shall be the President, or, in his or her absence, the Deputy President; if both are absent the members present shall elect one of their members as Chair for that meeting.
- 5.2.9.4 Every question at a Board meeting shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast; if there is an equality of votes the Chair shall have a casting vote.
- 5.2.9.5 Voting shall be by a show of hands, a roll call or a ballot, as decided by the meeting on a proposition by the Chair.
- 5.2.9.6 The ITTF shall pay a proportion of the travel costs of its members attending Board meetings, the proportion being decided from time to time by the Executive Committee.
- 5.2.9.7 The proposer of a proposition or resolution is invited to speak in the same way as indicated for the AGM General Meeting under 5.1.8.2.

5.3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 5.3.1. The Executive Committee is the executive body of the ITTF with the power to handle the following duties:
 - 5.3.1.1 To approve the internal Organisation rules Regulations of the ITTF
 - 5.3.1.2 To appoint the CEO of the ITTF
 - 5.3.1.3 To appoint the Chairperson of the Nominations Committee and all Commissioners and Panels or Working groups
 - 5.3.1.5 To impose disciplinary sanctions for inappropriate conducts (Suspension of players for racket control failures, suspension of Associations, appropriate disciplinary action for harassment conducts,...)
 - 5.3.1.6 To determine the terms of reference for all committees, commissions, working groups or panels that the Board or the

- Executive Committee may establish from time to time.
- 5.3.1.7 To approve the ITTF strategic plan to be submitted to the AGM.
 - 5.3.1.8 To appoint the bank accounts of the ITTF and the persons with signature on them.
 - 5.3.1.9 To approve the remuneration of the President or any elected officer, if applicable. Such decisions must be minuted with specific mention of the names and amounts and must be reflected in the annual statement of the accounts.
 - 5.3.1.10 To review all applications for new membership and make recommendations on acceptance.
 - 5.3.1.11 To submit rules changes, propositions and resolutions to the AGM or to the Board.
 - 5.3.1.12 To define the use of the ITTF name and logo
 - 5.3.1.13 To deal with all other current or urgent business and to assume all responsibilities which are not expressly attributed to another body within the ITTF.
- 5.3.2 The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the Chairperson of the Athletes Commission and 8 Executive Vice-Presidents of which one shall be **appointed** ~~nominated~~ by the President as Deputy President and another one shall be **appointed** ~~nominated~~ for finances.
- 5.3.3 The Executive Committee shall meet during the period of the **AGM World Championships** and otherwise when convened by the President.
- 5.3.4 Vacancies at the Executive Committee**
- 5.3.4.1 If the President resigns or is unable to continue in office, he or she shall be replaced by the Deputy President.
 - 5.3.4.2 A vacancy arising in the post of Deputy President shall be filled by an Executive Vice-President nominated by the President.
 - 5.3.4.3 A vacancy arising in the posts of Executive Vice-Presidents during the first three years of the running term of office shall be filled by simple majority vote at the next **AGM Annual Meeting** ~~to fill that vacancy~~ for the remaining years of the running term.
 - 5.3.4.4 A vacancy arising in the post of the Chairperson of the Athletes Commission shall be filled by one the Deputy Chairpersons elected by this Commission.

5.4 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC COMMISSION

- 5.4.1 The Commission shall consist of the members of the Executive Committee, Presidents of Continental Federations or their appointees, the Chair of the Para Table Tennis Committee or his or her appointee and a representative of the organising committees of the next Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- 5.4.2 The Commission shall be responsible for:
- 5.4.2.1 planning, control and supervision of the table tennis events in the Olympic and the Paralympic Games;
 - 5.4.2.2 liaising with the International Olympic and Paralympic Committees, National Olympic and Paralympic Committees and Associations on all matters concerning Olympic and Paralympic competitions;
 - 5.4.2.3 enforcement of the eligibility regulations and confirmation of the eligibility of entrants for Olympic and Paralympic events;
 - 5.4.2.4 drafting and submission to the Board of proposals for a qualifying system for entry into Olympic and Paralympic events;
 - 5.4.2.5 appointing a Jury, Technical Representatives and all **match** officials for the **Olympic and Paralympic** table tennis events;
 - 5.4.2.6 ensuring that the table tennis events at Olympic and Paralympic Games comply with the letter and the spirit of the Olympic Charter and IPC Handbook respectively;
 - 5.4.2.7 initiating and reviewing proposals for the table tennis events at the Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- 5.4.3 The Commission shall meet during the period of the AGM and at other times when convened by the President.
- 5.4.4 A member of the ~~management~~ **ITTF** staff, appointed by the President, shall attend all meetings of the Commission and shall draft its minutes and reports.
- 5.4.5 The Commission shall submit a written report to the AGM.

5.5 DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINENTAL COUNCIL

- 5.5.1 The Development and Continental Council shall be composed of the President, the Executive Vice-President in charge of Development and the Presidents of Continental Federations or their appointees.
- 5.5.2 The Development and Continental Council shall propose development programme initiatives and future development orientations of the ITTF, giving specific consideration to the

promotion of gender equity, in co-operation with Continental Federations.

- 5.5.3 The Development and Continental Council ~~will~~ shall also discuss all other matters of common interest to the Continental Federations and the ITTF.
- 5.5.4 The Development and Continental Council shall meet at the same occasion as the Olympic and Paralympic Commission.
- 5.5.5 The Development and Continental Council shall submit a written report to the AGM.

5.6 COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

5.6.1. Permanent Committees and Commissions

- 5.6.1.1 The Equipment Committee, the Media Committee, the Para Table Tennis Committee, the Rules Committee, the Sports Science Committee, the Umpires and Referees Committee, the Veterans Committee and the Athletes Commission are further permanent Committees and Commissions.
- 5.6.1.2 The number of persons serving as full and corresponding members on each committee shall be determined by the Board a year before the nomination of committee members.
- 5.6.1.3 Committees shall normally meet during the period of the AGM World Championships and shall otherwise conduct their business by correspondence.
- 5.6.1.4 A committee may set up sub-committees of its members to deal with specific areas of work; any reports or recommendations of such sub-committees shall be subject to endorsement by the full committee before publication or submission to the AGM or the Board.
- 5.6.1-5 Each committee shall take interest in Continental and Regional Federations' activities in their various fields and shall advise the Federations through the ITTF Executive Committee on ideas for further development.
- 5.6.1.6 A member of a committee who does not, within a reasonable specified period, express in writing an opinion on a written proposal circulated by or on behalf of the Chair of that committee shall be considered to have agreed to any resulting recommendation submitted in the name of the committee.

- 5.6.1.7 The Chair of each committee shall submit to the Board an annual report ~~and to the Executive Committee a semi-annual report~~ of the activities of the committee, drawing attention to any recommendations that the committee wishes to make; acceptance of the report shall not automatically imply acceptance of such recommendations.
- 5.6.1.8 A committee may be authorised to act on behalf of the Board but the extent and duration of this authority shall be specified by the Board and shall be reviewed not later than at the next meeting of the Board.
- 5.6.1.9 As far as possible all committee and commission meetings shall be opened to AGM delegates to attend as observers.

5.6.2. The Nominations Committee

- 5.6.2.1 The Nominations Committee shall be composed of at least 6 members determined and appointed by the Executive Committee including significant gender representation from nominations received from national associations in even numbered years with an Executive Vice-President and all Presidents of Continental Federations as ex-officio members.
- 5.6.2.2 The Nominations Committee shall check the qualification and validity of nominations for office, shall supervise the allocation of nominees to committees and shall recommend to the AGM the composition of committees and commissions; provided that sufficient number of female nominations is made for a committee, at least 25% of the number of full members of that Committee or Commission shall be selected out of female nominees.

5.6.3 The Finance and Audit Committee

- 5.6.3.1 The Finance and Audit Committee shall be composed of at least 3 independent members plus one Board member appointed by the Board, the Executive Vice-president in charge of Finances plus one ITTF staff (without vote).
- 5.6.3.2 The terms of office of the Finance and Audit Committee shall coincide with that of the Executive Committee

5.6.4 The Ethics Commission

- 5.6.4.1 The Ethics Commission shall be composed of at least 3 independent

members appointed by the Board plus one ITTF staff (without vote).

- 5.6.4.2 The terms of office of the Ethics Commission shall coincide with that of the Executive Committee.

5.7 OTHER APPOINTMENTS

- 5.7.1 The Board may appoint other commissions, working groups or panels as may be needed from time to time.

- 5.7.2 The Executive Committee shall appoint:

- 5.7.2.1 A Technical Commissioner, whose term of office shall coincide with that of the Executive Committee, plus 1 technical representative nominated by each Continental Federation and not from the same continent as the ITTF Technical Commissioner, for a total of six persons.

- 5.7.2.2 A ~~Gender Women in Sport~~ Commissioner, whose term of office shall coincide with that of the Executive Committee.

- 5.7.2.3 A Junior Commissioner, ~~whose term of office shall coincide with that of the Executive Committee~~, plus one Continental Junior Commissioner nominated by each Continental Federation and not from the same continent as the ITTF Junior Commissioner, for a total of six persons, whose term of office shall coincide with that of the Executive Committee.

5.8 ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE

- 5.8.1 Nominations for President, Executive Vice-Presidents and members of the Board or committees may be made only ~~with the consent of~~ by the Association of which the nominee is a member; if this nomination consent is withdrawn ~~revoked~~ after the nominee has been elected or appointed he or she may be removed from his or her post only by a 2/3 majority vote of the Board.

- 5.8.2 No more than 1 person from an Association shall be nominated for the Executive Committee and no-one shall be nominated for more than 1 post of the Executive Committee.

- 5.8.3 A member of an Association that is in arrears shall not be eligible for election

- 5.8.4 Continental representatives on the Board shall each be from a different Association.

- 5.8.5 No person shall at the same time serve as a member of the Executive

Committee and as a President of a Continental Federation.

5.8.6 No person shall serve at the same time as a **full** member of more than 1 **permanent** committee and no more than 4 such posts shall be occupied by members of one Association.

5.8.7 No member of the Executive Committee shall serve on a **permanent** committee ~~without the specific permission of the Board.~~

5.8.8 A person connected in any way with the manufacture, sale or endorsement of table tennis equipment or with consultation on such equipment:

5.8.8.1 shall not be eligible as President or Executive Vice-President;

5.8.8.2 may serve on a committee ~~or otherwise represent an Association~~ but shall withdraw from a meeting or abstain from voting on an issue if so requested by a majority of the meeting that he or she is attending.

5.9 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

5.9.1 Members of any ITTF decision-making body shall avoid any situation that could lead to a conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest. Any actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest must be declared and action taken by the individual to remove him/herself from the situation where a conflict may arise. It is the personal responsibility of each person to avoid any case of conflict of interest.

5.9.2 The ITTF conflicts of interest policy will set out the procedure for identifying and managing conflicts and potential conflicts of interests or duty affecting all persons involved in the administration **and running** of the ITTF and its business.

5.10 CHANGES TO RULES

5.10.1 Rule change propositions and resolutions may be submitted to the AGM or the Board by Associations, the Executive Committee, Continental Federations, committees and commissions and to the AGM by the Board.

