## ITTF ANNUAL REPORT

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# MESSAGES FROM THE ITTF

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## THOMAS WEIKERT PRESIDENT'S REPORT



2020 was certainly one of the most challenging years in the history of the ITTF.

We were confronted with a pandemic that no one could have expected, whose development changed daily and for which it was difficult to develop plans. Covid 19 has determined the year 2020 worldwide.

Many tournaments including Olympic Games, World Championships, World Junior Championships and projects in all areas that should have taken place in 2020 have fallen victim to the pandemic and have caused considerable problems for many federations. First and foremost, we had the duty to preserve the safety of the players, coaches, officials, our fans and all stakeholders involved in table tennis.

Nevertheless, with hard work, passion, professionalism, togetherness and most importantly the assurance that everything we do has table tennis as the main interest, we "survived" 2020. In order to support the sport during these challenging times, all ITTF staff took voluntary salary reductions in 2020, with the ITTF Executive Committee reducing its salary/expenses as well.

Thus, in spite of the pandemic, we enjoyed our highlights of 2020.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF 2020

In beginning of 2020 two World Tour Platinum Events took place in Germany and Qatar, the World Team Olympic Qualification tournament was held in Portugal.

Several regional Olympic singles and the mixed qualification Tournaments took place. A few Youth

and Para events could be held before in March the final ball was hit at the ITTF Challenge Plus Oman.

EC meetings were held in a 2-week cycle to take into account the developments of the pandemic. Decisions had to be made, decisions had to be changed because the situation developed differently than expected. But there were also projects that emerged from the pandemic in this form.

## WITH HARD WORK, PASSION, PROFESSIONALISM, TOGETHERNESS & TABLE TENNIS AS OUR MAIN INTEREST, WE SURVIVED 2020.

## FIRST WORLD TABLE TENNIS DAY AT HOME

Physically distanced, but socially united was the slogan of this year's world table tennis day on 6 April. 24 hours of non-stop table tennis was a great success.

The ITTF High Performance & Development department has launched a new webinar series for players, coaches, referees and also the general public to stay connected to table tennis in times of social distancing with tips and inspirations offered by a panel of experts and professionals. A "Weekly Training Lessons" series was launched.

The first global online International Umpire examination has been concluded successfully.

### HOME OF TABLE TENNIS

18 countries across four different continents, an exciting list of 28 cities declared their interest in the chance to become the ITTF's next Headquarters, which will enable the centralization of the overall workforce and drive the continued growth of the sport. We are looking in detail for a thriving new hotspot for table tennis players, business professionals, coaches and officials from across the globe, to unite in a single location and collectively take table tennis to the next level among the world's leading sports.

For the first time ever, the ITTF Annual General Meeting was held virtually to enable the safest possible solution amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

A six-part video conference series was aired in the weeks leading up to the AGM, with presentations focusing on ITTF Foundation, High Performance and Development, Good Governance, Finance, World Table Tennis and the 2023 World Championships Finals bidding process.

## **#RESTART IN NOVEMBER**

The RESTART featured three of the most prestigious ITTF events (the Uncle Pop 2020 ITTF Women's World Cup, the Liebherr 2020 ITTF Men's World Cup and the 2020 ITTF World Tour Grand Finals) In November the first WTT in Macau was the start of a brand new chapter in ITTF history. With a spectacular showcase and presentation table tennis returns. The first-ever collaboration between WTT and strategic partner IMG Productions also saw the sport reach amazing new heights in broadcast innovation, with experimental techniques and an exciting new approach to production showcasing the pulsating action from every angle.

This is just to name some of the key things, not mentioning all the development projects and competitions we hold in different ways all over the world.

In general, the ITTF can act in this area as a partner by providing support, but we also need the support and commitment of the associations; this remains a personal goal for me. It is my policy to work in a transparent and realistic way by respecting all the regulations we have in our handbook. I will not make any empty promises about funds that do not exist, and I am working hard to extend our development programmes. May I take this opportunity to thank the continental and national associations who have supported the initiatives.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the ITTF for the trust they have placed in me. I would like to extend a special thank you to my colleagues on the Executive Committee as it has been an incredible year off the table. I thank the Chairs of ITTF Committees; the ITTF professional staff for their efforts; and last but not least, I thank all stakeholders and their athletes for their tremendous support. We are confident about receiving your support in 2021 in order to reach our ambitious goals of becoming one of the biggest sports in the world.

