

2020

***ITTF***  
***AGM***  
***WORKING***  
***DOCUMENTS***  
***28TH SEPTEMBER 2020***



## **INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation will be held online on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 13h00 CEST.

### **AGENDA**

1. President Welcome and Opening Address
2. CEO Report: Impact of COVID-19 in Global Table Tennis
3. Appointment of a Chair
4. Roll Call of Associations Present (Confirmation of registered Associations)
5. Appointment of Scrutineers
6. Confirmation of the Minutes of the AGM held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2019 in Budapest, Hungary
7. Membership
8. Recognitions
  - 8.1 Personal Honorary Membership
  - 8.2 In Memoriam
9. Presentations (note all presentations will be held in the weeks leading to the virtual AGM)
  - 9.1 ITTF Foundation (Presentation on 1<sup>st</sup> September 13h00 CEST)
  - 9.2 High Performance and Development (Presentation on 4<sup>th</sup> September 13h00 CEST)
  - 9.3 Propositions and Resolutions to AGM (Presentation on 7<sup>th</sup> September 13h00 CEST)
  - 9.4 Finance Forum (Presentation on 10<sup>th</sup> September 13h00 CEST)
  - 9.5 World Table Tennis (Presentation on 14<sup>th</sup> September 13h00 CEST)
  - 9.6 World Championships 2023 bids (Presentations on 21<sup>st</sup> September 13h00 CEST)
10. Annual General Report & Strategic Plan
11. Annual Reports from the Executive Committee
  - 11.1 President: Thomas Weikert
  - 11.2 Deputy President: Khalil Al-Mohannadi
  - 11.3 Executive Vice President (Finance): Petra Sörling
  - 11.4 Executive Vice-President: Bruce Burton
  - 11.5 Executive Vice-President: Masahiro Maehara
  - 11.6 Executive Vice-President: Alaa Meshref
  - 11.7 Executive Vice-President: James Morris
  - 11.8 Executive Vice-President: Shi Zhihao
  - 11.9 Executive Vice-President: Nestor Tenca
  - 11.10 Athletes Commission Chair: Zoran Primorac
  - 11.11 IOC Member: Ryu Seungmin



## **INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

12. Annual Reports from the Continental Federations:
  - 12.1 Africa
  - 12.2 Asia
  - 12.3 Europe
  - 12.4 Latin America
  - 12.5 North America
  - 12.6 Oceania
13. Annual Reports from the CEO, SG, OPC, DCC and Ethics Commission:
  - 13.1 Chief Executive Officer
  - 13.2 Secretary General
  - 13.3 Olympic and Paralympic Commission
  - 13.4 Development and Continental Council
  - 13.5 Ethics Commission
14. Annual Reports from Committees:
  - 14.1 Equipment Committee
  - 14.2 Media Committee
  - 14.3 Nominations Committee
  - 14.4 Para Table Tennis Committee
  - 14.5 Rules Committee
  - 14.6 Sports Science and Medical Committee
  - 14.7 Umpires' and Referees' Committee
  - 14.8 Veterans' Committee
15. Finance
  - 15.1 Financial Report
  - 15.2 2019 Audited Financial Statements
  - 15.3 2020 Updated Budget
  - 15.4 2021-2024 Quadrennial Forecast
16. Ratification of the Work Done by the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee
17. Governance Review
18. Propositions and Resolutions
19. Election of the World Championships 2023 host
20. Future World Championships
  - 20.1 Deadline for 2024 World Championships Bids
21. Next General Meeting
22. Any other Business
23. Adjournment

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2019 has been an amazing and history-making year for table tennis on and off the court with many outstanding events and milestones achieved, for which we can all be very proud.

Here are some of the highlights from 2019:

The ITTF is planning ahead to set up a new Global Home of Table Tennis. We are looking for a thriving new hotspot for table tennis players, business professionals, coaches and officials from across the globe, to unite in a single location and collectively take table tennis to the next level among the world's leading sports.

We have started our Constitution review to be on track with all Good Governance and Compliance Regulations, areas which have become increasingly more important all over the political and sports world.

We created World Table Tennis as a driving force for greater commercial activity and to further develop our events.

The ITTF Foundation officially established its new Headquarters in Leipzig, Germany, to take on humanitarian projects, aiming to build solidarity through table tennis. TTX festivals came to life and the World Veterans Tour kicked off. The first Parkinson's World Championships in Westchester, USA also proved most impressive. It was amazing to see so many players having fun, whilst realising at the same time that our sport is helping them to improve their health both physically and mentally. The ITTF is ready to move ahead with further support.

In Para Table Tennis, the ITTF organised continental championships in Africa, Asia, Europe and Oceania, while in the Americas, in cooperation with the IPC, the Para Pan-American Games served as our Continental event. The five competitions served as the first qualifying tournaments for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

Our ITTF team continues to grow stronger than ever, with further recruitment of professional staff and a new staff structure in place to make the organisation more professional. We are now at a head count of over 70.

At the last two events of the year we also introduced a Video Review system (TTR). The ITTF Executive Committee has since agreed to implement TTR at major ITTF events in 2020 and the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, while constantly working to deliver the best possible product, such as reducing the time spent between the player's call to review and the final decision.

On court, the Liebherr 2019 ITTF World Table Tennis Championships will forever be remembered as one of the sport's most dramatic events of all time. Shock results and thrilling performances captured the attention of both longstanding table tennis fans, who may have previously thought

they had seen it all before, as well as a completely new generation of followers, totally in awe of events unfolding in Budapest.

Telling the story from the Hungarian capital, the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) reached and engaged with record-breaking audiences, both on its in-house platforms (itTV and ITTF.com) and on its full range of social media channels, while ensuring TV viewers across the globe were treated to the best action from the sport's greatest annual event.

The year was brought to a grandstand finish as the sport's finest players met at the World Tour Grand Finals in Zhengzhou, China. A milestone of presentation was offered to the audience.

In 2019, for the first time ever, the ITTF's social media community grew by over one million fans in a single calendar year: up from 2,802,725 in 2018 to 3,845,493 in 2019, marking a 37% increase (excluding itTV and Zhibo TV subscribers).

Further proof of our sport's power to unite people from across the globe came resoundingly on 6th April, World Table Tennis Day: 700,000 people at 922 events across 107 countries all took part in a day of true celebration, where Table Tennis once again acted as a tool toward a greater good. We are striving for even greater participation in 2020!

This is just to name some of the key things, not mentioning all the development projects and competitions we hold all over the world – never before has there been the scale of activity like we saw in 2019.

Our mission in 2020 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, but 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 remains a personal goal for me. 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, and I am working hard to extend our development programmes.

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

We can all agree that 2019 was our best year yet, but what's even more exciting is we are ready to take Table Tennis to another level altogether in 2020!

As a matter of fact, we expect another history-making year in table tennis and the world of sport overall, which leads us to mention two outstanding highlights of the coming year: In March 2020, the World Championships in Busan will mark the first time that our greatest annual event is held in Korea Republic.

In July 2020, the eyes of the world will be focused on Japan in celebration of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Both events will be amazing, demonstrating the true universality of table tennis and showing to the world sport's incredible peace-making capabilities.

Our athletes are the focus of all activities of course and they will play an essential role in promoting the genuine spirit of sport.

Simultaneously, we are confident that all stakeholders will support the clean athletes by implementing the new Anti-Doping regulations in the WADA Code 2021, a necessary and vital tool to protect the ITTF and its stakeholders, and to safeguard our long-term credibility. We are sure to be on the right path and together we will manage these key tasks in education, prevention and implementation in due course.

We also have to present our beloved sport to the outside world to get media attention and to stand out from other sports. New ideas and conviction in our beliefs are very important in order to improve and to achieve this goal.

We all have to play our part in the upcoming activities. We are one family and, by supporting each other, we are able to prove our strength to everyone, inside and outside the ITTF.

Finally, I would like to 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 Deputy President Khalil Al-Mohannadi, as well as 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 stakeholders and their athletes for their tremendous support. We are confident about receiving your support in 2020 in order to reach our ambitious goals of becoming one of the biggest sports in the world.

Table Tennis. For All. For Life.

Thank you!

**Thomas Weikert**  
ITTF President

## DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Khalil Al-Mohannadi)

### Report to the AGM

### Document A2

First of all, I would like to congratulate our 226 member associations, players, coaches, officials and volunteers for your continued commitment to develop the sport of Table Tennis all over the world; and of course a special thank you to the ITTF President Thomas Weikert, my friends, members of the Executive Committee, our ITTF CEO Steve Dainton and all the staff for their hard work and the new positive energy in our office in Singapore for their cooperation and help in all my duties for the best of our beloved Table Tennis.

May I also pass on my thanks to the Hungarian Table Tennis Association for the extraordinary 2019 World Table Tennis Championships.

We are ready for the 2020 World Championships and AGM before we make the big jump to the new ITTF and new WTTTC format, with the first event under the new structure being held in Houston USA in 2021.

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

1. 2019 WTTTC in Budapest follow up during the event with the Organising Committee
2. Happy to be part of the new direction that will bring ITTF to new heights and the launch of the new-born "World Table Tennis" in 2021
3. ITTF's 100 Years Anniversary that will display to the world the federation's standout achievements throughout the century
4. Home of Table Tennis (HoTT), a major project that needed to be implemented in order to provide an unbelievable tool 'FOR ALL' the Table Tennis Family
5. To fulfill all my duties as ITTF Deputy President

#### Areas of Responsibility

- Deputise for the President – Inspection in Busan for the 2020 WTTTC
- World Championships (Administration)
- World Championships (Technical)
- World Cups (Men's and Women's World Cup in Chengdu in 2019)
- ITTF and WTT Panel selection Team Meeting held in Qatar
- Ceremony for the 2020 ITTF World Championships, to be held in Busan, Korea Republic
- Meeting with **Table Tennis England** during the World Tour Grand Finals to discuss the celebration of the International Table Tennis Association on the occasion of the 100th anniversary in 2026
- 2019 Asian Championships: Attending the BGM in Yogyakarta, Indonesia and holding intensive meetings

We held our usual events:

- LIEBHERR 2019 World Championships (Budapest, Hungary)
- Seamaster 2019 ITTF World Tour SHINHAN Korea Open, Busan (KOR)
- ITTF-ATTU Asian Table Tennis Championships, Yogyakarta (INA)
- Uncle Pop 2019 ITTF Women's World Cup, Chengdu (CHN)



- ZEN-NOH 2019 ITTF Team World Cup, Tokyo (JPN)
- Chengdu Airlines 2019 ITTF Men's World Cup, Chengdu (CHN)
- Agricultural Bank of China 2019 ITTF World Tour Grand Finals, Zhengzhou (CHN)

I would like to underline the excellent collaboration between the Organising Committees, sponsors and ITTF staff, which resulted in all events being very well organised. In particular I would like to highlight the **China Table Tennis Association (CTTA)**'s role as the main organiser of the World Cups and World Tour Grand Finals in China - they carried out an extraordinary job at the highest level.

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

#### Attendance at ITTF Executive Committee Meetings

- EC Meeting in Bangkok
- EC Meetings in Budapest (2)
- EC Meeting in Chengdu
- EC Meeting in Zhengzhou

Attendance at major events is giving me the opportunity to discuss with the Organising Committees, ITTF Competition, Marketing and Promotion Directors the problems we have faced and improvements we can make in the future. Those discussions have produced many good proposals for 2020 which will be in my opinion the final year before the new era of events in 2021.

On a personal note, I'm very excited about the future of our great organisation with the all new **World Table Tennis** entity, and the dream of a new modern and multicomplex Home of Table Tennis (HoTT).

Last, but not least, the 100 Years festivities of our beloved institution ITTF.

I look forward to working with our member associations in 2020, contributing to our vision of inspiring excellence in life through Table Tennis.

**Khalil Al-Mohannadi**  
ITTF Deputy President

# **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 responsibility 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 many associations have fully integrated or have a very good working relationship with the discipline. Also, within the ITTF, we continue to work closely together. In 2019 we had a joint meeting at the Singapore office in the beginning of the year, where we spent one full day working solely on how we can improve integration internally. The meeting was very productive and led to the conclusion that we need to grow with more staff support within this area. We also decided to start working on a strategic plan for Para table tennis and it will of course be fully integrated with the present ITTF strategic plan.

#### **Finance**

In finance, we have done a lot since we hired our first CFO at the end of 2017, and in 2019 we also hired new staff within the finance area to make sure that we follow up on our implemented management control system. We continued our work with the risk assessment workshop under the guidance of our auditors and we also took the next step, carrying out the process with a larger group this time with participation from all our departments. Our second financial forum was held during the World Championships in Budapest - it seems a good format for future financial discussions.

#### **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. As the ITTF is growing very fast, it has been a very busy year in this area with a lot of recruitment. Management team meetings have also been held. Our CFO is responsible for HR in the day-to-day operations and I have supported him and taken part in different meetings as requested.

#### **ITTF Foundation**

As the ITTF Vice President in charge of finance, I am a member of the Board of Trustees of the ITTF Foundation. The Board of Trustees is the controlling body of the Foundation and appoints the external auditor to approve the yearly financial statements. During the year, the inauguration of the office in Leipzig took place. Overall, it was a very positive start for our Foundation.

### **GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

In 2019, I participated in the following meetings of the EC:

- February 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand
- April 2019 in Budapest, Hungary (2 meetings)
- October 2019 in Chengdu, China
- December 2019 in Zhengzhou, China

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

- ITTF Europe Top 16 in Switzerland
- ITTF World Championships 2019 in Hungary
- ITTF European Youth Championships 2019 in Czech Republic
- ITTF T2 Diamond in Malaysia
- ITTF European Championships 2019 in France
- ITTF Women's World Cup 2019 in China
- ITTF Para European Championships 2019 in Sweden
- ITTF World Tour, Swedish Open 2019 in Sweden
- ITTF World Tour Grand Finals 2019 in China

In 2019, I represented the ITTF at the following meetings:

- Audit in Lausanne/Geneva, March, Switzerland
- Para recruiting meetings, joining via teleconference
- Para TT meeting with ITTF staff, Singapore
- Para TT Committee meeting, Sweden
- Risk Assessment Workshop, joining via teleconference
- ITTF Selection panel strategic agreement, Singapore
- ITTF Selection panel strategic agreement, Qatar
- ITTF Foundation inauguration, Germany
- ITTF High performance course, Sweden

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for giving me your trust and confidence. 2019 was a very special year for table tennis as we continue to grow very fast. Within our work to find a new strategic partner we have learnt a lot. We can also see that all the “big players” are following us and that table tennis holds a very attractive place on the market due to very good work from our staff and the possibilities when creating World of Table Tennis (WTT). It was also the year that saw Europe reach a final in the World Singles Championships for the first time in many years. For me it was not only a success for my Swedish association, it was also very important for our sport to show that it's possible to reach this level through hard work - I believe cooperation is the key, working together within our continents and national associations on all levels.

I also would like to thank our President and all my colleagues on the Executive Committee. It is my pleasure to work with you all! My thanks also extends to the Continental Presidents and your teams, Board of Director members and Committee members for your kind cooperation. I would also like to thank all my colleagues representing national associations, it all starts on the local level.

Last, but not least, I would like to express my gratitude to our professional staff and its leadership; it is always a great pleasure to work together with you. I'm very proud to be part of the ITTF family.

Table Tennis. For All. For Life!

**Petra Sörling**

ITTF Executive Vice-President

## **EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT (H. Bruce Burton)**

### **Report to the AGM**

**Document A4**

This past year has been one of intense activity. We continue to grow in size and scope with exciting and ambitious plans for World Table Tennis and the future Home of Table Tennis. Added to this are all the efforts to properly establish the new World Championship structure for the 2021 Individual Championships and the 2022 Team Championships. This is all elevated further of course by the activity associated with the 2020 Olympic Games and the grand stage it provides.

The following comments apply to the focus areas for which I have responsibility:

#### **Competition Department**

The new world ranking system, combined with the push by players to position themselves for Olympic qualification and seeding, has had a marked effect on participation levels at our competitions. The ITTF World Tour continues to flourish and 2020 will see a record prize purse.

Planning for the new World Championship structure has accelerated. At the time of writing, Regional and Continental Stage manuals are being finalised for release and the Financial model is being fine tuned for sharing with the Continental Federations. In the past year Future Event Working Group meetings were held in Singapore in August and in Zhengzhou in December.

Before the Busan World Table Tennis Championships (WTTC) takes place, one more meeting will be held in Doha, Qatar in early March. The goal is to discuss the details of the Qualification process and to finalise the mandatory parts of the Manuals for future WTTCs. I must acknowledge the work of Gabor Felegyi who has been hired as the WTTC Project Manager and has made a huge push, in consultation with the Competition and Marketing Departments, to bring this work to completion.

#### **High Performance and Development Department / ITTF Foundation**

The activity level of this department remains very high and serves as an extremely valuable connection to our member associations. The leadership of the department is to be commended for the sheer scope of the courses and activities offered during the past year.

As a member of the Governing Board of the Foundation, I am pleased to see so many ventures being pursued. 2019 saw the opening of offices in Leipzig and the addition of new staff. One critical addition was a Marketing Manager, since the success of the Foundation is very much dependent on the infusion of additional funds which will allow for expansion of its programmes.

#### **Multi-Sport Games**

##### **2019 Pan Am Games:**

Held in Lima, Peru in August 2019, the Games were very successfully presented. There were wonderful storylines with Hugo Calderano of Brazil winning the men's singles event and Adriana Diaz of Puerto Rico winning the women's title. This guarantees them a place at the Tokyo Olympic Games. In the team events there were hard fought battles with the USA men's team defeating Argentina in the final, and in the women's competition, Puerto Rico beat Brazil to the gold medal. It is interesting to note that the four finalists in the team events represented four different associations. This bodes well for future Pan Am competitions.

### 2019 Para Pan Am Games:

While I did not attend these Games personally, I followed with interest based on the experiences I had in Markham, Canada in 2015. The outcomes in Lima did not disappoint as once again it was a very competitive set of events. While Brazil again dominated the overall results, there was a good spread of medals across a number of countries.

### Commonwealth Games:

Everything is on track for the 2022 Games in Birmingham, England. It was particularly satisfying to see the hard work of Table Tennis England, with the support of the ITTF, to be successful in getting table tennis accepted into the Para programme. I am convinced that the presentation of this event can be used as a springboard to obtain core Para sport status for future Games.

### **Media and Promotion**

Again, we have seen record-breaking figures across our platforms of TV, social media, and online streaming. In fact, the social media community grew by more than one million fans in the past year. These results are a testament to our hard-working media team.

The 2019 version of the Star Awards were held in Zhengzhou, China. The event was well attended and was a very entertaining evening, combining the great stars of our sport with outstanding cultural elements presented by the local organising committee. Kudos to all for making this a reality.

Without a doubt the most significant development of the year was the establishment of World Table Tennis (WTT). At the time of writing this report, details are being finalised with regards to event structure for 2021 and beyond. In addition, branding guidelines will soon be released along with information about the structure of WTT, leading ultimately to a signing ceremony in March. I believe that this entity will bring about transformational change in our sport.

### **North America Relations and Events**

In June 2019 a very important step was taken when a Pan Am Confederation was formed at an inaugural meeting in Cancun, Mexico. While structural details remain to be finalised, I am optimistic that this will lead to an enhanced competition framework for the Americas.

A very successful ITTF North America Challenge Plus event was held in Markham, Canada and a 2020 version will be held in Vancouver next December. In addition, ITTF North America has plans for an Olympic qualifying event in March, International Junior events in August, along with TTX and Veterans events.

### **Conclusion**

It has been a rewarding experience to interact with the other members of the Executive Committee throughout the year. A special thanks to our professional staff leadership team as they deal with the rising level of activity, and the ever-increasing staff requirements to deliver our range of programmes.

### **H. Bruce Burton**

ITTF Executive Vice-President

With this report, I would like to inform you of my activity during 2019.

**Events and Meetings Attended****ITTF EC Meeting, Bangkok Thailand (17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> February)**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Table Tennis Association of Thailand (TTAT) for hosting the Executive Committee meeting for the first time in Bangkok and for their warm Hospitality. After receiving an update from the CEO, we went through the following agenda: "Athletes' Commission", "Operations Programme", "Competition Programme", "Marketing and Promotion Programme".

**32<sup>nd</sup> ITTF-ATTU Asian Cup, Yokohama Japan (5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> April)**

Yokohama city held the 32<sup>nd</sup> ITTF-ATTU Asian Cup which resulted in FAN Zhendong (CHN) claiming men's victory for the second year in a row and ZHU Yuling (CHN) lifting her third straight women's title. I would like to thank Mr. SHI Zhihao (ITTF Executive Vice President) and Mr. D.R. Choudhary (ATTU Hon. Treasurer) for their attendance at this event.

**LIEBHERR 2019 World Table Tennis Championships (WTTC), Budapest Hungary (19<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> April)**

I would like to place on record my thanks to the Hungarian Table Tennis Association for successfully organising this event through its many experiences of holding international competition. At this event, I felt the importance of introducing the Video Review System into the major international competition.

During the WTTC I attended the following event and meetings:

- 20<sup>th</sup> April: First Round Draw Ceremony, Executive Committee (EC) Meeting 1
- 21<sup>st</sup> April: Asian Table Tennis Union
- 22<sup>nd</sup> April: Annual General Meeting
- 23<sup>rd</sup> April: Olympic & Paralympic Commission, ITTF Foundation Opening Party
- 24<sup>th</sup> April: ITTF Board of Directors Meeting
- 28<sup>th</sup> April: EC Meeting 2

**2019 ITTF World Tour LION Japan Open, Sapporo (13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> June)**

Having last held the Japan Open in Sapporo, Hokkaido in 1991, it was a great opportunity for us to have this international event held in northern Japan the year prior to the Tokyo Olympic Games. Next year, with the event being held in Kitakyushu, located in southern Japan, we have the opportunity to attract table tennis fans from across the country to join us in Tokyo next year. I would like to thank Mr. Steve Dainton (ITTF CEO) and Mr. Matthew Pound (ITTF Marketing Director).

**East Asian Hope Games, Shanghai China (5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> July)**

This event is held for U12 players of East Asia with the corporation of Shanghai Table Tennis University. During the event Mr. Shi Zhihao (CTTC) has given us brilliant hospitality where we had many occasions to exchange information.

### **ZEN-NOH 2019 ITTF Team World Cup, Tokyo Japan (6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> November)**

This also served as a test event for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. Although the venue was still under reconstruction, the Japan Table Tennis Association (JTТА) negotiated with the Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee to be able to have the venue in use for this event. I believe it was a good opportunity for players to form a connection with the venue ahead of the Games. The event was highlighted by Newspaper and TV coverage on a daily basis until the final day.

### **2019 ITTF Women's World Cup, Chengdu China (20<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> October)**

At the Meeting we went through the following topics:

CEO update, Athlete's Commission, Operations, Competitions, High Performance and Development, ITTF Foundation, TTX, Marketing & Promotion, Sustainability, ITTF One Hundred Years Celebration 2026, and Protocol for major ITTF events.

### **ITTF World Cadet Challenge, Gdansk Poland (27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> October)**

I visited the same venue approximately 20 years ago and compared to then, there has been a lot of upgrades. The accommodation from the venue was a five-minute walk, meals were all buffet style with plenty of variety. I felt that it was the most suitable condition to hold an international event and training camp. I would like to congratulate Mr. Jakub Otys for his great leadership in organising the event and award ceremony, also to the great support from all ITTF staff in attendance.

### **ITTF World Junior Championships, Korat Thailand (24<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December)**

The event was held at a venue which was located within a huge shopping mall. The flooring of the venue was the same as it was at the Youth Olympic Games (plastic cushions on top of concrete floor. The cushion was very good and there was no damage or additional pressure on the players' condition). The event, controlled by Mr. Sakul Ariyachotima from early hours to late hours, and the teamwork within the Table Tennis Association of Thailand, was admirable. Drones featured at the opening ceremony and award ceremony, taking visuals to new heights in table tennis.

### **2019 ITTF World Tour Grand Finals, Zhengzhou China (12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> December)**

At the Grand Finals we had several events and meetings which I attended:

- 11<sup>th</sup> December: Star Award (Opening) Ceremony
- 12<sup>th</sup> December: EC Meeting, Olympic and Paralympic Commission
- 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> December: Watched the Grand Finals where I had the privilege as a Presenter.

Finally, I would like to mention that with Thomas Weikert as the President, our EC members and the ITTF professional staff, I truly look forward to the year 2020 and to bring this great opportunity of hosting the Tokyo 2020 Olympic & Paralympic Games in Japan to success. Also, I will carry on putting all my efforts into further development of international table tennis.

**Masahiro Maehara**

ITTF Executive Vice-President

## EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT (Alaa Meshref)

### Report to the AGM

Document A6

This report covers the period from January 2019 until December 2019 (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 the Arab Table Tennis Federation - Regional Role

#### 1) Meetings and Events Attended

Date	Event	Location	Meeting (Minutes on the ITTF website)
Feb, 2019		Bangkok, THA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EC Meeting</li><li>• 2 EC Meetings</li><li>• AGM</li></ul>
Apr, 2019	WTTC	Budapest, HUN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• BoD Meeting</li><li>• Olympic &amp; Paralympic Commission</li><li>• African Meeting</li><li>• ARAB Meeting</li></ul>
Oct, 2019		Chengdu, CHN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EC Meeting</li></ul>
Dec, 2019	WT Grand Finals	Zhengzhou, CHN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EC Meeting</li><li>• Meeting with Continental Representatives</li></ul>

#### 2) Role Related to Communications with Africa – Continental Role

Date	Event	Location	Meetings
Aug, 2019	African Cup Lagos Open	Lagos, NGR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No Meetings (ITTF representative)</li></ul>
Aug, 2019	All African Games	Rabat, MAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ATTF AGM</li><li>• ITTF representative as it served as qualifier for the top team in the Olympic Games.</li></ul>

The Nigeria Table Tennis Federation (NTTF) hosted the African Cup with very late notice, and they need to be thanked for that. I congratulate them for their continued success and growth of the Lagos Open, which is currently a Challenge Plus tournament with an increasing number of sponsors and participants year after year.

The African Table Tennis Federation (ATTF) AGM in Morocco during the All-Africa Games showed a true application for the new constitution approved the year before. This resulted in deciding hosts for coming African events by voting in the AGM and not by a board decision as in the past.

The commercial agreement between the ITTF and ATTF has been finalised, with separate direct contracts to the different regions. The aim was to support the role of the regions and help them develop table tennis in the whole continent, raising the level of activity and tournaments within the



regions. This came true with the regions hosting higher quality events to qualify for the African Cup in 2020, and even more is expected to happen in the regions in the near future.

The only missing step for ATTF is development of a Strategic Plan adapted to its specific needs.

I would like to congratulate the African Associations for the results and ranking of their players. The top senior African players from Nigeria and Egypt were able to keep hold of their top 50 ranking, and even reached the top 20. There were newcomers from Nigeria, Senegal and Egypt to have higher rankings and be recognised in continental and international events. Rising young stars in Africa show there is hope for even better results in the international arena in the future.

### **3) Information Technology**

- After the success of the results management system, the ITTF took a step forward to further professionalise the IT department. I would like to thank the previous IT head (Mr Dawlatly) for his success in establishing the current results management.
- I would also like to congratulate the new head of IT (Mr Ramasubramanian) for his new position. He is currently establishing a robust database structure to serve as a foundation for all future IT demands and goals of the ITTF. This is a huge step forward, and I'm expecting further growth of the IT department with more professional in-house developers to support the forthcoming demands of the database, and its interface with all applications whether on the website or mobile applications or web services and statistics.

### **4) Equipment**

- The equipment department is also being professionalised with a new office opened five months ago, having two full time and one part time staff members. There is cooperation between the department staff and the equipment committee in all aspects.
- A pilot phase was successfully completed to check true rubber thickness of players on dismantled blades. This will help in future development of new more accurate devices for racket control.
- Intensive cooperation is being done with ball manufacturers to ensure consistent quality of balls in all ITTF events.
- Coloured rubbers have been defined and will be approved soon.
- Close to 2000 products are currently on the ITTF approval list, and this is still increasing.
- The revenue from equipment approvals and testing has increased the last two years by an average of 20%.
- All technical leaflets are being updated and databases are under development for all approved products.
- Closer monitoring of unauthorised use of the ITTF logo and proper action against non-compliant companies is strictly undertaken.

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

I attended the Arab meeting during the 2019 World Table Tennis Championships in Budapest.

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

**Alaa Meshref**

ITTF Executive Vice-President

## **EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT (James Morris)**

### **Report to the AGM**

**Document A7**

This report covers my responsibilities for 2019.

#### Strategic Plan

An internal survey is being sent to Stakeholders to gain feedback from the first two years of developing the Federation's Strategic Plan. This process is planned to give members the opportunity to give constructive comment to improve the Plan moving forward.

Key staff continue to roll out the Operational Plan and as our staff is growing rapidly with ITTF's new vision, this becomes critical in being able to measure staff performance.

#### Continental Agreements

Recently Mr. Mounir Bessah has taken on the new position of ITTF Member Relations Director, which will provide greater support to ensure the various agreements with Continental Federations can be implemented. Mr. Mounir Bessah has had meetings with all Continental Federations and has reported good progress thus far.

All contracts are in place and there will be ongoing discussion in early 2020 to finalise some regional areas.

I also take this opportunity to thank all continental officials and staff for their co-operation with this important funding opportunity.

#### Veterans

2019 saw the launch of the World Veterans Tour.

All five events as part of the tour were held in different parts of the world and it is fair to say it was a learning curve. It was a tight schedule to roll out and although it appeared rushed, many people commented positively on the concept.

Staff have been internally debriefed after this last year and improvements will be forthcoming.

With the World Veterans Championships fast approaching in Bordeaux, France, the ITTF will have a Technical Team present to be mentored by SCI and the organising team in readiness for the first World Veterans Championships under ITTF's control in Oman 2022.

#### Oceania

Highlights in Oceania would have to be the successful 2019 ITTF World Tour Platinum Australian Open event which saw the top ranked players in the world in attendance.

What a great opportunity for our region to see the world's best players with record crowd numbers posted throughout the event. I would like to congratulate ITTF – Oceania and the LOC.

The Tonga Amateur Table Tennis Association was recognized by the World Health Organisation (WHO), for its commitment with the 'Smash Down Barriers' programme which creates

opportunities and increases the quality of life for people with disabilities through active participation in table tennis. A proud moment for Tonga and the sport as a whole, so well done.

Also, the Pacific Games, held once every four years, took place in Samoa and saw table tennis keep its position as an important sport in the region.

Congratulations to Vanuatu who dominated the medal tally.

I also thank ITTF-Oceania President Anthony Ho, his elected committee and of course staff for the ongoing commitment to improve our sport in the region.

I attended all Executive Committee (EC) meetings required.

Finally, I thank my President Thomas Weikert and EC colleagues for their support for the year and especially the professional staff for their hard work and co-operation.

**James Morris**

ITTF Executive Vice-President

The year 2019 has come to an end. During this year, our sport has attracted a lot of attention from all over the world. I'm very glad to be the witness of this great year. Now, I would like to report my work in 2019 as follows.

### **1. ITTF Hopes Selection camp**

The ITTF Hopes Selection Camp was held in CTTC in Shanghai, from June 4-10, 2019. As the ITTF Vice-President and the CTTC President, I was very glad to see that the camp was proceeding smoothly under the cooperation between the ITTF and CTTC working group. In total, there were 28 coaches (10 female), 14 players (8 boys and 6 girls), as well as the officials and accompanying persons from 12 different countries participating in the camp.

### **2. ITTF Museum**

2019 is the second year after the opening ceremony of the ITTF Museum. In this year, the museum working group worked very hard to push forward the promotion of the museum and the development of our sport. Also, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to your cooperation and great support.

Hereinafter, I would like to report the work of ITTF Museum in 2019 as follows:  
Compared to 2018, the number of visitors to the museum has improved.

#### **Visit statistics for the ITTF Museum**

<b>Visitors</b>	<b>Number of People</b>	
	<b>Year of 2018</b>	<b>Year of 2019</b>
Individual visitors	33,139	154,823
Teams	14,667	15,590
VIP	1,851	1,740
Foreign guests	725	627
Students	3,485	5,605
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,867</b>	<b>178,385</b>

In 2019, the museum organised 15 itinerant exhibitions in 6 different cities, including Budapest. There have been over 342,800 people onsite and over 1.1 million people online participating the exhibitions.

For the objects collection, the museum team has collected 589 objects from 36 donors in 2019 and has established a 2D image system for the objects.

In 2020, the museum working team will continue the work on promotion, objects collection, and electronic technique of the exhibition for the better development of the ITTF Museum and protection of table tennis history.

### **3. Attendance in ITTF Meetings**

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

#### Executive Committee Meetings

- Bangkok February 2019
- Yokohama April 2019
- Budapest April 2019

#### BoD Meeting

- Budapest April 2019

#### OPC Meetings

- Budapest April 2019

#### AGM

- Budapest April 2019

#### WTTC

- Budapest April 2019

As a conclusion, I would like to express my gratitude to colleagues and friends in the ITTF family for your kind support and great effort in the past year. I sincerely hope we will have great cooperation together in 2020.

**Shi Zhihao**

ITTF Executive Vice-President

## **EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT (Nestor Jose Tenca)**

### **Report to the AGM**

### **Document A9**

As in 2018, during the year 2019 the ITTF, through its Executive Committee and staff, continued with its determined policy of optimising standards in terms of transparency and good governance.

The process was also accelerated, with the development of continental and national associations strategic plans in line with the ITTF plan adopted in 2018, and with the work done to establish the concept of the 2021 World Championships and beyond.

I support the idea of having top-quality qualifying events and World Championships with a more attractive matrix regarding sponsors, television hours and social networking presence, allowing higher income that can be reinvested into the development of table tennis across different countries and to increase the benefits for our professional athletes. At the same time, this will allow the ITTF to present the sport in different regions of the world through the continental and regional qualification events.

As part of my responsibilities as ITTF Executive Vice-President, I had the honor of representing our Executive Committee (EC) in the following activities:

- ITTF Pan American Cup, that took place in the city of San Juan, Puerto Rico, in February.
- ITTF Pan American Junior Championships, that took place in Cancun, Mexico, in June. On that occasion, I participated in the Foundational General Assembly of the Pan American Table Tennis Confederation.
- Pan American Games, in Lima, Peru, in August
- Pan American Championships, in Asuncion, Paraguay, in September

Except for some organisational issues that that should be solved for the future, the majority of these events demonstrated high standards of logistics and organisation.

Within my responsibilities as ITTF Executive Vice-President I took part in the following meetings of our Executive Committee:

- EC meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, in February
- EC meetings (2), Annual General Meeting, Board of Directors, Olympic and Paralympic Commission in Budapest, Hungary, in March
- EC meeting in Chengdu, China, in October, during the Uncle Pop 2019 ITTF Women's World Cup
- I participated as member of the Board of Trustees in the launch of the ITTF Foundation Headquarters in Leipzig, Germany, in September

To conclude my report, I would like to offer a sincere acknowledgment to our President, Thomas Weikert, to my other colleagues on the Executive Committee, to CEO Steve Dainton, to Secretary General Secretary, Raul Calin, and to all the ITTF staff for forming a team that envisions a better and bigger sport of table tennis.

I also appreciate being able to participate in a field of work and collaboration with maximum freedom of opinion.

I would like to extend my recognition to all member associations, especially from the Americas, for giving their support to ITTF projects.

**Nestor Jose Tenca**

ITTF Executive Vice-President

# **CHAIR OF THE ATHLETES' COMMISSION (Zoran Primorac)**

## **Report to the AGM**

**Document A10**

### Changes within the Athletes' Commission

Since the last Athletes' Commission (AC) report submitted at the World Championships in Budapest, AC had one change: Jasna Reed accepted a new position at the ITTF, so she was replaced by Alberto Mino, from Ecuador.

Our current Athletes' Commission is composed of:

- Chair - Zoran Primorac (CRO)
- Deputy Chairs - Galia Dvorak (ESP) and Dana Cechova (CZE)
- Para Athletes - Alena Kanova (SVK) and Trevor Hirth (AUS)
- Athletes - Sarah Hanffou (CMR), Alberto Mino (ECU), Wang Liqin (CHN), Jean-Michel Saive (BEL), Elsayed Lashin (EGY), Marcos Madrid (MEX) and Matthew Hetherington (NZL)
- IOC AC member - Ryu Seungmin (KOR)

Activities of the Athletes' Commission - overview of the Athletes' Commission activities within 2019:

### EC Meetings:

- February 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand
- April 2019 in Budapest, Hungary
- October 2019 in Chengdu, China
- December 2019 in Zhengzhou, China

Players - ITTF leadership meeting was held in Doha, Qatar on 19th March, 2019.

Various topics were discussed, including: insufficient prize money, expensive accommodation costs, prize money distribution, 64 player draw for the Platinum and major World Tours events, insufficient table numbers in the practice halls and hot food in the players lounges.

### IOC Athlete 365 program:

We didn't organise any workshops since the last AC annual report, and therefore it would be good to do so in the next period, for the well-being of the players.

The objective of the workshops is to promote dual career, which emphasises importance of professional athletes' education and/or building different skills while they are still active in the sport.

Since the ITTF has many trained Athlete 365 educators there is significant potential to organise a higher number of Athlete 365 workshops in the future, with athletes of different age groups.

We attended the 9th International Athletes Forum which was held in Lausanne on April 13-15, 2019. The key recommendations were:

- To strengthen athlete representation
- To strengthen direct financial support for NOC athletes' commissions (hopefully International Federations AC's will be included too!)
- To strengthen the support for career transition



- To strengthen the protection of clean athletes and fight against doping
- To focus on athletes' mental health

We hope that these recommendations and values can be implemented in the future of the ITTF strategic development.

ITTF Foundation:

Athletes Commission signed agreement with ITTF Foundation to create the Athletes Emergency Fund (AEF) to help players with emergency health situations (illnesses and/or accidents).

We strongly supported the idea and organisation of the first ITTF Parkinson's World Championships in Westchester, USA (October 2019). We think that through our sport we can promote health and other social values.

The new world ranking system:

We are happy that ITTF hired new World Ranking Manager, Javier Angulo, showing the importance of the World Rankings list. Also, adding one extra member from the AC to the World Ranking working group is providing an opportunity to develop a better ranking system for the benefit of the athletes.

When making changes, there needs to be considered timing, especially if it is too close to the Olympics. Any additional corrections and improvements should be done right after the 2020 Olympics, so that everyone has time to adapt to the new ranking system.

World Table Tennis

In communication with table tennis athletes, we have great expectations from the year 2021, when all commercial rights will be taken back in-house by the ITTF.

We see this as a great opportunity for our sport to make a great step forward in professionalism and commercialization, which will lead to increased prize money and better tournament conditions.

We are looking forward to future cooperation with all ITTF stakeholders in order to assure the progressive and sustainable future development of table tennis.

I would like to use this opportunity to thank my Athletes' Commission members for their commitment and engagement for the benefit of the table tennis as a sport, and most importantly its players.

**Zoran Primorac**

Chair of the Athletes' Commission Chair

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER (Ryu Seungmin)**

### **Report to the AGM**

**Document A11**

First of all, I would like to thank all the affiliated members of ITTF and the Executive Committee members for the opportunity to participate in ITTF activities in 2019. It has been a great experience and I feel privileged to have had this opportunity.

The report covers my activities as ITTF Executive Committee member and a member of IOC in 2019.

#### **Event Attended**

##### **13<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> January – IOC Commission Week, Lausanne**

IOC Commission week was hosted in Lausanne beginning 13<sup>th</sup> January. As a member of the Olympic Education Commission and Athletes' Commission, I attended meetings of each respective Commission.

During the Olympic Education Commission meeting, how to further promote Olympic values were discussed. Members shared many ideas on developing educational products and methods to deliver the values.

In the Athletes' Commission meeting, several ideas on how to better represent athletes were discussed. The IOC Athletes' Commission has been active being involved in various dialogues with many athlete groups around the world. Members of the Commission discussed many issues regarding athletes.

##### **2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> March – OCA General Assembly**

During OCA General Assembly which was hosted in Bangkok, Thailand, I was appointed to the OCA Executive Committee and the Chair of Athletes' Entourage Committee.

##### **20<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> April – ITTF World Table Tennis Championships**

During the ITTF AGM hosted in Budapest, I made a presentation regarding preparation for the Busan 2020 WTTC.

##### **17<sup>th</sup> May - WADA Foundation Boarding Meeting**

As a member of the WADA Foundation Board, I attended the Foundation Board Meeting in Montreal, Canada. During the meeting, agendas related to WADA administration and anti-doping were discussed.

##### **23<sup>rd</sup> June – Olympic Day and Olympic House Opening Ceremony**

The newly built Olympic House was officially opened during Olympic Day. Olympic House has been built in an eco-friendly way to maintain sustainability. The opening ceremony was attended by 700 guests and for the traditional ribbon-cutting, IOC President Bach was joined by IOC Executive Board members.

### **24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> June - 134<sup>th</sup> IOC session Lausanne**

Over three busy days in Lausanne, the IOC marked its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary with its 134<sup>th</sup> session. IOC discussed several topics including Tokyo 2020 (new commercial opportunities), host city election for the Olympic Winter Games 2026, future Olympic Games (new principles for athletes' commercial opportunities and major changes to the host election process). The subject of Paris 2024 (additional sports) was addressed alongside members' elections and other business (recent games, future games, IOC refugee Olympic Team and anti-doping). During the 134<sup>th</sup> IOC Session, host for the 2026 Winter Olympic Games was decided. Milano-Cortina was chosen over Stockholm-Are as the host.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> July – Korea Open**

Because of the solid organisational work of Busan City and the Korea Table Tennis Association, all the players were satisfied with the high quality of facilities and service. We also had many table tennis fans visit the venue to support the players. They enjoyed outstanding performances. Korea Open was successful; KTTA and Busan City are looking forward to hosting the 2020 WTTC.

### **8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> July - ITTF Inspection, Busan, Korea**

On 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July, ITTF inspection team (ITTF Deputy President Mr. Khalil Al-Mohannadi, ITTF CEO Mr. Steve Dainton) visited Busan, Korea to inspect the preparation for the 2020 WTTC. The inspection team had a Meet & Greet gathering and also had a venue (BEXCO) and hotel tour on 8<sup>th</sup> July. On 9<sup>th</sup> July, the team had a general meeting (LOC Update, check List) and a specific meetings (competition, marketing, operation).

### **14<sup>th</sup> August – The inauguration ceremony of Local Organising Committee of the WTTC**

The Local Organising Committee had an inauguration ceremony and announced their official appearance for 2020 WTTC in Busan. Many stakeholders and media attended the ceremony to welcome the official appearance of LOC and express their interests for the successful WTTC in Busan, 2020.

### **20<sup>nd</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> October – ITTF Executive Committee meeting in Chengdu, China**

During this EC meeting, I took the opportunity to understand how the EC works and makes the best decisions. EC members had an extensive meeting to discuss 17 categories and it was really productive for our sport. The EC meeting also was a great chance for me to seek ways to reinforce relations between ITTF and IOC.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> November – IOC Career+ Forum**

IOC Career+ Forum, where educators of IOC's athlete support programme met to share opinions was hosted in Lake Placid, United States. In the Forum, I was able to share my experiences as an educator of Career+.

### **5<sup>th</sup> November – WADA World Conference on Doping in Sport / WADA Foundation Board Meeting**

WADA's World Conference and Foundation Board Meeting were both held in Katowice, Poland. Newly appointed WADA President, Witold Banka, shared his visions on promoting anti-doping with athlete representatives. Also, during the Athlete Committee Meeting, Ben Sanford was elected as the new chair.

### **13<sup>TH</sup> November – Paris Peace Forum**

As per IOC President Mr Thomas Bach's request, I participated in the second edition of the Paris Peace Forum. In the Forum, I shared the examples of Unified Korean Team in table tennis to explain peace values of sport and how it can contribute to society and the world.

### **12<sup>TH</sup> December – Peace and Sport Forum**

In the Peace and Sport Forum which was held in Monaco, presentations were made on how to promote world peace through sport. I shared the story on the development of the Unified Korean Team during the 2018 WTTC. The story Unified Korean Team in Chiba, Japan was also shared.

### **21<sup>ST</sup> to 22<sup>ND</sup> December – IOC Career+ Workshop**

As an Educator of IOC Career+, I hosted the IOC Career+ Workshop in collaboration with the Korea Sport & Olympic Committee. Around 40 athletes participated to share and learn about career transitioning and also about a dual career. The workshop provided athletes with various tips on how to manage their time/schedule and also on how to successfully prepare for their next chapter in life.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the ITTF President, Mr. Thomas Weikert, my colleagues on the Executive Committee and the professional ITTF staff for all of their support and hard work. I also would like to express my deepest gratitude to all the members of ITTF and also promise that I will do my best to build the solid relations with IOC for the benefit of our sport.

### **Ryu Seungmin**

ITTF Executive Committee member. IOC Member

In 2019 we started to apply the renewed ITTF Development Agreement with more concentration through our five regions; for the first time it was possible to conduct five regional competitions (one per each region) with a good level of participation, thus a bigger number of associations became more active in hosting DP programmes and competitions in the regions.

After the 2019 ITTF AGM, I had the pleasure in December to represent the ATTF at the ITTF EC meeting with the Continental Presidents in Zhengzhou (China). It was held in conjunction with the World Tour Grand Finals and 2019 Star Awards.

### **The African activities for the year 2019 were as follows:**

#### **2019 ITTF-Africa Junior & Cadet Championships**

The tournament was held in Accra in April 2019 with 21 participating countries and about 180 players; a record in terms of participation for such an important event started 19 years ago. Thanks to the Ghana Table Tennis Association for hosting a successful and wonderful event in addition to the African Youth under 21 Championships which included all top African players/teams in all age categories. ITTF/ATTF celebrated with Ghana a World Junior Circuit tournament which was conducted in Accra for the first time. Also there was the excellent organisation of the fifth ITTF World Table Tennis Day on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019 and also the organisation of the special coaching seminar for Africa under the leadership of Mr. Massimo Costantini. It was a very rewarding festival in Africa.

#### **2019 ITTF-Africa Cup & African Club Championships**

The African Cup was held in Lagos, Nigeria in August 2019 with 51 players from 16 countries. Thanks to the Nigeria Table Tennis Federation; they provided a professional organisation and took care of hosting the event back-to-back with the ITTF Challenge Plus Nigeria Open; the tournament secured a good number of participating players/associations.

The ITTF-Africa Cup was the qualifying event for the ITTF World Cups 2019. Egypt's Omar Assar and Dina Meshref were the respective winners and thus progressed to represent Africa. We had the honour to have another qualifier by ITTF ranking for the Men's World Cup, Nigeria's Quadri Aruna. It was the second time to ensure two African qualifiers. The ITTF-Africa Cup was followed by the African Club Championships with eight men's teams and six women's teams. Egypt's Al-Ahly Club won both events.

#### **2019 All African Games**

The event was held in Morocco in August 2019 with 25 participating NOCs (a record for all participating sports in the Games). Thanks to the Morocco Table Tennis Federation and COJAR for hosting such a successful event which was also qualification for teams at the forthcoming Olympic Games. Egypt emerged the team to represent Africa in both men and women events. The final medal status for the Games was Egypt (four gold, two silver, four bronze), followed Nigeria (two gold, four silver, four bronze) and Algeria (a first ever gold). Cameroon (one silver), Tunisia (three bronze) and Congo Brazzaville (one bronze) completed the medal list.

#### **African Participation and Top International Results**

- NGR and EGY represented Africa in 2019 Team World Cup in Japan but neither the men's nor the women's team progressed beyond the preliminary group stage, both finished in ninth place.