5.10.2 Rule change propositions to be considered at an AGM, **EGM** or a Board meeting must reach the **ITTF Secretariat** ~~not later than 3 months before the date of the meeting.~~

5.10.3 Amendments to the Constitution and the Laws of Table Tennis shall be made only at **an AGM or EGM**; amendments to other Regulations

shall be made only at a meeting of the Board ~~held immediately after the AGM.~~

- 5.10.4 Details of all rule change **propositions** ~~proposals~~ shall be published in the agenda of the meeting at which they are to be considered.
- 5.10.5 The implementation date of each change shall be specified; if there is no such specification, the change shall take effect from 1st January of the following year once a decision is taken. **Anti-doping rules may have a different implementation date if it is requested by WADA and/or approved by the Executive Committee.**

CHAPTER 6. ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

6.1 MANAGEMENT STAFF

- 6.1.1 The Executive Committee shall appoint management staff on agreed terms and conditions and in accordance with the management plan approved by the Board from time to time.
- 6.1.2 A Chief Executive Officer (CEO) shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall be responsible for the direction and supervision of the ITTF's professional structure and programs.
- 6.1.3 The CEO shall appoint a staff member to serve as coordinator of each committee.
- 6.1.4 **The CEO shall employ such other staff as are deemed necessary following the Executive Committee approval, taking into consideration the ITTF annual budget and according to the ITTF open recruitment policy.**

6.2 ADMINISTRATION

6.2.1 Office

- 6.2.1.1 The Head Office of the ITTF shall be in a place appointed by resolution of the AGM **proposed by the Executive Committee** or, in emergency, of the Board.

6.2.2 Languages

- 6.2.2.1 The correspondence and proceedings of the ITTF shall be conducted in English or in such languages convenient for appropriate tasks and within the resources of the ITTF as may be determined from time to time by the Board, having particular regard to Arabic, French,

German, Russian and Spanish.

- 6.2.2.2 All languages of ITTF members are equally official and representatives shall be entitled to address meetings of the ITTF in their own language, subject to their provision of interpretation into one of the working languages fixed for use at that meeting.

CHAPTER 7. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

7.1 Accounts

- 7.1.1 The financial year of the ITTF shall be from 1st. January to 31st December.
- 7.1.2 The Executive Vice-President responsible for finance shall ensure that an annual statement of accounts be prepared, which shall be audited by professional auditors, and that a yearly and quadrennial estimate of income and expenditure be presented.
- 7.1.3 The bank accounts of the ITTF shall be held at banks appointed by resolution of ~~the Board on recommendation by~~ the Executive Committee.
- 7.1.4 The power of signature on the ITTF bank accounts should be restricted to the ITTF Trustees and the ITTF operational staff and decided by ~~resolution of~~ the Executive Committee. Individual signatures on any ITTF bank account shall be avoided.

7.2 Trustees

- 7.2.1 The President, Deputy President and Executive Vice-Presidents shall be Trustees for the purpose of purchasing, selling, leasing or otherwise dealing with any freehold or leasehold property or other assets required by the AGM or the Board for the purposes of the ITTF.
- 7.2.2 The Trustees shall be authorised to use the funds of the ITTF in the purchase of such property and assets and shall stand possessed thereof and of the proceeds of sale thereof upon trust for the ITTF in such manner as the Board may from time to time direct.
- 7.2.3 The Trustees shall comply with any laws, statutes and requirements of the countries in which such trust property may be situated which relate to the purchase, sale and management of such property and the duties of Trustees in connection therewith.
- 7.2.4 The Trustees and their estates and effects shall be fully indemnified by the ITTF against all personal risk and expense arising as a result of their appointment as Trustees.
- 7.2.5 The Trustees shall cease to act in such capacity upon ceasing to hold office as President, Deputy President or Executive Vice-Presidents.
- 7.2.6 A Minute signed by the President and a member of the Management Staff shall be conclusive evidence of a decision of any ITTF body.

7.3 Subscriptions

- 7.3.1 Each Association shall pay an annual subscription of US\$150.
- 7.3.2 The first subscription shall be paid with the application for membership and subsequent subscriptions shall be due on 1st January of each year.
- 7.3.3 An Association shall be **in arrears** if its subscription has not been paid by 31st December of the year in which it is due.

CHAPTER 8. JUDICIAL PROVISIONS

8.1 Judicial bodies of the ITTF

8.1.1 The following bodies of the ITTF have judicial powers:

8.1.1.1 The AGM and the EGM.

8.1.1.2 The Executive Committee.

8.1.1.3 The Doping Hearing Panel and/or the ad-hoc Doping Review Panel or the ITTF Anti-Doping Manager depending on the circumstances and according to the ITTF Anti-Doping rules procedures.

8.1.1.4 The Disciplinary Panels appointed by the Executive Committee according to the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions.

8.1.1.5 The Illegal Betting and Corruption Hearing Panel according to the ITTF Code of Ethics Regulations against Illegal Betting and Corruption.

8.1.1.6 The Eligibility Commission according to the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions.

8.2 Procedural rules applicable to the judicial bodies of the ITTF

8.2.1 The judicial bodies of the ITTF shall provide fair procedures to all parties involved and shall respect their fundamental rights. They recognise in particular:

8.2.1.1 That any person acting with the ITTF will not participate in any interaction which could influence an outcome or decision relative to any specific matter if the person has a conflict of interest according to the ITTF Code of Ethics;

8.2.1.2 The right of the person/Association charged to know what he/she/it is charged with and to examine his/her/its file;

8.2.1.3 The right to know the penalties which might be imposed;

8.2.1.4 The right to be heard, to present a defence, to produce evidence and to be assisted by counsel at their own expense.

8.2.1.5 The right to present an appeal to any judicial decision.

8.3. Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)

8.3.1 The ITTF recognises the independent Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) with headquarters in Lausanne (Switzerland) to resolve disputes arising from this Constitution or other ITTF rules and regulations, or decisions of the ITTF which cannot be settled by the

ITTF internal appeals process. The parties concerned shall undertake to comply with the Statutes and procedural rules of this Court of Arbitration for Sport and to accept and enforce its decisions, which are final.

8.4 JURISDICTION OF ASSOCIATIONS

8.4.1 Membership and Representation

- 8.4.1.1 A player shall be regarded as resident in a territory if his or her normal or main residence or base is in that territory; residence shall not be determined by continuity or by duration.
- 8.4.1.2 Before accepting a player into membership an Association shall satisfy itself that he or she is or intends to be resident in its territory and it shall not retain him or her if he or she terminates such residence.
- 8.4.1.3 Unless notified of any suspension or expulsion, Associations shall be entitled to regard any player or organisation resident in the territory of an Association and known to have been affiliated to it as eligible for participation.
- 8.4.1.4 No Association shall make a resident in a territory controlled by another Association or, except after a genuine change of residence, a member of another Association, a member or representative of itself without the prior permission of the other Association,
- 8.4.1.6 Any dispute under these regulations shall be referred to the ~~Board~~ Executive Committee.

8.4.2 Extent of Jurisdiction

- 8.4.2.1 In administering and interpreting its own regulations and decisions an Association shall exercise jurisdiction over:
 - 8.4.2.1.1 players resident in its territory, while they are in that territory or in any other territory;
 - 8.4.2.1.2 visiting players, while they are in its territory, except as provided in 8.4.3.1;
 - 8.4.2.1.3 players representing it in a competition who are normally resident in the territory of another Association, but only while they are taking part in that competition;

8.4.3 Visiting Players

- 8.4.3.1 If a visiting player is officially representing his or her Association as a result of an invitation by the visited Association, the visited Association shall acquire no rights of penalty.
- 8.4.3.1.1 The responsible management committee shall have jurisdiction over the conduct of the competition but no subsequent penalty shall be imposed on a visiting player for any offence committed in connection with that competition.
- 8.4.3.1.2 The visited Association may protest to the visiting player's Association about such an offence, but his or her own Association shall retain sole jurisdiction over him or her and the right to impose a penalty.
- 8.4.3.2 If a visiting player participates in table tennis activities other than as an official representative of his or her Association, whether or not his or her visit is the result of an invitation by the visited Association, he or she shall be subject also to the jurisdiction of the visited Association, which shall have the right to impose a penalty for any offence committed in connection with such activities.
- 8.4.3.2.1 No such penalty shall come into operation until at least 1 calendar month after its notification with an account of all the circumstances, to the visiting player's Association.
- 8.4.3.2.2 If the visiting player's Association makes no appeal within 1 calendar month of being notified the penalty may be imposed.
- 8.4.3.2.3 If an appeal is submitted within 1 calendar month the matter shall be referred to the Board and the penalty shall not come into operation before the appeal has been decided.

8.4.4 Payments to Players

- 8.4.4.1 Except when acting under the direct instructions of his or her Association as its representative, a player may accept payment, reward, benefit or allowances for playing in any competition other than Olympic and Paralympic Games, or for exhibition or coaching,
- 8.4.4.2 Subject to any over-riding provisions of 8.4.4.1, each Association shall have absolute discretion to determine and regulate its own policy for payments, rewards, benefits and allowances in respect of players and events under its jurisdiction.

8.5 UNAFFILIATED PLAYERS AND ORGANISATIONS

- 8.5.1 The object is to control, but not to prevent, play between affiliated and unaffiliated players; only teams and players nominated by Associations shall participate in World and Continental Championships, but otherwise such player will, when not contrary to the principles of the ITTF or to the interests of its members, generally be permitted provided due application is made.
- 8.5.2 A player affiliated to an Association shall not take part in any competition, exhibition or coaching:
- 8.5.2.1 in the territory of another Association, unless the body under whose auspices the activity takes place is affiliated to and in good standing with the Association of the visited territory, except with the prior permission of that Association;
 - 8.5.2.2 in a territory not having an Association or whose governing organisation is not affiliated to the ITTF, except with the permission of the Executive Committee, unless the Board has previously given permission for the governing organisation to be included temporarily in the appropriate Continental Federation pending an application for membership;
 - 8.5.2.3 organised by an unaffiliated body, unless permission for the event has been given by the Executive Committee, except as provided in 8.5.6.
- 8.5.3 The Association controlling the territory in which a player is resident shall be responsible for ensuring that he or she complies with the requirements of 8.5.2.
- 8.5.4 A player resident in a territory which has no governing organisation or whose governing organisation is not affiliated to the ITTF shall not take part in any competition, exhibition or coaching in the territory of an Association, except with the permission of the Executive Committee, unless the Board has previously given permission for the governing organisation to be included temporarily in the appropriate Continental Federation pending an application for membership.
- 8.5.5 The Executive Committee may give permission for a table tennis competition to be organised by an unaffiliated body provided that:
- 8.5.5.1 the organising body has undertaken to comply with the appropriate ITTF regulations;
 - 8.5.5.2 the organising body has undertaken not to include affiliated players in the event unless their Associations have given permission;

- 8.5.5.3 the organising body has undertaken not to include unaffiliated players in the event unless the Executive Committee has given permission;
- 8.5.5.4 the application to organise the event is supported by the Association, if any, controlling the territory in which the competition is to take place;
- 8.5.5.5 the supporting Association has accepted responsibility for ensuring that the organising body observes the requirements of 8.5.5.1-3.
- 8.5.6 Where an Association is prepared to accept responsibility for the conduct of an event organised in its territory by an unaffiliated organisation no special permission is required, but the Association shall notify the Secretariat, which will advise all other Associations that the event is in order.

