



## INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the Board of Directors (BoD) held on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 09h00 at the Grand Ball Room, Corinthia Hotel, Budapest, Hungary.

1. President's Welcome and Opening Address

The President welcomed all persons in attendance and thanked everyone for the smooth running of the AGM held two days earlier.

2. Roll Call and Ratification of New Members

There were 41 <sup>1</sup> voting members of the Board present, with the apologies of (Mr Andrew MUDIBO, Mr Philippe HAO THYN VOON and Mr Thana CHAIPRASIT).

Following the roll call, Asian Table Tennis Union proposed Mrs LIU Yi (CHN) to fill the vacancy created in the BoD since Mohammad SIBTAIN resigned from the Board of Directors on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

**20190424-BOD-01**

The Board unanimously ratified Mrs LIU Yi (CHN) as a member of the BoD.

Similarly, North America Table Tennis Union proposed Mrs Anne CRIBBS (USA) to fill the vacancy created in the BoD since Gordon KAYE (USA) resigned as Continental President on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

**20190424-BOD-02**

The Board unanimously ratified Mrs Anne CRIBBS as a member of the BoD.

With the ratified members, a total of 43 were present.

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the BoD Held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018 in Halmstad, Sweden:

The President asked if there were any remarks on the BoD minutes from any of its members. There were no remarks.

**20190424-BOD-03**

The Board unanimously adopted the 2018 BoD minutes as factual.

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<sup>1</sup> At the beginning of the meeting

4. Annual Reports from the Athletes Commission and the Commissioners:

The Board approved the following reports:

- 4.1 Athletes' Commission (document G1)
- 4.2 Junior Commissioner (document G2)
- 4.3 Technical Commissioner (document G3)
- 4.4 Gender Commissioner (document G4)

With the addition from Mr Zoran Primorac to G1 about the replacement of Jasna Rather by Alberto Miño in the Athletes Commission.

5. Appointments

5.1. Appointment of Committee Chairs

The Board considered the recommendations of the Executive Committee:

Equipment Committee:	Paul SCHILTZ (LUX)
Media Committee:	Arne MADSEN (DEN)
Rules Committee:	Rudolf SPORRER (AUT)
Sport Science and Medical Committee	Miran KONDRIC (SLO)
Umpires and Referees Committee	Young-Sam MA (KOR)
Veterans Committee	Reto BAZZI (SUI)
Para Table Tennis Committee	Constantina CROTTA (GRE)

**20190424-BOD-04**

The Board unanimously approved the Chairs of the Committees for the period 2019-2021.

5.2. Appointment of the Finance and Audit Committee

In line with the constitutional changes adopted at the 2018 AGM, the ITTF has searched for independent members to be part of the Finance and Audit Committee. The Board considered the following two recommendations of the Executive Committee:

Mr Petr BOHUMSKY  
Dr Francesc SOLLANELLAS

**20190424-BOD-05**

The Board unanimously approved the incorporation of Mr Bohumsky and Mr Sollanellas to the Finance and Audit Committee and entrusted the Executive Committee to appoint the third one, to be ratified at the next Board meeting in Busan.

6. Future Events Working Group (FEWG) Report:

Mr Bruce Burton, ITTF Executive Vice President in charge of Competitions, Mr Steve Dainton, ITTF CEO, and Mr Alan Switzer, Deloitte consultant, made a presentation of the progress made by the FEWG over the last year since the meeting in Halmstad.

Mr Switzer started reporting on the work done since the Board of Directors meeting held in 2018 in Halmstad, including the FEWG meeting in Alicante in September 2018, the meeting at the ITTF offices in Singapore in November 2018, the draft report elaborated in January

2019 and the subsequent feedback received from the FEWG members in February and the work initiated for the WTTC Manual preparation since March.

From the workshop in Alicante, it was considered opening the alternative to qualify more than 12 teams for the intercontinental stage.

On the final set of recommendations, three options are proposed to the Board for decision, with 12 or 24 teams at the Intercontinental Stage and with dynamic or fixed quotas for the continents.

Mr Switzer explained the structure of the World Championships Finals, with a format easy to understand for the media and fans, allowing “upsets”, and ensuring competitive and quality matches in all rounds.

Mr Switzer also presented the advantages and disadvantages of the two models with 12 and 24 teams in the Intercontinental Stage.

It was also highlighted that with the new format of World Championships Finals, the venue requirements in terms of competition space will be significantly lower, allowing the host to focus more on quality aspects of the organization.

