

# 2019

## ITTF ANNUAL REPORT



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"Through World Table Tennis, we are endeavouring to build a platform that really benefits our athletes, fans and member associations, enabling better structured events and higher prize money. [...] The professionalisation of our core top products is something that had been missing in our sport – this is a great moment for table tennis."

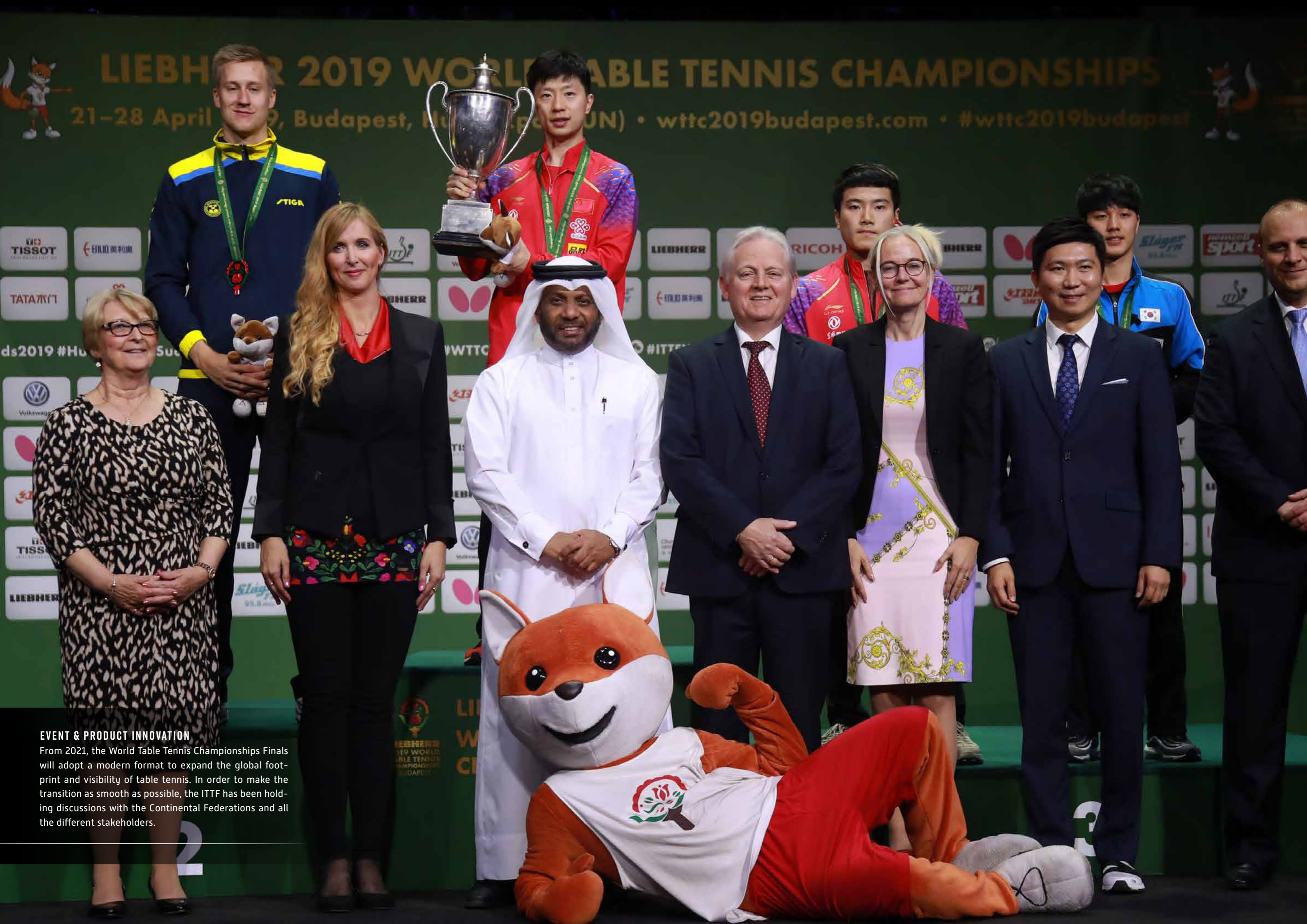
**STEVE DAINTON, ITTF CEO  
ON WORLD TABLE TENNIS**

**WORLD  
TABLE TENNIS  
COMING 2021**



" Good Governance is one of the priorities of the ITTF. As we further professionalise our operations and expand, we recognise the importance of staff working closely with elected and appointed officials, and ensuring that everyone in the organisation follow the highest integrity standards. As part of this evolution, securing for our institution an independent and impartial judicial body is a priority, following the latest recommendations of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF)."

**RAUL CALIN, ITTF SECRETARY GENERAL  
ON THE GOOD GOVERNANCE REVIEW**



# LIEBHERR 2019 WORLD TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

21-28 April 2019, Budapest, Hungary (HUN) • [wttc2019budapest.com](http://wttc2019budapest.com) • [#wttc2019budapest](https://twitter.com/wttc2019budapest)

## EVENT & PRODUCT INNOVATION

From 2021, the World Table Tennis Championships Finals will adopt a modern format to expand the global footprint and visibility of table tennis. In order to make the transition as smooth as possible, the ITTF has been holding discussions with the Continental Federations and all the different stakeholders.



Timo BOLL

ティモ・ボル  
(ドイツ)

**DIGIMIGS**



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# MESSAGES FROM THE ITTF

# THOMAS WEIKERT PRESIDENT'S REPORT



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 of 2019:

## MONUMENTAL CHANGES AHEAD

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 which have become a more and more important issue all over the political and sports world.

We created World Table Tennis as a driver for greater commercial activities and to develop our events further.

## PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT THROUGH TABLE TENNIS

The ITTF Foundation was officially established in 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 World Championships in Westchester/USA were impressive. It was amazing to see so many players having fun, realizing at the same time that our sport is helping them physically and mentally to improve their health conditions. The

ITTF is ready to go ahead with further support.

At the same time, Para Table Tennis is constantly on the rise with better event organisation and participation, while the ITTF is also running more development courses than ever before.

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

“  
**OUR ITTF TEAM IS GROWING  
FASTER AND STRONGER THAN  
EVER; WE ARE NOW AT 70 HEAD  
COUNT.**

In the last two events of the year we also introduced a Video Review system (TTR) and the ITTF Executive Committee has 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.

## HISTORY MADE AT ITTF EVENTS

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, as shock results and thrilling performances captured the attention of both the longstanding table tennis fans, who may have 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 that TV viewers across the globe were treated to the best action from the sport's greatest annual event.

The year finished with the highlight when the best players met at the World Tour Grand Finals in Zhengzhou, China. A milestone of presentation was offered to the audience.

## TABLE TENNIS IN THE PUBLIC EYE

In 2019, for the first time ever, the ITTF's social media community grew by over 1 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 6 April at World Table Tennis Day: 700,000 people at 922 events in 107 countries all took part in a true day of celebration, where Table Tennis once again was the tool to a greater good. We are striving for even higher participation in 2020!

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

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!

“  
**FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, THE  
ITTF'S SOCIAL MEDIA  
COMMUNITY GREW BY OVER  
1,000,000 FANS IN  
A SINGLE CALENDAR  
YEAR**

## A CLEAN SPORT FOR ALL

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 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.

Tokyo 2020 is already casting its shadows and an exciting year awaits us!

Table Tennis. For All. For Life.

*Thomas Weikert*  
ITTF President



# STEVE DANTON CEO'S REPORT



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 some 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, and 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 that 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.

“  
**AS THE INTERNATIONAL  
GOVERNING BODY, WE MUST  
FIND A NEW SYSTEM TO ENSURE  
EACH CONTINENTAL FEDERATION  
IS ABLE TO KEEP PACE AND  
NOT BE LEFT BEHIND.**

2019 saw also amazing events. Budapest produced a fantastic World Table Tennis Championships. China at the end of 2019 delivered 3 amazing major events – the Men’s and Women’s World Cups in Chengdu and the World Tour Grand Finals in Zhengzhou. Japan, in preparation for the 2020 Olympics also delivered a solid World Team Cup – just to name a few of the dozens of events held by the ITTF in 2019. We also saw our first ever ITTF Veterans 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 16.1 million USD\$, up from 14.6 million in 2018 and 7 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.

That said, 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 prizemoney 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.

“  
**IN 2021, IT IS THE PERFECT  
OPPORTUNITY TO GO TO MARKET  
WITH A FRESH, MODERN AND  
NEW APPROACH.**

Whilst 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 groundbreaking 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 lot 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 Member 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.

#### IN 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 Athletevs, the true stars of our sport.



**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.**

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

## RAUL CALIN SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT



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 23rd 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*

# THE ITTF ACROSS THE GLOBE

22



 **75+**  
STAFF

 **35+**  
NATIONALITIES

 **20+**  
LANGUAGES

23

## OUR OFFICES

LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND HEADQUARTERS

SINGAPORE WORLD TABLE TENNIS HEADQUARTERS ASIA-PACIFIC OFFICE

LEIPZIG, GERMANY ITTF FOUNDATION HEADQUARTERS

# STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

The ITTF Strategic Plan 2018-2024 focuses on five strategic priority areas – Organisation & Governance, High performance & Development, International Events, Promotion & Revenue. Across these five areas there are a total of 55 objectives, with 30 key outcomes.

Throughout the second full year of implementation of the Strategic Plan the ITTF continued to move towards achieving the various ambitious goals set out in 2018. All areas have seen overall progress that is still ahead of the original timeline, with a few areas needing some specific effort in the short-term to be achieved.

## SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRESS MADE SO FAR

**1** Improved regular and constructive communications between the ITTF and Member Associations through the introduction of the Member Relations Department



**2** Improved relations with the International Olympic Committee and International Paralympic Committee through more regular communication and dialogue at various levels

**3** Further increased organisational capacity with an increased workforce from 50 staff to over 75 staff



**4** Improved anti-doping management through partnering with the International Testing Agency (ITA)

**5** Introduced a more diversified, and targeted, portfolio of programs and activities to support Member Associations through ITTF development activities

**6** Increased further reach through talent identification programs becoming more localised around the world



**7** An increase in the number of countries participating at international Para Table Tennis competitions

Following an internal review of the various objectives and key outcomes, it was evident that good progress is being made across all priority areas, with an overall average of 38% (2018: 25%) of progression towards all objectives being achieved. The objectives which have seen significant progress, which is insightful to see that overall, the management team of the ITTF, is achieving results against its objectives at a rate that is in line with the proposed period of the strategic plan, as well as further enhancements in some areas not initially included in the Strategic Plan, but will be further captured as part of the review taking place.

**8** Following the monumental changes to the World Table Tennis Championships, through extensive consultation, have developed dynamic systems for quota allocations at future World Championships

**9** Increased participation at more localised competitions around the world, as part of initial feeder events to the future World Championships



**10** Increased participation at World Table Tennis Day, spreading greater awareness of the enjoyment in playing table tennis

**11** Increased broadcast quality, and introduced for the first time Table Tennis Review, a system to review the call of umpires live during a match



**12** Further increased commercial revenues through new partnerships



**13** Significant work undertaken towards the launch of new event products, and new partnership opportunities from 2021 onwards

Although the ITTF has achieved significant progress on various objectives, there are some objectives that need to be refined:

**1** The structure of how training centres could be implemented around the world, will likely follow the allocation of the Home of Table Tennis, which will include the ITTF High Performance Training Centre

**2** As the ITTF makes initial inroads to developing an online education platform, the restructuring of the Coach Accreditation Scheme will be developed in parallel

**3** From 2021, a revamped competition calendar will commence for international events, it will be important to provide a systematic calendar that is relatively consistent year-on-year to allow for sufficient planning years in advance

**4** The ITTF for several years has increased its social media presence, and with new platforms appearing, a re-energised focus to bring table tennis back to the top 3 of most followed sports is important

**5** Initial TTX events took place in 2019, with great success in Rome, Italy and Denver, USA; with a revised business plan necessary to multiply the number of events in future years

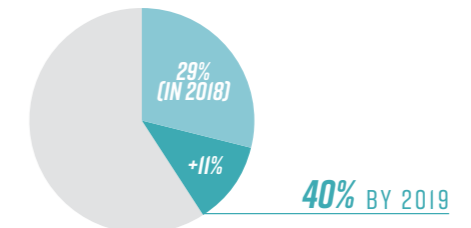
In early 2020, the ITTF shared a survey with Member Associations, to help re-shape some elements of the Strategic Plan, based on the first two years of progress, and these adjustments and updates will be added to a renewed and evolved Strategic Plan for the future of table tennis.



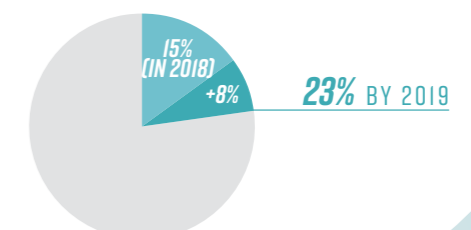
IN 2018 WE ADOPTED OUR FIRST EVER STRATEGIC PLAN. SINCE THEN WE HAVE LEARNT A LOT ABOUT WHAT IS MORE REALISTIC BUT ALSO SOME NEW AREAS WHICH WILL BE EVEN MORE BOLD THAN ORIGINALLY THOUGHT. WITH THE SIGNIFICANT GROWTH AND CHANGES IN RECENT TIMES, IT WILL BE TIME TO UPDATE AND EVOLVE THE STRATEGIC PLAN TO FOCUS AROUND THE DIFFERENT AREAS OF IMPORTANCE FOR GLOBAL TABLE TENNIS.

STEVE DAINTON, ITTF CEO

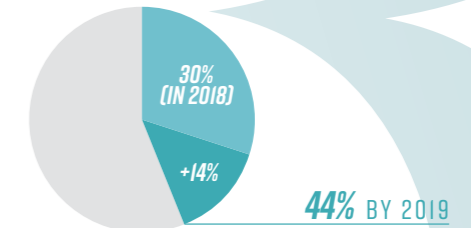
## ORGANISATION & GOVERNANCE



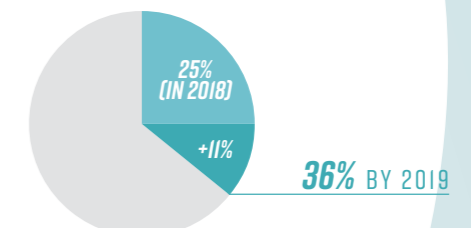
## HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT



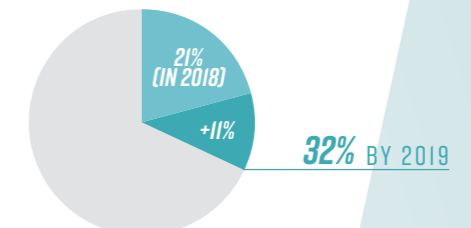
## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS



## PROMOTION



## REVENUE



**DONIC**  
CREATE SUCCESS



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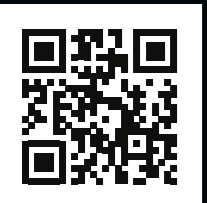
World Champion titles



Olympic medals



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MIMA ITO

Mima Ito(STARTS, Japan)



Fastarc G-1



KASUMI ISHIKAWA

Kasumi Ishikawa(ZEN-NOH, Japan)



Moristo SP



DING NING

Ding Ning(China)



Hurricane PRO III  
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Acoustic Carbon



MA LONG

Ma Long (China)



Ma Long Carbon3

The Nittaku Gear for the Excitement of Table Tennis



# 2019 ITTF EVENTS

# 21 - 28 APR BUDAPEST, HUNGARY LIEBHERR 2019 WORLD TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

A showpiece event on the ITTF calendar, the Liebherr 2019 World Table Tennis Championships held in the Hungarian capital city of Budapest, was one to remember.