CHAPTER 9. FINAL PROVISIONS

9.1 Dissolution

9.1.1 The ITTF shall not be dissolved other than at an **EGM** ~~General Meeting~~ specially convened for the purpose.

9.1.2 The balance of funds in hand at the time of dissolution shall be divided equally among the Associations not at that time in arrears

9.2 Concluding provisions

9.2.1. This Constitution was approved effective immediately by the ITTF AGM held in Halmstad, Sweden, 1st of May 2018.

Propositions to the AGM 2018

2/3 majority required

	<p>Proposed by the Hong Kong Table Tennis Association</p> <p>To add the word “Chinese” to 1.15.2.1:</p> <p>2 1.15.2.1 The correspondence and proceedings of the ITTF shall be conducted in English or in such languages convenient for appropriate tasks and within the resources of the ITTF as may be determined from time to time by the Board, having particular regard to Arabic, Chinese French, German, Russian and Spanish.</p> <p><i>Rationale: Chinese is one of languages that is understood and spoken by many people around the world. It is also one of the official languages of many international organisations.</i></p>
--	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

3/4 majority required

	<p>Proposed by the Executive Committee and the Athletes Commission</p> <p>To amend 2.4.7:</p> <p>3 2.4.7 The racket covering shall be used without any physical, chemical or other treatment that may be considered harmful or unhealthy for the persons.</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. It is impossible to control boasters with the current equipment/procedures, so the actual rule cannot be enforced.2. The main problem of the harmful substances in the way rubbers were collated to blades was mitigated with the introduction of the VOC controls.
--	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Resolutions to the AGM 2018

Simple majority required

A	<p>Proposed by the Executive Committee</p> <p>The Rules Committee Chairman to propose to the 2019 AGM a review of items 8.4 and 8.5 of the new Constitution (1.21 and 1.22 of the current one) in order to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Analyse if these 2 items should be included on the current Regulations for or if it is necessary to integrate as part of a new regulation (ITTF Disciplinary Regulations)2) To propose the new wording <p><i>Rationale: Some sections of the Constitution were repeatedly considered as outdated or not suitable as Constitutional Laws. In particular this refers to the “Jurisdiction of Associations” and to “Unaffiliated Players and Organisations”. This should be examined and clarified and a detailed proposal should be made to the AGM 2019.</i></p>
B	<p>Proposed by the Finnish Table Tennis Association</p> <p>To review, by studying recorded matches, the effects on play of net-cord services.</p> <p><i>Rationale: Over the past few years there have been several proposals – the latest being that from the UAE in 2016 – to remove the provision for a let to be declared when the ball in service touches the net.</i></p> <p><i>The basis of these proposals was that most net-cord services cause no difficulty for the receiver and are returned just so that the server can serve again, but no evidence of this was given and the proposals were, understandably, rejected. However, the relevant information should be available in TV and film recordings.</i></p> <p><i>Therefore, it is now proposed that these be studied to determine whether or not there is justification for a future proposal to a rule change.</i></p> <p><i>It is proposed that the ITTF would make the survey.</i></p>



INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board of Directors Meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation will be held on Thursday 3 May 2018 at 09h00 at the Tylosand Hotel in Halmstad, Sweden.

AGENDA

1. President Welcome and Opening Address
2. Roll call and ratification of new members
3. Confirmation of the minutes of the BoD meeting held on 2nd June 2017 in Dusseldorf, Germany
4. Annual reports from the Athletes Commission and the Commissioners
 - 4.1 Athletes' Commission
 - 4.2 Junior Commissioner
 - 4.3 Technical Commissioner
 - 4.4 Women in Sport Commissioner
5. Future Events Working Group Report
6. Propositions and resolutions
7. Update on Technical Leaflets
8. Competition Updates
 - 8.1 World Championships Update
 - 8.2 World Cup Updates
 - 8.3 World Tour and Challenge Events Update
 - 8.4 Global Junior Program Update
 - 8.4.1 2018 World Junior Championships (Australia)
 - 8.4.2 2020 World Junior Championships bid
9. Ratification of the work done by the committees, commissions and commissioners
10. Next meeting: to be held in Budapest in April 2019
11. Any other business
12. Adjournment

Para Players Committee

We would like to thank and congratulate the ITTF and the IPC for the approval of the two more medal events and the award of bronze medals to both losing semi-finalists in the next Paralympic Games. The addition of 37 Medals is fantastic news for our sport.

We are also asking all ITTF stakeholders to support our hopes for having prize money at events and would like to know about the plans concerning the Players' Committee that was dissolved last year.

2017 World Championships

The organizers and the ITTF staff did a fantastic job. There was a great atmosphere, a great venue full of spectators almost every day, great playing conditions, lots of promotional activities, an inventive opening ceremony, etc., which made that WC one of the best ever.

IOC Outreach Program

After attending the IOC ACP (Athlete Career Program) Outreach course in Lausanne in 2016, workshops were held during the Indian Open and the World Championships in Dusseldorf. Zoran Primorac and Vladimir Samsonov presented the program with the help of former IOC AC Chair Claudia Bokel. Feedback was very positive. Organizing workshops during Junior training camps may help to reach more players.

New World Ranking

At the end of August, the Athletes' Commission conducted a survey related to the new ranking. The majority of the athletes supported the major principles (12 months points validity, 8 best results) of the system that was accepted by the EC earlier.

IOC Athletes Forum

The Forum was held in November in Lausanne, with the attendance of Ryu Seung Ming and Ashu Jain. It is a great privilege for the athletes to take part in these groups and meetings, to make meaningful contributions to the Olympic Movement, and to remain positive ambassadors of the sport of Table Tennis.

Service Rule

A lot has been discussed about the use of technology and the need of innovations. Some ideas of the Service Working Group could be explored, like the one of the cameras on the net posts, which will help with controlling the current service rule and also could be good for the TV production, by offering new angles of vision. Perhaps steps to further simplify the rule of service should be explored to make it much easier to implement in all competitions.

World Tour

With the change of the World Ranking system, an increase of participation in the World Tour events is expected. However, due to players' complaints, conditions at the World Tour events have to be discussed. A lot has improved lately, but for the future events we must make sure that at all events Players' Lounges have hot food, snacks and beverages, and that the number of training tables is sufficient for good preparation before matches. We also have to find a way to reduce accommodation prices.

WADA Symposium

Zoran Primorac attended the WADA Annual Symposium with the title "Tackling our Challenges and Strengthening the Future of Clean Sport." More than 740 representatives from international federations, national and regional anti-doping organizations plus major event organizers, governments, laboratories, athletes and the media were present. During the symposium Zoran joined WADA AC members and led a workshop group session entitled: "Engaging Athletes in the Anti-Doping Process." Encouragement of additional education and fair play has been suggested, as well as the prevention of negative influences like gambling, misbehaviour, aggression, etc.

Vladimir Samsonov

Chairman

JUNIOR COMMISSIONER (Heike Ahlert)

Report to the BoD

Document G2

Dear All,

Last May I was officially appointed as the ITTF Junior Commissioner. I am honoured to work in this function. There have been some major discussions and decisions regarding the Global Junior Program as you can read below:

BoD Meeting in Düsseldorf in May, 2017

The BoD decided:

- to rename and revise the activities by discontinuing the Junior Commissioners meeting and giving the responsibility to the Development, Junior Continental Council (DJCC) with the Continental Presidents or their representatives comprising the DJCC. The continental Junior Commissioners are allowed to take part in this meeting;
- to reduce the number of teams in the WJTTC from 20 to 16 teams, and the participants for the individual competitions from 96 to 80, starting with the WJTTC 2018 in Australia;
- to reduce the costs for the WJTTC, WJC and WCC;
- to allocate the WJTTC 2018 edition to Australia and the 2019 edition to Thailand; and
- to allocate the WCC 2018 edition to Japan, 2019 to Poland and 2020 to Thailand.

World Junior Championships (WJTTC)

The Italian Table Tennis Federation (FITET) hosted the 2017 World Junior Championships in Riva del Garda, Italy, from November 26 – December 3, 2017, the last edition to have 20 teams and 96 single players per gender. The FITET, as the official organizing committee, presented a well-prepared event under the conditions they had with exciting matches. China was the title winner in all events. Congratulations to all medalists in the team and individual events. Many thanks to Mohamed Dawlatly and Mounir Bessah who worked very hard to get everything running smoothly under the not easy conditions in the venue. Food and hospitality was very good.

To ensure a good time schedule, especially on the last days of the competitions, in the next edition in Australia, all double events should be played the best of five (Proposal of the DJCC Meeting).

World Junior Circuit

In 2017 we had **25** World Junior Circuit events (Golden Series: 4, Premium: 6, Regular: 15) with 2,197 players taking part in at least one event (1,237 boys and 960 girls):

- Africa: 2 (2 regular),
- Asia: 5 (3 Golden Series, 1 premium, 1 regular)
- Europe: 14* (1 Golden Series, 5 premium, 8 regular)
- Latin America: 3 (3 regular)
- Oceania: 1 (1 regular)

1 competition was cancelled (not included in the 25 events).

97 Associations (43% of all 226 Member Associations) took part in at least 1 event.

94 Associations took part with boys and 80 Associations with girls.

63 Associations were represented by 10 or more players throughout the year.

World Junior Circuit Finals

The World Junior Circuit Finals (WJCF) for 2017 takes place in Luxembourg. It will be the last edition of the WJCF (no big interest having the event played at the beginning of the new season and the top players did not attend many editions). Beginning with the WJC 2018 we will have a new format on how we could improve this important part of our Junior Circuit. (Conditions and amounts will be discussed in the first half of 2018 in the competition department).

World Cadet Challenge

The Fijian Table Tennis Association hosted the World Cadet Challenge 2017 in Suva, Fiji. It was the first time that the WCC took place in Oceania. The event was well organized, and the hospitality was also very good. The decision to play with 32 mixed pairs instead of 16 was good. All girls and boys took part with pleasure.

The traditional ITTF training camp was being held prior to the tournament, this time under the guidance of Ms. Eva JELER (GER). For the players who had no previous WCC experience, it was quite challenging mentally since it requires the understanding of the whole idea (which is based among others, on solidarity values, and thus has not so much to do with a typical preparation before a big tournament).

Junior World Ranking

The new junior world ranking system was discussed intensely in the DJCC Meeting. It was published on January 15, 2018 after having undergone some major changes (giving more importance for the main junior events, such as the WJTTC, YOG and WCC).

My special thanks go to Polona Cehovin, Iulia Necula, Mounir Bessah, Zsoltan Benschik and others, who worked really hard to find good solutions for various problems in the new junior ranking system. We would all appreciate many comments in the next months about the system so that we can see how it's working. It will be continually evaluated.

Development, Junior and Continental Commissioners (DJCC) Meeting

The meeting took place in Astana during the World Grand Final 2017. In my opinion it was a fruitful and good meeting with good decisions and proposals for the Global Junior Program:

- The last edition of the WCC should be in 2020 (Thailand).
- From 2021 on, there could probably be another format. A proposal should be made within the next year. Suggestions are very welcome.

Final Remarks

I say thank you very much to the continental junior commissioners and EC VP Masahiro Maehara as well as to, in particular, Raul Calin, Mohamed Dawlatly and Mounir Bessah for their contribution to the ITTF Global Junior Program. I also say thank you very much for the fantastic work of Glenn Tepper who is no longer working for the ITTF. His passion and hard work have brought many improvements during the past years for the whole junior and development program.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heike Ahlert

TECHNICAL COMMISSIONER (Graeme Ireland)

Report to the BoD

Document G3

The mandate of the Technical Commissioner includes:

- Liaise with the Competition Program and advise the BoD on the organisation of World Title competitions and to make recommendations on the system of play;
- Assist the Competition Program and referee with the World Championships draw;
- Advise on the playing schedule for the World Championships and World Cups, if necessary;
- Serve as a member of the Ranking Default Commission;
- Act as the chair of the Jury at the World Championships;
- Provide technical assistance for Multi-Sport Games;
- Work closely with the Competition Program to achieve the above objectives; and
- Provide technical expertise and guidance to the Equipment, Rules, Umpires and Referees Committees, PTT Division and professional staff.