Tables of comparison if the dynamic formula proposed would be used vs the fixed quotas were presented to the Board.

Finally, a presentation on the commercial structure was made, with investment from the surplus generated due to the WTTC reform to reach the Intercontinental (teams), the Continental and the Regional stages of the WTTC.

Mr Dainton indicated that the Competition Department is already working on detailed Manuals of Organization of the Teams and Individuals WTTC for the different stages of the event.

Also, a comparison of the scale of investment needed if 12 or 24 teams would qualify to the intercontinental stage was made.

Mr Dainton concluded encouraging the Delegates to continue the work done so far, ensuring the model adopted is the best for the future of the WTTC.

#### 7. Propositions and Resolutions (document G)

The Board considered the following propositions, which required a simple majority of the votes cast:

#### **Proposition 8** - **(Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)**

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee  
*Amendment of Regulation 3.1.2.2*

3.1.2.2 The **Executive Committee** shall have power to authorise the organiser of an open tournament to adopt **temporary** law variations.

**PASSED**

#### **Proposition 9**

Proposed by the ITTF Rules Committee  
*Amendment of Regulation 3.2.2.7*

**WITHDRAWN**

**Proposition 10** - (Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)

Proposed by the  
*Amendment of Regulation 3.2.2.7*

- 3.2.2.7 The players of a team taking part in a team match, and players of the same Association forming a doubles pair in a World, Olympic or Paralympic Title Competition, shall be dressed uniformly, with the possible exception of socks, shoes and the number, size, colour and design of advertisements on clothing. ~~Players of the same Association forming a doubles pair in other international competitions may wear clothes of different manufacturers, if the basic colours are the same and their National Association authorises this procedure.~~

**PASSED**

**Proposition 11** - (Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee  
*Amendment of Regulation 3.2.2.10:*

- 3.2.2.10 Players competing in a World, Olympic or Paralympic title competition ~~or Open International Championships~~ shall wear shirt and shorts or skirt of types authorised by their Association.

**PASSED**

**Proposition 12** - (Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee  
*Amendment of Regulation 3.2.3.1:*

- 3.2.3.1 The playing space shall be rectangular and not less than 14m long, 7m wide and 5m high, but the 4 corners may be covered by surrounds of not more than 1.5m length; for wheelchair events the playing space may be reduced, but shall not be less than 8m long and 6m wide; ~~for veteran events, the playing space may be reduced, but shall not be less than 10m long and 5m wide.~~

**PASSED**

**Proposition 13** - (Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)

Proposed by CHI TTA  
*Amendment of Regulation 3.2.5.1.1:*

- 3.2.5.1.1 Advertisements or markings in or next to the playing area, on playing clothing or numbers and on umpires' clothing, shall not be for tobacco goods, alcoholic drinks, harmful drugs or illegal products and they shall be without negative discrimination or connotation on the grounds of race, xenophobia,

gender, religion, disabilities or other forms of discrimination; however, for competitions not explicitly organised for players under 18 years of age, the ITTF may allow advertisements or markings for non-distilled alcoholic drinks on equipment and fittings in or next to the playing area, provided the local law permits.

**PASSED**

**Proposition 14** - (Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)

Proposed by the ITTF Media Committee  
*Amendment of Regulation 3.2.5.7:*

3.2.5.7. There may be 2 advertisements on nets on each side of the table which shall be clearly different from the colour of the ball in use, shall not be within 3cm of the tape along the top edge; advertisements placed on parts of the net within the vertical extensions of the side lines of the table shall be a logo, wordmark or other icons in a single dark colour.

**PASSED**

**Proposition 15** - (Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee  
*Addition of Regulation 3.2.5.10*

3.2.5.10 Advertisements on players' numbers shall be contained within a total area of 100cm<sup>2</sup>; if such numbers are not used there may be additional temporary advertisements for tournament sponsors within a total area of 100 cm<sup>2</sup>.

**PASSED**

**Proposition 16** - (Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee  
*Amendment of Regulation 3.6.3:*

3.6.3.1 Nominated players and pairs of the same Association shall, as far as possible, be separated so that they cannot meet before the closing rounds of an event according to 3.6.3.3 and 3.6.3.4 unless otherwise stated in the specific regulations for such particular event or group of events.

3.6.3.2 Associations shall list their nominated players and pairs in descending order of playing strength, starting with any players included in the ranking list used for seeding, in the order of that list.

