

2021

***ITTF
BOD***

27TH NOVEMBER 2021

***WORKING
DOCUMENTS***



INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board of Directors Meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation will be held in a hybrid format (partly remotely) on Saturday 27th November 2021, starting at 09h00 CST, managed from the Grand Ballroom “A” of the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas, USA.

AGENDA

1. President Welcome and Opening Address
2. Roll call, welcome and ratification of new members
3. Confirmation of the minutes of the BoD meeting held on 19th November 2020 on-line
4. Annual reports from the Athletes Commission and the Commissioners
 - 4.1 Athletes' Commission
 - 4.2 Junior Commissioner
 - 4.3 Technical Commissioner
 - 4.4 Gender Commissioner
5. Appointment of Committee Chairs
6. Appointment of the Members of the Finance and Audit Committee
7. Appointment of the Members of the Ethics Commission / Integrity Unit
8. Propositions and resolutions
9. Competition Updates
 - 9.1 World Title Events
 - 9.2 World Youth Events
 - 9.3 World Veteran Events
 - 9.4 Para Table Tennis
10. Election of the 2022 World Para Championships host
11. Next Board of Directors meeting
12. Any other business
13. Adjournment

CHAIR OF THE ATHLETES' COMMISSION (Zoran Primorac)

Report to the AGM and BoD

Document G1

Our current Athletes' Commission is composed of:

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

Pandemic, Olympic Qualification and World Ranking (March - July 2020):

The athletes' commission engaged in many conference calls over months in the beginning of the pandemic, we discussed and consulted heavily on event cancellations and issues surrounding world ranking point compensation precedents and the road to world ranking qualification for the Tokyo Games. We liaised with many players and conducted an athlete survey during this time to gather data to present to the ITTF Executive Committee.

Our push to appoint more athletes to ITTF Committees gave us good representation through Jean Michel Saive and Lashin El Sayed in the World Ranking group as we expressed our concerns and ideas during this stage.

We were able to provide feedback on the ranking freeze, when and how it should be lifted, point compensations, and Olympic qualification via WR for singles and mixed doubles.

Ryu Seungmin given full voting rights on the ITTF EC:

We were very pleased to improve athlete representation on the ITTF Executive Committee, with our second AC representative, Ryu Seungmin, being granted full voting rights. This was a big step forward in supporting our chair Zoran Primorac and in working towards more voting power in representation of athletes on the EC.

Heavy discussion and feedback on WTT World Ranking plans:

We undertook a lot of discussion and passed feedback on the World Ranking system changes, with our feedback representing fairness to continental events and more emphasis on events we still felt were a key part of global competition. We also engaged in a lot of discussion about the Youth World Ranking system and which events should be considered eligible for inclusion to those WR systems.

Events returning and WTT launch (October - Dec 2020):

As WTT launched and athletes returned to competition at the end of 2020 there were many things to discuss as an Athletes' Commission. Athlete safety and provisions was paramount for us - and ensuring the athletes had all information necessary to prepare for these events (mainly about COVID-19 protocols). During this time, we worked closely between athletes and WTT to ensure that athletes had access to their needs and that provision was fair for all athletes participating.

Tokyo 2021 Paralympic Games:

We were proud to see Alexa Svitacs competing in Tokyo 2020 Paralympics and winning a C9 Bronze medal. It was fulfilling for us to see the first athlete supported with our cooperation of the ITTF Foundation Emergency Athlete Fund, to succeed and to be boldly and positively embracing her life as a strong para-athlete. We were also proud of our own athletes' commission member, Alena Kanova, for her incredible silver medal, and Trevor Hirth competing in his first Paralympic Games.

The Commission were very pleased with the ITTF & WTTs impressive coverage of this year's Paralympics which was far better than ever before.

The overview of the Athletes' Commission activities within the IOC:

Online meetings and conference calls with the IOC Athletes' Commission:

- October 5th, 2020
- February 19th, 2021
- March 25th, 2021
- April 21st, 2021
- May 6th, 2021
- June 23rd, 2021

We attended the 10th International Athletes' Forum held on 26-27 May 2021 in virtual format. Owing to the digital opportunity, the invite was extended to all Athletes' Commission (AC) members along with their AC chairs.

Key discussion points were Olympic Agenda 2020+5 athlete recommendations, Tokyo 2020 and Beijing 2022, and how to further empower and equip ACs.

EC online meetings (since the last AGM)

We participated in up to 18 meetings of the ITTF Executive Committee since the last AGM until September 2021, when closing this report.

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

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

Zoran Primorac

Chair of the Athletes' Commission

Dear BoD Members,

First of I would like to express my hope that we can meet personally in Houston after many months of absence. It will be much easier to discuss topics when we can meet in person and exchange our thoughts, opinions and can find solutions together.

I wish you all a safe journey to Houston and look forward to meet you again though the pandemic is still not under control and affects since a long time very much our beloved sport. The pandemic had a great impact also on our youth events and though only few events could take place in the past months the workload for all involved in the youth events (organizing/cancelling etc.) was tremendous. Therefore, I submit a great THANK YOU to all involved.

ITTF World Junior Circuit 2020

The ITTF World Junior Circuit as an important series on the ITTF calendar with events in all continents had to suffer dramatically due to the corona-pandemic in 2020:

- Originally, 33 WJC events were planned: 5 Golden Series, 9 Premium and 19 Regular Events
- It was possible to complete the WJC in CZE, SWE, COD, PER in the beginning of 2020. More than 600 players have been entered in these events.
- All the remaining 29 WJC events had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.
- ITTF worked closely with the LOCs and agreed the cancellation of the respective events due to force majeure.

2020 was the last year of the ITTF World Junior Circuit.

WTT Youth Series 2021

Originally it was planned that the Youth competition department should stay in ITTF but it was decided in 2020 to move the youth competitions to WTT, where still Tiago Viegas is in charge – now as WTT Youth Series Manager.

The ITTF World Junior Circuit was replaced by ITTF/WTT through the WTT Youth Series, starting in 2021 with 2 tiers: the star contender and the contender events.

- Due to the cancellation of most part of the events in 2020, ITTF decided to implement the new age categories in 2021 – U11, U13, U15, U17, **U19** (BoD-Decision 2020).
- U21 is still part of the Youth age categories but not included in WTT events; however, it is very important in the continents (U21 continental Championships and Games who are meanwhile also sanctioned events for the ITTF Table Tennis World Ranking).
- The bidding process for the 2021 Youth Series was delayed as much as possible, trying to get a more clear view about the restrictions caused by the pandemic.
- Finally, the Youth Series Calendar contained 5 Star contender and 27 contender events in all continents. So far 2 Star Contender and 2 Contender events could take place with more than 300 players, who had opportunity to come back to the events,
- But other events had again to be cancelled. The first priority is the safety of the participants and we are pleased to the commitment of the Organisers who are hosting events in such difficult conditions. We hope that until the end of the year more than 10 events will proceed.

At the time of writing this report, the application process for the 2022 WTT Youth Series has begun. Deadline for applications is 9 September and we hope to have published the calendar not later than October 2021.

World Junior Championships 2020 (WJTTC)

The WJTTC should have taken place in Portugal in 2020. Due to the pandemic ITTF decided to cancel the WJTTC. After conversations with Portugal (originally Host for 2020) and Tunisia (originally host for 2021) it was decided to keep Portugal as the host of the World title event in the new planned structure for the youth players in 2021, with Tunisia agreeing to host their event one year later, in 2022.

ITTF World Youth Championships (WYC)

In November 2020 the BoD decided to change the age category U 18 into U 19. But the corresponding proposal for the necessary regulations to change WJTTC into WYC with the new age category U19 instead of U18 and the new age category U15 did not pass, therefore it was necessary to get a BoD decision to implement the new WYC for U 19 and U 15. Due to the pandemic and because of the urgency of the matter, this was done through electronic vote.

I know that there were several discussions that voting through electronic means is not the best way to have a decision about the major change of the WJTTC to WYC. I agree with this but as I wrote already to the BoD some weeks ago it was important to have a quick decision to be able to go on and give the young promising athletes in this difficult period in the world still in 2021 a goal to reach (if the pandemic allows the WYC to happen).

I thank especially Tiago Viegas and Gabor Felegyi for all the work on behalf of all who were involved in the discussions and preparations for the BoD proposals which passed then with a great majority of votes. There were many discussions whether WYC should be played with qualification groups in Team event and single event instead of straight knock out – which would cause extra day(s). In Portugal it will be straight knock out.

For sure the format of the WYC played in Portugal in December this year has to be evaluated and I can assure you this will be done. I ask all BoD members to give their feedback to Tiago Viegas after the WYC.

The bids for the **2023 WYC** will be opened later this year. We had already non-official expression of interests from 2 associations who asked for more information. We hope that this new format – with a smaller number of competition tables – will attract more potential hosts.