These responsibilities are handled in close co-operation with the Competition Program.

In 2017 my main role was to assist the ITTF and the Competition Department on playing format, schedules, and general inquiries relating to technical rules for all major events. These included Olympic Games, World Cups, World Championships, World Junior Championships and World Junior Circuit Finals. I have also assisted as a member of working groups looking at various items, such as the new ranking system, service rule, the Olympic playing system and the Olympic qualification system, and have also provided expertise and assistance as required to other Committees, mainly to the URC, and the ITTF staff, whenever requested. I am also available to liaise with the continental representatives on technical issues related to continental events to align them more closely with the ITTF's events.

Graeme Ireland

My report will cover the activities for the period of January to December, 2017

1. 2nd International Federation Women Leadership Forum

The Forum was jointly organized by the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC). It was held in Lausanne, Switzerland from Monday – Wednesday, March 6 – 8, 2017. Ms. Ina Jozepsone from Latvia and Ms. Marguerita Felix from Barbados were the proud ITTF attendees.

Ms. Ina Jozepsone was elected President of Latvia Table Tennis Federation in June of 2017 and Ms. Marguerita Felix was elected to the ITTF BoD at the ITTF AGM on May 1, 2017.

2017 IOC-ASOIF IF Forum Legacy Document

Over 60 participants benefited from new knowledge on how to run for a leadership position, how to lead others and how to become politically savvy.

A legacy document was prepared by the ITTF, so that all National Associations may access relevant information.

2. ITTF Events Participation

a) LIEBHERR 2017 World Table Tennis Championships				
Women	260 Players			44%
Men	325 Players			66%
b) World Junior Table Tennis Championships				
Girls	20 Teams	50%	96 Players	50%
Boys	20 Teams	50%	96 Players	50%

2017 Development Program Courses

Participation Figures for all continents - as of December 7, 2017		
Women	1,492	38%
Men	2,452	62%

3. 2017 Women-Specific Development Program Courses

Continent	Country	Date	Course Type	Expert
AFRICA	No Courses conducted			
ASIA	Bahrain	January 28, 2017	ITTF –PTT Level 1 Coach Education	Karima Tellaa (Algeria)
ASIA	Palestine	September 27, 2017	ITTF-PTT Level 1 Coach Education	Karima Tellaa (Algeria)
Europe	Croatia	May 7, 2017	ETTU Women Coaches Seminar	Timina Elena (NED) & Li Jiao (NED)
LATIN AMERICA	Panama	December 1, 2017	Leadership and Management	Estrella Albarracin (COL)
NORTH AMERICA	USA	November 22, 2017	Women's Junior Training Camp	Liu Yongjiang (CAN) & Joerg Bitzigeio (USA)
OCEANIA	No courses conducted			

4. ITTF DEVELOPMENT CONTINENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING (DCC)

At the ITTF DCC held in Astana, Kazakhstan on December 15, 2017, I presented a proposal for incorporating Gender Equality in Table Tennis into the ITTF Strategic Plan.

5. CONCLUSION

My appreciation and thanks to the President Mr. Thomas Weikert, ITTF Executive Members, and the Continental Presidents for their commitment on the promotion of Gender Equality.

A special thanks to the ITTF Chief Executive Officer Mr. Steve Dainton and the ITTF staff for their support.

Ms. Hajera Kajee

Propositions to the BoD 2018

Simple majority required

4	<p>Proposed by the Executive Committee under unanimous recommendation of the Future Events Working Group</p> <p><i>New Format for World Championships:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the Final Stage of the Individual World Table Tennis Championships the singles competition shall be 128 players and the doubles competition shall be 32 pairs (men's, women's and mixed). • For the Final Stage of the Teams World Table Tennis Championships the team's competition shall be 32 men's and 32 women's teams. • Both the Individual and Team World Table Tennis Championships shall be expanded in such a way that players from all Member Associations have the opportunity to take part in the World Table Tennis Championships. • Continental Championships (or any formats as decided by a continental federation) and a series of inter-continental play-offs shall become the World Championships First Stages, with the qualifying teams taking part in the Final Stage of the World Championships. • Each Continental Federation shall be represented at the WTTC Finals.
5	<p>Proposed by the Executive Committee</p> <p>To amend 3.2.5.5:</p> <p>3.2.5.5 There may be up to 4 5 advertisements on the floor of the playing area; such markings</p> <p>3.2.5.5.1 may be placed 1 2 at each the top end, each contained within an area of 5m², 1 at the bottom end, contained within an area of 5m²; and 1 at each side of the table, each contained within an area of 2.5m²;</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> <i>Floor advertisements are the most visible positions on the field of playing, making them highly sought after by sponsors. As we attempt to grow sponsorship revenue for our sport, increasing inventory for potential sponsorship sales is necessary. However, the increase is limited to maintain the exclusiveness and effectiveness of the advertising.</i></p>
6	<p>Proposed by the Executive Committee</p> <p>To amend 3.2.5.5.2</p> <p>3.2.5.5.2 shall not be less than 1m from the surrounds and those at the ends shall not be less more than 3m 2m from the table's end line next to the marking; surrounds;</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> <i>The court sizes are always different, so it is better to keep the logo positions relative to the table rather than from the surrounds.</i></p>

Propositions to the BoD 2018

Simple majority required

Proposed by the Executive Committee

To, amend 4.1.3.3, 4.2.3.6, 4.3.6.2, 4.4.6.2, 4.5.1.3.3, 4.5.1.3.4; to add 4.1.3.3.4, 4.3.6.2.4 and 4.4.6.2.4 and to delete 4.1.3.4; 4.3.6.3 and 4.4.6.3

4.1.3.3 ~~S~~such player shall not represent the new Association before:

...//...

4.1.3.3.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.

4.1.3.3.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.

~~4.1.3.4 Players being 21 years of age or older will not be registered with the ITTF and will not be eligible to represent a new association at World Championships.~~

4.2.3.6 ~~a player~~ **Players** being 15 years of age or older at the date of registration cannot represent his or her new Association at World Junior Championships.

4.3.6.2 ~~S~~uch player shall not represent the new Association before:

...//...

4.3.6.2.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.

7

4.3.6.2.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.

~~4.3.6.3 Players being 21 years of age or older will not be registered with the ITTF and will not be eligible to represent a new association at the World Cup.~~

4.4.6.2.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.

4.4.6.2.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.

~~4.4.6.3 Players being 21 years of age or older will not be registered with the ITTF and will not be eligible to represent a new association at the World Team Cup.~~

4.5.1.3.3 ~~A player who has represented one country in the Olympic Games, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognised by the ITTF and who has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in the Olympic Games to represent his or her new country provided that at least 3 years have passed since the player last represented his or her former country.~~

In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the NOC of the new association shall register with ITTF through this new Association.

4.5.1.3.4 ~~The 3 years period mentioned in 4.5.1.3.3 may be reduced or even cancelled, with the agreement of the NOCs concerned and the ITTF Executive Committee, by the IOC Executive Board, which takes into account the circumstances of each case.~~ a player shall not represent the new NOC before:

4.5.1.3.4.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;

4.5.1.3.4.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;

4.5.1.3.4.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.

4.5.1.3.4.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.

4.6.1.3.3 ~~A player who has represented one country in the Paralympic Games, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognised by the ITTF and who has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in the Paralympic Games to represent his or her new country provided that at least 3 years have passed since the player last represented his or her former country.~~

In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the NPC of the new association shall register with ITTF through this new Association.

4.6.1.3.4 ~~The 3 years period mentioned in 4.6.1.3.3 may be reduced or even cancelled, with the agreement of the NPCs concerned and the ITTF Executive Committee, and subject to confirmation by the Chief Executive Officer of the IPC, taking in to account the circumstances of each case.~~ a player shall not represent the new NOC before:

4.6.1.3.4.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;

4.6.1.3.4.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;

4.6.1.3.4.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.

4.6.1.3.4.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.

4.7.3 Eligibility

4.7.3.1 Only an Association which is not in arrears (1.16.3.3) shall be eligible to enter teams or individual players for the PTT Championships.

~~4.7.3.2 Only players who meet the tournament credit, a minimum requirement for participation in events leading to qualification for the PTT Championships, and whose selection is confirmed by the PTT Division and the Association may enter the PTT Championships.~~

4.7.3.2 In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the association corresponding to the new nationality shall register with ITTF through this new Association.

4.7.3.3 Such player shall not represent the new Association before:

4.7.3.3.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;

4.7.3.3.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;

4.7.3.3.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.

4.7.3.4 Players being 21 years of age or older will not be registered with the ITTF and will not be eligible to represent a new association at World Championships.

Rationale:

It is important to align the eligibility rules in our sport to ensure better credibility. The IOC has indicated that the ultimate decision in terms of players' eligibility for the table tennis competitions at the Olympic Games belongs to the ITTF.

Technical Leaflet T3 – Proposed Changes for BoD 2018

By: Dr. Torsten Kueneth, EqC Member in charge of Balls

[page 1]

Introduction

(...) The procedure for ITTF approval is described in Technical Leaflet T7. Extended information about testing procedures are established by the Equipment Committee as an appendix to the present Technical Leaflet and are available to associations and manufacturers from the ITTF web-site.

Rationale: To cover annotations for stakeholders like the one which already exists for the optical ball bounce measurement. This is for the purpose of enhanced transparency on request, not for modifying procedures or limits.

[page 2]

B. Quantitative Criteria

Tests are conducted on groups of 24 balls; the number normally purchased is one package more than is needed to provide this number (i.e. usually 30 balls). Statistical "outliers", i.e. values which are so unlikely that an error cannot be excluded, are ignored when calculating means and standard deviations, but all values within a normal distribution but outside the permitted limits are included. All calculations of a standard deviation are assuming a sample and not a population, i.e. they use a denominator of "n-1".

Rationale: More detailed explanation as requested by manufacturers. No change of procedure.

[page 3]

Test Procedures -> Bounce: (...)

Alternatively the rebound height can be measured by other methods, which give the same results.

Results from any optical method used must take into account a possible parallax error.

Rationale: More detailed explanation as requested by manufacturers. No change of procedure.

[page 4]

Test Procedures -> Colour: (...) The measurements are performed on 3 points, one on the seam and two on other points positions on the surface, of 4 balls randomly chosen from different boxes. If no seam is available three random points of measurement have to be taken. ~~4 balls are selected from different boxes. The "L", "a" and "b" values of the sample are determined by averaging over all 4 balls. The device is a (...)~~

[page 6]

B.12 Colour

(...)

All 4 balls tested have The average over the 12 measured points (4 balls, 3 points each) has to meet these standards. Any decimals in the measurement are rounded as usual, for example $\Delta b = -12.4$ is acceptable for white balls, whereas -12.5 is not.

Rationale: For both paragraphs together, consistency between two statements regarding the same procedure; more precise description. No change of procedure, because the average was always used for determining the pass / fail result.

Rationale: New T7.