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

Table Tennis. For All. For Life.

THOMAS WEIKERT ITTF PRESIDENT

## STEVE DAINTON CEO'S REPORT



2020 was my third year serving as ITTF CEO and I believe it is fair to say it was the most complicated and challenging one. An unprecedent year impacted by the largest global crisis in our lifetimes – the COVID-19 pandemic.

Countries, cities and almost all borders around the world were shut down and/or closed and all organisations that were involved in business that relied on international travel suffered massively. Table tennis activities all over the globe were ceased, from major international events to the friendly social matches at the millions of clubs all over the world. In one way or another all persons connected to our sport have been affected.

The ITTF was forced to suspend international activities and competitions, freeze our World Ranking, and we were unable to organise Development, High Performance, and Foundation activities for most of the year. The postponement of Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games made it clear to us that this would not be a normal year. For the first time in decades, we were not able to host the World Championships at the originally planned dates, and despite the huge effort and tremendous work done together with the Korean Table Tennis Association, the ITTF had to take the heart-breaking decision to cancel the 2020 WTTC in Busan.

As a result, the ITTF and all our stakeholders have seen huge ramifications. After several years of extremely positive results and growth and having embarked on some large projects, unfortunately we all needed to scale our operations accordingly and make cuts in all our projects and programs. It is not easy to take positives but there were some: From a financial perspective, the ITTF has managed through difficult and prudent measures to weather the unpredictable times and achieve stable financial results in 2020. This puts the ITTF in a much stronger position compared to many other international federations during this crisis.

The entire ITTF team did their best to bring the entire table tennis community together through new available technological tools, while adapting to the current situation by offering more activities online and overcoming the various difficulties to ensure that ITTF continues to move forward with its bold, progressive, modern and professional approach as originally laid out in our Strategic Plan, as well as through the newly established World Table Tennis.

## "

## DESPITE THE COMPLICATIONS, I DO BELIEVE IN THE FUTURE WE WILL LOOK BACK AT 2020 WITH SOME PRIDE.

Despite the complications, as a professionally led organisation, I do believe in the future we will look back at 2020 with some pride. It is easy to judge the work when there is a positive global environment to work in, when the growth is positive and quantifiable and when expansion is clearly visible. How an organisation and its leadership is able to adapt to an unfavourable environment and cope with a crisis is also equally important. From a professional management perspective, I believe there are also many reasons to be satisfied with our approach and this will be the focus of my report.

## STAFF COMMITMENT AND SACRIFICE

As early as April and together with our Finances team, we knew that in case the pandemic was going to last for a long period of time, it was necessary to make some sacrifices. Fortunately, we could maintain most of our staff and they all understood the measures adopted during this crisis and agreed to take salary reductions in order to survive 2020. The Staff's understanding and dedication to the ITTF, will one day be remembered as one of the main reasons why the ITTF could pull through the difficult times of COVID-19 from a financial perspective.

## **ITTF #RESTART**

Ensuring a safe return to international table tennis was our number one priority ever since the COVID-19 pandemic broke out, not only for our athletes and partners but also for our millions of fans around the world, who were craving to watch their stars do battle once more.

Through our #RESTART series in China, together with the Chinese Table Tennis Association's (CTTA) powerful support, we were able to deliver hope for our sport and for international table tennis events and in the process, proving that even during a crisis, when we work together, our sport can prevail.

When most of the Olympic Sports around the world were still trying to return to international competition – table tennis did it. All with not one single health issue during the pandemic – zero COVID-19 cases.

The work, the sweat, the tears and the absolute joy of watching our favourite players competing for the top prizes in our #RESTART series will go down in history as one of the most important things that the ITTF and table tennis has ever achieved.

It was also testament to partnership working and support from our players that WTT Macao could take place in November and in doing so offering a first glimpse into the future of the sport. The WTT Macao proof-of-concept showcased a thrilling, original playing format with the world's biggest table tennis stars battling it out in brand-new WTT surrounds.

## TABLE TENNIS UNITED

Ever since the declaration of Covid-19 as a pandemic, ITTF Foundation and our partners have worked side by side with the Table Tennis community

to overcome the obstacles that keep those in need from getting help. The #TableTennisUnited fundraising campaign powered by the ITTF Foundation and supported by the ITTF and WTT, was created to provide financial support for those affected by the COVID-19 crisis and continues to support various initiatives and individuals from all over the world thanks to multiple generous donors.