3.6.3.3 The entries ranked 1 and 2 shall be drawn into different halves and those ranked 3 and 4 into quarters other than those occupied by the first two.

~~3.6.3.4 The entries ranked 5-8 shall be drawn as evenly as possible into eighths other than those occupied by the first four.~~

3.6.3.4 Remaining entries shall be separated only in groups and in the first round of the qualification draw for knock-outs and the main draw, but not in further rounds.

~~3.6.3.5 The entries ranked 9-16 shall be drawn as evenly as possible into sixteenths other than those occupied by higher ranked players or pairs and so on, until all the entries have been allocated.~~

**PASSED**

**Proposition 17** - (Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee ITTF Executive Committee  
*Amendment of Regulation 3.7.1.2*

3.7.1.2 **Except for Veteran competitions**, players from affiliated ITTF member Associations, when competing internationally, can only participate in ITTF events, ITTF approved events and ITTF registered events entered through their national Association, as well as in ITTF recognised events entered through their National Olympic Committee or National Paralympic Committee respectively. Participation in any other type of event can only be allowed with the express written permission of the national Association of the player or the ITTF; permission to players will be considered given unless a specific or general notification is made by the national Association of the player or the ITTF withholding the permission to participate in an event or series of events.

**PASSED**

**Proposition 18**

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee  
*Amendment of Regulation 3.7.1.2*

**WITHDRAWN**

**Proposition 19** - (Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee  
*Amendment of Regulation 3.7.6.3*

3.7.6.3 Best of 5 matches (Olympic system, 4 singles and 1 doubles)

..//..

3.7.6.3.2 The order of play shall be:

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| 1) <del>A v X</del>                                   | doubles B&C v Y&Z |
| 2) <del>B v Y</del>                                   | A v X             |
| 3) <del>doubles C &amp; A or B v Z &amp; X or Y</del> | C v Z             |
| 4) <del>B or A v Z</del>                              | A v Y             |
| 5) <del>C v Y or X</del>                              | B v X             |

**PASSED**

**Proposition 20** - (Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee  
Amendment of Regulation 4.1.9.7

- 4.1.9.7. Players of the same Association shall be separated according to 3.6.3.1, and 3.6.3.3, ~~3.6.3.4 and 3.6.3.5~~ only in preliminary rounds and groups and in the first round of the draw but not in further rounds.

**PASSED**

**Proposition 21** - (Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee  
Addition of Regulation 4.5.2.3

- 4.5.2.3. Players of the same Association shall be separated according to 3.6.3.1 and 3.6.3.3, only in preliminary rounds but not in further rounds.

**PASSED**

**Proposition 22** - (Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee  
Options for the new format of World Championships

**OPTION 3**

*(Based on the team numbers as discussed at the FEWG meeting in September 2018. Differences compared to option 2 marked in green highlight)*

1. The World Table Tennis Championships (WTTC) is expanded and will be open to all national associations.
2. It will be consisting of the following stages:
  - 2.1. Finals
  - 2.2. Inter-Continental Stage (only applicable for team events)
  - 2.3. Continental Stage
  - 2.4. Regional Stage (where applicable for each Continent)