- 12 African Associations took part in the LIEBHERR 2019 World Championships in Budapest (ALG – CGO – CIV - CMR - COD – EGY – GHA – MAD - MRI – NGR - SEN – TOG). In the men's singles Quadri Aruna (NGR) reached the round of 32, in the women's singles Dina Meshref reached the round of 64. In the women's doubles Yousra Helmy/Dina Meshref (Egypt) reached the round of 16.
- Dina Meshref (EGY), the winner of the 2019 ITTF-Africa Cup, participated in the Uncle Pop Women's World Cup in Chengdu, China in October 2019. She reached the main draw (round of 16).
- Quadri Aruna (NGR) plus Omar Assar (EGY) both participated in the Chengdu Airlines Men's World Cup in Chengdu, China in November 2019. Quadri Aruna reached the main draw (round of 16).
- There was one (Challenge Plus Series) event organised in Nigeria in August 2019, thanks to the NTTF and Lagos State for their tradition of professional organisation and for the sixth year in a row. Quadri Aruna (NGR) won the men's singles gold medal to retain his title. NTTF has already applied to continue hosting the event in 2020.
- There were two WJC events organised in 2019 in Africa: in Ghana in April and in Egypt in October. Thanks to GTTA and 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.

## **Development and Education in Africa**

The main African Hopes and Cadet Week/Challenge was well organised in COD (June) with 16 cadet players (boys and girls) and 14 Hopes Players (boys and girls) from six participating associations.

Africa was a part of the ITTF Hopes Week/Challenge that was held in Oman; the representatives of Africa won both singles' titles. Usman Ishola (NGR) for boys and Hana Goda (EGY) for girls.

Thanks to all professional course conductors and camp experts who came to Africa in 2019. Sincere thanks to BUTTERFLY and TRIOFLOR brands for their great and continuous support to our associations and for our competitions. They helped create a prestigious image at our events. Thanks to the STAG brand for the same support towards the promotion of African associations plus their support as the major sponsor of the African Cadet Team in the WCC.

Special thanks to Mrs. Polona Cehovin, Mr. Massimo Costantini, Mr. Nicolas Petit and Mr. Ramzi Ben Mabrouk for their keen efforts to follow up all DP programmes in Africa and the regions during the whole year, they have started already to assign Regional Development Officers in our regions.

## **Essential Recognition**

On behalf of the ATTF EC, I thank Mr. Thomas Weikert, the ITTF President, and all ITTF EC group for their support for 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, overcoming 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 to the end of 2019.

#### **Events**

The year 2019 was prosperous for the Asian Table Tennis Union in terms of event organisation. The SSP 24<sup>th</sup> ITTF-Asian Table Tennis Championships was hosted by the Indonesia Table Tennis Association in September in Yogyakarta. The Japan Table Tennis Association staged the LION 32<sup>nd</sup> ITTF-ATTU Asian Cup Yokohama 2019, after hosting the same event in 2018. The Mongolia Table Tennis Association organised the 25<sup>th</sup> Asian Junior & Cadet Table Tennis Championships, the first time for Mongolia to host the event. Four regions in Asia staged their qualification events for the 2019 AJCTTC respectively.

Besides, member associations of the ATTU also organised ITTF World Tours, ITTF Junior Circuit events and other ITTF events. The Chinese TTA hosted the 2019 World Tour Grand Finals in Zhengzhou, immediately after hosting the Women's and Men's World Cup in Chengdu. Events for women and disabled players were organised.

#### **Development Programmes**

In the year 2019, the Union continued to take advantage of the ATTU-DHS Fund with the aim to encourage Asian young players' participation in international table tennis events. ITTF World Junior Circuit events in Taicang, China in July and in Hong Kong, China in August were chosen. Players in Asian Teams that participated in these two events were given free hospitality.

Besides the above programmes, a new development programme named ATTU Aim for the Stars was introduced. Five regions in Asia, as well as national associations, designed various development programmes suitable to their own needs with the budget allocated. The programmes were supervised and supported by the professional ATTU Development Project Manager. By the end of 2019, a few regional training programmes had been implemented and were very well received.

In Budapest in April in 2019, the Union signed a revised development agreement with the ITTF. The newly signed agreement will be implemented for 2019 and 2020 with a general plan for the development of table tennis in our continent.

Hopes Week Activities were organised in Asia in 2019. Following four regional Hopes Weeks, the Asia Hopes Week was hosted by Thailand TTA. The successful players in the Thailand event were given a chance to compete in 2019 ITTF World Hopes Week.

The ITTF Development Fund was used according to contract. Training courses and multiple development activities and programmes were organised for coaches, umpires and event organisers in various countries and regions.

### **Marketing Initiative**

Lagardère Sports Asia, who holds exclusive media promotion rights for ATTU events, continued to help promote ATTU events on various social media platforms in 2019.

Double Happiness Company and the Nittaku Company continued to support the Union in 2019; their contribution played an important role in Asian Table Tennis development.

### **ATTU Website**

In 2019 the ATTU website opened an online entry system for its authorised events. It was for the first time that member associations made online registrations for 2019 Asian Junior & Cadet Table Tennis Championships in Mongolia and for 2019 Asian Table Tennis Championships in Indonesia. It was another step forward after the adoption of live streaming on ATTU website in 2018.

Moreover, fans could watch table tennis matches from the Union on the ATTU website via new media platforms including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube.

The website also published monthly rankings of Asian players and news on Asian events and other table tennis activities.

Finally, I want to thank all my colleagues of ATTU, ITTF and member associations for their trust in myself and their support to ATTU. I am very grateful for the tireless efforts and hard work in the development of table tennis.

### **Cai Zhenhua**

Continental President: Asia



#### **Member Basis**

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

#### **Competitions/events**

Traditionally, the first of ETTU's events in the calendar year is the prestigious ITTF-Europe Top 16 Cup. In 2019 we witnessed the second of three consecutive events held in Montreux (SUI) entitled the "China Construction Bank 2019 ITTF Europe Top-16 Cup." Thanks to our very competent Swiss colleagues, it was a most memorable event, improving by the year. After the two first editions of 'Montreux', it will be a challenge to maintain the standard.

The 2019 BUTTERFLY Under 21 Championships in Gondomar (POR) showed the quality of our Portuguese hosts to organise such an event. The STAG 62<sup>nd</sup> European Youth Championships took place in Ostrava (CZE); an experienced organisation crew guaranteed another very good event. Great performances by 44 junior boys' teams, 37 junior girls' teams, 39 cadet boys' teams and 36 cadet girls' teams.

ETTU was very much involved in the 2019 European Games held in Minsk (BLR) in June. The second edition of the EG led to the three singles medallists (f/m), as well as the winners of the team events and the mixed doubles directly qualifying for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

In September the ETTU organised the final stage of the European Championships (teams) in Nantes (FRA) with 24 men's and 24 women's teams participating. Our French colleagues made the tournament a very pleasant event in a typical French atmosphere.

The Europe Youth Top 10 was successfully staged in Noordwijk (NED) in October.

#### **Congress Meetings 2019**

During the Extraordinary Congress in Budapest the Executive Board updated the member associations on the Development Programme, the club competitions, finances, the constitutional review, the European Games and the European Championships.

The Ordinary Congress took place in Nantes during the LIEBHERR 2019 European Championships. ITTF's CEO was invited to make a presentation, in the light of the ongoing discussions between ETTU and ITTF. The presentation led to good discussions about f.i. the world table tennis calendar, the unique club structures in Europe, the name of the European Championships and the needs of the smaller associations. Further, the Congress discussed and adopted the new constitution that entered into force on January 1st, 2020. For the first time the newly appointed Audit Commission reported to the Congress.

#### **Development Activities**

In 2019 emphasis was again laid on the harmonisation of the different areas of our development programme. At the end of 2019 we may say that we have achieved many, if not all, of our goals as described in the ITTF-ETTU Development Programmes, including greater coaches' participation and a National Associations' Assistance Programme, which supports the non-top

ranked associations in their development activities. In the Eurotalents project, 411 under 13 players were evaluated, of which 15 will participate in the Development Programme for 2020 (together with three youth players from previous selection). European successes in the World Cadet Challenge and the World Junior Championships show that we are on the right track in closing the gap with our Asian friends.

### **Marketing and Commercial Initiatives and Club Competitions**

In continued cooperation based on the ETTU-ITTF Strategic Commercial Agreement, major progress is being made in social media, internet and even TV. European events are not always easy to sell to TV and sponsors, but surely there are some positive signs, in particular relating to the Top 16 and, to lesser extent, the European Championships. During the European tournaments, including the club competitions, more and more fans are following our content. In particular the number of Facebook followers rose from 41k in 2018 to 76k by the end of 2019!

### **Athletes' Commission**

Taking care of the interests of the athletes, AC Chair Galia Dvorak has contributed excellently with an open mind to our work and has shown growing enthusiasm and skills 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 have worked hard and not without success to still further improve our financial situation.

### **Honours**

Five members of the European table tennis family were awarded with the ETTU Badge of Honour for their contribution to our sport.

### **In conclusion**

In April 2019 a delegation of ETTU's Executive Board (EB) travelled to Doha (QAT) to meet a delegation of the ITTF EC and Staff. A number of issues were discussed during that meeting. However, by the end of 2019 ETTU's EB had to conclude that not much had changed for better in solving the problems as observed by ETTU. In the beginning of 2020, an Extraordinary Congress will be convened, to discuss the situation with ETTU's member associations.

Many thanks go to the ITTF, its officials and its staff, and the other Continental Federations for their inspiration, their support and cooperation and the work we are doing together.

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

### **Ronald Kramer**

Continental President: Europe

The year 2019 finished with important advances; we were ready for the year 2020. The Latin American Table Tennis Union has worked closely with the International Table Tennis Federation to align its projects and programmes and seek the fulfillment of the major objectives in the areas of development, popularisation, marketing and competitions, with the implementation of administrative processes that reflect good governance and transparency in resource management.

Also, 2019 was a year that started with major investment projects and a great deal of planning for the implementation of new projects. In this report we present some of the activities that are considered important to highlight.

### STRATEGIC PLAN AND INVESTMENT

One of the most important achievements was the culmination of the [STRATEGIC PLAN](#) that sets the course and the objectives to be met until 2024; as a key point in the process, all prior and further investment agreements were consolidated into a single global agreement with ITTF, this will help to better monitor and manage the resources.

The operational and investment plan for 2020 is ready for implementation in the three continental regions. The success of this plan requires teamwork with each of the regional confederations for implementation and follow-up.

### STAFF

The evolution towards better table tennis on the continent requires more and more professional people dedicated to specialised work. The team was strengthened with the addition of an **ITTF Regional Director** for Latin America and a **Participation Officer** in support of the development programme in the continent. The professional staff who have been actively working in the areas of development, promotion, marketing, competitions and operations already consists nine (9) people.

### REGIONAL AND CONTINENTAL EVENTS

The year 2019 was the beginning of a new era of investment and strengthening of our regional and continental events. The investment in organisation, promotion and marketing of regional events as a classification phase to the Pan American Games was at a level that had never been previously achieved. The increase in crowds, streaming and television coverage was unprecedented in these events.

**CARIBBEAN:** The Caribbean Championships in the city of Georgetown, Guyana showed a very important advance in the standards of organisation and success in promotion. It marked a high benchmark for future organisers of this event.

**CENTRAL AMERICA:** The Central American Championships in Guatemala City was accompanied by a strategic and very innovative promotion. New figures were achieved; a high number attended the finals.

**SOUTH AMERICA:** The South American Championships in Buenos Aires, Argentina, was a guaranteed success as a result of its high standards of organisation, excellent promotion and coverage throughout the event.

**LATIN AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS:** The Latin American Championships in Guatemala City was accompanied by the individual qualifying event for the Pan American Games. A high standard of organisation at the level of the best continental tournaments provided the best of competitive experiences for players from 20 participating countries. The event enjoyed excellent coverage and online streaming throughout.

LA Under 11 / Under 13: The Latin American Under 11 and Under 13 Championships, hand in hand with the Continental Hopes process, was organised excellently in Salinas, Puerto Rico; it catapulted our future great figures of continental table tennis worldwide. The role developed by our continental representatives was excellent, opening up opportunities for the development of these athletes as a result of the great projects of the International Table Tennis Federation.

LA CADETS: The Latin American Cadet Championships was a great experience for participants in the city of Medellin, Colombia, where the teams that represented the continent in the World Cadet Challenge in Poland were formed. Our teams finished fifth above North America, Oceania and Africa.

OLYMPIC TEAM QUALIFICATION: One of the most important events was organised excellently in the city of Lima, Peru; the perfect setting to define our continental teams' representation for Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. The teamwork of the staff of the ULTM, the International Table Tennis Federation and the Peruvian Table Tennis Federation achieved high standards in the organisation and presentation of the event.

MASTER: To culminate the continental events, the Latin American Master Championships held in Havana, Cuba, attracted a total of 215 athletes from 12 countries. They had the opportunity to combine their great sports' passion in a highly competitive event alongside friends and enjoying tourism in commemoration of the 500th year of the city's founding.

## **DEVELOPMENT**

The development programmes achieved an increase in their overall investment by the International Table Tennis Federation. In 2019 the implementation of the new DNA (Development of National Associations) programme was highlighted, with the addition to the staff of the expert Luisana Pérez as participation officer. The start of the implementation of this programme laid the foundation for its expansion hand in hand with financial support for the year 2020 and under the supervision and follow-up of Carlos Esnard, the Director of Continental Development.

The year 2020 will be loaded with much work and new challenges.

COMPETITIONS: It will be a very exciting year to start with the implementation of the new concept of the World Championships. The start of the qualifying stages for the World Championships finals starting from regional events will bring a new boost, presentation, promotion and coverage to our events and our athletes. An exhibition of our sport and our main athletes, like never before, will be witnessed in front of a Latin American crowd.

DEVELOPMENT: All new programme innovations will be implemented in full within the development programme focused on the specific needs of each group of countries. Special attention and support will be received from the DNA (Development of National Associations) programme and HOPES activities will be more intensively supported from its regional stage without neglecting follow-up and support for training programmes and training camps.

ROAD TO HIGH PERFORMANCE: A new programme will be implemented to support young athletes in their sporting development for the highly competitive level in continental events.

PROMOTION AND MARKETING: The year 2020 will surely be the busiest for our colleagues in charge of this area. The success achieved so far is only the base for the big objectives that we have set ourselves within the Strategic Plan. The coverage of all the official competitions hand in hand with the implementation of TTX activities, extensive coverage of the World Table Tennis Day and specific promotional projects will be innovations that will surely bear great fruits for table tennis of our continent.

**Juan Vila**

Continental President: Latin America

**NOT PROVIDED**

The year 2019 has been busy for ITTF-Oceania, to say the least with a full year of tournaments, programmes and events; as we prepare for 2020, we'd like to recognise some of the accomplishments and changes from 2019. Here are just a few highlights from this year.

ITTF-Oceania continued to develop the sport by providing 18 technical courses for 327 athletes, coaches and officials. Furthermore, our participation programme engaged over 1,700 Pacific islanders and employed 15 development officers and administrators in Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu and Palau.

The pinnacle of Oceania table tennis in 2019 was undoubtedly the Seamaster 2019 ITTF World Tour Platinum Australian Open held in Geelong, with record entries and ticket sales. Nearly 200 of the world's best athletes, including nine out of the 10 top ranked players in both the men's and women's singles flew down under to compete in this premier event. History was made when Xu Xin became the first player to ever win two Australia Open titles.

The 2019 Australian achieved record statistics including:

- 443 hours of TV airtime.
- 75 - 80 million unique viewers
- Facebook reach of 10.7 million
- 4 million views on YouTube

Following the successful debut of the ITTF Oceania Tour in 2018, the 2019 ITTF Oceania Tour capitalised on the lessons learnt and has delivered an even more remarkable tour with more players and more prize money. The pinnacle of the Oceania Tour is to qualify for the Oceania Cup where Oceania's best athletes battle it out for AU\$40,000 in prize money and a spot at the ITTF World Cup. The 2018 ITTF Oceania Tour culminated in the 2019 Oceania Cup in Tahiti with victory for Australia's Heming Hu and Jian Fang Lay in the men's and women's Singles.

The 2019 Pacific Games in Samoa hosted only once every four years, which included teams, individual and para events, was a major highlight of the year with Vanuatu achieving notable success. Yoshua Shing and Priscilla Tommy won both the men's and women's singles.

In the Para Division, Australia achieved a clean sweep of gold medals in singles events at the 2019 ITTF-Oceania Para Championships in Darwin, Australia. Later in the year, Australia's Sam von Einem, a 2016 Paralympic medallist, dominated at the 2019 INAS Global Games, beating the world ranked no.2 and no.3 to claim gold.

In celebration of World Table Tennis Day, ITTF-Oceania has released the newly developed and long-anticipated school programme - Bounce it Back; this programme has now been successfully launched in both Tonga and Fiji.

In August, Tonga Table Tennis Federation won the prestigious World Health Organisation (WHO) Healthy Islands Best Practice Recognition Award for the Smash Down Barriers programme. The programme aims to create opportunities and increase the quality of life for people with a disability through active participation in table tennis. Also, it works to change community perceptions of disability and has been one of ITTF Oceania's standout programmes since inception. The major improvements in Tonga table tennis can also be attested to the creation of the ITTF supported DNA programme that assists smaller countries in establishing improvements in its structure, governance and operations.

Oceania's young stars battled it out in Tonga at the 2019 ITTF Oceania Junior Championships with Australia dominating the event and going home with 13 out of the 14 gold medals available. New Zealand's Nathan Xu was the only non-Australian to win a gold medal, claiming the junior boys' singles title.

Our best hopes for the future participated in the World Cadet Challenge in Poland with representatives present from Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, New Caledonia and the Cook Islands. Australia's Finn Luu exceeded expectations to come 14th in the cadet boys' singles, one of the highest rankings achieved by an Oceania player.

At the recent ZEN-NOH 2019 ITTF Team World Cup, Anolyn Lulu, Priscila Tommy and Stephanie Qwea made history by becoming the first ever players from Vanuatu to compete at the ITTF World Cup.

In preparation for one of the biggest events of the sports' calendar next year, qualifications for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics are in full flight with the Team Qualification showcasing the strength of Australia, winning both the men's and women's teams. There is one last qualification opportunity for singles and mixed doubles on 19 and 20 April 2020 as part of the festival of table tennis in Brisbane.

Despite the challenges faced, ITTF Oceania continued to strive for improvements in the governance and financial management of the organisation. We have also commenced our Constitution Review and Strategic Plan Review process to enable us to adopt best practice and align ourselves to the continually changing global table tennis landscape.

We could not achieve all this without the generous support of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), who are our largest funding partner with over AU\$500,000 in support; this enables us to hold high level events, training camps and a range of programmes that help to increase capacity and support our member associations.

We are also grateful for the continued support from the Australian Government through the Pacific Sports Partnership. Funding for the Smash Down Barriers programme exceeded AU\$200,000 in 2019, and the Australian Government remains an invaluable partner of our sport-for-development initiatives. The support enables ITTF-Oceania to use table tennis as a means to achieve development outcomes such as promoting social inclusion and healthy lifestyle behaviours.

We would also like to thank our various sponsors of events including national, state and local governments for their support towards hosting our various events in 2019.

ITTF-Oceania would like to thank everyone for their support and participation in 2019 and we look forward to an exciting 2020 ahead.

*12 national associations actively engaged in development activities  
327 athletes, coaches and officials took part in 18 technical courses  
1,697 Pacific Islanders engaged through sport-for-development programmes  
43 per cent female participation  
13 per cent of all participants have a disability  
11 regional events and three ITTF World Events  
13,000 unique visitors to ITTFOceania.com  
130k average monthly reach on social media*

**Anthony Ho**

Continental President: Oceania

### **Overview**

2019 was my second year serving as ITTF CEO and it goes without saying that it was an extremely productive one. It was a year when, as “young pioneers”, we created and started to work on massive projects and platforms that we believe will deliver our sport a brighter future for years and years to come. The realisation of the new World Championships structure started to come to life, “World Table Tennis” was officially born and will allow a new financial future for our athletes and our member associations as well as our properties; the vision that we could imagine as a future “Home of Table Tennis” was drawn out. It was a year where we invested in the future: in human resources, projects and large-scale ideas that will lay down the foundation of what we believe can ensure our sport is prosperous for a long time to come.

The speed and professionalism at which the team is now working is truly phenomenal and with the growth strategy approach we will be able to catch up to other sports at a much higher speed. Such change, and the “shaking of the tree” approach, of course does not come without concern and queries to our overall structure. 2019 was the year when it became evident that as the international governing body with such a growth strategy, we must find a new system or structure to ensure each continental federation is able to keep pace and not be left behind. Our dealings with the continental federations need a radical overhaul and reform – this was more and more clear in 2019. We are hopeful that during the year to come, through governance reform, we can solve many of these issues. It also became clearer that it is important to establish closer relations with our member associations to ensure we better understand the reality of each and while enhancing our assistance and support we are better prepared to meet their needs.

Also 2019 saw amazing events. Budapest produced a fantastic World Table Tennis Championships. China at the end of 2019 delivered three amazing major events – the Men’s and Women’s World Cups in Chengdu and the World Tour Grand Finals in Zhengzhou. In the same way, Japan, in preparation for the 2020 Olympics delivered a solid Team World Cup – just to name a few of the dozens of events held by the ITTF in 2019. We also saw our first ever ITTF Veteran World Tour and TTX slowly but surely come to life.

### **Staff Expansion**

Staff growth continued in 2019 and we are now over 70 staff worldwide. Singapore also became the major hub of the ITTF activity, and it was a pleasure to welcome our Secretary General, Mr. Raul Calin, to Singapore, in January 2019; this meant most of the core team (with just a few missing) are now based out of the Singapore ITTF hub. The centralised approach is bringing synergies between the commercial, competition and institutional areas where the ITTF operates.

There were two very key hires in 2019 – the first was the hiring in our Competition Department of a World Championships Project Manager, Mr. Gabor Felegyi; the second at the end of 2019 was Mr. Mounir Bessah as Member Relations Director. In addition, we hired new expertise in



finance, legal and IT matters. As well, to further professionalise in equipment we set up a small satellite office and testing lab in Cologne, led by our Head of Equipment Ms. Claudia Herweg.

## **Strategic Plan**

2019 was the first full year in which we had the strategic plan as our guiding document on the goals and objectives we wish to achieve. At the end of 2019 we were able to see very quickly those goals that were over ambitious and those that were perhaps too simple. Some re-adjustment based on the first two years of implementation is for sure necessary as we move forward.

## **The Commercial Update**

2019, despite some bumps on the road, again, we saw record revenues from the commercial business of the ITTF with marketing revenues of US\$16.1 million up from 14.8 million in 2018 and seven million in 2016 before the rights were bought back in house. Growth in the marketing team, improved output, more trust from commercial partners is proving that recent changes with our World Ranking, investment in event presentation and support of athletes is starting to pay off.

The approval of “World Table Tennis” (WTT) by the ITTF Executive Committee is arguably one of the boldest and most important decisions that the sport has ever taken. The ITTF has to be proud of the very professional, rigorous and transparent tender process taken for the future structure of its overall commercial business.

Allowing investment into the sport can reshape the financial landscape that is needed for our international events. The project allows us to reconsider our event delivery approach to be more professional and enables us to boost prize money at events and make it more profitable for all the stakeholders. More importantly, the sport can now treat its properties truly as a business, this is vital in today’s world of major sporting properties.

WTT allows us to reset the whole table tennis commercial strategy; as 2021 is when the majority of our commercial contracts finish, it is the perfect opportunity to go to market with a fresh, modern and new approach that will allow us to raise the bar significantly to what was previously achieved.

The results may be difficult to see immediately – in 2021 we expect to invest more than double the amount into our events and products compared to 2020, all of this should be considered a contribution to the growth of table tennis at the international level, which is ground-breaking for our sport and by far the proudest work done in 2019.

## **Future World Table Tennis Championships**

In 2019 the ITTF Board of Directors agreed on the basis of the structure of the new World Championships. A heavy amount of work regarding the details and implementation needs were made in close collaborations with all the continental representatives in 2019. We have also looked at how to ensure the team event in 2022 can be scaled to be even bigger than originally planned with a multi city approach touted. We will learn a great deal in the next few years

regarding these changes and I am sure we will adjust where necessary in the years to come, but it is now time to trial and roll them out (not change too much before we even start).

## **Development and the ITTF Foundation**

The ITTF Development department and programs, with the very solid base, continued to be a core component of day to day projects all around the world. We invested more than ever before in the continents with updated and improved agreements in each continent. As we head to the end of the cycle of the agreements, the work now turns towards the future of these agreements and adapting to the new needs of the ITTF's members, the National Associations.

The Foundation also continued to grow with the inaugural opening of the office in Leipzig and increased staff. The first ever Parkinson's World Table Tennis Championships was held in New York, USA and various new projects are being planned for the future.

## **Conclusion**

2019 was a year in which we invested in the future. Big and bold ideas of the new ITTF started to come to life as the table tennis plane prepares to take off. In fact, the future looks very bright as more investment, improved events, greater revenues and a larger team to deliver is all put in place over the next 12 months.

The ITTF looks forward to continuing its progress in all areas over the coming months, leading into an exciting Olympic and Paralympic year with Tokyo 2020, as momentum continues to build towards 2021, where crucial changes will be implemented for the betterment of international table tennis.

These are very exciting times, and everyone should feel very proud to be part of this journey! We are all finding ourselves in a unique position, pursuing one of the most remarkable achievements in the history of the sport. We hope that 2020 will enable us to work closer and grow the sport together by creating new properties with a history of their own and create a sustainable and a professional ecosystem for our Athletes, the true stars of our sport.

I would like to thank everyone whom has been a major part of this work. First and foremost, the ITTF Staff, who in 2019 worked on most occasions beyond the normal thresholds of work life and who make the ITTF look amazing. As well and without the trusted support of the ITTF Executive committee there is no way we would be able to achieve these large goals.

Finally, to the whole ITTF Family for pushing us, challenging us and encouraging us to keep moving the sport forward in the best interests of table tennis worldwide. We may not always agree to the direction or decisions, but the fact that we are all working for the best sport in the world, makes it all worthwhile despite the disagreements.

Table Tennis. For All. For Life.

**Steve Dainton**  
ITTF CEO

As usual, this report refers strictly to the ITTF activities from January to December of 2019 and complements the report of the CEO.

#### **A Year of Growth**

After the important decisions taken in 2018, with the start of the ITTF constitutional reform and the adoption of the first-ever strategic plan in the ITTF's history, 2019 was an important year of growth as an institution.

Growth in capacity, growth in activities, plus more exchanges and international cooperation.

#### **Institutional Relations (External)**

The ITTF has continued strengthening its relations with the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC), the United Nations (UN), the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF), the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the International Testing Agency (ITA) and the Anti-Doping Division of the Court of Arbitration of Sport (CAS ADD), among other international entities.

Our President Thomas Weikert and CEO Steve Dainton represented the ITTF at the launch of the new IOC Headquarters in Lausanne in June. Our Deputy President Khalil Al-Mohannadi, together with our Members Relations Director Mounir Bessah and this Secretary General, participated at the ANOC General Assembly held in Doha in October, where many contacts with different NOCs were made with very positive interactions.

The ITTF Foundation Director, Leandro Olvech, attended the first-ever Global Refugee Forum UNHCR held in December in Geneva. Organized by the United Nations, the Forum included the participation of the Heads of State of different countries, and three UN pledges were signed by the ITTF, along with many other International Sport Federations and the IOC.

The ITTF President and Secretary General attended the IF Forum held at the end of October in Lausanne and, under the guidance of ASOIF, the ITTF started working on the third Governance self-assessment; those results will be known in 2020. We expect the work accomplished during 2018 and 2019 to yield positive results, but we will only know later in 2020.

The ITTF received the newest Anti-Doping Code, effective in 2021, from WADA, and will start soon working for its adoption at the 2020 Annual General Meeting, to remain in compliance. The agreement signed in 2018 with the ITA was renewed, and this ensures independency in our anti-doping programme management. To add a further layer of independency, the ITTF signed an agreement with the CAS ADD, which specifies that any appeal processes related to anti-doping will be managed directly and independently by CAS.

#### **Institutional Relations (Internal)**

To the existing Continental Agreements for the period 2017-2020, some of which were updated in 2019, the ITTF added a few regional agreements, enhancing the reach and effectiveness of our international cooperation. We want to thank those Continental and Regional Federations with the vision to work collaboratively, and it is particularly positive to see that, in 2019, for the first time, Africa was able to organize competitions in its five regions in the same year. It is an important milestone for the development of our sport in the continent.

## **Membership**

A few Member Associations have faced problems of recognition at the national level due to discrepancies with either their National Olympic Committees or their Ministries of Sports. It is clear that with the creation of the ITTF Members Relations department, the ITTF's capacity to serve our Members will increase, and it will be the time to focus not only in providing assistance and benefits, but also to ensure our Members adhere to principles of responsibility and fulfil their membership obligations. The image of Table Tennis globally can eventually be affected by incidents at a national level, as we can see by the scandals happening in other sports. We must remain vigilant, we must remain observant, and we must ensure the highest standard of governance and internal scrutiny.

## **Governance**

The ITTF adopted a *Conflict of Interest* policy and a *Child Safeguarding* policy. The Travel policy and the Allowance and Benefits policy were updated, and work is underway to adopt other policies in 2020, in a continuous pursuit of Governance enhancement. As part of this process, the ITTF engaged with WithersWorldwide to review our Handbook, and to provide a framework for the changes to be proposed for the 2020 AGM, intended to ensure a more independent judicial power. The ITTF plans to engage with its Members in the second half of 2020 to continue improving our Governance standards and model the system that should govern our sport as we approach our centenary.

## **Operations**

The ITTF financial management standards have continued to improve in 2019. Having surpassed the threshold of 20 million CHF income for two consecutive years, and in line with the requirements of the Swiss Code of Obligations, internal mechanisms of control have been deployed to the satisfaction of our external auditors, Mazars S.A. I want to thank our EVP Finance, Petra Sörling, and our CFO, Michael Brown, as well as all staff in operations for their efforts in this area.

## **Para Table Tennis**

The road to the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games started already in 2019, with a good number of tournaments in all five continents. Provided they fulfil all other requisites, the continental champions in the different singles events will qualify for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

## **Committees and Commissioners**

The ITTF staff continues to serve the institution with the support and expertise of our Committee Members and Commissioners. While all volunteers contribute to some extent to the organisational needs, We would like to highlight the valuable support received from our Technical Commissioner, Mr. Graeme Ireland, as well as from our Rules Committee Chair and Deputy Chair, Mr Rudolf Sporrer and Mr Chan Cheong-ki, URC Deputy Chair, Werner Thury, the Sport Science and Medical Committee Chair and Anti-Doping Chief, Prof. Miran Kondric and Dr Shiro Masuo, the Nominations Committee Chair, Mr. Wahid Oshodi; and our Gender Commissioner, Ms. Hajera Kajee.

## **Athletes' Commission**

Following the elections held in 2018, the Athletes' Commission has continued its work in 2019, through its Chair, Zoran Primorac, and Para athletes' representatives, Alena Kanova and Trevor Hirth, to ensure the athletes' voices are heard in the ITTF. Since December, Elsayed Lashin has

joined Jean-Michel Saive as the second athlete in the World Ranking working group, another step to ensure that the athletes' vision and voice is considered. We do encourage those Member Associations and Continental Federations not having yet established Athletes Commissions to do so, and to understand that giving voice and representation to our athletes is a must in today's society.

### **Multi-Sport Events**

The European Games in June and Pan American and African Games in August 2019 served as qualification events for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. While Multi-Sport Games generally receive strong support from Governments and NOC's, the reality is that the standards of those three events was very different. The ITTF should carefully analyse their benefits and inconveniences, as well as the eventual weight they should have in the Olympic Games qualification pathway. Regardless, we should pursue the highest standards in all Table Tennis events worldwide, particularly when our top athletes are present.

### **Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games**

The Team World Cup held in November in Tokyo served as the Test Event for the Tokyo 2020 Games. The local organizing committee and Japanese Table Tennis Association presented a proper event, and preparations for the quadrennial gathering remain on track.

### **A Life of Service to our Sport**

It was with great sadness we learnt that Mr Mohamed Refaat Bassyouni passed away on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December 2019. A few days before, Mr Bassyouni was lecturing at an umpire and referees' course in Eritrea. He will always be remembered for his years of service to our sport. Our condolences to his family, as well as to all other Table Tennis friends who passed away during 2019, particularly our international players Abdulrahman Al Najjar (QAT) and Dexter St Louis (TTO).

### **Conclusions**

I want to thank the ITTF Executive Committee members for their guidance and aim to take Table Tennis to higher standards, as well as for their confidence in our daily work. I also extend gratitude to the Continental Presidents for their usual cooperation, and the rest of the members of the Board of Directors, as well as the President's Advisory Council (PAC) members for their dedication to serve Table Tennis.

A thank you to all the ITTF staff who work beyond shifts, toil extra hours, and skip holidays is also due. Under the leadership of our CEO, Steve Dainton, the ITTF has reached its highest figures in a few fields in 2019, and we have even bigger hopes for a greater 2020.

Our Deputy President always pushes us to avoid complacency and to keep pursuing excellence. Let's hope our global community, our leadership and key stakeholders, especially those holding positions in the international scene, always put the best interest of the sport above particular national or regional interests. Only by working together for the benefit of the sport as a whole will the entire Table Tennis community be benefited and continue to grow.

Table Tennis. For All. For Life.

Respectfully submitted,

**Raul Calin**

Secretary General

### Meetings

In 2019, the Olympic and Paralympic Commission (OPC) met on 24 April in Budapest (HUN).

The six Continental Federations were in attendance, represented by their presidents or representatives, along with ITTF Executive Committee members, commissioners and relevant ITTF staff.

Being a year of transition between the Youth Olympic Games held in Buenos Aires in 2018, and the Olympic and Paralympic Games to be held in Tokyo in 2020, no major decisions were needed, other than the selection of the technical officials that will participate at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The jury, referee team and umpires were confirmed during the meeting and the OPC noted the necessity to increase the diversity and capacity of umpires and referees with Para Table Tennis experience in some continents.

### Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games

An inspection was conducted in the month of March and another in the month of November. By then, the works in Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium were almost finalised.

Meetings with the LOCOG were held in both occasions.

### Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games

In December, the ITTF received the application documents for Paris 2024 Olympic Games events. ITTF will try to have men's and women's doubles included in Paris 2024 programme, in addition to the five existing events in Tokyo 2020. For the Paralympic Games, the IPC will inform the IFs in 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

**Raul Calin**

Secretary General

(On behalf of the Olympic and Paralympic Commission)

# DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINENTAL COUNCIL

## Report to the AGM

## Document C4

In 2019 the Development and Continental Council (DCC) met on 24 April in Budapest (HUN); it was the first meeting of the Council during the World Table Tennis Championships as arising from the 2018 ITTF Constitution revision.

All the Continental Federations were in attendance, represented by their Presidents or their representatives, along with ITTF Officials and relevant ITTF staff. Agreed at the previous DCC meeting in 2018, the relevant reports, including the Continental Federations' updates, were sent in advance, which ensured a more specific and focused discussion following the DCC meeting agenda.

Considering the fact that only a short period of time passed since the previous meeting, which was held at the World Tour Grand Finals in Incheon (KOR) in December 2018, the 2019 meeting was mostly focused on the following topics:

- 100 Years of ITTF: Mr Khalil Al-Mohannadi, ITTF Deputy President, joined the meeting for this item which he had proposed and had brought to the attention of the DCC. Although the year 2026 may seem far away, the entire international table tennis community needs to start thinking and join forces for the organisation of a remarkable and very high level event. The anniversary should be seen as a celebration of the sport as such, its entire family and each and every member, individual anyhow connected. The DCC members agreed to include the item in their plans and provide input and ideas to the ITTF.
- The DCC was updated in regards to the proceedings of the 2019-2020 Memorandums of Understanding signing: by the time of the meeting two Continental Federations had already signed, three more were expected to sign during the World Championships or soon after. At the same time the unique elements of new Continental Development Programmes were reported. They now use a more objective funding distribution formula as based on the Member Association Categorisation and are also therefore much more individualised compared to the past. The aim is to try to address more specifically the needs and consider the realities of the continents. In regards to the content a number of new initiatives have been put in place, some also as pilot projects, for instance the recruitment of officers, regional and/or participation, the DNA programme aiming to provide assistance to the least developed member associations, "My gender, My Strength" programme addressing specifically the gender imbalance, a more systematic and structure connection of grassroots/participation and high performance programmes across the continents etc. the first feedback from the ground was positive, although by the time of the meeting not many activities could be held as yet.
- The ITTF Foundation reported on the work completed since December and proudly communicated about the exceptionally good reception of its main programmes, i.e. TT Dream Building, NeTTworking, TT4All, Ping Pong Diplomacy, TT4Health and TT Legacy, featuring another highlight – the World Table Tennis Day setting a new record in early

April featuring 922 events in 107 countries; and another important milestone – the first ever World Parkinson's Table Tennis Championships preparations. DCC was very pleased with the outcome of the first initiatives and the momentum that was created with the Foundation.

The DCC expressed their content with the update and the reported progresses, but also reminded about the need to keep coordinating the different programmes, projects and activities with the continents, which will assure an even more successful and efficient implementation and hence the desired outcomes.

Respectfully submitted,

**Polona Cehovin**

High Performance and Development Director

(On behalf of the Development and Continental Council)



In 2019, the Ethics Commission didn't have any cases referred to their attention.

There were though, two disciplinary decisions taken at ITTF level: one, imposed by the ITTF Executive Committee in March (currently appealed in CAS), and another, imposed by a Disciplinary Panel, in December, based on the attributions existing in the ITTF Constitution and in the Regulations for International Competitions respectively.

Numerous communications were received at the ITTF integrity hotline, however, most of them being categorised as spam, or being out of the scope of action of the ITTF.

The ITTF is currently developing a thorough review of its integrity regulations; the plan is to align with a proposed set of reforms to the 2020 ITTF Annual General Meeting, in order to improve our integrity standards.

Effective 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020, the ITTF has our Legal Counsel, Mr Dylan Mah exercising the functions of Ethics Commission Officer and Integrity Officer.

On behalf of the Ethics Commission,

**Raul Calin**

Secretary General

Ethics Commission Officer (in 2019)

**Duty assignment after the meetings in Budapest**

Paul **Schiltz**, chair, tables, racket control, racket coverings, research; Torsten **Küneth**, vice-chairman, balls; Phil **McCallum**, nets; Atsushi **Hasegawa**, floors; Piet **van Egmond**, market scrutiny; Wendy **Chim** and Ian **Zubar**, field-of-play in cooperation with URC; and Fred **Yuanhua**, net gauges.

**General**

The Equipment Committee is continuously working to maintain and improve the quality of table tennis equipment in order to provide reliable and safe playing conditions; new good equipment was approved.

Not all EqC members involved regularly or usefully contribute to the work or discussions. Two did not give any feedback. Thank you to those, who contributed so much, especially by handling the approval of equipment.

**Approved/authorised Equipment – Evolution since 2014 – Label “ITTF approved”**

Equipment (31.12.)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Balls	97	103	97	88	91	80
Tables	153	152	130	116	119	132
Nets	50	51	51	52	54	52
Floors	18	19	19	18	17	10
Racket Coverings	1607	1570	1548	1483	1483	1414

The ITTF has accredited independent testing institutes, which provide the measurements, run the tests, verify the declarations of the suppliers about their equipment and also advise ITTF technically. Together with Claudia Herweg, the EqC experts evaluate the transmitted results and decide about the approvals / authorisations. The related administrative work lies on the shoulders of ITTF staff, presently Emese Barsai.

The triangular cooperation, involving external professionals, ITTF professional staff and experts from the field-of-play, has created and strengthened the label “ITTF approved”, which is nowadays worldwide recognised, also by governmental and educational bodies, as a guarantee for high competition quality and for safety. The EqC recommends to keep this system, which works well, as it permits fruitful, multiple input.

However, improvements are necessary:

- An EqC member and expert shall fulfil criteria of a technical, scientific or research background, and be able to dedicate time enough to his/her task, which he/she shall conduct in a strictly neutral way. “Political” members and persons strongly linked to manufacturers shall not serve.
- An ITTF Equipment Department shall not only take care of all administrative and financial aspects, but also initiate and coordinate efforts for a coherent, fair and transparent equipment policy. Important progress has been made in 2019.
- The representatives of the suppliers, shall provide advice about all aspects related to TT equipment, as it already happens through the FIT Working Groups. The decisions of ITTF shall stay with the ITTF, and shall remain independent and transparent, to serve table tennis as a sport.
- Legal and marketing aspects, modern and complete information have to be considered, developed and integrated.

**Racket coverings, Racket control after the match**

Thanks to the deep knowledge and personal involvement of Claudia Herweg,

- Deadlines and procedures for the authorisation of racket coverings shall be better adapted to the needs of players and manufacturers.
- Authorisation criteria, especially for re-tests and market survey, will be reviewed.

Rubber suppliers with wrong claims or illegal products were forced to comply with the rules, and some products were deleted from the lists.

Racket dismantling after the last match safely detects post-treatment of blades and illustrates how easily it is to deceive the ITTF devices. It is not possible to conclude with certainty. Finally, the EqC does not yet propose changes of the rules and methods of racket control. Nearly all players understand and accept well such control, it is positive news.

## **FIT – Working groups about balls, racket coverings and blades**

Fruitful meetings with manufacturers and suppliers were held in Budapest (WTTTC), Incheon and Tokyo.

## **Good governance, data – bases, information on the ITTF equipment page**

The EqC does not wish to repeat its remarks of last year; they are still valid. One task for the next year shall be to define the tasks of the Equipment Department and of a future Equipment Committee. The EqC welcomes that an office for equipment tasks has been installed (in Cologne), and that hopefully soon two full-time staff will support the Head of the ITTF Equipment department.

The EqC considers that for all equipment data-bases with relevant information should exist, and that the available pictures of approved or authorised equipment should be put back to the related lists of the ITTF web page.

## **Research: general – new materials for blades – friction - balls**

The EqC recommends to join the ITF (Tennis) Technical Centre in London for guiding research before implementation of equipment changes, and not set up an own expensive centre.

A British University was entrusted with the research about “new materials for blades”; it did not deliver useful results.

The order for building the device measuring the frictional properties of a table surface, and hopefully also of the (ageing) ball surface, finally was passed to a German company; we are waiting for the product.

## **Technical leaflets – changes and improvements to be implemented**

T2 – Net assemblies: legalise good, but illegal net structures and advertising, test net sturdiness (advice of the testing Institute has been taken), reorganise presentation of TL.

T3 – Balls: unused production-tolerances are cut off, this after intensified re-testing and a detailed statistical analysis, celluloid-free balls only (the last celluloid ball will run out by end of 2020), presentation of document.

T4 – Racket coverings: new authorisation deadlines and procedures shall be integrated to be legal, new colour ranges.

BoD is the constitutional body for the final and prior decision of contents of the technical leaflets; layout and design into well – presented manuals shall be entrusted to Equipment Committee and Department, with the substantial expert help of professional designers.

## **Colours**

Two independent approaches permitted to propose acceptable bright colour ranges for racket coverings: opinion poll based on colour tiles (Pantone) and expert advice from ESN based on rubber samples produced for this purpose. Both added the colour violet to the EqC’s proposed red, green, blue, purple; violet tones which can also be considered as bright. The definition of the colour domains required much time and energy in order to avoid errors and not to succumb to personal requests for non-bright colours. Contributions from players and from a movie were valued.

Therefore, the documentation for the resolution about a yellow *ball* was postponed; a strategy will be established in Busan to hopefully convince the AGM that yellow is a very good option.

## **Equipment for the World Championships and the Olympic/Paralympic Games 2020**

Tables and their nets have been inspected and approved. At the moment of this report, other test results are expected soon.

## **Blade authorisation procedure**

After many years of fruitless discussions, a concrete project has now been drafted. It still needs discussion and refinement before possible agreement and implementation.

## **Paul Schiltz**

Chair

#### **2019 another fantastic table tennis year.**

The Media and Marketing Department has brought the promotion and the coverage of table tennis to the next level.

Notably, this year, the Media and Marketing Department has introduced ball tracking technology, where it is possible to have a point replayed instantly and reviewed by a video match official, who will have the authority to overturn the original decision based on the evidence. The implementation of the TTR was one of the most engaged posts on the social media with more than half a million views.

Many sports have introduced challenge systems. The first attempt in table tennis, during the Grand Finals in Zhengzhou in China, worked quite well. The reviews were made quite quickly, and the result was shown on big screens. The spectators found the challenge system very exciting.

Table tennis is a very technical sport; for the spectators and television viewers, it can be difficult to understand, why the players sometimes make mistakes. Therefore, we have for many years talked about ways to measure spin and speed/or reaction time. We have made some tests in the last ten years. Now the technology has improved; in both World Cups and the Grand Finals spin and speed were measured. There is room for improvement, we hope also this new tool will add a new dimension for the spectators and viewers, when they see the players execute their strokes with speed of more than 100 kilometers an hour and spin with more than 100 rotations per second. The figures will give an extra dimension of the player's performance.

Our staff has implemented many new ideas on the ITTF website, and social media platforms, and integrated our work to gain more media exposure and promotion. The number of followers on social media platforms has increased to 3.835.433 in January 2020.

#### **World Table Tennis Championships**

The Liebherr 2019 World Table Tennis Championships in Budapest was in all parameters a fantastic event. On court, the Championships will be remembered as one of our sports most dramatic events.

The world's biggest table tennis event was followed by fans in 145 territories through TV broadcast and was seen by 265 million viewers through 1.176 hours of coverage.

- TV Broadcast: 145 Countries
- TV hours 1176
- Worldwide TV Viewership: 265 million
- ITTF.com Unique Visitors: 1,05 mill page views 5,59 million
- Sessions on itTV: 4,8 million
- Total Facebook Reach: 18,6 million
- Facebook Impressions: 27,56 million
- Facebook Video Views: 5,7 million minutes
- Twitter Impressions: 20 millions
- Instagram Impressions: 23,5 million

- YouTube Video Views: 8,6 mill views; 34,7 million minutes viewed
- Weibo Impressions: 500 million
- Zhibo TV 20,6 million page views from 5,7 million unique users

## Figures on Social Media

In January 2020 the ITTF had 3,835.433 million followers on social media platforms.

- Facebook: 703.000
- Instagram: 248.000
- Twitter: 72.000
- YouTube: 430.000
- Weibo: 2.35 million
- itTV subscribers: 330.000
- ITTF website: 4.640.976 users, 21.937.518 sessions and 50.270.693 pageviews

Approximately 1.2 billion impressions were registered on the ITTF social media channels including almost 550 million on YouTube, over 300 million on Weibo and 200 million on Facebook

**Facebook:** Followers: 703 000; total reach: 140.000,000, total impressions: 205.000.000

**Twitter:** Followers: 72.000; 96.000.000 impressions; total views 39.957.171

**Instagram:** Followers: 248000, total likes 12.249.773; total views 44.381.633

**YouTube:** Subscribers:430.000; total impressions 1.226.135.702., watch time 8.617.574 hours!

**Weibo (China):** Followers:2,35 million; total reach: 435.102.093; impressions 402.780.000

**Website:** 2018 was a year to remember also for the ITTF's official website. 40 million page views marked a 40% increase from the previous year, while there was also an increase in total website sessions (13.3 million) and the number of visitors (over 3.2 million).

## ITTF Star Awards

The ITTF Star Award Gala was held for the seventh time to celebrate the achievements of our table tennis stars in Zhengzhou in China. The table tennis stars were crowned in December 2019 in the following categories:

Male and Female Star: Ma Long and Liu Shiwen, CHN

Male and Female Para Table Tennis Star: Thomas Schmidberger, GER and Giada Rossi, ITA

Star Point: Xu Xin and Fan Zhendong, CHN

Table Tennis Star Coach: Bladimir Diaz, PUR

Breakthrough Star: Lily Zhang, USA

Since the inauguration of its first edition in Dubai in 2013, the ITTF Star Awards Gala has been a year end finale that athletes, fans, and everyone in the table tennis community has been looking forward to throughout the year. Thanks to Chinese organisers for hosting an unforgettable Star Awards 2019.