ITTF Table Tennis Youth Ranking

Corresponding to the new structure of the Youth Series and the new age categories and also as a result of many debates in the years before we worked on a new ranking system for the young players. The ITTF Table Tennis Youth Ranking was released in April 2021 and is a unified ranking list with all the Under 19 ranked players. Other change on the system is that the results in the senior events will be considered for the ITTF TT Youth Ranking and that the results in U19 competitions are considered for the ITTF TT Ranking – ensuring a smooth transition to the next level. These are the major changes compared to the old system and was welcomed by nearly all associations. The rankings are published on a weekly basis on Tuesday which is a benefit for seeding and qualification purposes. Then, ranking will be evaluated regularly.

Finally, I thank everyone who is involved and engaged in the WTT Youth Event Series program – a special thank you goes to Tiago Viegas as the WTT Youth Series Manager for his great work in these difficult times. Thank you to all involved in the work for youth table tennis for your cooperation and good work.

It was a pleasure to work together with you all.

Heike Ahlert

Junior Commissioner

TECHNICAL COMMISSIONER (Graeme Ireland)

Report to the BoD

Document G3

The mandate of the Technical Commissioner includes:

- Liaise with the Competition Department and advise the BoD on the organisation of World Title competitions and to make recommendations on the system of play;
- Assist the Competition Department and referee with the World Championships draws;
- Advise on the playing schedule for the World Title competitions, if necessary;
- Serve as a member of the World Ranking Group;
- Provide advice on eligibility matters
- Act as the Chair of the Jury at the World Championships;
- Provide technical assistance for Multi-Sport Games and Continental Championships;
- Work closely with the Competition Department to achieve the above objectives; and
- Provide technical expertise and guidance to the Equipment, Rules, Umpires and Referees Committees, Para Table Tennis and professional staff.

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

In 2020, due to the COVID-19 situation with very few events, my main role was to assist the ITTF and the Competition Department on the playing format, schedules, and general inquiries relating to technical rules for major events. These included the Olympic Games, Olympic Games Qualification, World Championships and World Youth Championships. I have also worked as a member of the World Ranking Group looking at various items, such as the new ranking system, and have also provided expertise and assistance as required to other Committees, mainly to the URC, and the ITTF staff, whenever requested. I am also available to liaise with the continental representatives on technical issues related to continental events to align them more closely with the ITTF's events.

Graeme Ireland

Technical Commissioner

The impact of COVID-19 on all activities of the ITTF Member Associations was felt throughout the world resulting in the suspension of championships, meetings, and workshops. The pandemic continues to have a devastating and paralysing impact on practically every family and the appeal is for us to all to take special care.

My report will cover the activities for the period of January to December 2020

1. ITTF High Performance and Development Webinar Series "Table Tennis at your Fingertips"

Through the new initiative which is ITTF HPD Webinar Series "Table Tennis at your Fingertips", ITTF High Performance and Development Department aims to keep the table tennis community connected during this extraordinary time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Invited experts and professionals provide knowledge, tips, best practices, and inspiration.

Three (3) Webinars was organized with special emphasis on gender equality and women's development.

"Gender Equality in Table Tennis" four (4) recognized and respected women who represent the athlete, coach, umpire, and leader shared the challenges and opportunities they encountered as powerful women in their respective fields. The panel debated possible solutions and best practices that resulted in fantastic interactions between the guests but also encourage attendees to take active part in the Webinar.

"Inspiring Women in Table Tennis" three (3) inspiring women from three different continents were invited to share their stories of how they became successful and exceptional in their respective fields. The Webinar aimed to praise and highlight the successes and achievements of women who belong to our table tennis family and who went the extra mile to make a positive difference and inspire others.

"Women's Table Tennis Development in Member Associations (MAs)" Australia, Oman and Venezuela Table Tennis Federation representatives were guests at the third Webinar. The three (3) MAs had the opportunity to present their national initiatives and incentives towards women's table tennis development and exchange ideas and good practice. The presentation from these three (3) MAs sparked debate/s on gender equality and development.

2. 2020 Women's Participation in Development Programmes

Participation Figures for All Continents (as of 1st Jan 2021)

	2020	2019	2018	2017
Women	42% (471)	39 (1,294)	32% (392)	38% (1,492)
Men	58% (641)	61% (2,008)	68% (931)	62% (2,452)

3. 2020 Women-Specific Development Program Incentives

"My Gender. My Strength." Program National Association Assistance Program for Women's Development in Table Tennis

The aim of this initiative is to enhance and advance women's participation in table tennis by supporting national projects designed for female players, coaches, match officials, administrators, and leaders.

In 2019, the Program was implemented under the 2019 Asia and Latin America Development Program respectively. The Member Associations took ownership of the project in order to meet their needs and achieve desired outcomes.

Following a successful launch of the "My Gender. My Strength." Program, HPD started with the 2020 edition of this initiative.

In the 2020 edition of the "My Gender. My Strength." Program, the HPD paid special attention to develop and support tomorrow's female leaders.

In order to encourage Member Associations to submit quality projects that will have a significant impact on women's development and will leave a long-lasting legacy of this program, it is also planned to offer a bonus for the selected MAs.

Eight (8) applications were received from Asia and sixteen (16) from Latin America; this is an additional eight (8) applications than 2019. Unfortunately, the program, like other initiatives, has been interrupted due to COVID-19 pandemic.

4. Dishang 2020 ITTF Women's World Cup

The Dishang 2020 Women's World Cup was part of #RESTART series and was held in Weihai at the newly opened Weihai Nanhai Olympic Sport Center.

This event was the first glimpse of international action since international events were suspended in March 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic.

An entertaining rally played between Lily Zhang and Margaryta Pesotska; they were greeted with joyous cheers by all present at the Weihai Nanhai Olympic Sport Center. The President of the Chinese Table Tennis Association (CTTA), Liu Guoliang and ITTF CEO, Steve Dainton shared this memorable occasion.

The 21 players that participated at the Dishang 2020 Women's World Cup qualified through their Continental Cups.

The players respected the safety guidelines put in place by showing their respect for their fellow colleagues and match officials, namely by observing social distancing, replaced the traditional post-match handshake by bowing, fist/elbow bumps and racket tapping.

5. World Table Tennis (WTT)

WTT as a new entity aims to elevate table tennis to new heights through the management of commercial and events business of international table tennis, applying a fresh approach of how table tennis is delivered and presented internationally.

Among other, the most important outcome of the new approach is organization of exclusive women's tour to further promote the women's game.

6. ITTF Foundation

Inspirational Women's Series - A set of interviews that spotlights women in table tennis and supports and advocates for female participation and empowerment in table tennis and sport for development and peace.

7. International Federations (IFs) Gender Equality Webinar series

The event was held online on 7th, 14th and 23rd September in lieu of the IOC's (International Olympic Committee) annual Gender Equality forum and with a view to closing the gender gap on and off the field of play.

Like the previous editions of the forum, the webinar series was hosted by the IOC in collaboration with the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) and the Association of International Olympic Winter Sports Federations (AIOWF).

The webinars targeted the identified priority areas in tackling gender equality of Governance, Coaches, Technical Officials, Portrayal and Safe Sport with following topics:

1st Session: "Entrenching Gender Equality in Electoral Processes."

2nd Session: "Developing the pipeline of female governance candidates."

3rd Session: "Developing the pool of female coaches."

4th Session: "Developing the pool of female technical officials."

5th Session: "Removing gender bias and achieving gender balance."

6th Session: "Developing policies and procedures."

The main objectives of the webinar series were to share examples of initiatives and toolkits that can be adapted and implemented by IFs, but also to inspire and encourage IFs in particular to adopt change and develop action plans to address Gender Equality in their respective sport.

Each of the sessions was enriched with giving the spotlight to representatives from various IFs, for instance, World Athletics, World Rowing, FIS, FIBA, World Rugby, UCI, BWF, ITF presenting their best practices from the field as interesting case studies. Participants had the opportunity to ask questions and connect with like-minded individuals working to advance gender equality in sport.

8. Conclusion

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

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

Hajera Kajee (Ms)

Gender Commissioner

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-03 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To introduce 3.2.7, to amend 3.3.2 and to add 3.3.3.3

3.2.7 Table Tennis Review

Table Tennis Review (TTR) is a scientific solution to assist with better implementation of current Laws and Regulations. It comes into effect when an appeal is made by a player against a decision of a responsible match official on a question of fact. TTR uses highly accurate technology which enables an instant replay to be made of the circumstances leading to a decision subject to a review, with the final ruling on the question of fact being made by the TTR official.

3.3.2 Umpire, Assistant Umpire, and Stroke Counter and Table Tennis Review (TTR) official

3.3.2.8 When Table Tennis Review (TTR) is in operation, a decision made by either the umpire or assistant umpire may be overruled by the TTR official.