With no shortage of incredible talent on display, it turned out to be a competition featuring shocks and standout performances aplenty, where the names of Mattias Falck, An Jaehyun, Alvaro Robles and Ovidiu Ionescu were immortalised.

Whether it was Tomislav Pucar's win over Dimitrij Ovtcharov, Xu Xin falling to Simon Gauzy or Kasumi Ishikawa's surprise defeat at the hands of Doo Hoi Kem, the tournament provided spectators with a plethora of upsets to digest.

### EVENT STATS

 NO. OF PLAYERS **558**

 NO. OF MATCHES **1,065**

SOCIAL POSTS **1,360**

TOTAL BROADCAST **1,176** HRS

ACCUMULATIVE AUDIENCE **264M**

 **27,560,000** IMPRESSIONS

 **20,000,000** IMPRESSIONS

 **500,000,000** IMPRESSIONS

 **34,700,000** MINS VIEWED

 **23,570,000** IMPRESSIONS

 **1,050,000** VISITORS





## LIEBHERR 2019 WORLD TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS *THE HEROES*

There were a number of standout names from the 2019 World Championships, making it an event that will live long in the memory of all fans, spectators and players alike.

### AN JAEHYUN

Korea Republic's An Jaehyun and Sweden's Mattias Falck were both surprise packages in the men's singles draw: An Jaehyun, who began his journey in the qualification rounds, was responsible for eliminating the likes of Tomokazu Harimoto and Wong Chun Ting while Mattias Falck toppled sixth seeded Lee Sangsu. In their head-to-head semi-final meeting Falck emerged victorious over An, becoming the first Swede to appear in a World Championships men's singles final since 1997 when Jan-Ove Waldner won in Manchester.

### MA LONG VS MATTIAS FALCK

In the upper half of the draw, 2015 and 2017 World champion Ma Long achieved victory over Aleksandar Karakasevic and Kanak Jha, before overcoming Vladimir Samsonov, Hugo Calderano, Lin Gaoyuan and fellow countryman Liang Jingkun to reach his third consecutive final. The crowd were then treated to a breathtaking affair as Ma Long and Mattias Falck battled it out for the trophy. A mighty contest from start to finish, after five intense games it was Ma Long who once again retained his crown.

### LIU SHIWEN

The women's singles competition also produced a number of eye-catching stories from shock early round departures to no.24 seed Sun Yingsha's incredible run to the quarter-finals, beating sixth seeded Mima Ito along the way. However, one name stood clearly above the rest and that was Liu Shiwen's.

Following many close attempts to claim the ultimate prize; in 2019 Liu Shiwen finally recognised her dreams. Trailing Ding Ning 0-2, Liu showed great fighting spirit to stun the defending champion 4-2 in the last four before going on to topple in-form Chen Meng by the same score-line, laying claim to the title of women's singles World champion for the first time!

Over in the women's doubles event, China's Wang Manyu and Sun Yingsha defied the odds to win gold. Trailing Hina Hayata and Mima Ito 0-2 in the final, Wang and Sun displayed great character and fighting spirit to beat the Japanese duo 4-2 to become World champions aged just 20 and 18 years respectively - making it a 22nd success for an all-Chinese partnership in the category.

### MEN'S DOUBLES

Drama, passion and a tale of pure emotion, history was made in the men's doubles draw, as Portugal and Spain collected its first-ever World Championships medals.

Tiago Apolonia and João Monteiro prevailed over the highly rated German pair of Timo Boll and Patrick Franziska on their way to the semi-finals to hand Portugal bronze while Spain's Alvaro Robles and Romanian partner Ovidiu Ionescu progressed through to the final. In the all-important title decider the debut partnership of Ma Long and Wang Chuqin proved too strong for the mixed association combination as China received another gold medal for its efforts.

### MIXED DOUBLES

True to his reputation, Xu Xin showed the world that he is an expert in the art of mixed doubles. The winner at the 2015 World Championships in Suzhou when partnering Korea Republic's Yang Haeun, Xu Xin collected his second mixed doubles title in Budapest. Partnering Liu Shiwen this time out, the all-Chinese pair outclassed compatriots Fan Zhendong and Ding Ning before toppling 2017 World champions Maharu Yoshimura and Kasumi Ishikawa to secure the title.

## WINNERS

### MEN'S SINGLES

**GOLD** // Ma Long [CHN]  
**SILVER** // Mattias Falck [SWE]  
**BRONZE** // Liang Jingkun [CHN]  
**BRONZE** // An Jaehyun [KOR]

### WOMEN'S SINGLES

**GOLD** // Liu Shiwen [CHN]  
**SILVER** // Chen Meng [CHN]  
**BRONZE** // Ding Ning [CHN]  
**BRONZE** // Wang Manyu [CHN]

### MEN'S DOUBLES

**GOLD** // Ma Long & Wang Chuqin [CHN]  
**SILVER** // Ovidiu Ionescu [ROU] & Alvaro Robles [ESP]  
**BRONZE** // Tiago Apolonia & Joao Monteiro [POR]  
**BRONZE** // Liang Jingkun & Lin Gaoyuan [CHN]

### WOMEN'S DOUBLES

**GOLD** // Sun Yingsha & Wang Manyu [CHN]  
**SILVER** // Hina Hayata & Mima Ito [JPN]  
**BRONZE** // Honoka Hashimoto & Hitomi Sato [JPN]  
**BRONZE** // Chen Meng & Zhu Yuling [CHN]

### MIXED DOUBLES

**GOLD** // Xu Xin & Liu Shiwen [CHN]  
**SILVER** // Maharu Yoshimura & Kasumi Ishikawa [JPN]  
**BRONZE** // Fan Zhendong & Ding Ning [CHN]  
**BRONZE** // Patrick Franziska & Petriša Solja [GER]



Left to right:  
 AN Jaehyun [KOR], Mattias FALCK [SWE], LIU Shiwen [CHN], Alvaro ROBLES [ESP], Ovidiu IONESCU [ROU], XU Xin [CHN]

## 6 - 10 NOV TOKYO, JAPAN ZEN-NOH 2019 ITTF TEAM WORLD CUP

A tournament that featured 12 of the finest men's and women's teams on the planet, one could have been forgiven for seeing the ZEN-NOH 2019 ITTF Team World Cup as a dress rehearsal for what was to be the showpiece event of 2020: the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. With high stakes, and as part of the "Ready, Steady, Tokyo!" test event series, the Japanese capital hosted a total of 24 teams across both competition categories, comprising the hosts Japan, continental champions and the leading outfits from the 2018 Team World Cup, to compete in the five-day event.

China extended its incredible winning streak claiming its 10th men's and 11th women's team titles respectively. The men's side faced Korea Republic in a fiercely contested final, which left spectators in awe.

This remarkable contest was building up the whole week with both sides coming through previous rounds in great shape. In the final, Jeoung Youngsik and Lee Sangsu struck first blood as they overturned Xu Xin and Liang Jingkun's two-game advantage to complete an incredible comeback victory that set the tone for the rest of the match. Fan Zhendong proved crucial to China's



recovery efforts, duly obliging by defeating Korean counterpart Jang Woojin in straight games. In the standout fixture of the match, the excellent Jeoung Youngsik had a whole nation dreaming when he came from 0-1 down against Liang to lead 2-1 with a match point to hand, but it was to be in vain as the Chinese star dug deep to rescue the situation. Fan Zhendong then finished the job with his powerful 4-0 win over Lee Sangsu, bringing the curtain down on a truly inspirational affair and a fine advertisement for table tennis.

The women's team competition saw the two highest ranked teams do battle with one another as champions China and hosts Japan locked horns. Chen Meng and Liu Shiwen ensured that they - unlike their male colleagues - started on the right note by seeing off Kasumi Ishikawa and Miu Hirano in straight games. The contest's blockbuster viewing came in the form of Sun Yingsha's tie with Mima Ito as two of the sport's most talented teenagers put on a mesmerising show that gripped a capacity crowd at the Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium. Playing with the home support on her side, Ito looked set to hand Japan a lifeline in the match as she led 2-0, but Sun fought back aggressively to take the match to a fifth

and deciding game. Showing nerves of steel, Sun saved three match points against her to see out an fantastic comeback victory, dealing a crushing blow to Ito and Japan in the process. Liu Shiwen, who rarely put a foot wrong the entire tournament - followed up with a successful outing against Miu Hirano to spark scenes of jubilation amid the Team China bench and fans in the stands.



### EVENT STATS

	NO. OF PLAYERS	97
	NO. OF MATCHES	130

### WINNERS



**MEN'S TEAM**  
**GOLD** // China  
**SILVER** // South Korea  
**BRONZE** // Chinese Taipei  
**BRONZE** // Japan

**WOMEN'S TEAM**  
**GOLD** // China  
**SILVER** // Japan  
**BRONZE** // Chinese Taipei  
**BRONZE** // South Korea

## 18 - 20 OCT CHENGDU, CHINA

# UNCLE POP 2019 ITTF WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Born and raised in California, Lily Zhang captured the hearts and imagination of American and international table tennis fans at the Uncle Pop 2019 ITTF Women's World Cup in Chengdu, achieving the extraordinary feat of becoming the first-ever player from the United States to reach the semi-finals of an ITTF Women's World Cup. Zhang's 4-3 win over 2016 champion Miu Hirano sent shockwaves throughout the world of table tennis and victory over Austria's Sofia Polcanova one round later led to pandemonium.

At the penultimate hurdle Zhang met a certain Liu Shiwen who, earlier in the year, was crowned women's singles World champion at the Liebherr 2019 World Championships in Budapest. Zhang gave it her all but her outstanding run was halted. Liu then went on to account for colleague Zhu Yuling in the final, securing the Women's World Cup title for a record fifth time.

Victory saw Liu write her name indelibly into the record books, becoming the most successful player in the history of the tournament that dates back to 1996.

Liu is now one ahead of compatriot Zhang Yining.

### EVENT STATS

	NO. OF PLAYERS	20
	NO. OF MATCHES	28

### WINNERS



**GOLD //** Liu Shiwen (CHN)  
**SILVER //** Zhu Yuling (CHN)  
**BRONZE //** Feng Tianwei (SGP)

SOCIAL POSTS	340
TOTAL BROADCAST	402 HRS

ACCUMULATIVE AUDIENCE	31M
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## 29 NOV - 1 DEC CHENGDU, CHINA

# CHENGDU AIRLINES 2019 ITTF MEN'S WORLD CUP

The 40th edition of the Chengdu Airlines 2019 ITTF Men's World Cup saw top seed and defending champion, China's Fan Zhendong successfully retain his title, but it wasn't without its fair share of drama!

After failing to secure a major title for almost a year, Fan fought back from a 1-2 deficit to beat Japanese teenage sensation Tomokazu Harimoto on his way to a third World Cup success - Fan is now just one win behind the most successful of all, Ma Lin who succeeded on four occasions.

Elsewhere, World and Olympic champion Ma Long fell short of winning the Men's World Cup title for a third time. There was also time for a teenage revolution that saw Chinese Taipei's Lin Yun-Ju, aged 18 years and 105 days old at the time, become the youngest player in the history of the tournament, to secure bronze.

Lin was however usurped by Tomokazu Harimoto who, at 16 years and 157 days old, was the youngest-ever finalist in 2019.

### EVENT STATS

	NO. OF PLAYERS	20
	NO. OF MATCHES	28

### WINNERS



**GOLD** // Fan Zhendong (CHN)  
**SILVER** // Tomokazu Harimoto (JPN)  
**BRONZE** // Lin Yun-Ju (TPE)

SOCIAL POSTS	350
TOTAL BROADCAST	255 HRS

ACCUMULATIVE AUDIENCE	67M
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# 2019 ITTF WORLD TOUR

Comprising six platinum and six regular events, the 2019 ITTF World Tour presented the sport's elite players with the perfect platform to showcase their talent. The ultimate goal for participants competing on the Tour was the end of year Agricultural Bank of China Grand Finals staged in Chengdu with tickets for the prestigious tournament being awarded to the top 16 players on each of the men's singles and women's singles ITTF World Tour standings, alongside the leading eight pairs in the men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles lists.

There was a season-long battle for the no.1 spot staged between China's Xu Xin - winner in Japan, Korea Republic and Australia - and compatriot Fan Zhendong, who succeeded in Germany and in Austria. In the end, Xu finished the year at the top of the men's singles standings ahead of Fan, but there was a fresh name on the lips of all fans this year.

Chinese Taipei's Lin Yun-Ju made waves throughout the season, rising 21 positions in the World Rankings over the course of 2019, as well as capturing his first World Tour men's singles title at the 2019 ITTF World Tour Czech Open. Lin also enjoyed a stunning run of results at the 2019

ITTF World Tour Platinum Japan Open, beating the likes of China's Lin Gaoyuan and Brazilian superstar Hugo Calderano on his way to a runner up finish in Sapporo.

While Lin Yun-Ju's rise to fame was apparent for all to see, he wasn't the only teenager to impress in the men's singles category with Japan's Tomokazu Harimoto reaching the top step of the podium in Bulgaria in addition to his silver medal finish in Hong Kong.

Teenagers were very much at the forefront for the women's game as well in 2019, as we saw two 19-year-olds in China's Sun Yingsha and Japan's Mima Ito cement their status as future world beaters. Sun emerged women's singles champion three times during the 2019 season, enjoying title-winning outings in Japan, Australia and Germany, while Ito secured gold in Austria following her runner-up finishes in Hong Kong, Sweden and Germany.

Another standout story was that of China's Chen Meng, who lit up the stage in 2019. Enjoying one of her strongest campaigns to date, Chen prevailed at the ITTF World Tour events in Hungary, China,

Korea and Sweden! As the year progressed her exceptional display of dominance became more and more expected, as fans across the world witnessed a player right at the top of her game.

Chen's compatriots Wang Manyu - who struck gold at the Qatar Open - and Chen Xingtong - who enjoyed back-to-back summer successes in Bulgaria and Czech Republic - were impressive in spades throughout the year. Wang Yidi also posted a gold medal finish with her highlight moment of the season coming at the 2019 ITTF World Tour Hong Kong Open.

An unpredictable tale throughout, the men's doubles race proved an exciting watch there was a close with gold medallists in Australia and Bulgaria, Korea Republic's Jeoung Youngsik and Lee Sangsu heading the standings. The Korean pair narrowly saw off China's Fan Zhendong and Xu Xin, who not only succeeded in Sapporo and Busan, but Stockholm too.

Xu Xin also shone in the mixed doubles category alongside Liu Shiwen with the all-Chinese pair looking simply unstoppable at times, none more so than in Hungary, Qatar and Sweden - where

they won gold in stellar fashion. The partnership of Liu Shiwen and pen-hold grip specialist Xu Xin was actually only bested by another partnership consisting of a pen-hold grip player, Wong Chun Ting and partner Doo Hoi Kem as the pair from Hong Kong China successfully came out on top against the Chinese duo in Busan. Chinese Taipei's rising golden star Lin Yun-Ju showcased his talent further, pairing up with Cheng I-Ching to win gold in Hong Kong, adding even more glitter to his 2019 collection of silverware.