Thanks and congratulations to the Media and Marketing Department to organisers and to all who have contributed to the breaking of all social and digital media records creating new innovations in the presentation of our sport and made 2019 to another exciting table tennis year.

**Arne Madsen**

Chair

## NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (Wahid Enitan Oshodi)

### Report to the AGM

### Document D3

The composition of the Nominations Committee remains unchanged since 2018 appointments:

Chair: Wahid Enitan OSHODI (NGR), Deputy Chair: Abdulla AL-MULLA (QAT), Members: Andreas GEORGIU (CYP), Sandra DEATON (ENG), Lotfi GUERFEL (TUN), Henry REIMBERG (CHI), David JACKSON (CAN) and Matthias VATHEUER (GER).

### NOMINATIONS TO COMMITTEES

The main duty of the Committee is to validate and forward recommendations to the Executive Committee in respect of nominations to committees, taking into consideration important criteria as gender representation, competence, experience, skills, commitment, knowledge and a fair and equitable distribution among member associations and continents.

The ITTF had requested for member federations to submit names of nominees for membership of its committees to serve a two (2) years term from 2019.

The Committee, as at the close of submission of nominations on 28th February 2019, received a total of 125 nominations (93 men and 32 women) from 42 countries out of the ITTF total membership of 226 countries. The available membership of all the ITTF Committees to be filled was 82.

Upon receipt of the nominations from the various Member Associations through the ITTF Secretary General, the members of the Committee conducted a rigorous online review on the suitability of the individual nominees based on the above listed criteria.

The Committee had a final meeting on 21st April 2019 at the World Championships in Budapest, Hungary to discuss the nominations and make its final recommendations. The final recommendations were forwarded through the ITTF Executive Committee to the Annual General Meeting on the 22nd April 2019 where after a short presentation by the Nominations Committee Chairman, the Committee's recommendations were unanimously approved by the General Meeting.

### BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES & ATHLETES COMMISSION

	Male	Female	EU	AS	NA	LA	AF	OC
Chair	7	1	6	1			1	
Deputy Chair	5		2	2	1			
Full Members	35	13	20	15	4	2	4	3
Corresponding Members	25	9	13	15		1	5	0
Athletes Commission	9	4	5	2		2	2	2

### PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL FEMALE MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

Chair	12.5%
Full Members	27%
Corresponding Members	26.5%

A review of the above breakdown of total committee membership will show that although the constitution of the new committees has seen a marginal rise in the percentage of female members of the committees, on the Nominations Committee's opinion the figure still needs to be increased to meet with gender balance as recommended by the International Olympic Committee and other global bodies.

It must also be pointed out that nominations are also only being received from less than one fifth of the total membership of the ITTF. It is not a good reflection on members' participation in the activities of the ITTF. The summary of results shown above along with a review of nominations member countries stated

above, also emphasises the point that much more work needs to be done in terms of creating awareness amongst the Member Associations so as to ensure that the ITTF Committees are fairly representative of the total membership of the ITTF.

### **ITTF MERIT AWARDS**

The Committee working in tandem with the ITTF Secretary General, Mr. Raul Calin, assiduously reviewed the laid down rigid criteria currently used in granting merit awards and the perceived inadequacies therein. In summary the Committee along with the Secretary General are of the opinion that the main consideration in assessing deserved recipients of the ITTF's highest honour should be those persons who have keenly rendered meritorious and progressive service to our sport on a global scale and not a criteria just based on duration of mandates or tenures as is the case with the current criteria. Our recommendations have been duly forwarded to the ITTF Executive Committee for their kind consideration and we are hopeful that any changes made will consequently lead to a fairer and more transparent process leading to the conferment of the awards.

The Committee will also in due course make recommendations to the Continental Federations to also institute criteria for rewarding persons who have worked towards the development of our sport on a national and continental level. It is our view that such would encourage and motivate people to further direct their efforts to the development of our sport.

### **CONCLUSION**

The ITTF Nominations Committee working in conjunction with the ITTF CEO, Secretary General and chairs of the various committees and commissions has made good progress in fashioning new relevant criteria and thus creating a more transparent framework for the composition of the ITTF Committees. The progress will be very apparent in the next batch of committees. The most important work will continue to be providing advice on the relevant criteria to all Member Associations to take on board when making nominations to the committees with regard to suitable persons who possess the required skills and expertise. It is also important that going forward we endeavour to adhere to the International Olympic Committee guidance with regards to the diversity and inclusivity of all those serving in our committees. In our last recommendations we had slightly increased the participation for female members, but we are still below the proposed threshold. The situation is partly due to the fact that there are still not enough qualified female candidates being put forward by Member Associations. If we are able to carry out the work stated herein it will ultimately lead to improvement in the work of the committees and commissions, thereby creating a better ITTF.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

On behalf of the Committee I hereby express our immense appreciation to the ITTF General Secretary, Raul Calin and ITTF CEO Steve Dainton for their valuable time and insight in advancing the work of the Committee.

I also express our thanks to the ITTF President, Mr Thomas Weikert, Deputy President Khalil Al-Mohannadi and the Executive Committee for their support and special thanks to my Deputy Chair and all our committee members, for taking out the time to make their excellent contributions and I hope they will continue to do so in future.

I must also extend our gratitude to the staff of the ITTF for providing the necessary support to the work of the Nominations Committee.

**Wahid Enitan Oshodi**

Chair

# PARA TABLE TENNIS (Constantina Crotta)

## Report to the AGM

Document D4

First, I would like to thank our former Chair Dorte Darfelt and the members of the previous committee, for all their efforts to develop Para Table Tennis.

It was an exciting year with 22 competitions all over the world, in all five continents and very high number of participants.

The biggest tournament in the history of Para Table Tennis took place in Slovenia on May 2019 with 434 players from 43 countries. Matches of very high level took place from players full of passion and excitement. It was a very demanding and challenging competition where the very experienced organisers did a great job.

Continental championships took place in all five continents where the winners of each class of the single events qualified for the Paralympic Games in Tokyo (if fulfilling other necessary criteria):

**ITTF Oceania Para Championships, Darwin (AUS): 1-4 May**

**ITTF African Para Championships, Alexandria (EGY): 30 Jun – 2 Jul**

**ITTF Asian Para Championships, Taichung (TPE): 23-27 Jul**

**ITTF Para Pan Am Games, Lima (PER): 22-27 Aug**

**ITTF Para European Championships, Helsingborg (SWE): 16-21 Sep**

On the last day of the European Championships and the day after, the Para Table Tennis (PTT) Committee had its yearly meeting. Besides the committee members and advisors, Petra Sörling (ITTF Executive Vice President of Finance), Raul Calin (ITTF Secretary General), Pablo Perez (ITTF PTT manager), Leandro Olvech (ITTF Foundation Director), Alena Kanova and Trevor Hirth (members of the Athletes Commission) took part in the meeting. The meeting was the first one after the election in 2019.

The integration of the Para Table Tennis into the ITTF competitions progressing:

- **Competitions department:** ITTF results management software was used in a test event in Egypt and in the European Para Championships with good results. Full integration should be possible after Tokyo 2020.
- **Marketing department:** A few TV rights contracts were sold for the Asian and European Para Championships. There is a global increase of interest in Para sport that has to be seized.
- **Sponsorship department:** A contract was signed with 729 to provide the official ball for all Para events in 2019 and 2020.



- **Development department:** Closer cooperation with development department led to gain funding from IPC Agitos foundation for coaching courses.

The classification research project continued at the National Taiwan University of Sport in order to improve the classification system. A paper with the first results was presented at the IPC Vista 2019 scientific conference in Amsterdam. The classification system still needs some adjustments to be made after Tokyo 2020 to continue with the alignment with the IPC classification code.

Ten classification seminars were conducted worldwide where more 110 classifiers were trained; this training effort has to continue in the upcoming years since classification is the backbone of the para competitions.

Finally, I would like to thank the ITTF family, the members of the committee, Petra Sörling (ITTF Executive Vice President of Finance) and Raul Calin (ITTF Secretary General) for all their help and support.

Looking forward to the Paralympic Year that is coming!

**Constantina Crotta**

Chair

During the 2019-2020 period, the main tasks of the ITTF Rules Committee were:

### **Questions / Interpretations on Rules**

The Rules Committee had to deal with 78 questions and inquiries about table tennis laws and regulations (2019: 90, 2018: almost 170 inquiries). As usual, the majority referred to players' eligibility and the jurisdiction of associations.

### **Propositions to the AGM and Board of Directors Meeting 2020**

The Rules Committee is presenting two propositions to the BoD, one of them being more exactly an editorial change.

### **Ranking Default Policy**

The Chair of the Rules Committee again participated in the RDP Panel dealing with RDP cases at ITTF sanctioned events, including continental championships.

### **Meetings**

As usual, two meetings of the Rules Committee took place during the 2019 World Table Tennis Team Championships in Budapest.

In the first meeting, propositions and resolutions to the AGM and the BoD meeting were discussed and related comments were made. At the second meeting, the Committee studied decisions taken and presented proposals for the final text of new regulations.

All full committee members and some corresponding members participated in our meetings. Also we were pleased to welcome prominent guests.

### **Ethics Commission**

The Rules Committee chair is officiating as Chair of the ITTF Ethics Commission, but there was no case to deal with within the report period.

### **Disciplinary Panel**

In accordance with Constitutional Law 1.5.8.1 and Regulation for International Competitions 3.5.2.13, the ITTF Executive Committee appointed a Disciplinary Panel in order to investigate a case occurring at the 2019 ITTF World Tour German Open. The Rules Committee Chair was nominated to act as chair of this Panel.

### **Committee Structure and Composition**

The Rules Committee was pleased to welcome two new corresponding members at the AGM 2019 in Budapest: Ms. Han Jingmeng (CHN) and Mr. Ju Jong Chol (PRK).

It seems to be the right time to express sincere thanks to our former members Ms. Liu Yi (CHN) and Mr. Babatunde Obisanya (NGR), who did not run again for our Committee.

Three out of six full members of the Rules Committee are women.

My special thanks go to all committee members and in particular to the Deputy Chairman, Prof. Chan Cheong Ki, for their skilful contributions.

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

**Rudi Sporrer**

Chair

## SPORT SCIENCE AND MEDICAL COMMITTEE (Miran Kondrič)

### Report to the AGM

### Document D6

In year 2019 the ITTF Sport Science and Medical Committee (SSMC) has proceeded with the work in different fields of sports science and sports medicine. Even though in 2019 we have outsourced activities related to anti-doping to the International Testing Authority (ITA), we still follow all the activities of WADA. Our primary responsibility at the present time is cooperation with the IOC regarding injury and illness prevention but also medical services at OG, as well as the next ITTF Sports Science Congress, which will be held in Houston in 2021.

We have accomplished some activities since the beginning of 2019, and we expect to accomplish others prior to the next Olympic Games in Tokyo, 2020.

1. The most important achievement in 2019 for ITTF SSMC was the successful organisation of 16<sup>th</sup> ITTF Sports Science Congress. From April 19<sup>th</sup> till 20<sup>th</sup> we organised the *16<sup>th</sup> ITTF Sports Science Congress* in Budapest. I would like to take this opportunity to thank especially Dr. David Paar from University of Pecs for his contribution to the successful work of the ITTF SSC. Until the deadline in February 2018 (postponed to March 8<sup>th</sup>) we received 112 abstracts in total. After the review process – completed by the editorial board with 13 members – 111 abstracts with a total number of 213 authors were accepted for the Book of abstracts. Prior to the registration deadline we received 104 registrations in total. The participants came from 33 countries and four continents. The Congress contained three invited lectures, 48 oral sessions (in two timeslots two sessions simultaneously in different rooms) and one session for poster presentations. In total, 51 oral presentations and 61 poster presentations were given.
2. Prior to the Congress Prof. Miran Kondrič visited in February, the University of Pecs and the future venue of the Congress in Budapest.
3. Two regular *meetings* of ITTF SSMC were organised during the Congress and WTTC in Budapest.
4. In March Prof. Miran Kondrič was invited as a guest speaker at the International Scientific Conference “*Youth in the perspective of the Olympic movement*” in Brasov, Romania.
5. The ITTF SSMC has been playing an active role in the development of a global university-level coach education project, which has been run by the SSCM member Prof. Goran Munivvana, and was launched three years ago in cooperation with the ITTF Development & Education programmes. From May 28<sup>th</sup> till June 4<sup>th</sup> students attended *practical workshops in Bangkok and Nakhon Si Thammarat*. The consensus within the SSMC exists to continue to provide organisational help and support for the project; we believe it has already proven its value for the whole table tennis community. A result of this project is that a student Wisanu Wattayawong has been granted by the Sports Authority of Thailand to visit of some European countries in terms of additional support to development of Thai table tennis.
6. In July 2019 we published the sixth edition of *Science and Racket Sports*. The scientific monograph is the result of the *sixth World Congress of Racket Sport Science* which was organised in 2018 together with the Badminton World Federation, Thailand Badminton Association and Mahidol University. Overall, 23 scientific papers have been presented in this book. ITTF is one of the publishers.

7. Further international cooperation was developed when Prof. Gu Yaodong from Ningbo university, China visited University of Ljubljana but also some other EU universities and institutions.
8. In the first part of the year 2019 Prof. Miran Kondrič took part in organising the launch of the first journal exclusively related to science of racket sports, by conducting editorial work for the *International Journal of Racket Sports Science*. The first issue of the journal has already been published ([www.racketsportscience.org](http://www.racketsportscience.org)) and the second one will be on line at the end of the year. Five members of the ITTF SSMC are members of Editorial board.
9. From 14<sup>th</sup> until 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019 eight members of ITTF SSMC took part in a jointly organised *scientific meeting* with the JTTA SSMC. The meeting was organised by Dr. Shiro Matsuo and Prof. Kazuto Yoshida. Over 40 Japanese scientists took part and presented recent trends in sports science and medicine related to table tennis development. Additional three European scientists, one Asian and one from India took part in this two-day meeting in Tokyo with interesting oral presentations followed by a fruitful discussion. We used this opportunity also to have our third ITTF SSMC meeting where some new proposals for the future work were presented (see the Minutes of the meeting). Soon we will publish the book including the content of all the meetings which are organised every year since 2014.
10. During the whole 2019 year and especially during the gathering in Tokyo, we continued with the work on medical services to be provided at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games. Further activities in terms of medical support have been provided through e-mail exchanges with Sachiko Yokota. Thanks to her and Dr. Shiro Matsuo, the ITTF SSMC will have a more active role at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. Thanks also to Mr. Masahiro Maehara-san for his involvement and final dinner with SSMC members.
11. Following the conclusion and decision of last year's gathering in Tokyo, postdoctoral student Kei Kamijima has started in September her postdoctoral study at the University of Ljubljana. Kei is currently working at the University of Ljubljana where she will stay for a 10 months period during the 2019-2020 academic year under the supervision of Prof. Miran Kondrič. She will proceed with her studies in the field of table tennis. The grant is a result of our previous meetings. We hope to gain even more applications to provide young researchers with more possibilities to work abroad and to focus on table tennis research.
12. I would like to take this opportunity to thank CEO Steve Dainton, for his contribution to the work of the ITTF SSMC with regard to scientific topics and cooperation with 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 as well as the Secretary General Raul Calin and staff member Emese Barsai. Thanks also to all members of the ITTF SSMC who have shown a great dedication to fulfil all the tasks that have been put in front of them, by successfully conducting the work in sports science, education, anti-doping fight and sports medicine.

#### **Tasks to Be Fulfilled prior to Tokyo 2020 OG:**

- Conducting activities for the “17<sup>th</sup> ITTF Sports Science Congress;”
- Proposing to the ITTF EC studies which should be supported by the ITTF

**Prof. Miran Kondrič, PhD**

Chair

**1. New Approach "Match Officials" extended to referee selection**

In 2019, all six World Tour Platinum events, six World Tour events and the World Title events used the new approach. Starting in 2020, the approach is also used for the referee team. The invitation for the World Tour and World Tour Platinum events 2019 were published in October 2019 and the selection started in January 2019.

The new system did not only ensure that umpires with excellent performances in the recent years have been selected but also an excellent distribution between associations has been in place. In each event at least one official has/had to come from another continent and as far as possible it was ensured that only one official per country was present in the final stage of an event (except the host).

**2. Performance Assessment**

In 2019 ITTF URC started a pilot project to have performance assessment instead of evaluations at Category A events (World Tour, World Tour Platinum, World Titles).

Umpires working in Category A events are selected based on expected high level of performance; these umpires have been assessed during the whole event in all fields and the result will be used for future selections. Guidelines have been elaborated to guarantee a transparent procedure as the performance assessment will be in place beginning in 2020 for all events in all Category A events.

**3. International Referee School**

ITTF URC in liaison with the Japan Table Tennis Association organised an IR school in Osaka from 22nd to 25th August 2019. The ITTF URC is proud to welcome Canada's Erica Ans; she becomes the first female International Referee from Canada and indeed the second female International Referee from the continent of North America.

**4. Referee Toolbox**

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

**5. Referee Report**

The electronic referee report is used by all referees and for all ITTF events. The database is used not only for keeping records and analysis but also for education; this is also linked to other ITTF databases. The ITTF Para Table Tennis Manager has direct access to the database and together the cooperation is strengthened between Para and the URC.

**6. 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, which is updated regularly

**7. Referee Career Development**

The Referee Career Development document, which provides a clear pathway for all referees, has been updated. Referees, who have at the moment the status International Referee Certified, will be upgraded to International Referee. The list of active referees has been updated (status 01.01.2020) taking into account the presence of referees in events in the last two years.

A total of 130 active referees are working in 2020 for ITTF and 16 referees are Advanced Referees. 88 referees are inactive.

#### **8. Fully Funded IU Refresher Course & AUT, ARE Evaluation**

An URC initiative to offer IU refresher courses to each continent met with limited success and slow start. North America was the only one that took up the opportunity and a two-day refresher course was held in Fort Worth, Texas, USA. The offer of funded AUT, ARE and Evaluations to each continent met with similar responses. One such initiative took place at the Pan Am Junior Championships in Mexico. The other one planned for Oman Junior and Cadet Open in Muscat was cancelled due to insufficient candidates. The project will be further refined and be part of the ongoing education efforts.

#### **9. AUT, ARE and Evaluations**

In total, the URC conducted 10 AUT courses (compared to three in 2018), 12 ARE's (six in 2018) and had evaluations at 25 events (20 in 2018). The activities took place at Asia, Europe, North America, Oceania and Africa with Europe and Asia being the most active continents.

#### **10. 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. They have all been mentored and trained by experienced trainers and are now fully capable to conduct evaluation in the recommended way.

#### **11. Evaluation Process**

A small working group, comprised of representatives of players, referees, umpires and competition managers, was formed to look into the pros and cons of the current practices of evaluation. Following the implementation of a new approach, there is a need to further examine the umpire evaluation process. Recommendations from the report will be further discussed for implementation.

#### **12. Handbook for Match Officials**

The 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the Handbook for Match Officials was issued in the autumn of 2019. It has been a team effort to complete the task. The electronic version was post on ITTF URC website. It is planned to have a review and issue updates on a yearly basis.

#### **13. Acknowledgement**

I 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 Barsai, Silvia Bernhard and Jordi Serra 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**  
Chair

### **1. Composition of the committee (Period 2019 - 2021)**

Reto Bazzi (Switzerland / Europe), Chair; Galal Ezz (Egypt / Africa), Hyunsook Chung (Korea / Asia), Ina Jozepsone (Latvia / Europe), Christine Jones (Australia / Oceania), Hans Westling (Sweden / Europe), Swaythling Club International (SCI) / World Veteran Championships Committee (WVC).

### **2. Committee meetings / Communication**

The following committee officials attended meetings in April 2019 during the World Championships in Budapest / HUN:

Reto Bazzi, Chair; Galal Ezz, Hyunsook Chung, Ina Jozepsone, Paul Kyle (New Zealand / Oceania - committee member until 2019), Hans Westling (SCI/WVC).

For the first committee meeting all members presented their written reports including their respective activities, ideas for improvements and constructive comments.

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

### **3. Committee activities**

Following the purpose (mandate) according to the "Terms of Reference" the committee concentrated his activities in the following areas:

#### **3.1 Support SCI in organising World Veteran Championships**

During the World Championships 2019 in Budapest / HUN a contract between SCI and ITTF was signed with the aim to transfer the governance on the organisation of the World Veteran Championships from the SCI to the ITTF, starting with the 21<sup>th</sup> WVC 2022. Also, in Budapest SCI and ITTF representatives attended the presentations of the candidates for the organisation of the WVC 2022. It was decided and confirmed by the BoD that Oman (Muscat) will be the host. A first visit was held in November 2019. Hans Westling, Reto Bazzi (as committee members), Jordi Serra and Gordon Kaye (ITTF staff) visited the intended venue and had constructive discussions with the respective officials.

At the 20<sup>th</sup> World Veteran Championships scheduled for June 2020 in Bordeaux / FRA the highest number of players ever in the history was expected. After an additional inspection visit (Hans Westling and Reto Bazzi) in October 2019 a limit of 5,700 players (!) was finally confirmed by the SCI EC.

It was discussed during the committee meetings in Budapest how the ITTF Veteran Committee could support the future work for the World Veterans Tour (WVT).

I also attended the SCI AGM 2019 in Budapest / HUN the meetings of the SCI Executive Committee and the meetings of the WVC Committee.

#### **3.2 Encourage continental and national federations to promote veteran table tennis activities**

There was a good co-operation with the Chairs of Continental Veteran Committees.



### **3.3 Support continental and national federations in preparing ranking lists for veteran players**

Following the start of the new World Veteran Tour a special ranking system was introduced by the ITTF. Hopefully the new system will also give inputs for the seeding at World Veteran Championships.

### **3.4 Update veteran activities on the ITTF Website**

Over the period June to December 2019 the following articles about veteran events have been published on the ITTF Website:

- World Veteran Tour in Shenzhen / CHN (08.08.-11.08.19)
- World Veteran Tour in Cardiff / WAL (14.-15.12.19)

There is “room for improvement”, having much more articles about WVT and other veteran events over the year. Ian Marshall is of course ready to publish veteran articles but he needs more frequently “facts, figures and photos” from the event organisers.

As usual the veteran calendar was 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 support and contributions during the last year.

I also express my sincere thanks to the chairs of the continental veteran committees, the EC and WVC Committee members of the SCI and all ITTF staff members for the always good co-operation.

**Reto Bazzi**  
Chair

# **2019 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Report to the AGM**

**Document E1**

**DISTRIBUTED AS A SEPARATE DOCUMENT**



## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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Proposition 1 – Effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021

(2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.

To amend and introduce the following articles in the ITTF Constitution:

To amend 1.1.3.3.1

The Executive Committee ITTF Tribunal 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.

*Rationale:*

*To remove the judicial power from the Executive Committee and entrust the newly created ITTF Tribunal to take any necessary disciplinary actions.*

---

To amend 1.1.4.1.5

to establish and enforce the Constitution, the Laws of Table Tennis, the Regulations for International Competitions, the Regulations for World, Olympic and Paralympic Title Competitions, the Anti-Doping Rules, the Code of Ethics, the Anti-Harassment Policy and Procedures, the ITTF Tribunal Regulations and any other ITTF regulations;

*Rationale:*

*To introduce the chapter 8, ITTF Tribunal Regulations, in the ITTF Handbook.*

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To amend 1.2.3

1.2.3 SANCTION, SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION

*Rationale:*

*To introduce other types of sanctions than suspension and termination.*

---

To amend 1.2.3.6

The Executive Committee ITTF Tribunal may act to suspend, propose the termination, or otherwise sanction an Association pending the AGM or EGM, provided that: if it infringes the ITTF Constitution, other Regulations, and ITTF Tribunal decisions.

To delete 1.2.3.6.1, 1.2.3.6.2, 1.2.3.6.3

*Rationale:*

*To ensure ITTF Tribunal Regulations can be effectively applied by the ITTF Tribunal.*

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## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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To amend 1.2.5.1.2

To apply the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules, the ITTF Code of Ethics and the Anti-Harassment Policy and Procedures, **the ITTF Tribunal Regulations and the ITTF Tribunal decisions.**

*Rationale:*

*To ensure that ITTF Tribunal Regulations can be effectively applied by the ITTF Disciplinary Tribunal.*

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To delete 1.5.4.1.4:

**To impose disciplinary sanctions for inappropriate conducts.**

*Rationale:*

*To move the judicial power from the EC to the ITTF Tribunal.*

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To add a new 1.5.5 (and renumber current 1.5.5 to 1.5.11)

### **1.5.5. ITTF Integrity Unit**

**1.5.5.1. The ITTF Integrity Unit is an independent unit of the ITTF with the following responsibilities:**

**1.5.5.1.1. to investigate and prosecute infringement of the matters relating to compliance, discipline and integrity before the ITTF Tribunal or such other competent and recognised judicial body;**

**1.5.5.1.2. to educate table tennis parties on integrity matters; and**

**1.5.5.1.3. to otherwise protect and uphold the integrity of table tennis.**

**1.5.5.2. The ITTF Integrity Unit shall consist of the Head of Integrity and such other officers necessary for the ITTF Integrity Unit to carry out its responsibilities.**

**1.5.5.3. As an independent unit of the ITTF, the ITTF Integrity Unit shall directly report to the ITTF President, subject to Article 1.5.5.4.**

**1.5.5.4. Where a case under investigation or prosecution involves the ITTF President, the ITTF Integrity Unit shall report to the ITTF Board of Directors. Where a case under investigation or prosecution involves an ITTF Board of Directors member or an ITTF Executive Committee member other than the ITTF President, the ITTF Integrity Unit will report to the ITTF President and the ITTF AGM (or EGM).**

*Rationale:*

*To establish a prosecuting body in the ITTF.*

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## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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To amend 1.8.1:

### 1.8.1 JUDICIAL BODIES OF THE ITTF

1.8.1.1 The following bodies of the ITTF have judicial powers:

1.8.1.1.1 The AGM and the EGM.

1.8.1.1.2 The Executive Committee.

1.8.1.1.2 The ITTF Tribunal.

1.8.1.1.3 The International Testing Agency (ITA) and the Court of Arbitration of Sport Anti-Doping Division (CAS ADD) 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.

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

1.8.1.1.5 The Illegal Betting and Corruption Hearing Panel according to the ITTF Code of Ethics.

1.8.1.1.4 6 The Eligibility Commission according to the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions.

1.8.1.1.5 The ITTF Protest Panel for Para Table Tennis Classifications.

1.8.1.1.6 The Board of Appeal of Classification of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC BAC) for Para Table Tennis classification matters.

*Rationale:*

*To ensure consistency with the creation of the ITTF Tribunal.*

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To replace 1.8.2 and introduce Chapter 8:

### 1.8.2 PROCEDURAL RULES APPLICABLE TO THE JUDICIAL BODIES OF THE ITTF

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

1.8.2.1.1 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;

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

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

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

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

### 1.8.2 ITTF TRIBUNAL

1.8.2.1 The ITTF Tribunal is composed for up to eight members.

1.8.2.2 The ITTF Tribunal will have Chairperson, a Deputy Chairperson, and up to six members at large.

1.8.2.3 The organization of the ITTF Tribunal is regulated through the chapter 8 of the ITTF Handbook.

*Rationale:*

## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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*To define the scope of the ITTF Tribunal and defer procedural rules to the new chapter 8 ITTF Tribunal Regulations.*

To amend 1.8.3:

### 1.8.3 COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS)

1.8.3.1 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 or external appeals processes as established in these regulations except for ITTF Para Table Tennis classification matters, which final appeal body shall be the International Paralympic Committee Board of Appeal of Classification (IPC BAC). 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.

*Rationale:*

*To ensure consistency with the creation of the ITTF Tribunal and the recognition of the ITA, the IPC BAC.*

---

To amend 3.2.4.3.2:

The suspended player may appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport ITTF Tribunal within 21 days of the receiving of the letter of suspension; should such an appeal be submitted, the player's suspension would remain in force.

*Rationale:*

*To adjust to the new judicial powers of the ITTF.*

---

To amend 3.5.2.8:

The referee shall have power to disqualify a player from a match, an event or a competition for seriously unfair or offensive behaviour, whether reported by the umpire or not; as he or she does so he or she shall hold up a red card; for less serious offenses which do not justify disqualification, the referee may decide to report such an offense to a Disciplinary Panel (3.5.2.13) the ITTF Integrity Unit.

*Rationale:*

*To adjust to the new judicial powers of the ITTF.*

---

To amend 3.5.2.13:

A Disciplinary Panel appointed by the Executive Committee, consisting of 4 members and a chair, shall decide on appropriate sanctions for offences reported by the referee of an event within 14 days of the end of the event. Sanctions for offences under the provisions of Article 3.5.2 may be commenced by the ITTF Integrity Unit before the ITTF Disciplinary Tribunal in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations. The Disciplinary Panel shall decide according to directives given by the Executive Committee.

## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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### *Rationale:*

*To adjust to the new judicial powers of the ITTF.*

To delete 3.5.2.14

### *Rationale:*

*Appeals of ITTF Tribunal decisions are already addressed in the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.*

---

To amend 3.5.3.4:

A Disciplinary Panel appointed by the Executive Committee, consisting of 4 members and a chair, shall decide on whether an infringement committed and if necessary on appropriate sanctions; Sanctions for offences under the provisions of Article 3.5.3 may be commenced by the ITTF Integrity Unit before the ITTF Disciplinary Tribunal in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations. this Disciplinary Panel shall decide according to directives given by the Executive Committee.

### *Rationale:*

*To adjust to the new judicial powers of the ITTF.*

---

To delete 3.5.3.5

### *Rationale:*

*Appeals of ITTF Tribunal decisions are already addressed in the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.*

---

To amend the preamble and Scope of application of chapter 6

### **PREAMBLE**

The ITTF, all its All members (National Associations), affiliated organisations (Continental Federations) as well as all the aforesaid parties' officials, honorary members, officers, employees, services providers, delegated third parties and their employees, players, players' entourages and such other persons involved in the aforesaid parties' ITTF's operations (hereinafter "the Table Tennis parties") restate their commitment to the Olympic Charter and in particular its Fundamental Principles and reaffirm their loyalty to the Olympic ideal inspired by Pierre de Coubertin.

The Table Tennis parties undertake to disseminate the culture of ethics and integrity within their respective areas of competence and to serve as role models.

### **Scope of application**

The Table Tennis parties undertake to comply and ensure compliance with the Code of Ethics in the following circumstances:

- the ITTF, its administration, each of its members (National Associations), affiliated organisations (Continental Federations) and their officials, honorary members, officers, employees, services providers, delegated third parties and their employees, players, players' entourages and such other persons involved in their operations at all times and in all circumstances;

## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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### Rationale:

To ensure the scope of the Code of Ethics is appropriate and to align and provide consistency with the creation of the ITTF Tribunal.

To amend 6.8.4.5 and 6.8.4.6

6.8.4.5 Disqualification, directions to remove oneself from a conflict of interest or such other restrictions shall be decided by the Ethics Commission. The Ethics Commission's decision may be appealed to the ITTF Tribunal.

6.8.4.6 Specific provisions

6.8.4.6.1 The person concerned shall not himself take part in considering or deciding his own status.

6.8.4.6.2 Any disqualification shall not prevent the person from participating in elections.

### Rationale:

To align and provide consistency with the creation of the ITTF Tribunal.

---

To amend 6.9.1.1

These rules shall apply to all participants Table Tennis parties (as defined in the Preamble of this Chapter 6) who participate or assist in an international competition and each participant shall be automatically bound by, and be required to comply with, these rules by virtue of such participation or assistance (abbreviated as "participant" in the provisions below).

### Rationale:

To align with the adjustments proposed above.

---

To amend 6.9.1.3

Each participant submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of any hearing panel convened under these rules ITTF Tribunal to hear and determine charges brought by the ITTF Integrity Unit and to the exclusive jurisdiction of CAS to determine any appeal from the ITTF Tribunal's a hearing panel decision

### Rationale:

To align with the proposed creation of the ITTF Tribunal.

---

To amend 6.9.2.5.3 to 6.9.2.5.5

6.9.2.5.3 Failing to disclose to the ITTF Integrity Unit or other competent authority (without undue delay) full details of any approaches or invitations received by the



## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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participant to engage in conduct or incidents that would amount to a violation of this rule.

6.9.2.5.4 Failing to disclose to the ITTF Integrity Unit or other competent authority (without undue delay) full details of any incident, fact or matter that comes to the attention of the participant that may evidence a violation under this rule by a third party, including (without limitation) approaches or invitations that have been received by any other party to engage in conduct that would amount to a violation of this rule;

6.9.2.5.5 Failing without compelling justification to cooperate with any reasonable investigation carried out by the ITTF Integrity Unit or other competent authority in relation to a possible breach of this rule, including failing to provide any information and/or documentation requested by the ITTF Integrity Unit or by the competent competition authority that may be relevant to such investigation.

### *Rationale:*

*To be consistent with the creation of the ITTF Integrity Unit.*

---

To amend 6.9.3 to 6.9.8

### **6.9.3 BURDEN AND STANDARD OF PROOF**

6.9.3.1 The ITTF Integrity Unit or other prosecuting authority shall have the burden of proving that a violation has occurred under these rules. The standard of proof shall be whether the ITTF Integrity Unit or other prosecuting authority has proved a violation to the comfortable satisfaction of the ITTF Tribunal hearing panel, a standard which is greater than the mere balance of probability but less than proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

6.9.3.2 Where these rules place the burden of proof on the participant alleged to have committed a violation to prove facts or circumstances, the standard of proof shall be by a preponderance of the evidence.

6.9.3.3 The hearing panel ITTF Tribunal shall not be bound by judicial rules governing the admissibility of evidence. Facts related to violations of rule 6.9.2 may be established by any reliable means, including but not limited to, admissions, evidence of third parties, witness statements, expert reports, documentary evidence and other analytical data or information.

6.9.3.4 The ITTF Tribunal hearing panel shall have discretion to accept any facts established by a decision of a court or professional disciplinary tribunal of any competent jurisdiction which is not subject to a pending appeal as irrefutable evidence against the participant to whom the decision relates unless the participant establishes that the decision violated the principles of natural justice.

6.9.3.5 The ITTF Tribunal hearing panel shall be entitled to draw an inference adverse against any participant who is accused of committing a violation if that participant fails to appear in front of the ITTF Tribunal hearing panel if requested to do so a

reasonable time in advance of the hearing, or fails to comply with any information request that has been submitted in accordance with these rules.

### 6.9.4 INVESTIGATING A BREACH

6.9.4.1 Any allegation or suspicion of a violation of any provision under rule 6.9.2 shall be reported to the ITTF Integrity Unit for investigation and possible charge in accordance with this rule. The ITTF Integrity Unit may conduct an investigation into the activities of any participant that it believes may have committed a violation of these rules and may appoint one or more persons for this purpose. Such investigation may be conducted in conjunction with relevant competent national or international authorities (including criminal, administrative, professional and/or judicial authorities) and all participants must co-operate fully with such investigations. The ITTF Integrity Unit shall have discretion, where it deems it appropriate, to stay its own investigation pending the outcome of investigations conducted by other competent authorities.

6.9.4.2 As part of any such investigation, if the ITTF Integrity Unit reasonably suspects that a participant has committed a violation of these rules, it may make a written demand to such participant for information that is related to the alleged violation and/or require the attendance of such participant for interview, or a combination of the two. Any interview shall be at a time and place to be determined by the ITTF Integrity Unit and the relevant participant shall be given reasonable notice in writing of the requirement to attend. Interviews shall be recorded and the participant shall be entitled to have legal counsel and an interpreter present.

6.9.4.3 By participation in a competition, each participant shall be deemed to have agreed for the purposes of applicable data protection laws and other laws, and for all other purposes, to have consented to the collection, processing, disclosure or any other use of information relating to his or her activities (including without limitation personal information) to the extent permitted under these rules and shall confirm such agreement in writing upon demand.

### 6.9.5 ISSUING A NOTICE OF CHARGE

6.9.5.1 Where following an investigation the ITTF Integrity Unit determines that there is a case for the participant to answer under rule 6.9.2, the ITTF Integrity Unit shall issue the participant with a written notice of charge setting out the following:

6.9.5.1.1 The specific violation(s) that the participant is alleged to have committed;

6.9.5.1.2 The facts upon which such allegation(s) are based;

6.9.5.1.3 The range of sanctions applicable under the rules for such violations;

6.9.5.1.4 Details relating to the participant's response to the notice of charge within a specified deadline; and

6.9.5.1.5 The participant's right to have the matter determined by a hearing.

## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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- 6.9.5.2 The notice of charge shall also specify that, if the participant wishes to exercise his or her right to a hearing, he or she must submit a written request for a hearing so that it is received by the ITTF Integrity Unit as soon as possible but in any event within 14 days of receipt of the notice of charge. The request must state how the participant responds to the charge and must explain (in summary form) the basis for such response.
- 6.9.5.3 If the participant fails to file a written request for a hearing by the specified deadline, he or she shall be deemed to have:
- 6.9.5.3.1 waived his or her right to a hearing;
- 6.9.5.3.2 admitted that he or she has committed the violation(s) specified in the notice of charge; and
- 6.9.5.3.3 acceded to the range of applicable sanctions specified in the notice of charge.
- 6.9.5.4 Where the participant requests a hearing in accordance with rule 6.9.5.3.1, the matter shall proceed to a hearing in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations in accordance with 6.3. Where the participant is deemed to have waived his or her right to a hearing and to have admitted the violation(s) in accordance with rule 6.9.5.3.2, any hearing held at the ITTF Tribunal's discretion shall be limited to determining the applicable sanctions only.
- 6.9.5.5 In any case where the ITTF Integrity Unit decides to charge a participant with a violation under these rules, the ITTF Integrity Unit shall have discretion, in circumstances where it considers that the integrity of the sport could otherwise be seriously undermined, to provisionally suspend the participant pending the relevant tribunal's determination of whether the participant has committed a violation. A provisional suspension shall be effective from the date of notification to the participant in accordance with these rules. Alternatively, the participant may accept a voluntary suspension from competition provided that it is confirmed in writing to the ITTF Integrity Unit. A voluntary suspension shall be effective only from the date of receipt of the participant's written confirmation of such to the ITTF Integrity Unit.
- 6.9.5.6 A decision to impose a provisional suspension on a participant shall not be subject to appeal.
- 6.9.5.7 If a participant retires whilst a disciplinary procedure under these rules is underway, the ITTF Tribunal shall retain jurisdiction to complete the relevant procedure. If the participant retires before any disciplinary procedure has begun, the ITTF Tribunal shall nevertheless have jurisdiction to conduct the relevant procedure.

### 6.9.6 RIGHT TO A FAIR HEARING

- 6.9.6.1 Where the ITTF Integrity Unit alleges that a participant has committed a violation of these rules and the participant denies the allegation and/or disputes the sanctions to be imposed for such violation, then the matter shall be referred to a hearing before the ITTF Tribunal hearing panel.

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- 6.9.6.2 The hearing panel ITTF Tribunal shall be appointed by the ITTF in accordance with the principles set out in 6.9.6.3 below, the members of the hearing panel shall have had no prior involvement with the case and shall not, unless otherwise agreed between the parties, be from the same country as the participant alleged to have violated these rules ITTF Tribunal Regulations.
- 6.9.6.3 The hearing process shall respect the following principles: a timely hearing, a fair and impartial hearing panel, the right to be represented by counsel (at the participant's expense), the right to respond to the asserted anti-corruption rule violation and range of resulting sanction; the right of each party to present evidence, including the right to call and question witnesses (subject to the hearing panel's discretion to accept evidence by telephone or written submission), the participant's right to an interpreter at the hearing (with the hearing panel to determine the identity and responsibility for the cost of the interpreter) and a timely, written reasoned decision specifically including an explanation of the reason(s) for the sanction imposed.
- 6.9.6.4 Once the parties have made their submissions, the hearing panel shall determine whether a violation has been committed. Where the hearing panel determines that a violation has been committed and these rules specify a range of possible sanctions for such violation, the hearing panel shall also fix the appropriate sanction within that range after considering any submissions on the subject that the parties may wish to make.
- 6.9.6.5 The hearing panel shall issue a decision in writing, with reasons, as soon as possible after the conclusion of the hearing. The decision will set out and explain:
- 6.9.6.5.1 the hearing panel's findings as to whether any violation has been committed;
  - 6.9.6.5.2 the hearing panel's findings as to what sanctions, if any, are to be imposed;
  - 6.9.6.5.3 the date that any period of ineligibility shall commence; and
  - 6.9.6.5.4 the rights of appeal described in 6.9.8.

### 6.9.7 SANCTIONS

- 6.9.7.1 A violation of rule 6.9.2 by an athlete occurring during or in connection with an event in which the athlete is participating shall lead to disqualification of the athlete and the annulment of all the athlete's results obtained in that event with all consequences, including forfeiture of all titles, medals, computer ranking points and prize and appearance money, in addition to possible sanctions under rule 6.9.7.3 as decided by the ITTF Tribunal.
- 6.9.7.2 If a member of a doubles pair or a team is found to have committed a violation under 6.9.2, the doubles pair or the team shall be automatically disqualified from the event in question and any title, medal, computer ranking points and prize shall be withdrawn, in addition to possible sanctions under rule 6.9.7.3 ITTF Tribunal.
- 6.9.7.3 Ineligibility and Financial Sanctions

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- 6.9.7.3.1 The **hearing panel ITTF Tribunal** shall have discretion to impose a period of ineligibility on participants in accordance with the bands set out in 6.9.7.3.2. In imposing any period of ineligibility, the **hearing panel ITTF Tribunal** shall be entitled to consider whether any aggravating and/or mitigating factors **under Rule 6.9.7.4 or the ITTF Tribunal Regulations** should be taken into account.
- 6.9.7.3.2 The respective period of ineligibility for a violation set out in:  
Rule 6.9.2.1 (betting), shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years;  
Rule 6.9.2.2 (manipulation of results), shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years;  
Rule 6.9.2.3 (corrupt conduct), shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years;  
Rule 6.9.2.4 (misuse of inside information), shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years;  
Rule 6.9.2.5 (other violations) shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years.
- 6.9.7.3.3 The period of ineligibility shall commence on the date the decision of the **hearing panel ITTF Tribunal** is published and shall end on date stated in the published decision. The **hearing panel ITTF Tribunal** may at its sole discretion reduce the period of ineligibility imposed by any period of provisional suspension already served by the participant prior to the decision being reached.
- 6.9.7.3.4 No participant shall participate in any capacity in any event or competition during his or her period of ineligibility as imposed by the **ITTF Tribunal hearing panel**.
- 6.9.7.3.5 If a participant violates any prohibition on participation imposed in accordance with 6.9.7.3.2, such participant shall be disqualified immediately from the relevant event or competition and the period of ineligibility originally imposed in accordance with these rules shall recommence from the date of such violation.
- 6.9.7.3.6 These rules shall continue to apply to any ineligible participant and any violation committed during a period of ineligibility shall be treated as a distinct violation and separate proceedings shall be brought against the participant in accordance with these rules.
- 6.9.7.3.7 In addition to the imposition of a period of ineligibility as set out above, the **hearing panel ITTF Tribunal** shall have discretion to impose a fine of up to a maximum amount of the value of any benefit received by the participant out of, or in relation to, the violation(s) of **rule 6.9.2**.
- 6.9.7.4 Aggravating and Mitigating Factors
- 6.9.7.4.1 In order to determine the appropriate sanction to be imposed in each case the **ITTF Tribunal hearing panel** shall assess the relative seriousness of the violation, including identifying all relevant factors that it deems to aggravate or mitigate the nature of the violation committed.



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- 6.9.7.4.2 Aggravating factors which may be considered by the **hearing panel ITTF Tribunal** shall include (without limitation and where applicable):
- 6.9.7.4.2.1 failure to co-operate by the participant with any investigation or requests for information;
- 6.9.7.4.2.2 any previous violations by the participant;
- 6.9.7.4.2.3 the participant receiving or being due to receive a significant Benefit in connection with the violation;
- 6.9.7.4.2.4 the violation having or having the potential to affect the course or result of an event or competition;
- 6.9.7.4.2.5 the participant displaying a lack of remorse (including, for example, refusing to take part in anti-corruption educational programs organised by the ITTF); and
- 6.9.7.4.2.6 any other aggravating factor the **ITTF Tribunal hearing panel** deems relevant.
- 6.9.7.4.3 Mitigating factors which may be considered by the **ITTF Tribunal hearing panel** shall include (without limitation and where applicable):
- 6.9.7.4.3.1 co-operation by the participant with any investigation or requests for information;
- 6.9.7.4.3.2 a timely admission of guilt by the participant;
- 6.9.7.4.3.3 the participant's clean disciplinary record;
- 6.9.7.4.3.4 the youth or inexperience of the participant;
- 6.9.7.4.3.5 the violation not having affected or not having the potential to affect the course or result of an event or competition;
- 6.9.7.4.3.6 the participant displaying remorse (including, for example, agreeing to take part in anti-corruption educational programs organised by the ITTF; and
- 6.9.7.4.3.7 any other mitigating factor the **ITTF Tribunal hearing panel** deems relevant.
- 6.9.7.5 Reinstatement
- 6.9.7.5.1 Once the period of the participant's ineligibility has expired, he or she will become automatically re-eligible to participate provided that he or she has
- 6.9.7.5.1.1 completed to the ITTF's **or the ITTF Integrity Unit's** reasonable satisfaction any official betting and anti-corruption education or rehabilitation programme that might be imposed on him or her
- 6.9.7.5.1.2 has satisfied, in full, any fine imposed under this rule and/or award of costs made against him or her by any tribunal and
- 6.9.7.5.1.3 has agreed to subject himself/herself to any reasonable and proportionate monitoring of his or her future activities as the ITTF **or the ITTF Integrity Unit** may reasonably consider necessary given the nature and scope of the violation that he or she has committed.

## 6.9.8 APPEALS

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- 6.9.8.1 The following decisions made under these rules may be appealed either by the ITTF Integrity Unit or the participant who is the subject of the decision (as applicable) exclusively to CAS:
- 6.9.8.1.1 A decision that a charge of breach of rule 6.9.2 should be dismissed on procedural or jurisdictional grounds;
  - 6.9.8.1.2 A decision that a violation of rule 6.9.2 has been committed;
  - 6.9.8.1.3 A decision that a violation of rule 6.9.2 has not been committed;
  - 6.9.8.1.4 A decision to impose a sanction, including a sanction that is not in accordance with these rules;
  - 6.9.8.1.5 A decision not to impose a sanction;
  - 6.9.8.1.6 Any other decision that is considered to be erroneous or procedurally unsound.
- 6.9.8.2 The time for filing an appeal to CAS shall be twenty-one days (21) from the date of receipt of the decision by the appealing party.
- 6.9.8.3 Any decision and any sanctions imposed shall remain in effect while subject to the appeal process, unless CAS directs otherwise.
- 6.9.8.4 The decision of CAS shall be final and binding on all parties and on all National Associations and Continental Federations and there shall be no right of appeal from the CAS decision. No claim may be brought in any other court, tribunal or via any other dispute resolution procedure or mechanism.

### *Rationale:*

*To be consistent with the creation of the ITTF Integrity Unit and the ITTF Tribunal.*

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To amend 6.9.10.2

Subject to 6.9.10.1 above, the ITTF Integrity Unit may temporarily suspend any investigations under the rules to avoid prejudice to and/or to give precedence to, investigations conducted by the relevant authorities into the same or related matters.