3. In even numbered years, the Finals shall include men's and women's team events; while in odd numbered years the Finals shall include men's, women's singles, men's, women's and mixed doubles events.
4. An initial official document containing all details for each year's WTTTC different stages will be published prior to the first stage (regional).
5. In addition to the current eligibility rules, players and teams are eligible to participate in each stage, provided that they have participated in the earlier stages. The only non-mandatory event is that of the Regional Stage and according to each continent.
6. **For individuals** a dynamic formula has been devised for the calculation of quota places per Continent, for each stage:
  - 6.1. the formula comprises of three metrics; universality, performance, active participation.
  - 6.2. the formula and the numbers deriving from it, for each stage, will apply before the first stages of the WTTTC on a fixed date, which will be announced on the initial official document for each year's WTTTC.
7. **For the first edition of the Team WTTTC (in 2022) the places per Continent, for each stages will apply as discussed in the last FEWG:**
  - 7.1. WTTTC Finals places (Africa: 3, Asia: 8, Europe: 9, Latin America: 3, North America: 1, Oceania: 1)
  - 7.2. Inter-Continental stage places (Africa: 1, Asia: 5, Europe: 3, Latin America: 1, North America: 1, Oceania: 1)
8. **Finals**
  - 8.1. The Finals for **teams** will comprise of 32 men's and 32 women's teams:
    - 8.1.1. 1 Team, as the host association (the continent hosting the WTTTC will receive an equivalent number of places to the continental allocation, in addition to **the pre-determined numbers**).
    - 8.1.2. 6 Teams, from the Inter-Continental Stage
    - 8.1.3. 25 Teams, from the Continental Stage
  - 8.2. Each Association shall be entitled to qualify 1 men's and 1 women's team.
  - 8.3. The system of play will be comprising of two phases:
    - 8.3.1. The first stage which will be a round robin of eight (8) groups of four (4) teams. The winner and runner up of each group will qualify to the final stage.
    - 8.3.2. The final stage will be a straight knockout of 16 teams.
  - 8.4. The Finals for **individuals** will comprise of 128 men's singles, 128 women's singles, 64 mixed doubles, 64 men's doubles and 64 women's doubles:
    - 8.4.1. 3 players in Singles, 2 pairs in Doubles, as the host association (the continent hosting the WTTTC will receive an equivalent number of places to the continental allocation, in addition to what will derive from the dynamic formula).
    - 8.4.2. 93 players in Singles, 47 pairs in Doubles from the Continental Stage.
    - 8.4.3. 32 players, 15 pairs in Doubles highest-ranked players/pairs, not already qualified via the Continental Stage.
  - 8.5. Each Association shall be entitled to qualify up to 3 men and 3 women players in each singles event, with one additional player ranked in the top 100 and one additional player ranked in the top 20 of the ITTF world ranking list (month and year will be determined on the initial official document) to a maximum of 5 men and 5 women. The maximum number for each association is 4 players for men's doubles, 4 players for women's doubles and 2 men and 2 women for mixed doubles; all players may be different, however, each association can only qualify a maximum of 2 combined pairs (players from different associations) per doubles event.
  - 8.6. Players/pairs qualifying for the Finals are individually qualified and their places cannot be reallocated to other players of the same association, unless the next eligible player/pair is from the same association.
  - 8.7. The system of play will be comprising of one stage only and will be played in straight knockout for all individual events.



## 9. Inter-Continental Stage (only applicable for team events)

- 9.1. The Inter-Continental Stage for teams will comprise of 24 men's and 24 women's teams:
  - 9.1.1. 12 highest-ranked teams from each continent, not already qualified to the Finals through the Continental Stage, according to the Team World Ranking. For Continents with only one guaranteed place for this stage a decision can be made by ITTF and announced in the official initial document, to have the runner up from the Continental stage qualifying.
  - 9.1.2. 12 teams, based on the performance at the Continental stage and the number of Continental quota places, as deriving from **the pre-defined numbers**.
- 9.2. Each Association shall be entitled to qualify 1 men's and 1 women's team.
- 9.3. The system of play will be comprising of:
  - 9.3.1. A round robin of six (6) groups of four (4) teams. The winner of each group (total 6) will qualify directly to the WTTC Finals.

## 10. Continental Stage

- 10.1. (According to the pilot proposition as found in the Deloitte report. Details are to be discussed and confirmed per Continent).

## 11. Regional Stage

- 11.1. (According to the pilot proposition as found in the Deloitte report. Details are to be discussed and confirmed per Continent).

**Option 3 PASSED**

## **Proposition 23**

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To add 4.8:

### **4.8 WORLD VETERAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

#### **4.8.1. Authority for Organisation**

- 4.8.1.1. The title "World Veteran Championships", referred to in this Section as "Championships", shall be bestowed by the Board of Directors on the championship events at a tournament organised by an Association entrusted with the task.
- 4.8.1.2. The Championship can be organised by other bodies than Associations (area associations, clubs, etc.) if they have the necessary facilities but, an organization outside of the Association must have its sanction. The Association will be the contract partner of the ITTF.
- 4.8.1.3. The closing date for applications to stage Championships shall be specified by the Executive Committee and notified to all Associations, giving at least 6 months' notice.
- 4.8.1.4. All applications shall be considered by the Executive Committee and shall be submitted to the Board of Directors, together with the report of the Selection Committee, if applicable, on venues for the occasion in question.
- 4.8.1.5. Where necessary, the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee may ask one or more members of the appropriate Committee to visit the country of an Association applying for the right to organise the Championships to satisfy themselves as to the adequacy of the proposed playing and other arrangements; the cost of such visits shall be borne by that Association.
- 4.8.1.6. If, after an option has been granted, circumstances change in such a way as to be likely to prejudice the satisfactory conduct of the Championships, the option may be revoked by a majority vote at a Board of Directors prior to the Championships; between the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee shall have power to transfer the Championships or to take any other appropriate action.