As for its precursor T7, which was abolished without replacement in 2010/11, the new administrative technical leaflet develops, updates and completes the aspects of the approval scheme. It shall

- be a frame-work directive about the ITTF approved and authorised equipment,*
- develop the principle and generally applicable rules of the ITTF approval scheme, especially the administrative side*
- give orientation to the Equipment Committee how to handle situations, establishing relevant obligations, deadlines, limits and rights*
- be informative, transparent, durable and consistent so that manufacturers or customers can rely on it*
- organize the approval related aspects in a most professional way, also the coaction between ITTF departments, staff and committee members.*

The following aspects are new trying to not just have a list of actions but also reflections and intentions for the future, i.e. to make it a policy document contributing to the good governance of ITTF. Several of them already exist in technical leaflets:

- General rule about names of equipment*
- Coherent approach about withdrawal, suspension, deletion, addition of equipment, its permitted use at international competitions after withdrawal and its possible re-integration*
- Consistent procedure in case of important modifications of equipment required or proposed by the supplier*
- Possible introduction of higher initial fees*
- Interpretation and practical application of the regulation 3.02.01.01*
- Introduction of an appeal possibility at EC against decisions of the EqC*
- Creation of data-bases*
- Efforts for a quality equipment management and related research*
- Actions of continuous monitoring of the equipment marketed and used: quality and safety assurance, conformity, permanent markings, ITTF logo ...*
- Charter of integrity*

The new T7 assigns to EqC to:

- Administer, together with the ITTF staff, matters related to high-level equipment*
- Prepare forms, online forms and data collection, data-bases and data-accessibility*
- Describe the task of staff and committee expert for each equipment*
- Present a yearly revised action plan for quality assurance and research items*
- Draft a charter of integrity*
- Cooperate with FIT and ITTF departments concerned by equipment*



INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION ITTF EQUIPMENT APPROVAL POLICY

Administrative Technical Leaflet T7

Balls



Nets



Racket Coverings



Sports Floors



Tables



Content

1. Introduction
2. Definitions of terms as used in the document
3. Registration of suppliers and trademarks/brands
4. ITTF Equipment Approval Scheme overview
5. Terms of reference and their application
6. Benefits of the ITTF Equipment Approval Scheme
7. Names of high-level equipment models. ITTF - logo or trademark.
8. Lists of ITTF approved or authorized equipment
9. Data-base
10. Efforts for a quality management of the equipment approval and related research
11. Flowchart of the process of obtaining ITTF approval
12. General procedures for obtaining ITTF approval
13. Continuation of approvals and authorizations
14. Detailed procedures for obtaining approval or authorization
15. Withdrawal/Suspension of equipment. Permitted use after withdrawal
16. Reintegration of equipment
17. Quality Assurance, initial and continuous
18. Changes on approved/authorised equipment
19. Penalties and fines
20. Confidentiality and charter of integrity

Annexes

1. Introduction

This document sets the frame for the approval scheme of the ITTF Equipment Policy.

- A. Explain the general procedures, for suppliers/manufacturers (later referred as suppliers), on how to reach and keep ITTF approval/authorisation (later referred as approval) of any of the table tennis equipment mentioned later. All ITTF Approved Equipment is published on the Lists of ITTF Approved Equipment (later referred as ITTF Lists). This document does not consider the leisure equipment.
- B. Set up benchmarks for a quality administration and testing of high level equipment matters in ITTF.
- C. Draw directives for the competencies and responsibilities, duties and obligations of the Equipment Committee and Staff as part of the administering and deciding processes inside ITTF.

2. Definitions of terms as used in this document

BoD: ITTF Board of Directors

EC: ITTF Executive Committee

EqC: ITTF Equipment Committee

Equipment Approval Scheme:

The process of testing and certification for conformance to the technical standards and the marking rules as set by the ITTF before equipment can be marketed as ITTF approved.

Approval:

The certification for conformance to the technical standards as set by the ITTF, for **shared** playing equipment like balls, nets, sports floors and tables.

Authorisation:

The certification for conformance to the technical standards as set by the ITTF, for **personal** playing equipment like racket coverings or for non-playing equipment.

ITTF List(s):

List(s) of ITTF Approved Equipment (Balls, Nets, Tables, Sports Floors)

LARC = List of ITTF Authorised Racket Coverings

Manufacturers, suppliers and distributors:

Manufacturers: companies producing equipment; manufacturers can be suppliers too.

Suppliers: companies marketing equipment under their own brand name; suppliers are not always manufacturers.

Distributors: companies not owning ITTF Approved Equipment under their own brand name, but selling one or more brands of ITTF Approved Equipment.

Brand name and model name:

Brand: particular name, under which companies market their equipment.

Model: particular name used to describe a specific product of a brand.

Testing:

The series of tests and measurements required to verify quality, safety and compliance with ITTF requirements in order to get approval by the ITTF.

Initial testing:

The very first testing required for new non-approved equipment, before approval may be granted.

Re-testing:

Any repeated testing either because of a prior failed test, of a periodically scheduled quality inspection, or of a problem with a specific model.

Full or partial testing:

Full testing includes all tests and measurements defined in the technical leaflets; partial testing selects the tests and measurements needed for the purpose of the testing.

Quality assurance:

All regulations and measures targeting to provide customers and users with the best-quality equipment, manufactured in full respect of ITTF technical and safety standards and marketed/labelled in a complete, non-misleading way.

Approval, final or provisional:

Final: The equipment item fulfils all ITTF requirements

Provisional: The equipment fulfils the ITTF requirements, but needs to proof at an ITTF tournament that it fully meets the specifications and expectations before approval becomes final. Provisional approvals may be subject to conditions.

Withdrawal: Approval discontinued, when requested by the suppliers.

Suspension: Approval provisionally or temporarily discontinued, when decided by the ITTF.

Deletion: Approval permanently discontinued, when decided by the ITTF.

Infringement:

Any action of violation of the ITTF policies, laws and regulations.

Sanction:

Warnings and penalties imposed by the ITTF to suppliers in case of infringements.

3. Registration of suppliers and trademarks/brands

A new supplier, who wishes to enter in relationship with the ITTF and before the approval procedure can be started, needs to

- ❖ apply for registration by completing the online-form "*ITTF Supplier Details*"
- ❖ deliver the requested data about the supplier and his brands
- ❖ declare abiding to ITTF policy and specifications on equipment

The ITTF reserves its right not to accept a company as a supplier for table tennis goods.

The ITTF cannot be held responsible for wrong or misleading information, or for names illicitly used by the supplier.

The ITTF can fine, suspend or delete suppliers from its directory and suspend or delete their products from its lists in case of infringements or situations affecting negatively the table tennis game or the reputation of the ITTF or if they commercialize substances or products banned by the ITTF, after taking into account written explanations of the company about the problem.

Change of brand ownership: If a supplier takes over the brand name from another supplier, who owes money to the ITTF, the equipment will remain approved only if the new owner submits a letter of confirmation, signed by the old and new owner, ensuring that all the rights and debts towards ITTF of the brand were transferred to the new owner. The ITTF will inform the new owner about delinquent payments, if any, which should be settled. Otherwise the equipment will be removed from the ITTF Lists.

Offensive trademarks/brands: It is at the ITTF's own discretion to refuse a supplier the possibility to join or continue being part of the ITTF Equipment Approval Scheme, in case

of use of logos or advertising that would be considered offensive or adverse to ITTF policies.

Brands under players' names: In case of an application by a company, using a top level player's name or part of his/her name as brand name, the ITTF at its own discretion can ask the supplier to provide a written confirmation by the player, before processing the application.

Suppliers, who previously used the ITTF trademark illegally: The ITTF can refuse the application from suppliers, who previously used the ITTF trademark for non-approved equipment under the same or different brand name on the application. The ITTF can further refuse the application from a supplier who may have obtained the rights from the previous supplier, who illegally used the ITTF trademark for non-approved equipment.

Suppliers' contact details: It is the suppliers' responsibility to inform the ITTF, in case they have changes in contact details, such as e-mail addresses, contact persons, postal address etc. For all communications about the company and its brand names, the supplier shall complete online form "*ITTF Supplier Details*".

4. ITTF Equipment Approval Scheme overview

The International Table Tennis Federation presently:

Approves:

- a. Balls
- b. Net assemblies
- c. Sports Floors
- d. Tables

Authorises:

- e. Racket Coverings

5. Terms of reference and their application

5.1. Regulations for International Competitions

3.01.02.07. Detailed explanations and interpretations of Rules, including equipment specifications for International Competitions, shall be published as Technical or Administrative Leaflets by the Board of Directors; practical instructions and implementation procedures may be issued as Handbooks or Guides by the Executive Committee. These publications may include mandatory parts as well as recommendations or guidance.

3.02.01.01. The approval and authorisation of playing equipment shall be conducted on behalf of the Board of Directors by the Equipment Committee; an approval or authorisation may be suspended by the Executive Committee and subsequently the approval or authorisation may be withdrawn by the Board of Directors.

3.02.01.02. The entry form or prospectus for an open tournament shall specify the brands and colours of table, net assembly, sports floor and ball to be used. The choice of table, net assembly and ball shall be as laid down by the ITTF or by the Association in whose territory the competition is held, selected from brands and types currently approved by the ITTF. For selected ITTF sanctioned tournaments, the flooring shall be of a brand and type currently approved by the ITTF.

3.02.01.03. A racket covering on the blade shall be currently authorised by the ITTF and

shall be attached to the blade so that the ITTF logo, the ITTF number (when present), the supplier and brand names are clearly visible near the handle. Paints and dyes are not considered racket coverings and do not require authorisation.

Lists of all approved and authorised equipment and materials are maintained by the ITTF Office and details are available on the ITTF web site.

3.02.03.08.01. In World, Olympic and Paralympic title competitions the flooring shall be of wood or of a brand and type of rollable synthetic material authorised by the ITTF.

5.2. Practical application of regulation 3.02.01.01.

For finally approved or authorized equipment the regulation is applied without flexibility.

For new and provisionally approved equipment, which needs to prove its conformity, quality, suitability and acceptability during ITTF competitions before gaining final approval, the EqC may require adaptations, corrections or may even cancel the provisional approval, taking into account the explanations of the supplier.

Non-observation of the approval procedure and failures of equipment at testing are handled by the EqC, which may take adequate measures getting the deficiencies corrected or applying sanctions up to the refusal or cancellation of the approval.

Decisions and sanctions about equipment may be appealed at the EC in-between 21 days after the communication of the decision by the EqC. If no appeal has been submitted, the decisions may be published or applied as soon as possible.

5.3. Technical Leaflets and Guides

The ITTF has published or will publish a series of Technical or Administrative Leaflets, Guides and related instructions, annotations or explanations, in order to provide its stakeholders, including suppliers, detailed specifications and technical guidance and specifications on equipment as well as on its testing.

- T1: The Table
- T2: The Net Assembly
- T3: The Ball
- T4: The Racket Coverings
- T5: The Net Gauge
- T6: The Sports Floor
- T7: The ITTF Equipment Approval Policy
- T8: The Field-of-Play, a Technical Guide

The Administrative and Technical Leaflets are approved by the BoD and they are the base for suppliers who wish to get an ITTF Approval, for any of the equipment categories listed above. Understanding of the Technical Leaflets is the first step for suppliers to develop equipment, which meets the ITTF standards and later may reach approval. An evaluation of risks related to specifications and tolerances shall be done and health, ecological and disposal aspects shall be considered: the Technical leaflets should include comments or recommendations about.

The Technical Leaflets are subject to changes and updates, as proposed by the EqC or associations, and submitted to the BoD for approval. In case of changes and after the BoD approval they are constantly updated and can be downloaded from ITTF.com.

The Guides are approved by the EC.