Finally, as seen in the two singles categories, the women's doubles campaign saw more teenage athletes upsetting the general order as Japan's Miyuu Kihara and Miyu Nagasaki topped the standings. The reigning World Junior champions' continual progress saw them strike gold in the concluding tournament of the year in Austria. There were also exemplary performances from the slightly more experienced athletes, one such player was Wang Manyu, who recorded impressive wins in Hungary, Qatar, Korea Republic and Australia.

12 - 15 DEC ZHENGZHOU, CHINA

# AGRICULTURAL BANK OF CHINA 2019 ITTF WORLD TOUR GRAND FINALS

Staged in Zhengzhou, China, the celebration of the entire year's ITTF World Tour proceedings culminated in an epic showdown between the season's best performing players at the Agricultural Bank of China 2019 ITTF World Tour Grand Finals. Singular among them was China's Fan Zhendong who secured the men's doubles title in partnership with colleague Xu Xin, before going on to claim men's singles gold.

Seeded second for the latter event, Fan Zhendong beat compatriot Ma Long, the no.4 seed in the final to regain the title he first won in 2017 when the tournament was staged in Astana. There was a degree of revenge for Fan as well, having fallen to Ma at the 2015 Grand Finals in Lisbon as well as the following year in Doha.

Furthermore for Fan, his partnership with Xu Xin was golden for all to see with the Chinese pair beating seventh seeds, Liao Cheng-Ting and Lin Yun-Ju in the men's doubles final. Perhaps somewhat surprisingly for Fan Zhendong and Xu Xin - having been crowned World champions in 2017 - it was the first time either together or apart they had ever appeared in an ITTF World Tour Grand Finals men's doubles gold medal contest. Another gold medal came China's way courtesy of the mixed doubles event as Xu Xin took home his second title from the 2019 Grand Finals. Once again

forming a tried and tested alliance with Liu Shiwen, there was no stopping the Chinese combination with Japan's Jun Mizutani and Mima Ito losing out at the final hurdle in a full-distance thriller.

There was another impressive showing by Chen Meng, the no.3 seed, who beat compatriot Wang Manyu to receive the women's singles crown for the third consecutive year. Winners in 2017, 2018 and now 2019, Chen matches Liu Shiwen's personal record and is now just one short of Zhang Yining who won in 2000, 2002, 2005 and 2006.

The magic of youthful exuberance saw gold for the youngest players on duty in Zhengzhou as Japan's Miyuu Kihara, 15, and Miyu Nagasaki, 17, were anointed the top seeds prior to the tournament and with good reason! The pair went on to win the women's doubles title, beating Korea Republic's Jeon Jihee and Yang Haeun, who were seeded second.

This meant it was the fourth major title in a period of less than four months for Miyuu Kihara and Miyu Nagasaki. Having won the Asian Junior Championships in Ulaanbaator, at the ITTF World Tour Austrian Open, and then at the NSDF World Junior Championships in Korat, there was no better way to cap off a year of glory.

## LEADERBOARD

### QATAR OPEN DOHA

MS // MA Long (CHN)  
WS // WANG Manyu (CHN)  
MD // HO Kwan Kit + WONG Chun Ting (HKG)  
WD // SUN Yingsha + WANG Manyu (CHN)

### GERMAN OPEN BREMEN

MS // FAN Zhendong (CHN)  
WS // SUN Yingsha (CHN)  
MD // LIANG Jingkun + XU Xin (CHN)  
WD // JEON Jihee + YANG Haeun (KOR)

### KAISA CHINA OPEN SHENZHEN

MS // MA Long (CHN)  
WS // CHEN Meng (CHN)  
MD // Timo BOLL + Patrick FRANZISKA (GER)  
WD // GU Yuting + LIU Shiwen (CHN)

### LION JAPAN OPEN SAPPORO

MS // XU Xin (JPN)  
WS // SUN Yingsha (CHN)  
MD // FAN Zhendong + XU Xin (CHN)  
WD // CHEN Meng + LIU Shiwen (CHN)

### AUSTRALIAN OPEN GEELONG

MS // XU Xin (CHN)  
WS // SUN Yingsha (CHN)  
MD // JEOUNG Youngsik + LEE Sangsu (KOR)  
WD // CHEN Meng + WANG Manyu (CHN)

### BET-AT-HOME.COM AUSTRIAN OPEN LINZ

MS // FAN Zhendong (CHN)  
WS // Mima ITO (JPN)  
MD // LIANG Jingkun + LIN Gaoyuan (CHN)  
WD // Miyuu KIHARA + Miyu NAGASAKI (JPN)

### GRAND FINALS ZHENGZHOU, CHINA

MS // FAN Zhendong (CHN)  
WS // CHEN Meng (CHN)  
MD // FAN Zhendong + XU Xin (CHN)  
WD // Miyuu KIHARA + Miyu NAGASAKI (JPN)

### HUNGARIAN OPEN BUDAPEST

MS // LIN Gaoyuan (CHN)  
WS // CHEN Meng (CHN)  
MD // LIANG Jingkun + XU Xin (CHN)  
WD // WANG Manyu + ZHU Yuling (CHN)

### HANG SENG HONG KONG OPEN HONG KONG

MS // LIN Gaoyuan (CHN)  
WS // WANG Yidi (CHN)  
MD // LIANG Jingkun + LIN Gaoyuan (CHN)  
WD // CHEN Ke + MU Zi (CHN)

### SHINHAN KOREA OPEN BUSAN

MS // XU Xin (CHN)  
WS // CHEN Meng (CHN)  
MD // FAN Zhendong + XU Xin (CHN)  
WD // CHEN Meng + WANG Manyu (CHN)

### ASAREL BULGARIA OPEN PANAGYURISHTE

MS // Tomokazu HARIMOTO (JPN)  
WS // CHEN Xingtong (CHN)  
MD // JEOUNG Youngsik + LEE Sangsu (KOR)  
WD // GU Yuting + MU Zi (CHN)

### CZECH OPEN OLOMOUC

MS // LIN Yun-Ju (TPE)  
WS // CHEN Xingtong (CHN)  
MD // CHO Daeseong + LEE Sangsu (KOR)  
WD // GU Yuting + MU Zi (CHN)

### SWEDISH OPEN STOCKHOLM

MS // WANG Chuqin (CHN)  
WS // CHEN Meng (CHN)  
MD // FAN Zhendong + XU Xin (CHN)  
WD // CHEN Meng + DING Ning (CHN)

### REGULAR EVENT PLUS EVENT

MS // MEN'S SINGLES  
WS // WOMEN'S SINGLES  
MD // MEN'S DOUBLES  
WD // WOMEN'S DOUBLES

# 2019 ITTF CHALLENGE SERIES

A total of 14 tournaments were staged over the course of the 2019 ITTF Challenge Series season, featuring six newly introduced Plus events all of which brought mixed doubles action to the table.

Honours were very much shared in the men's singles competitions - names to note were Chinese Taipei's Lin Yun-Ju, who won in Oman and progressed to greater heights later in the year in addition to China's Xiang Peng who succeeded in Canada. Xiang won less than a week after being crowned World Junior champion. There were also a number of first time winners with Zhai Yujia, Wei Shihao and Emmanuel Lebossion to name but a few.

In the women's singles it was a very different picture. Hina Hayata succeeded on five occasions with gold medal finishes in Portugal, Oman, Serbia, Paraguay and Belarus. Polina Mikhailova returned

to title-winning ways for the first time in seven years with her successful outing in Nigeria, while Shao Jieni ended a three-year drought in Indonesia. China's Cao Wei and Xu Yingbin emerged the most successful men's doubles pair with two golds, captured in Portugal and Canada. Over in the women's doubles race, the partnership to shine was Japan's Satsuki Odo and Saki Shibata, emerging as champions in Oman, Thailand and Belarus.

Similar to the men's singles, the mixed doubles witnessed a variety of winners. One pair to attract significant attention was that of Brian Afanador and Adriana Diaz, who guided Puerto Rico to its first-ever senior title at either an ITTF World Tour or an ITTF Challenge Series tournament with their triumphant display in Paraguay.



## LEADERBOARD

### PORTUGAL OPEN LISBOA

**MS** // LIANG Jingkun [CHN]  
**WS** // Hina HAYATA [JPN]  
**MD** // CAO Wei + XU Yingbin [CHN]  
**WD** // FAN Siqi + YANG Huijing [CHN]

### OMAN OPEN MUSCAT

**MS** // LIN Yun-Ju [TPE]  
**WS** // Hina HAYATA [JPN]  
**MD** // LIAO Cheng-Ting + LIN Yun-Ju [TPE]  
**WD** // Satsuki ODO + Saki SHIBATA [JPN]

### PYONGYANG OPEN PYONGYANG

**MS** // AN Ji Song [PRK]  
**WS** // KIM Song I [PRK]  
**MD** // HAM Yu Song + RI Kwang Myong [PRK]  
**WD** // CHA Hyo Sim + KIM Nam Hae [PRK]

### NIGERIA OPEN LAGOS

**MS** // Quadri ARUNA [NGR]  
**WS** // Polina MIKHAILOVA [RUS]  
**MD** // Cedric NUYTINCK [BEL] + Quentin ROBINOT [FRA]  
**WD** // Polina MIKHAILOVA + Yana NOSKOVA [RUS]

### PARAGUAY OPEN ASUNCION

**MS** // Mastaka MORIZONO [JPN]  
**WS** // Hina HAYATA [JPN]  
**MD** // Masataka MORIZONO [JPN] + Lubomir PISTEJ [SVK]  
**WD** // Honoka HASHIMOTO + Maki SHIOMI [JPN]

### BENEMAX-VIRGO NORTH AMERICAN OPEN MARKHAM

**MS** // XIANG Peng [CHN]  
**WS** // Kasumi ISHIKAWA [JPN]  
**MD** // CAO Wei + XU Yingbin [CHN]  
**WD** // Honoka HASHIMOTO + Hitomi SATO [JPN]

### BELARUS OPEN MINSK

**MS** // Emmanuel LEBESSON [FRA]  
**WS** // Hina HAYATA [JPN]  
**MD** // XU Haidong + ZHAO Zhaoyan [CHN]  
**WD** // Satsuki ODO + Saki SHIBATA [JPN]

### SPANISH OPEN GUADALAJARA

**MS** // ZHAI Yujia [DEN]  
**WS** // Migu KATO [JPN]  
**MD** // Kilian ORT + QIU Dang [GER]  
**WD** // Stephanie LOEUILLETTE + YUAN Jian Nan [FRA]

### SERBIA OPEN BELGRADE

**MS** // Paul DRINKHALL [ENG]  
**WS** // SOO Wai Yam Minnie [HKG]  
**MD** // Diogo CARVALHO + Joao GERALDO [POR]  
**WD** // NG Wing Nam + SOO Wai Yam Minnie [HKG]

### SLOVENIA OPEN OTOCEC

**MS** // WEI Shihao [CRO]  
**WS** // Georgina POTA [HUN]  
**MD** // Eric JOUTI + Gustavo TSUBOI [BRA]  
**WD** // Miyuu KIHARA + Miyu NAGASAKI [JPN]

### CROATIA OPEN ZAGREB

**MS** // Anton KALLBERG [SWE]  
**WS** // Miyuu KIHARA [JPN]  
**MD** // Shunsuke TOGAMI + Yukiya UDA [JPN]  
**WD** // Miyuu KIHARA + Miyu NAGASAKI [JPN]

### THAILAND OPEN BANGKOK

**MS** // Ruwen FILUS [GER]  
**WS** // Hitomi SATO [JPN]  
**MD** // Ruwen FILUS + Steffen MENGEL [GER]  
**WD** // Satsuki ODO + Saki SHIBATA [JPN]

### POLISH OPEN WŁADYSŁAWOWO

**MS** // XU Yingbin [CHN]  
**WS** // HE Zhuojia [CHN]  
**MD** // Gaston ALTO + Hiracio CIFUENTES [ARG]  
**WD** // Honoka HASHIMOTO + Maki SHIOMI [JPN]

### INDONESIA OPEN BATAM

**MS** // Harmeet DESAI [IND]  
**WS** // SHAO Jieni [POR]  
**MD** // Ibrahim DIAW [SEN] + Padasak TANVIRIVAVECHAKUL [THA]  
**WD** // LUO Xue + SHAO Jieni [POR]

### REGULAR EVENT PLUS EVENT

**MS** // MEN'S SINGLES  
**WS** // WOMEN'S SINGLES  
**MD** // MEN'S DOUBLES  
**WD** // WOMEN'S DOUBLES

## 24 NOV - 1 DEC KORAT, THAILAND

# NSDF 2019 WORLD JUNIOR TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Considered an important stepping-stone in the transition from the junior to senior table tennis scene, the World Junior Championships continues to showcase the very best future stars of the game.

Undoubtedly the dominant nation from previous years China enjoyed another impressive campaign at the 2019 edition of the event in Korat with four of the seven titles up for grabs going in the country's direction.

Accounting for Chinese Taipei to win the boys' team title for a 15th time, China also emerged victorious in the counterpart girls' team, overcoming Japan in the final to collect a 15th gold in that category too. Success for China continued in the boys' singles draw with Xiang Peng coming out on top against Sweden's Truls Moregard to claim gold. Additionally, Liu Yebo and Xu Yingbin added to Chinese success, beating Russia's Vladimir Sidorenko and Artem Tikhonov to be crowned boys' doubles champions. However, there was to be no clean sweep for China with the three remaining trophies up for grabs heading to Japan. Miyu Nagasaki battled past

14-year-old colleague Haruna Ojio to win the girls' singles title, thus becoming the first player ever from outside of China to stand atop the podium.

In addition, Nagasaki, in partnership with Miyuu Kihara, saw off China's Kuai Man and Shi Xunyao to secure girls' doubles gold; the win coming after Miyuu Kihara had partnered Yukiya Uda to mixed doubles success - in the final they beat China's Xu Yingbin and Shi Xunyao.

### EVENT STATS

 NO. OF PLAYERS **163**

 NO. OF MATCHES **653**

TOTAL VIEWS ON YOUTUBE **785K**





# CHINA 2019 ITTF STAR AWARDS

11 DEC ZHENGZHOU, CHINA

## AGRICULTURAL BANK OF CHINA 2019 ITTF STAR AWARDS

Dubbed by many as the Oscars of table tennis, the 2019 ITTF Star Awards saw the sport's household names to swap their athletic kit for their finest suits and gowns, for what proved yet another special occasion for all in attendance at the JW Marriott Hotel Zhengzhou on Wednesday 11th December. In total, eight awards were presented:

### MALE TABLE TENNIS STAR / DHS

Widely considered as one of the sport's all-time greats, China's Ma Long was awarded the 2019 Male Table Tennis Star Award following a magnificent year which saw him clinch his third consecutive men's singles crown at the Liebherr 2019 World Table Tennis Championships – as well as the men's doubles title – just one month after coming back from a seven-month layoff through injury.

### FEMALE TABLE TENNIS STAR / NITTAKU

Liu Shiwen was crowned Female Table Tennis Star for the second time in her stellar career, having previously won the prestigious title in 2015. Lifting women's singles trophy aloft at the 2019 World Championships in Budapest, Liu also added the mixed doubles title alongside Xu Xin before making history with her fifth Women's World Cup success.