### *Rationale:*

*To be consistent with the creation of the ITTF Integrity Unit.*

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To amend 6.11.1 and 6.11.2

### 6.11.1 Composition and Organisation

- 6.11.1.1 The Ethics Commission is shall be independent, as defined in the ITTF Constitution 1.5.7.4; it is composed of three members among whom there must be:

6.11.1.1.1 a member of the Executive Committee

6.11.1.1.2 a member of the Athletes Commission

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6.11.1.1.3 the Chair of the Rules Committee, who will act as Chair of the Ethic Commission

6.11.1.1.4 and one officer, a The staff member will act as secretary to the Commission, with who shall have speaking rights but no voting rights

6.11.1.2 The members, shall be appointed by the Board of Directors upon recommendation of the nomination committee.

6.11.1.3 The Ethics Commission meets when convened by its Chair, at least once a year.

6.11.1.4 The required quorum for any recommendation decision is constituted if all three members are present. Each member will do whatever they can to be present at the meetings and participate in them. Teleconference meetings may be held.

6.11.1.5 The administrative organisation of the Ethics Commission, and support to it, are overseen by the Ethics Commission Officer.

6.11.2 Terms of reference of the commission

6.11.2.1 In the framework of the competence as defined in Rule 22.1 of the Olympic Charter, the terms of reference of the Ethics Commission are:

6.11.2.1.1 to define and update a framework of ethical principles, including a Code of Ethics, based upon the values and principles enshrined in the Olympic Charter, of which the said Code forms an integral part;

6.11.2.1.2 to refer to the ITTF Integrity Unit any investigate complaints raised in relation to the non-respect of such ethical principles, including breaches of the Code of Ethics and, if necessary, propose sanctions to the Executive Committee.

*Rationale:*

*To avoid redundancies with 1.5.7.4 and to align with the creation of the ITTF Integrity Unit.*

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To amend 6.11.4.4 and to delete 6.11.5

6.11.4.4 In the event of a breach of the present Regulations, an Ethics Commission member may be removed from office only by a specific vote by the BoD, the member concerned being heard by the ITTF Tribunal Executive Committee.

6.11.5 Transitional provisions

6.11.5.1 During the 2017 World Championships in Düsseldorf, the inaugural members of the Ethics Commission shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.

*Rationale:*

*To be consistent with the creation of the ITTF Tribunal and to remove redundancies.*



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To amend 6.11.7.1

Such analysis will address the likelihood of a breach of the ethical principles of the Olympic Charter, the Code of Ethics or its implementing provisions, and the jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission.

*Rationale:*

*To provide consistency with the overall text.*

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To amend 6.11.8.6

6.11.8.6 The Ethics Commission freely assesses the evidence.

The Ethics Commission may take a decision regarding any provisional measures, as provided by article 6.11.8.9 below.

Regarding the measures or sanctions against the person concerned, the Ethics Commission makes recommendation to the ITTF Executive Committee Integrity Unit which takes a decision whether to bring a claim before the ITTF Tribunal, pursuant to Rule 22 of the Olympic Charter and as provided by article 6.11.9.1 below.

*Rationale:*

*To provide consistency with the creation of the Integrity Unit and the ITTF Tribunal.*

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To amend 6.11.8.9

6.11.8.9 The Ethics Commission recommends to the Executive Committee ITTF Integrity Unit the measures or sanctions provided under Rule 59 of the Olympic Charter or any other appropriate measures, in particular those provided by one of the implementing provisions of the Code of Ethics.

Such recommendation takes the form of a written decision signed by the Chair of the Commission.

The Ethics Commission Officer forwards the Ethics Commission's final recommendations to the President for referral to the ITTF Integrity Unit Executive Committee.

*Rationale:*

*To provide consistency with the creation of the Integrity Unit.*

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To remove 6.11.9 and 6.12

6.11.9 Procedure before the Executive Committee following a recommendation by the Ethics Commission

6.11.9.1 The person concerned is invited to exercise their right to be heard by the Executive Committee, if they so wish, in the form of written observations, which must be submitted by the deadline established by the ITTF.

6.11.9.2 The Executive Committee will decide on the basis of the Ethics Commission's recommendations and the written observations from the person concerned.

If necessary, the President may ask the Chair of the Ethics Commission or the Ethics Commission Officer for any explanations.

Before a decision by the Executive Committee, the President may return the file to the Ethics Commission Officer or the Ethics Commission if new elements emerge.

6.11.9.3 The decision by the Executive Committee is immediately notified to the person concerned.

6.11.9.4 The Ethics Commission's recommendations may be published on the web site after notification of the decision by the Executive Committee to the person concerned. Any appeal process would be external, at the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

### 6.12 Scope

The present Directives become effective as of July 1, 2017.

#### *Rationale:*

*To provide consistency with the creation of the Integrity Unit and the removal of related attributions from the Executive Committee.*

---

To amend three DEFINITIONS in chapter 6

"Hearing Panel" means the panel appointed by the ITTF to perform the functions assigned to it in these rules ITTF Tribunal.

"Sanction" means any sanction that the hearing panel ITTF Tribunal has the right to impose in accordance with 6.7; and

"Violation" means a violation of these Rules as set out in 6.9.2.

#### *Rationale:*

*To align with the newly created ITTF Tribunal.*

To amend 7.2.1:

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This policy applies to all members of the ITTF, its member associations, its affiliated continental federations and its recognized groups of associations such regional organization, including but not limited to their board members, directors, honorary members, officers, employees, services providers, delegated third parties and their employees, (Associations and continental federations) as well as all officials, honorary members, players, players' entourage and support personnel and any other persons involved in the ITTF's operations.

*Rationale:*

*To properly define the scope of application of the Anti-Harassment Policy and Procedures.*

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To amend 7.2.2:

This policy applies to harassment which may occur during the course of all ITTF business, activities, and events, as well as the business, activities, and events authorised, sanctioned, supported or otherwise recognised by ITTF. It also applies to harassment between individuals associated with the ITTF but outside the ITTF business, activities, and events when such harassment adversely affects relationships within the ITTF work and sport environment.

*Rationale:*

*To properly define the scope of application of the Anti-Harassment Policy and Procedures.*

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To amend 7.5 to 7.10

### 7.5 PANEL OF HARASSMENT OFFICERS ITTF INTEGRITY UNIT

- 7.5.1 The ITTF shall establish an Integrity Unit to deal with all matters related to Integrity, including Harassment complaints. appoint at least two persons, who are themselves officials or employees of the organisation, to serve as harassment officers under this policy, provided that no member of the Executive Committee is appointed.
- 7.5.2 The ITTF Integrity Unit's role of harassment officers is to serve in a neutral, unbiased, independent capacity and to receive complaints, assist in informal resolution of complaints, maintain records and investigate and determine, at their sole discretion, whether to initiate proceedings before the ITTF Tribunal. In carrying out their duties under this policy, harassment ITTF Integrity Unit officers shall be directly responsible to the ITTF Integrity Unit Chair Executive Committee.
- 7.5.3 The ITTF shall ensure that harassment ITTF Integrity Unit officers receive appropriate training and support for carrying out their responsibilities under this policy.

### 7.6 COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

- 7.6.1 A person who experiences harassment is encouraged to may seek the initial advice of the competition manager or an harassment ITTF Integrity Unit officer.
- 7.6.2 The competition manager or harassment ITTF Integrity officer, as the case may be,

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shall inform the complainant of the process of filing a complaint, as determined by the ITTF Integrity Unit.:

- 7.6.3 the options for pursuing an informal resolution of his or her complaint which are:
- 7.6.4 mediation where the harassment officer (or officers) will deal directly with the respondent in order to find a suitable solution.
- 7.6.5 arbitration where the harassment officer (or officers) will hear the complainant and the respondent and facilitate a suitable solution.
- 7.6.6 the right to lay a formal written complaint under this policy when an informal resolution is inappropriate or not possible.
- 7.6.7 If a formal complaint is laid, the harassment officer (officers), within 15 days of receiving the formal written complaint, shall submit a report to the Executive Committee with the recommendation of further action/s to be taken.

### 7.7 DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- 7.7.1 Any person against whom a complaint of harassment is made out may be sanctioned by the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.
- 7.7.2 For the purposes of this policy, retaliation against an individual will not be tolerated for having:
  - 7.7.2.1 filed a complaint under this policy; or
  - 7.7.2.2 participated in any procedure under this policy; or
  - 7.7.2.3 been associated with a person who filed a complaint or participated in any procedure under this policy, shall constitute an offence.
- 7.7.3 Any person against whom a complaint of retaliation is made out may be sanctioned by the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.
- 7.7.4 Any false accusations pursuant to the complaint knowingly made or is reasonably determined to likely be known by a complainant or anyone participating in any procedure under this policy will be viewed very seriously and disciplinary action will be recommended against individuals who bring such false charges shall constitute an offence.
- 7.7.5 Any person against whom a complaint of false accusation is made out may be sanctioned by the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.
- 7.7.6 The Executive Committee can impose appropriate disciplinary sanctions from warnings, to fines, to suspension and expulsion when a complaint of harassment has been substantiated. The same disciplinary sanctions can be imposed if a false accusation has been substantiated.

### 7.8 APPEALS

- 7.8.1 Both the complainant and respondent shall have the right to appeal the decision. A notice of intention to appeal, along with grounds for the appeal, must be provided to the Executive Committee within 14 days of the complainant or respondent receiving the formal notification of the outcome of the case. An appeal of the ITTF Tribunal's decision may be made in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.
- 7.8.2 The Executive Committee shall forward the appeal to the Court of Arbitration of Sport.

### 7.9 REPORTING TO HARASSMENT OFFICER

- 7.9.1 Every member of the ITTF has a responsibility to play a part in ensuring that the sport environment is free from harassment

## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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7.9.2 The ITTF encourages all incidents of harassment to be reported, regardless of who the offender may be.

### 7.10 RESPONSIBILITY

7.10.1 The **Executive Committee ITTF Integrity Unit** is responsible for the implementation of this policy. In addition, the **Executive Committee ITTF Integrity Unit** is responsible for:

7.10.1.1 discouraging and preventing harassment within the ITTF;

7.10.1.2 investigating formal complaints of harassment in a sensitive, responsible, and timely manner;

7.10.1.3 imposing appropriate disciplinary or corrective measures when a complaint of harassment has been substantiated based on the findings of the harassment officers, regardless of the position or authority of the offender;

7.10.1.4 providing advice to persons who experience harassment;

7.10.1.5 doing its utmost to support and assist any employee or member of the ITTF who experiences harassment by someone who is not an employee or member of the ITTF;

7.10.1.6 making all individuals involved in the ITTF aware of the problem of all forms of harassment, and of the procedures contained in this policy;

7.10.1.7 informing both complainants and respondents of the procedures contained in this policy and of their rights under this policy and the law;

7.10.1.8 regularly reviewing the terms of this policy to ensure that they adequately meet the organisation's legal obligations and public policy objectives;

7.10.1.9 appointing officers and providing the training and resources they need to fulfil their responsibilities under this policy.;

7.10.1.10 rehabilitate publicly, persons who have been victims of harassment or who have been victims of a false accusation.

#### *Rationale:*

*To introduce the scope of action of the ITTF Integrity Unit.*

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To introduce the new Chapter 8 – ITTF Tribunal Regulations

## ITTF Tribunal Regulations

### Part I: Preliminary

#### 1. Citation and commencement

These Regulations may be cited as the ITTF Tribunal Regulations and shall come into operation on 01 January 2021.

#### 2. Definitions

In these ITTF Tribunal Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —

“**Administrative Fee**” has the meaning given to it in R25.2;

“**Absolute Majority**” means majority (one-half plus one) of the total number of persons entitled to vote, including those absent and those present but not voting;

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“**Claimant**” means the party bringing a claim;

“**Hearing Panel**” means a panel of the ITTF Tribunal formed in accordance with R26, which may comprise of a single ITTF Tribunal member;

“**ITTF Tribunal**” means the highest judicial body within ITTF to hear and decide cases at first instance or as an appellate body as set out in the ITTF Tribunal Regulations;

“**Qualified Majority**” means two-thirds majority of persons taking part in the vote, not counting abstentions;

“**Request for Proceedings**” has the meaning given to it in R25.1;

“**Respondent**” means the party whom a claim is brought against;

“**Simple Majority**” means majority (one-half plus one) of persons taking part in the vote, not counting abstentions;

### 3. Purpose

3.1. The ITTF Tribunal is an independent judicial body of the ITTF established pursuant to Article 1.8.1.1.2 of the ITTF Constitution.

3.2. The ITTF Tribunal constitutes Hearing Panels to hear and decide cases at first instance or as an appellate body arising from the ITTF Handbook, in accordance with these ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

3.3. These ITTF Tribunal Regulations regulate the organisation and function of the ITTF Tribunal and describes the procedures to be followed before it regarding matters that it has jurisdiction over.

## Part II: Organisation of the ITTF Tribunal

### 4. Membership of the ITTF Tribunal

4.1. The membership of the ITTF Tribunal is determined in accordance with Article 1.8.2 of the ITTF Constitution.

4.2. The ITTF Tribunal membership as a whole shall be fluent in English and have expertise and experience in legal, governance, integrity, table tennis, competition, officiating, athlete safeguarding, anti-harassment and such other relevant areas in sport, and each member shall be:

4.2.1. a qualified lawyer or former judicial office holder with substantial expertise and experience in legal issues affecting sport; or

4.2.2. a person with substantial experience in legal, governance, integrity, table tennis, competition, officiating, athlete safeguarding, anti-harassment or such other relevant areas in sport.

4.3. An ITTF Tribunal member may be suspended or removed from office:

4.3.1. by the ITTF Tribunal Chair if:

4.3.1.1. that member is found to be not eligible under these ITTF Tribunal Regulations;

## **Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM**

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- 4.3.1.2. that member is found to have been in serious breach of the ITTF Constitution or any other ITTF regulations, including the ITTF Code of Ethics;
- 4.3.1.3. that member is unable or unwilling to perform their duties as an ITTF Tribunal member, has neglected their duties, or has engaged in any material misconduct;
- 4.3.2. by the AGM or EGM, if:
  - 4.3.2.1. the person to be removed under R4.3.1 is the ITTF Tribunal Chair; or
  - 4.3.2.2. the AGM or EGM considers that the ITTF Tribunal Chair's decision made pursuant to R4.3.1 should be reviewed.
- 4.4. Before an ITTF Tribunal member is removed, that member shall be given reasonable written notice of the proposal by the ITTF Tribunal Chair, the AGM or EGM (as applicable) to remove them as an ITTF Tribunal member, the basis for such proposal and the relevant facts supporting such proposal. That member may respond to that proposal within 14 days of being notified in writing of the proposal and that member's response must be taken into account by such decision maker.
- 4.5. If an ITTF Tribunal member resigns, dies, or is removed from office, the position shall either:
  - 4.5.1. remain vacant until the next AGM or EGM; or
  - 4.5.2. if the ITTF Tribunal Chair considers it necessary, the ITTF Board of Directors may appoint a replacement member to fill the vacancy on the ITTF Tribunal until the next AGM or EGM.
- 4.6. Each term of office the ITTF Tribunal member shall be four years and the ITTF Tribunal Member may be appointed by the AGM or EGM for a maximum of eight consecutive years, subject to R39.
- 4.7. The ITTF Tribunal and the Secretariat shall be allocated the necessary resources by ITTF to fulfil its functions.

### **5. ITTF Tribunal Chair**

- 5.1. The ITTF Tribunal Chair must be a qualified lawyer who:
  - 5.1.1. is fluent in English; and
  - 5.1.2. has at least ten years of professional legal experience in litigation or arbitration and in governance, integrity, table tennis, competition, officiating, athlete safeguarding, anti-harassment or such other relevant areas in sport.
- 5.2. The ITTF Tribunal Chair is responsible for the matters including:
  - 5.2.1. lead and represent the ITTF Tribunal in official matters within and outside of ITTF;
  - 5.2.2. propose resources necessary for the ITTF Tribunal to operate in accordance with these ITTF Tribunal Regulations;

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- 5.2.3. propose amendments to these ITTF Tribunal Regulations or any other part of the ITTF Handbook for the effective and efficient administration of justice within ITTF;
  - 5.2.4. perform or supervise the performance of operational tasks of the ITTF Tribunal;
  - 5.2.5. prepare annual reports of the ITTF Tribunal for the AGM or EGM;
  - 5.2.6. convene meetings ITTF Tribunal meetings, as they deem necessary;
  - 5.2.7. appoint a deputy to fulfil their responsibilities in their absence, as they deem necessary;
  - 5.2.8. manage the caseload of the ITTF Tribunal and assign (or reassign) cases to ITTF Tribunal members, according to their specific needs, such as subject-matter expertise;
  - 5.2.9. monitor the performance and conduct of the ITTF Tribunal members and investigate (or assist in the investigation of) complaints made against them, in accordance with the ITTF Handbook;
  - 5.2.10. work with the Secretariat and all other ITTF Tribunal members on all other matters necessary of the operation of the ITTF Tribunal; and
  - 5.2.11. assume the responsibilities of the ITTF Tribunal members, as set out in R5.3.
- 5.3. Each ITTF Tribunal member is responsible for the matters including:
- 5.3.1. read and be familiar with the documents submitted by the parties in each case;
  - 5.3.2. ensure that parties who are not represented by counsel are able to present their cases and have it considered fully and fairly;
  - 5.3.3. manage and conduct proceedings fairly, effectively and efficiently;
  - 5.3.4. maintain impartiality throughout proceedings and take adequate notes;
  - 5.3.5. deciding issues of fact, law and procedure that may arise in each case;
  - 5.3.6. make orders and interim reliefs in each case, in accordance with these ITTF Tribunal Regulations;
  - 5.3.7. write and issue decisions after deliberating on the parties' submissions;
  - 5.3.8. keep abreast of developments within table tennis or sport in general, particularly in the areas of legal, governance, integrity, competition, officiating, athlete safeguarding, anti-harassment and such other relevant areas; and
  - 5.3.9. from time to time serve on a Committee, Commission, Working Group or such other bodies of the ITTF, where services of a judicial member are required, particularly in cases of substantial public interest.

## **6. Secretariat**

- 6.1. The ITTF Tribunal shall be assisted by the Secretariat.
- 6.2. The Secretariat is responsible for matters including:
  - 6.2.1. communicating with ITTF Tribunal members relating to the proceedings in which they are appointed members of the Hearing Panel;



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- 6.2.2. communicating with the parties to the proceedings on behalf of the Hearing Panel or the ITTF Tribunal Chair;
- 6.2.3. assisting the Hearing Panel or the ITTF Tribunal Chair in convening hearings or preliminary hearings;
- 6.2.4. assisting the Hearing Panel or the ITTF Tribunal Chair in preparing decisions;
- 6.2.5. managing matters relating to the proceedings filed with it;
- 6.2.6. attending the meetings of the ITTF Tribunal and assisting in the preparation of minutes, reports and other documents relating to such meetings; and
- 6.2.7. ensuring that the ITTF Tribunal is managed efficiently.

6.3. The Secretariat may be a natural person or legal person.

### **7. Meetings of the ITTF Tribunal**

- 7.1. The ITTF Tribunal shall meet at least once a year and each ITTF Tribunal meeting shall be convened by the ITTF Tribunal Chair.
- 7.2. The ITTF Tribunal Chair shall set the agenda of the ITTF Tribunal meeting, taking into consideration any proposal regarding the agenda made by other ITTF Tribunal members.
- 7.3. The agenda of the ITTF Tribunal meeting shall be communicated to the ITTF Tribunal members prior to the ITTF Tribunal meeting in timely manner and whenever possible, at least 14 days before the date of the ITTF Tribunal meeting.
- 7.4. Any issue arising after the agenda of the ITTF Tribunal meeting has been communicated to the ITTF Tribunal members shall be resolved by a Qualified Majority.
- 7.5. The ITTF Tribunal meeting may be conducted remotely through, without limitation, telephone or videoconference, if requested by any ITTF Tribunal member.

### **8. Quorum of meetings of the ITTF Tribunal**

- 8.1. The quorum to convene a valid ITTF Tribunal meeting and to pass resolutions is an Absolute Majority.
- 8.2. If any ITTF Tribunal meeting takes place without meeting the quorum, any Resolution proposed and voted on shall be:
  - 8.2.1. communicated to the ITTF Tribunal members who were absent during the ITTF Tribunal meeting within seven days of the date of the ITTF Tribunal meeting; and
  - 8.2.2. be voted on by the ITTF Tribunal members who were absent during the ITTF Tribunal meeting within a period specified by the ITTF Tribunal Chair.
- 8.3. If the total number of votes during the ITTF Tribunal meeting and after the ITTF Tribunal meeting pursuant R8.2 exceed the number required to form a quorum, the

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vote cast according to R8.2 will be deemed as having been validly cast at the ITTF Tribunal meeting.

### **9. Voting and resolutions**

- 9.1. For an in-person meeting, the passing of resolutions by the ITTF Tribunal requires the approval of a Simple Majority of the ITTF Tribunal members physically present.
- 9.2. For a remote meeting, the passing of resolutions by the ITTF Tribunal requires the approval of an Absolute Majority of the ITTF Tribunal members.
- 9.3. The use of electronic mail and other generally acceptable electronic communication means is permissible for the purposes of passing a resolution by correspondence.

### **10. Minutes of ITTF Tribunal meetings**

- 10.1. The ITTF Tribunal shall keep minutes of its deliberations and resolutions at each ITTF Tribunal meeting.
- 10.2. The minutes shall contain:
  - 10.2.1. a summary of the deliberations;
  - 10.2.2. the proposed resolutions;
  - 10.2.3. the result of resolutions with the number of votes; and
  - 10.2.4. the declarations requested by any ITTF Tribunal member requests to be recorded.
- 10.3. The draft of the minutes shall be promptly communicated to the ITTF Tribunal members for their review and the approved minutes must be signed by the ITTF Tribunal Chair.

### **11. Indemnity**

No ITTF Tribunal member will be personally liable for any act or omission when carrying out their duties and exercising their powers or authorities in good faith.

### **12. Expenses**

Where applicable, the ITTF Tribunal members will receive compensation and reimbursement for their expenses incurred for their time spent on matters of the ITTF and such payments shall not be deemed to compromise their independence and impartiality.

### **13. Independence**

- 13.1. No ITTF Tribunal member themselves and their immediate family members may:
  - 13.1.1. hold any official function in ITTF, a member association of ITTF or an associated organisation of ITTF; and
  - 13.1.2. have any material business relationship with ITTF, a member association of ITTF or an associated organisation of ITTF,

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during their term of office as ITTF Tribunal member and for four years prior to their initial appointment to office.

- 13.2. Before assuming office, the ITTF Tribunal member shall first take an oath or affirm that they will discharge their judicial duties independently and impartially.

### 14. Confidentiality

- 14.1. Unless otherwise set out in these ITTF Tribunal Regulations, the ITTF Tribunal's affairs and all proceedings before a Hearing Panel are confidential.

- 14.2. The ITTF Tribunal members shall ensure that information disclosed to them during the course of their remains confidential and not make any disclosure to any third party in breach of confidentiality.

## Part III: Proceedings before the ITTF Tribunal

### *Division 1 – General*

### 15. Principles of fair procedure

- 15.1. The parties to the Proceedings have the right to a fair procedure and have their fundamental rights respected. In particular:
- 15.1.1. no ITTF Tribunal member who has a conflict of interest in a matter, according to the ITTF Code of Ethics, may be appointed to the Hearing Panel responsible for hearing and determining that matter;
  - 15.1.2. the right of the person (whether legal or natural) charged to know what they are charged with;
  - 15.1.3. the right to know the type of penalties which might be imposed;
  - 15.1.4. the right to be heard, to present a defence, to produce evidence and to be assisted by counsel at their own expense; and
  - 15.1.5. the right to appeal a decision of the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with R38.

### 16. Jurisdiction

- 16.1. Subject to R16.2 and R16.3, the ITTF Tribunal shall have jurisdiction to hear and decide any alleged infringement of any article under the ITTF Constitution or any other rule or regulation of the ITTF Handbook or any related document except:
- 16.1.1. any provision under Chapter 6 of the ITTF Handbook (ITTF Anti-Doping Rules); and
  - 16.1.2. any provision under Chapter 5 of the ITTF Handbook (Classification Rules of ITTF Para Table Tennis).
- 16.2. The ITTF Tribunal has the original jurisdiction to hear and decide any alleged infringement of any provision or such other claims arising from any provision under Chapters 1, 2, 6 and 7 of the ITTF Handbook.

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- 16.3. The ITTF Tribunal has the appellate jurisdiction to hear any decide any appeal of any decision made by the appropriate decision-making body on alleged infringements of any provision or such other claims arising from any provision under Chapters 3 and 4 of the ITTF Handbook.
- 16.4. Where the ITTF Tribunal exercises its appellate jurisdiction pursuant to R16.3:
- 16.4.1. the provision of these ITTF Tribunal Regulations will apply in appeal proceedings before the ITTF Tribunal *mutatis mutandis*, unless they are inconsistent with or preempted by the provisions of R16;
- 16.4.2. unless otherwise specified in any provision of the ITTF Handbook, the Request for Proceedings of the appeal must be filed with the ITTF Tribunal no later than 21 days after the date that the appealing party receives the decision in question. The decision being appealed will remain in full force and effect pending determination of the appeal, unless the Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, if the Hearing Panel has yet to be formed) orders otherwise; and
- 16.4.3. the Hearing Panel has full power to hear the matter under appeal *de novo* and it will have all of the powers that the actual first instance decision-maker would have had under the applicable provision in the ITTF Handbook. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Hearing Panel may remit the matter to the first instance decision-maker for re-hearing, if it deems appropriate.

### 17. Applicable law

- 17.1. The decisions shall be based on:
- 17.1.1. primarily, on the ITTF Constitution, the Laws of Table Tennis, the other chapters of the ITTF Handbook, and the decisions of any competent ITTF body; and
- 17.1.2. subsidiarily, on Swiss law and such other law that the Hearing Panel deems applicable.

### 18. Seat

The seat of the ITTF Tribunal and each Hearing Panel is Switzerland. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Hearing Panel Chair may decide to hold any hearing outside Switzerland in the appropriate circumstances.

### 19. Language

- 19.1. Proceedings before the Hearing Panel shall be conducted in English, unless otherwise mutually agreed by the parties.
- 19.2. Any party wishing to rely on documents written in a language other than English must provide certified English translations at their own cost.
- 19.3. Any party who wishes or whose witness wishes to give oral evidence in a language other than English must bring an independent and competent translator to translate that evidence into English, at their own cost.

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- 19.4. Notwithstanding R19.2 and R19.3, the Hearing Panel may in appropriate circumstances order a party to pay some or all the translation costs of the other party.

### **20. Legal representation**

In all proceedings before the Hearing Panel, each party is entitled, at their own expense, to be represented by legal counsel and/or other relevant representative(s), who may make submissions on their behalf.

### **21. Notices and communications**

- 21.1. Any notice or other communication required to be given by a party pursuant to these ITTF Tribunal Regulations shall be made in writing and sent by courier or email.
- 21.2. Notices or other communications addressed to the ITTF Tribunal and/or the Hearing Panel shall be sent to:
- 21.3. ITTF Tribunal, MSI, Avenue de Rhodanie 54B, 21007 Lausanne, Switzerland, if sent by courier; or
- 21.3.1. tribunal@ittf.com, if sent by email.
- 21.4. Notices or other communications addressed to a party to a proceeding may be sent to their last-known residence, place of business or email address, unless that party notifies the Hearing Panel Chair (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, if the Hearing Panel has yet to be formed) and all parties to that proceeding of a change to such address.
- 21.5. Notices or other communications to a person who is a member of a member association of ITTF or of an associated organisation of ITTF may be accomplished by delivering such notice or other communication to that member association of ITTF or that associated organisation of ITTF, respectively.

### **22. Time limits**

- 22.1. Unless otherwise set out in these ITTF Tribunal Regulations, any time period to be calculated under these ITTF Tribunal Regulations shall begin to run the day following the date of receipt of a notice or other communication.
- 22.2. The time limits fixed under these ITTF Tribunal Regulations are respected if the communications by the parties are sent before midnight, time of the location of their own domicile or, if represented, of the domicile of their main legal representative, on the last day on which such time limits expire.
- 22.3. Non-working days and official holidays are included in calculating time limits. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the last day of the time limit is an official holiday or a non-business day in the location from where the document is to be sent, the time limit shall expire at the end of the next working day.

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22.4. For the purpose of these ITTF Tribunal Regulations, a “working day” mean any day other than (i) Saturday or Sunday, or (ii) any day that is an official holiday in Lausanne, Switzerland.

22.5. Upon application on justified grounds and after consultation with the other party (or parties), the Hearing Panel Chair (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, if the Hearing Panel has yet to be formed) may extend the any time limit provided in these ITTF Tribunal Regulations, if the circumstances so warrant.

### 23. Interim relief

23.1. The Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, in cases before the Hearing Panel is appointed) is entitled to grant interim relief.

23.2. If a party applies for interim relief, the Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, in cases before the Hearing Panel is appointed) shall invite the other party to express a position within ten days or a shorter time limit, if circumstances so require, and following which, the Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, in cases before the Hearing Panel is appointed) shall determine whether it has *prima facie* jurisdiction.

23.3. If, pursuant to R23.2, the Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, in cases before the Hearing Panel is appointed) determines that it lacks *prima facie* jurisdiction, it shall terminate the proceedings.

23.4. In considering whether to pronounce interim relief, the Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, in cases before the Hearing Panel is appointed) shall consider whether the measure necessary to protect the applicant from irreparable harm, the likelihood of success on the merits of the claim, and whether the interests of the applicant outweigh those of the respondent.

### 24. Limitation period

24.1. No claims may be commenced after the period of:

24.1.1. one year for claims based on any provision under Chapter 3 or Chapter 4 of the ITTF Handbook;

24.1.2. four years for all other claims.

24.2. The period stated in R24.1 commences:

24.2.1. from the date of the commission of the alleged infringement;

24.2.2. from the date of the most recent commission of the alleged infringement, if that infringement is recurrent;

24.2.3. from the date on which the alleged infringement had ended, if that infringement lasted for a period of time.

24.3. Where, in the case of any claim for which a period of limitation is stated in R24 and the basis of the claim is concealed by the fraud of the Respondent (or their

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representative), the period of limitation shall not commence until the Claimant has discovered the fraud or could have discovered it with reasonable diligence.

### *Division 2 – Procedures*

#### **25. Commencement of the proceedings**

25.1. To request to commence the proceedings, unless the procedure is otherwise specified in the applicable regulation, the Claimant shall file a written request with the ITTF Tribunal, with a copy to the Respondent, containing:

- 25.1.1. the name and full address of the Respondent;
  - 25.1.2. the contact details of the parties;
  - 25.1.3. the alleged infringement, specifying the rule, regulation, or principle alleged to have been infringed;
  - 25.1.4. a statement of the facts upon which such allegation is based and a statement of issue submitted for the Hearing Panel to determine;
  - 25.1.5. a copy of the provision in the ITTF Handbook or any other instrument conferring jurisdiction on the ITTF Tribunal to hear and determine the matter; and
  - 25.1.6. any proposal regarding the conduct or venue of the proceedings, including whether any interim relief is requested;
- (the “**Request for Proceedings**”).

25.2. Upon filing its Request for Proceedings, the Claimant shall pay the non-refundable fee of USD1,000 (the “**Administrative Fee**”), in the manner determined by the ITTF Tribunal.

25.3. If the Claimant fails to pay the Administrative Fees in accordance to R25.2, the ITTF Tribunal may not proceed with the claim.

25.4. If the ITTF Tribunal determines that the requirements set out in R25.1 and R25.2 are satisfied, it shall communicate to the Respondent the request to commence the proceedings and to file its answer (the “**Answer**”) to the request to commence the proceedings.

25.5. Unless the procedure is otherwise specified in the applicable regulation, the Respondent shall file its Answer with the ITTF Tribunal, with a copy to the Claimant, within a period determined by the ITTF Tribunal containing:

- 25.5.1. a copy of the Request for Proceedings;
- 25.5.2. its response admitting or denying the alleged infringement;
- 25.5.3. a statement of defence;
- 25.5.4. any defence of the ITTF Tribunal’s lack of jurisdiction; and
- 25.5.5. any counterclaim.

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- 25.6. If the Respondent does not file an Answer, the Hearing Panel may draw an adverse inference against the Respondent.

### **26. Formation of the Hearing Panel**

- 26.1. On the receipt of the Answer, the ITTF Tribunal Chair shall, at their sole discretion, appoint either one or three members of the ITTF Tribunal to hear and determine the alleged infringement set out in the Request for Proceedings as the Hearing Panel, subject to R26.3. If the Respondent fails to submit its Answer by the specified time limit, the Hearing Panel may nevertheless proceed with the case and issue a decision.
- 26.2. If the Hearing Panel consists of one ITTF Tribunal member, that member shall serve as the Hearing Panel Chair. If the Hearing Panel consists of three ITTF Tribunal Members, the ITTF Tribunal Chair shall nominate one of those three members as the Hearing Panel Chair.
- 26.3. No ITTF Tribunal member may sit on the Hearing Panel of the proceedings where:
- 26.3.1. they have any personal connection or interest, whether directly or indirectly, with any party or witness;
  - 26.3.2. they have had any prior involvement with any matter or any facts arising in the proceedings (except if the involvement is a decision to impose an interim relief or a separate proceeding where some or all of the same facts are relevant);
  - 26.3.3. they have same nationality as any party or witness involved in the proceedings, unless agreed by the parties;
  - 26.3.4. they have a conflict of interest in any matter arising from the proceedings, according to the ITTF Code Ethics; or
  - 26.3.5. their independence or impartiality could reasonably be disputed (as determined by the ITTF Tribunal Chair).
- 26.4. Upon their appointment to a Hearing Panel, each Hearing Panel member shall within reasonable time provide a written declaration to the parties, disclosing any facts or circumstances they know that may lead to their independence or impartiality being doubted legitimately. If any such facts or circumstances arise the written declaration was made, the Hearing Panel member must provide an updated declaration to the parties.

### **27. Objection to a Hearing Panel member**

- 27.1. Any party to the proceedings may object to the appointment of an ITTF Tribunal member to the Hearing Panel by notifying the ITTF Tribunal Chair the facts or circumstances giving rise to the objection within seven days of:
- 27.1.1. receiving the written declaration specified in R26.4, or
  - 27.1.2. otherwise being aware of the facts or circumstances leading to the objection.



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27.2. A failure to make an objection according to R27.1 shall be deemed a waiver of that objection.

27.3. The ITTF Tribunal Chair shall rule on any objection made according to R27.1 and their ruling is final and not subject to any appeal.

### **28. Replacement of a Hearing Panel member**

If for any reason a Hearing Panel member is unable or unwilling to hear or continue hearing or to decide the proceeding, the ITTF Tribunal Chair may at their sole discretion appoint another ITTF Tribunal member to replace that member in that proceeding.

### **29. Powers of the Hearing Panel**

29.1. The Hearing Panel (and in urgent cases, prior to the formation of the Hearing Panel, the ITTF Tribunal Chair) has all powers necessary for, and incidental to, the discharge of its responsibilities, including the power, whether on the application of a party or of its own motion:

- 29.1.1. to order that certain dispositive issues be determined before any other issues in the proceedings;
- 29.1.2. to rule finally on its own jurisdiction;
- 29.1.3. to determine the proceedings either in a preliminary decision or a decision on the merits;
- 29.1.4. to determine whether the hearing (or any part thereof) should be conducted orally (whether in-person or remotely) or in writing;
- 29.1.5. to expedite or adjourn, postpone or suspend its proceedings, upon such terms as it will determine;
- 29.1.6. to extend or reduce any time limit specified in any regulation or by the ITTF Tribunal, except any appeal deadline or limitation period;
- 29.1.7. to consolidate the proceedings with other substantially similar or related proceedings and/or order that such proceedings be held concurrently;
- 29.1.8. to appoint independent experts to assist or advise it on specific issues, with the costs of such experts to be borne as directed by the Hearing Panel;
- 29.1.9. to order any party to make any property, document or other thing in its possession or under its control available for inspection by the ITTF Tribunal or any other party;
- 29.1.10. to allow third parties to intervene or be joined in the proceedings, to make all appropriate procedural directions in relation to such intervention or joinder, and thereafter to make a single final decision or separate decisions in respect of all parties;
- 29.1.11. to impose interim relief or other provision measures as it deems fit prior to its final determination;
- 29.1.12. to determine the manner in which it shall deliberate in order to make any determination related to the proceedings;
- 29.1.13. to make any other procedural direction or take any procedural step which it considers to be appropriate in pursuit of the efficient and proportionate management of the proceedings or any matter pending before it; and

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29.1.14. to impose costs orders.

### **30. Conduct of proceedings**

30.1. As soon as practicable after the Hearing Panel has been convened to determine a matter, the Hearing Panel Chair will issue directions to the parties regarding the procedure and timetable to be followed in the proceedings. The directions will:

- 30.1.1. specify whether the hearing will be conducted orally or in writing;
- 30.1.2. fix the date, time and venue of the hearing, if the hearing is to be conducted orally;
- 30.1.3. specify the schedule to exchange additional written submissions and evidence before the hearing; and
- 30.1.4. make any appropriate order relating to the disclosure of relevant documents and/or other materials in the possession or control of any party.

30.2. If the Hearing Panel Chair deems appropriate, they may hear from the parties (whether in person, by telephone or video-conference, or any other generally acceptable electronic communication means) prior to issuing the directions pursuant to R30.1.

### **31. Hearings**

31.1. Where a hearing is directed, the Hearing Panel Chair direct, at their sole discretion, to hold the hearing by telephone or videoconference.

31.2. All hearings will be conducted in a private and confidential manner, attended only by the parties to the proceedings and their representatives, witnesses and experts, and permitted third parties (and their permitted representatives), unless the Hearing Panel directs otherwise for good cause.

31.3. Subject to R15, the Hearing Panel Chair has the sole discretion to decide the procedure to be followed at the hearing, which may include without limitation:

- 31.3.1. making an introduction of the Hearing Panel and each party to the proceedings (and their representatives, if applicable);
- 31.3.2. stating the purpose of the hearing;
- 31.3.3. stating the procedure of the hearing;
- 31.3.4. submitting on preliminary issues;
- 31.3.5. making of opening statements;
- 31.3.6. presenting of evidence;
- 31.3.7. calling of witnesses and/or experts; and
- 31.3.8. making of closing statements.

### **32. Evidence**

32.1. The Hearing Panel has the power to decide on the admissibility, relevance and weight of any evidence and shall not be bound by any judicial or evidential rules in relation to such matters. Facts may be established by any reliable means.

- 32.2. Subject to R15, the Hearing Panel has the sole discretion in:
- 32.2.1. deciding whether to receive evidence from witnesses and/or experts in person, by telephone, by video conference, or in writing;
  - 32.2.2. allowing, refusing or limiting any evidence or appearance of any witness and/or expert at the hearing;
  - 32.2.3. questioning witnesses and/or experts; and
  - 32.2.4. directing how a party may question witnesses and/or experts.
- 32.3. Subject to R32.2, the parties shall ensure the availability of the witnesses and/or experts whose statements and reports they have submitted before the hearing to be heard by the Hearing Panel and be responsible for the witnesses and/or experts' cost of attending the hearing.
- 32.4. If a witness who has been requested to attend the hearing fails to appear, any witness statement or declaration related to that witness will be disregarded, unless the Hearing Panel decides otherwise in exceptional circumstances. The Hearing Panel may draw adverse inference against the party offering the witness (or against that party, if the witness is the party) from the witness' failure to appear.
- 32.5. Where a witness appears at the hearing, before providing testimony, they shall first take an oath or affirm that they are telling the truth, in a manner directed by the Hearing Panel.
- 32.6. Where a witness appears at the hearing, the Hearing Panel may allow direct examination of that witness, cross-examination of that witness, and re-examination of that witness regarding the matters on which they were cross-examined.
- 32.7. Where a witness appears at the hearing but refuses or fails to answer questions put to them, the Hearing Panel may draw adverse inference against the party offering the witness (or against that party, if the witness is the party) from the witness' refusal or failure to answer.

### **33. Burden of proof**

Unless otherwise stated in the ITTF Handbook, the Claimant has the burden of proving that the Respondent committed the infringement(s) alleged in the claim.

### **34. Standard of proof**

Unless otherwise stated in the ITTF Handbook, the standard of proof on all questions to be determined by the Hearing Panel is to the comfortable satisfaction of the Hearing Panel. This standard of proof is higher than a mere balance of probability but lower than proving beyond a reasonable doubt.

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### 35. Sanctions

- 35.1. If the Hearing Panel determines that an infringement of any article under the ITTF Constitution or any other rule or regulation of the ITTF Handbook or any related document, the Hearing Panel will impose the appropriate sanction(s) in accordance with R35.2, unless any specific sanction provisions set out in such rules or their associated documents for such infringement.
- 35.2. Taking into consideration the seriousness of the infringement, including the relevant aggravating factors in R35.3 and mitigating factors R35.4, the Hearing Panel has the power to impose any one or more of the following:
- 35.2.1. a censure, reprimand or warning as to future conduct;
  - 35.2.2. a fine of any amount;
  - 35.2.3. a compensation payment;
  - 35.2.4. to perform certain acts or refrain from performing certain acts;
  - 35.2.5. to participate or complete in any rehabilitation programme;
  - 35.2.6. a suspension or removal from office;
  - 35.2.7. a revocation of any award, title or other honour granted by ITTF;
  - 35.2.8. a disqualification of results and outcomes of such results, including a forfeiture of any related awards, titles, ranking points or prizes;
  - 35.2.9. a disqualification or expulsion from competitions or events; and,
  - 35.2.10. a period of ineligibility (which may be for life) from participating in any capacity in Table Tennis or in any activities organised, controlled, authorised, sanctioned, supported or recognised in any way by ITTF, any member association of ITTF or any other associated organisation of ITTF, other than permitted rehabilitation programmes.
- 35.3. In relation to determining the seriousness of an infringement, the Hearing Panel shall consider relevant aggravating factors, including:
- 35.3.1. any record of previous infringement;
  - 35.3.2. the holding any leadership role within ITTF, any member association of ITTF or any other associated organisation of ITTF;
  - 35.3.3. the vulnerability of a victim;
  - 35.3.4. any substantial harm was done or potentially done to the victim;
  - 35.3.5. any substantial damage done or potentially done to the commercial value, integrity or reputation of ITTF, any member association of ITTF, any other associated organisation of ITTF or table tennis in general;
  - 35.3.6. the failure to cooperate during investigations or the proceedings; and
  - 35.3.7. the lack of remorse.
- 35.4. In relation to determining the seriousness of an infringement, the Hearing Panel shall consider relevant mitigating factors including:
- 35.4.1. the lack of any prior infringement;
  - 35.4.2. the minor role played in the infringement;
  - 35.4.3. the culpability of a victim;
  - 35.4.4. no substantial harm was done or potentially done to the victim;

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- 35.4.5. any substantial damage done or potentially done to the commercial value, integrity or reputation of ITTF, any member association of ITTF, any other associated organisation of ITTF and table tennis in general;
- 35.4.6. physical or mental illness of the infringing person;
- 35.4.7. prompt admission to the infringement;
- 35.4.8. substantial cooperation was provided during investigations or the proceedings; and
- 35.4.9. genuine remorse.

### **36. Decision**

- 36.1. After the parties complete their submissions and all Hearing Panel members have deliberated, the Hearing Panel shall make its decision unanimously or by majority. No Hearing Panel member may abstain in making the decision.
- 36.2. The Hearing Panel shall issue a written decision, dated and signed by the Hearing Panel Chair, after the hearing and as soon as reasonably practicable.
- 36.3. The Hearing Panel may issue the operative part of its decision before providing the reasoning. In such case, the decision is enforceable immediately upon communicating the operative part to the parties.
- 36.4. Unless otherwise stated in the ITTF Handbook or ordered by the ITTF Tribunal, the ITTF may publish the decision (whether the operative part and/or the reasonings) on its website or through other means it deems appropriate, after the decision (the operative part or the reasonings, as applicable) has been communicated to the parties.
- 36.5. The decision shall be final and binding on all parties, and may not be challenged or appealed except as set out in R38. The parties irrevocably waive their right to any other form of appeal or review by any court or judicial authority.

### **37. Costs**

- 37.1. The Hearing Panel may, at its sole discretion, order any party to the proceedings to pay some or all of the costs of the proceedings, including any one or more of the following:
  - 37.1.1. the costs of holding the hearing; and
  - 37.1.2. the legal fees, the accommodation costs, travel costs or such other expenses incurred as a result of the proceedings for
    - 37.1.2.1. the Hearing Panel members;
    - 37.1.2.2. any party to the proceedings;
    - 37.1.2.3. any witness; and
    - 37.1.2.4. any independent expert.

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- 37.2. Without limiting the Hearing Panel's discretion as stated in R37.1, the Hearing Panel may award costs against a party for advancing any claim that is frivolous, vexatious, or entirely without merit.

### 38. Appeals

- 38.1. Subject to R38.2, the ITTF Tribunal's decision may be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sports (**CAS**) by a party to the proceedings.
- 38.2. A preliminary or procedural ruling by Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, as applicable) may not be appealed, unless it amounts to a final resolution of the matter).
- 38.3. Appeals made pursuant to R38.1 shall
- 38.3.1. be filed no later than 21 days from the date of receiving the full decision by the appealing party;
  - 38.3.2. have International Table Tennis Federation as the appellant or respondent to the appeal;
  - 38.3.3. apply CAS' Code of Sports-related Arbitration (as published, modified and supplemented by CAS) and be governed by Swiss law; and
  - 38.3.4. be conducted in English, unless otherwise agreed by the parties.
- 38.4. Unless ordered otherwise by CAS, the appealed decision remains in full force and effect pending the determination of the appeal.
- 38.5. The decision of CAS is final and binding on all parties, and all parties irrevocably waive their right to any other form of appeal or review of that decision, except as set out in Chapter 12 of Switzerland's Federal Code on Private International Law.

### 39. Transitional provisions

The term of office for the members of the inaugural ITTF Tribunal shall be two years or until an AGM or EGM appoints the members next ITTF Tribunal (whichever is earlier), and the members of the inaugural ITTF Tribunal shall be appointed by the ITTF Board of Directors.

Rationale: To remove the Judicial power from the ITTF Executive committee and create an independent ITTF Tribunal.

## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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Proposition 2 – Effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021

(2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.

To add a new 1.4.1 and renumber current 1.4.1 to 1.4.3

The ITTF defines the following Honorary positions. In order to obtain or maintain its Honorary positions, individuals may conduct or be subject to, under the request of the ITTF Ethics Commission, annual checks, including but not limited to the signature of conflict of interest declarations, and remain available for background checks as required by the ITTF Ethics Commission. In the occurrence of a lack of cooperation, the Ethics Commission may refer the case to the ITTF Integrity Unit for prosecution before the ITTF Tribunal. If the case of a lack of cooperation is made out, the ITTF Tribunal may issue sanctions in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

*Rationale:*

*To ensure the highest levels of integrity among Honorary positions holders.*

---

To amend current 1.4.1 (becoming 1.4.2):

1.4.2 <sup>1</sup> HONORARY PRESIDENT

1.4.2.1

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 **or by a decision of the ITTF Tribunal**.

*Rationale:*

*To ensure the highest levels of integrity among Honorary positions holders.*

---

To add 1.4.3.3:

1.4.3.3

PAC appointments can be revoked by decision of the ITTF Tribunal.

*Rationale:*

*To ensure the highest levels of integrity among Honorary positions holders.*

---

To add 1.4.4.3:

1.4.4.3

Personal Honorary Membership can be revoked by decision of the ITTF Tribunal.

*Rationale:*

*To ensure the highest levels of integrity among Honorary positions holders.*

---

## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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Proposition 3 – Effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 (2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.