Renumber subsequent clauses

3.3.3.3 When Table Tennis Review (TTR) is in operation, an appeal may be made to the TTR official against a decision of a responsible match official on a question of fact, and the decision of the TTR official shall be final.

Renumber subsequent clauses

Rationale:

To reinforce the Table Tennis laws and regulations, and improve their implementation based on the principles of objectivity and fair play. To provide the right to a fair game by empowering the Athletes to appeal any decision that may be subject to interpretation and to overrule such decision when a Table Tennis Review system is available at the respective event.

To help improve the sport presentation by making available innovative technologies to engage with the global fans, TV audience and in venue spectators.

Such Innovative Technologies are very popular and frequently used by most International Federations and sporting properties

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-04 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend the Preamble of Chapter 6

PREAMBLE

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

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

To amend the Scope of Application of Chapter 6

Scope of application

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

- the ITTF, its administration, each of its members (Member Associations), affiliated organisations (Continental Federations and other groups of associations), the ITTF Foundation, WTT, and their officials, decision-making bodies, honorary members, officers, employees, services providers, delegated third parties and their employees, players, players' entourages and such other persons involved in their operations at all times and in all circumstances;
- all participants in ITTF Sanctioned Events;
- all members and their officials taking part in any type of candidature procedures of the ITTF, throughout the procedure in question; and
- the Organising Committees for the ITTF Sanctioned Events and their officials, throughout the existence of each such Committee.

To amend the Definitions in the Appendix of Chapter 6

"ITTF Sanctioned Events" means all events so designated by the Executive Committee and published on the calendar from time to time and include events licensed to or authorised by WTT or by the ITTF Foundation.

"ITTF Foundation" means ITTF Foundation, a subsidiary of ITTF and the entity responsible for corporate social responsibility initiatives of ITTF, and includes any of its subsidiary.

"WTT" means World Table Tennis Private Limited, a subsidiary of ITTF and exclusive licensee of ITTF in respect of certain licensed ITTF events, pursuant to a master licence agreement, and includes any of its subsidiary.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

To replace “Table Tennis parties” (or “Table Tennis party”) with “Table Tennis Parties” or (“Table Tennis Party”) where it appears in the ITTF Handbook.

To add new definitions to Article 8.2

“ITTF Foundation” means ITTF Foundation, a subsidiary of ITTF and the entity responsible for corporate social responsibility initiatives of ITTF, and includes any of its subsidiary.

“Related Document” includes any rule or regulation connected to the ITTF Handbook, including the rules and regulations of WTT, ITTF Foundation, or any other Table Tennis Party relating to sport integrity.

“WTT” means World Table Tennis Private Limited, a subsidiary of ITTF and exclusive licensee of ITTF in respect of certain licensed ITTF events, pursuant to a master licence agreement, and includes any of its subsidiary.

Rationale:

To extend the Code of Ethics to World Table Tennis and ITTF Foundation.

To clarify that the ITTF Tribunal has jurisdiction to hear and decide matters relating to integrity matters in respect of World Table Tennis and the ITTF Foundation, which are covered under “Related Document”.

To correct the abbreviation of Table Tennis Parties.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-05 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend Article 6.2.1

6.2.1 **Duty of care, diligence, and integrity etc.:** The Table Tennis Parties ~~must~~ **shall** use due care and diligence in fulfilling their mission. At all times, they ~~must~~ **shall** act with the highest degree of integrity, and particularly when taking decisions, they ~~must~~ **shall** act with impartiality, objectivity, independence and professionalism.

~~They must refrain from any act involving fraud or corruption. They must not act in a manner likely to tarnish the reputation of the ITTF.~~

6.2.1.1. Prohibition against acts likely to cause disrepute: The Table Tennis Parties shall not act in a manner likely to tarnish the reputation, name or goodwill of the ITTF or the sport of table tennis.

6.2.1.2. Prohibition against defamatory statements: The Table Tennis Parties shall not knowingly or recklessly cause any statement to be made or distributed, whether orally or in written, that is of a defamatory nature towards ITTF, the sport of table tennis, or any other Table Tennis Party.

6.2.1.3. Prohibition against falsehood: The Table Tennis Parties shall not knowingly or recklessly cause any false statements to be made in respect of ITTF, the sport of table tennis, or any other Table Tennis Parties.

6.2.1.4. Prohibition against forgery and falsification: The Table Tennis Parties shall not forge any document, falsify any authentic document, or knowingly or recklessly use a forged or falsified document.

6.2.1.5. Prohibition against abuse of authority: Individuals of Table Tennis Parties shall not abuse their position in any way, especially in seeking to take advantage of their position for aims or gains that benefit themselves or any persons or entities related or associated to them.

6.2.1.6. Violation of any provision within this Article shall be sanctioned with a fine of up to CHF 20,000 and/or a ban on taking part in any table tennis-related activity for a maximum of two years. For violations committed by an individual, sanctions shall be increased accordingly if the individual holds a high position in table tennis. Particularly, for a breach of Article 6.2.1.3, any interested Table Tennis Party may seek a declaration from the ITTF Tribunal (and on an expedited basis, if deemed appropriate by the ITTF Tribunal) that the subject statement is false and/or that the subject material contains a false statement of fact, without limiting any other order that the ITTF Tribunal may grant.

Rationale:

To add subheaders for clarity.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

To separate the specific provision from the general provision for clarity.

To expressly address defamatory statements and malicious falsehood.

To delete fraud and corruption which is more appropriately addressed elsewhere.

To specify range and type of sanction for greater certainty.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-06 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend Article 6.2.2 and delete current 6.2.3

6.2.2 Prohibition against fraudulent and corrupt conduct: The Table Tennis Parties shall refrain from any act involving fraud or corruption, in particular any unlawful conduct specified in Article 6.9.

6.2.2.1. Prohibition against concealed benefit or service: The Table Tennis Parties ~~or their representatives must~~ shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit, accept, promise or offer any form of remuneration or commission, nor any concealed benefit, advantage or service of any nature, connected with ~~the~~ ITTF Sanctioned Events, except by contractual agreements with the Organizing Committees of these events, or any activities connected with any Table Tennis Party.

6.2.2.2. Permissible gifts of nominal value: The Table Tennis Parties may only accept or give tokens of appreciation or friendship of a nominal value, in accordance with prevailing local customs.

6.2.2.3. Hospitality services: The Table Tennis Parties may only accept or provide hospitality services if such services are consistent with acceptable past practices.

6.2.2.4. Prohibition against misappropriation of funds: The Table Tennis Parties shall not misappropriate funds of the ITTF, ITTF Member Associations, Affiliated Organisations, or any of their leagues or clubs, whether directly or indirectly through, or in conjunction with, third parties or otherwise unlawfully enrich themselves at the expense of the aforementioned persons.

6.2.2.5. Violation of any provision within this Article shall be sanctioned with a fine of at least CHF 5,000 and/or a ban on taking part in any table tennis-related activity for any number of years, including a lifetime ban. Any amount unduly received or given shall be included in the calculation of the fine. The sanction shall be increased accordingly where the person holds a high position in table tennis, as well as in relation to the relevance and amount of the advantage received.

~~6.2.3 Only tokens of consideration or friendship of nominal value, in accordance with prevailing local customs, may be given or accepted by the Table Tennis parties.~~

~~Such tokens may not lead to the impartiality and integrity of the Table Tennis parties being called into question.~~

~~Any other form of token, object or benefit constitutes a gift which may not be accepted by an individual, but must be passed on to the organisation of which the beneficiary is a member~~

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Rationale:

To add subheaders for clarity.

To include general provision regarding “fraud and corruption” transferred from former Article 6.2.1.

To delete “or their representatives” as these persons are already within the definition of “Table Tennis Parties”.

To transfer specific provisions from former Articles 6.2.3 and 6.2.4 which are more appropriately addressed here.

To address additional specific acts.

To specify range and type of sanction for greater certainty.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-07 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

(Only if Proposition B-05 passes)

To add new Article 6.2.3

6.2.3. Prohibition against conflict of interest when performing duties: The Table Tennis Parties shall refrain from performing their duties (in particular, preparing or participating in the taking of a decision) in situations in which a conflict of interest (whether actual, perceived or potential) may affect such performance.

6.2.3.1 A potential conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest arises when the opinion or decision of a person, acting alone or within an organisation, could be reasonably considered as liable to be influenced by, relations that the aforementioned person has, has had or is on the point of having with another person or organisation that would be affected by the person's opinion or decision.

6.2.3.2. An actual conflict of interest occurs when a person, acting alone or within an organisation, expresses an opinion or participates to a decision while this person is liable to be influenced by relations that the aforementioned person has, has had or is on the point of having with another person or organisation that would be affected by the person's opinion or decision. An actual conflict of interest may occur irrespective of whether or not the person has declared the relevant interests.