6. Benefits of the ITTF Equipment Approval Scheme

6.1. General benefits of the ITTF Approval:

- a. The ITTF exercises careful control over the development and the properties of equipment, in an effort to ensure quality and safety for end users. Lists of ITTF approved equipment are a public statement that
 - the equipment wearing the ITTF logo is guaranteed being designed and manufactured to the highest standards and are suitable for top-level play.
 - enables suppliers to give their customers an assurance of quality, certified by an independent and worldwide-recognized authority, the ITTF.
- b. The use of ITTF trademark helps suppliers of the scheme to enhance quality perception and brand awareness.
- c. It functions as a platform for suppliers to sponsor international competitions and for organizers/players to be sponsored by suppliers.
- d. Many National Associations and Authorities buy and use ITTF Approved Equipment.
- e. Changes in the Laws or Regulations, are implemented with the help of this scheme, always with the intention of encouraging useful technical innovations while preventing those, which may in the long run be harmful to the sport as a whole.
- f. Protects suppliers and end users, with quality inspections of equipment already approved and scanning of market for fake and illegal or poor-quality products.

6.2. General benefits of the ITTF Authorisation for racket coverings:

- a. It is a statement that the racket coverings are authorised for use at any tournament, anywhere in the world, especially at World, Continental and Open International Championships.
- b. It serves as a platform for suppliers to sponsor high-level players and for players to be sponsored by suppliers.

7. Names of high-level equipment. ITTF – logo and trademark

The ITTF-approved or ITTF-authorized table tennis equipment is identified by its name and by the ITTF logo. All names must be in English, and additionally they may be in another language. The name may contain numbers.

The name of a product or model is always composed by

- the brand name and
- the model name;

both together define the product/model in a unique way so that confusions may be excluded and customers are correctly informed.

The product name shall not contain another ITTF registered supplier/brand name, except for racket coverings or other equipment, which at the date of the implementation of this leaflet already are using such name for their models. All new racket coverings or whose mould has been replaced or modified must wear an identity number, whose first part is related to the supplier and its second part to the model.

The final decision preventing confusion will be taken by the EqC.

If a supplier wishes to have a different name for each colour of the equipment, ITTF will treat each colour as a new or different model.

A substantially changed or a new model must bear a name, which is different from a name that is presently used or has been used during the past 10 years for the same type of equipment.

Location, number and size of the name parts on the equipment are detailed in the related technical leaflets or guides, if not already defined in the Regulations for International Competitions.

ITTF approved or authorized equipment must wear the ITTF logo wherever it is sold or used! The location and size of the logo are detailed in the related technical leaflets or guides, if not already defined in the Regulations for International Competitions.

The packaging of ITTF approved or authorized equipment must concord with the disposals of the ITTF, including the Technical Leaflets and the Branding Guidelines. No packaging or catalogue may suggest ITTF approval or authorization, if it is not the case.

8. Lists of ITTF approved or authorized equipment

The ITTF publishes lists of approved or authorized equipment also informing the customer about possible reduced duration of the approvals of specific models.

Tables: Trademark/Brand name, Table name, Wheelchair suitability, Table type, Colours, Pictures of the table. Please note: Show tables normally are not commercialized. Some approvals are limited in time, what is indicated behind the table name.

Nets: Trademark/Brand name, Model name, Colours. Please note: Some approvals are limited in time, what is indicated behind the net name.

Balls: Trademark/Brand name, Material, Seam, Colours, Stamp, ITTF Approval Code.

Sport Flooring: Trademark/Company, Brand name, Headquarter country, Colours, Use on sport floor, Use on rigid floor.

Racket coverings: Trademark/Brand name and number, Model name and number, Racket covering type, Picture of the racket covering name. All information is published in the List of Authorized Racket Coverings LARC, which includes the presently authorized racket coverings and – in an annex at its end – the ones whose authorization will terminate at the date given.

Other: Additional lists for authorized non-playing equipment may be issued.

The lists for the approved equipment are updated continuously, except for LARC, which has two issues per year, LARC A starting on April 1st, LARC B on October 1st of each year.

9. Data-base

The ITTF sets up confidential data-bases with useful data of the Manufacturers / Suppliers and of the equipment.

Presently the ITTF is collecting the data and implementing the data-bases. Access to information will only be granted to the persons, who need the information for achieving their tasks. The administrator of the data-bases is appointed by the EC and will decide about its access.

10. Efforts for a quality management of the equipment approval and related research

ITTF places confidence in the manufacturers and suppliers for the production and marketing of the equipment in accordance with the technical and other requirements of ITTF.

On the other side, ITTF has the obligation towards authorities, associations, clubs, players and all other customers to only deliver the label "ITTF approved or authorized represented by its logo" to equipment, which meets all specifications; ITTF needs to exercise control and take professional care that the quality and safety standard of top table tennis equipment are the highest possible.

Before new designs or materials are accepted and before ITTF laws or regulations about equipment properties can be changed, ITTF may define and require research or specific testing, either on the costs of the manufacturers, on ITTF's costs or as a common project. The EqC will advise such proposals as soon as they have been submitted. The EqC may take the initiative to propose research topics and projects.

The ITTF professional staff is entrusted with the administrative and financial aspects of the approval procedure. The testing, expertise and research are ensured by external professional institutes or experts, who recommend approval, improvement or failure. The decision of approval, non-approval or deletion of approval are made by the EqC and their expert members; the grounds for these decisions are the testing results or grave problems occurring for ITTF approved equipment. Other ITTF bodies may not evoke approval without involving the EqC. The conduct of the various approval procedure steps and final decisions include individual competencies and responsibilities but also interaction between all actors involved. At several levels the principle of the four eyes shall be normal and mutual consultation may be needed for taking the right decision. An internal task description for the approval procedure of each equipment shall ensure consistency and continuation of work in case staff or EqC members change.

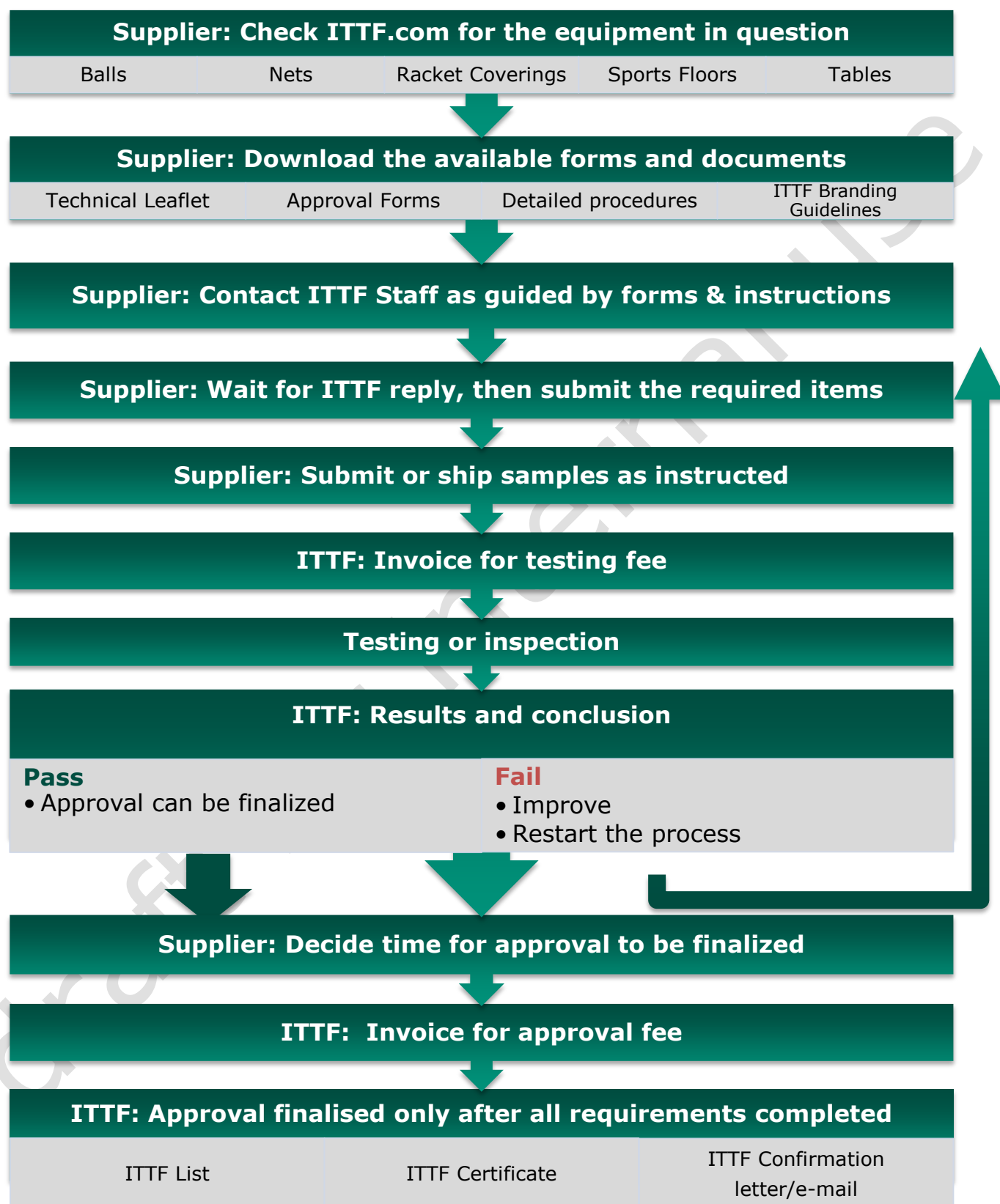
Members of the EqC supervise research projects.

The EqC and the Equipment Staff have the duty and right to act and apply the principles and the decisions of BoD and EC about equipment.

Regular cooperation between ITTF and manufacturers or suppliers, and their representative federation FIT, is desirable in order to successfully accompany or implement equipment development or changes.

Advice from FIT and/or from concerned ITTF Committees and Commissions may be asked by EqC on a case by case basis, especially for important projects or topics related to equipment and its use.

11. Flow chart of the process of obtaining ITTF approval*



* More detailed information for each equipment and stage follow in the next pages.

12. General procedures for obtaining ITTF approval

12.1. Check on ITTF.com

For Technical Leaflets, Approval Forms and Instructions, ITTF Equipment Staff on charge and other relevant documents, for each equipment, can be found on:

- a. ITTF.com>Equipment>**Supplier details, and changes of data of supplier**
- b. ITTF.com>Equipment>**Balls**
- c. ITTF.com>Equipment>**Nets**
- d. ITTF.com>Equipment>**Sports Floors**
- e. ITTF.com>Equipment>**Tables**
- f. ITTF.com>Equipment>**Racket Coverings**

12.2. Download the necessary forms and documents from the links above

- a. Technical Leaflet (different for each equipment)
- b. Initial Approval Forms (different for each equipment)
- c. Procedures how to achieve an approval (different for each equipment)
- d. [ITTF Branding Guidelines and ITTF logos](#) (common for all equipment)

12.3. Contact the ITTF Equipment Staff

When confident that the equipment is up to the standards set by the ITTF, as described in the respective Technical Leaflet, the suppliers should contact the competent ITTF Equipment Staff, with a copy to equipment@ittf.com. They should use the forms available on ITTF.com.

The ITTF Equipment Staff will then guide suppliers through the next steps, which can be different for each equipment.

12.4. Submission of the approval forms requested

At each step, the suppliers should take the necessary time to fill in, correctly and completely, the forms requested and submit them to initiate or continue the application for approval.

12.5. Submission of the samples for testing

Once the forms and the other documents requested at the first stage are submitted and confirmed, suppliers will be advised to where and when the samples for testing should be sent.

Suppliers should avoid sending the equipment before being instructed by the ITTF Equipment Staff. ITTF works with different independent testing institutes; therefore the shipping address is not always the same. The ITTF is not responsible for equipment or costs generated from shipments to wrong addresses.