### STAR POINT / STIGA

There was further success on the night for China as Xu Xin and Fan Zhendong won the 2019 Star Point Award with the fans voting for the Chinese pair's magical point against Qiu Dang and Benedikt Duda at the ITTF World Tour event in Sapporo. Xu and Fan showcased some classy handiwork against their German counterparts, with Fan and Xu quickly

exchanging positions before wowing the crowd with an innovative curved sliced return from Xu.

### BREAKTHROUGH STAR

Meanwhile, Lily Zhang was rewarded for her exceptional 2019 performance with the Breakthrough Star Award. Zhang's collective displays at the 2019 ITTF-Pan American Championships and the Uncle Pop 2019 ITTF Women's World Cup caught the eye as she guided the United States to its first ever semi-final appearance at the latter event. The United States player's fantastic year on the world stage was further endorsed by her progress in the World Rankings list as she rose 69 positions from the start of the year to a personal best of no.26 in December.

### MALE PARA TABLE TENNIS STAR / TINSUE

Germany's Thomas Schmidberger – a men's class 3 athlete – and Italy's Giada Rossi – women's class 2 – were unveiled as the respective Male Para Star and Female Para Star for 2019. Schmidberger received his award following a truly exceptional year at continental and global level, which saw him emerge singles and team champion at Para Open events in Italy, Poland and Egypt, following suit at the 2019 ITTF European Para Championships in

Halmstad where he took home class 3 singles and team gold.

### FEMALE PARA TABLE TENNIS STAR / STAG

Giada Rossi's year was littered with title success after title success, not least the gold medal winning performances at the Para Opens in Italy and the Netherlands, but also the class 1-2 gold medal on offer in Czech Republic. Rossi's standout moment of the year came at the 2019 ITTF European Para Championships, where she won the class 2 singles trophy, whilst also collecting class 1-3 team bronze in Halmstad.

### STAR COACH / BUTTERFLY

Finally, Bladimir Diaz received the 2019 Star Coach Award as recognition for his key role in Puerto Rico's wonderful recent successes, becoming the first coach hailing from the Americas to collect an ITTF Star Award. Bladimir not only helped guide daughter, Adriana, to success at the Universal 2019 Pan America Cup, but also later in the year to women's singles gold at the 2019 Pan American Games in Lima. He was also the mastermind behind the trio of Daniely Rios, Adriana and Melanie Diaz's women's team title success at the tournament.

### EVENT STATS

RED CARPET  
VIEWS

33K

CEREMONY  
VIEWS

65K

### WINNERS

#### MALE TABLE TENNIS STAR

Ma Long [CHN]

#### FEMALE TABLE TENNIS STAR

Liu Shiwen [CHN]

#### MALE PARA TABLE TENNIS STAR

Thomas Schmidberger [GER]

#### FEMALE PARA TABLE TENNIS STAR

Giada Rossi [ITA]

#### BREAKTHROUGH STAR

Lily Zhang [USA]

#### STAR COACH

Bladimir Diaz [PUR]

#### STAR POINT

Fan Zhendong [CHN] + Xu Xin [CHN]

**BLADIMIR DIAZ**  
2019 BUTTERFLY  
STAR COACH

**GIADA ROSSI**  
2019 STAG  
FEMALE PARA  
TABLE TENNIS STAR

**XU XIN &  
FAN ZHENDONG**  
2019 STAR POINT



**ZHENGZHOU 2019  
ITTF STAR AWARDS**

**MA LONG**  
2019 DHS  
MALE TABLE TENNIS STAR

**LIU SHIWEN**  
2019 NITTAKU  
FEMALE TABLE TENNIS STAR

**THOMAS SCHMIDBERGER**  
2019 TINSUE  
MALE PARA  
TABLE TENNIS STAR

**LILY ZHANG**  
2019 BREAKTHROUGH STAR





XIOM.TT

*Hugo Calderano*  
HUGO CALDERANO



MaLong

# 2020 DJ Balls

For Tokyo For Busan



Hurricane 301



Hurricane Long 5



Hurricane G



# PROJECT UPDATES



#### WORLD TABLE TENNIS

will house the ITTF's core commercial assets from 2021, with the aim to grow the sport in a much more professional way. The benefits are far-reaching and will facilitate more innovative conversations with potential partners, thus enabling the ITTF to modernise its commercial business activities and, ultimately, unlock the full potential of table tennis, so that it can compete among the highest-profile sports in the world.



## 1

## A NEW PERSPECTIVE

WORLD TABLE TENNIS:  
THE BEGINNING OF AN ERA

World Table Tennis (WTT) has been set up in order to drive the sport forward in the modern era, with innovations to all facets of the global table tennis product.

## KEY OUTCOMES

Putting players and fans at the centre of its vision, the most significant outcomes of the new model expected to be seen from 2021 are:

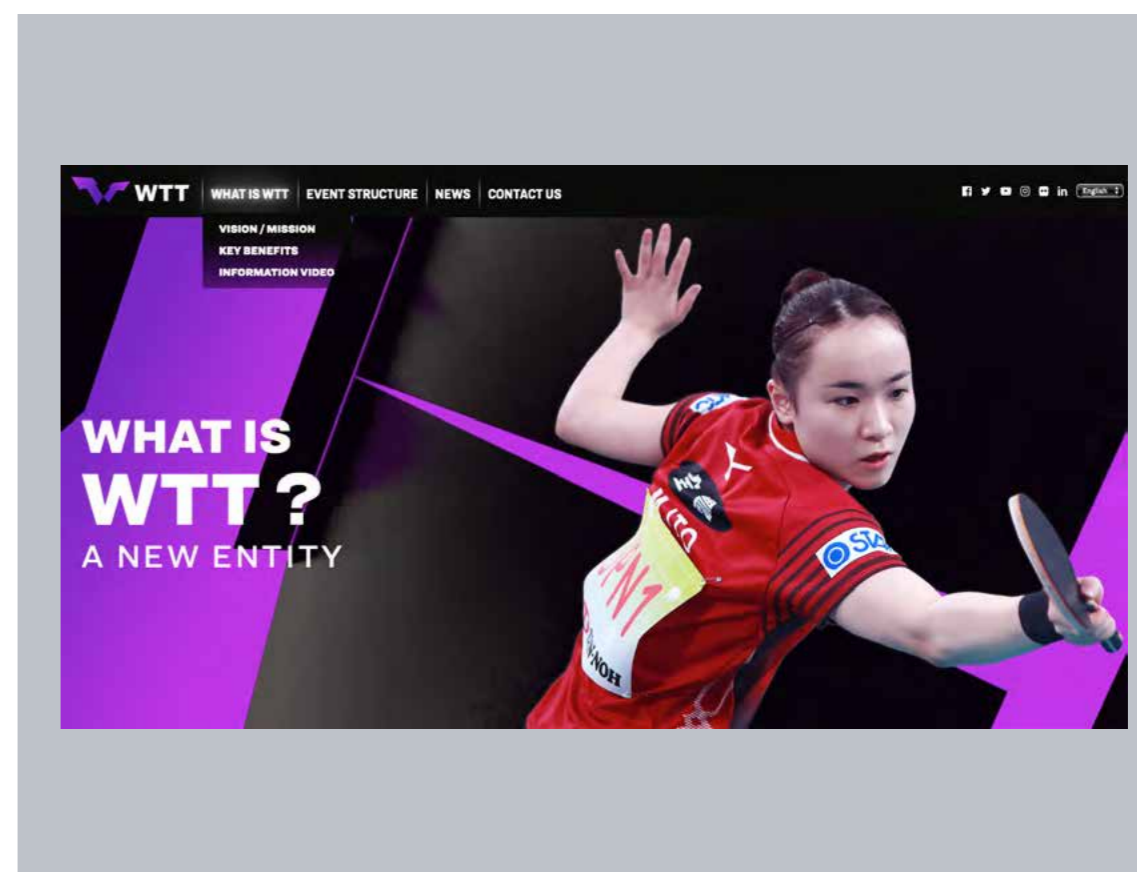
- Increased prize money
- New professional event series with blockbuster marquee events
- Globally renowned commercial partners and investors
- Exclusive women's tour to further promote the women's game
- Unrivalled development / high performance opportunities for all future stars
- Robust commercial platform enabling table tennis to catch up with other sports
- Enhanced, centralised TV production to showcase the stars from a fresh angle
- Investment into a new social and digital strategy to further promote players and events

A brand-new event structure aims to revolutionise the professional table tennis circuit as we know it. The world's top athletes will compete for ultimate glory at the Grand Smashes: the perfect mix of the highest-level table tennis, community activation and entertainment. These are the marquee events that all players want to win, all cities want to host, and all fans simply cannot miss!

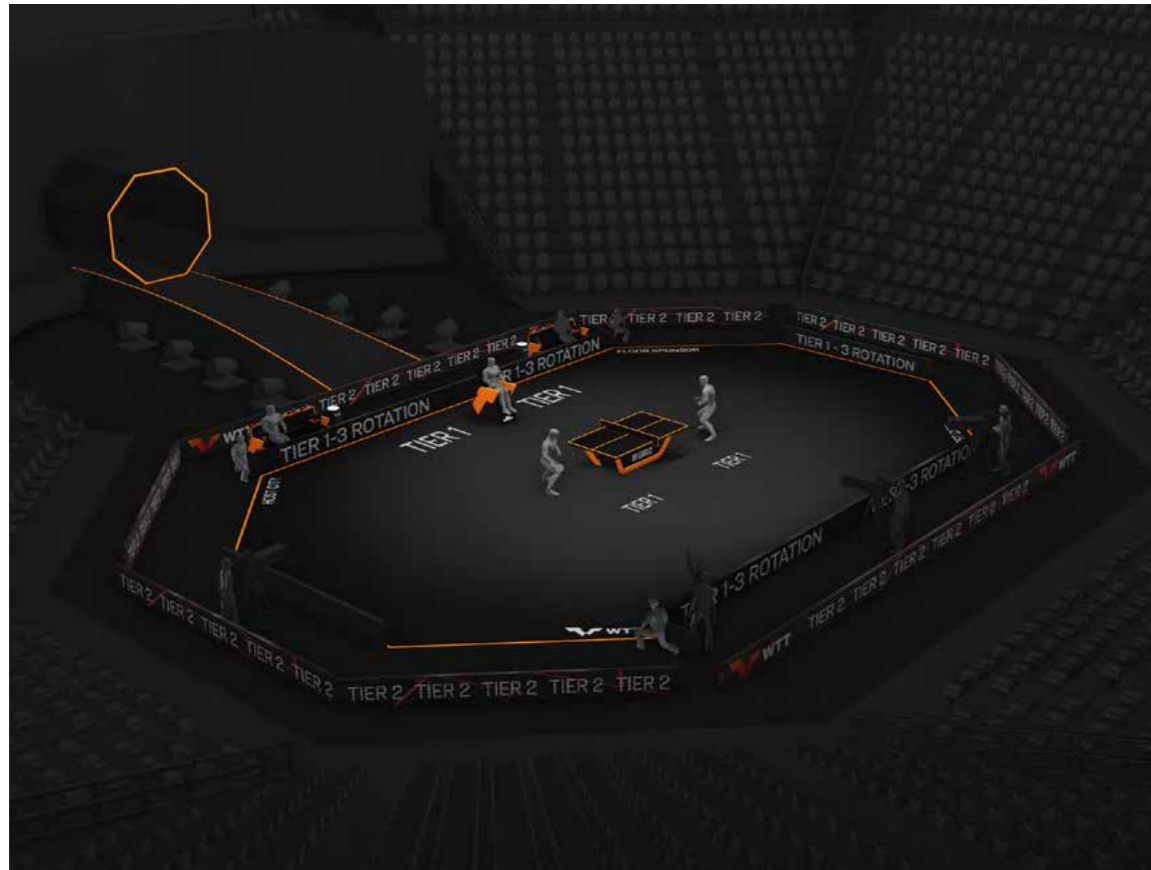
Meanwhile, the WTT Series provides all athletes the perfect platform to showcase their skills and excite fans across the globe, while a brand-new exclusive women's tour will brighten the spotlight on the next generation of female stars. The WTT Champions Series and showpiece WTT Cup Finals are built to entertain, bringing table tennis to unusual and iconic locations around the world, while the Star Contender and Contender Series offer opportunities for up and coming athletes to prove themselves on the circuit.



SAMPLE OF WTT APP ICON.



WORLD TABLE TENNIS LANDING PAGE, LIVE ONLINE.



RENDERING OF A WTT COURT.

### THE ORIGINS

Since 2018, professional consultants Deloitte Sports Business Group and Withers Legal firm were hired to assist with remodelling the way that the ITTF does business, thus giving birth to WTT, which will run all of the ITTF's commercial and event business from 2021, focusing on creating value around table tennis, while at the same time allowing the ITTF and the Member Associations to focus on their core activities.

2019 was a crucial year in the Commercial Tender process. In January, a total of 50 companies registered an expression of interest to partner with WTT and by June, eight companies were invited to submit formal business offers, proposing how they would work together with WTT. Subsequently, a shortlist of the five outstanding candidates was drawn up.

Following final negotiations into 2020, WTT opted to join forces with two core strategic partners, QG Sports - an emerging sports company dedicated to new business development in the field of table tennis training and events - and IMG, a global leader in sports, fashion, events and media.

In his role as Senior Commercial Strategy Consultant, Philippe Le Floc'h will be advising on WTT leadership and commercial strategy to drive table tennis forward in the modern era. Le Floc'h has been operating at the highest level of sports business for more than 25 years, including highly successful stints as Chief Commercial Officer at FIFA and as Marketing Director at UEFA. Le Floc'h brings an invaluable wealth of experience in the field of sports marketing, thus bolstering WTT's position of strength as it sets out to elevate table tennis to unprecedented heights.

It's time for table tennis to fly! Welcome to World Table Tennis



## HOME OF TABLE TENNIS

At the start of 2019, the ITTF sought interest from cities around the world to become the global 'Home of Table Tennis' – a future Headquarters to centralise the ITTF's workforce and drive the growth of table tennis. The ITTF has adopted a holistic approach with the consultation of professionals Deloitte, Withers LLP and Hassell.





# 2

## A NEW LOCATION THE GLOBAL HOME OF TABLE TENNIS

The International Table Tennis Federation, the world governing body for our sport, is looking for its future Home.

The future Global Home of Table Tennis aims to concentrate the ITTF's Headquarters, the ITTF High Performance Training Centre, as well as the new ITTF laboratory for research and development.

The four objectives of the Home of Table Tennis are as follows:

- 1 Becoming the global hub of Table Tennis. The place where not only the day to day key decisions around the sport of Table Tennis are taken, but also the place where R+D around the sport happens, with a pioneering laboratory.
- 2 Becoming a model of sustainability for generations to come and for other sports organisations and entities to mirror. The ITTF is fully committed to ensure the highest standards of sustainability, energetic efficiency and to cooperate in Advancing Net Zero, by becoming the first International Federation Headquarters offsetting its total carbon footprint.

- 3 Ensuring the longevity of the sport, the academic function and transmission of knowledge for future Table Tennis generations, and the necessary stability to attract local and international qualified human resources by securing from the local authorities the support and the current tax benefits as per the Swiss regulations.

- 4 Integrating itself in the City hosting it, evolving and prospering in a Metropolitan environment as the city and its citizens do, and eventually becoming in the long run one of the Cities' icons.