#### **4.8.2. Responsibilities of Organisers**

4.8.2.1 An Association granted the right to organise the Championships, hereafter referred to as the "organisers" shall be responsible for conducting them in accordance with the Laws of Table Tennis, the Regulations for International Competitions and the Regulations for World Title Competitions, as modified or supplemented by any directives authorised by the Board of Directors.

4.8.2.2 Expenses for two inspection visits – usually within 6 months after the presentations and again within 6 months before the start of the event – by the ITTF Computer Expert and/or other ITTF Competition Department members (altogether travel expenses and hospitality costs for four persons) are to be met by the organisers. Should any further visits be necessary, details will be discussed and agreed upon with the organisers.

4.8.2.3 Organisers shall provide free internal transport (between the place of accommodation and the playing venue and between the hotel and the nearest international airport upon arrival and departure) and accommodation and meals from lunch on the day before the Championships begun until breakfast on the day after the Championships end for

4.8.2.3.1 ten (10) participants (preferably 5 men and 5 women) nominated by the Executive Committee after consultation with the Veterans Committee and the Swaythling Club International (SCI).

4.8.2.3.2 three (3) persons (mainly the Computer Experts and the ITTF Competition Manager) starting five (5) days prior to the event for organisational purposes.

4.8.2.3.3 seven (7) persons to be nominated by the SCI Executive Committee, starting three (3) days prior to the event.

4.8.2.3.4 all members of the ITTF Executive Committee and the ITTF Veterans Committee Chair.

4.8.2.3.5 International Umpires and Referees from other Associations invited in accordance with the ITTF directives for match officials at World Title Competitions.

4.8.2.3.6 up to four (4) members of the ITTF staff.

4.8.2.4 If the business of the ITTF extends outside the period of the Championships the period of hospitality for those entitled to participate in such business shall be extended correspondingly.

4.8.2.5 Organisers shall provide free first aid/medical duty at the playing venue for all participants. All the participants are responsible for their physical and mental fitness and they must have their own health insurance against illness, accidents and injuries for the duration of the Championships.

4.8.2.6 Organisers shall provide the ITTF and the SCI with offices at the venue of the Championships and place at its disposal translation, computers, internet access, telephone and duplicating facilities

4.8.2.7 Organisers shall publish a prospectus (Bulletin No 1) giving the main details of the organisation of the Championships, including

4.8.2.7.1 the dates and place of the Championships;

4.8.2.7.2 the categories and events to be held;

4.8.2.7.3 the equipment to be used;

4.8.2.7.4 the procedure for entry, the entry fees and the undertakings required;

4.8.2.7.5 the date and place of the draw;

4.8.2.7.6 the dates of Jury meetings and social activities;

4.8.2.7.7 the extent of hospitality for technical and officials;

4.8.2.7.8 any directives authorised by the Board of Directors for the Championships.

4.8.2.8 During the Championships Organisers shall make available promptly and regular public display of all results, including point scores.

4.8.2.8.1 Immediately after the Championships, the organisers shall present the final standings of the medallists in all age categories to the ITTF, together with photos of all medal awards to the players during the winners' ceremony.

4.8.2.8.2 All results shall be published on the official website for the event and on the ITTF official website.

#### **4.8.3 Eligibility**

4.8.3.1 All individuals who are older than 40 years of age or who will be 40 years of age in the year of the Championships are eligible to participate.

4.8.3.2 Each competitor is allowed to participate in one Single and one Doubles Event. In the Doubles, not necessarily in one's own age category but always in the category of the younger player in the partnership.

#### **4.8.4 Entry Fees**

4.8.4.1 The entry fee and the accompanying persons fee shall be decided by the ITTF Executive Committee in conjunction with the selected Organiser.

4.8.4.2 No entry fee will be requested to the 10 invited playing guests.

4.8.4.3 The entry fees shall be paid to the Organisers at the time of the entry.

#### **4.8.5 Qualification**

4.8.5.1 The Championships will be held in two stages: the Qualifying Competition and the Competition Proper. An optional Consolation event will be held for players not qualified for the Proper event.

4.8.5.2 The Qualifying competition will be played the first days of the Championships, in groups. The first and second placed in each group will qualify for the Proper competition. The others will have the option to play the Consolation competition.