Suppliers should cover all costs for shipment of equipment, including shipping, customs or any other costs. The ITTF is not responsible for any of these costs and in the case such costs are generated; the ITTF will invoice the suppliers of the respective amount.

12.6. Invoice by ITTF for the testing fees of the equipment submitted

The ITTF Equipment Staff will issue and send to the suppliers the invoice for the testing fees.

The testing fees are available to all suppliers, upon request. Testing fees are subject to change, according to the quotes received by the testing institutes. They shall be paid before testing will take place.

12.7. Samples will be tested by one of the ITTF testing institutes

ITTF is cooperating with different testing institutes, which conduct the testing for approvals.

Direct contact between the suppliers and the ITTF testing institutes, is not allowed. Any requests about ITTF testing should be addressed to the ITTF directly. The ITTF will reply to the enquiries or contact the testing institutes, where necessary, and will send the requested feedback to suppliers. ITTF Testing institutes that are accredited for certifying national or international standards shall be made known to the suppliers.

12.8. Communication of testing results to suppliers

ITTF Equipment staff will send the testing results, together with the EqC expert's feedback, to the supplier concerned, once the results are received from the testing institutes and the conclusions submitted by the EQC expert's, provided that the testing fees are paid.

12.9. Outcome of testing results

12.9.1. *If the equipment **fails** the tests:*

The ITTF Equipment Committee takes a decision which is communicated to the supplier.

- a. Suppliers can re-start the process and submit new samples for testing.
- b. A testing fee is applicable for each separate testing.
- c. In some cases the EqC may ask suppliers to improve aspects of the equipment. After having analysed the plan and details for improvements of the supplier, the EqC may grant approval without further testing or may require new full or partial testing.

12.9.2. *If the equipment **passes** the tests:*

The ITTF Equipment Committee takes a decision which is communicated to the supplier.

- a. The equipment is eligible to be added onto the ITTF List(s).
- b. When sending the test results to suppliers, the ITTF Equipment Staff will also ask them to indicate the time for adding the equipment on ITTF List(s), and may announce conditions to be fulfilled before approval can be accomplished.
- c. The ITTF Equipment Staff will charge the adequate approval fee and check its settlement and will verify that all other requirements or conditions are fulfilled, before approval can be finalized and equipment integrate the ITTF List(s)
- d. Once the approval is finalized, the ITTF Equipment staff will update the ITTF List(s) and the certificate of approval of the supplier(s), and send it together with the e-mail/letter of confirmation to the supplier(s).
- e. Only after the equipment is added on the ITTF List(s), the approval is considered complete and the equipment can then be marketed as ITTF Approved/Authorized.

12.10. Yearly agenda of testing and finalization of approval

12.10.1. Balls, Nets, Sports Floors

Testing and approval finalization: Anytime of the year

12.10.2. Tables

Testing: Two periods per year for normal testing: normally end of March and end of October. Exceptionally express table testing can be provided between these periods.

Show tables can be inspected at any time depending on the availability of the EqC expert.

Approval finalization: Anytime of the year

Equipment	Testing	Approval/Authorization	Comments
Tables	Twice a year: end of March & October	Anytime	Same table approval, Express testing and Show court inspection: Anytime
Nets	Anytime	Anytime	
Balls	Anytime	Anytime	
Sport floors	Anytime	Anytime	
Racket coverings	Before April 1st & October 1st	Before April 1st & October 1st	Strict deadlines as publication of LARC on April 1st & October 1st

Table A: Yearly timing for approvals and authorizations

12.10.3. Racket coverings:

Testing and approval finalization: Strictly, only before the time of LARC publication (1st April = LARC A, and 1st October = LARC B of each year).

12.11. Testing fees. Yearly and initial approval or authorization fees

12.11.1. The **testing fees** cover the expenses for the testing of the equipment at ITTF Testing institutes, for the inspection of show tables and for part of the related administration costs. They must be paid before testing can be started and test results issued.

Up to 50 % higher fees may be imposed for delays or other negligence causing additional work to ITTF, staff and EqC members, or delaying testing.

12.11.2. The **annual approval and authorization fees** guarantee that an equipment model gets or keeps the status of "ITTF approved" or "ITTF authorized" for the next year or period.

According to the suppliers' request, the ITTF will issue the invoice for the annual approval fee. As soon as the payment of the fee is received, the equipment will be added on the ITTF List(s) and the suppliers will receive a confirmation from the ITTF Equipment Staff.

Approval and authorization fees are applied according to the time the equipment is added on the lists:

January to September: the full annual fee is applicable.
October to December: half annual fee is applicable

For racket coverings added on LARC B the following fee system is applied:

- Half fee for new suppliers' first racket covering

- Full fee for new suppliers' additional racket covering
- Full fee for any new additional racket covering of an already existing supplier

Up to 50 % higher fees may be imposed by EqC staff for payment delays or other negligence causing additional work to ITTF, staff and EqC members.

The amount of each fee is decided by the EC, after taking advice of the EqC. Fees are valid until 31 December of the current year.

12.11.3. Initial fees

The EC may introduce higher initial fees for new suppliers and/or for new equipment with the aim to protect the consumer from short-lived products. They may be reimbursable, or not.

12.11.4. More details about fees

They can be found on the Approval and Testing fees chart (available to suppliers only upon request). The ITTF Equipment Staff will send the fees to all suppliers of ITTF Approved Equipment, in case there are changes approved by the ITTF Executive Committee.

13. Continuation of approval and authorizations

The approval remains valid, for as long as the supplier requests its continuation, provided that the equipment continues to meet the standards detailed in the relevant Technical Leaflet. The ITTF Equipment Staff are in contact with each supplier, before the publication of ITTF List(s), to check with them for which equipment, they wish to renew the approval and which they want to withdraw. More details can be found below in the Renewal's section.

13.1. Continuation of approvals

13.1.1. ITTF contacts suppliers of ITTF Approved Equipment, beginning of October

The ITTF Equipment Staff request all suppliers to check their list of ITTF Approved Equipment and send back the application form, for any changes they have for the following year's ITTF List(s).

13.1.2. Suppliers should send the application form back to ITTF, by the end of October

Suppliers should send the application form back to the ITTF, by the deadline given, indicating all additions, deletions or changes to be done on the coming year's ITTF List(s).

13.1.3. ITTF prepares and sends the invoices to suppliers, early in November

If a current supplier of ITTF Approved Equipment has not received the application form or invoices on time, they should contact immediately the ITTF Equipment Staff.

13.1.4. Deadline for payments of next year's approval fees is the 30th of November

Payment of the approval fees can be settled until 30th of November, unless announced differently. For payments received after this date an additional fee of **USD 500** will be charged. New equipment is not affected by this policy of late payments.

13.1.5. Publication of ITTF List(s)

January 1st is the date of publication of all ITTF Lists, and updates are on-going.

Deadline	ITTF	Supplier	Comments
October, early: ITTF October, end: Supplier	submits to supplier list of its currently ITTF-approved equipment	checks list, informs about errors or changes, confirms continuation of the other equipment	If no information from ITTF at November 10, the supplier shall contact ITTF equipment staff, immediately
November, early: ITTF November, mid: Supplier	invoices supplier for the next year's ITTF-approved equipment	verifies invoices, and informs about errors	
November, end: Supplier		pays the next year's approval fees	Payment delay = additional fee charged!
January 1st : ITTF January, early: Supplier	publishes lists of ITTF-approved equipment	verifies published lists and informs about errors	

Table B: Renewal of lists and payment of fees of ITTF approved equipment and planned timetable

13.2. Renewal of authorizations (racket coverings)

13.2.1. ITTF contacts current suppliers of ITTF Authorised Racket Coverings, early in February and August, for LARC A and LARC B, respectively

The ITTF requests suppliers to send their changes for the coming LARC.

13.2.2 Suppliers should send any changes back to ITTF, by end of February and August, respectively

Suppliers should send to the ITTF, by the deadline given to them, all additions, deletions or changes to be done on the upcoming LARC.

13.2.3 ITTF follows up and asks for final confirmation of changes, early in March and September

Each supplier will receive its own list of racket coverings, as it will appear on the coming LARC. It's very important to check carefully this list, as no changes can be done once LARC is published.

13.2.4 Suppliers should send a final confirmation, by 15 March and 15 September, respectively

It is the suppliers' responsibility to send their final confirmations to the ITTF, by the dates given above or as stated in ITTF's e-mail.

13.2.5 ITTF prepares and sends the invoice(s) for the authorisation fees to the suppliers, early in April and October, respectively

Suppliers, who have not received the emails for changes or the invoices on time, they should contact immediately the ITTF Equipment Staff.

13.3 Deadline for payments of coming LARC

Payment of the authorisation fees should be settled by the deadline given by the ITTF, as indicated on the invoices. For payments received after the date given at the time, an additional fee of **USD 500** will be charged. Failing to pay the authorisation fees leads to suspension of racket coverings from the immediate next publication of LARC.

13.4 Publication of LARC

1st of April and **1st of October** are the dates of publication of LARC, and updates and changes are not allowed after LARC(s) are published.

Deadline	ITTF	Supplier	Comments
February, early: ITTF February, end: Supplier August, early: ITTF August, end: Supplier	submits to supplier list of its currently ITTF-authorized racket coverings	checks list, informs about errors, deletions or additions, confirms continuation of the other	If no information from ITTF at November 10, the supplier shall contact ITTF equipment staff immediately
March, early: ITTF March, 15: Supplier September, early: ITTF September, 15: Supplier	submits to supplier list of racket coverings to be ITTF-authorized for the next period	verifies list, informs about errors or confirms list	
April, early: ITTF Deadline given: Supplier October, early: ITTF Deadline given: Supplier	invoices for racket coverings ITTF-authorized	pays the approval fees before deadline given by ITTF	Payment delay = additional fee charged!
April 1st: ITTF October 1st: ITTF	publishes lists of ITTF-authorized racket coverings	verifies published lists and informs about errors	

Table C: Renewal of list of ITTF authorized racket coverings (continuation, deletions, additions, fees) and planned time table

14 Detailed procedures for obtaining approval / authorization

Detailed procedures for the approval of each category of equipment can be found in the Technical Leaflets, in sampling and testing instructions and in other relevant documents for each equipment published at ittf.com under Equipment.

15 Withdrawal and Suspension of equipment. Permitted use after withdrawal.

15.1. Withdrawal: initiated by the supplier

Suppliers may withdraw equipment from the ITTF List(s) anytime they wish.

In this case the equipment (balls, tables, nets, sports floors) will be kept on the List(s) for six months from the time of withdrawal. This is just the notice period for customers / users, who can use the equipment for six more months; suppliers should stop marketing the equipment, as ITTF Approved, with immediate effect on the date the equipment is withdrawn.

Racket Coverings withdrawn either in April or in October are kept on LARC for 3 months after the publication date.

15.2. Suspension and deletion: initiated by the ITTF

ITTF may cancel the approval or authorisation of equipment for technical, financial or procedural reasons, or if the equipment is considered as affecting negatively the table tennis game or the good reputation of ITTF.

A suspension by the EC can be published on ITTF.com and communicated to the ITTF stakeholders. The duration period for the suspension will be announced at the same time.

A deletion by the BoD will be published on ITTF.com and communicated to concerned ITTF stakeholders. Prior to their decision, the EC and BoD will consider the advice of the EqC and the comments of the supplier.