### WHY SHOULD A CITY BECOME THE HOME OF TABLE TENNIS?

- I. HUB OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY
- II. EVENT HOSTING POSSIBILITIES
- III. CITY PROFILE
- IV. DEVELOPING TALENT
- V. CITY SOCIAL IMPACT
- VI. STATE OF THE ART CONSTRUCTION
- VII. SUSTAINABILITY VISION
- VIII. PARTNERSHIP

### VISION & PILLARS

- BUILDING ENJOYMENT
- HIGH PERFORMANCE
- GLOBAL INCLUSIVITY
- HEALTH FOCUSED
- SUSTAINABILITY

"The Home of Table Tennis project builds upon the recent growth of the ITTF and looks towards the future of having a more centralised workforce, as well as High Performance Training Centre and a laboratory for research and development all under the one roof. This site will become the focal point of table tennis globally."

RAUL CALIN // ITTF SECRETARY GENERAL



### TTX

With an estimated 330 million people playing, table tennis remains one of the only sports in the world that literally everyone has experienced in one form or another. This thought process led to the ITTF's research and development team to the conclusion that most players just love playing in a social, entertaining, and competitive environment.

# 3

## A NEW PERSPECTIVE TTX



**SMASH STREET BY TTX:  
A HUGE SUCCESS IN DENVER!**

On Saturday 24th August 2019 A first-of-its-kind ping pong experience hit the streets of Denver, Colorado, as ITTF and Two Parts teamed up to present 'Smash Street by TTX'

A huge and fun-loving crowd of 4,200 people joined in the party to experience unique opportunities and play TTX on 75 tables in the sun on a perfect 33-degree summer's day!

Anyone who joined the festivities did not have to be holding a paddle to have a great time. Players and guests alike were able to enjoy live music and interactive TTX activations where they tested their luck on different variations of TTX tables.



**SUCCESS STORY IN VARBERG:  
A CITY FANATIC ABOUT TTX**

Following the great success registered in 2018, the Swedish Table Tennis Association (STTA) the first ever association to organize a TTX national championship, decided to continue the tradition and celebrate the 2019 edition of the TTX Swedish Championships in Apelviken, Varberg.

Around 4,000 visitors enjoyed the exceptional weather, the perfect surroundings and got absolutely obsessed with TTX!



**ROMA PING PONG FEST:  
TTX ENGAGES TOURISTS WITH FUN!**

Set against the iconic backdrop of the Colosseum, the Roma Ping Pong Fest was designed to be more of a showcase for the 'TTX Experience' to a broader audience. And as the event of TTX itself remained front and centre, there were kids, celebrities, and adult tournaments amongst all-day performances taking place all over the venue.

Approximately 60,000 people, attended the 9-hour event held on Sunday 6th October in the Via dei Fori Imperiali in Rome. Italian citizens, tourists and many curious people were able to closely observe this new vibrant sport that can be played Anytime Anywhere!. Those present also had the chance to admire the many shows and performances held on the central stage of the village.



**TTX AND  
THE ARAB TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

The Arab Table Tennis Association in collaboration with ITTF organized a series of events where participants from 20 Arab Countries across the 2 continents experienced TTX and competed against each other in exclusive locations in Doha, Qatar and Agadir in Morocco.



**TTX'S PILOT PROJECT:  
UGANDA**

The TTX project in Kampala was a major triumph and for the first time ever brought the international schools in Uganda closer to the sport.

# TTX TABLE TENNIS



The Opportunity is NOW!

Whether it's on the exotic beaches, in the bars and pubs in the city, in the corporate headquarters of a tech firm or in schools, TTX can be played Anytime, Anywhere!

A 360° all-rounded TTX Experience that connects a worldwide community of players engaging a wide cross-section of people, men & women, young & old, coming from different cultures and backgrounds, all united by the unique ethos of the sport!



**TECH INNOVATION & DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION TO HELP BUILDING A TTX ECOSYSTEM, INTEGRATING ACTIVITIES AND ENCOURAGE INTERACTIONS ACROSS MULTIPLE PLATFORMS**

**INNOVATIVE & SUSTAINABLE EQUIPMENT**

**A VIBRANT SERIES OF TTX EVENTS FUSING SPORT, LIFESTYLE AND ENTERTAINMENT TO ENSURE UNIQUE EXPERIENCES!**

## COME AND PLAY

Experience TTX anytime, anywhere!

Download the TTX app & start challenging your friends today!



# WHAT IS IT? HOW DOES IT WORK?

## RULES RULE!

Grab yourself a standard table tennis table, or if you don't have one, then any flat surface will do. Approx. dimensions if you need them are 2.74m long x 1.525m wide. Or just feel free to improvise.

If your table doesn't have a net, then construct a 'wall or net' to mark the table into two halves.

Arm yourself with a fierce table tennis bat and balls! Coming soon, TTX bats will be without rubber and TTX balls will be bigger and heavier.

Play indoor or outdoor (and let the wind add an extra dimension!).

## TABLE TENNIS, BUT NOT AS YOU KNOW IT

To begin your match, decide who gets to go first, by either tossing a coin, or playing a game of 'rock, paper, scissors' against your opponent.

The winner of the draw or coin toss, gets to choose if they would like to serve first or choose their preferred side of the table.

If serving first, then your opponent gets to choose which end of the table they would like to start at.

Unlike conventional table tennis, there are no set rules for how to serve in a game of TTX, so you can freestyle it, and serve it your way! You don't have to toss the ball if you don't want to, there is no specific toss height, and you are able to hide service behind arms, legs or other body parts.

The start of serve can be from anywhere.

For a serve to count, the ball must bounce once on the serving player's side of the table first, followed by bouncing on the opponents side once. As long as the serve is made before the buzzer, the point will be considered.

Keep vigilant because your opponent can serve when you are not ready!

## HUSTLE YOUR WAY TO GLORY

Points in TTX are won in the same way as regular table tennis. The key things to know are:

A player shall score a point(s) if:

- an opponent fails to make a correct service or return
- the ball passes over the end line without touching his or her court, after being struck by an opponent
- an opponent obstructs the ball or strikes the ball twice in succession

### 1 POINT

Scored when:

- your opponent doesn't return the ball over the net
- opponent fails to make a correct service

### 2 POINTS

Scored when a shot or service is a:

'Winner'

A winner is winning shot (see, said it was simple). 2 points are awarded if you, or your opponent, serves or returns a ball that the opponent does not touch... WINNER!

'Wildcard Ball'

A wildcard gives you the chance to score extra points when you might need it most. To activate the wildcard ball, a player must call "WILDCARD!" before a serve. If that player then wins the game with the wildcard ball, you get 2 points.

**However, you can't rest on your laurels in TTX. You never know when the game might change, and when your opponent might score points!**

### 4 POINTS

Scored when:

- you call a 'Wildcard Ball' and serve a winner or hit a winner shot



#### ITTF FOUNDATION

Established in May 2018, the ITTF Foundation grew significantly in 2019, celebrating the inauguration of their headquarters in Leipzig (Germany), in September. From this central base, the Foundation is coordinating CSR activities internationally to help make the world a better place through table tennis.



## 4

## A NEW PERSPECTIVE WORLD TABLE TENNIS DAY

WORLD TABLE TENNIS DAY IS ABOUT  
TABLE TENNIS FOR ALL:  
POPULAR, UNIVERSAL & INCLUSIVE.

It is a yearly celebration on April 6 of the joy to play table tennis for fun, gathering table tennis enthusiasts where the focus is less on the competition and more on participation and fun, attract people who usually don't play table tennis, promote the love for our sport, and ideally engage new players to the practice in the long term.

Many different events are happening every year around the world: big or small, funny or serious, indoor or outdoor. There have been so many ideas of how table tennis can be used to reach a broad and diverse population groups, e.g. an event was organised in a retirement centre where table tennis was introduced for the first time to elderly people living there; one helped to involve refugees in sport; another event used table tennis to educate people about the danger of drugs.

Additionally, the ITTF Foundation organises one main event, with very different scenarios, different continents are covered with a varying focus. Between 2015 and 2019, table tennis was celebrated in the main street of Argentina's capital Buenos Aires, inaugurated the TT4NepALL project in Kathmandu together with para players, showed the world the simplicity of adapted sports at the UN Headquarters in New York and the SportAccord Convention in Denmark, played with refugees in the Za'atari Camp at the Jordan border with Syria and practiced with kids at two projects in Uganda encouraging school attendance and giving hope.



# Achieve Champion



Double Fish spokesperson  
**Liu Shiwen**  
2019 Budapest WTC  
Women's singles champion  
Mixed doubles champion



Shi wen DF-S2  
Professional blade



Volant king 2 table tennis table  
(International competition table)



Gold package 3star table tennis ball  
(Team World Cup ball)



DF16&DF26 pimples  
out racket covering



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#### SUSTAINABILITY WORKING GROUP

The Executive Vice-President, Petra Sörling raised the issue of sustainability in today's society and stressed the importance of reducing the negative impact on the environment. For table tennis as a sport, it was necessary to start thinking about how to find solutions, especially in the area of equipment sustainability, and strongly recommended the formation of a Sustainability Working Group, led by international experts.







# DEPARTMENT REPORTS



## COMPETITIONS

The Competitions Department, in cooperation with other departments, is dealing with most of the operations around table tennis events and the planning for the following years. 2018 has been a different year in terms of operations for the department; in July 2018 a new team took over the competition operations and since then we are trying to run the daily work for over 120 events as best as we can and at the same time reshape the Competition Department, improve current practices, create a more open dialogue with players and coaches and evaluate all events for future planning so we can continue with fresh ideas from 2021 on.

We have been working very closely with the colleagues from the marketing department, aiming for successful and meaningful events across all levels. We succeeded in improving the presentation and increasing the total of

prize money for the major ITTF events and working hard for a more significant increase in the coming years.

A significant increase was noted in the participation of players in our core products - the World Tour, Challenge, Junior Circuit and the Para events - as well as a result from the implementation of the new World Ranking, which has been proved as a positive change. We are fully aware that there are some details to fine tune in the World Ranking and working towards that.

The Board of Directors in 2018 has voted for a very important and positive change for a new format for the WTTC, more inclusive and up to the current modern and demanding world of sports. We are confident that this positive decision will help us achieve the objective of increasing the participation of Member Associations in the World

Table Tennis Championships to over 80% by 2024 and promoting table tennis in more countries. We are working closely with a professional consultancy firm to define the details of the new WTTC and be ready for full implementation from 2021 on.

Most of the major events in 2018 and at the same time the planning for the following years (with main focus 2019) have been overall successful. We had a record number of bids and interest in hosting events, including the first WTTCs with the new format, which indicates that the events are becoming more appealing, but also that taking table tennis to different parts of the world is not hard to achieve.

2018 has definitely been a different and busy year and we are looking forward in what is coming! We are realizing that some changes are tough to make but on the other hand it takes change to

make change. We still have some way to go but our goal is to professionalize events and work with all key stakeholders (players first!) to offer the best possible conditions for player and deliver the events in an excellent way.

**VICKY ELEFThERIADE**  
COMPETITIONS DIRECTOR

# COMPETITIONS FACTS & FIGURES

## TOP 50 RANKED PLAYERS\* (DEC 2019 WR) WORLD TOUR PARTICIPATIONS



7.6  
IN 2018

AVG MEN

+ 21.58%



9.24  
IN 2019



74  
IN 2018

AVG WOMEN

+ 14.25%



8.34  
IN 2019

# HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT FACTS & FIGURES

## AVERAGE WORLD TOUR PARTICIPATIONS



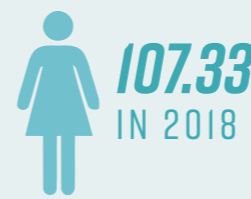
143.25  
IN 2018

MEN

+ 4.17%



149.23  
IN 2019



107.33  
IN 2018

WOMEN

+ 5.86%



113.62  
IN 2019





## HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT

The year 2019 should certainly be remembered as a year of innovations and expansion of virtually all the areas that the ITTF High Performance & Development encompasses.

Following the new Continental Development Programs that have been developed for each Continent, we have seen a significant increase of Member Associations that take part and benefit in the much more diversified portfolio of the different development and educational opportunities made available to all the members, from grassroots to high performance level. It is the first time that we have reached more than 60% of Member Associations worldwide, which is encouraging and also confirms that following the revamp of the HPD menu and of the funding distribution formula, now based on needs and priorities following a categorisation of Member Associations, we are able to meet better the needs of the membership.

Another extremely positive aspect is the increase of female participation, which rose above 40%, much thanks to the "My Gender. My Strength." initiative that was warmly welcomed by the ground already in its first year of inception.

In the area of High Performance the revision of the ITTF Athlete Development Model resulted in the organisation of 10 global training camps, minimum two per age category, which also represents an important milestone. In total 90 days of training were offered in 2019 (compared to 42 in 2018), while the participating players and coaches represented 43 Member Associations from all corners of the World. With our Strategic Youth Development Partner, the China based QG Sport, new avenues and additional initiatives are being explored and more opportunities will start rolling out in 2020 so stay tuned.

At the same time also the Hopes Program continued to grow and expand; in its 10th year this global talent identification program featured 17 events on international level, 9 Regional and 6 Continental activities, with many more held on National level. Another important addition was made in connection with the With the Future in Mind program, through which thanks to the fruitful cooperation with Olympic Solidarity and an additional investment from ITTF, we are now able to support 32 players in their pursue of Olympic Dreams – 18 within the Tokyo 2020 group and as a novelty also 14 young, promising players in their preparation for the Dakar 2022 Youth Olympic Games.

On the other hand, the past year was very much a year of planning and preparations for the Education Unit. A comprehensive Educational Matrix has been put in place that covers 16 different profiles and features blended learning at all stages and for

all levels. The first outcome is the forthcoming first ever global online examination for international Umpires, but more contemporary and updated content will be gradually introduced in 2020 and especially from 2021 on.

**POLONA CEHOVIN**  
HIGH PERFORMANCE &  
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

# HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT FACTS & FIGURES

## CONTINENTAL DEVELOPMENT

**925**  
**DAYS OF  
ACTIVITIES**

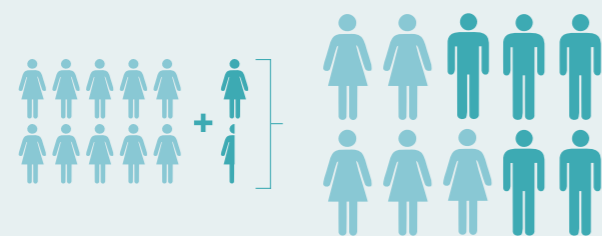
### HIGHLIGHTS

- Recruitment of 4 Development Officers to offer daily support to NAs and impart skills and tools relevant on their development pathway.
- Set up of a more need-based approach through the Equipment Assistance program with 2 types of packages (basic and competition).
- Regional and Continental Hopes activities expanded with the addition of the Cadet age category.



**50% INCREASE**  
OF NAs BENEFITING FROM CD PROGRAM

146 NAs TAKING PART  
VS 98 IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR



15% INCREASE IN  
FEMALE PARTICIPATION AT  
CD ACTIVITIES, STANDING AT  
**42% OF OVERALL  
PARTICIPATION**

## HIGH PERFORMANCE

**HOPES  
PROGRAM**

**17** EVENTS | **90** TRAINING DAYS | **455** PARTICIPANTS

### HIGHLIGHTS

- 32 players from 6 Continents supported via the With the Future in Mind Program with a view towards the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and the Dakar 2022 Youth Olympic Games.
- 48 players from 34 NAs benefitted from the 50% WJC hospitality credit incentive.
- Introduction of the Hopes Squad and the U13 Hopes Team, playing at the 2019 World Cadet Challenge for the first time.