4.8.5.3 In the event with less than 6 players or pairs entered in one age category the Competition Manager may decide to play a "round robin" in only one group. The exact system to be published before the start of the competition.

4.8.5.4 The Competition Proper and the Consolation events will be played according to the knock-out system.

#### **4.8.6 Entry Obligations**

4.8.6.1 The on-line entry form shall contain statements committing the participants to the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules, requesting the acceptance of the ITTF Racket Control Regulations and confirming their availability to compete against all other individuals participating at the Championships.

4.8.6.2 All entrants are accepted as individual competitors; they shall be bound to do their utmost to win the events for which they are entered, irrespective of whether other entrants from the same Association have been entered, and they shall not withdraw except for reasons of illness or injury.

4.8.6.3 By entering the event, players agree to abide by all ITTF rules and regulations. All entered individual players agree to be under the auspices of the ITTF and its agents in all matters concerning television coverage, video, internet web casting, motion picture coverage, and photographic coverage of any kind. Participants release all rights, or rights held by their agents or sponsors, in all matters relating to television and web casting coverage, video and motion picture coverage, and photographic coverage of any kind. A participant's refusal of above listed coverage may be subject to suspension or dismissal from the competition.

#### **4.8.7 Jury**

4.8.7.1 The Jury shall consist of 3 representatives: the chair of the ITTF Veterans Committee, as chair of the Jury, a representative of the Organising Committee and a representative of the ITTF Competition Department.

4.8.7.2 The referee or his/her deputy will be invited to attend the Jury meetings with the right to speak but not to vote.

4.8.7.3 The Jury shall have the power to decide any question of appeal within the jurisdiction of a tournament management committee.

4.8.7.4 Appeals can be lodged against the decision of the referees only and they have to be submitted in writing immediately after the completion of the match.

4.8.7.5 No member of the Jury can take part in the tournament as a player.

#### **4.8.8. Events**

4.8.8.1 The Championships shall include at least men's and women's singles and men's and women's doubles events.

4.8.8.2 Each event shall have the following categories of age:

- 40 to 44 years (+40),
- 45 to 49 years (+45),
- 50 to 54 years (+50),
- 55 to 59 years (+55),
- 60 to 64 years (+60),
- 65 to 69 years (+65),
- 70 to 75 years (+70),
- 75 to 79 years (+75),
- 80 to 84 years (+80),
- 85 to 89 years (+85)
- and over 90 (+90)

4.8.8.3 In the event of less than four players entering any one event, the Competition Manager has the right to either cancel the said event either introduce a reasonable alternative for all concerned. Players have to be informed regarding any alterations/cancellations as soon as possible.

#### **4.8.9 Default**

- 4.8.9.1 Each participant is obliged to compete at the table and time set by the competition schedule.
- 4.8.9.2 Each participant is responsible for keeping her/himself informed when and where to play. Any player who fails to appear at the scheduled time will automatically lose the match after 5 minutes waiting period.

#### **4.8.10. Doping Control**

- 4.8.10.1 Doping control shall be carried out on accordance with ITTF Anti-Doping rules (Chapter 5).

#### **4.8.11. Awards and Presentations**

- 4.8.11.1 In all the events the winners shall receive gold medals, the losing finalists silver medals and the loser/s of the semi-final's bronze medals.
- 4.8.11.2 If there is only one group in the Qualifying Competition of an age category and no match/es schedules for the Competition Proper, medals will be presented to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> placed players/pairs of the respective groups, according to the final standing of the groups.
- 4.8.11.3 Winners and runners-up of the Consolation event shall receive a small souvenir and a certificate with their names inscribed thereon.