15.3. Permitted use at international competitions of withdrawn or suspended equipment:

For withdrawn equipment the use at international competitions is extended by a limited duration, as indicated in the table below. For national competitions, the associations decide for their territory.

Withdrawn equipment	Permitted use by customers at international competitions
Racket coverings	3 months
Balls	6 months
Nets	12 months (1 year)
Tables	36 months (3 years)
Floors	60 months (5 years)

Table D: Duration of use at international competitions for equipment after the date of its withdrawal

For suspended equipment the duration of the permitted use at international competitions is the same, except for suspensions for safety and health reasons or for obvious bad quality.

16. Reintegration/Reinstatement of withdrawn or deleted equipment

16.1. Basic requirement(s) for any equipment to be reinstated back to the ITTF List(s) or LARC:

- the supplier does not have any debt from the past.
- the supplier has declared and proved his will to respect the ITTF procedures and technical requirements.

16.2. If the equipment was suspended for technical reasons, it cannot be reinstated on the ITTF List(s) with the same model name. The equipment needs to be tested first, under a different model name.

16.3. If the equipment (all, except racket coverings) was suspended or deleted for financial or procedural reasons, or withdrawn by the supplier:

- for 12 months or less:* then the reinstatement will be accepted, under the condition that the supplier pays the full annual approval fee of the year the equipment was suspended, in addition to the annual fee of the current year and any other pending invoices to the company.
- more than 12 months:* then the equipment will be treated as new product and it is subject to all the tests.

16.4. If the re-instated equipment has not been substantially changed, it may wear its original name. The EqC takes the afferent decision.

16.5. The table below informs about the conditions and requirements for the reintegration of equipment, which once has been approved or authorized.

Equipment	If approval/authorization deleted by	
	Less than 12 months	More than 12 months
Racket coverings	Payment of the current / previous year's annual or period's approval fee(s).	All actual tests will be repeated, payment of current / previous period's approval fee(s).
Nets		Re-testing required, as well as payment of current / previous year's approval fee(s).
Balls		Re-testing required and up to 2 years' approval fee(s).
Tables		Re-testing required and up to 4 years' approval fee(s).
Floors		

Table E: Conditions for reinstatement of equipment formerly ITTF approved or authorized

16.4.6. The supplier needs to provide all required documents and data, pay the testing fee and the invoiced approval fees before equipment, which successfully passed all tests, can get approval and reintegrate the ITTF lists.

17. Quality Assurance, initial and continuous

The quality assurance implies several components and phases; the EqC establishes and updates each year an action plan taking into account the subsequent elements.

17.1. The ITTF rules, regulations and technical leaflets set high technical, safety and marketing standards for equipment, and allow the EC to suspend approvals or authorizations.

The EqC advises or proposes amendments or actions.

17.2. Professional Testing Institutes verify dimensions, quality and safety requirements and report the test-results, before EqC can grant approval or authorization.

17.3. Market monitoring (catalogues, web sites, shop displays, packaging ...) helps ITTF to detect false claims, fakes or misleading information and protect the fair and honest suppliers.

The EqC members and Staff, suppliers and associations shall contribute.

17.4. Scrutiny of equipment at competition sites detects deficiencies and wrong-doing. ITTF Competition and Marketing departments verify before the tournament, ITTF competition manager and especially the referee shall report to the EqC if equipment fulfilled or not the expectations. The EqC members and staff, if present, shall inspect the equipment used. Players and coaches shall report insufficiencies to the referee.

17.5. Quality inspections are applicable for all equipment, in order to ensure that any equipment on the market is according to the standards and specifications, as it was originally approved or authorized after the initial testing or inspection. Quality inspection may be a full or a partial testing as decided by EqC.

Quality Inspections are divided into two subcategories:

- Scheduled Quality Inspection, see 17.5.1
- Random or Especial Quality Inspection, see 17.5.2

17.5.1. Scheduled Quality Inspection

The ITTF has in place scheduled series of tests for each type of equipment, as described below, and the testing fees are applicable to suppliers. The test results are commented by the EqC and sent to the suppliers.

Balls

Balls scheduled quality inspection takes place every two years; it may include up to 3 steps, and at the end of each step approval may be confirmed, delayed or finally denied, according to the test results obtained at each step. In case of a failure at the second step, the supplier will be asked to inform about possible circumstances, which may have led to the failures in steps 1 and 2.

The Equipment Committee or Equipment Staff purchase samples for the testing on the open market; balls provided directly or indirectly by the supplier or manufacturer are not used for the re-test.

Tables and Floors

Suppliers may be requested, every ten years, to submit new samples for a regular re-test. The Equipment staff will send procedures and requirements, together with the call for the re-test.

Nets

Suppliers may be requested, every three years, to submit new samples for a regular re-test. The Equipment staff will send procedures and requirements, together with the call for the re-test.

Racket Coverings

Suppliers may be requested, every ten years, to submit new samples for a regular re-test. The Equipment staff will send procedures and requirements, together with the call for the re-test.

17.5.2. Random or Especial Quality Inspection

The EqC has the right to buy from the market, obtain from the supplier or tournament organizer, inspect and test equipment **anytime**, other than the defined times for the scheduled quality inspection. In case of deficiencies or non-compliance with original data or information and test results, the supplier has to reimburse all costs to the ITTF, and EqC may consider measures ranging from immediate improvement up to deletion of the approval.

18. Changes on approved/authorized equipment

Although the ITTF does not wish to limit what may be sold within the ranges expressed in our Regulations and Guidelines, once an item is approved or authorised it may then not be changed, until permission has been obtained from the EqC. This restriction on modification includes:

18.1. Any change in the equipment itself, such as:

- a. a change in the material, the manufacturing process
- b. a change in the material, structure, paint, colour or design of a table or net. All models of tables and nets need separate approvals.
- c. a change in the grading procedure of a ball

18.2. Any change in the packaging, the marking on equipment or the advertising, which could suggest that ITTF approved equipment properties have been changed. Before a change is applied to the artwork on the equipment, it should be submitted for agreement to EqC.

18.3. Any change of manufacturer, manufacturing site of a piece of equipment. This could lead to a change in the equipment that is neither foreseen nor immediately apparent.

18.4. Advertising any item as approved or authorised, even if it has been tested and accepted, under a different brand name than the one under it was approved. Manufacturers who provide equipment under other brand names than the one approved, should caution suppliers that they need to pursue their own separate approval, in case they wish to market the equipment as ITTF Approved.

18.5. For racket coverings no change is acceptable after authorisation. Changes in the text area are allowed but only with the prior agreement by the ITTF.

18.6. The ITTF appreciates the need of manufacturers to make modifications and produce new lines of equipment, and does not wish to prevent this. On the other hand, equipment developments have produced many changes in our sport, not all have been for the better.

The ITTF, as the governing body of the table tennis sport, cannot permit change to be introduced / applied solely by commercial interests; the sport must develop in an orderly way that is best for players, officials, spectators and manufacturers.

If a manufacturer wishes to make a minor change that has no effect on the playing or safety qualities of the equipment itself and that cannot be misconstrued, this may be permitted at any time by agreement of the EqC. Other more substantive changes, e.g. in the finish of a table top, the stability of a table undercarriage, the source or the material of a ball etc. will in principle be permitted only at times established for Approval of the items in question and may require testing, as decided by the EqC.

19. Penalties and fines

Description of infringement	Amount
Wrong position of or excessive markings on equipment *	Up to USD 10 000
False claims (on equipment, advertisements, marketing channels etc.) *	Up to USD 10 000
Changes without prior agreement of the ITTF ‡	Up to USD 10 000
Use of the ITTF logo on non-approved equipment ‡	Up to USD 10 000
Missing ITTF logo on approved/authorized equipment	Up to USD 10 000
Missing, incomplete or erroneous names on equipment	Up to USD 5 000
No date code on balls packaging and table-tops	USD 1 500
No "Made in <Country>" marking on packages, if requested	USD 1 000
Breach of deadline for payments (as described earlier)	USD 500
Repeated breach of deadlines for payments (>3 times)	USD 1 000
First repeat of any infringement (except payments)	x 2
More than two repeats of any infringement	x 4
Debts and other severe infringement *	Can lead to suspension of equipment in question.
Debts and other severe infringement *	Can lead to suspension of supplier's line of equipment.

Table F: Penalties and fines

The EqC and the Equipment Staff have the duty and right to take or propose fines or other sanctions introduced by BoD or EC. Before sanctions are decided, advice may be taken at the

Competition and/or Marketing Department in order to learn if the company concerned is involved in ITTF projects, and explanations should be required from the related supplier. All cases marked (*) will be reported by the EqC to the EC, before a fine or suspension is applied. If necessary, such cases will be further reported to the BoD.

All other fines and penalties will be applied by a coercion of the EqC and Staff.

In cases of illegal use of the ITTF trademark by companies not participating on the approval scheme the following procedure will apply:

- a. A warning letter will be sent to the company, with requested correction.
- b. In case the company does not act accordingly, the case will be reported to the EC.
- c. A copy of the warning letter may be addressed by the Equipment staff to the association in which territory the company resides.
- d. Further legal action may be taken by the EC.

As decisions about equipment may have an incidence on competitions, marketing, suppliers' business and customers' rights, the EqC shall inform other possibly concerned ITTF divisions, and ask for their comments in case of difficult or complex cases. The Equipment manager coordinates these contacts.

20. Confidentiality and charter of integrity

All information provided by suppliers to the ITTF Equipment Committee and Staff shall remain confidential as long as it is not part of normal information to consumers. The members of EqC are bound by the rules of discretion and neutrality and the Staff by the terms of their employment contract.

The members of EqC, experts for specific equipment matters, shall sign a charter of integrity: confidentiality, no-collusion, independency, no abuse or misuse of knowledge for own or others benefit!

Annex 1 to T7: Planned yearly calendar

B= Balls | **N=** Nets | **R=** Racket Coverings | **F=** Sports Floor | **T=** Tables

All dates and deadlines in the agenda are indicative and may be adapted.

Month	Required actions by ITTF	Required actions by SUPPLIERS	Testing
January	01 Jan: Publication of the Lists of ITTF Approved Equipment (Balls, Nets, Tables, Sports Floors)		B, N, R, F
February	Early Feb: Call for changes for LARC A	End Feb: submission of changes for LARC A	B, N, R, F
March	Early Mar: Call for final confirmation for LARC A	20 Mar: Deadline for final confirmation for LARC A	B, N, R, F T**
April	01 Apr: Publication of LARC A Early Apr: Invoicing of authorisation fees for LARC A (all racket coverings)		B, N, R, F
May		~ 10 May: Deadline for payments of LARC A authorisation fees	B, N, R, F
June			B, N, R, F
July			B, N, R, F
August	Early Aug: Call for changes for LARC B	End Aug: submission of changes for LARC B	B, N, R, F
September	Early Sep: Call for final confirmation for LARC B	20 Sep: Deadline for final confirmation for LARC B	B, N, R, F
October	01 Oct: Publication of LARC B Beginning Oct: Invoicing of authorisation fees for LARC B (only new racket coverings) Early Oct: Call for changes for the following year's Lists of ITTF Approved Equipment	End Oct: submission of changes for the following year's Lists of ITTF Approved Equipment	B, N, R, F T**
November	Early Nov: Invoicing of approval fees for the following year's Lists of ITTF Approved Equipment	10 Nov: Deadline for payments of LARC B authorisation fees 30 Nov: Deadline for payments of approval fees for the following year's Lists of ITTF Approved Equipment	B, N, R, F
December			B, N, R, F

****** *Express testing is available at other times, upon request, but subject to a double testing fee*