WHEN OLYMPIC SPORTS AROUND THE WORLD WERE STILL TRYING TO RETURN TO INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION, TABLE TENNIS DID IT [WITH] ZERO COVID-19 CASES.

## **ORGANISATION & GOVERNANCE**

In the recent years we have constantly proven that table tennis is an integral sport and that ITTF is following the modern good governance principles which have led us to a significant improvement in the IF's Rankings as published by the 2020 Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) Report in comparison to previous terms.

The ITTF remains committed to continue working on improving its overall Governance structure and commenced development plans for the establishment of a more independent Disciplinary Tribunal, and even more robust Control Mechanisms to keep raising the ITTF's profile among the International Federations in the Olympic Programme.

## FUTURE WORLD TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2020 ITTF AGM provided history-making news that South Africa will host its first ever World Table Tennis Championships when Durban will be host city in 2023. This is also the first time that the World Championships will be held on the African continent since Cairo, Egypt, in 1939.

This historic South Africa vote vindicates the new format for the ITTF World Table Tennis Championships Finals, coming into place in 2021, which sees continental qualification precede the Finals event, thus making it more feasible for more countries to host.

## PROFESSIONALIZATION

In 2020, despite the disruptions caused by the pandemic we continued developing the different areas of the sport and improve professionalization. Through the newly established equipment department located in Cologne, Germany, the ITTF is slowly building a team of professionals working tirelessly to develop new equipment testing and approval schemes, with the main objective of creating a new equipment laboratory where major projects can be brought to life.

The IT team have continued to do an amazing job creating the foundations for the state-of-the-art IT infrastructure and software, which will be at the core of everything we do.

## SUSTAINABILITY

In 2020, the ITTF Sustainability Working Group has been officially formalised aiming at tackling the key issue of sustainability in table tennis. In the first year of activity the Working Group outlined the importance of the "3 P's": planet, profit and people, identifying the key areas of focus from event, equipment, and operational perspectives. Sport has the power to inspire people, and as a governing body, it is our responsibility to set new standards to ensure a better world for the future generations.

## WORLD TABLE TENNIS

Having been birthed as an idea many years ago only to take root and achieve realisation in 2020, WTT represents our dedication to the sport and is a proud moment for the whole ITTF family. Despite the extremely difficult circumstances under which we began this monumental project, it has been both exciting and satisfying to finally begin the official journey of World Table Tennis. Starting an international sports event company during a global pandemic has been the most complicated task that our whole team has ever had to deal with. Amidst the backdrop of the pandemic and its challenge we are fully committed to this project and will continue to strive for these positive goals, to ensure that WTT and table tennis are major successes.

### CONCLUSION

Table Tennis still has an enormous way to go to grow into one of the elite international sports, but this remains our ultimate goal and I feel that we are on the right path to getting where we want to be, even in these incredibly difficult circumstances. There are many challenges along the way and we

might not always be able to avoid errors, but we continue to work hard to develop our sport, by adopting symbolic changes, bringing in influential people to help us deliver success and to make all our events and operations better and more professionally run than ever.

We look forward to the whole table tennis Family supporting each other in difficult times. Whilst it may be easy to slip into a negative mentality in tough times, we at the ITTF will continue to try and be positive, we will look for solutions to continue to improve our sport and we will try to support all our Member Associations and Stakeholders to the best of our abilities during a crisis. I am sure Table Tennis will come out stronger from this crisis, and we are more motivated than ever to make Table Tennis the biggest sports on earth. This crisis won't slow us down, lets stick together and grow together.

The current environment still poses many challenges, encouraging us to reconsider the way we operate as well as how we deliver our events. We are living in a new reality and a new normal, compelling us to become acutely aware of the world around us and act in a more sustainable manner. Armed with the knowledge and experience of 2020, we are in better shape to deal with the current situation, and you can expect to see the ITTF continuing its pathway towards professionalization, whilst adapting to a new complex reality. While we are still very much restricted by COVID-19 which is out of our control, but we are buoyant, confident and trying to be as optimistic about what we can achieve together in the years to come!