#### **4.8.12 Commercial Rights**

- 4.8.12.1 The ITTF exclusively owns and controls all commercial rights in and to the Championships. Such Commercial Rights to include, without limitation and in each case on a worldwide basis, all:
  - 4.8.12.1.1 audio, visual and audio-visual and data rights (in every medium, whether or not existing as at the date of these regulations);
  - 4.8.12.1.2 sponsorship, advertising, merchandising, marketing and other forms of rights of association;
  - 4.8.12.1.3 ticketing, hospitality and other concession rights; and
  - 4.8.12.1.4 other rights to commercialise the Championships (including without limitation any so-called "event rights" and any right to authorise the taking of bets on the Championships).
- 4.8.12.2 The ITTF shall be entitled to exploit the Commercial Rights in such manner as it considers appropriate, including granting licences in respect of the same (or part thereof) to the relevant Association or to other third party(ies) from time to time.
- 4.8.12.3 All the participants at the Championships (officials, players, delegates and other affiliates) shall:
  - 4.8.12.3.1 comply with any and all rules, regulations and/or guidelines in relation to the exploitation of the Commercial Rights which may be issued from time to time by or on behalf of the ITTF; and
  - 4.8.12.3.2 provide such rights, facilities and services as are required to enable the ITTF and/or the relevant third party to fulfil their obligations under any arrangements for the exploitation of any of the Commercial Rights and shall not by any act or omission infringe any exclusive rights granted there under or otherwise cause any breach thereof to occur. For the avoidance of doubt only the ITTF may enforce this rule against a participant and no third party shall be entitled to do so.

#### **4.9. Transitory provision**

- 4.9.1 The Executive Committee shall approve a 2022 Event Guidelines in order to preserve the rights and duties for the Organisers of the 2022 World Veteran Championships according to the existing SCI rights and duties.

**PASSED**

#### **Proposition 24 - (Effective 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)**

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee  
*Amendment of the Qualification System for World Junior Championships*

To allow the relocation of unused team quotas to the World Ranking, without limitation per continents, if there are not enough teams from a particular continent willing to enter satisfying the qualification criteria.

**PASSED**

The Board considered the following resolutions, which required a simple majority of the votes cast:

### **Resolution A**

Proposed by the ITTF Equipment Committee  
*Non-Approval of Celluloid balls*

For safety reasons, (the highly flammable) actually ITTF approved celluloid balls shall no more be marketed as ITTF approved from 1st January 2021 and disappear from the related ITTF list as soon as their approval period ends, but latest on 1st January 2022. New celluloid balls shall no more be approved, with immediate effect.

**PASSED**

### **Resolution B**

Proposed by the ETTU

**WITHDRAWN**

### **Resolution C**

Proposed by the ETTU

**WITHDRAWN**

## 8. Competition Updates

### 8.1. World Championships Update

The Board noted the report of Mrs Vicky Eleftheriade, ITTF Competition Director, who reported about the ITTF opening a position as Project Manager for the World Championships. Once hired, this person will lead the process of structuration of the new World Championships, including its qualification system.

Mrs Eleftheriade indicated the WTTC in Budapest is running smoothly and noted the earlier presentation of Mr Ryu Seungmin in regard to the Busan 2020 World Championships.

### 8.2. World Cups Update

The Board noted the progress on the preparations for the World Singles Cups in Chengdu, which dates may have to change, as per the request of the CTTA and the local organizers due to the clash with the World Military Games.

The preparations for the Team World Cup in Tokyo are also ongoing and this event will serve as Olympic Games Test Event.

The Board noted the increase on the prize money for the World Cups in 2018 compared to 2017 and that the ITTF is currently negotiating trying to rise the prize money again for 2019.

### 8.3. World Tour and Challenge Events Update

The Board noted the smooth operations so far in 2019 and the fact that the 2020 World Tour cities and dates are already announced, following the bid process, much earlier than previous years.

The search for a host for the World Tour Grand Finals 2019 and 2020 continues.

The Board noted that the WTGF will serve as qualification for the Mixed Doubles event for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

The World Tour and the progressive increase in the prize money since 2016, with a target of 4,000,000 USD for 2019, which would almost double the prize money of 2016 (2.030.000) and would mean an increase of more than 10% compared to 2018.

The Board noted also the report on the Challenge Tour and the Challenge Plus events. The Challenge Plus has been very well received and the number of entries has increased significantly compared to previous years.

For 2020 the bid process is closed and also the cities host of Challenge and Challenge Plus events have been announced.

Mr Alaor Azevedo suggested that for the future the ITTF should protect dates for certain events, indicating the issue of three events (BRA, ESP and POR), clashing on the same weekend. It would be good if the ITTF can develop a structure for assigning dates.

Also, Mr Azevedo requested the ITTF to establish a protocol for events. As Board of Directors, he would expect certain access to events organized by the ITTF, but most importantly, to have clear rules to avoid unpleasant situations.

The ITTF Secretary General indicated that the ITTF will work on a system to establish protocol regulations for ITTF events, so the elected officials know what their rights and responsibilities are.

Lastly, Mr Azevedo suggested to establish a similar process as the IOC has, a "Transfer of Knowledge" system from organizer to organizer of major properties, to better help the members and organisers.