To amend 1.5.1.2.2:

to elect the ITTF President, the ITTF Executive Vice-Presidents and all members of the Board, at an AGM held in the year following the year of the Olympic Games every four years. All members elected shall serve for a four-year term or until the next elected members assume office (whichever is later) and shall be eligible for re-election 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.

*Rationale:*

*To avoid misunderstandings in the interpretation of the term limits.*

---

Proposition 4 – Effective immediately (2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.

To amend 1.5.1.5.1:

An AGM shall be held at the place and date decided by the previous AGM or EGM, and during the period, of the World Championships or, if the World Championships is not held at the due time, and in case of emergency at such other place and date as the Executive Committee may determine. An AGM or EGM can be convened remotely (wholly or partly) if considered appropriate.

*Rationale:*

*In consideration of the COVID-19 pandemic and the postponement of the World Championships and Olympic Games, the ITTF needs greater flexibility in determining the location of the AGM, plus in some cases where the World Championships Finals will be located, ITTF may encounter problems to secure visas for all participants, hence the importance of allowing remote participation, to secure the rights of its Members.*

---

Proposition 5 – Effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 (2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.

To amend 1.5.1.8.1.13:

The announcement of the place and date of the next AGM or EGM;

*Rationale:*

*To ensure continuity when the AGM date is not confirmed.*

---



## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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Proposition 6 – Effective immediately (2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.

To add 1.5.2.1 and renumber current 1.5.2.1 to 1.5.2.3

The provisions that apply to the AGM will apply to the EGM mutatis mutandis, unless otherwise stated in the provisions below (i.e. with any amendments deemed to have been made that are necessary to take account of the different context).

*Rationale:*

*To clarify the attributions of an EGM.*

---

Proposition 7 – Effective immediately (2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.

To amend 1.5.2.1:

An Extraordinary General Meeting, "EGM" shall be convened either by resolution of the previous AGM or 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, or in a case of emergency, by decision of the ITTF Executive Committee.

*Rationale:*

*To allow the ITTF AGM to call for an ITTF EGM and in case of emergency, to also allow the ITTF EC to make such call.*

---

Proposition 8 – Effective immediately (2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.

To amend 1.5.3.7

The Board shall meet at the place and date decided during the last Board meeting as required during the period of the World Championships and in case of emergency, or if not decided during the last meeting, at such other place and date as the ITTF Executive Committee may determine, but shall otherwise conduct its business by correspondence. A Board meeting may be convened remotely if considered appropriate.

*Rationale:*

*To allow the Board to meet with the necessary flexibility, including meeting remotely.*

## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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Proposition 9 – Effective immediately (2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.

To amend 1.5.4.1.12

To, notwithstanding any other provisions within the ITTF Handbook, decide on deal with all other current or urgent business in exceptional circumstances which cannot be decided by the appropriate body promptly, and to assume all responsibilities which are not expressly attributed to another body within the ITTF.

*Rationale:*

*To allow the ITTF EC to take decisions in exceptional circumstances like natural disasters.*

---

Proposition 10 – Effective immediately (2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee and Athletes Commission.

To amend 1.5.4.2

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the Chair of the Athletes Commission and 8 Executive Vice-Presidents of which one shall be appointed by the President as Deputy President and another one shall be appointed for finances. In addition, any IOC member may be an ex-officio ITTF Executive Committee member without voting rights by decision of the Executive Committee.

*Rationale:*

*To allow the IOC members part of the ITTF Executive Committee having voting rights.*

---

Proposition 11 – Effective immediately (2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.

To introduce 1.5.9.2 (and renumber current 1.5.9.2 – 1.5.9.8):

Nominations for President, Executive Vice-Presidents, members of the Board and Permanent Committees should be made no later 90 days before the date of the AGM where the election are to be held.

*Rationale:*

*To introduce clear deadlines, currently not existing in the ITTF Constitution.*

---

## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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Proposition 12 – Effective immediately (2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.

To amend 1.5.10:

### 1.5.10 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

1.5.10.1 Members of any ITTF decision-making body and ITTF Honorary Members 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.

1.5.10.2 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 of the ITTF and its business.

*Rationale:*

*To ensure a proper scope for the Conflict of Interest policy.*

---

Proposition 13 – Effective immediately (2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.

To amend 1.5.11.3:

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, with the exception of the Anti-Doping Rules, that can be made also by the ITTF Executive Committee, if necessary to maintain WADA compliance.

*Rationale:*

*To ensure the ITTF remains WADA compliant if a necessary change is due between AGM or BoD meetings.*

---

Proposition 14 – Effective immediately (2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.

To amend 1.6.2.1.1:

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

*Rationale:*

*To ensure an Extraordinary General Meeting of the ITTF can decide the location of the future Home of Table Tennis / ITTF Head Office.*

## Propositions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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Proposition 15 – Effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021

(3/4 majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Rules Committee.

To add a new sub-paragraph 1.5.1.6.1.7 in order to include Commissioners and Committee Chairs into the group of ITTF officials who shall receive a notice of the AGM according to 1.5.1.6.1.

“1.5.1.6.1 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:

.....  
1.5.1.6.1.7 The Committee Chairs and Commissioners.”

Rationale:

Some years ago, Committee Chairs were full members of the Board, hence they were automatically included in the above list.

Nowadays these persons are no more ex officio Board members (although they have the right to attend Board meetings without voting right). Nevertheless, it has to be assumed that they should receive AGM documents.

---

Proposition 16 – Effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021

(2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the Japan Table Tennis Association.

To amend 2.6.2:

The server shall then project the ball near vertically upwards, without imparting spin, so that it rises at least 16cm above their head height after leaving the palm of the free hand and then falls without touching anything before being struck.

Rationale:

*To make clearer the point of decision on fault services. But this rule will not apply for players of elderly person or players of age below 9 years of age, different rule shall be applied.*

---

Proposition 17 – Effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021

(2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the Executive Committee.

To adopt the new anti-doping code 2021.

Rationale:

*The ITTF has worked with the Independent Testing Agency (ITA) and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) to adapt the model rules to table tennis. The attached text complies with the requirements as requested by WADA.*

Proposition 17 – Effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021

(2/3 majority required)

Proposed by the Executive Committee.

To adopt the new anti-doping code 2021.

*Rationale:*

*The ITTF has worked with the Independent Testing Agency (ITA) and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) to adapt the model rules to table tennis. The text below complies with the requirements as requested by WADA.*

# **INTERNATIONAL      TABLE      TENNIS FEDERATION (ITTF) ANTI-DOPING RULES**

**To be adopted on 28 September 2020  
Takes effect on 1 January 2021**

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## ITTF ANTI-DOPING RULES

### INTRODUCTION

#### Preface

These Anti-Doping Rules are adopted and implemented in accordance with ITTF's responsibilities under the *Code*, and in furtherance of ITTF's continuing efforts to eradicate doping in sport.

These Anti-Doping Rules are sport rules governing the conditions under which sport is played. Aimed at enforcing anti-doping rules in a global and harmonized manner, they are distinct in nature from criminal and civil laws. They are not intended to be subject to or limited by any national requirements and legal standards applicable to criminal or civil proceedings, although they are intended to be applied in a manner which respects the principles of proportionality and human rights. When reviewing the facts and the law of a given case, all courts, arbitral tribunals and other adjudicating bodies should be aware of and respect the distinct nature of these Anti-Doping Rules, which implement the *Code*, and the fact that these rules represent the consensus of a broad spectrum of stakeholders around the world as to what is necessary to protect and ensure fair sport.

As provided in the *Code*, ITTF shall be responsible for conducting all aspects of *Doping Control*. Any aspect of *Doping Control* or anti-doping *Education* may be delegated by ITTF to a *Delegated Third Party*, such as the International Testing Agency (ITA), however, ITTF shall require the *Delegated Third Party* to perform such aspects in compliance with the *Code*, *International Standards*, and these Anti-Doping Rules. ITTF has delegated its adjudication responsibilities and parts of the *Results Management* to the CAS Anti-Doping Division.

When ITTF has delegated its responsibilities to implement part or all of *Doping Control* to the ITA or to other *Delegated Third Party*, any reference to ITTF in these *Rules* should be intended as a reference to the ITA or to the other *Delegated Third Party*, where applicable and within the context of the aforementioned delegation. ITTF shall always remain fully responsible for ensuring that any delegated aspects are performed in compliance with the *Code*.

Italicized terms in these Anti-Doping Rules are defined terms in Appendix 1.

Unless otherwise specified, references to Articles are references to Articles of these Anti-Doping Rules.

#### Fundamental Rationale for the *Code* and ITTF's Anti-Doping Rules

Anti-doping programs are founded on the intrinsic value of sport. This intrinsic value is often referred to as "the spirit of sport": the ethical pursuit of human excellence through the dedicated perfection of each *Athlete's* natural talents.

Anti-doping programs seek to protect the health of *Athletes* and to provide the opportunity for *Athletes* to pursue human excellence without the *Use of Prohibited Substances and Methods*.

Anti-doping programs seek to maintain the integrity of sport in terms of respect for rules, other competitors, fair competition, a level playing field, and the value of clean sport to the world.

The spirit of sport is the celebration of the human spirit, body and mind. It is the essence of Olympism and is reflected in the values we find in and through sport, including:

- Health
- Ethics, fair play and honesty
- *Athletes'* rights as set forth in the *Code*
- Excellence in performance
- Character and *Education*
- Fun and joy
- Teamwork

- Dedication and commitment
- Respect for rules and laws
- Respect for self and other *Participants*
- Courage
- Community and solidarity

The spirit of sport is expressed in how we play true.

Doping is fundamentally contrary to the spirit of sport.

### Scope of these Anti-Doping Rules

These Anti-Doping Rules shall apply to:

- (a) ITTF, including its board members, directors, officers and specified employees, and *Delegated Third Parties* and their employees, who are involved in any aspect of *Doping Control*;
- (b) *Continental* and *Regional Federations* recognized by the ITTF, including their including its board members, directors, officers and specified employees, and *Delegated Third Parties* and their employees, who are involved in any aspect of *Doping Control*;
- (c) each of its *Member Associations*, including their board members, directors, officers and specified employees, and *Delegated Third Parties* and their employees, who are involved in any aspect of *Doping Control*;
- (d) the following *Athletes*, *Athlete Support Personnel* and other *Persons*:
  - (i) all *Athletes* and *Athlete Support Personnel* who are members of ITTF, or of any *Member Association*, or of any member or affiliate organization of any *Member Association* (including any clubs, teams, associations, or leagues);
  - (ii) all *Athletes* and *Athlete Support Personnel* who participate in such capacity in *Events*, *Competitions* and other activities organized, convened, authorized or recognized by ITTF, or any *Member Association*, or by any member or affiliate organization of any *Member Association* (including any clubs, teams, associations, or leagues), wherever held;
  - (iii) any other *Athlete* or *Athlete Support Personnel* or other *Person* who, by virtue of an accreditation, a license or other contractual arrangement, or otherwise, is subject to the authority of ITTF, or of any *Member Association*, or of any member or affiliate organization of any *Member Association* (including any clubs, teams, associations, or leagues), for purposes of anti-doping; and
  - (iv) *Athletes* who are not regular members of ITTF or of one of its *Member Associations* but who want to be eligible to compete in a particular *International Event*.

Each of the abovementioned *Persons* is deemed, as a condition of his or her participation or involvement in the sport, to have agreed to and be bound by these Anti-Doping Rules, and to have submitted to the authority of ITTF to enforce these Anti-Doping Rules, including any *Consequences* for the breach thereof, and to the jurisdiction of the hearing panels specified in Article 8 and Article 13 to hear and determine cases and appeals brought under these Anti-Doping Rules.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [Comment: Where the Code requires a Person other than an Athlete or Athlete Support Person to be bound by the Code, such Person would of course not be subject to Sample collection or Testing, and would not be subject to an anti-doping rule violation under the Code for Use or Possession of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method. Rather, such Person would only be subject to discipline for a violation of Code Articles 2.5 (Tampering), 2.7 (Trafficking), 2.8 (Administration), 2.9 (Complicity), 2.10 (Prohibited Association) and 2.11 (Retaliation). Furthermore, such Person would be subject to the additional roles and responsibilities according to Code Article 21.3. Also, the obligation to require an employee to be bound by the Code is subject to applicable law.

ITTF shall ensure that, as per Article 19 of these Anti-Doping Rules, any arrangements with their board members, directors, officers, and specified employees, as well as with the *Delegated Third Parties* and their employees – either employment,



Within the overall pool of *Athletes* set out above who are bound by and required to comply with these Anti-Doping Rules, the following *Athletes* shall be considered to be *International-Level Athletes* for the purposes of these Anti-Doping Rules, and, therefore, the specific provisions in these Anti-Doping Rules applicable to *International-Level Athletes* (e.g., *Testing*, *TUEs*, whereabouts, and *Results Management*) shall apply to such *Athletes*:

- (a) For each year, the first 250 Men and 200 Women in the January General List of ITTF World Ranking, available at [ranking.ittf.com](http://ranking.ittf.com)
- (b) For each year, the first 8 Men and 8 Women in each Class in the January Para Table Tennis rating, available on [ipttc.org/rating](http://ipttc.org/rating).
- (c) All *Athletes* included in the ITTF Registered Testing Pool and any Testing Pool established by the ITTF
- (d) Any other *Athletes* who, at any moment of the year, reach the top 100 in the General World Ranking, or the top 4 in the Para Table Tennis Ranking. The aforesaid rankings are published on [ITTF's website](http://ittf.com).

## ARTICLE 1 DEFINITION OF DOPING

Doping is defined as the occurrence of one or more of the anti-doping rule violations set forth in Article 2.1 through Article 2.11 of these Anti-Doping Rules.

## ARTICLE 2 ANTI-DOPING RULE VIOLATIONS

The purpose of Article 2 is to specify the circumstances and conduct which constitute anti-doping rule violations. Hearings in doping cases will proceed based on the assertion that one or more of these specific rules have been violated.

*Athletes* or other *Persons* shall be responsible for knowing what constitutes an anti-doping rule violation and the substances and methods which have been included on the *Prohibited List*.

The following constitute anti-doping rule violations:

### 2.1 Presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* in an *Athlete's Sample*

**2.1.1** It is the *Athletes'* personal duty to ensure that no *Prohibited Substance* enters their bodies. *Athletes* are responsible for any *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* found to be present in their *Samples*. Accordingly, it is not necessary that intent, *Fault*, *Negligence* or knowing *Use* on the *Athlete's* part be demonstrated in order to establish an anti-doping rule violation under Article 2.1. 2

**2.1.2** Sufficient proof of an anti-doping rule violation under Article 2.1 is established by any of the following: presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* in the *Athlete's A Sample* where the *Athlete* waives analysis of the B *Sample* and the B *Sample* is not analyzed; or, where

*contractual or otherwise – have explicit provisions incorporated according to which such Persons are bound by, agree to comply with these Anti-Doping Rules, and agree on the ITTF's authority to solve the anti-doping cases.]*

- 2 [Comment to Article 2.1.1: An anti-doping rule violation is committed under this Article without regard to an *Athlete's Fault*. This rule has been referred to in various CAS decisions as "Strict Liability". An *Athlete's Fault* is taken into consideration in determining the Consequences of this anti-doping rule violation under Article 10. This principle has consistently been upheld by CAS.]

the *Athlete's B Sample* is analyzed and the analysis of the *Athlete's B Sample* confirms the presence of the *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* found in the *Athlete's A Sample*; or where the *Athlete's A or B Sample* is split into two (2) parts and the analysis of the confirmation part of the split *Sample* confirms the presence of the *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* found in the first part of the split *Sample* or the *Athlete* waives analysis of the confirmation part of the split *Sample*.<sup>3</sup>

**2.1.3** Excepting those substances for which a *Decision Limit* is specifically identified in the *Prohibited List* or a *Technical Document*, the presence of any reported quantity of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* in an *Athlete's Sample* shall constitute an anti-doping rule violation.

**2.1.4** As an exception to the general rule of Article 2.1, the *Prohibited List*, *International Standards* or *Technical Documents* may establish special criteria for reporting or the evaluation of certain *Prohibited Substances*.

## **2.2 Use or Attempted Use by an Athlete of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method**<sup>4</sup>

**2.2.1** It is the *Athletes'* personal duty to ensure that no *Prohibited Substance* enters their bodies and that no *Prohibited Method* is *Used*. Accordingly, it is not necessary that intent, *Fault*, *Negligence* or knowing *Use* on the *Athlete's* part be demonstrated in order to establish an anti-doping rule violation for *Use* of a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method*.

**2.2.2** The success or failure of the *Use* or *Attempted Use* of a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* is not material. It is sufficient that the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* was *Used* or *Attempted* to be *Used* for an anti-doping rule violation to be committed.<sup>5</sup>

## **2.3 Evading, Refusing or Failing to Submit to Sample Collection by an Athlete**

Evading *Sample* collection; or refusing or failing to submit to *Sample* collection without compelling justification after notification by a duly authorized *Person*.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>3</sup> [Comment to Article 2.1.2: The Anti-Doping Organization with Results Management responsibility may, at its discretion, choose to have the B Sample analyzed even if the Athlete does not request the analysis of the B Sample.]

<sup>4</sup> [Comment to Article 2.2: It has always been the case that Use or Attempted Use of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method may be established by any reliable means. As noted in the Comment to Article 3.2, unlike the proof required to establish an anti-doping rule violation under Article 2.1, Use or Attempted Use may also be established by other reliable means such as admissions by the Athlete, witness statements, documentary evidence, conclusions drawn from longitudinal profiling, including data collected as part of the Athlete Biological Passport, or other analytical information which does not otherwise satisfy all the requirements to establish "Presence" of a Prohibited Substance under Article 2.1.

For example, Use may be established based upon reliable analytical data from the analysis of an A Sample (without confirmation from an analysis of a B Sample) or from the analysis of a B Sample alone where the Anti-Doping Organization provides a satisfactory explanation for the lack of confirmation in the other Sample.]

<sup>5</sup> [Comment to Article 2.2.2: Demonstrating the "Attempted Use" of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method requires proof of intent on the Athlete's part. The fact that intent may be required to prove this particular anti-doping rule violation does not undermine the Strict Liability principle established for violations of Article 2.1 and violations of Article 2.2 in respect of Use of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method.

An Athlete's Use of a Prohibited Substance constitutes an anti-doping rule violation unless such substance is not prohibited Out-of-Competition and the Athlete's Use takes place Out-of-Competition. (However, the presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in a Sample collected In-Competition is a violation of Article 2.1 regardless of when that substance might have been administered.)]

<sup>6</sup> [Comment to Article 2.3: **Error! Main Document Only.** For example, it would be an anti-doping rule violation of "evading Sample collection" if it were established that an Athlete was deliberately avoiding a Doping Control official to evade notification or Testing. A violation of "failing to submit to Sample collection" may be based on either intentional or negligent conduct of the Athlete, while "evading" or "refusing" Sample collection contemplates intentional conduct by the Athlete.]

## **2.4 Whereabouts Failures by an Athlete**

Any combination of three (3) missed tests and/or filing failures, as defined in the *International Standard for Results Management*, within a twelve (12) month period by an *Athlete* in a *Registered Testing Pool*.

## **2.5 Tampering or Attempted Tampering with any Part of Doping Control by an Athlete or Other Person**

## **2.6 Possession of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method by an Athlete or Athlete Support Person**

**2.6.1** Possession by an *Athlete In-Competition* of any *Prohibited Substance* or any *Prohibited Method*, or Possession by an *Athlete Out-of-Competition* of any *Prohibited Substance* or any *Prohibited Method* which is prohibited *Out-of-Competition* unless the *Athlete* establishes that the Possession is consistent with a *Therapeutic Use Exemption* (“TUE”) granted in accordance with Article 4.4 or other acceptable justification.

**2.6.2** Possession by an *Athlete Support Person In-Competition* of any *Prohibited Substance* or any *Prohibited Method*, or Possession by an *Athlete Support Person Out-of-Competition* of any *Prohibited Substance* or any *Prohibited Method* which is prohibited *Out-of-Competition* in connection with an *Athlete*, *Competition* or training, unless the *Athlete Support Person* establishes that the Possession is consistent with a TUE granted to an *Athlete* in accordance with Article 4.4 or other acceptable justification.<sup>7</sup>

## **2.7 Trafficking or Attempted Trafficking in any Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method by an Athlete or Other Person**

## **2.8 Administration or Attempted Administration by an Athlete or Other Person to any Athlete In-Competition of any Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method, or Administration or Attempted Administration to any Athlete Out-of-Competition of any Prohibited Substance or any Prohibited Method that is Prohibited Out-of-Competition**

## **2.9 Complicity or Attempted Complicity by an Athlete or Other Person**

Assisting, encouraging, aiding, abetting, conspiring, covering up or any other type of intentional complicity or *Attempted* complicity involving an anti-doping rule violation, *Attempted* anti-doping rule violation or violation of Article 10.14.1 by another *Person*.<sup>8</sup>

## **2.10 Prohibited Association by an Athlete or Other Person**

**2.10.1** Association by an *Athlete* or other *Person* subject to the authority of an *Anti-Doping Organization* in a professional or sport-related capacity with any *Athlete Support Person* who:

<sup>7</sup> [Comment to Articles 2.6.1 and 2.6.2: Acceptable justification would not include, for example, buying or Possessing a Prohibited Substance for purposes of giving it to a friend or relative, except under justifiable medical circumstances where that Person had a physician's prescription, e.g., buying Insulin for a diabetic child.]

[Comment to Article 2.6.1 and 2.6.2: Acceptable justification may include, for example, (a) an Athlete or a team doctor carrying Prohibited Substances or Prohibited Methods for dealing with acute and emergency situations (e.g., an epinephrine auto-injector), or (b) an Athlete Possessing a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method for therapeutic reasons shortly prior to applying for and receiving a determination on a TUE.]

<sup>8</sup> [Comment to Article 2.9: Complicity or Attempted Complicity may include either physical or psychological assistance.]

**2.10.1.1** If subject to the authority of an *Anti-Doping Organization*, is serving a period of *Ineligibility*; or

**2.10.1.2** If not subject to the authority of an *Anti-Doping Organization* and where *Ineligibility* has not been addressed in a *Results Management* process pursuant to the *Code*, has been convicted or found in a criminal, disciplinary or professional proceeding to have engaged in conduct which would have constituted a violation of anti-doping rules if *Code*-compliant rules had been applicable to such *Person*. The disqualifying status of such *Person* shall be in force for the longer of six (6) years from the criminal, professional or disciplinary decision or the duration of the criminal, disciplinary or professional sanction imposed; or

**2.10.1.3** Is serving as a front or intermediary for an individual described in Article 2.10.1.1 or 2.10.1.2.

**2.10.2** To establish a violation of Article 2.10, an *Anti-Doping Organization* must establish that the *Athlete* or other *Person* knew of the *Athlete Support Person's* disqualifying status.

The burden shall be on the *Athlete* or other *Person* to establish that any association with an *Athlete Support Person* described in Article 2.10.1.1 or 2.10.1.2 is not in a professional or sport-related capacity and/or that such association could not have been reasonably avoided.

*Anti-Doping Organizations* that are aware of *Athlete Support Personnel* who meet the criteria described in Article 2.10.1.1, 2.10.1.2, or 2.10.1.3 shall submit that information to WADA.<sup>9</sup>

## **2.11 Acts by an *Athlete* or Other *Person* to Discourage or Retaliate Against Reporting to Authorities**

Where such conduct does not otherwise constitute a violation of Article 2.5:

**2.11.1** Any act which threatens or seeks to intimidate another *Person* with the intent of discouraging the *Person* from the good-faith reporting of information that relates to an alleged anti-doping rule violation or alleged non-compliance with the *Code* to WADA, an *Anti-Doping Organization*, law enforcement, regulatory or professional disciplinary body, hearing body or *Person* conducting an investigation for WADA or an *Anti-Doping Organization*.

**2.11.2** Retaliation against a *Person* who, in good faith, has provided evidence or information that relates to an alleged anti-doping rule violation or alleged non-compliance with the *Code* to WADA, an *Anti-Doping Organization*, law enforcement, regulatory or professional disciplinary body, hearing body or *Person* conducting an investigation for WADA or an *Anti-Doping Organization*.

<sup>9</sup> [Comment to Article 2.10: Athletes and other Persons must not work with coaches, trainers, physicians or other Athlete Support Personnel who are Ineligible on account of an anti-doping rule violation or who have been criminally convicted or professionally disciplined in relation to doping. This also prohibits association with any other Athlete who is acting as a coach or Athlete Support Person while serving a period of Ineligibility. Some examples of the types of association which are prohibited include: obtaining training, strategy, technique, nutrition or medical advice; obtaining therapy, treatment or prescriptions; providing any bodily products for analysis; or allowing the Athlete Support Person to serve as an agent or representative. Prohibited association need not involve any form of compensation.]

While Article 2.10 does not require the Anti-Doping Organization to notify the Athlete or other Person about the Athlete Support Person's disqualifying status, such notice, if provided, would be important evidence to establish that the Athlete or other Person knew about the disqualifying status of the Athlete Support Person.]

For purposes of Article 2.11, retaliation, threatening and intimidation include an act taken against such *Person* either because the act lacks a good faith basis or is a disproportionate response.<sup>10</sup>

## ARTICLE 3 PROOF OF DOPING

### 3.1 Burdens and Standards of Proof

ITTF shall have the burden of establishing that an anti-doping rule violation has occurred. The standard of proof shall be whether ITTF has established an anti-doping rule violation to the comfortable satisfaction of the hearing panel bearing in mind the seriousness of the allegation which is made. This standard of proof in all cases is greater than a mere balance of probability but less than proof beyond a reasonable doubt. Where these Anti-Doping Rules place the burden of proof upon the *Athlete* or other *Person* alleged to have committed an anti-doping rule violation to rebut a presumption or establish specified facts or circumstances, except as provided in Articles 3.2.2 and 3.2.3, the standard of proof shall be by a balance of probability.<sup>11</sup>

### 3.2 Methods of Establishing Facts and Presumptions

Facts related to anti-doping rule violations may be established by any reliable means, including admissions.<sup>12</sup> The following rules of proof shall be applicable in doping cases:

- 3.2.1** Analytical methods or *Decision Limits* approved by WADA after consultation within the relevant scientific community or which have been the subject of peer review are presumed to be scientifically valid. Any *Athlete* or other *Person* seeking to challenge whether the conditions for such presumption have been met or to rebut this presumption of scientific validity shall, as a condition precedent to any such challenge, first notify WADA of the challenge and the basis of the challenge. The initial hearing body, appellate body or CAS, on its own initiative, may also inform WADA of any such challenge. Within ten (10) days of WADA's receipt of such notice and the case file related to such challenge, WADA shall also have the right to intervene as a party, appear as amicus curiae or otherwise provide evidence in such proceeding. In cases before CAS, at WADA's request, the CAS panel shall appoint an appropriate scientific expert to assist the panel in its evaluation of the challenge.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>10</sup> [Comment to Article 2.11.2: This Article is intended to protect Persons who make good faith reports, and does not protect Persons who knowingly make false reports.]

[Comment to Article 2.11.2: Retaliation would include, for example, actions that threaten the physical or mental well-being or economic interests of the reporting Persons, their families or associates. Retaliation would not include an Anti-Doping Organization asserting in good faith an anti-doping rule violation against the reporting Person. For purposes of Article 2.11, a report is not made in good faith where the Person making the report knows the report to be false.]

<sup>11</sup> [Comment to Article 3.1: This standard of proof required to be met by ITTF is comparable to the standard which is applied in most countries to cases involving professional misconduct.]

<sup>12</sup> [Comment to Article 3.2: For example, ITTF may establish an anti-doping rule violation under Article 2.2 based on the Athlete's admissions, the credible testimony of third Persons, reliable documentary evidence, reliable analytical data from either an A or B Sample as provided in the Comments to Article 2.2, or conclusions drawn from the profile of a series of the Athlete's blood or urine Samples, such as data from the Athlete Biological Passport.]

<sup>13</sup> [Comment to Article 3.2.1: For certain Prohibited Substances, WADA may instruct WADA-accredited laboratories not to report Samples as an Adverse Analytical Finding if the estimated concentration of the Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers is below a Minimum Reporting Level. WADA's decision in determining that Minimum Reporting Level or in determining which Prohibited Substances should be subject to Minimum Reporting Levels shall not be subject to challenge. Further, the laboratory's estimated concentration of such Prohibited Substance in a Sample may only be an estimate. In no event shall the possibility that the exact concentration of the Prohibited Substance in the Sample may be below the Minimum Reporting Level constitute a defense to an anti-doping rule violation based on the presence of that Prohibited Substance in the Sample.]

**3.2.2** WADA-accredited laboratories, and other laboratories approved by WADA, are presumed to have conducted *Sample* analysis and custodial procedures in accordance with the *International Standard* for Laboratories. The *Athlete* or other *Person* may rebut this presumption by establishing that a departure from the *International Standard* for Laboratories occurred which could reasonably have caused the *Adverse Analytical Finding*.

If the *Athlete* or other *Person* rebuts the preceding presumption by showing that a departure from the *International Standard* for Laboratories occurred which could reasonably have caused the *Adverse Analytical Finding*, then ITTF shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding*.<sup>14</sup>

**3.2.3** Departures from any other *International Standard* or other anti-doping rule or policy set forth in the *Code* or these Anti-Doping Rules shall not invalidate analytical results or other evidence of an anti-doping rule violation, and shall not constitute a defense to an anti-doping rule violation;<sup>15</sup> provided, however, if the *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes that a departure from one of the specific *International Standard* provisions listed below could reasonably have caused an anti-doping rule violation based on an *Adverse Analytical Finding* or whereabouts failure, then ITTF shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding* or the whereabouts failure:

- (i) a departure from the *International Standard* for *Testing* and *Investigations* related to *Sample* collection or *Sample* handling which could reasonably have caused an anti-doping rule violation based on an *Adverse Analytical Finding*, in which case ITTF shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding*;
- (ii) a departure from the *International Standard* for *Results Management* or *International Standard* for *Testing* and *Investigations* related to an *Adverse Passport Finding* which could reasonably have caused an anti-doping rule violation, in which case ITTF shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the anti-doping rule violation;
- (iii) a departure from the *International Standard* for *Results Management* related to the requirement to provide notice to the *Athlete* of the B *Sample* opening which could reasonably have caused an anti-doping rule violation based on an *Adverse Analytical Finding*, in which case ITTF shall have the burden to

<sup>14</sup> [Comment to Article 3.2.2: **Error! Main Document Only.** The burden is on the *Athlete* or other *Person* to establish, by a balance of probability, a departure from the *International Standard* for Laboratories that could reasonably have caused the *Adverse Analytical Finding*. Thus, once the *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes the departure by a balance of probability, the *Athlete* or other *Person*'s burden on causation is the somewhat lower standard of proof – "could reasonably have caused." If the *Athlete* or other *Person* satisfies these standards, the burden shifts to ITTF to prove to the comfortable satisfaction of the hearing panel that the departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding*.]

<sup>15</sup> [Comment to Article 3.2.3: Departures from an *International Standard* or other rule unrelated to *Sample* collection or handling, *Adverse Passport Finding*, or *Athlete* notification relating to whereabouts failure or B *Sample* opening – e.g., the *International Standards for Education*, *Data Privacy* or *TUEs* – may result in compliance proceedings by WADA but are not a defense in an anti-doping rule violation proceeding and are not relevant on the issue of whether the *Athlete* committed an anti-doping rule violation. Similarly, ITTF's violation of the document referenced in Article 20.7.7 of the *Code* shall not constitute a defense to an anti-doping rule violation.]

establish that such departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding*;<sup>16</sup>

- (iv) a departure from the *International Standard for Results Management* related to *Athlete* notification which could reasonably have caused an anti-doping rule violation based on a whereabouts failure, in which case ITTF shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the whereabouts failure.

**3.2.4** The facts established by a decision of a court or professional disciplinary tribunal of competent jurisdiction which is not the subject of a pending appeal shall be irrebuttable evidence against the *Athlete* or other *Person* to whom the decision pertained of those facts unless the *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes that the decision violated principles of natural justice.

**3.2.5** The hearing panel in a hearing on an anti-doping rule violation may draw an inference adverse to the *Athlete* or other *Person* who is asserted to have committed an anti-doping rule violation based on the *Athlete's* or other *Person's* refusal, after a request made in a reasonable time in advance of the hearing, to appear at the hearing (either in person or telephonically as directed by the hearing panel) and to answer questions from the hearing panel or ITTF.

## **ARTICLE 4 THE PROHIBITED LIST**

### **4.1 Incorporation of the *Prohibited List***

These Anti-Doping Rules incorporate the *Prohibited List*, which is published and revised by WADA as described in Article 4.1 of the *Code*.

Unless provided otherwise in the *Prohibited List* or a revision, the *Prohibited List* and revisions shall go into effect under these Anti-Doping Rules three (3) months after publication by WADA, without requiring any further action by ITTF or its *Member Associations*. All *Athletes* and other *Persons* shall be bound by the *Prohibited List*, and any revisions thereto, from the date they go into effect, without further formality. It is the responsibility of all *Athletes* and other *Persons* to familiarize themselves with the most up-to-date version of the *Prohibited List* and all revisions thereto.

ITTF shall provide its *Member Associations* with the most recent version of the *Prohibited List*. Each *Member Association* shall in turn ensure that its members, and the constituents of its members, are also provided with the most recent version of the *Prohibited List*.<sup>17</sup>

### **4.2 Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods Identified on the *Prohibited List***

#### **4.2.1 Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods**

The *Prohibited List* shall identify those *Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods* which are prohibited as doping at all times (both *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition*) because of their potential to enhance performance in future *Competitions*

<sup>16</sup> [Comment to Article 3.2.3 (iii): ITTF would meet its burden to establish that such departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding* by showing that, for example, the B Sample opening and analysis were observed by an independent witness and no irregularities were observed.]

<sup>17</sup> [Comment to Article 4.1: The current *Prohibited List* is available on WADA's website at <https://www.wada-ama.org>. The *Prohibited List* will be revised and published on an expedited basis whenever the need arises. However, for the sake of predictability, a new *Prohibited List* will be published every year whether or not changes have been made.]

or their masking potential, and those substances and methods which are prohibited *In-Competition* only. The *Prohibited List* may be expanded by WADA for a particular sport. *Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods* may be included in the *Prohibited List* by general category (e.g., anabolic agents) or by specific reference to a particular substance or method.<sup>18</sup>

#### **4.2.2 Specified Substances or Specified Methods**

For purposes of the application of Article 10, all *Prohibited Substances* shall be *Specified Substances* except as identified on the *Prohibited List*. No *Prohibited Method* shall be a *Specified Method* unless it is specifically identified as a *Specified Method* on the *Prohibited List*.<sup>19</sup>

#### **4.2.3 Substances of Abuse**

For purposes of applying Article 10, *Substances of Abuse* shall include those *Prohibited Substances* which are specifically identified as *Substances of Abuse* on the *Prohibited List* because they are frequently abused in society outside of the context of sport.

### **4.3 WADA's Determination of the Prohibited List**

WADA's determination of the *Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods* that will be included on the *Prohibited List*, the classification of substances into categories on the *Prohibited List*, the classification of a substance as prohibited at all times or *In-Competition* only, the classification of a substance or method as a *Specified Substance*, *Specified Method* or *Substance of Abuse* is final and shall not be subject to any challenge by an *Athlete* or other *Person* including, but not limited to, any challenge based on an argument that the substance or method was not a masking agent or did not have the potential to enhance performance, represent a health risk or violate the spirit of sport.

### **4.4 Therapeutic Use Exemptions ("TUEs")**

**4.4.1** The presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers*, and/or the *Use* or *Attempted Use*, *Possession* or *Administration* or *Attempted Administration* of a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*, shall not be considered an anti-doping rule violation if it is consistent with the provisions of a *TUE* granted in accordance with the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*.

#### **4.4.2 TUE Applications**

**4.4.2.1** *Athletes* who are not *International-Level Athletes* shall apply to their *National Anti-Doping Organization* for a *TUE*. If the *National Anti-Doping Organization* denies the application, the *Athlete* may appeal exclusively to the national-level appeal body described in Article 13.2.2.

**4.4.2.2** *Athletes* who are *International-Level Athletes* shall apply to ITTF.

<sup>18</sup> [Comment to Article 4.2.1: Out-of-Competition Use of a substance which is only prohibited In-Competition is not an anti-doping rule violation unless an Adverse Analytical Finding for the substance or its Metabolites or Markers is reported for a Sample collected In-Competition.]

<sup>19</sup> [Comment to Article 4.2.2: The Specified Substances and Methods identified in Article 4.2.2 should not in any way be considered less important or less dangerous than other doping substances or methods. Rather, they are simply substances and methods which are more likely to have been consumed or used by an Athlete for a purpose other than the enhancement of sport performance.]



#### 4.4.3 TUE Recognition<sup>20</sup>

- 4.4.3.1** Where the *Athlete* already has a *TUE* granted by their *National Anti-Doping Organization* pursuant to Article 4.4 of the *Code* for the substance or method in question and provided that such *TUE* has been reported in accordance with Article 5.5 of the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*, ITTF will automatically recognize it for purposes of international-level *Competition* without the need to review the relevant clinical information.
- 4.4.3.2** If ITTF chooses to test an *Athlete* who is not an *International-Level Athlete*, ITTF must recognize a *TUE* granted to that *Athlete* by their *National Anti-Doping Organization* unless the *Athlete* is required to apply for recognition of the *TUE* pursuant to Articles 5.8 and 7.0 of the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*.

#### 4.4.4 TUE Application Process <sup>21</sup>

- 4.4.4.1** If the *Athlete* does not already have a *TUE* granted by their *National Anti-Doping Organization* for the substance or method in question, the *Athlete* must apply directly to ITTF.
- 4.4.4.2** An application to ITTF for grant or recognition of a *TUE* must be made as soon as possible, save where Articles 4.1 or 4.3 of the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions* apply. The application shall be made in accordance with Article 6 of the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions* as posted on ITTF's website.
- 4.4.4.3** ITTF shall establish a *Therapeutic Use Exemption* Committee ("TUEC") to consider applications for the grant or recognition of *TUEs* in accordance with Article 4.4.4.3(a)-(d) below:
- (a) The TUEC shall consist of a minimum of five (5) members with experience in the care and treatment of *Athletes* and sound knowledge of clinical, sports and exercise medicine.
  - (b) Before serving as a member of the TUEC, each member must sign a conflict of interest and confidentiality declaration. The appointed members shall not be employees of ITTF.
  - (c) When an application to ITTF for the grant or recognition of a *TUE* is made, three (3) members (which may include the Chair) shall be appointed to consider the application.

<sup>20</sup> [Comment to Article 4.4.3: If ITTF refuses to recognize a *TUE* granted by a *National Anti-Doping Organization* only because medical records or other information are missing that are needed to demonstrate satisfaction with the criteria in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*, the matter should not be referred to WADA. Instead, the file should be completed and re-submitted to ITTF.]

[Comment to Article 4.4.3: ITTF may agree with a *National Anti-Doping Organization* that the *National Anti-Doping Organization* will consider *TUE* applications on behalf of ITTF.]

<sup>21</sup> [Comment to Article 4.4.4: The submission of falsified documents to a TUEC or ITTF, offering or accepting a bribe to a Person to perform or fail to perform an act, procuring false testimony from any witness, or committing any other fraudulent act or any other similar intentional interference or Attempted interference with any aspect of the *TUE* process shall result in a charge of Tampering or Attempted Tampering under Article 2.5.

An *Athlete* should not assume that their application for the grant or recognition of a *TUE* (or for renewal of a *TUE*) will be granted. Any Use or Possession or Administration of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method before an application has been granted is entirely at the *Athlete's* own risk.]

- (d) Before considering a *TUE* application, each member shall disclose any circumstances likely to affect their impartiality with respect to the *Athlete* making the application. If a member is unwilling or unable to assess the *Athlete's TUE* application, for any reason, a replacement or a new TUEC shall be appointed (e.g. from the pool of members appointed under point (a) above). The Chair cannot serve as a member of the TUEC if there are any circumstances which are likely to affect the impartiality of the *TUE* decision.

**4.4.4.4** The TUEC shall promptly evaluate and decide upon the application in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions* and usually (i.e., unless exceptional circumstances apply) within no more than twenty-one (21) days of receipt of a complete application. Where the application is made in a reasonable time prior to an *Event*, the TUEC must use its best endeavors to issue its decision before the start of the *Event*.

**4.4.4.5** The TUEC decision shall be the final decision of ITTF and may be appealed in accordance with Article 4.4.7. ITTF TUEC decision shall be notified in writing to the *Athlete*, and to WADA and other *Anti-Doping Organizations* in accordance with the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*. It shall also promptly be reported into ADAMS.

**4.4.4.6** If ITTF (or the *National Anti-Doping Organization*, where it has agreed to consider the application on behalf of ITTF) denies the *Athlete's* application, it must notify the *Athlete* promptly, with reasons. If ITTF grants the *Athlete's* application, it must notify not only the *Athlete* but also their *National Anti-Doping Organization*. If the *National Anti-Doping Organization* considers that the *TUE* granted by ITTF does not meet the criteria set out in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*, it has twenty-one (21) days from such notification to refer the matter to WADA for review in accordance with Article 4.4.7.

If the *National Anti-Doping Organization* refers the matter to WADA for review, the *TUE* granted by ITTF remains valid for international-level *Competition* and *Out-of-Competition Testing* (but is not valid for national-level *Competition*) pending WADA's decision. If the *National Anti-Doping Organization* does not refer the matter to WADA for review, the *TUE* granted by ITTF becomes valid for national-level *Competition* as well when the twenty-one (21) day review deadline expires.

#### **4.4.5** Retroactive *TUE* Applications

If ITTF chooses to collect a *Sample* from an *Athlete* who is not an *International-Level Athlete* or a *National-Level Athlete*, and that *Athlete* is *Using a Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* for therapeutic reasons, ITTF must permit that *Athlete* to apply for a retroactive *TUE*.

#### **4.4.6** Expiration, Withdrawal or Reversal of a *TUE*

**4.4.6.1** A *TUE* granted pursuant to these Anti-Doping Rules: (a) shall expire automatically at the end of any term for which it was granted, without the need for any further notice or other formality; (b) will be withdrawn if the *Athlete* does not promptly comply with

any requirements or conditions imposed by the TUEC upon grant of the *TUE*; (c) may be withdrawn by the TUEC if it is subsequently determined that the criteria for grant of a *TUE* are not in fact met; or (d) may be reversed on review by *WADA* or on appeal.

**4.4.6.2** In such event, the *Athlete* shall not be subject to any *Consequences* based on their *Use* or *Possession* or *Administration* of the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* in question in accordance with the *TUE* prior to the effective date of expiry, withdrawal, or reversal of the *TUE*. The review pursuant to Article 5.1.1.1 of the *International Standard for Results Management* of an *Adverse Analytical Finding*, reported shortly after the *TUE* expiry, withdrawal or reversal, shall include consideration of whether such finding is consistent with *Use* of the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* prior to that date, in which event no anti-doping rule violation shall be asserted.

#### **4.4.7** Reviews and Appeals of *TUE* Decisions

**4.4.7.1** *WADA* must review ITTF's decision not to recognize a *TUE* granted by the *National Anti-Doping Organization* that is referred to *WADA* by the *Athlete* or the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organization*. In addition, *WADA* must review ITTF's decision to grant a *TUE* that is referred to *WADA* by the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organization*. *WADA* may review any other *TUE* decisions at any time, whether upon request by those affected or on its own initiative. If the *TUE* decision being reviewed meets the criteria set out in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*, *WADA* will not interfere with it. If the *TUE* decision does not meet those criteria, *WADA* will reverse it.<sup>22</sup>

**4.4.7.2** Any *TUE* decision by ITTF (or by a *National Anti-Doping Organization* where it has agreed to consider the application on behalf of ITTF) that is not reviewed by *WADA*, or that is reviewed by *WADA* but is not reversed upon review, may be appealed by the *Athlete* and/or the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organization*, exclusively to CAS.<sup>23</sup>

**4.4.7.3** A decision by *WADA* to reverse a *TUE* decision may be appealed by the *Athlete*, the *National Anti-Doping Organization* and/or ITTF, exclusively to CAS.

**4.4.7.4** A failure to render a decision within a reasonable time on a properly submitted application for grant/recognition of a *TUE* or for review of a *TUE* decision shall be considered a denial of the application thus triggering the applicable rights of review/appeal.

## **ARTICLE 5 TESTING AND INVESTIGATIONS**

<sup>22</sup> [Comment to Article 4.4.7.1: *WADA* shall be entitled to charge a fee to cover the costs of: (a) any review it is required to conduct in accordance with Article 4.4.7; and (b) any review it chooses to conduct, where the decision being reviewed is reversed.]

<sup>23</sup> [Comment to Article 4.4.7.2: In such cases, the decision being appealed is the ITTF's *TUE* decision, not *WADA*'s decision not to review the *TUE* decision or (having reviewed it) not to reverse the *TUE* decision. However, the time to appeal the *TUE* decision does not begin to run until the date that *WADA* communicates its decision. In any event, whether the decision has been reviewed by *WADA* or not, *WADA* shall be given notice of the appeal so that it may participate if it sees fit.]

## 5.1 Purpose of Testing and Investigations<sup>24</sup>

- 5.1.1** *Testing* and investigations may be undertaken for any anti-doping purpose. They shall be conducted in conformity with the provisions of the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* and the eventual specific protocols of ITTF supplementing that *International Standard*.
- 5.1.2** *Testing* shall be undertaken to obtain analytical evidence as to whether the *Athlete* has violated Article 2.1 (Presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* in an *Athlete's Sample*) or Article 2.2 (*Use or Attempted Use* by an *Athlete* of a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method*).

## 5.2 Authority to Test

- 5.2.1** Subject to the limitations for *Event Testing* set out in Article 5.3, ITTF shall have *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition Testing* authority over all *Athletes* specified in the Introduction to these Anti-Doping Rules (Section "Scope of these Anti-Doping Rules").
- 5.2.2** ITTF may require any *Athlete* over whom it has *Testing* authority (including any *Athlete* serving a period of *Ineligibility*) to provide a *Sample* at any time and at any place.<sup>25</sup>
- 5.2.3** WADA shall have *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition Testing* authority as set out in Article 20.7.10 of the *Code*.
- 5.2.4** If ITTF delegates or contracts any part of *Testing* to a *National Anti-Doping Organization* directly or through a *Member Association*, that *National Anti-Doping Organization* may collect additional *Samples* or direct the laboratory to perform additional types of analysis at the *National Anti-Doping Organization's* expense. If additional *Samples* are collected or additional types of analysis are performed, ITTF shall be notified.

## 5.3 Event Testing

- 5.3.1** Except as otherwise provided below, only a single organization shall have authority to conduct *Testing* at *Event Venues* during an *Event Period*. At *International Events*, ITTF (or other international organization which is the ruling body for an *Event*) shall have authority to conduct *Testing*. At *National Events*, the *National Anti-Doping Organization* of that country shall have authority to conduct *Testing*. At the request of ITTF (or other international organization which is the ruling body for an *Event*), any *Testing* during the *Event Period* outside of the *Event Venues* shall be coordinated with ITTF (or the relevant ruling body of the *Event*).
- 5.3.2** If an *Anti-Doping Organization*, which would otherwise have *Testing* authority but is not responsible for initiating and directing *Testing* at an *Event*, desires to conduct *Testing* of *Athletes* at the *Event Venues* during the *Event*

<sup>24</sup> [Comment to Article 5.1: Where *Testing* is conducted for anti-doping purposes, the analytical results and data may be used for other legitimate purposes under the Anti-Doping Organization's rules. See, e.g., Comment to Article 23.2.2 of the *Code*.]