6.2.3.3. Duty to declare before taking office: Before being elected, appointed, employed or contracted, individuals of Table Tennis Parties shall declare any relations and interests that could lead to any conflict of interest in the context of their prospective activities.

6.2.3.4. Ongoing duty to declare: During their course of duties, if any individual of Table Tennis Parties who knows or reasonably ought to know that any conflict of interest may affect the performance of their duties, they shall promptly declare the relevant relation and interest to the relevant Table Tennis Party.

6.2.3.4.1 For any individual who is an official, decision-making body, honorary member, officer, employee or services provider of ITTF, ITTF Foundation or WTT, such declaration shall be made to the ITTF Integrity Unit.

6.2.3.5 A presumption of conflict of interest shall arise in respect of any person who is a Table Tennis Party if:

6.2.3.5.1 they are interested personally or financially in the outcome of the matter or represent or previously in the selfsame matter represented any person who is thus interested;

6.2.3.5.2 their husband or wife, any person related by blood or marriage in the direct line of ascent or descent or any other closely attached person, is particularly interested personally or financially in the outcome of the matter or represents any person who is thus interested; or

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6.2.3.5.3 they take part in the management of, are a member or shareholder of, or otherwise are closely related to any company, partnership, association or other legal entity particularly interested in the outcome of the matter.

6.2.3.6 Disqualifications, directions to remove oneself from a conflict of interest or such other restrictions may be imposed by the ITTF Integrity Unit and such decision by the ITTF Integrity Unit may be appealed to the ITTF Tribunal.

6.2.3.7. Violation of any provision within this Article shall be sanctioned with a fine of up to CHF 10,000 and/or a ban on taking part in any table tennis-related activity for a maximum of two years. For violations committed by an individual, sanctions shall be increased accordingly if the individual holds a high position in table tennis.

To delete Article 6.2.5 and 6.8.4.

~~6.2.5 The Table Tennis parties must refrain from placing themselves in any conflict of interests, and must respect the Rules Concerning Conflicts of Interests Affecting the Behaviour of Table Tennis parties. Namely: "A situation of a potential conflict of interests arises when the opinion or decision of a person, acting alone or within an organisation, in the framework of the activities of the physical or legal persons defined in article 1 above, may be reasonably considered as liable to be influenced by relations that the aforementioned person has, has had or is on the point of having with another person or organisation that would be affected by the person's opinion or decision."~~

~~6.8.4 Rules Concerning Conflicts of Interests Affecting the Behaviour of Table Tennis parties~~

~~6.8.4.1 These rules apply to the Table Tennis parties as defined by the Code of Ethics preamble.~~

~~6.8.4.2 Any persons within the ITTF shall be prohibited from participating in any interaction which could influence an outcome or decision relative to any specific matter, if~~

~~6.8.4.2.1 Such persons are interested personally or financially in the outcome of the matter or represent or previously in the selfsame matter represented any person who is thus interested~~

~~6.8.4.2.2 Such persons' husband or wife, any person related by blood or marriage in the direct line of ascent or descent or any other closely attached person, is particularly interested personally or financially in the outcome of the matter or represents any person who is thus interested.~~

~~6.8.4.2.3 Such persons take part in the management of or otherwise are closely related to any company, partnership, association or other private legal entity particularly interested in the outcome of the matter.~~

~~6.8.4.2.4 Circumstances other than those referred in 1, 2 and 3 of this subsection are likely to lead to any doubt about such persons' impartiality.~~

~~6.8.4.3 No persons as referred to in 6.8.4.2.1, 6.8.4.2.2 and 6.8.4.2.3 shall be prohibited from acting,~~

~~6.8.4.3.1 if as a consequence of the nature or strength of their interest, of the nature of the matter, or of their functions in connection with~~

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~~consideration of the matter, no risk may be assumed to exist that the decision to be made may be affected by extraneous considerations.~~

~~6.8.4.3.2 — relative to any specific matter shall be allowed to decide, to take part in deciding, or otherwise to assist in the consideration of the matter in question.~~

~~6.8.4.4 — Any person as referred to above who has notice of circumstances as referred to in that subsection 6.8.4.2.1, 6.8.4.2.2 and 6.8.4.2.3 shall as soon as possible advise the Ethics Commission.~~

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

~~6.8.4.6 Specific provisions~~

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

Rationale:

To add subheaders for clarity.

To distinguish actual conflict of interest from potential or perceived conflict of interest, based on the IOC Code of Ethics. Previously, the ITTF Code of Ethics adopts only a single standard of potential conflict of interest.

To specify range and type of sanction for greater certainty.

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Proposition B-08 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

(Only if Proposition B-06 passes)

To amend Article 6.2.4

~~6.2.4 For hospitality shown to the Table Tennis parties, as well as those accompanying them, standards consistent with acceptable past practices must be respected.~~

6.2.4. General duties: The Table Tennis parties shall be aware of the importance of their duties and concomitant obligations and responsibilities. In particular:

6.2.4.1 Duty of neutrality: In dealings with government institutions, national and international organisations, associations and groupings, the Table Tennis parties shall remain politically neutral, in accordance with the principles and objectives applicable to them, and act in a manner compatible with their function and integrity.

6.2.4.2 Duty of loyalty: Individuals of the Table Tennis parties shall have a fiduciary duty to their respective organisations.

6.2.4.3 Duty of diligence and good faith: In discharging their duties, elected and appointed officials of the Table Tennis parties shall do so in good faith and be familiarised with and abide by the ITTF Handbook, the terms of reference of the body they were elected or appointed to and such other relevant document as may be amended from time to time.

6.2.4.4 Duty of confidentiality: The Table Tennis parties shall hold confidential information in confidence and not divulge them unlawfully and confidential information shall include information that is stated in writing or orally to be confidential and information that would be regarded as confidential by a reasonable person.

6.2.4.5 Duty to report: The Table Tennis parties who become aware of any violation of this Code of Ethics or any other rule or regulation of the ITTF Handbook or any related document shall promptly inform the ITTF Integrity Unit.

6.2.4.5.1 The Table Tennis parties shall not make any report for personal gain or benefit, frivolously, maliciously, vexatiously, or otherwise in bad faith.

6.2.4.6 Duty to cooperate: The Table Tennis parties shall fully assist and cooperate with honesty, confidentiality, and in good faith with the ITTF Integrity Unit at all times, regardless of whether they are involved in a particular matter as a party, as a witness, or in any other role.

6.2.4.6.1 For the purposes of Article 6.2.4.6, assistance and cooperation may include acts to: (a) clarify facts, (b) provide oral or written testimony, (c) submit information, documents, devices, or other material or items, and (d) disclose any other details deemed necessary by the ITTF Integrity Unit.

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6.2.4.6.2 The Table Tennis parties shall not intentionally, knowingly or recklessly obstruct, evade, prevent, or otherwise interfere with any investigation, intelligence gathering, or disciplinary proceeding, including: (a) concealing any material fact, (b) make any materially false or misleading statement or representation, (c) or submitting any materially false or misleading information or material.

6.2.4.6.3 The Table Tennis parties shall not harass, intimidate, threaten or retaliate against any person for any reason related to that person's assistance to or cooperation with the ITTF Integrity Unit.

6.2.4.7 **Duty to account:** The Table Tennis parties shall be accountable to other organs within their organisation for their individual and collective decisions as defined in the applicable rules and terms of reference for the body they represent.

6.2.4.7.1 Elected officials of the Table Tennis parties shall ensure that appropriate records, such as financial documents and minutes of meetings are properly kept.

6.2.4.8 Violation of any provision within this Article shall be sanctioned with a fine of up to CHF 10,000 and/or a ban on taking part in any table tennis-related activity for a maximum of two years. For violations committed by an individual, sanctions shall be increased accordingly if the individual holds a high position in table tennis.

Rationale:

To address other common duties and prohibitions that are not currently covered.

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Proposition B-09 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

(Only if Proposition B-07 passes)

To add new Article 6.2.5

6.2.5. Prohibitions against attempts: Any Table Tennis Party who attempt to commit any offence prohibited under this Code of Ethics or any other rule or regulation of the ITTF Handbook or any related document, shall be sanctioned with such sanctions prescribed for that offence.

6.2.5.1. For the purposes of Article 6.2.5, an attempt means the taking of any substantial step towards the commission of an offence if it is likely to be viewed as an intention to commit the offence.

Rationale:

To address attempts to commit a violation. It should be noted that the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules as adapted from the World Anti-Doping Code also sanctions attempts.