Many thanks to the entire table tennis community for their patience as we try to navigate the new world to bring back activities in these uncertain times.

Table Tennis. For All. For Life.

**STEVE DAINTON ITTF CEO** 

## **RAUL CALIN SECRETARY GENERAL'S** REPORT

### A YEAR OF PANDEMIC

The year 2020 started at the same pace of frenetic activity as 2019 ended, attending the World Team Qualification for the Olympic Games being held in Gondomar, Portugal. Additionally, a visit was made alongside the CEO, to the Paris 2024 Organising Committee in the French capital, followed by a visit to the IOC headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland.

In February, when news about the pandemic was distant, a visit was made to the fourth Pan America Cup, which showed how the Pan American continent keeps working together for the primary benefit of their athletes. We witnessed once again that relatively small associations can not only produce global stars, but also organise international events at the highest level.

The trip to the Caribbean region was complemented with visits to the National Olympic Committees and Ministries of Sports in El Salvador and Mexico, to discuss issues related to the ITTF member associations in these two countries. Reported in 2020, governance of our member associations is of importance to the ITTF. We cannot remain any longer a mere spectator. Regulations are needed to be put in place to ensure our members selfgovernance does not negatively affect our sport globally. As the IOC President, Dr Bach, states often, change, or be changed.

Two weeks after this trip, and while being in Busan, Korea, the hard decision to postpone the 2020 World Championships had to be taken. Another two weeks later, table tennis activity worldwide stopped completely. It was 15th March 2020. A day we will need to remember for a long time.



From that moment, activity turned into planning, re-planning, and elaboration of contingency scenarios. The ITTF Executive met no less than 16 times in a year of the biggest crisis the ITTF has known since World War II. There were many uncertainties, worries, and difficulties.

I wish to place on record my sincere appreciation for the volunteer work done by members of the Executive Committee (EC) during this exceptional year; work that I'm sure wasn't enjoyable for any member. It was work that required hours and hours of on-line meetings, sometimes in the early morning, sometimes in the middle of the night.

Our appreciation goes also to the appointed officials who served the ITTF without hesitation. Commissioners and Committee chairs who, in most of the cases, worked shoulder to shoulder with staff to ensure the ITTF could continue operating and even further developing in the areas in which it was possible.

Some staff had to leave due to the pandemic, those stayed, had salary reductions, but all of them continued working with the same passion, and in some cases, even harder than before, responding to the necessity. Each and every one stood up for our sport when it was required. A sincere thank you to all.

Such an extraordinary year required, more than ever, advice and guidance. A year in which working together became the norm for the majority; with rare exceptions, a year in which unity was shown by most ITTF members.

## INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS (EXTERNAL)

In June 2020, the ITTF received with satisfaction and pride the news that our sport moved from group B to the group A2 in the standings of the self-governance review made by ASOIF; progress for the third time. It meant escalating 10 places among the 28 Summer Olympic international sport federations, from the position 21 to the position 11. A proof that the reforms in the governance area the ITTF had initiated were starting to produce results.

July 2020 was the month in which the IOC organised for the first time in their history an IOC session virtually. As every year, an invitation was extended to the ITTF to attend, it served to better prepare for our first ever virtual ITTF AGM. It was a learning experience, and a proof of how synergies can help an organisation grow.

During the months of July and August, the ITTF worked closely with the IOC and the ASOIF to prepare and present our next round of governance reforms, which we will include in the governance section.

Last, but not least, the IF Forum was held virtually in November, and ratified the fact that the pandemic has been an accelerator for the digitalisation of the world, especially in the sport field.

## INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS (INTERNAL)

Our thanks to ITTF Oceania and to the European Table Tennis Union, for their invitations to attend their annual gatherings. Congratulations to the late Mr Anthony Ho, and to Mr Igor Levitin for their respective elections at their congresses as well as for the overall running of these virtual meetings for the first time.

Our appreciation also to the leadership of ITTF Americas, our youngest continental federation, a leading example of working together from diversity for the benefit of our sport. Mr Juan Vila became its first President during the elections held on 26th November 2020, and the ITTF was invited to participate actively in the General Assembly.

### MEMBERSHIPS

In 2020, the Falklands Islands initiated contact with the ITTF in order to become our 227th member association. The application is supported by the Commonwealth Games Federation, and it will be presented to the 2021 AGM, for consideration.