## EDUCATION

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Development of a comprehensive Educational Matrix featuring blended learning with 16 different profiles envisioned to start being implemented from 2021 onward.
- Educational sessions at all ITTF High Performance training camps and activities with players, like with provision of relevant online tools, including from the areas of Anti-Doping and Integrity.
- Preparations for the first global online International Umpire Examination available in 10 languages and airing in March/ April 2020.



**ITTF  
EDUCATION.COM**  
**630,000**  
IMPRESSIONS

#### COUNTRY IMPRESSIONS

India 62,735  
United States 61,729  
United Kingdom 34,5-8  
Germany 19,956  
Hong Kong 18,057



## MARKETING & MEDIA

2019 was a spectacular year for the ITTF's Marketing & Media department, seeing unprecedented successes in terms of new partnerships as well as record-breaking figures across TV, social media and online streaming.

### NEW & RENEWED PARTNERSHIPS

2019 was a fruitful year for the ITTF Sales team, as we saw record number of partners coming on board. The 2019 Women's World Cup signed Chengdu Airlines as the Title Sponsor, while Shanghai Automobile came in as a new partner together with Jia Jia Milk. Dongfeng Automobile became the Major Sponsor for the 2019 Men's World Cup, Team World Cup, and partnered the World Tour Grand Finals alongside Voss and Warhorse as Major Sponsors. Wellbet was signed as a Major Sponsor for the Australian Open, while Cisco and Autohome were confirmed as Official Sponsors for the Team World Cup and World Championships respectively.

12Bet, Liebherr and Li Ning were among the partners who renewed their commitment to international table tennis, sponsoring events including the World Cup and World Championships, while Li Ning extended its partnership to

ITTF Staff and Officials at the Tokyo Olympic Games. With the emphasis on digital activation to engage table tennis fans worldwide, ITTF sponsors continue their partnership as presenting sponsors of the ever-growing volume of social media content generated by the ITTF Media team. All of these achievements were made possible thanks to a more strategic approach of working closely with organizers to secure sponsors and thanks to the closely knitted cooperation between the ITTF Sales and Marketing teams.

### RECORD-BREAKING TV & SOCIAL MEDIA FIGURES

ITTF continue to set new digital and broadcast media records in 2019. The ITTF's social media community grew by 1 million in a single calendar year for the first time ever, increasing from 2,802,725 in 2018 to 3,845,493 in 2019. Major gains were made across various social media platforms, table tennis fans around the world enjoyed the ever-growing amount of content from the team, with total video views across Youtube, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter rose from 155 million to 350 million in 2019.

Fans appetite for live table tennis action in HD quality continue to grow, seeing a 69% growth in consumption on ITTF's official online streaming platform itTV, with a total of 16.6 million sessions registered throughout 2019. 2019 was a year to remember for ITTF.com as well with 4.6 million users accounting for 22 million sessions and over 50 million individual page views. ITTF continue to break its own records for TV viewership across the globe, with a grand total of 1.41 billion unique viewers tuned in to watch major events in 2019. The ITTF's continued success in TV broadcasting and social media ensures that the sport is increasingly reaching, exciting and entertaining a rapidly growing global fan base.

### WORLD TABLE TENNIS - GETTING READY FOR 2021

With the new commercial cycle starting in 2021, the ITTF Marketing team began its journey to explore how best to manage the ITTF's future commercial rights to yield maximum commercial value, together with the Executive Committee and the Sports Business Group at Deloitte. Hence, World Table Tennis (WTT) was started in 2019 to

be responsible for growing the commercial value of our sport and to create a professional platform of table tennis events for players and fans.

With WTT now fully up and running, we can all look forward to a much more modern entertainment experience for the players, fans, broadcasters, cities and partners in 2021 where the ITTF will see the most significant increase in its commercial activities.

**MATT POUND**  
MARKETING DIRECTOR

# MARKETING & MEDIA FACTS & FIGURES

## SOCIAL MEDIA

**4,130,000 FOLLOWERS** AS OF 2019

\* NOT INCLUDING ITTV FOLLOWERS

**f 703,000**  
FOLLOWERS

**t 72,000**  
FOLLOWERS

**e 2,350,000**  
FOLLOWERS

**▶ 430,000**  
FOLLOWERS

**@ 248,000**  
FOLLOWERS

**itTV 327,000**  
FOLLOWERS



**1,410,000,000**  
UNIQUE VIEWERS

## BROADCAST & EXPOSURE

TOTAL BROADCAST TIME

**5067:16**  
IN 2018

**+ 36.4%**

**6911**  
IN 2019

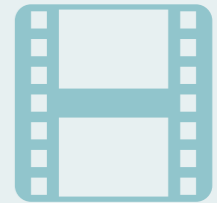


TOTAL SPONSORSHIP MEDIA VALUE (USD)

**\$ 1.124B**  
IN 2018

**+ 50%**

**\$ 1.7B**  
IN 2019



TOTAL BRAND VISIBILITY

**21294**  
IN 2018

**+ 80%**

**40,432**  
IN 2019





## ITTF FOUNDATION

We have our Headquarters! 2019 was the first year working physically together which made us more dynamic and responsive. In order to boost our mission on the field and in the office spreading "Solidarity through Table Tennis" we expanded our staff by welcoming a Field Programmes Coordinator, a Marketing Manager and a Global Programmes and Operations Coordinator.

In 2019 we implemented many new projects and celebrated amazing highlights: The TT Dream Building Fund (DBF) was successfully established in January, making table tennis more than ever before not just a sport, but a tool for positive social change contributing to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs)! We finished 2019 supporting six DBF 2019 selected projects worldwide for 2-3 years focusing on the social and educational role of table tennis to improve different aspects of people's lives.

After our headquarters were successfully opened,

the ITTF Foundation was officially recognized by local authorities in March.

Celebrating our joy playing table tennis and kicking off one DBF2019 project that we've been supporting since 2015, the main event of the World Table Tennis Day 2019 took place at two locations in Uganda with Slum Ping Pong and HONECRIC. On this occasion we showed the inclusiveness, popularity and universality in the sense of not only focusing on capital cities, but on rural areas and slums as well.

Thanks to the Athletes Emergency Fund, which is implemented in collaboration with the ITTF Athletes Commission, we can now support international players in cases of urgent need.

In September, with our steadily growing family, special guests, inhabitants and tourists we inaugurated our headquarters in Leipzig, Germany. Kicking off our new programme TT4Health in

October, the 1st ITTF Parkinson's World Table Tennis Championships in Westchester (NY), USA, were not only a huge success, but we decided to make it a yearly event. At our DBF project in France, we are also constantly working with people with Alzheimer's Disease.

Our work with disadvantaged groups became even more fruitful in November signing three pledges at UNHCR's first Global Refugee Forum in Geneva, Switzerland. To highlight this, we keep on doing our work at the Za'atari Refugee Camp in Jordan, started expanding it at the Azraq Refugee Camp, Jordan, as well as beginning to reach the most disadvantaged groups: women and people with a disability.

We actively update interested people through our new website [ittffoundation.org](http://ittffoundation.org). To be even more effective, we've launched our first own donation campaign at the ITTF Star Awards, so everyone from everywhere can support a specific project, a

programme or our work in general.

A great honour for us and our work is the receipt of two awards: Bronze at the Sports Business Award for World Table Tennis Day in the category 'Best Sports Event of the Year – Overseas' as well as Bronze at the SPIA Award in the category 'Best Sports CSR Initiative' for our Dream Building project Table Tennis for NepALL.

I would like to thank all who believed in us along with our donors, partners and decision makers in general! This would not be possible without our highly motivated staff making our dreams reality. Thank you!

Table tennis is truly for everyone, everywhere!

**LEANDRO OLVECH**  
ITTF FOUNDATION DIRECTOR



# ITTF FOUNDATION FACTS & FIGURES

**11 HUMANITARIAN  
PROJECTS**



**107 ITTF MEMBER  
COUNTRIES**  
INVOLVED ON ALL 6 CONTINENTS



**3200**  
KIDS & YOUTH



**45%**  
ARE FEMALE



**4.5%**  
HAVE DISABILITIES



## INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITIONS

BRONZE FOR „WORLD TABLE TENNIS DAY“  
at Sports Business Award in the category “Best Sports Event of the Year”

BRONZE FOR “TABLE TENNIS FOR NEPAL” PROJECT AT THE 2019 SPIA AWARDS  
in the category “Best Sports CSR Initiative of the Year”

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2019



### FIRST DREAM BUILDING FUND CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Since January 2019, humanitarian projects using table tennis for development and peace can apply for ITTF Foundation's support through the Dream Building Fund. Focus is on how table tennis contributes to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Six projects were selected and started their work in 2019.



### WORLD TABLE TENNIS DAY 2019

Each year, on April 6, the ITTF Foundation invites the world to host events celebrating the love for our sport. World Table Tennis Day is more than a mere mass participation event. It is about sharing our passion for table tennis with others including actively disadvantaged groups. Table Tennis is globally presented as popular, universal and inclusive.

In 2019, 107 ITTF member countries celebrated the biggest WTTD ever with 922 registered events and 700,000 persons participating.



### HEADQUARTERS INAUGURATION

In September, the ITTF Foundation headquarters were inaugurated. Table tennis was mixed up with culture and arts. International guests joined the general public during an impactful procession along the streets of Leipzig, Germany.



### FIRST EVER CELEBRATED ITTF PARKINSON'S WORLD TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

In October 2019 history was written in Pleasantville, New York. It was more than a competition; strong people and supporters combined their hope and shared the positive impact table tennis has in life of persons with Parkinson's.

"We are committed to following our new strategy. We must be transparent, uphold good governance and make sure that all of our stakeholders can follow our steps forward. We want that players are more satisfied by prize money and events themselves, while we also want to support our members by making more money to reinvest into the development of our key stakeholders."

**THOMAS WEIKERT, ITTF PRESIDENT  
ON GOOD GOVERNANCE AND FINANCES**



INTON

THOMAS WEIKER



# FINANCIAL UPDATES

CCM S

# FINANCES

2019 saw continued growth in the terms of finances, as well as overall business growth for the ITTF. For a fourth consecutive year, record levels of revenue were achieved, and strong foundations were laid in 2019 to see this trend continue for the foreseeable future.

The ITTF established three new entities throughout 2019. World Table Tennis Pte Ltd, the entity which will be responsible for the events and marketing of global table tennis activities, the ITTF Foundation became legally established and will drive the corporate social responsibility activities of table tennis globally, and a branch office was established in North America. The growth of the ITTF footprint is truly becoming global following the establishment of these entities.

The primary increase in revenues came through new marketing and commercial efforts, which saw USD16.15m generated, and when combined with other incomes meant an overall revenue of USD 23.52 million was generated during the year.

With increased revenues, the ITTF saw 2019 as a pivotal year for investment. The creation of the Member Relations Department, as well as the legal recognition of the ITTF Foundation saw new areas of focused investment. Financial support being directed towards the global growth of table tennis from a grassroots level, as well as improving the relations between ITTF and its Members.

However, it was not only 2019 activities that were invested into, with the future a clear focus as well. Significant time and resources were put towards the future management of the ITTF's commercial rights. In recent years, the value of the commercial rights has increased significantly, and the ITTF needed to confirm how best to further this growth from 2021 onwards, and therefore enlisted professional support to define what path this should take.

Although there were many areas of new investment, it is important to note that the ITTF has once again been able to reduce its debt ratio, an important sign towards the stability of the ITTF's current financial state.

Due to the increased levels of the revenue, for the first time, the ITTF consolidated financial statements also included confirmation that an internal controls system existed, in accordance with Swiss Law and Swiss Auditing Standards.

As the ITTF enters the final year of the four-year Olympic cycle, with more than USD 6 million still available following the share of funds received from the International Olympic Committee following the previous Olympic Games.

Additional investment was made towards human resources, the most valuable asset to any organisation. The ITTF saw its workforce grow from 50 staff to more than 70 throughout 2019. Professional Development continues to be of high importance, as more staff gradually take up these opportunities, many of which are external based courses.

The ITTF has gone through significant financial transformation in recent years, with significant growth and stability being key themes. The initial stabilisation of the finances, following recent growth, now places the ITTF in a strong financial position.

**MICHAEL BROWN**  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

## RECORD REVENUE

**\$23.52M**  
10% INCREASE FROM PRIOR YEAR



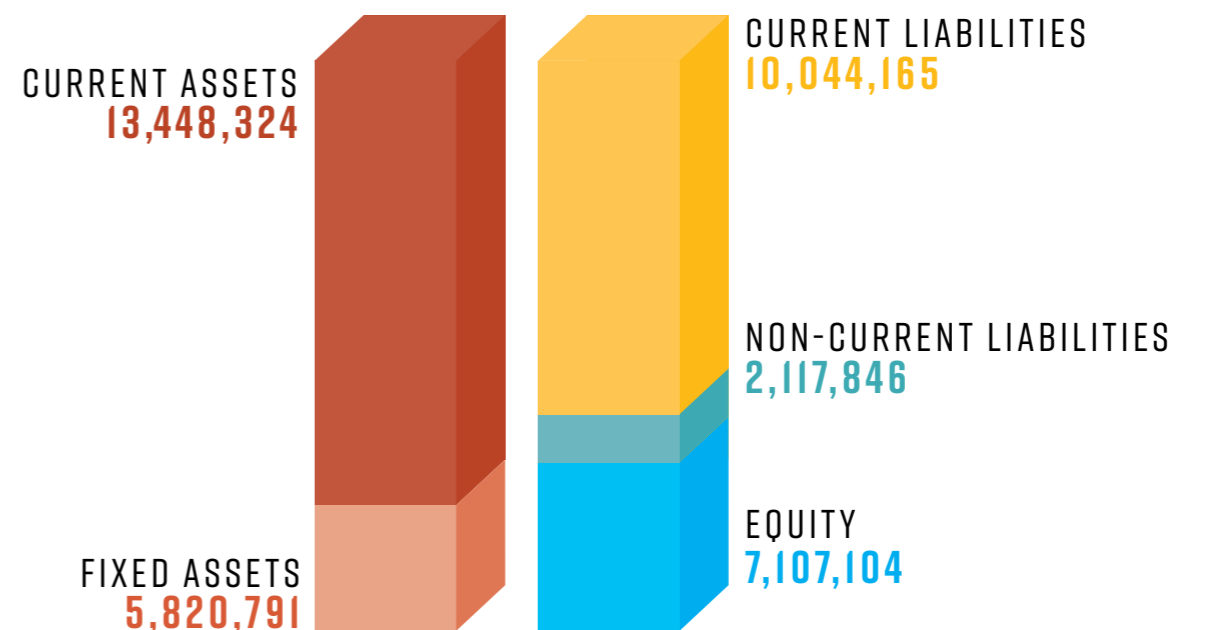
## REDUCED DEBT RATIO

**0.63**  
WAS 0.70



## OLYMPIC RESERVE

**>\$6M**



## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AT DEC 31, 2019 (IN USD)