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Proposition B-10 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To insert a new Article 6.2.6

6.2.6. Prohibitions against complicity: Any Table Tennis Party who assist, encourage, aid, abet, conspire, cover up, or commit any other type of intentional complicity or attempted complicity of any offence prohibited under this Code of Ethics or any other rule or regulation of the ITTF Handbook or any related document, shall be sanctioned with such sanctions prescribed for that offence.

Rationale:

To address complicit conduct. It should be noted that the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules as adapted from the World Anti-Doping Code also sanctions complicit conduct.

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Proposition B-11 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To insert a new Article 6.2.7

6.2.7. Range and types of sanctions: Breaches of this Code of Ethics or any other rule or regulation of the ITTF Handbook or any related document by any Table Tennis Party for which no penalty is expressly provided shall be liable to be sanctioned by one or more of the following sanctions:

6.2.7.1. censure, reprimand or warning as to future conduct;

6.2.7.2. fine of any amount;

6.2.7.3. compensation payment;

6.2.7.4. to perform certain acts or refrain from performing certain acts;

6.2.7.5. to participate or complete in any rehabilitation programme;

6.2.7.6. suspension or removal from office;

6.2.7.7. revocation of any award, title or other honour granted by ITTF;

6.2.7.8. disqualification of results and outcomes of such results, including a forfeiture of any related awards, titles, ranking points or prizes;

6.2.7.9. disqualification or expulsion from competitions or events; and

6.2.7.10. period of ineligibility or ban (which may be for life) from participating in any capacity in Table Tennis or in any activities organised, controlled, authorised, sanctioned, supported or recognised in any way by any Table Tennis Party.

Rationale:

To prescribe the range and types of sanctions for any breaches that did not specify a sanction for greater certainty.

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Proposition B-12 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend Article 6.9.2.5.2

6.9.2.5.2 Knowingly assisting, covering up or otherwise being complicit in any acts or omissions of the type described in 6.9.2 committed by a participant.

To amend Article 6.9.3

6.9.3 BURDEN AND STANDARD OF PROOF

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

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

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

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

To replace Article 6.9.4 and delete 6.9.5.

6.9.4 INVESTIGATING A BREACH INVESTIGATIONS AND CHARGE

6.9.4.1 Any allegation or suspicion of a violation of any provision under ~~rule 6.9.2 Article 6.9~~ shall be reported to the ITTF Integrity Unit for investigation and possible charge in accordance with ~~this rule~~ **the ITTF Integrity Regulations**. ~~The ITTF Integrity Unit may conduct an investigation into the activities of any participant that it believes may have committed a violation of these rules and may appoint one or more persons for this purpose. Such investigation may be conducted in conjunction with relevant competent national or international authorities (including criminal, administrative, professional and/or judicial authorities) and all participants must co-operate fully with such investigations. The ITTF Integrity Unit shall have discretion, where it deems it appropriate, to stay its own investigation pending the outcome of investigations conducted by other competent authorities.~~

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To amend Article 6.9.7.3.1

6.9.7.3.1 The ~~ITTF Tribunal~~ Hearing Panel shall have discretion to impose a period of ineligibility on participants in accordance with the bands set out in 6.9.7.3.2. In imposing any period of ineligibility, the ITTF Tribunal hearing panel shall be entitled to consider whether any aggravating and/or mitigating factors under Rule 6.9.7.4 or the ITTF Tribunal Regulations should be taken into account.

To amend Article 6.9.7.3.7

6.9.7.3.7 In addition to the imposition of a period of ineligibility as set out above, the ITTF Tribunal shall have discretion to impose a fine of up to a maximum amount of the value of any benefit received by the participant out of, or in relation to, the violation(s) of rule 6.9.2 and the fine shall be a minimum of CHF5,000.

To amend Article 6.9.7.4.1

6.9.7.4.1 In order to determine the appropriate sanction to be imposed in each case, the ~~ITTF Tribunal~~ Hearing Panel shall assess the relative seriousness of the violation, including identifying all relevant factors that it deems to aggravate or mitigate the nature of the violation committed.

To amend Article 6.9.7.4.3

6.9.7.4.3. Mitigating factors which may be considered by the ~~ITTF Tribunal~~ Hearing Panel shall include (without limitation and where applicable):

To amend Definitions to Chapter 6:

"Hearing Panel" means a panel of the ITTF Tribunal formed in accordance with R8.25.6, which may comprise of a single ITTF Tribunal member; ~~panel appointed by the ITTF to perform the functions assigned to it in these rules.~~

Rationale:

To replace Article 6.9.4 and 6.9.5 to avoid repetition as they are already covered under the ITTF Integrity Regulations.

To align financial penalties under Article 6.9.7.3.7.

To correct abbreviations and typing errors in Chapter 6.

To refine the definition of "Hearing Panel" in Chapter 6.

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Proposition B-13 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend Article 6.9.3.5

6.9.3.5 ~~The ITTF Tribunal shall be entitled to draw an inference adverse against~~ If any participant who is accused of committing a violation ~~if that participant~~ fails ~~or refuses~~ to ~~appear in front of~~ attend the ITTF Tribunal ~~hearing, whether in person or remotely,~~ if requested to do so a reasonable time in advance of the hearing, or fails to comply with any information request that has been submitted in accordance with these rules, ~~the Hearing Panel may nevertheless proceed and deliver its decision.~~

Rationale:

To refine Article 6.9.3.5 where an accused persons fails or refuses to attend an ITTF Tribunal hearing.

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Proposition B-14 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend Article 6.9.8.4

6.9.8.4 The decision of CAS shall be final and binding on all parties and on all Member Associations and Continental Federations ~~and there shall be no right of appeal from the CAS decision~~. No claim may be brought in any other court, tribunal or via any other dispute resolution procedure or mechanism.

To amend Article 8.38.5

8.38.5 The decision of CAS is final and binding on all parties, ~~and all parties irrevocably waive their right to any other form of appeal or review of that decision, except as set out in Chapter 12 of Switzerland's Federal Code on Private International Law~~.

Rationale:

To clarify the appeal of ITTF Tribunal decisions and to ensure the wording is aligned with the jurisprudence of the Swiss Federal Tribunal.

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Proposition B-15 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend R8.2

8.2 Definitions and interpretation

8.2.1 In these ITTF Tribunal Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:

“**Administrative Fee**” has the meaning given to it in R8.25.2;

“**Absolute Majority**” means a majority (more than 50%) of the total number of persons entitled to vote, including those absent and those present but not voting;

“**Claimant**” means the party bringing a claim and for avoidance of doubt, includes the ITTF Integrity Unit or any of its authorised officers, including the Head of Integrity, or such other person authorised by the ITTF Integrity Unit;

“**Hearing Panel**” means a panel of the ITTF Tribunal formed in accordance with R8.25.6, which may comprise of a single ITTF Tribunal member;

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

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

“**Regulations**” means these ITTF Tribunal Regulations;

“**Request for Proceedings**” has the meaning given to it in R8.25.1;

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

“**Simple Majority**” means a majority (more than 50%) of persons taking part in the vote, not counting abstentions;

8.2.2 These Regulations are adopted pursuant to the ITTF Handbook and shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with applicable provisions of the ITTF Handbook. In case of any conflict, the ITTF Constitution prevail over these Regulations.

8.2.3 The headings and sub-headings in these Regulations are for convenience only and shall not be deemed to be part of the substance of these Regulations or to affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.

8.2.4 Words used regardless of the number and gender specifically used, shall be deemed and construed to include any other number, singular or plural, and any other gender, masculine, feminine or neuter, as the context requires.

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8.2.5 Any words following the terms “including”, “include”, “in particular”, “such as” or any similar expression shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words, description, definition, phrase or term preceding those terms.

8.2.6 If any provision of these Regulations is held to be invalid, unenforceable or illegal for any reason, it shall be deemed to be deleted and the remainder of these Regulations shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.

Rationale:

To correct typing errors.

To include definition of “Regulations” to refer to the ITTF Tribunal Regulations for clarity, given the various Chapters of regulations within the ITTF Handbook.

To include standard interpretation rules, as included with other Chapters of the ITTF Handbook, such as the ITTF Integrity Regulations for clarity.

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Proposition B-16 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend R8.4.7

8.4.7 The ITTF Tribunal ~~and the Secretariat~~ shall be allocated the necessary resources by ITTF to fulfil its functions.

To delete R8.6 regarding the Secretariat.

Rationale:

To amend provisions regarding the Secretariat as such matters are administrative ones to be managed by the ITTF Tribunal Chair as per Article 8.5.2.4.

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Proposition B-17 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend R8.12.1

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

To amend R8.37.1.2.1

8.37.1.2.1 the **fees of the** Hearing Panel members, **as approved by the ITTF Executive Committee**

Rationale:

To refine conditions for compensation and reimbursement for ITTF Tribunal Members and fees of Hearing Panel members.