<sup>25</sup> [Comment to Article 5.2.2: ITTF may obtain additional authority to conduct *Testing* by means of bilateral or multilateral agreements with other Signatories. Unless the *Athlete* has identified a sixty (60) minute *Testing* window between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., or has otherwise consented to *Testing* during that period, ITTF will not test an *Athlete* during that period unless it has a serious and specific suspicion that the *Athlete* may be engaged in doping. A challenge to whether ITTF had sufficient suspicion for *Testing* during this time period shall not be a defense to an anti-doping rule violation based on such test or attempted test.]

*Period*, the *Anti-Doping Organization* shall first confer with ITTF (or other international organization which is the ruling body of the *Event*) to obtain permission to conduct and coordinate such *Testing*. If the *Anti-Doping Organization* is not satisfied with the response from ITTF (or other international organization which is the ruling body of the *Event*), the *Anti-Doping Organization* may, in accordance with the procedures described in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*, ask WADA for permission to conduct *Testing* and to determine how to coordinate such *Testing*. WADA shall not grant approval for such *Testing* before consulting with and informing ITTF (or other international organization which is the ruling body for the *Event*). WADA's decision shall be final and not subject to appeal. Unless otherwise provided in the authorization to conduct *Testing*, such tests shall be considered *Out-of-Competition* tests. *Results Management* for any such test shall be the responsibility of the *Anti-Doping Organization* initiating the test unless provided otherwise in the rules of the ruling body of the *Event*.<sup>26</sup>

## **5.4 Testing Requirements**

- 5.4.1** ITTF shall conduct test distribution planning and *Testing* as required by the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.
- 5.4.2** Where reasonably feasible, *Testing* shall be coordinated through ADAMS in order to maximize the effectiveness of the combined *Testing* effort and to avoid unnecessary repetitive *Testing*.

## **5.5 Athlete Whereabouts Information**

- 5.5.1** ITTF shall establish a *Registered Testing Pool* of those *Athletes* who are required to provide whereabouts information in the manner specified in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* and who shall be subject to *Consequences* for Article 2.4 violations as provided in Article 10.3.2. ITTF shall coordinate with *National Anti-Doping Organizations* to identify such *Athletes* and to collect their whereabouts information.
- 5.5.2** ITTF shall make available through ADAMS a list which identifies those *Athletes* included in its *Registered Testing Pool* by name. ITTF shall regularly review and update as necessary its criteria for including *Athletes* in its *Registered Testing Pool*, and shall periodically (but not less than quarterly) review the list of *Athletes* in its *Registered Testing Pool* to ensure that each listed *Athlete* continues to meet the relevant criteria. *Athletes* shall be notified before they are included in the *Registered Testing Pool* and when they are removed from that pool. The notification shall contain the information set out in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.
- 5.5.3** Where an *Athlete* is included in an international *Registered Testing Pool* by ITTF and in a national *Registered Testing Pool* by their *National Anti-Doping Organization*, the *National Anti-Doping Organization* and ITTF shall agree between themselves which of them shall accept that *Athlete's* whereabouts filings; in no case shall an *Athlete* be required to make whereabouts filings to more than one of them.

<sup>26</sup> [Comment to Article 5.3.2: Before giving approval to a National Anti-Doping Organization to initiate and conduct *Testing* at an International Event, WADA shall consult with the international organization which is the ruling body for the Event. Before giving approval to an International Federation to initiate and conduct *Testing* at a National Event, WADA shall consult with the National Anti-Doping Organization of the country where the Event takes place. The Anti-Doping Organization "initiating and directing *Testing*" may, if it chooses, enter into agreements with a Delegated Third Party to which it delegates responsibility for Sample collection or other aspects of the Doping Control process.]

- 5.5.4** In accordance with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*, each *Athlete* in the *Registered Testing Pool* shall do the following: (a) advise ITTF of his/her whereabouts on a quarterly basis; (b) update that information as necessary so that it remains accurate and complete at all times; and (c) make himself or herself available for *Testing* at such whereabouts.
- 5.5.5** For purposes of Article 2.4, an *Athlete's* failure to comply with the requirements of the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* shall be deemed a filing failure or a missed test, as defined in Annex B of the *International Standard for Results Management*, where the conditions set forth in Annex B are met.
- 5.5.6** An *Athlete* in ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* shall continue to be subject to the obligation to comply with the whereabouts requirements set in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* unless and until (a) the *Athlete* gives written notice to ITTF that he or she has retired or (b) ITTF has informed him or her that he or she no longer satisfies the criteria for inclusion in ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool*.
- 5.5.7** Whereabouts information provided by an *Athlete* while in the *Registered Testing Pool* will be accessible through ADAMS to WADA and to other *Anti-Doping Organizations* having authority to test that *Athlete* as provided in Article 5.2. Whereabouts information shall be maintained in strict confidence at all times; it shall be used exclusively for purposes of planning, coordinating or conducting *Doping Control*, providing information relevant to the *Athlete Biological Passport* or other analytical results, to support an investigation into a potential anti-doping rule violation, or to support proceedings alleging an anti-doping rule violation; and shall be destroyed after it is no longer relevant for these purposes in accordance with the *International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information*.
- 5.5.8** ITTF may, in accordance with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*, collect whereabouts information from *Athletes* who are not included within a *Registered Testing Pool*. If it chooses to do so, an *Athlete's* failure to provide requested whereabouts information on or before the date required by ITTF or the *Athlete's* failure to provide accurate whereabouts information may result in consequences defined in Article 5.5.12 below.
- 5.5.9** In accordance with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*, ITTF may establish a *Testing Pool*, which includes *Athletes* who are subject to less stringent whereabouts requirements than *Athletes* included in ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool*.
- 5.5.10** ITTF shall notify *Athletes* before they are included in the *Testing Pool* and when they are removed. Such notification shall include the whereabouts requirements and the consequences that apply in case of non-compliance, as indicated in Articles 5.5.11 and 5.5.12.
- 5.5.11** *Athletes* included in the *Testing Pool* shall provide ITTF at least with the following whereabouts information so that they may be located and subjected to *Testing*:
- (a) An overnight address;
  - (b) Competition / Event schedule; and
  - (c) Regular training activities.
- Such whereabouts information should be filed in ADAMS to enable better *Testing* coordination with other *Anti-Doping Organizations*.

- 5.5.12** An *Athlete's* failure to provide whereabouts information on or before the date required by ITTF or the *Athlete's* failure to provide accurate whereabouts information might result in ITTF elevating the *Athlete* to ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* and additional appropriate and proportionate non-Code Article 2.4 consequences, established by ITTF if any.

## **5.6 Retired Athletes Returning to Competition**

- 5.6.1** If an *International-Level Athlete* or *National-Level Athlete* in ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* retires and then wishes to return to active participation in sport, the *Athlete* shall not compete in *International Events* or *National Events* until the *Athlete* has made himself or herself available for *Testing*, by giving six (6) months prior written notice to ITTF and their *National Anti-Doping Organization*.

WADA, in consultation with ITTF and the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organization*, may grant an exemption to the six (6) month written notice rule where the strict application of that rule would be unfair to the *Athlete*. This decision may be appealed under Article 13.<sup>27</sup>

Any competitive results obtained in violation of this Article 5.6.1 shall be *Disqualified* unless the *Athlete* can establish that he or she could not have reasonably known that this was an *International Event* or a *National Event*.

- 5.6.2** If an *Athlete* retires from sport while subject to a period of *Ineligibility*, the *Athlete* must notify the *Anti-Doping Organization* that imposed the period of *Ineligibility* in writing of such retirement. If the *Athlete* then wishes to return to active competition in sport, the *Athlete* shall not compete in *International Events* or *National Events* until the *Athlete* has made himself or herself available for *Testing* by giving six (6) months prior written notice (or notice equivalent to the period of *Ineligibility* remaining as of the date the *Athlete* retired, if that period was longer than six (6) months) to ITTF and to their *National Anti-Doping Organization*.

## **5.7 Independent Observer Program**

ITTF and the organizing committees for ITTF's *Events*, as well as the *Member Associations* and the organizing committees for *National Events*, shall authorize and facilitate the *Independent Observer Program* at such *Events*.

## **ARTICLE 6 ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES**

*Samples* shall be analyzed in accordance with the following principles:

### **6.1 Use of Accredited, Approved Laboratories and Other Laboratories**

- 6.1.1** For purposes of directly establishing an *Adverse Analytical Finding* under Article 2.1, *Samples* shall be analyzed only in WADA-accredited laboratories or laboratories otherwise approved by WADA. The choice of the WADA-accredited or WADA-approved laboratory used for the *Sample* analysis shall be determined exclusively by ITTF.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>27</sup> [Comment to Article 5.6.1: WADA has developed a protocol and exemption application form that Athletes must use to make such requests, and a decision template that the International Federations must use. Both documents are available on WADA's website at <https://www.wada-ama.org>.]

<sup>28</sup> [Comment to Article 6.1: Violations of Article 2.1 may be established only by Sample analysis performed by a WADA-accredited laboratory or another laboratory approved by WADA. Violations of other Articles may be established using analytical results from other laboratories so long as the results are reliable.]

- 6.1.2** As provided in Article 3.2, facts related to anti-doping rule violations may be established by any reliable means. This would include, for example, reliable laboratory or other forensic testing conducted outside of WADA-accredited or approved laboratories.

## **6.2 Purpose of Analysis of Samples and Data**

*Samples* and related analytical data or *Doping Control* information shall be analyzed to detect *Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods* identified on the *Prohibited List* and other substances as may be directed by WADA pursuant to the monitoring program described in Article 4.5 of the *Code*, or to assist ITTF in profiling relevant parameters in an *Athlete's* urine, blood or other matrix, including for DNA or genomic profiling, or for any other legitimate anti-doping purpose.<sup>29</sup>

## **6.3 Research on Samples and Data**

*Samples*, related analytical data and *Doping Control* information may be used for anti-doping research purposes, although no *Sample* may be used for research without the *Athlete's* written consent. *Samples* and related analytical data or *Doping Control* information used for research purposes shall first be processed in such a manner as to prevent *Samples* and related analytical data or *Doping Control* information being traced back to a particular *Athlete*. Any research involving *Samples* and related analytical data or *Doping Control* information shall adhere to the principles set out in Article 19 of the *Code*.<sup>30</sup>

## **6.4 Standards for Sample Analysis and Reporting**

In accordance with Article 6.4 of the *Code*, ITTF shall ask laboratories to analyze *Samples* in conformity with the *International Standard* for Laboratories and Article 4.7 of the *International Standard* for Testing and Investigations.

Laboratories at their own initiative and expense may analyze *Samples* for *Prohibited Substances* or *Prohibited Methods* not included on the standard *Sample* analysis menu, or as requested by ITTF. Results from any such analysis shall be reported to ITTF and have the same validity and *Consequences* as any other analytical result.<sup>31</sup>

## **6.5 Further Analysis of a Sample Prior to or During Results Management or Hearing Process**

There shall be no limitation on the authority of a laboratory to conduct repeat or additional analysis on a *Sample* prior to the time ITTF notifies an *Athlete* that the *Sample* is the basis for an Article 2.1 anti-doping rule violation charge. If after such notification ITTF wishes to conduct additional analysis on that *Sample*, it may do so with the consent of the *Athlete* or approval from a hearing body.

<sup>29</sup> [Comment to Article 6.2: For example, relevant *Doping Control*-related information could be used to direct *Target Testing* or to support an anti-doping rule violation proceeding under Article 2.2, or both.]

<sup>30</sup> [Comment to Article 6.3: As is the case in most medical or scientific contexts, use of *Samples* and related information for quality assurance, quality improvement, method improvement and development or to establish reference populations is not considered research. *Samples* and related information used for such permitted non-research purposes must also first be processed in such a manner as to prevent them from being traced back to the particular *Athlete*, having due regard to the principles set out in Article 19 of the *Code*, as well as the requirements of the *International Standard* for Laboratories and *International Standard* for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information.]

<sup>31</sup> [Comment to Article 6.4: The objective of this Article is to extend the principle of "Intelligent Testing" to the *Sample* analysis menu so as to most effectively and efficiently detect doping. It is recognized that the resources available to fight doping are limited and that increasing the *Sample* analysis menu may, in some sports and countries, reduce the number of *Samples* which can be analyzed.]



## **6.6 Further Analysis of a Sample After it has been Reported as Negative or has Otherwise not Resulted in an Anti-Doping Rule Violation Charge**

After a laboratory has reported a *Sample* as negative, or the *Sample* has not otherwise resulted in an anti-doping rule violation charge, it may be stored and subjected to further analyses for the purpose of Article 6.2 at any time exclusively at the direction of either the *Anti-Doping Organization* that initiated and directed *Sample* collection or *WADA*. Any other *Anti-Doping Organization* with authority to test the *Athlete* that wishes to conduct further analysis on a stored *Sample* may do so with the permission of the *Anti-Doping Organization* that initiated and directed *Sample* collection or *WADA*, and shall be responsible for any follow-up *Results Management*. Any *Sample* storage or further analysis initiated by *WADA* or another *Anti-Doping Organization* shall be at *WADA*'s or that organization's expense. Further analysis of *Samples* shall conform with the requirements of the *International Standard for Laboratories*.

## **6.7 Split of A or B Sample**

Where *WADA*, an *Anti-Doping Organization* with *Results Management* authority, and/or a *WADA*-accredited laboratory (with approval from *WADA* or the *Anti-Doping Organization* with *Results Management* authority) wishes to split an A or B *Sample* for the purpose of using the first part of the split *Sample* for an A *Sample* analysis and the second part of the split *Sample* for confirmation, then the procedures set forth in the *International Standard for Laboratories* shall be followed.

## **6.8 WADA's Right to Take Possession of Samples and Data**

*WADA* may, in its sole discretion at any time, with or without prior notice, take physical possession of any *Sample* and related analytical data or information in the possession of a laboratory or *Anti-Doping Organization*. Upon request by *WADA*, the laboratory or *Anti-Doping Organization* in possession of the *Sample* or data shall immediately grant access to and enable *WADA* to take physical possession of the *Sample* or data. If *WADA* has not provided prior notice to the laboratory or *Anti-Doping Organization* before taking possession of a *Sample* or data, it shall provide such notice to the laboratory and each *Anti-Doping Organization* whose *Samples* or data have been taken by *WADA* within a reasonable time after taking possession. After analysis and any investigation of a seized *Sample* or data, *WADA* may direct another *Anti-Doping Organization* with authority to test the *Athlete* to assume *Results Management* responsibility for the *Sample* or data if a potential anti-doping rule violation is discovered.<sup>32</sup>

# **ARTICLE 7 RESULTS MANAGEMENT: RESPONSIBILITY, INITIAL REVIEW, NOTICE AND PROVISIONAL SUSPENSIONS**

*Results Management* under these Anti-Doping Rules establishes a process designed to resolve anti-doping rule violation matters in a fair, expeditious and efficient manner.

## **7.1 Responsibility for Conducting Results Management**

- 7.1.1** Except as otherwise provided in Articles 6.6, 6.8 and Code Article 7.1, *Results Management* shall be the responsibility of, and shall be governed by, the procedural rules of the *Anti-Doping Organization* that initiated and

<sup>32</sup> [Comment to Article 6.8: Resistance or refusal to *WADA* taking physical possession of *Samples* or data could constitute Tampering, Complicity or an act of non-compliance as provided in the *International Standard for Code Compliance by Signatories*, and could also constitute a violation of the *International Standard for Laboratories*. Where necessary, the laboratory and/or the *Anti-Doping Organization* shall assist *WADA* in ensuring that the seized *Sample* or data are not delayed in exiting the applicable country.

*WADA* would not, of course, unilaterally take possession of *Samples* or analytical data without good cause related to a potential anti-doping rule violation, non-compliance by a Signatory or doping activities by another Person. However, the decision as to whether good cause exists is for *WADA* to make in its discretion and shall not be subject to challenge. In particular, whether there is good cause or not shall not be a defense against an anti-doping rule violation or its Consequences.]

directed *Sample* collection (or, if no *Sample* collection is involved, the *Anti-Doping Organization* which first provides notice to an *Athlete* or other *Person* of a potential anti-doping rule violation and then diligently pursues that anti-doping rule violation).

- 7.1.2** In circumstances where the rules of a *National Anti-Doping Organization* do not give the *National Anti-Doping Organization* authority over an *Athlete* or other *Person* who is not a national, resident, license holder, or member of a sport organization of that country, or the *National Anti-Doping Organization* declines to exercise such authority, *Results Management* shall be conducted by the applicable International Federation or by a third party with authority over the *Athlete* or other *Person* as directed by the rules of the applicable International Federation.
- 7.1.3** In the event the *Major Event Organization* assumes only limited *Results Management* responsibility relating to a *Sample* initiated and taken during an *Event* conducted by a *Major Event Organization*, or an anti-doping rule violation occurring during such *Event*, the case shall be referred by the *Major Event Organization* to the applicable International Federation for completion of *Results Management*.
- 7.1.4** *Results Management* in relation to a potential whereabouts failure (a filing failure or a missed test) shall be administered by ITTF or the *National Anti-Doping Organization* with whom the *Athlete* in question files whereabouts information, as provided in the *International Standard for Results Management*. If ITTF determines a filing failure or a missed test, it shall submit that information to WADA through ADAMS, where it will be made available to other relevant *Anti-Doping Organizations*.
- 7.1.5** Other circumstances in which ITTF shall take responsibility for conducting *Results Management* in respect of anti-doping rule violations involving *Athletes* and other *Persons* under its authority shall be determined by reference to and in accordance with Article 7 of the *Code*.
- 7.1.6** WADA may direct ITTF to conduct *Results Management* in particular circumstances. If ITTF refuses to conduct *Results Management* within a reasonable deadline set by WADA, such refusal shall be considered an act of non-compliance, and WADA may direct another *Anti-Doping Organization* with authority over the *Athlete* or other *Person*, that is willing to do so, to take *Results Management* responsibility in place of ITTF or, if there is no such *Anti-Doping Organization*, any other *Anti-Doping Organization* that is willing to do so. In such case, ITTF shall reimburse the costs and attorney's fees of conducting *Results Management* to the other *Anti-Doping Organization* designated by WADA, and a failure to reimburse costs and attorney's fees shall be considered an act of non-compliance.

## **7.2 Review and Notification Regarding Potential Anti-Doping Rule Violations**

ITTF shall carry out the review and notification with respect to any potential anti-doping rule violation in accordance with the *International Standard for Results Management*.

## **7.3 Identification of Prior Anti-Doping Rule Violations**

Before giving an *Athlete* or other *Person* notice of a potential anti-doping rule violation as provided above, ITTF shall refer to ADAMS and contact WADA and other relevant *Anti-Doping Organizations* to determine whether any prior anti-doping rule violation exists.

## 7.4 *Provisional Suspensions* <sup>33</sup>

### 7.4.1 *Mandatory Provisional Suspension after an Adverse Analytical Finding or Adverse Passport Finding*

If ITTF receives an *Adverse Analytical Finding* or an *Adverse Passport Finding* (upon completion of the *Adverse Passport Finding* review process) for a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method* that is not a *Specified Substance* or a *Specified Method*, ITTF shall impose a *Provisional Suspension* on the *Athlete* promptly upon or after the review and notification required by Article 7.2.

A mandatory *Provisional Suspension* may be eliminated if: (i) the *Athlete* demonstrates to the CAS Anti-Doping Division (CAS ADD) that the violation is likely to have involved a *Contaminated Product*, or (ii) the violation involves a *Substance of Abuse* and the *Athlete* establishes entitlement to a reduced period of *Ineligibility* under Article 10.2.4.1.

The CAS ADD's decision not to eliminate a mandatory *Provisional Suspension* on account of the *Athlete's* assertion regarding a *Contaminated Product* shall not be appealable.

### 7.4.2 *Optional Provisional Suspension Based on an Adverse Analytical Finding for Specified Substances, Specified Methods, Contaminated Products, or Other Anti-Doping Rule Violations*

ITTF may impose a *Provisional Suspension* for anti-doping rule violations not covered by Article 7.4.1 prior to the analysis of the *Athlete's* B Sample or final hearing as described in Article 8.

An optional *Provisional Suspension* may be lifted at the discretion of ITTF at any time prior to the CAS ADD's decision under Article 8, unless provided otherwise in the *International Standard for Results Management*.

### 7.4.3 *Opportunity for Hearing or Appeal*

Notwithstanding Articles 7.4.1 and 7.4.2, a *Provisional Suspension* may not be imposed unless the *Athlete* or other *Person* is given: (a) an opportunity for a *Provisional Hearing*, either before or on a timely basis after the imposition of the *Provisional Suspension*; or (b) an opportunity for an expedited hearing in accordance with Article 8 on a timely basis after the imposition of the *Provisional Suspension*.

The imposition of a *Provisional Suspension*, or the decision not to impose a *Provisional Suspension*, may be appealed in an expedited process in accordance with Article 13.2.

### 7.4.4 *Voluntary Acceptance of Provisional Suspension*

*Athletes* on their own initiative may voluntarily accept a *Provisional Suspension* if done so prior to the later of: (i) the expiration of ten (10) days from the report of the B Sample (or waiver of the B Sample) or ten (10) days from the notice of any other anti-doping rule violation, or (ii) the date on which the *Athlete* first competes after such report or notice.

<sup>33</sup> [Comment to Article 7.4: Before a *Provisional Suspension* can be unilaterally imposed by ITTF, the internal review specified in these Anti-Doping Rules and the *International Standard for Results Management* must first be completed.]

Other *Persons* on their own initiative may voluntarily accept a *Provisional Suspension* if done so within ten (10) days from the notice of the anti-doping rule violation.

Upon such voluntary acceptance, the *Provisional Suspension* shall have the full effect and be treated in the same manner as if the *Provisional Suspension* had been imposed under Article 7.4.1 or 7.4.2; provided, however, at any time after voluntarily accepting a *Provisional Suspension*, the *Athlete* or other *Person* may withdraw such acceptance, in which event the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall not receive any credit for time previously served during the *Provisional Suspension*.

- 7.4.5** If a *Provisional Suspension* is imposed based on an A Sample Adverse Analytical Finding and a subsequent B Sample analysis (if requested by the *Athlete* or ITTF) does not confirm the A Sample analysis, then the *Athlete* shall not be subject to any further *Provisional Suspension* on account of a violation of Article 2.1. In circumstances where the *Athlete* (or the *Athlete's Doubles Pair* or *Athlete's* team has been removed from an *Event* based on a violation of Article 2.1 and the subsequent B Sample analysis does not confirm the A Sample finding, then, if it is still possible for the *Athlete* or *Doubles Pair* or team to be reinserted, without otherwise affecting the *Event*, the *Athlete* or *Doubles Pair* or team may continue to take part in the *Event*.

## **7.5 Results Management Decisions**

*Results Management* decisions or adjudications by ITTF must not purport to be limited to a particular geographic area or the ITTF's sport and shall address and determine without limitation the following issues: (i) whether an anti-doping rule violation was committed or a *Provisional Suspension* should be imposed, the factual basis for such determination, and the specific Articles that have been violated, and (ii) all *Consequences* flowing from the anti-doping rule violation(s), including applicable *Disqualifications* under Articles 9 and 10.10, any forfeiture of medals or prizes, any period of *Ineligibility* (and the date it begins to run) and any *Financial Consequences*.<sup>34</sup>

## **7.6 Notification of Results Management Decisions**

ITTF shall notify *Athletes*, other *Persons*, *Signatories* and WADA of *Results Management* decisions as provided in Article 14.2 and in the *International Standard for Results Management*.

## **7.7 Retirement from Sport<sup>35</sup>**

If an *Athlete* or other *Person* retires while the ITTF's *Results Management* process is underway, ITTF retains authority to complete its *Results Management* process. If an *Athlete* or other *Person* retires before any *Results Management* process has begun, and ITTF would have had

<sup>34</sup> [Comment to Article 7.5: *Results Management* decisions include *Provisional Suspensions*.

Each decision by ITTF should address whether an anti-doping rule violation was committed and all *Consequences* flowing from the violation, including any *Disqualifications* other than *Disqualification* under Article 10.1 (which is left to the ruling body for an *Event*). Pursuant to Article 15, such decision and its imposition of *Consequences* shall have automatic effect in every sport in every country. For example, for a determination that an *Athlete* committed an anti-doping rule violation based on an Adverse Analytical Finding for a Sample taken In-Competition, the *Athlete's* results obtained in the Competition would be *Disqualified* under Article 9 and all other competitive results obtained by the *Athlete* from the date the Sample was collected through the duration of the period of *Ineligibility* are also *Disqualified* under Article 10.10; if the Adverse Analytical Finding resulted from Testing at an *Event*, it would be the Major Event Organization's responsibility to decide whether the *Athlete's* other individual results in the *Event* prior to Sample collection are also *Disqualified* under Article 10.1.]

<sup>35</sup> [Comment to Article 7.7: Conduct by an *Athlete* or other *Person* before the *Athlete* or other *Person* was subject to the authority of any Anti-Doping Organization would not constitute an anti-doping rule violation but could be a legitimate basis for denying the *Athlete* or other *Person* membership in a sports organization.]

*Results Management* authority over the *Athlete* or other *Person* at the time the *Athlete* or other *Person* committed an anti-doping rule violation, ITTF has authority to conduct *Results Management*.

## **ARTICLE 8     *RESULTS MANAGEMENT: RIGHT TO A FAIR HEARING AND NOTICE OF HEARING DECISION***

For any *Person* who is asserted to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, ITTF shall provide a fair hearing within a reasonable time by a fair, impartial and *Operationally Independent* hearing panel in compliance with the *Code* and the *International Standard for Results Management*.

### **8.1     Fair Hearings**

#### **8.1.1     Fair, Impartial and *Operationally Independent* Hearing Panel**

ITTF has delegated its Article 8 responsibilities (first instance hearings, waiver of hearings and decisions) to the CAS Anti-Doping Division (CAS ADD) as an appropriate independent forum. The procedural rules of the arbitration shall be governed by the rules of the CAS ADD. CAS ADD will always ensure that the *Athlete* or other *Person* is provided with a fair hearing within a reasonable time by a fair, impartial and *Operationally Independent* hearing panel in compliance with the *Code* and the *International Standard for Results Management*.

#### **8.1.2     Hearing Process**

- 8.1.2.1**     When ITTF sends a notice to an *Athlete* or other *Person* notifying them of a potential anti-doping rule violation, and the *Athlete* or other *Person* does not waive a hearing in accordance with Article 8.3.1 or Article 8.3.2, then the case shall be referred to CAS ADD for hearing and adjudication, which shall be conducted in accordance with its procedural rules and the principles described in Articles 8 and 9 of the *International Standard for Results Management*.
- 8.1.2.2**     Hearings held in connection with *Events* in respect to *Athletes* and other *Persons* who are subject to these Anti-Doping Rules may be conducted by an expedited process where permitted by CAS ADD.<sup>36</sup>
- 8.1.2.3**     WADA, the *Member Association* and the *National Anti-Doping Organization* of the *Athlete* or other *Person* may attend the hearing as observers. In any event, ITTF shall keep them fully apprised as to the status of pending cases and the result of all hearings.

### **8.2     Notice of Decisions**

- 8.2.1**     At the end of the hearing, or promptly thereafter, CAS ADD shall issue a written decision that conforms with Article 9 of the *International Standard for Results Management* and which includes the full reasons for the decision, the period of *Ineligibility* imposed, the *Disqualification* of results under Article 10.10 and, if applicable, a justification for why the greatest potential *Consequences* were not imposed.

<sup>36</sup> [Comment to Article 8.1.2.4: For example, a hearing could be expedited on the eve of a major Event where the resolution of the anti-doping rule violation is necessary to determine the Athlete's eligibility to participate in the Event, or during an Event where the resolution of the case will affect the validity of the Athlete's results or continued participation in the Event.]

- 8.2.2** ITTF shall notify that decision to the *Athlete* or other *Person* and to other *Anti-Doping Organizations* with a right to appeal under Article 13.2.3, and shall promptly report it into ADAMS. The decision may be appealed as provided in Article 13.

### **8.3 Waiver of Hearing**

- 8.3.1** An *Athlete* or other *Person* against whom an anti-doping violation is asserted may waive a hearing expressly and agree with the *Consequences* proposed by ITTF.
- 8.3.2** However, if the *Athlete* or other *Person* against whom an anti-doping rule violation is asserted fails to dispute that assertion within twenty (20) days or the deadline otherwise specified in the notice sent by the ITTF asserting the violation, then they shall be deemed to have waived a hearing, to have admitted the violation, and to have accepted the proposed *Consequences*.
- 8.3.3** In cases where Article 8.3.1 or 8.3.2 applies, a hearing before CAS ADD shall not be required. Instead ITTF shall promptly issue a written decision that conforms with Article 9 of the *International Standard for Results Management* and which includes the full reasons for the decision, the period of *Ineligibility* imposed, the *Disqualification* of results under Article 10.10 and, if applicable, a justification for why the greatest potential *Consequences* were not imposed.
- 8.3.4** ITTF shall notify that decision to the *Athlete* or other *Person* and to other *Anti-Doping Organizations* with a right to appeal under Article 13.2.3, and shall promptly report it into ADAMS. ITTF shall *Publicly Disclose* that decision in accordance with Article 14.3.2.

### **8.4 Single Hearing Before CAS**

Anti-doping rule violations asserted against *International-Level Athletes*, *National-Level Athletes* or other *Persons* may, with the consent of the *Athlete* or other *Person*, ITTF (where it has *Results Management* responsibility in accordance with Article 7) and WADA, be heard in a single hearing directly at CAS.<sup>37</sup>

## **ARTICLE 9 AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION OF INDIVIDUAL RESULTS**

An anti-doping rule violation in *Individual Sports* in connection with an *In-Competition* test automatically leads to *Disqualification* of the result obtained in that *Competition* with all resulting *Consequences*, including forfeiture of any medals, points and prizes.<sup>38</sup>

## **ARTICLE 10 SANCTIONS ON INDIVIDUALS**

### **10.1 Disqualification of Results in the Event during which an Anti-Doping Rule Violation Occurs**

<sup>37</sup> [Comment to Article 8.4: An Anti-Doping Organization may participate in the CAS hearing as an observer. Nothing set out in Article 8.4 precludes the *Athlete* or other *Person* and ITTF (where it has *Results Management* responsibility) to waive their right to appeal by agreement. Such waiver, however, only binds the parties to such agreement and not any other entity with a right of appeal under the Code.]

<sup>38</sup> [Comment to Article 9: For Team Sports, any awards received by individual players will be *Disqualified*. However, *Disqualification* of the team will be as provided in Article 11. In sports which are not Team Sports but where awards are given to teams, *Disqualification* or other disciplinary action against the team when one or more team members have committed an anti-doping rule violation shall be as provided in the applicable rules of the International Federation.]

- 10.1.1** An anti-doping rule violation occurring during or in connection with an *Event* may, upon the decision of the ruling body of the *Event*, lead to *Disqualification* of all of the *Athlete's* individual results obtained in that *Event* with all *Consequences*, including forfeiture of all medals, points and prizes, except as provided in Article 10.1.2.

Factors to be included in considering whether to *Disqualify* other results in an *Event* might include, for example, the seriousness of the *Athlete's* anti-doping rule violation and whether the *Athlete* tested negative in the other *Competitions*.<sup>39</sup>

- 10.1.2** If the *Athlete* establishes that he or she bears *No Fault* or *Negligence* for the violation, the *Athlete's* individual results in the other *Competitions* shall not be *Disqualified*, unless the *Athlete's* results in *Competitions* other than the *Competition* in which the anti-doping rule violation occurred were likely to have been affected by the *Athlete's* anti-doping rule violation.

## **10.2 Ineligibility for Presence, Use or Attempted Use, or Possession of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method**

The period of *Ineligibility* for a violation of Article 2.1, 2.2 or 2.6 shall be as follows, subject to potential elimination, reduction or suspension pursuant to Article 10.5, 10.6 or 10.7:

- 10.2.1** The period of *Ineligibility*, subject to Article 10.2.4, shall be four (4) years where:

**10.2.1.1** The anti-doping rule violation does not involve a *Specified Substance* or a *Specified Method*, unless the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish that the anti-doping rule violation was not intentional.<sup>40</sup>

**10.2.1.2** The anti-doping rule violation involves a *Specified Substance* or a *Specified Method* and ITTF can establish that the anti-doping rule violation was intentional.

- 10.2.2** If Article 10.2.1 does not apply, subject to Article 10.2.4.1, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be two (2) years.

- 10.2.3** As used in Article 10.2, the term “intentional” is meant to identify those *Athletes* or other *Persons* who engage in conduct which they knew constituted an anti-doping rule violation or knew that there was a significant risk that the conduct might constitute or result in an anti-doping rule violation and manifestly disregarded that risk. An anti-doping rule violation resulting from an *Adverse Analytical Finding* for a substance which is only prohibited *In-Competition* shall be rebuttably presumed to be not “intentional” if the substance is a *Specified Substance* and the *Athlete* can establish that the *Prohibited Substance* was *Used Out-of-Competition*. An anti-doping rule violation resulting from an *Adverse Analytical Finding* for a substance which is only prohibited *In-Competition* shall not be considered “intentional” if the substance is not a *Specified Substance* and the *Athlete* can establish that

<sup>39</sup> [Comment to Article 10.1.1: Whereas Article 9 Disqualifies the result in a single Competition in which the Athlete tested positive (e.g., the 100 meter backstroke), this Article may lead to Disqualification of all results in all races during the Event (e.g., the swimming World Championships).]

<sup>40</sup> [Comment to Article 10.2.1.1: While it is theoretically possible for an Athlete or other Person to establish that the anti-doping rule violation was not intentional without showing how the Prohibited Substance entered one's system, it is highly unlikely that in a doping case under Article 2.1 an Athlete will be successful in proving that the Athlete acted unintentionally without establishing the source of the Prohibited Substance.]

the *Prohibited Substance* was *Used Out-of-Competition* in a context unrelated to sport performance.<sup>41</sup>

**10.2.4** Notwithstanding any other provision in Article 10.2, where the anti-doping rule violation involves a *Substance of Abuse*:

**10.2.4.1** If the *Athlete* can establish that any ingestion or *Use* occurred *Out-of-Competition* and was unrelated to sport performance, then the period of *Ineligibility* shall be three (3) months *Ineligibility*.

In addition, the period of *Ineligibility* calculated under this Article 10.2.4.1 may be reduced to one (1) month if the *Athlete* or other *Person* satisfactorily completes a *Substance of Abuse* treatment program approved by ITTF. The period of *Ineligibility* established in this Article 10.2.4.1 is not subject to any reduction based on any provision in Article 10.6.<sup>42</sup>

**10.2.4.2** If the ingestion, *Use* or *Possession* occurred *In-Competition*, and the *Athlete* can establish that the context of the ingestion, *Use* or *Possession* was unrelated to sport performance, then the ingestion, *Use* or *Possession* shall not be considered intentional for purposes of Article 10.2.1 and shall not provide a basis for a finding of *Aggravating Circumstances* under Article 10.4.

**10.3 Ineligibility for Other Anti-Doping Rule Violations**

The period of *Ineligibility* for anti-doping rule violations other than as provided in Article 10.2 shall be as follows, unless Article 10.6 or 10.7 are applicable:

**10.3.1** For violations of Article 2.3 or 2.5, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be four (4) years except: (i) in the case of failing to submit to *Sample* collection, if the *Athlete* can establish that the commission of the anti-doping rule violation was not intentional, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be two (2) years; (ii) in all other cases, if the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish exceptional circumstances that justify a reduction of the period of *Ineligibility*, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be in a range from two (2) years to four (4) years depending on the *Athlete* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault*; or (iii) in a case involving a *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete*, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be in a range between a maximum of two (2) years and, at a minimum, a reprimand and no period of *Ineligibility*, depending on the *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete's* degree of *Fault*.

**10.3.2** For violations of Article 2.4, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be two (2) years, subject to reduction down to a minimum of one (1) year, depending on the *Athlete's* degree of *Fault*. The flexibility between two (2) years and one (1) year of *Ineligibility* in this Article is not available to *Athletes* where a pattern of last-minute whereabouts changes or other conduct raises a serious suspicion that the *Athlete* was trying to avoid being available for *Testing*.

<sup>41</sup> [Comment to Article 10.2.3: Article 10.2.3 provides a special definition of "intentional" which is to be applied solely for purposes of Article 10.2.]

<sup>42</sup> [Comment to Article 10.2.4.1: The determinations as to whether the treatment program is approved and whether the *Athlete* or other *Person* has satisfactorily completed the program shall be made in the sole discretion of ITTF. This Article is intended to give ITTF the leeway to apply their own judgment to identify and approve legitimate and reputable, as opposed to "sham", treatment programs. It is anticipated, however, that the characteristics of legitimate treatment programs may vary widely and change over time such that it would not be practical for WADA to develop mandatory criteria for acceptable treatment programs.]



- 10.3.3** For violations of Article 2.7 or 2.8, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be a minimum of four (4) years up to lifetime *Ineligibility*, depending on the seriousness of the violation. An Article 2.7 or Article 2.8 violation involving a *Protected Person* shall be considered a particularly serious violation and, if committed by *Athlete Support Personnel* for violations other than for *Specified Substances*, shall result in lifetime *Ineligibility* for *Athlete Support Personnel*. In addition, significant violations of Article 2.7 or 2.8 which may also violate non-sporting laws and regulations, shall be reported to the competent administrative, professional or judicial authorities.<sup>43</sup>
- 10.3.4** For violations of Article 2.9, the period of *Ineligibility* imposed shall be a minimum of two (2) years, up to lifetime *Ineligibility*, depending on the seriousness of the violation.
- 10.3.5** For violations of Article 2.10, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be two (2) years, subject to reduction down to a minimum of one (1) year, depending on the *Athlete* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault* and other circumstances of the case.<sup>44</sup>
- 10.3.6** For violations of Article 2.11, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be a minimum of two (2) years, up to lifetime *Ineligibility*, depending on the seriousness of the violation by the *Athlete* or other *Person*.<sup>45</sup>

#### **10.4 Aggravating Circumstances which may Increase the Period of *Ineligibility***

If ITTF establishes in an individual case involving an anti-doping rule violation other than violations under Article 2.7 (*Trafficking* or *Attempted Trafficking*), 2.8 (*Administration* or *Attempted Administration*), 2.9 (*Complicity*) or 2.11 (*Acts by an Athlete* or *Other Person* to Discourage or Retaliate Against Reporting) that *Aggravating Circumstances* are present which justify the imposition of a period of *Ineligibility* greater than the standard sanction, then the period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable shall be increased by an additional period of *Ineligibility* of up to two (2) years depending on the seriousness of the violation and the nature of the *Aggravating Circumstances*, unless the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish that he or she did not knowingly commit the anti-doping rule violation.<sup>46</sup>

#### **10.5 Elimination of the Period of *Ineligibility* where there is *No Fault* or *Negligence***

If an *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes in an individual case that he or she bears *No Fault* or *Negligence*, then the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* shall be eliminated.<sup>47</sup>

<sup>43</sup> [Comment to Article 10.3.3: Those who are involved in doping Athletes or covering up doping should be subject to sanctions which are more severe than the Athletes who test positive. Since the authority of sport organizations is generally limited to *Ineligibility* for accreditation, membership and other sport benefits, reporting Athlete Support Personnel to competent authorities is an important step in the deterrence of doping.]

<sup>44</sup> [Comment to Article 10.3.5: Where the "other Person" referenced in Article 2.10 is an entity and not an individual, that entity may be disciplined as provided in Article 12.]

<sup>45</sup> [Comment to Article 10.3.6: Conduct that is found to violate both Article 2.5 (*Tampering*) and Article 2.11 (*Acts by an Athlete* or *Other Person* to Discourage or Retaliate Against Reporting to Authorities) shall be sanctioned based on the violation that carries the more severe sanction.]

<sup>46</sup> [Comment to Article 10.4: Violations under Articles 2.7 (*Trafficking* or *Attempted Trafficking*), 2.8 (*Administration* or *Attempted Administration*), 2.9 (*Complicity* or *Attempted Complicity*) and 2.11 (*Acts by an Athlete* or *Other Person* to Discourage or Retaliate Against Reporting to Authorities) are not included in the application of Article 10.4 because the sanctions for these violations already build in sufficient discretion up to a lifetime ban to allow consideration of any *Aggravating Circumstance*.]

<sup>47</sup> [Comment to Article 10.5: This Article and Article 10.6.2 apply only to the imposition of sanctions; they are not applicable to the determination of whether an anti-doping rule violation has occurred. They will only apply in exceptional circumstances,

## **10.6 Reduction of the Period of *Ineligibility* based on No Significant Fault or Negligence**

### **10.6.1 Reduction of Sanctions in Particular Circumstances for Violations of Article 2.1, 2.2 or 2.6.**

All reductions under Article 10.6.1 are mutually exclusive and not cumulative.

#### **10.6.1.1 Specified Substances or Specified Methods**

Where the anti-doping rule violation involves a *Specified Substance* (other than a *Substance of Abuse*) or *Specified Method*, and the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish *No Significant Fault or Negligence*, then the period of *Ineligibility* shall be, at a minimum, a reprimand and no period of *Ineligibility*, and at a maximum, two (2) years of *Ineligibility*, depending on the *Athlete's* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault*.

#### **10.6.1.2 Contaminated Products**

In cases where the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish both *No Significant Fault or Negligence* and that the detected *Prohibited Substance* (other than a *Substance of Abuse*) came from a *Contaminated Product*, then the period of *Ineligibility* shall be, at a minimum, a reprimand and no period of *Ineligibility*, and at a maximum, two (2) years *Ineligibility*, depending on the *Athlete* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault*.<sup>48</sup>

#### **10.6.1.3 Protected Persons or Recreational Athletes**

Where the anti-doping rule violation not involving a *Substance of Abuse* is committed by a *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete*, and the *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete* can establish *No Significant Fault or Negligence*, then the period of *Ineligibility* shall be, at a minimum, a reprimand and no period of *Ineligibility*, and at a maximum, two (2) years *Ineligibility*, depending on the *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete's* degree of *Fault*.

*for example, where an Athlete could prove that, despite all due care, he or she was sabotaged by a competitor. Conversely, No Fault or Negligence would not apply in the following circumstances: (a) a positive test resulting from a mislabeled or contaminated vitamin or nutritional supplement (Athletes are responsible for what they ingest (Article 2.1) and have been warned against the possibility of supplement contamination); (b) the Administration of a Prohibited Substance by the Athlete's personal physician or trainer without disclosure to the Athlete (Athletes are responsible for their choice of medical personnel and for advising medical personnel that they cannot be given any Prohibited Substance); and (c) sabotage of the Athlete's food or drink by a spouse, coach or other Person within the Athlete's circle of associates (Athletes are responsible for what they ingest and for the conduct of those Persons to whom they entrust access to their food and drink). However, depending on the unique facts of a particular case, any of the referenced illustrations could result in a reduced sanction under Article 10.6 based on No Significant Fault or Negligence.]*

<sup>48</sup> [Comment to Article 10.6.1.2: In order to receive the benefit of this Article, the Athlete or other Person must establish not only that the detected Prohibited Substance came from a Contaminated Product, but must also separately establish No Significant Fault or Negligence. It should be further noted that Athletes are on notice that they take nutritional supplements at their own risk. The sanction reduction based on No Significant Fault or Negligence has rarely been applied in Contaminated Product cases unless the Athlete has exercised a high level of caution before taking the Contaminated Product. In assessing whether the Athlete can establish the source of the Prohibited Substance, it would, for example, be significant for purposes of establishing whether the Athlete actually Used the Contaminated Product, whether the Athlete had declared the product which was subsequently determined to be contaminated on the Doping Control form.

*This Article should not be extended beyond products that have gone through some process of manufacturing. Where an Adverse Analytical Finding results from environment contamination of a "non-product" such as tap water or lake water in circumstances where no reasonable person would expect any risk of an anti-doping rule violation, typically there would be No Fault or Negligence under Article 10.5.]*

**10.6.2** Application of *No Significant Fault or Negligence* beyond the Application of Article 10.6.1

If an *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes in an individual case where Article 10.6.1 is not applicable that he or she bears *No Significant Fault or Negligence*, then, subject to further reduction or elimination as provided in Article 10.7, the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* may be reduced based on the *Athlete* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault*, but the reduced period of *Ineligibility* may not be less than one-half of the period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable. If the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* is a lifetime, the reduced period under this Article may be no less than eight (8) years.<sup>49</sup>

**10.7** Elimination, Reduction, or Suspension of Period of *Ineligibility* or Other Consequences for Reasons Other than *Fault*

**10.7.1** *Substantial Assistance* in Discovering or Establishing Code Violations<sup>50</sup>

**10.7.1.1** ITTF may, prior to an appellate decision under Article 13 or the expiration of the time to appeal, suspend a part of the *Consequences* (other than *Disqualification* and mandatory *Public Disclosure*) imposed in an individual case where the *Athlete* or other *Person* has provided *Substantial Assistance* to an *Anti-Doping Organization*, criminal authority or professional disciplinary body which results in: (i) the *Anti-Doping Organization* discovering or bringing forward an anti-doping rule violation by another *Person*; or (ii) which results in a criminal or disciplinary body discovering or bringing forward a criminal offense or the breach of professional rules committed by another *Person* and the information provided by the *Person* providing *Substantial Assistance* is made available to ITTF or other *Anti-Doping Organization* with *Results Management* responsibility; or (iii) which results in WADA initiating a proceeding against a *Signatory*, WADA-accredited laboratory, or *Athlete* passport management unit (as defined in the *International Standard Laboratories*) for non-compliance with the *Code*, *International Standard* or *Technical Document*; or (iv) with the approval by WADA, which results in a criminal or disciplinary body bringing forward a criminal offense or the breach of professional or sport rules arising out of a sport integrity violation other than doping. After an appellate decision under Article 13 or the expiration of time to appeal, ITTF may only suspend a part of the otherwise applicable *Consequences* with the approval of WADA.

The extent to which the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* may be suspended shall be based on the seriousness of the anti-doping rule violation committed by the *Athlete* or other *Person* and the significance of the *Substantial Assistance* provided by the *Athlete* or other *Person* to the effort to eliminate doping in sport, non-compliance with the *Code* and/or sport integrity violations. No more than three-quarters of the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* may be suspended. If the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* is a lifetime, the non-suspended period under this

<sup>49</sup> [Comment to Article 10.6.2: Article 10.6.2 may be applied to any anti-doping rule violation except those Articles where intent is an element of the anti-doping rule violation (e.g., Article 2.5, 2.7, 2.8, 2.9 or 2.11) or an element of a particular sanction (e.g., Article 10.2.1) or a range of *Ineligibility* is already provided in an Article based on the *Athlete* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault*.]

<sup>50</sup> [Comment to Article 10.7.1: The cooperation of *Athletes*, *Athlete Support Personnel* and other *Persons* who acknowledge their mistakes and are willing to bring other anti-doping rule violations to light is important to clean sport.]

Article must be no less than eight (8) years. For purposes of this paragraph, the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* shall not include any period of *Ineligibility* that could be added under Article 10.9.3.2 of these Anti-Doping Rules.

If so requested by an *Athlete* or other *Person* who seeks to provide *Substantial Assistance*, ITTF shall allow the *Athlete* or other *Person* to provide the information to it subject to a *Without Prejudice Agreement*.

If the *Athlete* or other *Person* fails to continue to cooperate and to provide the complete and credible *Substantial Assistance* upon which a suspension of *Consequences* was based, ITTF shall reinstate the original *Consequences*. If ITTF decides to reinstate suspended *Consequences* or decides not to reinstate suspended *Consequences*, that decision may be appealed by any *Person* entitled to appeal under Article 13.