	Note	2019	2018
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	2,694,462	3,606,452
Term Deposits	4	5,500,000	10,000,000
Trade and other receivables	5	3,030,741	3,293,171
Prepaid expense		2,223,121	1,381,048
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>13,448,324</b>	<b>18,280,671</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Term Deposit – Museum Fund	4, 6	2,000,000	1,200,000
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>
<b>Capital Assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	7	3,423,393	3,468,569
Intangible assets	8	397,398	561,031
<b>Total Capital Assets</b>		<b>3,820,791</b>	<b>4,029,600</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>19,269,115</b>	<b>23,510,271</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade creditors		1,644,445	1,648,337
Deferred revenues - Olympic funding	9	6,019,868	10,269,869
Deferred income and accrued expense	10	2,379,852	2,580,538
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>10,044,165</b>	<b>14,498,744</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
ITTF Museum Fund	6	2,000,000	2,000,000
Other committed funds		117,846	-
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>2,117,846</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Unrestricted funds	11	6,926,895	7,033,327
Restricted funds	11	181,607	-
Currency translation adjustments	11	(1,398)	(21,800)
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>7,107,104</b>	<b>7,011,527</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>		<b>19,269,115</b>	<b>23,510,271</b>

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED DEC 31, 2019 (IN USD)

	Note	2019	2018
<b>Income</b>			
Marketing rights	12	16,148,749	14,836,082
Olympic fund	9	4,250,000	4,013,290
Competitions	13	672,294	261,350
High Performance & Development	14	277,516	265,097
Equipment Approval Fees	15	1,676,600	1,511,385
Membership fees		33,900	33,900
Other income	16	459,348	429,312
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>23,518,407</b>	<b>21,350,416</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Competitions	17	(9,618,763)	(9,000,285)
Marketing expenses	18	(4,172,687)	(4,615,452)
Administration expenses	19	(3,331,586)	(3,004,660)
High Performance & Development	20	(2,411,253)	(2,132,904)
Member Relations	21	(1,136,961)	-
Governance	22	(2,049,752)	(998,453)
Foundation	23	(484,239)	-
Equipment	24	(127,205)	(188,457)
Olympics & Paralympics	25	(19,361)	(151,280)
Foreign Currency Gains and (Losses)	28	(91,891)	(44,818)
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>(23,443,698)</b>	<b>(20,136,309)</b>
<b>Results from operation</b>		<b>74,709</b>	<b>1,214,107</b>
Allocation to restricted funds		(181,142)	-
<b>Net results for the period</b>		<b>(106,433)</b>	<b>1,214,107</b>

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 (IN USD)

	Note	2019	2018
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net results for the period	11	(106,433)	1,214,107
Adjustments for:			
Amortisation of intangible assets	8	223,010	214,226
Depreciation of plant and equipment	7	89,098	294,668
Allocation to restricted funds		181,607	-
Loss on disposal of plant and equipment		-	-
Loss on foreign exchange		91,891	93,872
<b>Changes in working capital</b>			
Increase in prepayments		(842,074)	(1,172,597)
Decrease in trade and other receivables	5	262,430	49,210
(Decrease)/increase in payables		(3,892)	114,585
(Decrease)/increase in accrued expenses	10	(200,686)	430,441
Decrease in deferred revenues – Olympic funding	9	(4,250,000)	(3,787,500)
<b>Net cash (used in)/generated from operating activities</b>		<b>(4,555,049)</b>	<b>(2,548,988)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(43,921)	(199,463)
Purchase of intangible fixed assets		(59,377)	(231,926)
Proceeds from disposal of term deposit	4	4,500,000	(2,800,000)
Investment/proceeds in/from Museum Fund	6	(800,000)	400,000
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>3,596,702</b>	<b>(2,831,389)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Proceeds from project funding		117,846	-
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		<b>117,846</b>	<b>-</b>
Net decrease in cash and equivalents		(840,501)	(5,380,377)
Cash and cash equivalents as at 1 January		3,606,452	9,089,172
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes		(71,489)	(102,343)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents as at 31 December</b>		<b>2,694,462</b>	<b>3,606,452</b>

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2019

### I. ACTIVITY

The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), domiciled in Lausanne, Switzerland, is an international non-governmental not-for-profit organisation in the form of an association with the status of a legal person. The objectives of the Federation are:

- a) to develop the spirit of friendship and mutual assistance among affiliated table tennis associations and players;
- b) to regulate relations between affiliated table tennis associations and between table tennis associations and other organizations;
- c) to seek continual improvement in the technical standard of table tennis and in the extent of participation in the sport throughout the world;
- d) to foster friendly sporting competition and to eliminate unfair and unsporting practices;
- e) to establish and maintain the Laws of Table Tennis and the Regulations for international Competitions;
- f) to publish the standard text of the Rules, consisting of the Constitution, the Laws and the Regulations;
- g) to encourage the publication of the Rules in other languages and to check the accuracy of such publications;
- h) to promote and to supervise World and Olympic title competitions; and
- i) to employ the funds of the ITTF as may be expedient in the interests of international table tennis.
- j) to endeavor to increase participation at all levels, to enhance the popularity of the sport, to develop new sources of revenue and to manage the sport through a systematic planning process.
- k) to encourage players, coaches and officials to present the sport positively in the best ways so as to enhance its image.
- l) to encourage and to support the promotion of women in sport at all levels and to ensure significant representation of women in ITTF Committees, Commissions and Working Groups.

In addition to the activities of the ITTF in Lausanne, these consolidated financial statements include the activities of International Table Tennis Federation Asia-Pacific Ltd, Singapore (ITTF Singapore), International Table Tennis Federation North America, Canada (ITTF North America), ITTF Foundation, Germany and World Table Tennis Pte Ltd, Singapore (WTT).

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### 2.1 BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements of ITTF are presented in accordance with the Swiss Code of Obligations (title 32 of the Swiss Code of Obligations deals with the commercial accounting and financial reporting) and the significant accounting policies described below, which have been consistently applied to the years presented, unless otherwise stated. The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

Transactions and balances among the consolidated organisations have been eliminated.

These consolidated financial statements will be approved by the Audit & Finance Committee of ITTF on 14 May 2020 in representation of the ITTF Board of Directors.

The amounts shown in these consolidated financial statements are presented in US dollars, in view of the international nature of the ITTF's operations and due to the majority of its revenues being earned in that currency.

### CHANGE IN PRESENTATION

During 2019, the ITTF created a Member Relations Department, as well as the ITTF Foundation. The financial statements have included these two areas with their own financial statement line item, and relative expenses in relation to these areas from 2018, have not been adjusted, but a disclosure is mentioned within the relative notes, which assists for comparative purposes.

## 2.2 BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

Name	Country of incorporation	Consolidation Method	Ownership	
			31 December 2019	31 December 2018
International Table Tennis Federation	Switzerland	Fully consolidated	Ultimate parent company	
International Table Tennis Federation Asia-Pacific Ltd	Singapore	Fully consolidated	100%	100%
International Table Tennis Federation – North America	Canada	Fully consolidated	100%	N/A*
ITTF Foundation	Germany	Fully consolidated	100%	N/A**
World Table Tennis Pte Ltd	Singapore	Fully consolidated	100%	N/A***

\*International Table Tennis Federation – North America was incorporated on 14 January 2019.

\*\*ITTF Foundation was incorporated on 5 March 2019.

\*\*\*World Table Tennis Pte Ltd was incorporated on 14 March 2019.

The consolidated financial statements of the group incorporate the financial statements of the ITTF and the entities controlled by the ITTF.

Control is achieved where ITTF has the power, directly or indirectly, to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities. This is the case where ITTF holds more than 50% of the voting rights. The entities included in this consolidation are shown in the table above.

The financial statements of the subsidiaries are included in the consolidated financial statements from the date that control commences until the date control ceases. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of the subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used into line with those used by the group.

The book value of investments has been eliminated against the share in the net assets of the companies, valued at the time of the acquisition or creation. The purchase method of accounting is used to account for the acquisition or creation of subsidiaries by the group. All inter-company balances and transactions, as well as any unrealised gains and losses arising from transactions between group companies, are eliminated when

## 2.3 FOREIGN CURRENCIES

The Federation's consolidated financial statements are presented in US dollars, which is the main currency used by the organization. For each entity, the Federation determines the functional currency and items included in the financial statements of each entity are measured using that functional currency.

### I) TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded by the Federation's entities at their respective functional currency at a fixed exchange rate adjusted on a yearly basis. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the functional currency spot rates of exchange at the reporting date.

Differences arising on settlement or translation of monetary items are recognised in income statement.

Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the dates of the initial transactions.

### II) TRANSLATION

On consolidation, the assets and liabilities of foreign operations are translated into USD at the rate of exchange prevailing at the reporting date and their income statement is translated at the yearly average rate. The exchange differences arising on translation for consolidation are recognised as equity.

The main exchange rates used are as follows:

1 USD against:	2019		2018	
	Average	Year-end	Average	Year-end
SGD	1.3565	1.3447	1.3493	1.3623
CHF	1.0065	1.0333	0.9786	0.9814
CAD	1.3263	1.3271	-	-
EUR	0.8959	0.8906	-	-

## 2.4 REVENUE RECOGNITION

### MARKETING RIGHTS

The marketing income relates to funds received through sponsorship, television & data rights, advertising income, and income generated through the intangible asset Table Tennis X.

These rights are recognised on the successful completion of the respective competition. Instalments received by the ITTF prior to this date are deferred as they may be repayable, in whole or in part, to the sponsors or television networks at any time up to the completion of the event. Interests earned on the instalments received are of the benefit of ITTF and are recorded as interest income.

### OLYMPIC FUND

The Federation's policy is to release the Olympic revenue, as previously approved by the General Meeting as part of the budgeting process. The funds are to be released over the four-year period and in accordance with the ITTF's planned efforts in developing Table Tennis. The amount released during 2019 equated to 25% (2018: 22%) of the total fund received following the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, as approved by the 2019 Annual General Meeting.

### COMPETITION INCOME

The competition income is in relation to fees received on behalf of local organising committees, in relation to entry and participation fees. Competition income also relates to sanction fees for local organisers to host ITTF competitions. In addition, the 2019 North America Open competition was financially managed by ITTF North America, therefore non-marketing related incomes generated from this event are also recognised as competition income. Those incomes are recognized when the respective competition takes place.

### HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT INCOME

The income derived through High Performance & Development is primarily through external sources, such as Olympic Solidarity, and other grants in relation to sport development. Income is also generated through some educational means.

### EQUIPMENT APPROVAL FEES INCOME

Income is generated through the approval process for equipment to be certified as meeting the technical standards set by the ITTF, and therefore approving the equipment to be used during ITTF competitions. The corresponding revenue is recognized over the period covered by the certification granted to equipment distributors.

## 2.5 TANGIBLE & INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Tangible and intangible fixed assets are stated at acquisition cost less accumulated depreciation/amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses. Assets with finite useful lives are depreciated/amortised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives and assessed for impairment whenever there is an indication that the assets may be impaired. Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are not amortised but are tested for impairment annually. When assets are retired or otherwise disposed of, the cost of the asset and the related accumulated depreciation/amortisation are removed from the accounts. Any profit or loss on disposal of fixed assets is reflected in the statement of income for the period.

Depreciation and amortization are calculated on the basis of the cost of the assets and on their estimated useful lives and is provided as follows:

Tangible fixed assets	
Furniture	33.3% straight-line basis
Equipment & Computers	33.3% straight-line basis
Office Renovation	33.3% straight-line basis
Equipment Laboratory	33.3% straight-line basis
Building	4% straight-line basis
Museum Collection	not depreciated
Intangible fixed assets	
Table Tennis X intangible asset	8.33% straight-line basis
IT & Software	33.3% straight-line basis
Table Tennis X mobile application	50% straight-line basis

During 2019, the Building was not depreciated, as the asset was deemed an investment property as the organisation is not utilizing it, and because the third-party evaluation stated the estimated value of the property is greater than the current book value, no further depreciation took place.

## 3. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Federation's financial instruments consist of cash, fixed term deposits, accounts receivable and accounts payable. The carrying values of these financial instruments approximate their fair value. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Federation is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.

Most of the Federation's financial instruments (cash at bank and financial assets) are nominated in USD.

## 4. CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND TERM DEPOSITS

	2019	2018
Current accounts with banks	2,636,478	3,605,282
Foundation Deposit	56,141	-
Petty Cash	1,842	1,170
	<b>2,694,462</b>	<b>3,606,452</b>
Term deposits		
Current	5,500,000	10,000,000
Non-current	2,000,000	1,200,000
	<b>7,500,000</b>	<b>11,200,000</b>

The ITTF cash in excess is invested in short term money deposits, as well as fixed term deposits, with first ranking banks. These financial assets are accounted for at market value.

The non-current term deposits asset corresponds to the amount of funds which have been received thus far, as an Equity Guarantee liability from the Shanghai Municipal Education Commission and the Chinese Table Tennis Association in relation to ITTF Museum. Further details are available under note 7 below.

The cash, cash equivalents and term deposits are held within the following currencies:

	2019	2018
United States Dollars	9,107,781	13,243,346
Swiss Francs	445,973	368,875
Euros	574,490	1,162,825
Singapore Dollars	36,947	31,406
Canadian Dollars	29,271	-
	<b>10,194,462</b>	<b>14,806,452</b>

## 5. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2019	2018
Accounts receivables	3,135,374	3,408,012
Accrued income	104,076	93,868
Bad debt allowance	[208,709]	[208,709]
<b>Accounts receivable, net</b>	<b>3,030,741</b>	<b>3,293,171</b>



## 6. ITTF MUSEUM EQUITY GUARANTEE AND TERM DEPOSIT FUND

An agreement was signed in August 2014 with the Shanghai Municipal Education Commission and the Chinese Table Tennis Association. According to this agreement, a new ITTF Museum opened in Shanghai and is run by the local authorities. ITTF relocated its collection to this new Museum and receives an equity guarantee amounting to USD 2 million split over a 5-year period (from 2014 to 2018). According to the agreement, the amount received is to be maintained in a dedicated bank account until the end of the period. The cumulated amount received for the years 2015 to 2018 (USD 2.0 million) was therefore recognized as a non-current term deposit, whereas a corresponding amount, as per the agreement, is recognised as liability as the criteria to recognize revenue are not met.

## 7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	2019	2018
Land and building (Renens)	2,742,326	2,742,326
Furniture	34,059	56,052
Equipment & Computers	75,246	45,754
Office Renovations	62,015	114,691
Museum Collection	509,747	509,747
	<b>3,423,393</b>	<b>3,468,569</b>

### Depreciation incurred during the period

	2019	2018
Depreciation – Land and building (Renens)	-	239,646
Depreciation – Furniture and equipment	20,073	7,392
Depreciation – Equipment & Computers	33,649	19,220
Depreciation – Office Renovations	35,375	28,410
Depreciation – Museum Collection	-	-
	<b>89,098</b>	<b>294,668</b>

## 8. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	2019	2018
Internally generated (TTX)	205,457	224,541
TTX Mobile Application	-	91,760
IT Software – Entry & Results System	135,690	244,730
WTT Brand Development	56,250	-
	<b>397,398</b>	<b>561,031</b>

### Amortisation incurred during the period

	2019	2018
Amortisation – Internally generated (TTX)	21,822	21,938
Amortisation – TTX Mobile Application	92,149	111,166
Amortisation – IT Software	109,040	81,122
	<b>223,010</b>	<b>214,226</b>

The internally generated intangible asset was developed during the years 2016 and 2017 and relates to Table Tennis X, a new discipline of Table Tennis game. Table Tennis X will be amortised over a twelve-year period due to the current master rights licensing agreement in place.

The IT Software is the continued development of the Entry & Results Management System, which first commenced in 2017, and is continuing to be developed. As several areas are already in operation, the amortization has been recorded based on the date of each payment instalment. The expected useful-life is three years, following each individual payment.