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Proposition B-18 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend R8.13.1

8.13.1 No ITTF Tribunal member themselves and their immediate family members may:

8.13.1.1 hold any official function in ITTF, a member association of ITTF or an associated organisation of ITTF; ~~and~~

~~8.13.1.2 have any material business relationship with ITTF, a member association of ITTF or an associated organisation of ITTF,~~

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

Rationale:

To relieve conditions for independence by deleting Article 8.13.1.2, since Articles 8.15.1.1, 8.26.3 and 8.26.4 already provide for sufficient safeguards by way of conflict of interest restrictions.

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Proposition B-19 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend Article 8.16.1

8.16.1 Subject to R8.16.2 and R8.16.3, the ITTF Tribunal shall have jurisdiction to hear and decide any alleged infringement of any article under the ITTF Constitution, ~~or~~ any other rule or regulation of the ITTF Handbook ~~or~~ and any ~~Related~~ ~~o~~ Document except:

8.16.1.1 any provision under Chapter 5 of the ITTF Handbook (ITTF Anti-Doping Rules); and

8.16.1.2 any provision of the Classification Rules of ITTF Para Table Tennis.

8.16.2 The ITTF Tribunal has the original jurisdiction to hear and decide any alleged infringement of any provision or such other claims arising from any provision under Chapters 1, 2, 6 and 7 of the ITTF Handbook **and any Related Document**.

8.16.3 The ITTF Tribunal has the appellate jurisdiction to hear ~~and~~ decide any appeal of any decision made by the appropriate decision-making body on alleged infringements of any provision or such other claims arising from any provision under Chapters ~~1, 3, and 4, 9, and 10~~ of the ITTF Handbook **and any Related Document**.

Rationale:

To broaden the jurisdiction of the ITTF Tribunal, given the other propositions, including giving the ITTF Tribunal the jurisdiction to hear and decide appeals of decisions made pursuant to new Chapter 9 (ITTF Integrity Regulations) and to Chapter 10 (ITTF Electoral and Appointment Regulations).

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Proposition B-20 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend R8.17.1.2

8.17.1.2 subsidiarily, on Swiss law ~~and~~ or such other law that the Hearing Panel deems applicable. **In the latter case, the Hearing Panel shall give reasons for its decision.**

Rationale:

To require the Hearing Panel to give reasons for the application of any other governing law.

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Proposition B-21 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To delete R8.22.4

~~8.22.4 For the purpose of these ITTF Tribunal Regulations, a “working day” mean any day other than (i) Saturday or Sunday, or (ii) any day that is an official holiday in Lausanne, Switzerland.~~

Rationale:

To provide greater flexibility to the ITTF Tribunal in determining working day mentioned in Article 8.22.3, given that parties may have different working days depending on where they are operating.

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Proposition B-22 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend R8.24

8.24 Limitation period

8.24.1 Unless otherwise stated in of any rule or regulation of the ITTF Handbook or any Related Document, No claims proceedings may be commenced after the period of:

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

8.24.1.2 four years for all other claims proceedings.

8.24.2 The period stated in R8.24.1 commences:

8.24.2.1 from the date of the commission of the alleged infringement;

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

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

8.24.3 Where, in the case of any claims proceedings for which a period of limitation is stated in R8.24 and the basis of the claim is concealed by the fraud of the Respondent (or their representative), the period of limitation shall not commence until the Claimant has discovered the fraud or could have discovered it with reasonable diligence.

To delete Article 6.9.10.

Rationale:

To ensure the limitation period clause in the ITTF Tribunal Regulations can be read consistently with the other rules and regulations of the ITTF Handbook, such as the ITTF Integrity Regulations. It is intended for the limitation period stated in the ITTF Tribunal Regulations to be a baseline standard that may be superseded by the specific provisions stated in other rules and regulations of the ITTF handbook and any Related Document, particularly the ITTF Integrity Regulations which prescribe a limitation period for the ITTF Integrity Unit to undertake investigations and/or prosecutions.

To delete the limitation period stated in Article 6.9.10 as the limitation period will be stated under the ITTF Integrity Regulations.

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Proposition B-23 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend R8.25

8.25 Commencement of the proceedings

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

8.25.1.1 the name and full address of the Respondent;

8.25.1.2 the contact details of the parties;

8.25.1.3 the alleged infringement, specifying the rule, regulation, or principle alleged to have been infringed;

8.25.1.4 a statement of the facts upon which such allegation is based and a statement of issue submitted for the Hearing Panel to determine;

8.25.1.5 all exhibits and specification of other evidence upon which the Claimant intends to rely; the Claimant shall specify the name(s) of any witnesses, including a brief summary of their expected testimony, and the name(s) of any experts, stating their area of expertise, the Claimant intends to call and state any other evidentiary measure which it requests; the witness statements, if any, shall be filed together with the request for proceedings, unless the Hearing Panel decides otherwise.

8.25.1.56 a copy of the provision in the ITTF Handbook or any other instrument conferring jurisdiction on the ITTF Tribunal to hear and determine the matter; and

8.25.1.67 any proposal regarding the conduct or venue of the proceedings, including whether any interim relief is requested; (the “**Request for Proceedings**”).

8.25.2 Upon filing its Request for Proceedings, the Claimant shall pay the non-refundable fee of USD1,000 (the “**Administrative Fee**”), in the manner determined by the ITTF Tribunal. This Article 8.25.2 shall not apply if the Claimant is the ITTF Integrity Unit or ITTF.

8.25.3 If the Claimant fails to pay the Administrative Fees in accordance to R8.25.2, the ITTF Tribunal may not proceed with the claim.

8.25.4 If the ITTF Tribunal Chair determines that the requirements set out in R8.25 and R8.25.2 are satisfied, ~~it~~ they shall communicate to the Respondent the request to commence the proceedings and to file its answer (the “**Answer**”) to the request to commence the proceedings. The ITTF Tribunal Chair shall provide the parties with the link on ITTF’s website where the ITTF Tribunal Regulations may be accessed.

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

8.25.5.1 a copy of the Request for Proceedings;

8.25.5.2 its response admitting or denying the alleged infringement;

8.25.5.3 a statement of defence;

8.25.5.4 any defence of the ITTF Tribunal's lack of jurisdiction; and

8.25.5.5 any counterclaim; and

8.25.5.6 all exhibits and specification of other evidence upon which the Respondent intends to rely; the Respondent shall specify the name(s) of any witnesses, including a brief summary of their expected testimony, and the name(s) of any experts, stating their area of expertise, it intends to call and state any other evidentiary measure which it requests. The witness statements, if any, shall be filed together with the Answer, unless the Hearing Panel decides otherwise.

8.25.6 If the Respondent does not file an Answer, ~~the Hearing Panel may draw an adverse inference against the Respondent~~ the Hearing Panel may nevertheless proceed with the proceedings and deliver its decision.

8.25.7 The parties shall not be authorised to supplement or amend their requests or their argument, to produce new exhibits, or to specify further evidence on which they intend to rely after the submission of the Request for Proceedings and of the Answer.

Rationale:

To specify that exhibits and specification of evidence are needed to be included in the Request for Proceedings and the Answer.

To clarify that payment of the Administrative Fee does not apply to the ITTF Integrity Unit or ITTF, since the ITTF Integrity Unit does not currently operate a separate bank account and the net payment would be zero.

To require the ITTF Tribunal Chair to provide parties access to the ITTF Tribunal Regulations for their understanding of the procedure.

To refine the situation where the Respondent does not file an Answer.

To specify that the parties may not amend their submissions after the submission of the Request for Proceedings and of the Answer.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-24 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend R8.26

8.26 Formation of the Hearing Panel

8.26.1 On the receipt of the Answer, the ITTF Tribunal Chair shall, at their sole discretion, appoint either one or three members of the ITTF Tribunal to hear and determine the alleged infringement set out in the Request for Proceedings as the Hearing Panel, subject to R8.26.3. ~~If the Respondent fails to submit its Answer by the specified time limit, the Hearing Panel may nevertheless proceed with the case and issue a decision.~~

8.26.2 If the Hearing Panel consists of one ITTF Tribunal member, that member shall serve as the Hearing Panel Chair. If the Hearing Panel consists of three ITTF Tribunal Members, the ITTF Tribunal Chair shall nominate one of those three members as the Hearing Panel Chair.

8.26.3 No ITTF Tribunal member may sit on the Hearing Panel of the proceedings where:

8.26.3.1 they have any personal connection or interest, whether directly or indirectly, with any party or witness;

8.26.3.2 they have had any prior involvement with any matter or any facts arising in the proceedings (except if the involvement is a decision to impose an interim relief or a separate proceeding where some or all of the same facts are relevant);

8.26.3.3 they have **the** same nationality as any party ~~or witness~~ involved in the proceedings, unless agreed by the parties;

8.26.3.4 they have a conflict of interest in any matter arising from the proceedings, according to the ITTF Code Ethics; or

8.26.3.5 their independence or impartiality could reasonably be disputed (as determined by the ITTF Tribunal Chair).