### 8.4. Global Junior Programme Update

#### 8.4.1. 2019 World Junior Championships (Korat)

The Organizing Committee is working on the options of transport for the teams participating due to the distance to the host city, Korat (3 hours' drive from Bangkok). Venue, practice hall and hotels are all in walking distance.

#### 8.4.2. 2020 World Junior Championships (Guimarães)

The LOC intends to have a World Junior Circuit the week before to allow the participants to have a second competition within the same travel.

The bidding process for the World Junior Circuit 2020 will be opened very soon.

#### 8.4.3. Future World Junior Championships

The Board noted the presentation of Mr Guerfel Lotfi, Tunisian Table Tennis Federation President, on the candidature video to host the World Junior Championships 2021.

**20190424-BOD-06**

The Board allocated the World Junior Championships 2021 to the Table Tennis Association of Tunisia, to be held in Tunis.

#### 8.5. World Veteran Championships 2022 ratification

The Board noted the fact that three bids were presented for the 2022 World Veteran Championships Korea, Malaysia and Oman. Korea withdrew and therefore only Malaysia and Oman presented their candidatures in Budapest. As agreed with the SCI during the transition period, and according to the contract signed on the day of this Board meeting, the SCI Executive Committee, the SCI World Veteran Championships Committee and ITTF representative, Mr Jordi Serra did the evaluation of the two bids, noting the quality of both. After consideration, it was decided to propose to the Board Oman as the host for the 2022 World Veteran Championships for ratification.

#### **20190424-BOD-07**

The Board unanimously ratified the selection of Muscat, Oman, as the host for the World Veteran Championships 2022.

#### 8.6. World Veteran Tour update

The Board noted that six events allocated to (in chronological order) CHN, AUT, AUS, USA, QAT and WAL will be part of the World Veterans Tour 2019, with the entries opening very soon for the first of the events.

For 2020, the bid process will start soon after the end of the WTTC in Budapest.

#### 8.7. Para Table Tennis

The Board noted that with the hiring of a Para Table Tennis staff in 2018, the Para Table Tennis competitions are progressively being incorporated in the structure of the Competition Department.

A few weeks before the World Championships, a meeting was held in the Singapore offices with the new staff and the EVP in charge of Para Table Tennis, Mrs Sörling.

Once this process of integration is in progression, in the second half of the year the objective will be developing the strategic vision for Para Table Tennis as mentioned by Mrs Sörling in the AGM.

The Board noted the increased participation in Para Table Tennis events in 2019, being already these competitions serving as qualification pathway for the Paralympic Games.

#### 9. Ratification of the Work Done by the Committees, Commissions and Commissioners

Mr Thomas Weikert requested the Board for their ratification.

#### **20190424-BOD-08**

The Board resolved unanimously to ratify the work done by the Executive Committee, committees, commissions and commissioners.

#### 10. Personal Honorary Membership recommendation

The Board noted the application received by the ITTF Executive Committee from the Chinese Table Tennis Association to nominate Mr YAO Zhenxu to become Personal Honorary Member.

The Board resolved to propose Mr YAO Zhenxu for Personal Honorary Membership to the 2020 AGM to be held in Busan.

11. Next Meeting:

The Board noted that its next meeting would be held in Busan in March 2020.

12. Any Other Business:

Mr Paul Kyle apologized in case someone understood his position at the AGM being disrespectful to the Board Members when requesting to not ratify the work done by the Board of Directors on the issue of the World Championships reform and on the suspension of Mr Adham Sharara.

Mr Kyle expressed that since the decision was taken in Halmstad, he has changed his mind in the issue of the World Championships reform.

About the case of Mr Sharara, Mr Kyle expressed his hope that the ITTF Executive Committee decision has ground and that the case will not be lost in technicalities, questioning if this type of decisions should be made by the Executive Committee.

Mr Weikert indicated that the evaluation of the reports of BDO and the lawyers report made necessary the action of the ITTF Executive Committee, as the ITTF Executive Committee have a responsibility for the image and integrity of the ITTF.

Mr El-Salhy mentioned that a few countries had problems with VISAS and particularly three Presidents of National Associations from Africa couldn't get their visas and attend. He reported that the reasoning to deny the visas was that the "mission" was not clear for the consulates, and he would like to address this issue to the Board to try to put measures in place to avoid this in the future.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 14h50.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas Weikert  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Raul Calin  
Secretary General

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date