## 9. DEFERRED REVENUES - OLYMPIC FUNDING

	2019	2018
Olympic funding at the beginning of the year	10,269,869	14,057,369
Used in year	(4,250,000)	(3,787,500)
<b>Olympic funding at the end of the year</b>	<b>6,019,869</b>	<b>10,269,869</b>

## 10. DEFERRED INCOME AND ACCRUED EXPENSES

	2019	2018
Deferred income & advance equipment approvals	1,343,078	1,304,757
Accrued expenses	1,036,774	1,275,781
	<b>2,379,852</b>	<b>2,580,538</b>

The deferred income includes USD 258,575 (2018: USD 283,605) of licensing revenues from the Table Tennis X.

## 11. EQUITY

	2019	2018
Unrestricted funds at the beginning of the year	7,033,327	5,819,220
Allocation to restricted funds	181,607	-
Net results for the period	(106,433)	1,214,107
<b>Unrestricted funds at the end of the year</b>	<b>7,108,502</b>	<b>7,033,327</b>
Cumulative translation adjustment	(1,398)	(21,800)
<b>Equity (audited figures)</b>	<b>7,107,104</b>	<b>7,011,527</b>

## 12. MARKETING RIGHTS INCOME

	2019	2018
Sponsorship income	9,047,389	8,399,164
Television & Data Rights	6,340,668	5,845,788
Advertising income	418,090	296,755
Social Media income	294,112	124,374
TTX Project	28,481	150,000
Strategic Investments	20,000	20,000
	<b>16,148,749</b>	<b>14,836,082</b>

### 13. COMPETITIONS INCOME

	2019	2018
World Title events	21,895	12,245
ITTF World Tour	52,241	47,882
ITTF Challenge	226,119	23,838
Para Table Tennis	181,587	172,385
World Veterans Tour	121,290	-
Multisport Games	66,661	-
Other Competitions	2,500	5,000
	<b>672,294</b>	<b>261,350</b>

### 14. HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT INCOME

	2019	2018
Grants	40,000	110,235
Education	30,738	12,997
Olympic Solidarity	106,092	40,859
Other Income	110,686	101,006
	<b>277,516</b>	<b>265,097</b>

### 15. EQUIPMENT APPROVAL FEES

	2019	2018
Balls	317,240	319,400
Racket Coverings	703,370	513,103
Tables	268,800	270,906
Nets	25,440	21,498
Sports Flooring	52,800	47,128
Equipment Testing Fees	304,950	338,850
Fines	4,000	500
	<b>1,676,600</b>	<b>1,511,385</b>

### 16. OTHER INCOME

	2019	2018
Merchandise	13,240	3,981
Publications	80	80
URC Exam Fees	276	43,019
Rental income	127,501	138,216
Other income	129,585	116,414
Interest	138,666	127,600
Museum	50,000	-
	<b>459,348</b>	<b>429,312</b>

### 17. COMPETITIONS EXPENSES

	2019	2018
World Title events	3,637,079	4,124,101
ITTF World Tour	3,895,192	3,292,891
ITTF Challenge	802,350	258,563
ITTF World Junior Circuit	157,635	180,876
Para Table Tennis Competitions	36,375	57,531
Continental Competitions	169,313	347,369
Veterans Competitions	131,564	60,000
Multi-Sport Games	66,233	-
ITTF Rankings	5,379	43,820
Other Competitions	-	25,000
Human Resources – Salaries & Services	616,342	481,797
Human Resources – Expenses	101,302	128,337
	<b>9,618,763</b>	<b>9,000,285</b>

### 18. MARKETING EXPENSES

	2019	2018
Commissions - Internal	484,350	407,006
Commissions - External	335,866	1,087,460
Marketing expenses	599,416	897,123
Media expenses	471,816	163,504
Sponsorship expenses	234,321	231,826
Marketing Events	151,929	142,758
Commercialisation Agreements	-	445,007
Marketing Agreements	150,673	144,023
TTX Project	231,348	94,110
Human Resources – Salaries & Services	1,292,386	833,844
Human Resources – Expenses	220,584	168,791
	<b>4,172,687</b>	<b>4,615,452</b>

The Commercialisation Agreements has been reclassified under Member Relations [Note 21].

## 19. ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

	2019	2018
Lausanne Office	188,767	165,635
Singapore Office	188,293	65,876
North America Office	20,463	-
Cologne Office	21,121	-
Foundation Office	66,824	-
Home Offices	30,883	25,121
Depreciation & amortization	312,108	501,501
Staff Meetings	811	20,000
Professional Services	416,643	267,849
Websites	166,476	92,504
Technology & Software	72,792	71,738
Publications	898	-
Intellectual Property	24,140	12,112
Anti-Doping	153,065	136,257
Postage & Couriers	69,870	34,444
Bank Fees & Charges	24,359	19,098
Other Expenses	70,704	196,456
Human Resources – Professional Development	87,780	72,446
Human Resources – Salaries & Services	1,149,567	1,034,918
Human Resources – Expenses	266,062	288,705
	<b>3,331,586</b>	<b>3,004,660</b>

Bad & Doubtful Debts totaled USD 53,470 (2018: USD 192,269) and is presented within Other Expenses.

## 20. HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES

	2019	2018
Continental Development	1,335,766	986,711
High Performance	405,639	211,116
Education	56,797	30,437
Corporate Social Responsibility	-	313,622
Human Resources – Salaries & Services	498,645	504,244
Human Resources – Expenses	114,406	86,774
	<b>2,411,253</b>	<b>2,132,904</b>

The Corporate Social Responsibility has been reclassified under Foundation (Note 23).

## 21. MEMBER RELATIONS

	2019	2018
Continental Agreements	630,449	-
Regional Agreements	249,987	-
Human Resources – Salaries & Services	249,573	-
Human Resources – Expenses	6,952	-
	<b>1,136,961</b>	<b>-</b>

## 22. GOVERNANCE EXPENSES

	2019	2018
AGM & BoD	66,186	71,098
Executive Committee	297,142	293,733
ITTF President	191,417	190,147
Commissions & Committees	134,775	117,945
Affiliation Fees	5,769	5,019
Working Groups	158,276	95,163
ITTF Hall of Fame	4,984	3,890
Continental Meetings	31,794	94,931
Multi-Sport Games	-	(3,220)
Professional Consultancy	1,159,409	129,746
	<b>2,049,752</b>	<b>998,453</b>

Within the expenses incurred in relation to the ITTF President USD 107,354 (2018: USD 113,486) was paid as an honorarium for the services provided, this figure is also shown within Note 26.

The Multi-Sport Games has been reclassified under Competition expenses (Note 17).

## 23. FOUNDATION

	2019	2018
Human Resources – Salaries & Services Support	283,218	-
Project spending	84,950	-
Other foundation expenses	116,071	-
	<b>484,239</b>	<b>-</b>

## 24. EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

	2019	2018
Table Tennis Equipment Testing Fees	83,401	171,566
Table Tennis X Equipment Testing Fees	-	3,776
Racket Control expenses	19,219	13,115
Research and Development	24,585	-
	<b>127,205</b>	<b>188,457</b>

## 25. OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC GAMES EXPENSES

	2019	2018
Olympic Games	16,440	3,500
Youth Olympic Games	1,372	146,261
Paralympic Games	1,549	1,519
	<b>19,361</b>	<b>151,280</b>

## 26. HUMAN RESOURCES

	2019	2018
ITTF Employees (Lausanne)	320,523	539,749
ITTF Employees (Singapore)	1,353,921	786,601
ITTF Employees (North America)	17,028	-
ITTF Foundation Employees	194,564	-
ITTF Service Providers	2,203,694	1,528,452
ITTF President	107,354	113,486
	<b>4,197,084</b>	<b>2,968,288</b>

	2019	2018
Management Team	400,164	404,215
Marketing Department	1,292,386	833,844
Competition Department	616,342	481,797
High Performance & Development Department	498,645	504,244
Member Relations Department	249,573	-
Operations Department	749,404	630,703
Foundation	283,218	-
ITTF President	107,354	113,485
	<b>4,197,084</b>	<b>2,968,288</b>

The amounts shown above include both ITTF employees, and ITTF service providers, and provides a breakdown between the different human resource costs between each of the operating departments within the ITTF.

## 27. OPERATING LEASES

	2019	2018
Maturity 1 Year	187,774	243,334
Maturity 1-5 Years	150,498	613,078
	<b>338,272</b>	<b>856,412</b>

ITTF has entered into leasing contracts for offices and office equipment. Rental contracts with a notice period longer than 12 months are taken into account when calculating future obligations. ITTF has contracted a lease term that has various lease term between 6 months to 18 months remaining for Lausanne offices. ITTF has 2 year remaining for the Singapore Office space. ITTF Foundation has 13.5 months remaining on an office lease. The rental fee for all office spaces are fixed for the duration of the lease, and not exposed to Consumer Price Index fluctuations.

## 28. FINANCIAL RESULT

	2019	2018
Currency exchange gain	-	59,503
Currency exchange loss	(91,891)	(104,320)
	<b>(91,891)</b>	<b>(44,818)</b>

## 29. GUARANTEE / PLEDGED ASSETS

As of 31 December 2019, the land and buildings in Lausanne are pledged to the bank to the extent of CHF 2,400,000 [2018: CHF 2,000,000] in guarantee of the credit limit granted. As of December 31, 2019, the credit line is not used.

## 30. OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY LAW

In 2019, the average number of full-time equivalent employees is more than 50 but less than 200 [2018: less than 50].

## 31. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On 16 March 2020, the ITTF postponed several competitions due to the COVID-19 pandemic happening worldwide. The financial impact due to the postponement of several competitions is yet to be determined.

On 24 March 2020, the International Olympic Committee confirmed the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. The financial impact due to this postponement is yet to be determined.

# REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

WITH CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2019 OF  
INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION, LAUSANNE



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## Report of the Statutory Auditor to the General Meeting of International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)

### Report of the Statutory Auditor on the Consolidated financial Statements

As statutory auditor, we have audited the consolidated financial statements of International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), which comprise the balance sheet, the income statement, the cash flow statement and notes (pages 104 to 119) for the year ended December 31, 2019. These annual accounts have been subject to an ordinary audit, those of the previous year to an independent audit.

### Board of Directors' Responsibility

The Board of Directors, represented by the Finance & Audit Committee, is responsible for the preparation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Swiss law and the federation's articles of association. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining an internal control system relevant to the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Board of Directors, represented by the Finance & Audit Committee, is further responsible for selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Swiss law and Swiss Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers the internal control system relevant to the entity's preparation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control system. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2019 comply with Swiss law and the federation's articles of association.



BERNE DELEMONT FRIBOURG GENEVE LAUSANNE NEUCHÂTEL SION ZÜRICH



### Emphasis of Matter

We draw attention to the note 31 of the financial statements "Subsequent events", which describes the effects of COVID-19. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter

### Report on Other Legal Requirements

We confirm that we meet the legal requirements on licensing according to the Auditor Oversight Act (AOA) and independence (article 728 Code of Obligations (CO) and article 11 AOA) and that there are no circumstances incompatible with our independence.

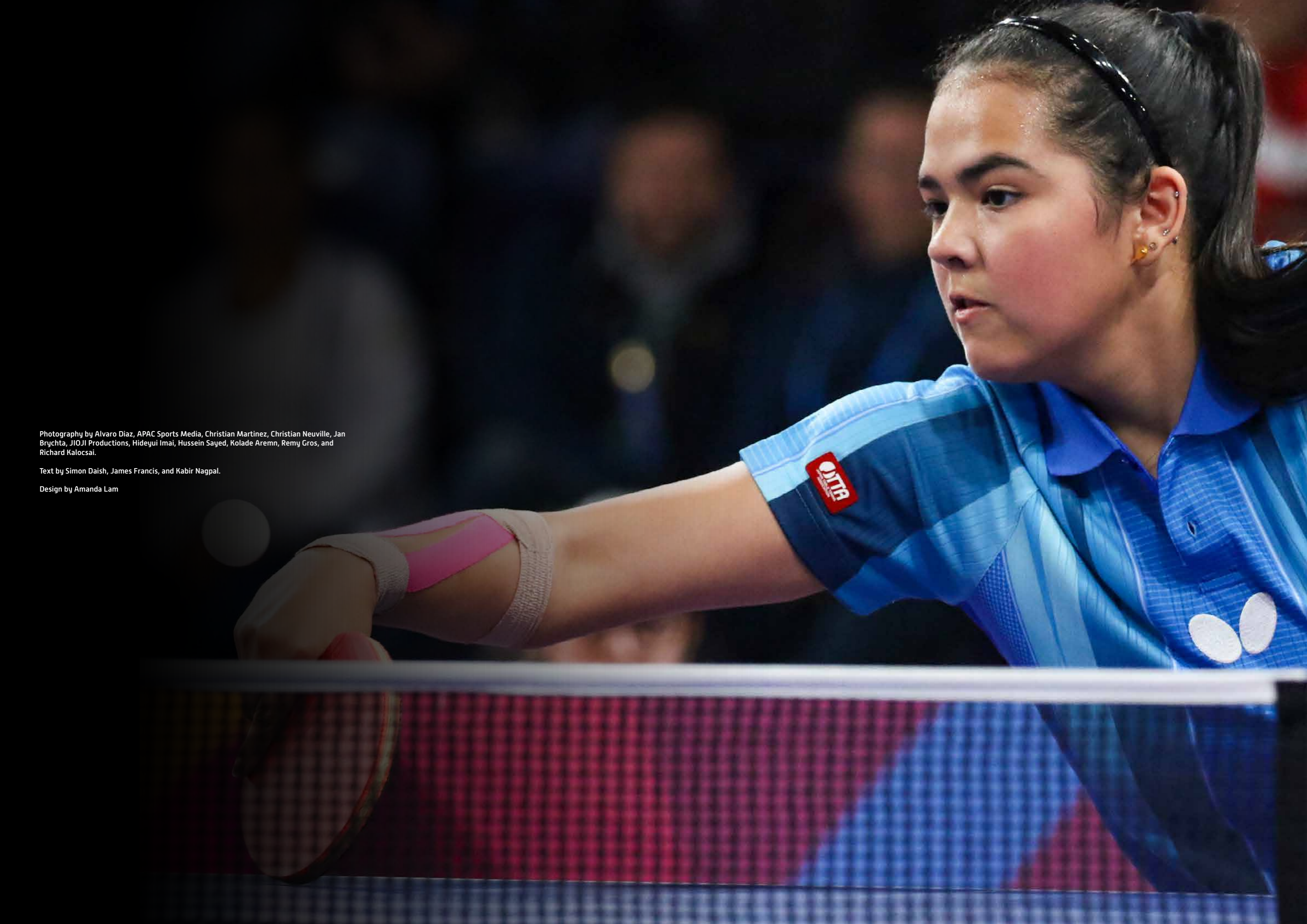
In accordance with article 728a para. 1 item 3 CO and Swiss Auditing Standard 890, we confirm that an internal control system exists, which has been designed for the preparation of consolidated financial statements according to the instructions of the Board of Directors.

### MAZARS SA

Michael Ackermann  
Licensed Audit Expert  
(Auditor in charge)

Joël Schneuwly  
Licensed Audit Expert

Lausanne, May 15, 2020



Photography by Alvaro Diaz, APAC Sports Media, Christian Martinez, Christian Neuville, Jan Brychta, JIOJI Productions, Hideyui Imai, Hussein Sayed, Kolade Aremn, Remy Gros, and Richard Kalocsai.

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