**10.7.1.2** To further encourage *Athletes* and other *Persons* to provide *Substantial Assistance* to *Anti-Doping Organizations*, at the request of ITTF or at the request of the *Athlete* or other *Person* who has, or has been asserted to have, committed an anti-doping rule violation, or other violation of the *Code*, WADA may agree at any stage of the *Results Management* process, including after an appellate decision under Article 13, to what it considers to be an appropriate suspension of the otherwise-applicable period of *Ineligibility* and other *Consequences*. In exceptional circumstances, WADA may agree to suspensions of the period of *Ineligibility* and other *Consequences* for *Substantial Assistance* greater than those otherwise provided in this Article, or even no period of *Ineligibility*, no mandatory *Public Disclosure* and/or no return of prize money or payment of fines or costs. WADA's approval shall be subject to reinstatement of *Consequences*, as otherwise provided in this Article. Notwithstanding Article 13, WADA's decisions in the context of this Article 10.7.1.2 may not be appealed.

**10.7.1.3** If ITTF suspends any part of an otherwise applicable sanction because of *Substantial Assistance*, then notice providing justification for the decision shall be provided to the other *Anti-Doping Organizations* with a right to appeal under Article 13.2.3 as provided in Article 14.2. In unique circumstances where WADA determines that it would be in the best interest of anti-doping, WADA may authorize ITTF to enter into appropriate confidentiality agreements limiting or delaying the disclosure of the *Substantial Assistance* agreement or the nature of *Substantial Assistance* being provided.

**10.7.2** Admission of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation in the Absence of Other Evidence

Where an *Athlete* or other *Person* voluntarily admits the commission of an anti-doping rule violation before having received notice of a *Sample* collection which could establish an anti-doping rule violation (or, in the case of an anti-doping rule violation other than Article 2.1, before receiving first notice of the admitted violation pursuant to Article 7) and that admission is the only reliable evidence of the violation at the time of

admission, then the period of *Ineligibility* may be reduced, but not below one-half of the period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable.<sup>51</sup>

### 10.7.3 Application of Multiple Grounds for Reduction of a Sanction

Where an *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes entitlement to reduction in sanction under more than one provision of Article 10.5, 10.6 or 10.7, before applying any reduction or suspension under Article 10.7, the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* shall be determined in accordance with Articles 10.2, 10.3, 10.5, and 10.6. If the *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes entitlement to a reduction or suspension of the period of *Ineligibility* under Article 10.7, then the period of *Ineligibility* may be reduced or suspended, but not below one-fourth of the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility*.

## 10.8 Results Management Agreements

### 10.8.1 One (1) Year Reduction for Certain Anti-Doping Rule Violations Based on Early Admission and Acceptance of Sanction

Where an *Athlete* or other *Person*, after being notified by ITTF of a potential anti-doping rule violation that carries an asserted period of *Ineligibility* of four (4) or more years (including any period of *Ineligibility* asserted under Article 10.4), admits the violation and accepts the asserted period of *Ineligibility* no later than twenty (20) days after receiving notice of an anti-doping rule violation charge, the *Athlete* or other *Person* may receive a one (1) year reduction in the period of *Ineligibility* asserted by ITTF. Where the *Athlete* or other *Person* receives the one (1) year reduction in the asserted period of *Ineligibility* under this Article 10.8.1, no further reduction in the asserted period of *Ineligibility* shall be allowed under any other Article.<sup>52</sup>

### 10.8.2 Case Resolution Agreement

Where the *Athlete* or other *Person* admits an anti-doping rule violation after being confronted with the anti-doping rule violation by ITTF and agrees to *Consequences* acceptable to ITTF and WADA, at their sole discretion, then: (a) the *Athlete* or other *Person* may receive a reduction in the period of *Ineligibility* based on an assessment by ITTF and WADA of the application of Articles 10.1 through 10.7 to the asserted anti-doping rule violation, the seriousness of the violation, the *Athlete* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault* and how promptly the *Athlete* or other *Person* admitted the violation; and (b) the period of *Ineligibility* may start as early as the date of *Sample* collection or the date on which another anti-doping rule violation last occurred. In each case, however, where this Article is applied, the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall serve at least one-half of the agreed-upon period of *Ineligibility* going forward from the earlier of the date the *Athlete* or other *Person* accepted the imposition of a sanction or a *Provisional Suspension* which was subsequently respected by the *Athlete* or other *Person*. The decision by WADA and ITTF to enter or not enter into a case resolution agreement, and the amount of the reduction to, and the starting date of, the period of *Ineligibility* are not matters for determination or review by a hearing body and are not subject to appeal under Article 13.

<sup>51</sup> [Comment to Article 10.7.2: This Article is intended to apply when an *Athlete* or other *Person* comes forward and admits to an anti-doping rule violation in circumstances where no Anti-Doping Organization is aware that an anti-doping rule violation might have been committed. It is not intended to apply to circumstances where the admission occurs after the *Athlete* or other *Person* believes he or she is about to be caught. The amount by which *Ineligibility* is reduced should be based on the likelihood that the *Athlete* or other *Person* would have been caught had he or she not come forward voluntarily.]

<sup>52</sup> [Comment to Article 10.8.1: For example, if ITTF alleges that an *Athlete* has violated Article 2.1 for Use of an anabolic steroid and asserts the applicable period of *Ineligibility* is four (4) years, then the *Athlete* may unilaterally reduce the period of *Ineligibility* to three (3) years by admitting the violation and accepting the three (3) year period of *Ineligibility* within the time specified in this Article, with no further reduction allowed. This resolves the case without any need for a hearing.]

If so requested by an *Athlete* or other *Person* who seeks to enter into a case resolution agreement under this Article, ITTF shall allow the *Athlete* or other *Person* to discuss an admission of the anti-doping rule violation with it subject to a *Without Prejudice Agreement*.<sup>53</sup>

## **10.9 Multiple Violations**

### **10.9.1 Second or Third Anti-Doping Rule Violation**

**10.9.1.1** For an *Athlete* or other *Person*'s second anti-doping rule violation, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be the greater of:

- (a) A six (6) month period of *Ineligibility*; or
- (b) A period of *Ineligibility* in the range between:
  - (i) the sum of the period of *Ineligibility* imposed for the first anti-doping rule violation plus the period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable to the second anti-doping rule violation treated as if it were a first violation, and
  - (ii) twice the period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable to the second anti-doping rule violation treated as if it were a first violation.

The period of *Ineligibility* within this range shall be determined based on the entirety of the circumstances and the *Athlete* or other *Person*'s degree of *Fault* with respect to the second violation.

**10.9.1.2** A third anti-doping rule violation will always result in a lifetime period of *Ineligibility*, except if the third violation fulfills the condition for elimination or reduction of the period of *Ineligibility* under Article 10.5 or 10.6, or involves a violation of Article 2.4. In these particular cases, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be from eight (8) years to lifetime *Ineligibility*.

**10.9.1.3** The period of *Ineligibility* established in Articles 10.9.1.1 and 10.9.1.2 may then be further reduced by the application of Article 10.7.

**10.9.2** An anti-doping rule violation for which an *Athlete* or other *Person* has established *No Fault* or *Negligence* shall not be considered a violation for purposes of this Article 10.9. In addition, an anti-doping rule violation sanctioned under Article 10.2.4.1 shall not be considered a violation for purposes of Article 10.9.

### **10.9.3 Additional Rules for Certain Potential Multiple Violations**

**10.9.3.1** For purposes of imposing sanctions under Article 10.9, except as provided in Articles 10.9.3.2 and 10.9.3.3, an anti-doping rule violation will only be considered a second violation if ITTF can establish that the *Athlete* or other *Person* committed the additional anti-doping rule violation after the *Athlete* or other *Person* received notice pursuant to Article 7, or after ITTF made reasonable efforts

<sup>53</sup> [Comment to Article 10.8: Any mitigating or aggravating factors set forth in this Article 10 shall be considered in arriving at the Consequences set forth in the case resolution agreement, and shall not be applicable beyond the terms of that agreement.]

to give notice of the first anti-doping rule violation. If ITTF cannot establish this, the violations shall be considered together as one single first violation, and the sanction imposed shall be based on the violation that carries the more severe sanction, including the application of *Aggravating Circumstances*. Results in all *Competitions* dating back to the earlier anti-doping rule violation will be *Disqualified* as provided in Article 10.10.<sup>54</sup>

**10.9.3.2** If ITTF establishes that an *Athlete* or other *Person* committed an additional anti-doping rule violation prior to notification, and that the additional violation occurred twelve (12) months or more before or after the first-noticed violation, then the period of Ineligibility for the additional violation shall be calculated as if the additional violation were a stand-alone first violation and this period of *Ineligibility* is served consecutively, rather than concurrently, with the period of *Ineligibility* imposed for the earlier-noticed violation. Where this Article 10.9.3.2 applies, the violations taken together shall constitute a single violation for purposes of Article 10.9.1.

**10.9.3.3** If ITTF establishes that an *Athlete* or other *Person* committed a violation of Article 2.5 in connection with the *Doping Control* process for an underlying asserted anti-doping rule violation, the violation of Article 2.5 shall be treated as a stand-alone first violation and the period of Ineligibility for such violation shall be served consecutively, rather than concurrently, with the period of *Ineligibility*, if any, imposed for the underlying anti-doping rule violation. Where this Article 10.9.3.3 is applied, the violations taken together shall constitute a single violation for purposes of Article 10.9.1.

**10.9.3.4** If ITTF establishes that a *Person* has committed a second or third anti-doping rule violation during a period of *Ineligibility*, the periods of *Ineligibility* for the multiple violations shall run consecutively, rather than concurrently.

#### **10.9.4** Multiple Anti-Doping Rule Violations during Ten (10) Year Period

For purposes of Article 10.9, each anti-doping rule violation must take place within the same ten (10) year period in order to be considered multiple violations.

### **10.10 Disqualification of Results in Competitions Subsequent to Sample Collection or Commission of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation**

In addition to the automatic *Disqualification* of the results in the *Competition* which produced the positive *Sample* under Article 9, all other competitive results of the *Athlete* obtained from the date a positive *Sample* was collected (whether *In-Competition* or *Out-of-Competition*), or other anti-doping rule violation occurred, through the commencement of any *Provisional*

<sup>54</sup> [Comment to Article 10.9.3.1: The same rule applies where, after the imposition of a sanction, ITTF discovers facts involving an anti-doping rule violation that occurred prior to notification for a first anti-doping rule violation – e.g., ITTF shall impose a sanction based on the sanction that could have been imposed if the two (2) violations had been adjudicated at the same time, including the application of *Aggravating Circumstances*.]

*Suspension or Ineligibility* period, shall, unless fairness requires otherwise, be *Disqualified* with all of the resulting *Consequences* including forfeiture of any medals, points and prizes.<sup>55</sup>

#### **10.11 Forfeited Prize Money**

If ITTF recovers prize money forfeited as a result of an anti-doping rule violation, it shall take reasonable measures to allocate and distribute this prize money to the *Athletes* who would have been entitled to it had the forfeiting *Athlete* not competed.<sup>56</sup>

#### **10.12 Financial Consequences**

**10.12.1** Where an *Athlete* or other *Person* commits an anti-doping rule violation, ITTF may, in its discretion and subject to the principle of proportionality, elect to (a) recover from the *Athlete* or other *Person* costs associated with the anti-doping rule violation, regardless of the period of *Ineligibility* imposed and/or (b) fine the *Athlete* or other *Person* in an amount up to two thousand (2,000.00) U.S. Dollars, etc.], only in cases where the maximum period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable has already been imposed.

**10.12.2** The imposition of a financial sanction or the ITTF's recovery of costs shall not be considered a basis for reducing the *Ineligibility* or other sanction which would otherwise be applicable under these Anti-Doping Rules.

#### **10.13 Commencement of Ineligibility Period**

Where an *Athlete* is already serving a period of *Ineligibility* for an anti-doping rule violation, any new period of *Ineligibility* shall commence on the first day after the current period of *Ineligibility* has been served. Otherwise, except as provided below, the period of *Ineligibility* shall start on the date of the final hearing decision providing for *Ineligibility* or, if the hearing is waived or there is no hearing, on the date *Ineligibility* is accepted or otherwise imposed.

##### **10.13.1 Delays Not Attributable to the Athlete or other Person**

Where there have been substantial delays in the hearing process or other aspects of *Doping Control*, and the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish that such delays are not attributable to the *Athlete* or other *Person*, ITTF or CAS ADD, if applicable, may start the period of *Ineligibility* at an earlier date commencing as early as the date of *Sample* collection or the date on which another anti-doping rule violation last occurred. All competitive results achieved during the period of *Ineligibility*, including retroactive *Ineligibility*, shall be *Disqualified*.<sup>57</sup>

##### **10.13.2 Credit for Provisional Suspension or Period of Ineligibility Served**

**10.13.2.1** If a *Provisional Suspension* is respected by the *Athlete* or other *Person*, then the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall receive a credit for such period of *Provisional Suspension* against any period of

<sup>55</sup> [Comment to Article 10.10: Nothing in these Anti-Doping Rules precludes clean *Athletes* or other *Persons* who have been damaged by the actions of a *Person* who has committed an anti-doping rule violation from pursuing any right which they would otherwise have to seek damages from such *Person*.]

<sup>56</sup> [Comment to Article 10.11: This Article is not intended to impose an affirmative duty on ITTF to take any action to collect forfeited prize money. If ITTF elects not to take any action to collect forfeited prize money, it may assign its right to recover such money to the *Athlete(s)* who should have otherwise received the money. "Reasonable measures to allocate and distribute this prize money" could include using collected forfeited prize money as agreed upon by ITTF and its *Athletes*.]

<sup>57</sup> [Comment to Article 10.13.1: In cases of anti-doping rule violations other than under Article 2.1, the time required for an Anti-Doping Organization to discover and develop facts sufficient to establish an anti-doping rule violation may be lengthy, particularly where the *Athlete* or other *Person* has taken affirmative action to avoid detection. In these circumstances, the flexibility provided in this Article to start the sanction at an earlier date should not be used.]



*Ineligibility* which may ultimately be imposed. If the *Athlete* or other *Person* does not respect a *Provisional Suspension*, then the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall receive no credit for any period of *Provisional Suspension* served. If a period of *Ineligibility* is served pursuant to a decision that is subsequently appealed, then the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall receive a credit for such period of *Ineligibility* served against any period of *Ineligibility* which may ultimately be imposed on appeal.

**10.13.2.2** If an *Athlete* or other *Person* voluntarily accepts a *Provisional Suspension* in writing from ITTF and thereafter respects the *Provisional Suspension*, the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall receive a credit for such period of voluntary *Provisional Suspension* against any period of *Ineligibility* which may ultimately be imposed. A copy of the *Athlete* or other *Person*'s voluntary acceptance of a *Provisional Suspension* shall be provided promptly to each party entitled to receive notice of an asserted anti-doping rule violation under Article 14.1.<sup>58</sup>

**10.13.2.3** No credit against a period of *Ineligibility* shall be given for any time period before the effective date of the *Provisional Suspension* or voluntary *Provisional Suspension* regardless of whether the *Athlete* elected not to compete or was suspended by a team.

## **10.14 Status During *Ineligibility* or *Provisional Suspension***

### **10.14.1 Prohibition Against Participation During *Ineligibility* or *Provisional Suspension***

No *Athlete* or other *Person* who has been declared *Ineligible* or is subject to a *Provisional Suspension* may, during a period of *Ineligibility* or *Provisional Suspension*, participate in any capacity in a *Competition* or activity (other than authorized anti-doping *Education* or rehabilitation programs) authorized or organized by any *Signatory*, *Signatory's* member organization, or a club or other member organization of a *Signatory's* member organization, or in *Competitions* authorized or organized by any professional league or any international- or national-level *Event* organization or any elite or national-level sporting activity funded by a governmental agency.

An *Athlete* or other *Person* subject to a period of *Ineligibility* longer than four (4) years may, after completing four (4) years of the period of *Ineligibility*, participate as an *Athlete* in local sport events not sanctioned or otherwise under the authority of a *Code Signatory* or member of a *Code Signatory*, but only so long as the local sport event is not at a level that could otherwise qualify such *Athlete* or other *Person* directly or indirectly to compete in (or accumulate points toward) a national championship or *International Event*, and does not involve the *Athlete* or other *Person* working in any capacity with *Protected Persons*.

An *Athlete* or other *Person* subject to a period of *Ineligibility* shall remain subject to *Testing* and any requirement by ITTF to provide whereabouts information.<sup>59</sup>

<sup>58</sup> [Comment to Article 10.13.2.2: An *Athlete's* voluntary acceptance of a *Provisional Suspension* is not an admission by the *Athlete* and shall not be used in any way to draw an adverse inference against the *Athlete*.]

<sup>59</sup> [Comment to Article 10.14.1: For example, subject to Article 10.14.2 below, *Ineligible Athletes* cannot participate in a training camp, exhibition or practice organized by their Member Association or a club which is a member of that Member Association or which is funded by a governmental agency. Further, an *Ineligible Athlete* may not compete in a non-*Signatory* professional

#### 10.14.2 Return to Training

As an exception to Article 10.14.1, an *Athlete* may return to train with a team or to use the facilities of a club or other member organization of ITTF's or other *Signatory's* member organization during the shorter of: (1) the last two months of the *Athlete's* period of *Ineligibility*, or (2) the last one-quarter of the period of *Ineligibility* imposed.<sup>60</sup>

#### 10.14.3 Violation of the Prohibition of Participation During *Ineligibility* or *Provisional Suspension*

Where an *Athlete* or other *Person* who has been declared *Ineligible* violates the prohibition against participation during *Ineligibility* described in Article 10.14.1, the results of such participation shall be *Disqualified* and a new period of *Ineligibility* equal in length to the original period of *Ineligibility* shall be added to the end of the original period of *Ineligibility*. The new period of *Ineligibility*, including a reprimand and no period of *Ineligibility*, may be adjusted based on the *Athlete* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault* and other circumstances of the case. The determination of whether an *Athlete* or other *Person* has violated the prohibition against participation, and whether an adjustment is appropriate, shall be made by the *Anti-Doping Organization* whose *Results Management* led to the imposition of the initial period of *Ineligibility*. This decision may be appealed under Article 13.

An *Athlete* or other *Person* who violates the prohibition against participation during a *Provisional Suspension* described in Article 10.14.1 shall receive no credit for any period of *Provisional Suspension* served and the results of such participation shall be *Disqualified*.

Where an *Athlete Support Person* or other *Person* assists a *Person* in violating the prohibition against participation during *Ineligibility* or a *Provisional Suspension*, ITTF shall impose sanctions for a violation of Article 2.9 for such assistance.

#### 10.14.4 Withholding of Financial Support during *Ineligibility*

In addition, for any anti-doping rule violation not involving a reduced sanction as described in Article 10.5 or 10.6, some or all sport-related financial support or other sport-related benefits received by such *Person* will be withheld by ITTF and its *Member Associations*.

### 10.15 Automatic Publication of Sanction

A mandatory part of each sanction shall include automatic publication, as provided in Article 14.3.

## ARTICLE 11 CONSEQUENCES TO TEAMS

league (e.g., the National Hockey League, the National Basketball Association, etc.), Events organized by a non-Signatory International Event organization or a non-Signatory national-level Event organization without triggering the Consequences set forth in Article 10.14.3. The term "activity" also includes, for example, administrative activities, such as serving as an official, director, officer, employee, or volunteer of the organization described in this Article. Ineligibility imposed in one sport shall also be recognized by other sports (see Article 15.1, Automatic Binding Effect of Decisions). An *Athlete* or other *Person* serving a period of *Ineligibility* is prohibited from coaching or serving as an *Athlete Support Person* in any other capacity at any time during the period of *Ineligibility*, and doing so could also result in a violation of Article 2.10 by another *Athlete*. Any performance standard accomplished during a period of *Ineligibility* shall not be recognized by ITTF or its *Member Associations* for any purpose.]

<sup>60</sup> [Comment to Article 10.14.2: In many Team Sports and some individual sports (e.g., ski jumping and gymnastics), *Athletes* cannot effectively train on their own so as to be ready to compete at the end of the *Athlete's* period of *Ineligibility*. During the training period described in this Article, an *Ineligible Athlete* may not compete or engage in any activity described in Article 10.14.1 other than training.]

### 11.1 Testing of Teams

Where one (1) member of a team or *Doubles Pair* (outside of *Team Sports*) has been notified of an anti-doping rule violation under Article 7 in connection with an *Event*, the ruling body for the *Event* shall conduct appropriate *Target Testing* of all members of the team during the *Event Period*.

### 11.2 Consequences for Teams

- 11.2.1 An anti-doping rule violation committed by a member of a team or *Doubles Pair* in connection with an *In-Competition* test automatically leads to *Disqualification* of the result obtained by the team in that *Competition*, with all resulting *Consequences* for the team or *Doubles Pair* and its members, including forfeiture of any medals, points and prizes.
- 11.2.2 An anti-doping rule violation committed by a member of a team or *Doubles Pair* occurring during or in connection with an *Event* may lead to *Disqualification* of all of the results obtained by the team or *Doubles Pair* in that *Event* with all *Consequences* for the team or *Doubles Pair* and its members, including forfeiture of all medals, points and prizes, except as provided in Article 11.2.3.
- 11.2.3 Where an *Athlete* who is a member of a team or *Doubles Pair* committed an anti-doping rule violation during or in connection with one (1) *Competition* in an *Event*, if the other member(s) of the team or *Doubles Pair* establish(es) that he or she/they bear(s) *No Fault* or *Negligence* for that violation, the results of the team or *Doubles Pair* in any other *Competition(s)* in that *Event* shall not be *Disqualified* unless the results of the team or *Doubles Pair* in the *Competition(s)* other than the *Competition* in which the anti-doping rule violation occurred were likely to have been affected by the *Athlete's* anti-doping rule violation.

## ARTICLE 12 SANCTIONS BY ITTF AGAINST OTHER SPORTING BODIES

When ITTF becomes aware that a *Member Association* or any other sporting body over which it has authority has failed to comply with, implement, uphold, and enforce these Anti-Doping Rules within that organization's or body's area of competence, ITTF has the authority and may take the following additional disciplinary actions:

- 12.1 Exclude all, or some group of, members of that organization or body from specified future *Events* or all *Events* conducted within a specified period of time.
- 12.2 Take additional disciplinary actions with respect to that organization's or body's recognition, the eligibility of their members to participate in ITTF's activities, and/or fine that organization or body based on the following:
  - 12.2.1 Four (4) or more violations of these Anti-Doping Rules (other than violations involving Article 2.4) are committed by *Athletes* or other *Persons* affiliated with that organization or body during a twelve (12) month period. In such event: (a) all or some group of members of that organization or body may be banned from participation in any ITTF activities for a period of up to two (2) years and/or (b) that organization or body may be fined in an amount up to fifty thousand (50,000.00) U.S. Dollars.
  - 12.2.2 Four (4) or more violations of these Anti-Doping Rules (other than violations involving Article 2.4) are committed in addition to the violations described in Article 12.2.1 by *Athletes* or other *Persons* affiliated with that organization or

body during a twelve (12) month period. In such event, that organization or body may be suspended for a period of up to four (4) years.

**12.2.3** More than one *Athlete* or other *Person* affiliated with that organization or body commits an anti-doping rule violation during an *International Event*. In such event, that organization or body may be fined in an amount up to twenty thousand (20,000.00) U.S. Dollars.

**12.2.4** That organization or body has failed to make diligent efforts to keep ITTF informed about an *Athlete's* whereabouts after receiving a request for that information from ITTF. In such event, that organization or body may be fined in an amount up to five thousand (5,000.00) U.S. Dollars per *Athlete*, in addition to reimbursement of all of the ITTF costs incurred in *Testing* that organization's or body's *Athletes*.

**12.3** Withhold some or all funding or other financial and non-financial support to that organization or body.

**12.4** Oblige that organization or body to reimburse ITTF for all costs (including but not limited to laboratory fees, hearing expenses and travel) related to a violation of these Anti-Doping Rules committed by an *Athlete* or other *Person* affiliated with that organization or body.

## **ARTICLE 13 RESULTS MANAGEMENT: APPEALS**<sup>61</sup>

### **13.1 Decisions Subject to Appeal**

Decisions made under the *Code* or these Anti-Doping Rules may be appealed as set forth below in Articles 13.2 through 13.7 or as otherwise provided in these Anti-Doping Rules, the *Code* or the *International Standards*. Such decisions shall remain in effect while under appeal unless the appellate body orders otherwise.

#### **13.1.1 Scope of Review Not Limited**

The scope of review on appeal includes all issues relevant to the matter and is expressly not limited to the issues or scope of review before the initial decision maker. Any party to the appeal may submit evidence, legal arguments and claims that were not raised in the first instance hearing so long as they arise from the same cause of action or same general facts or circumstances raised or addressed in the first instance hearing.<sup>62</sup>

#### **13.1.2 CAS Shall Not Defer to the Findings Being Appealed**

In making its decision, CAS shall not give deference to the discretion exercised by the body whose decision is being appealed.<sup>63</sup>

<sup>61</sup> [Comment to Article 13: The object of the Code is to have anti-doping matters resolved through fair and transparent internal processes with a final appeal. Anti-doping decisions by Anti-Doping Organizations are made transparent in Article 14. Specified Persons and organizations, including WADA, are then given the opportunity to appeal those decisions. Note that the definition of interested Persons and organizations with a right to appeal under Article 13 does not include Athletes, or their federations, who might benefit from having another competitor Disqualified.]

<sup>62</sup> [Comment to Article 13.1.1: The revised language is not intended to make a substantive change to the 2015 Code, but rather for clarification. For example, where an Athlete was charged in the first instance hearing only with Tampering but the same conduct could also constitute Complicity, an appealing party could pursue both Tampering and Complicity charges against the Athlete in the appeal.]

<sup>63</sup> [Comment to Article 13.1.2: CAS proceedings are de novo. Prior proceedings do not limit the evidence or carry weight in the hearing before CAS.]

### 13.1.3 WADA Not Required to Exhaust Internal Remedies

Where WADA has a right to appeal under Article 13 and no other party has appealed a final decision within ITTF's process, WADA may appeal such decision directly to CAS without having to exhaust other remedies in ITTF's process.<sup>64</sup>

## 13.2 Appeals from Decisions Regarding Anti-Doping Rule Violations, Consequences, Provisional Suspensions, Implementation of Decisions and Authority

A decision that an anti-doping rule violation was committed, a decision imposing *Consequences* or not imposing *Consequences* for an anti-doping rule violation, or a decision that no anti-doping rule violation was committed; a decision that an anti-doping rule violation proceeding cannot go forward for procedural reasons (including, for example, prescription); a decision by WADA not to grant an exception to the six (6) months' notice requirement for a retired *Athlete* to return to competition under Article 5.6.1; a decision by WADA assigning *Results Management* under Article 7.1 of the *Code*; a decision by ITTF not to bring forward an *Adverse Analytical Finding* or an *Atypical Finding* as an anti-doping rule violation, or a decision not to go forward with an anti-doping rule violation after an investigation in accordance with the *International Standard for Results Management*; a decision to impose, or lift, a *Provisional Suspension* as a result of a *Provisional Hearing*; ITTF's failure to comply with Article 7.4; a decision that ITTF lacks authority to rule on an alleged anti-doping rule violation or its *Consequences*; a decision to suspend, or not suspend, *Consequences* or to reinstate, or not reinstate, *Consequences* under Article 10.7.1; failure to comply with Articles 7.1.4 and 7.1.5 of the *Code*; failure to comply with Article 10.8.1; a decision under Article 10.14.3; a decision by ITTF not to implement another *Anti-Doping Organization's* decision under Article 15; and a decision under Article 27.3 of the *Code* may be appealed exclusively as provided in this Article 13.2.

### 13.2.1 Appeals Involving *International-Level Athletes* or *International Events*

In cases arising from participation in an *International Event* or in cases involving *International-Level Athletes*, the decision may be appealed exclusively to CAS.<sup>65</sup>

### 13.2.2 Appeals Involving Other *Athletes* or Other *Persons*

In cases where Article 13.2.1 is not applicable, the decision may be appealed to an appellate body, in accordance with rules adopted by the *National Anti-Doping Organization* having authority over the *Athlete* or other *Person*.

The rules for such appeal shall respect the following principles: a timely hearing; a fair, impartial, *Operationally Independent* and *Institutionally Independent* hearing panel; the right to be represented by counsel at the *Person's* own expense; and a timely, written, reasoned decision.

If no such body as described above is in place and available at the time of the appeal, the decision may be appealed to CAS in accordance with the applicable procedural rules.

### 13.2.3 *Persons* Entitled to Appeal

<sup>64</sup> [Comment to Article 13.1.3: Where a decision has been rendered before the final stage of ITTF's process (for example, a first hearing) and no party elects to appeal that decision to the next level of ITTF's process (e.g., the Managing Board), then WADA may bypass the remaining steps in ITTF's internal process and appeal directly to CAS.]

<sup>65</sup> [Comment to Article 13.2.1: CAS decisions are final and binding except for any review required by law applicable to the annulment or enforcement of arbitral awards.]

#### **13.2.3.1 Appeals Involving *International-Level Athletes* or *International Events***

In cases under Article 13.2.1, the following parties shall have the right to appeal to CAS: (a) the *Athlete* or other *Person* who is the subject of the decision being appealed; (b) the other party to the case in which the decision was rendered; (c) ITTF; (d) the *National Anti-Doping Organization* of the *Person's* country of residence or countries where the *Person* is a national or license holder; (e) the International Olympic Committee or International Paralympic Committee, as applicable, where the decision may have an effect in relation to the Olympic Games or Paralympic Games, including decisions affecting eligibility for the Olympic Games or Paralympic Games; and (f) WADA.

#### **13.2.3.2 Appeals Involving Other *Athletes* or Other *Persons***

In cases under Article 13.2.2, the parties having the right to appeal to the national-level appeal body shall be as provided in the *National Anti-Doping Organization's* rules but, at a minimum, shall include the following parties: (a) the *Athlete* or other *Person* who is the subject of the decision being appealed; (b) the other party to the case in which the decision was rendered; (c) ITTF; (d) the *National Anti-Doping Organization* of the *Person's* country of residence or countries where the *Person* is a national or license holder; (e) the International Olympic Committee or International Paralympic Committee, as applicable, where the decision may have an effect in relation to the Olympic Games or Paralympic Games, including decisions affecting eligibility for the Olympic Games or Paralympic Games; and (f) WADA.

For cases under Article 13.2.2, WADA, the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, and ITTF shall also have the right to appeal to CAS with respect to the decision of the national-level appeal body.

Any party filing an appeal shall be entitled to assistance from CAS to obtain all relevant information from the *Anti-Doping Organization* whose decision is being appealed and the information shall be provided if CAS so directs.

#### **13.2.3.3 Duty to Notify**

All parties to any CAS appeal must ensure that WADA and all other parties with a right to appeal have been given timely notice of the appeal.

#### **13.2.3.4 Appeal from Imposition of *Provisional Suspension***

Notwithstanding any other provision herein, the only *Person* who may appeal from the imposition of a *Provisional Suspension* is the *Athlete* or other *Person* upon whom the *Provisional Suspension* is imposed.

#### **13.2.3.5 Appeal from Decisions under Article 12**

Decisions by ITTF pursuant to Article 12 may be appealed exclusively to CAS by the *Member Association* or other body.

### **13.2.4 Cross Appeals and other Subsequent Appeals Allowed**

Cross appeals and other subsequent appeals by any respondent named in cases brought to CAS under the *Code* are specifically permitted. Any party with a right to appeal under

this Article 13 must file a cross appeal or subsequent appeal at the latest with the party's answer.<sup>66</sup>

### 13.3 Failure to Render a Timely Decision by ITTF

Where, in a particular case, ITTF fails to render a decision with respect to whether an anti-doping rule violation was committed within a reasonable deadline set by WADA, WADA may elect to appeal directly to CAS as if ITTF had rendered a decision finding no anti-doping rule violation. If the CAS hearing panel determines that an anti-doping rule violation was committed and that WADA acted reasonably in electing to appeal directly to CAS, then WADA's costs and attorney fees in prosecuting the appeal shall be reimbursed to WADA by ITTF.<sup>67</sup>

### 13.4 Appeals Relating to TUEs

TUE decisions may be appealed exclusively as provided in Article 4.4.

### 13.5 Notification of Appeal Decisions

ITTF shall promptly provide the appeal decision to the *Athlete* or other *Person* and to the other *Anti-Doping Organizations* that would have been entitled to appeal under Article 13.2.3 as provided under Article 14.2.

### 13.6 Time for Filing Appeals<sup>68</sup>

#### 13.6.1 Appeals to CAS

The time to file an appeal to CAS shall be twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of the decision by the appealing party. The above notwithstanding, the following shall apply in connection with appeals filed by a party entitled to appeal, but which was not a party to the proceedings that led to the decision being appealed:

- (a) Within fifteen (15) days from the notice of the decision, such party/ies shall have the right to request a copy of the full case file pertaining to the decision from the *Anti-Doping Organization* that had *Results Management* authority;
- (b) If such a request is made within the fifteen (15) day period, then the party making such request shall have twenty-one (21) days from receipt of the file to file an appeal to CAS.

The above notwithstanding, the filing deadline for an appeal filed by WADA shall be the later of:

- (a) Twenty-one (21) days after the last day on which any other party having a right to appeal could have appealed, or
- (b) Twenty-one (21) days after WADA's receipt of the complete file relating to the decision.

<sup>66</sup> [Comment to Article 13.2.4: This provision is necessary because since 2011, CAS rules no longer permit an Athlete the right to cross appeal when an Anti-Doping Organization appeals a decision after the Athlete's time for appeal has expired. This provision permits a full hearing for all parties.]

<sup>67</sup> [Comment to Article 13.3: Given the different circumstances of each anti-doping rule violation investigation and Results Management process, it is not feasible to establish a fixed time period for ITTF to render a decision before WADA may intervene by appealing directly to CAS. Before taking such action, however, WADA will consult with ITTF and give ITTF an opportunity to explain why it has not yet rendered a decision.]

<sup>68</sup> [Comment to Article 13.6: Whether governed by CAS rules or these Anti-Doping Rules, a party's deadline to appeal does not begin running until receipt of the decision. For that reason, there can be no expiration of a party's right to appeal if the party has not received the decision.]

### **13.6.2 Appeals Under Article 13.2.2**

The time to file an appeal to an independent and impartial body in accordance with rules established by the *National Anti-Doping Organization* shall be indicated by the same rules of the *National Anti-Doping Organization*.

The above notwithstanding, the filing deadline for an appeal filed by *WADA* shall be the later of:

- (a) Twenty-one (21) days after the last day on which any other party having a right to appeal could have appealed, or
- (b) Twenty-one (21) days after *WADA's* receipt of the complete file relating to the decision.

## **ARTICLE 14 CONFIDENTIALITY AND REPORTING**

### **14.1 Information Concerning Adverse Analytical Findings, Atypical Findings, and Other Asserted Anti-Doping Rule Violations**

#### **14.1.1 Notice of Anti-Doping Rule Violations to *Athletes* and other *Persons***

Notice to *Athletes* or other *Persons* of anti-doping rule violations asserted against them shall occur as provided under Articles 7 and 14.

If at any point during *Results Management* up until the anti-doping rule violation charge, ITTF decides not to move forward with a matter, it must notify the *Athlete* or other *Person*, (provided that the *Athlete* or other *Person* had been already informed of the ongoing *Results Management*).

Notice shall be delivered or emailed to *Athletes* or other *Persons*. *Athletes* and other *Persons* shall be deemed to be validly notified if any notifications or notices under these Anti-Doping Rules are delivered to their *Member Association*. It shall be the responsibility of the *Member Association* to notify the *Athlete* or other *Person*. If the notification takes place via a *Member Association*, the *Member Association* shall confirm to the ITTF that they have delivered the notification to the *Athlete* or other *Person*.

#### **14.1.2 Notice of Anti-Doping Rule Violations to *National Anti-Doping Organizations* and *WADA***

Notice of the assertion of an anti-doping rule violation to the *Athlete's* or other *Person's National Anti-Doping Organization* and *WADA* shall occur as provided under Articles 7 and 14, simultaneously with the notice to the *Athlete* or other *Person*.

If at any point during *Results Management* up until the anti-doping rule violation charge, ITTF decides not to move forward with a matter, it must give notice (with reasons) to the *Anti-Doping Organizations* with a right of appeal under Article 13.2.3.

Notice shall be delivered or emailed.

#### **14.1.3 Content of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation Notice**

Notification of an anti-doping rule violation shall include: the *Athlete's* or other *Person's* name, country, sport and discipline within the sport, the *Athlete's* competitive level, whether the test was *In-Competition* or *Out-of-Competition*, the date of *Sample* collection, the analytical result reported by the laboratory, and other information as



required by the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* and *International Standard for Results Management*.

Notification of anti-doping rule violations other than under Article 2.1 shall also include the rule violated and the basis of the asserted violation.

#### **14.1.4 Status Reports**

Except with respect to investigations which have not resulted in a notice of an anti-doping rule violation pursuant to Article 14.1.1, the *Athlete's* or other *Person's National Anti-Doping Organization* and WADA shall be regularly updated on the status and findings of any review or proceedings conducted pursuant to Article 7, 8 or 13 and shall be provided with a prompt written reasoned explanation or decision explaining the resolution of the matter.

#### **14.1.5 Confidentiality**

The recipient organizations shall not disclose this information beyond those *Persons* with a need to know (which would include the appropriate personnel at the applicable *National Olympic Committee, Member Association*, until ITTF has made *Public Disclosure* as permitted by Article 14.3.

#### **14.1.6 Protection of Confidential Information by an Employee or Agent of the ITTF**

ITTF shall ensure that information concerning *Adverse Analytical Findings, Atypical Findings*, and other asserted anti-doping rule violations remains confidential until such information is *Publicly Disclosed* in accordance with Article 14.3. ITTF shall ensure that its employees (whether permanent or otherwise), contractors, agents, consultants, and *Delegated Third Parties* are subject to fully enforceable contractual duty of confidentiality and to fully enforceable procedures for the investigation and disciplining of improper and/or unauthorized disclosure of such confidential information.

### **14.2 Notice of Anti-Doping Rule Violation or violations of *Ineligibility* or *Provisional Suspension* Decisions and Request for Files**

**14.2.1** Anti-doping rule violation decisions or decisions related to violations of *Ineligibility* or *Provisional Suspension* rendered pursuant to Article 7.6, 8.2, 10.5, 10.6, 10.7, 10.14.3 or 13.5 shall include the full reasons for the decision, including, if applicable, a justification for why the maximum potential sanction was not imposed. Where the decision is not in English or French, ITTF shall provide an English or French summary of the decision and the supporting reasons.

**14.2.2** An *Anti-Doping Organization* having a right to appeal a decision received pursuant to Article 14.2.1 may, within fifteen (15) days of receipt, request a copy of the full case file pertaining to the decision.

### **14.3 Public Disclosure**

**14.3.1** After notice has been provided to the *Athlete* or other *Person* in accordance with the *International Standard for Results Management*, and to the applicable *Anti-Doping Organizations* in accordance with Article 14.1.2, the identity of any *Athlete* or other *Person* who is notified of a potential anti-doping rule violation, the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* and the nature of the violation involved, and whether the *Athlete* or other *Person* is subject to a *Provisional Suspension* may be *Publicly Disclosed* by ITTF.

**14.3.2** No later than twenty (20) days after it has been determined in an appellate decision under Article 13.2.1 or 13.2.2, or such appeal has been waived, or

a hearing in accordance with Article 8 has been waived, or the assertion of an anti-doping rule violation has not otherwise been timely challenged, or the matter has been resolved under Article 10.8, or a new period of *Ineligibility*, or reprimand, has been imposed under Article 10.14.3, ITTF must *Publicly Disclose* the disposition of the anti-doping matter, including the sport, the anti-doping rule violated, the name of the *Athlete* or other *Person* committing the violation, the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* involved (if any) and the *Consequences* imposed. ITTF must also *Publicly Disclose* within twenty (20) days the results of appellate decisions concerning anti-doping rule violations, including the information described above.<sup>69</sup>

- 14.3.3** After an anti-doping rule violation has been determined to have been committed in an appellate decision under Article 13.2.1 or 13.2.2 or such appeal has been waived, or in a hearing in accordance with Article 8 or where such hearing has been waived, or the assertion of an anti-doping rule violation has not otherwise been timely challenged, or the matter has been resolved under Article 10.8, ITTF may make public such determination or decision and may comment publicly on the matter.
- 14.3.4** In any case where it is determined, after a hearing or appeal, that the *Athlete* or other *Person* did not commit an anti-doping rule violation, the fact that the decision has been appealed may be *Publicly Disclosed*. However, the decision itself and the underlying facts may not be *Publicly Disclosed* except with the consent of the *Athlete* or other *Person* who is the subject of the decision. ITTF shall use reasonable efforts to obtain such consent, and if consent is obtained, shall *Publicly Disclose* the decision in its entirety or in such redacted form as the *Athlete* or other *Person* may approve.
- 14.3.5** Publication shall be accomplished at a minimum by placing the required information on the ITTF's website and leaving the information up for the longer of one (1) month or the duration of any period of *Ineligibility*.
- 14.3.6** Except as provided in Articles 14.3.1 and 14.3.3, no *Anti-Doping Organization*, *Member Association*, or WADA-accredited laboratory, or any official of any such body, shall publicly comment on the specific facts of any pending case (as opposed to general description of process and science) except in response to public comments attributed to, or based on information provided by, the *Athlete*, other *Person* or their entourage or other representatives.
- 14.3.7** The mandatory *Public Disclosure* required in Article 14.3.2 shall not be required where the *Athlete* or other *Person* who has been found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation is a *Minor*, *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete*. Any optional *Public Disclosure* in a case involving a *Minor*, *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete* shall be proportionate to the facts and circumstances of the case.

#### **14.4 Statistical Reporting**

ITTF shall, at least annually, publish publicly a general statistical report of its *Doping Control* activities, with a copy provided to WADA. ITTF may also publish reports showing the name of each *Athlete* tested and the date of each *Testing*.

#### **14.5 Doping Control Information Database and Monitoring of Compliance**

<sup>69</sup> [Comment to Article 14.3.2: Where *Public Disclosure* as required by Article 14.3.2 would result in a breach of other applicable laws, ITTF's failure to make the *Public Disclosure* will not result in a determination of non-compliance with Code as set forth in Article 4.1 of the International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information.]

To enable WADA to perform its compliance monitoring role and to ensure the effective use of resources and sharing of applicable *Doping Control* information among *Anti-Doping Organizations*, ITTF shall report to WADA through ADAMS *Doping Control*-related information, including, in particular:

- (a) *Athlete Biological Passport* data for *International-Level Athletes* and *National-Level Athletes*,
- (b) Whereabouts information for *Athletes* including those in *Registered Testing Pools*,
- (c) *TUE* decisions, and
- (d) *Results Management* decisions,

as required under the applicable *International Standard(s)*.

- 14.5.1** To facilitate coordinated test distribution planning, avoid unnecessary duplication in *Testing* by various *Anti-Doping Organizations*, and to ensure that *Athlete Biological Passport* profiles are updated, ITTF shall report all *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition* tests to WADA by entering the *Doping Control* forms into ADAMS in accordance with the requirements and timelines contained in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.
- 14.5.2** To facilitate WADA's oversight and appeal rights for *TUEs*, ITTF shall report all *TUE* applications, decisions and supporting documentation using ADAMS in accordance with the requirements and timelines contained in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*.
- 14.5.3** To facilitate WADA's oversight and appeal rights for *Results Management*, ITTF shall report the following information into ADAMS in accordance with the requirements and timelines outlined in the *International Standard for Results Management*: (a) notifications of anti-doping rule violations and related decisions for *Adverse Analytical Findings*; (b) notifications and related decisions for other anti-doping rule violations that are not *Adverse Analytical Findings*; (c) whereabouts failures; and (d) any decision imposing, lifting or reinstating a *Provisional Suspension*.
- 14.5.4** The information described in this Article will be made accessible, where appropriate and in accordance with the applicable rules, to the *Athlete*, the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organization*, and any other *Anti-Doping Organizations* with *Testing* authority over the *Athlete*.

## **14.6 Data Privacy**

- 14.6.1** ITTF may collect, store, process or disclose personal information relating to *Athletes* and other *Persons* where necessary and appropriate to conduct its *Anti-Doping Activities* under the *Code*, the *International Standards* (including specifically the *International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information*), these *Anti-Doping Rules*, and in compliance with applicable law.
- 14.6.2** Without limiting the foregoing, ITTF shall:
  - (a) Only process personal information in accordance with a valid legal ground;
  - (b) Notify any *Participant* or *Person* subject to these *Anti-Doping Rules*, in a manner and form that complies with applicable laws and the *International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information*, that their personal information may be processed by ITTF

and other *Persons* for the purpose of the implementation of these Anti-Doping Rules;

- (c) Ensure that any third-party agents (including any *Delegated Third Party*) with whom ITTF shares the personal information of any *Participant* or *Person* is subject to appropriate technical and contractual controls to protect the confidentiality and privacy of such information.

#### **14.7 Means of Notice**

**14.7.1** Any notice given under these Anti-Doping Rules shall be deemed to have been duly given as follows:

- (a) if delivered personally by hand against receipt, on the date of delivery;
- (b) if sent by registered post with acknowledgment of receipt or equivalent, on the date mentioned on the receipt (in accordance with local law);
- (c) if sent by email, on the day after the email is sent, provided that ITTF must first ensure that the email address known for the recipient (*Athlete* or other *Person*) is valid and current, such as by verifying that it is the email address directly provided by the *Athlete* or other *Person* (e.g. through the DCF related to the Sample that is the subject of the notification or any other recent correspondence), or via the *Athlete* or other *Person's* member federation. ITTF shall also request a delivery receipt when sending the email and, if possible, and depending on the recipient email, a "read receipt".

### **ARTICLE 15 IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS**

#### **15.1 Automatic Binding Effect of Decisions by Signatory Anti-Doping Organizations**

**15.1.1** A decision of an anti-doping rule violation made by a *Signatory Anti-Doping Organization*, an appellate body (Article 13.2.2 of the *Code*) or CAS shall, after the parties to the proceeding are notified, automatically be binding beyond the parties to the proceeding upon ITTF and its *Member Associations*, as well as every *Signatory* in every sport with the effects described below:

**15.1.1.1** A decision by any of the above-described bodies imposing a *Provisional Suspension* (after a *Provisional Hearing* has occurred or the *Athlete* or other *Person* has either accepted the *Provisional Suspension* or has waived the right to a *Provisional Hearing*, expedited hearing or expedited appeal offered in accordance with Article 7.4.3) automatically prohibits the *Athlete* or other *Person* from participation (as described in Article 10.14.1) in all sports within the authority of any *Signatory* during the *Provisional Suspension*.

**15.1.1.2** A decision by any of the above-described bodies imposing a period of *Ineligibility* (after a hearing has occurred or been waived) automatically prohibits the *Athlete* or other *Person* from participation (as described in Article 10.14.1) in all sports within the authority of any *Signatory* for the period of *Ineligibility*.

**15.1.1.3** A decision by any of the above-described bodies accepting an anti-doping rule violation automatically binds all *Signatories*.

**15.1.1.4** A decision by any of the above-described bodies to *Disqualify* results under Article 10.10 for a specified period automatically *Disqualifies* all results obtained within the authority of any *Signatory* during the specified period.

**15.1.2** ITTF and its *Member Associations* shall recognize and implement a decision and its effects as required by Article 15.1.1, without any further action required, on the earlier of the date ITTF receives actual notice of the decision or the date the decision is placed into *ADAMS*.

**15.1.3** A decision by an *Anti-Doping Organization*, a national appellate body or CAS to suspend, or lift, *Consequences* shall be binding upon ITTF and its *Member Associations* without any further action required, on the earlier of the date ITTF receives actual notice of the decision or the date the decision is placed into *ADAMS*.