8.26.4 Upon their appointment to a Hearing Panel, each Hearing Panel member shall within reasonable time provide a written declaration to the parties, disclosing any facts or circumstances they know that may lead to their independence or impartiality being doubted legitimately. If any such facts or circumstances arise **after** the written declaration was made, the Hearing Panel member must provide an updated declaration to the parties. **The Hearing Panel members' declarations shall be supplied to the parties.**

Rationale:

To remove part of R8.26.1 which is already covered in R8.25.6.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

To relieve conflict of interest conditions by removing “witness” from R8.26.3.3

To clarify that any declaration made pursuant to R8.26.4 shall be supplied to the parties by the Hearing Panel members.

To correct typing errors.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-25 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend R8.31

8.31 Hearings

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

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

8.31.3 Subject to R8.15, the Hearing Panel Chair has the sole discretion to decide the procedure to be followed at the hearing, which may include without limitation:

8.31.3.1 making an introduction of the Hearing Panel and each party to the proceedings (and their representatives, if applicable);

8.31.3.2 stating the purpose of the hearing;

8.31.3.3 stating the procedure of the hearing;

8.31.3.4 submitting on preliminary issues;

8.31.3.5 making of opening statements;

8.31.3.6 presenting of evidence;

8.31.3.7 calling of witnesses and/or experts; and

8.31.3.8 making of closing statements.

8.31.4 Should either party or both of them fail or refuse to attend the hearing, the Hearing Panel may nevertheless proceed and deliver its decision.

Rationale:

To clarify that hearings may be conducted in person be telephone or videoconference.

To clarify that if either or both parties fail or refuse to attend the hearing, the Hearing Panel may proceed to deliver its decision.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-26 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend R8.32.4

8.32.4 If a witness who has been requested to attend the hearing fails to appear, any witness statement or declaration related to that witness will be disregarded, unless the Hearing Panel decides otherwise in exceptional circumstances. ~~The Hearing Panel may draw adverse inference against the party offering the witness (or against that party, if the witness is the party) from the witness' failure to appear.~~

Rationale:

To remove the express statement that the Hearing Panel may draw adverse inference against a party whose witness did not appear to give evidence.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-27 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend R8.36.1

8.36.1 After the parties complete their submissions and all Hearing Panel members have deliberated, the Hearing Panel shall make its decision unanimously or by majority. No Hearing Panel member may abstain in making the decision. **In the absence of majority, the Hearing Panel Chair will have the casting vote.**

Rationale:

To clarify that if there is any absence of majority in the Hearing Panel's decision, the Hearing Panel Chair will have a casting vote to ensure that there is no deadlock in decision-making.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-28 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To amend Article 8.4.6

8.4.6 Each term of office ~~of~~ the ITTF Tribunal member shall be four years and the ITTF Tribunal Member may be appointed by the AGM or EGM for a maximum of eight consecutive years, subject to R8.~~38.5~~**39.1**.

To amend Article 8.5.2

8.5.2 The ITTF Tribunal Chair is responsible for the matters including:

8.5.2.1 lead and represent the ITTF Tribunal in official matters within and outside of ITTF;

8.5.2.2 propose resources necessary for the ITTF Tribunal to operate in accordance with these ITTF Tribunal Regulations;

8.5.2.3 propose amendments to these ITTF Tribunal Regulations or any other part of the ITTF Handbook for the effective and efficient administration of justice within ITTF;

8.5.2.4 perform or supervise the performance of operational tasks of the ITTF Tribunal;

8.5.2.5 prepare annual reports of the ITTF Tribunal for the AGM or EGM;

8.5.2.6 convene ~~meetings~~ ITTF Tribunal meetings, as they deem necessary;

8.5.2.7 appoint a deputy to fulfil their responsibilities in their absence, as they deem necessary;

8.5.2.8 manage the caseload of the ITTF Tribunal and assign (or reassign) cases to ITTF Tribunal members, according to their specific needs, such as subject-matter expertise;

8.5.2.9 monitor the performance and conduct of the ITTF Tribunal members and investigate (or assist in the investigation of) complaints made against them, in accordance with the ITTF Handbook;

8.5.2.10 work with the Secretariat and all other ITTF Tribunal members on all other matters necessary ~~of~~ **for** the operation of the ITTF Tribunal; and

8.5.2.11 assume the responsibilities of the ITTF Tribunal members, as set out in R8.5.3.

To amend Article 8.8.2.2.

8.8.2.2 be voted on by the ITTF Tribunal members within a period ~~specified~~ **specified** by the ITTF Tribunal Chair.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

To amend R8.27.1.1

8.27.1.1 receiving the written declaration specified in R8.26.~~3-5~~4

To amend R8.35.1

8.35.1 If the Hearing Panel determines that an infringement of any article under the ITTF Constitution or any other rule or regulation of the ITTF Handbook or any ~~Related~~ Document ~~has been committed~~, the Hearing Panel will impose the appropriate sanction(s) in accordance with R8.35.2, unless any specific sanction ~~provisions~~ ~~is provided~~ set out in such rules or their associated documents for such infringement.

To amend R8.35.2

8.35.2 Taking into consideration the seriousness of the infringement, including the relevant aggravating factors in R8.35.~~2-10~~3 and mitigating factors R8.35.~~3-7~~4, the Hearing Panel has the power to impose any one or more of the following:

To amend R8.35.3.2

8.35.3.2 the holding ~~of~~ any leadership role within ITTF, any member association of ITTF or any other associated organisation of ITTF;

To amend R8.35.3.4

8.35.3.4 any substantial harm ~~was~~ done or potentially done to the victim;

To amend R8.35.4.5

8.35.4.5 ~~any~~ ~~no~~ substantial damage done or potentially done to the commercial value, integrity or reputation of ITTF, any member association of ITTF, any other associated organisation of ITTF and table tennis in general;

To amend R8.35.4.8

8.35.4.8 ~~any~~ substantial cooperation ~~that~~ was provided during investigations or the proceedings;

Rationale:

To correct abbreviations, typing errors, and references to provisions.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-29

(Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Equipment Committee

REGULATIONS: *Racket control*

3.2.4.2.1

The racket control centre shall test rackets, according to the policy and procedure established by the Executive Committee on recommendation of the Equipment Committee and Umpires and Referees Committee, to ensure that rackets abide by all ITTF regulations including, but not limited to, flatness, racket covering thickness, **even thickness and continuity of layers** and presence of harmful **or** volatile substances.

3.2.4.2.2

Normally, the racket control test shall be carried out ~~after the match at random only where the player does not submit the racket for a before match test~~ before the match test. **After-match tests shall only be conducted, where the racket was not submitted on time for a before-match test or for tests or inspections that could not be performed before the match.**

Rationale:

3.2.4.2.1 The EC defines the policy and procedure of ITTF racket testing! The last sentence should underline the items that may be checked, to abide with all rules.

3.2.4.2.2 The regulation shall be adapted to the actual practice and allow controls after the match, if not possible before. "Testing before" stays the normal procedure!

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-30

(Simple majority required)

Proposed by the Monaco Table Tennis Federation

The provision we are presenting would complement the already existing rules.

It would be a question of taking into account the date of registration of a player under a National Federation, other than his country of origin, in the calculation of the waiting period to be respected for his registration to the world championships:

If a player justifies of 5 years of registration in the Federation, before his naturalization, we propose to lower the waiting times for eligibility for the world championships as follows:

- Under 18 but over 15: 1 year after the date of naturalization;
- Under 21 but over 18: 2 years after the date of naturalization;
- 21 years: 4 years after the date of naturalization.

(We are not asking for a change for those under 15, considering the fact that their involvement in local life is relatively limited at that age.)

In the case of our player, this change would allow her to be eligible to participate in the world championships in 2021.

This is a "win-win-win" formula where the ITTF (participation of more countries at the highest level -> increase in universality), the National Federations (-> implementation of policies development of sport) and athletes (-> investment in local life and recognition; sporting progress) have common interests.

If it were to be accepted, this proposal could be extended to the eligibility rules applying to World Cups as well as to European Championships.

Rationale:

1. The special case of small countries: the example of the Principality of Monaco:

I will talk about what I know and therefore will limit my comments to the case of the Monegasque Table Tennis Federation (FM TT). With nearly 40,000 residents in Monaco, in 2019 we counted 9,486 Monegasques. The number of nationals is very limited.

The FM TT relies on only one affiliated club to train its players: The ASM Table Tennis.

Our philosophy is simple: to work for the expansion of Table Tennis and to encourage the practice at competition level.