**15.1.4** Notwithstanding any provision in Article 15.1.1, however, a decision of an anti-doping rule violation by a *Major Event Organization* made in an expedited process during an *Event* shall not be binding on ITTF or its *Member Associations* unless the rules of the *Major Event Organization* provide the *Athlete* or other *Person* with an opportunity to an appeal under non-expedited procedures.<sup>70</sup>

## **15.2 Implementation of Other Decisions by Anti-Doping Organizations**

ITTF and its *Member Associations* may decide to implement other anti-doping decisions rendered by *Anti-Doping Organizations* not described in Article 15.1.1 above, such as a *Provisional Suspension* prior to a *Provisional Hearing* or acceptance by the *Athlete* or other *Person*.<sup>71</sup>

## **15.3 Implementation of Decisions by Body that is not a Signatory**

An anti-doping decision by a body that is not a *Signatory* to the *Code* shall be implemented by ITTF and its *Member Associations*, if ITTF finds that the decision purports to be within the authority of that body and the anti-doping rules of that body are otherwise consistent with the *Code*.<sup>72</sup>

<sup>70</sup> [Comment to Article 15.1.4: By way of example, where the rules of the Major Event Organization give the Athlete or other Person the option of choosing an expedited CAS appeal or a CAS appeal under normal CAS procedure, the final decision or adjudication by the Major Event Organization is binding on other Signatories regardless of whether the Athlete or other Person chooses the expedited appeal option.]

<sup>71</sup> [Comment to Articles 15.1 and 15.2: Anti-Doping Organization decisions under Article 15.1 are implemented automatically by other Signatories without the requirement of any decision or further action on the Signatories' part. For example, when a National Anti-Doping Organization decides to Provisionally Suspend an Athlete, that decision is given automatic effect at the International Federation level. To be clear, the "decision" is the one made by the National Anti-Doping Organization, there is not a separate decision to be made by the International Federation. Thus, any claim by the Athlete that the Provisional Suspension was improperly imposed can only be asserted against the National Anti-Doping Organization. Implementation of Anti-Doping Organizations' decisions under Article 15.2 is subject to each Signatory's discretion. A Signatory's implementation of a decision under Article 15.1 or Article 15.2 is not appealable separately from any appeal of the underlying decision. The extent of recognition of TUE decisions of other Anti-Doping Organizations shall be determined by Article 4.4 and the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions.]

<sup>72</sup> [Comment to Article 15.3: Where the decision of a body that has not accepted the Code is in some respects Code compliant and in other respects not Code compliant, ITTF, other Signatories and Member Associations should attempt to apply the decision in harmony with the principles of the Code. For example, if in a process consistent with the Code a non-Signatory has found an Athlete to have committed an anti-doping rule violation on account of the presence of a Prohibited Substance in the Athlete's body but the period of Ineligibility applied is shorter than the period provided for in the Code, then ITTF and all other Signatories should recognize the finding of an anti-doping rule violation and the Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organization should conduct a hearing consistent with Article 8 to determine whether the longer period of Ineligibility provided in the Code should be imposed. ITTF or other Signatory's implementation of a decision, or their decision not to implement a decision under Article 15.3, is appealable under Article 13.]

## ARTICLE 16 STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

No anti-doping rule violation proceeding may be commenced against an *Athlete* or other *Person* unless he or she has been notified of the anti-doping rule violation as provided in Article 7, or notification has been reasonably attempted, within ten (10) years from the date the violation is asserted to have occurred.

## ARTICLE 17 EDUCATION

ITTF shall plan, implement, evaluate and promote *Education* in line with the requirements of Article 18.2 of the *Code* and the *International Standard for Education*.

ITTF may decide to request that *Athletes* to complete *Educational* activities before and/or during their participation in select *Event* (e.g.: World Youth Championships) as a condition of such participation. The list of *Events* for which *Athletes* will be required to complete *Educational* activities as a condition of participation will be published on ITTF's website.

Failure by the *Athlete* to complete *Educational* activities as requested by ITTF may result in the imposition of sanction under ITTF's disciplinary rules, unless the *Athlete* provides to ITTF a justification for such failure, which shall be assessed by ITTF on a case by case basis.

## ARTICLE 18 ADDITIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

- 18.1** All *Member Associations* and their members shall comply with the *Code*, *International Standards*, and these Anti-Doping Rules. All *Member Associations* and other members shall include in their policies, rules and programs the provisions necessary to ensure that ITTF may enforce these Anti-Doping Rules (including carrying out *Testing*) directly in respect of *Athletes* (including *National-Level Athletes*) and other *Persons* under their anti-doping authority as specified in the Introduction to these Anti-Doping Rules (Section "Scope of these Anti-Doping Rules").
- 18.2** Each *Member Association* shall incorporate these Anti-Doping Rules either directly or by reference into its governing documents, constitution and/or rules as part of the rules of sport that bind their members so that the *Member Association* may enforce them itself directly in respect of *Athletes* (including *National-Level Athletes*) and other *Persons* under its anti-doping authority.
- 18.3** By adopting these Anti-Doping Rules and incorporating them into their governing documents and rules of sport, *Member Associations* shall cooperate with and support ITTF in that function. They shall also recognize, abide by and implement the decisions made pursuant to these Anti-Doping Rules, including the decisions imposing sanctions on *Persons* under their authority.
- 18.4** All *Member Associations* shall take appropriate action to enforce compliance with the *Code*, *International Standards*, and these Anti-Doping Rules by *inter alia*:
- (i) conducting *Testing* only under the documented authority of ITTF and using their *National Anti-Doping Organization* or other *Sample* collection authority to collect *Samples* in compliance with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*;
  - (ii) recognizing the authority of the *National Anti-Doping Organization* in their country in accordance with Article 5.2.1 of the *Code* and assisting as appropriate with the *National Anti-Doping Organization's* implementation of the national *Testing* program for their sport;

(iii) analyzing all *Samples* collected using a *WADA*-accredited or *WADA*-approved laboratory in accordance with Article 6.1; and

(iv) ensuring that any national level anti-doping rule violation cases discovered by *Member Associations* are adjudicated by an *Operationally Independent* hearing panel in accordance with Article 8.1 and the *International Standard for Results Management*.

**18.5** All *Member Associations* shall establish rules requiring all *Athletes* preparing for or participating in a *Competition* or activity authorized or organized by a *Member Association* or one of its member organizations, and all *Athlete Support Personnel* associated with such *Athletes*, to agree to be bound by these Anti-Doping Rules and to submit to the *Results Management* authority of the *Anti-Doping Organization* in conformity with the *Code* as a condition of such participation.

**18.6** All *Member Associations* shall report any information suggesting or relating to an anti-doping rule violation to ITTF and to their *National Anti-Doping Organizations* and shall cooperate with investigations conducted by any *Anti-Doping Organization* with authority to conduct the investigation.

**18.7** All *Member Associations* shall have disciplinary rules in place to prevent *Athlete Support Personnel* who are *Using Prohibited Substances* or *Prohibited Methods* without valid justification from providing support to *Athletes* under the authority of ITTF or the *Member Association*.

**18.8** All *Member Associations* shall conduct anti-doping *Education* in coordination with their *National Anti-Doping Organizations*.

## **ARTICLE 19 ADDITIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ITTF**

**19.1** In addition to the roles and responsibilities described in Article 20.3 of the *Code* for International Federations, ITTF shall report to *WADA* on ITTF's compliance with the *Code* and the *International Standards* in accordance with Article 24.1.2 of the *Code*.

**19.2** Subject to applicable law, and in accordance with Article 20.3.4 of the *Code*, all ITTF board members, directors, officers, employees and those of appointed *Delegated Third Parties* who are involved in any aspect of *Doping Control*, must sign a form provided by ITTF, agreeing to be bound by these Anti-Doping Rules as *Persons* in conformity with the *Code* for direct and intentional misconduct.

**19.3** Subject to applicable law, and in accordance with Article 20.3.5 of the *Code*, any ITTF employee who is involved in *Doping Control* (other than authorized anti-doping *Education* or rehabilitation programs) must sign a statement provided by ITTF confirming that they are not *Provisionally Suspended* or serving a period of *Ineligibility* and have not been directly or intentionally engaged in conduct within the previous six (6) years which would have constituted a violation of anti-doping rules if *Code*-compliant rules had been applicable to them.

## **ARTICLE 20 ADDITIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ATHLETES**

**20.1** To be knowledgeable of and comply with these Anti-Doping Rules.

**20.2** To be available for *Sample* collection at all times.<sup>73</sup>

**20.3** To take responsibility, in the context of anti-doping, for what they ingest and *Use*.

<sup>73</sup> [Comment to Article 20.2: With due regard to an *Athlete's* human rights and privacy, legitimate anti-doping considerations sometimes require *Sample* collection late at night or early in the morning. For example, it is known that some *Athletes* Use low doses of *EPO* during these hours so that it will be undetectable in the morning.]

- 20.4** To inform medical personnel of their obligation not to *Use Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods* and to take responsibility to make sure that any medical treatment received does not violate these Anti-Doping Rules.
- 20.5** To disclose to ITTF and their *National Anti-Doping Organization* any decision by a non-*Signatory* finding that the *Athlete* committed an anti-doping rule violation within the previous ten (10) years.
- 20.6** To cooperate with *Anti-Doping Organizations* investigating anti-doping rule violations.  
Failure by any *Athlete* to cooperate in full with *Anti-Doping Organizations* investigating anti-doping rule violations may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.
- 20.7** To disclose the identity of their *Athlete Support Personnel* upon request by ITTF or a *Member Association*, or any other *Anti-Doping Organization* with authority over the *Athlete*.
- 20.8** Offensive conduct towards a *Doping Control* official or other *Person* involved in *Doping Control* by an *Athlete*, which does not otherwise constitute *Tampering*, may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.

**ARTICLE 21    ADDITIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ATHLETE SUPPORT PERSONNEL**

- 21.1** To be knowledgeable of and comply with these Anti-Doping Rules.
- 21.2** To cooperate with the *Athlete Testing* program.
- 21.3** To use their influence on *Athlete* values and behavior to foster anti-doping attitudes.
- 21.4** To disclose to ITTF and their *National Anti-Doping Organization* any decision by a non-*Signatory* finding that they committed an anti-doping rule violation within the previous ten (10) years.
- 21.5** To cooperate with *Anti-Doping Organizations* investigating anti-doping rule violations.  
Failure by any *Athlete Support Personnel* to cooperate in full with *Anti-Doping Organizations* investigating anti-doping rule violations may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.
- 21.6** *Athlete Support Personnel* shall not *Use* or *Possess* any *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* without valid justification.  
  
Any such *Use* or *Possession* may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.
- 21.7** Offensive conduct towards a *Doping Control* official or other *Person* involved in *Doping Control* by *Athlete Support Personnel*, which does not otherwise constitute *Tampering*, may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.

**ARTICLE 22    ADDITIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF OTHER PERSONS SUBJECT TO THESE ANTI-DOPING RULES**

- 22.1** To be knowledgeable of and comply with these Anti-Doping Rules.
- 22.2** To disclose to ITTF and their *National Anti-Doping Organization* any decision by a non-*Signatory* finding that they committed an anti-doping rule violation within the previous ten (10) years.



- 22.3** To cooperate with *Anti-Doping Organizations* investigating anti-doping rule violations.
- Failure by any other *Person* subject to these Anti-Doping Rules to cooperate in full with *Anti-Doping Organizations* investigating anti-doping rule violations may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.
- 22.4** Not to *Use or Possess* any *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* without valid justification.
- 22.5** Offensive conduct towards a *Doping Control* official or other *Person* involved in *Doping Control* by a *Person*, which does not otherwise constitute *Tampering*, may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.

## **ARTICLE 23 INTERPRETATION OF THE CODE**

- 23.1** The official text of the *Code* shall be maintained by *WADA* and shall be published in English and French. In the event of any conflict between the English and French versions, the English version shall prevail.
- 23.2** The comments annotating various provisions of the *Code* shall be used to interpret the *Code*.
- 23.3** The *Code* shall be interpreted as an independent and autonomous text and not by reference to the existing law or statutes of the *Signatories* or governments.
- 23.4** The headings used for the various Parts and Articles of the *Code* are for convenience only and shall not be deemed part of the substance of the *Code* or to affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.
- 23.5** Where the term "days" is used in the *Code* or an *International Standard*, it shall mean calendar days unless otherwise specified.
- 23.6** The *Code* shall not apply retroactively to matters pending before the date the *Code* is accepted by a *Signatory* and implemented in its rules. However, pre-*Code* anti-doping rule violations would continue to count as "First violations" or "Second violations" for purposes of determining sanctions under Article 10 for subsequent post-*Code* violations.
- 23.7** The Purpose, Scope and Organization of the World Anti-Doping Program and the *Code* and Appendix 1, Definitions, and Appendix 2, Examples of the Application of Article 10, shall be considered integral parts of the *Code*.

## **ARTICLE 24 FINAL PROVISIONS**

- 24.1** Where the term "days" is used in these Anti-Doping Rules, it shall mean calendar days unless otherwise specified.
- 24.2** These Anti-Doping Rules shall be interpreted as an independent and autonomous text and not by reference to existing law or statutes.
- 24.3** These Anti-Doping Rules have been adopted pursuant to the applicable provisions of the *Code* and the *International Standards* and shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with applicable provisions of the *Code* and the *International Standards*. The *Code* and the *International Standards* shall be considered integral parts of these Anti-Doping Rules and shall prevail in case of conflict.

- 24.4** The Introduction and Appendix 1 shall be considered integral parts of these Anti-Doping Rules.
- 24.5** The comments annotating various provisions of these Anti-Doping Rules shall be used to interpret these Anti-Doping Rules.
- 24.6** These Anti-Doping Rules shall enter into force on 1 January 2021 (the “Effective Date”). They repeal previous versions of ITTF’s Anti-Doping Rules.
- 24.7** These Anti-Doping Rules shall not apply retroactively to matters pending before the Effective Date. However:
- 24.7.1** Anti-doping rule violations taking place prior to the Effective Date count as “first violations” or “second violations” for purposes of determining sanctions under Article 10 for violations taking place after the Effective Date.
- 24.7.2** Any anti-doping rule violation case which is pending as of the Effective Date and any anti-doping rule violation case brought after the Effective Date based on an anti-doping rule violation which occurred prior to the Effective Date, shall be governed by the substantive anti-doping rules in effect at the time the alleged anti-doping rule violation occurred, and not by the substantive anti-doping rules set out in these Anti-Doping Rules, unless the panel hearing the case determines the principle of “lex mitior” appropriately applies under the circumstances of the case. For these purposes, the retrospective periods in which prior violations can be considered for purposes of multiple violations under Article 10.9.4 and the statute of limitations set forth in Article 16 are procedural rules, not substantive rules, and should be applied retroactively along with all of the other procedural rules in these Anti-Doping Rules (provided, however, that Article 16 shall only be applied retroactively if the statute of limitation period has not already expired by the Effective Date).
- 24.7.3** Any Article 2.4 whereabouts failure (whether a filing failure or a missed test, as those terms are defined in the *International Standard for Results Management*) prior to the Effective Date shall be carried forward and may be relied upon, prior to expiry, in accordance with the *International Standard for Results Management*, but it shall be deemed to have expired twelve (12) months after it occurred.
- 24.7.4** With respect to cases where a final decision finding an anti-doping rule violation has been rendered prior to the Effective Date, but the *Athlete* or other *Person* is still serving the period of *Ineligibility* as of the Effective Date, the *Athlete* or other *Person* may apply to ITTF or other *Anti-Doping Organization* which had *Results Management* responsibility for the anti-doping rule violation to consider a reduction in the period of *Ineligibility* in light of these Anti-Doping Rules. Such application must be made before the period of *Ineligibility* has expired. The decision rendered may be appealed pursuant to Article 13.2. These Anti-Doping Rules shall have no application to any case where a final decision finding an anti-doping rule violation has been rendered and the period of *Ineligibility* has expired.
- 24.7.5** For purposes of assessing the period of *Ineligibility* for a second violation under Article 10.9.1, where the sanction for the first violation was determined based on rules in force prior to the Effective Date, the period of *Ineligibility*

which would have been assessed for that first violation had these Anti-Doping Rules been applicable, shall be applied.<sup>74</sup>

- 24.7.6** Changes to the *Prohibited List* and *Technical Documents* relating to substances or methods on the *Prohibited List* shall not, unless they specifically provide otherwise, be applied retroactively. As an exception, however, when a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method* has been removed from the *Prohibited List*, an *Athlete* or other *Person* currently serving a period of *Ineligibility* on account of the formerly *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* may apply to ITTF or other *Anti-Doping Organization* which had *Results Management* responsibility for the anti-doping rule violation to consider a reduction in the period of *Ineligibility* in light of the removal of the substance or method from the *Prohibited List*.

<sup>74</sup> [Comment to Article 24.7.5: Other than the situation described in Article 24.7.5, where a final decision finding an anti-doping rule violation has been rendered prior to the Effective Date and the period of Ineligibility imposed has been completely served, these Anti-Doping Rules may not be used to re-characterize the prior violation.]

## APPENDIX 1 DEFINITIONS<sup>75</sup>

**ADAMS:** The Anti-Doping Administration and Management System is a Web-based database management tool for data entry, storage, sharing, and reporting designed to assist stakeholders and WADA in their anti-doping operations in conjunction with data protection legislation.

**Administration:** Providing, supplying, supervising, facilitating, or otherwise participating in the *Use* or *Attempted Use* by another *Person* of a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*. However, this definition shall not include the actions of bona fide medical personnel involving a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* used for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or other acceptable justification and shall not include actions involving *Prohibited Substances* which are not prohibited in *Out-of-Competition Testing* unless the circumstances as a whole demonstrate that such *Prohibited Substances* are not intended for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or are intended to enhance sport performance.

**Adverse Analytical Finding:** A report from a WADA-accredited laboratory or other WADA-approved laboratory that, consistent with the *International Standard* for Laboratories, establishes in a *Sample* the presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* or evidence of the *Use* of a *Prohibited Method*.

**Adverse Passport Finding:** A report identified as an *Adverse Passport Finding* as described in the applicable *International Standards*.

**Aggravating Circumstances:** Circumstances involving, or actions by, an *Athlete* or other *Person* which may justify the imposition of a period of *Ineligibility* greater than the standard sanction. Such circumstances and actions shall include, but are not limited to: the *Athlete* or other *Person* *Used* or *Possessed* multiple *Prohibited Substances* or *Prohibited Methods*, *Used* or *Possessed* a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* on multiple occasions or committed multiple other anti-doping rule violations; a normal individual would be likely to enjoy the performance-enhancing effects of the anti-doping rule violation(s) beyond the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility*; the *Athlete* or *Person* engaged in deceptive or obstructive conduct to avoid the detection or adjudication of an anti-doping rule violation; or the *Athlete* or other *Person* engaged in *Tampering* during *Results Management*. For the avoidance of doubt, the examples of circumstances and conduct described herein are not exclusive and other similar circumstances or conduct may also justify the imposition of a longer period of *Ineligibility*.

**Anti-Doping Activities:** Anti-doping *Education* and information, test distribution planning, maintenance of a *Registered Testing Pool*, managing *Athlete Biological Passports*, conducting *Testing*, organizing analysis of *Samples*, gathering of intelligence and conduct of investigations, processing of *TUE* applications, *Results Management*, monitoring and enforcing compliance with any *Consequences* imposed, and all other activities related to anti-doping to be carried out by or on behalf of an *Anti-Doping Organization*, as set out in the *Code* and/or the *International Standards*.

**Anti-Doping Organization:** WADA or a *Signatory* that is responsible for adopting rules for initiating, implementing or enforcing any part of the *Doping Control* process. This includes, for example, the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, other *Major Event Organizations* that conduct *Testing* at their *Events*, International Federations, and *National Anti-Doping Organizations*.

**Athlete:** Any *Person* who competes in sport at the international level (as defined by each International Federation) or the national level (as defined by each *National Anti-Doping Organization*). An *Anti-Doping Organization* has discretion to apply anti-doping rules to an *Athlete* who is neither an *International-Level Athlete* nor a *National-Level Athlete*, and thus to bring them within the definition of "Athlete". In relation to *Athletes* who are neither *International-Level* nor *National-Level Athletes*, an *Anti-Doping Organization* may elect to: conduct limited *Testing* or no *Testing* at all; analyze *Samples* for less than the full menu of *Prohibited Substances*; require limited or no whereabouts information; or not require advance *TUEs*. However, if an Article 2.1, 2.3 or 2.5 anti-doping rule violation is committed by any *Athlete* over whom an *Anti-Doping Organization* has elected to exercise its authority to test and who competes below the international or national level, then the *Consequences* set forth in the *Code*

<sup>75</sup> [Comment to Definitions: Defined terms shall include their plural and possessive forms, as well as those terms used as other parts of speech.]

must be applied. For purposes of Article 2.8 and Article 2.9 and for purposes of anti-doping information and *Education*, any *Person* who participates in sport under the authority of any *Signatory*, government, or other sports organization accepting the *Code* is an *Athlete*.<sup>76</sup>

*Athlete Biological Passport*: The program and methods of gathering and collating data as described in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* and *International Standard for Laboratories*.

*Athlete Support Personnel*: Any coach, trainer, manager, agent, team staff, official, medical, paramedical personnel, parent or any other *Person* working with, treating or assisting an *Athlete* participating in or preparing for sports Competition.

*Attempt*: Purposely engaging in conduct that constitutes a substantial step in a course of conduct planned to culminate in the commission of an anti-doping rule violation. Provided, however, there shall be no anti-doping rule violation based solely on an *Attempt* to commit a violation if the *Person* renounces the *Attempt* prior to it being discovered by a third party not involved in the *Attempt*.

*Atypical Finding*: A report from a WADA-accredited laboratory or other WADA-approved laboratory which requires further investigation as provided by the *International Standard for Laboratories* or related *Technical Documents* prior to the determination of an *Adverse Analytical Finding*.

*Atypical Passport Finding*: A report described as an *Atypical Passport Finding* as described in the applicable *International Standards*.

CAS: The Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Code: The World Anti-Doping Code.

*Competition*: A single race, match, game or singular sport contest. For example, a basketball game or the finals of the Olympic 100-meter race in athletics. For stage races and other sport contests where prizes are awarded on a daily or other interim basis the distinction between a *Competition* and an *Event* will be as provided in the rules of ITTF. A *Competition* is an event for Singles, *Doubles Pairs* or Teams.

*Continental and Regional Federations*: Groups of ITTF Member Associations recognized by the ITTF to which the ITTF can delegate the organization of certain Continental or Regional events.

*Consequences of Anti-Doping Rule Violations* ("Consequences"): An *Athlete's* or other *Person's* violation of an anti-doping rule may result in one or more of the following: (a) *Disqualification* means the *Athlete's* results in a particular *Competition* or *Event* are invalidated, with all resulting *Consequences* including forfeiture of any medals, points and prizes; (b) *Ineligibility* means the *Athlete* or other *Person* is barred on account of an anti-doping rule violation for a specified period of time from participating in any *Competition* or other activity or funding as provided in Article 10.14; (c) *Provisional Suspension* means the *Athlete* or other *Person* is barred temporarily from participating in any *Competition* or activity prior to the final decision at a hearing conducted under Article 8; (d) *Financial Consequences* means a financial sanction imposed for an anti-doping rule violation or to recover costs associated with an anti-doping rule violation; and (e) *Public Disclosure* means the dissemination or distribution of information to the general public or *Persons* beyond those *Persons* entitled to earlier notification in accordance with Article 14. Teams in *Team Sports* may also be subject to *Consequences* as provided in Article 11.

*Contaminated Product*: A product that contains a *Prohibited Substance* that is not disclosed on the product label or in information available in a reasonable Internet search.

*Decision Limit*: The value of the result for a threshold substance in a *Sample*, above which an *Adverse Analytical Finding* shall be reported, as defined in the *International Standard for Laboratories*.

<sup>76</sup> [Comment to Athlete: Individuals who participate in sport may fall in one of five categories: 1) International-Level Athlete, 2) National-Level Athlete, 3) individuals who are not International- or National-Level Athletes but over whom the International Federation or National Anti-Doping Organization has chosen to exercise authority, 4) Recreational Athlete, and 5) individuals over whom no International Federation or National Anti-Doping Organization has, or has chosen to, exercise authority. All International- and National-Level Athletes are subject to the anti-doping rules of the Code, with the precise definitions of international and national level sport to be set forth in the anti-doping rules of the International Federations and National Anti-Doping Organizations.]

*Delegated Third Party:* Any Person to which ITTF delegates any aspect of *Doping Control* or anti-doping *Education* programs including, but not limited to, third parties or other *Anti-Doping Organizations* that conduct *Sample* collection or other *Doping Control* services or anti-doping *Educational* programs for ITTF, or individuals serving as independent contractors who perform *Doping Control* services for ITTF (e.g., non-employee *Doping Control* officers or chaperones). This definition does not include CAS.

*Disqualification:* See *Consequences of Anti-Doping Rule Violations* above.

*Doping Control:* All steps and processes from test distribution planning through to ultimate disposition of any appeal and the enforcement of *Consequences*, including all steps and processes in between, including but not limited to *Testing*, investigations, whereabouts, *TUEs*, *Sample* collection and handling, laboratory analysis, *Results Management*, and investigations or proceedings relating to violations of Article 10.14 (Status During *Ineligibility* or *Provisional Suspension*).

*Doubles Pair:* Set of two table tennis players associated to compete together according to the table tennis rules for doubles events.

*Education:* The process of learning to instill values and develop behaviors that foster and protect the spirit of sport, and to prevent intentional and unintentional doping.

*Event:* A series of individual *Competitions* conducted together under one ruling body (e.g., the Olympic Games, World Championships of an International Federation, or Pan American Games).

*Event Period:* The time between the beginning and end of an *Event*, as established by the ruling body of the *Event*. For ITTF, the *Event Period* is considered the period which starts at 11:59 p.m. of the day before the *Event* and finishes at 11:59 p.m. of the day on which the *Event* ends.

*Event Venues:* Those venues so designated by the ruling body for the *Event*. For ITTF, it means that part of the event building used for Table Tennis and its related activities (including official training), facilities and public areas.

*Fault:* *Fault* is any breach of duty or any lack of care appropriate to a particular situation. Factors to be taken into consideration in assessing an *Athlete's* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault* include, for example, the *Athlete's* or other *Person's* experience, whether the *Athlete* or other *Person* is a *Protected Person*, special considerations such as impairment, the degree of risk that should have been perceived by the *Athlete* and the level of care and investigation exercised by the *Athlete* in relation to what should have been the perceived level of risk. In assessing the *Athlete's* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault*, the circumstances considered must be specific and relevant to explain the *Athlete's* or other *Person's* departure from the expected standard of behavior. Thus, for example, the fact that an *Athlete* would lose the opportunity to earn large sums of money during a period of *Ineligibility*, or the fact that the *Athlete* only has a short time left in a career, or the timing of the sporting calendar, would not be relevant factors to be considered in reducing the period of *Ineligibility* under Article 10.6.1 or 10.6.2.<sup>77</sup>

*Financial Consequences:* See *Consequences of Anti-Doping Rule Violations* above.

*In-Competition:* The period commencing at 11:59 p.m. on the day before a *Competition* in which the *Athlete* is scheduled to participate through the end of such *Competition* and the *Sample* collection process related to such *Competition*.<sup>78</sup>

*Independent Observer Program:* A team of observers and/or auditors, under the supervision of WADA, who observe and provide guidance on the *Doping Control* process prior to or during certain *Events* and report on their observations as part of WADA's compliance monitoring program.

<sup>77</sup> [Comment to *Fault*: The criteria for assessing an *Athlete's* degree of *Fault* is the same under all Articles where *Fault* is to be considered. However, under Article 10.6.2, no reduction of sanction is appropriate unless, when the degree of *Fault* is assessed, the conclusion is that No Significant *Fault* or Negligence on the part of the *Athlete* or other *Person* was involved.]

<sup>78</sup> [Comment to *In-Competition*: Having a universally accepted definition for *In-Competition* provides greater harmonization among *Athletes* across all sports, eliminates or reduces confusion among *Athletes* about the relevant timeframe for *In-Competition Testing*, avoids inadvertent Adverse Analytical Findings in between *Competitions* during an *Event* and assists in preventing any potential performance enhancement benefits from substances prohibited *Out-of-Competition* being carried over to the *Competition period*.]

*Individual Sport*: Any sport that is not a *Team Sport*.

*Ineligibility*: See *Consequences of Anti-Doping Rule Violations* above.

*Institutional Independence*: Hearing panels on appeal shall be fully independent institutionally from the *Anti-Doping Organization* responsible for *Results Management*. They must therefore not in any way be administered by, connected or subject to the *Anti-Doping Organization* responsible for *Results Management*.

*International Event*: An *Event* or *Competition* where the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, an International Federation, a *Major Event Organization*, or another international sport organization is the ruling body for the *Event* or appoints the technical officials for the *Event*.

*International-Level Athlete*: *Athletes* who compete in sport at the international level, as defined by each International Federation, consistent with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*. For the sport of table tennis, *International-Level Athletes* are defined as set out in the Scope section of the Introduction to these Anti-Doping Rules.<sup>79</sup>

*International Standard*: A standard adopted by WADA in support of the *Code*. Compliance with an *International Standard* (as opposed to another alternative standard, practice or procedure) shall be sufficient to conclude that the procedures addressed by the *International Standard* were performed properly. *International Standards* shall include any *Technical Documents* issued pursuant to the *International Standard*.

*Major Event Organizations*: The continental associations of *National Olympic Committees* and other international multi-sport organizations that function as the ruling body for any continental, regional or other *International Event*.

*Marker*: A compound, group of compounds or biological variable(s) that indicates the *Use* of a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*.

*Metabolite*: Any substance produced by a biotransformation process.

*Minimum Reporting Level*: The estimated concentration of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolite(s)* or *Marker(s)* in a *Sample* below which WADA-accredited laboratories should not report that *Sample* as an *Adverse Analytical Finding*.

*Minor*: A natural *Person* who has not reached the age of eighteen (18) years.

*National Anti-Doping Organization*: The entity(ies) designated by each country as possessing the primary authority and responsibility to adopt and implement anti-doping rules, direct the collection of *Samples*, the management of test results, and the conduct of hearings at the national level. If this designation has not been made by the competent public authority(ies), the entity shall be the country's *National Olympic Committee* or its designee.

*National Event*: A sport *Event* or *Competition* involving *International-* or *National-Level Athletes* that is not an *International Event*.

*Member Association*: A national or regional entity which is a member of or is recognized by ITTF as the entity governing ITTF's sport in that nation or region.

<sup>79</sup> [Comment to *International-Level Athlete*: Consistent with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*, ITTF is free to determine the criteria it will use to classify *Athletes* as *International-Level Athletes*, e.g., by ranking, by participation in particular *International Events*, by type of license, etc. However, it must publish those criteria in clear and concise form, so that *Athletes* are able to ascertain quickly and easily when they will become classified as *International-Level Athletes*. For example, if the criteria include participation in certain *International Events*, then the *International Federation* must publish a list of those *International Events*.]

*National-Level Athlete:* Athletes who compete in sport at the national level, as defined by each *National Anti-Doping Organization*, consistent with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.

*National Olympic Committee:* The organization recognized by the International Olympic Committee. The term *National Olympic Committee* shall also include the National Sport Confederation in those countries where the National Sport Confederation assumes typical *National Olympic Committee* responsibilities in the anti-doping area.

*No Fault or Negligence:* The *Athlete* or other *Person's* establishing that he or she did not know or suspect, and could not reasonably have known or suspected even with the exercise of utmost caution, that he or she had *Used* or been administered the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* or otherwise violated an anti-doping rule. Except in the case of a *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete*, for any violation of Article 2.1, the *Athlete* must also establish how the *Prohibited Substance* entered the *Athlete's* system.

*No Significant Fault or Negligence:* The *Athlete* or other *Person's* establishing that any *Fault or Negligence*, when viewed in the totality of the circumstances and taking into account the criteria for *No Fault or Negligence*, was not significant in relationship to the anti-doping rule violation. Except in the case of a *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete*, for any violation of Article 2.1, the *Athlete* must also establish how the *Prohibited Substance* entered the *Athlete's* system.

*Operational Independence:* This means that (1) board members, staff members, commission members, consultants and officials of the *Anti-Doping Organization* with responsibility for *Results Management* or its affiliates (e.g., member federation or confederation), as well as any *Person* involved in the investigation and pre-adjudication of the matter cannot be appointed as members and/or clerks (to the extent that such clerk is involved in the deliberation process and/or drafting of any decision) of hearing panels of that *Anti-Doping Organization* with responsibility for *Results Management* and (2) hearing panels shall be in a position to conduct the hearing and decision-making process without interference from the *Anti-Doping Organization* or any third party. The objective is to ensure that members of the hearing panel or individuals otherwise involved in the decision of the hearing panel, are not involved in the investigation of, or decisions to proceed with, the case.

*Out-of-Competition:* Any period which is not *In-Competition*.

*Participant:* Any *Athlete* or *Athlete Support Person*.

*Person:* A natural *Person* or an organization or other entity.

*Possession:* The actual, physical *Possession*, or the constructive *Possession* (which shall be found only if the *Person* has exclusive control or intends to exercise control over the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* or the premises in which a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* exists); provided, however, that if the *Person* does not have exclusive control over the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* or the premises in which a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* exists, constructive *Possession* shall only be found if the *Person* knew about the presence of the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* and intended to exercise control over it. Provided, however, there shall be no anti-doping rule violation based solely on *Possession* if, prior to receiving notification of any kind that the *Person* has committed an anti-doping rule violation, the *Person* has taken concrete action demonstrating that the *Person* never intended to have *Possession* and has renounced *Possession* by explicitly declaring it to an *Anti-Doping Organization*. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this definition, the purchase (including by any electronic or other means) of a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* constitutes *Possession* by the *Person* who makes the purchase.<sup>80</sup>

*Prohibited List:* The List identifying the *Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods*.

<sup>80</sup> [Comment to Possession: Under this definition, anabolic steroids found in an Athlete's car would constitute a violation unless the Athlete establishes that someone else used the car; in that event, ITTF must establish that, even though the Athlete did not have exclusive control over the car, the Athlete knew about the anabolic steroids and intended to have control over them. Similarly, in the example of anabolic steroids found in a home medicine cabinet under the joint control of an Athlete and spouse, ITTF must establish that the Athlete knew the anabolic steroids were in the cabinet and that the Athlete intended to exercise control over them. The act of purchasing a Prohibited Substance alone constitutes Possession, even where, for example, the product does not arrive, is received by someone else, or is sent to a third party address.]



*Prohibited Method:* Any method so described on the *Prohibited List*.

*Prohibited Substance:* Any substance, or class of substances, so described on the *Prohibited List*.

*Protected Person:* An *Athlete* or other natural *Person* who at the time of the anti-doping rule violation: (i) has not reached the age of sixteen (16) years; (ii) has not reached the age of eighteen (18) years and is not included in any *Registered Testing Pool* and has never competed in any *International Event* in an open category; or (iii) for reasons other than age has been determined to lack legal capacity under applicable national legislation.<sup>81</sup>

*Provisional Hearing:* For purposes of Article 7.4.3, an expedited abbreviated hearing occurring prior to a hearing under Article 8 that provides the *Athlete* with notice and an opportunity to be heard in either written or oral form.<sup>82</sup>

*Provisional Suspension:* See *Consequences of Anti-Doping Rule Violations* above.

*Publicly Disclose:* See *Consequences of Anti-Doping Rule Violations* above.

*Recreational Athlete:* A natural *Person* who is so defined by the relevant *National Anti-Doping Organization*; provided, however, the term shall not include any *Person* who, within the five (5) years prior to committing any anti-doping rule violation, has been an *International-Level Athlete* (as defined by each International Federation consistent with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*) or *National-Level Athlete* (as defined by each *National Anti-Doping Organization* consistent with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*), has represented any country in an *International Event* in an open category or has been included within any *Registered Testing Pool* or other whereabouts information pool maintained by any International Federation or *National Anti-Doping Organization*.<sup>83</sup>

*Regional Anti-Doping Organization:* A regional entity designated by member countries to coordinate and manage delegated areas of their national anti-doping programs, which may include the adoption and implementation of anti-doping rules, the planning and collection of *Samples*, the management of results, the review of *TUEs*, the conduct of hearings, and the conduct of *Educational* programs at a regional level.

*Registered Testing Pool:* The pool of highest-priority *Athletes* established separately at the international level by International Federations and at the national level by *National Anti-Doping Organizations*, who are subject to focused *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition Testing* as part of that International Federation's or *National Anti-Doping Organization's* test distribution plan and therefore are required to provide whereabouts information as provided in Article 5.5 and the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.

*Results Management:* The process encompassing the timeframe between notification as per Article 5 of the *International Standard for Results Management*, or in certain cases (e.g., *Atypical Finding*, *Athlete Biological Passport*, whereabouts failure), such pre-notification steps expressly provided for in Article 5 of the *International Standard for Results Management*, through the charge until the final resolution of the matter, including the end of the hearing process at first instance or on appeal (if an appeal was lodged).

<sup>81</sup> [Comment to Protected Person: The Code treats Protected Persons differently than other Athletes or Persons in certain circumstances based on the understanding that, below a certain age or intellectual capacity, an Athlete or other Person may not possess the mental capacity to understand and appreciate the prohibitions against conduct contained in the Code. This would include, for example, a Paralympic Athlete with a documented lack of legal capacity due to an intellectual impairment. The term "open category" is meant to exclude competition that is limited to junior or age group categories.]

<sup>82</sup> [Comment to Provisional Hearing: A Provisional Hearing is only a preliminary proceeding which may not involve a full review of the facts of the case. Following a Provisional Hearing, the Athlete remains entitled to a subsequent full hearing on the merits of the case. By contrast, an "expedited hearing", as that term is used in Article 7.4.3, is a full hearing on the merits conducted on an expedited time schedule.]

<sup>83</sup> [Comment to Recreational Athlete: The term "open category" is meant to exclude competition that is limited to junior or age group categories.]

*Sample or Specimen:* Any biological material collected for the purposes of *Doping Control*.<sup>84</sup>

*Signatories:* Those entities accepting the *Code* and agreeing to implement the *Code*, as provided in Article 23 of the *Code*.

*Specified Method:* See Article 4.2.2.

*Specified Substance:* See Article 4.2.2.

*Strict Liability:* The rule which provides that under Article 2.1 and Article 2.2, it is not necessary that intent, *Fault*, *Negligence*, or knowing *Use* on the *Athlete's* part be demonstrated by the *Anti-Doping Organization* in order to establish an anti-doping rule violation.

*Substance of Abuse:* See Article 4.2.3.

*Substantial Assistance:* For purposes of Article 10.7.1, a *Person* providing *Substantial Assistance* must: (1) fully disclose in a signed written statement or recorded interview all information he or she possesses in relation to anti-doping rule violations or other proceeding described in Article 10.7.1.1, and (2) fully cooperate with the investigation and adjudication of any case or matter related to that information, including, for example, presenting testimony at a hearing if requested to do so by an *Anti-Doping Organization* or hearing panel. Further, the information provided must be credible and must comprise an important part of any case or proceeding which is initiated or, if no case or proceeding is initiated, must have provided a sufficient basis on which a case or proceeding could have been brought.

*Tampering:* Intentional conduct which subverts the *Doping Control* process but which would not otherwise be included in the definition of *Prohibited Methods*. *Tampering* shall include, without limitation, offering or accepting a bribe to perform or fail to perform an act, preventing the collection of a *Sample*, affecting or making impossible the analysis of a *Sample*, falsifying documents submitted to an *Anti-Doping Organization* or *TUE* committee or hearing panel, procuring false testimony from witnesses, committing any other fraudulent act upon the *Anti-Doping Organization* or hearing body to affect *Results Management* or the imposition of *Consequences*, and any other similar intentional interference or *Attempted* interference with any aspect of *Doping Control*.<sup>85</sup>

*Target Testing:* Selection of specific *Athletes* for *Testing* based on criteria set forth in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.

*Team Sport:* A sport in which the substitution of players is permitted during a *Competition*.

*Technical Document:* A document adopted and published by *WADA* from time to time containing mandatory technical requirements on specific anti-doping topics as set forth in an *International Standard*.

*Testing:* The parts of the *Doping Control* process involving test distribution planning, *Sample* collection, *Sample* handling, and *Sample* transport to the laboratory.

*Testing Pool:* The tier below the *Registered Testing Pool* which includes *Athletes* from whom some whereabouts information is required in order to locate and *Test* the *Athlete Out-of-Competition*.

*Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE):* A *Therapeutic Use Exemption* allows an *Athlete* with a medical condition to *Use* a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*, but only if the conditions set out in Article 4.4 and the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions* are met.

<sup>84</sup> [Comment to *Sample or Specimen*: It has sometimes been claimed that the collection of blood *Samples* violates the tenets of certain religious or cultural groups. It has been determined that there is no basis for any such claim.]

<sup>85</sup> [Comment to *Tampering*: For example, this Article would prohibit altering identification numbers on a *Doping Control* form during *Testing*, breaking the B bottle at the time of B *Sample* analysis, altering a *Sample* by the addition of a foreign substance, or intimidating or attempting to intimidate a potential witness or a witness who has provided testimony or information in the *Doping Control* process. *Tampering* includes misconduct which occurs during the *Results Management* process. See Article 10.9.3.3. However, actions taken as part of a *Person's* legitimate defense to an anti-doping rule violation charge shall not be considered *Tampering*. Offensive conduct towards a *Doping Control* official or other *Person* involved in *Doping Control* which does not otherwise constitute *Tampering* shall be addressed in the disciplinary rules of sport organizations.]

*Trafficking*: Selling, giving, transporting, sending, delivering or distributing (or *Possessing* for any such purpose) a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* (either physically or by any electronic or other means) by an *Athlete*, *Athlete Support Person* or any other *Person* subject to the authority of an *Anti-Doping Organization* to any third party; provided, however, this definition shall not include the actions of bona fide medical personnel involving a *Prohibited Substance* used for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or other acceptable justification, and shall not include actions involving *Prohibited Substances* which are not prohibited in *Out-of-Competition Testing* unless the circumstances as a whole demonstrate such *Prohibited Substances* are not intended for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or are intended to enhance sport performance.

*UNESCO Convention*: The International Convention against Doping in Sport adopted by the 33<sup>rd</sup> session of the UNESCO General Conference on 19 October 2005 including any and all amendments adopted by the States Parties to the Convention and the Conference of Parties to the International Convention against Doping in Sport.

*Use*: The utilization, application, ingestion, injection or consumption by any means whatsoever of any *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*.

*WADA*: The World Anti-Doping Agency.

*Without Prejudice Agreement*: For purposes of Articles 10.7.1.1 and 10.8.2, a written agreement between an *Anti-Doping Organization* and an *Athlete* or other *Person* that allows the *Athlete* or other *Person* to provide information to the *Anti-Doping Organization* in a defined time-limited setting with the understanding that, if an agreement for *Substantial Assistance* or a case resolution agreement is not finalized, the information provided by the *Athlete* or other *Person* in this particular setting may not be used by the *Anti-Doping Organization* against the *Athlete* or other *Person* in any *Results Management* proceeding under the *Code*, and that the information provided by the *Anti-Doping Organization* in this particular setting may not be used by the *Athlete* or other *Person* against the *Anti-Doping Organization* in any *Results Management* proceeding under the *Code*. Such an agreement shall not preclude the *Anti-Doping Organization*, *Athlete* or other *Person* from using any information or evidence gathered from any source other than during the specific time-limited setting described in the agreement.

## Resolutions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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### Resolution A

**(Simple majority required)**

#### **Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.**

To confirm the relocation of the ITTF Headquarters from Renens (Chemin de la Roche, 11) to Lausanne (Avenue de Rhodanie 54, Maison du Sport International).

#### *Rationale:*

*Since July 2018, the ITTF Headquarters are back in Lausanne. However, in order to confirm the change formally at the Chamber of Commerce the approval of the AGM is required.*

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### Resolution B

**(Simple majority required)**

#### **Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.**

To call for an ITTF Extraordinary General Meeting during the World Table Tennis Championships in Busan in the first part of 2021, with -at least- the following main points in the agenda:

- Governance review. To incorporate a set of electoral rules developed in accordance with the principles of good governance
- To ratify the composition of the Disciplinary Tribunal
- Determine the future Home of Table Tennis / ITTF Head Office.

#### *Rationale:*

*To ensure having enough time for debate and eventual adoption and a proper timing for the two important decisions to be taken.*

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### Resolution C

**(Simple majority required)**

#### **Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee.**

To work towards achieving the highest levels of Governance, with the goal to score over 80% on the next ASOIF Governance review.

#### *Rationale:*

*To ensure the entire ITTF, including its members, adopt Good Governance principles.*

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## Resolutions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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### Resolution D

(Simple majority required)

#### Proposed by the Brazilian Table Tennis Federation.

To create a control system for international transfers between clubs, to guarantee athletes fair and honest treatment at the time of contract and its termination. Eventually, registering the contracts with the ITTF, which should secure the possibilities for athletes represent their national associations without being punished by their clubs.

#### *Rationale:*

*Some athletes have already reported cases in which their contracts were terminated without notice or they were banned from participating in official competitions on the ITTF calendar representing their National Association. This harm both national associations and the athletes themselves. The creation of a clearer and more official system can be important for the consolidation of a global system.*

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### Resolution E

(Simple majority required)

#### Proposed by the German Table Tennis Association

Request the ITTF Executive Committee to include in the agenda of the ITTF AGM to be held on 28 September 2020 the following item:

- WTT Structure & Finances

#### *Rationale:*

*WTT has been set up following a decision of the ITTF Executive Committee. However, limited information has been shared with the Associations who have an interest of knowing and receiving the details of the WTT financial structure, which includes details of the financial and commercial structure (buy-out), disclosure of the Master Rights Agreement, the reports and presentations prepared by Whithers and Deloitte, disclosure of the report on the integrity and financial due diligence process conducted on the successful company and its representatives, the budget allocated to WTT, the revenue share ITTF-WTT-Associations resulting from the sale of the ITTF commercial rights. It is primordial that information be shared between ITTF and its associations for the sake of transparency and good governance as set out in the Strategic Plan 2018-2024.*

## Resolutions to the 2020 ITTF AGM

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### Resolution F

(Simple majority required)

#### Proposed by the Swiss Table Tennis Association

Request the ITTF Executive Committee to include in the agenda of the ITTF AGM to be held on 28 September 2020 the following item:

The WTT Financial and Commercial Structure has to be presented and approved by the AGM effective immediately.

#### *Rationale:*

*WTT has been set up following a decision of the ITTF Executive Committee. However, limited information has been shared with the Associations who have an interest of knowing and receiving the details of the WTT financial structure, which includes details of the financial and commercial structure (buy-out), disclosure of the Master Rights Agreement, the reports and presentations prepared by Whithers and Deloitte, disclosure of the report on the integrity and financial due diligence process conducted on the successful company and its representatives, the budget allocated to WTT, the revenue share ITTF-WTT-Associations resulting from the sale of the ITTF commercial rights. It is primordial that information be shared between ITTF and its associations for the sake of transparency and good governance as set out in the Strategic Plan 2018-2024.*

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### Resolution G

(Simple majority required)

#### Proposed by the Swiss Table Tennis Association

The ITTF Ethics Commission is made up of truly independent people from outside table tennis, that have ethics and good governance experience in other sports.

#### *Rationale:*

*ITTF Constitution 1.5.7.4.1 states that "The Ethics Commission shall be composed of at least 3 independent members appointed by the Board plus one ITTF staff (without vote)". There are many scenarios whereby whoever is selected from within table tennis cannot be truly independent. This is particularly the case when a complaint is made against one of the governing bodies, elected officials or staff of ITTF where any table tennis members would feel pressure to judge the complaint negatively.*