This policy has led us to good results, especially at the Games of the Small States of Europe in which we participate under the colors of the Monegasque Olympic Committee every two years.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Unfortunately, the step to take to continue at a continental or international level is too high for our players whom do not benefit from emulation or training partners in order to progress.

II. The case of foreign athletes

Given the above, it is difficult for us to pursue a sports policy focused on high-level performance. However, the good international relations that we have, allowed us to enter into contact, in 2013, with the French player Xiaoxin YANG.

Mrs. Xiaoxin YANG demonstrated her attachment to our structure and quickly became associated with our activities, participating in the development of the club and the Federation.

Her involvement in our activities led to her registration with the ITTF by the FMTT in 2014, following her domiciliation in December 2013. In 2017, The Prince naturalized her and she became, to our surprise, a Monegasque subject.

III. Sporting interest in the medium and long term

The example of the Monegasque Table Tennis Federation illustrates the benefit of the presence of a high-level player within a small structure.

Initially: the licensed table tennis players were able to benefit from the advice, experience and presence of an international player to improve their level of practice;

Then: her performances allowed us to communicate locally in order to attract new members;

Finally: her fame has led to the organisation of different meetings with other high-level players in Monaco, naturally creating a center of excellence geared towards progress.

This example of good practice could be put forward, not to encourage athletes' travel but to encourage small Federations to set-up a pro-active strategy geared towards the development of their structures, thanks to the presence of foreign high-level players.

IV. The problem encountered

As mentioned, the ITTF rules impose certain limits.

The delay in being able to register players who have changed their nationality to the world championships is one of them.

Indeed, even if the modification of the regulations dated May 3rd 2018 now authorize their participation, we find that the expected waiting periods do not reflect the reality of the situations.

As an illustration, let's take the case of our player Xiaoxin YANG:

- Date of registration with the Monegasque Table Tennis Federation: 07/01/2013

- Date of naturalization: 04/14/2017.

The current regulations provide for a period of 9 years to allow her to participate in the world championships, not before 2026. This decision could appear unfair given her investment in the Monegasque Federation and her involvement in local life.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-31

(Simple majority required)

Proposed by the Japanese Table Tennis Association

Following the decision of the ITTF Board of Directors on 19th November 2020 regarding the “new format of World Championships Finals 8.6.”, we request the ITTF Board of Directors to consider the following change.

8. Finals

8.6.

Players/pairs qualifying for the Finals are not individually qualified but gain places for their Association which has the right to nominate according to the qualified number of places for the Finals.

~~If an Association nominates a player/pair who did not gain the place for their Association, the player must have a World Ranking 256th or better at the fixed deadline.~~ If the Association is not able to comply, the vacant place will go to the highest ranked player/pair not yet qualified from another Association.

* for players that have been injured or pregnant and have no ranking or a low ranking the WR seeding protection procedure shall be used to determine their ranking. Continental quota places shall always stay by the Continent.

Rationale:

The World Table Tennis Championship Finals is the most prestigious event in table tennis. JTAA have selected the strongest players at that moment by holding a strict domestic selection criteria and competition event.

However, with the current situation players are evaluated only by their world rankings and therefore we are unable to dispatch players with true ability.

Therefore, by removing the restriction of players of World Ranking 256 or better, each association can send their strongest player at the time of the upcoming WTTC.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-32

(Simple majority required)

Proposed by the Equipment Committee

T1 – Tables Section 4.8 - Friction

The changes of both spin and trajectory when a table tennis ball bounces are governed by the coefficient of friction (CoF) between the ball and the table; the part contributed by the table to the CoF is almost exclusively a property of the surface finish. ~~We formerly specified the CoF of the playing surface, but have subsequently learned that there are unidentified variables that reduce the reproducibility of the method.~~ The following ~~is therefore advisory, not mandatory~~ section lays down mandatory specifications for the frictional properties of table surfaces, as determined with the testing method described below.

The range of the dynamic CoF, i.e. the difference highest permitted CoF minus lowest permitted CoF, between the playing surface and ~~a specified ITTF approved ball, the “standard” ball, any ITTF approved ball~~ should not be greater than 0.05 units ~~(this limit will be set during 2016, and submitted to BoD in 2017)~~. A tolerance on the top and the bottom of 0.01 is acceptable. The CoF should be essentially the same regardless of the direction in which it is measured. The exact limits of the range will be decided latest at the Board of Directors in 2022; the frictional restrictions will be fully applied for all new tables sold after July 1st, 2024.

~~A simple practical method of determining coefficient of friction uses a triangular raft or sled supported on three balls, about 2 cm apart, glued to a piece of wood or other substance that gives a total weight of about 100g. The maximum angle between the playing surface and the horizontal when the sled will not continue to slip is measured. The tangent of this angle is the CoF.~~

~~Alternatively, the 100g sled described above may be pulled over the horizontal table at a speed of 300 mm/min, and the pulling force is measured. The dynamic CoF is pulling force divided by the weight of the sled, both in Newtons. The average of five measurements should be taken. Care should be taken that any device used for determining the pulling force should be as free from friction as possible.~~

~~It should be noted that not all balls have the same frictional properties; The CoF should be measured according to a standardized procedure including balls used and prior cleaning of balls and tables.~~

In order to determine the dynamic CoF, a ball is dropped with spin vertically onto the playing surface from a pre-fixed dropping height and with a pre-fixed number of rotations. The angle of the outbound ball or the displacement between the first and second bounce allow to calculate the CoF. The testing is achieved under 50 (±5) % relative humidity at 20 (±2) ° Celsius, on a dry table surface and with dry balls cleaned before with distilled water.

The standard ball is the non-celluloid ball, whose material is the most used and whose production is the most consistent. Verification of the function and of the ball properties used, and eventual calibration of the device are possible. The Equipment Committee edits an annex to the present leaflet, which develops

- ✚ the theoretical, scientific grounds of the method,
- ✚ the practical details of testing,
- ✚ the choice of the “standard” ball
- ✚ the instructions of use including the verification of the adequate function

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Rationale:

Because of very different friction coefficients between table surfaces and balls, players encounter “every weekend” different playing conditions, which force them to adjust their techniques, their movements. This is harmful for them, and detrimental for table tennis. It would be disrespectful to continue the actual situation. The proposition reduces the range of permitted friction of tables, so that conditions become much more homogeneous. Before defining the final limits, the Athletes Commission should advise, if players like tables with more or less grip. The limits that will be proposed to the BoD shall be decided as soon as possible. As several companies will need time to produce new surfaces, and ITTF to check, the deadlines given are necessary.

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Proposition B-33

(Simple majority required)

Proposed by the Equipment Committee

Technical leaflet T3 – Balls - *B.10 HARDNESS CONFORMITY*

For balls with seam:

The geometric mean pole hardness for any ball shall be in the range **0.68 – 0.81mm**.

The geometric mean pole hardness for the sample shall be in the range **0.69 – 0.81mm**

The mean seam hardness for the sample shall be in the range ~~0.72 – 0.83mm~~ **0.69 – 0.81mm**

No more than 1 ball out of the 24 sampled may be outside this range.

Both within-ball hardness variations (difference of the measurements between pole 1 and seam as well as between pole 2 and seam) shall be no greater than 0.15mm. The sample mean hardness variation (mean of the 24 geometric means of the 2 hardness variations per ball) shall be no greater than 0.08mm.

For balls without seam:

The geometric mean hardness for any ball shall be in the range 0.70 – 0.90mm.

No more than 1 ball out of the 24 sampled may be outside this range.

Rationale:

- a) *To align the hardness specification on the seam with the one on the poles. The lower values facilitate producing balls with a slightly increased hardness, which is considered beneficial to players. Statistical analysis of 2000 tested balls shows that the shifted limits will not disqualify any already approve product.*
- b) *To align the allowance of failures with the ones for weight, i.e., one ball may fail (instead of none). This covers frequent small incidental deviations which are not considered a general deficiency in quality.*

Propositions and Resolutions to the 2021 ITTF BoD

Resolution B-01 – Effective immediately if it passes (Simple majority required)

Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee

To establish a Working Group with representatives of the Athletes Commission, Umpires and Referees Committee, Rules Committee, the Technical Commissioner (and any other relevant Committees/Officials/staff as deemed necessary), with the goal to develop a regulation about “Time between points”.

Rationale:

Time between points is a critical issue, especially for those, who are not hard-core fans of table tennis. Multiple times during events, players take too long between points, which makes the matches, and the competition days longer making more difficult to create clear schedules and in addition affects the interest of spectators/viewers/broadcasters.

The goal of this project is to find ways to enforce more effectively regulation 3.4.4.1 about continuous play. More effective methods (i.e. time control, match officials' reminders etc.) should be implemented in events with the aim to develop and improve the current regulations.