## GOVERNANCE

We mentioned before the sentence written by Dr Bach: change or be changed. In terms of governance, we need to make again reference to the IOC leader's comment: Reforms never end.

In 2020, it was surprising to see a number of ITTF member associations in opposition to having an ITTF General Assembly being organised virtually, and further, attempting to block the necessary constitutional reforms.

Pursuing my role as Secretary General, you can only imagine, or hope, that it was only a problem of communication. How can a member association prefer to keep the judicial power within the Executive Committee when it is the EC itself who proposes the separation of powers?

How can a Member Association try to block the constitutional right and necessity of having our Annual General Assembly? Either misguidance or misunderstanding is the only way to understand such positions. We hope it was a question of misunderstanding.

Luckily, the ITTF membership supported those reforms endorsed by both IOC and ASOIF with a large majority of over 90 per cent. I would like to invite those who do not wish to embrace good governance to reflect on their positions. It is the ITTF and the image of table tennis that is at stake. Political battles should not affect the image and the course of the sport we all love.

The incorporation of an ITTF Tribunal and the creation of an Integrity Unit were necessary steps, but once again, I would like to emphasise Reforms never end. We need to continue pursuing excellence in governance.

## **OPERATIONS**

Praise must go to our CFO, CEO and EVP of Finance in the area of financial control. When the pandemic hit the world, the ITTF reacted quickly and firmly. It is certainly one of the reasons for the healthy situation in which we find ourselves today.

### **COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONERS**

The pandemic helped to strengthen relations with those volunteers who humbly serve the sport, but also exposed frictions. The balance between volunteerisms and the need for professionalisation regarding the management of the sport is not always easy. On many occasions both, staff and volunteers work together, with the sport as the primary concern. In these cases, the result is very positive. Examples are there, with Ms Ahlert, Ms Crotta, Ms Kajee, Mr Ireland, Mr Oshodi and Mr Sporrer just to mention a few names of committee chairs and commissioners that work very closely with the ITTF staff and elected officials in harmony.

Conflicts arise in some cases; the efforts of all parties must be to ensure that the service to the ITTF family is kept as the priority. Change or be changed. It is inevitable.

## **ATHLETES' COMMISSION**

In this year of pandemic, our thanks also go to the Athletes Commission and particularly to its Chair, Zoran Primorac, the two deputy chairs, Galia Dvorak and Dana Cechova, and the two Para TT representatives, Alena Kanova and Trevor Hirth, for their tireless work, particularly during the period of adjustment of the Olympic and Paralympic Games qualification system.

### MULTI-SPORT EVENTS

The communication with the different multisport organisations has continued through 2020, although with a moderate pace compared to past years.

## TOKYO 2020 OLYMPICS & PARALYMPIC GAMES

At the time of presenting this report, luckily both the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games have been successfully organised. We will include details in our 2021 report.

## A LIFE OF SERVICE TO OUR SPORT

Countless people passed away during 2020 due to the pandemic, but three names are coming inevitably to my mind: the former ITTF EC member, Eng. Melecio Rivera, the President of the Thailand Table Tennis Association, Mr Piradej Pruttipruk, and one of the key organisers of the 2010 World Cadet Challenge and the 2012 World Junior Championships in Hyderabad, Mr Sultan Moosavi.

In their memory, and on the memory of all those left us 2020, we will hold a minute of silence at our next AGM.

### CONCLUSIONS

At the beginning of this report, I mentioned the exceptional circumstances in which everyone had to work in 2020. Once again, I want to thank the EC

members for their devoted work in unprecedented times. My appreciation to the Continental Presidents, for their patience and understanding during the challenging pandemic period; to the CEO for his resilience during the critical moments lived at the end of the year.

The utmost respect to the staff, for their sacrifices in a year which we will not easily forget but also, and primarily, to every member association that attended the 2020 virtual AGM, and supported governance reforms, deciding to continue trusting this administration, working, and developing table tennis in their territories.

In challenging times, it is time to be united for the sport we love; those who want to sow discord will never find peace, as they don't pursue noble causes, those who put their love for the sport as the primary goal will be rewarded sooner than later.

Working, certainly you will make mistakes. Some would have preferred the ITTF did nothing in 2020, but then, we would have remained in the middle tier of international federations, rather than making progress.

I must stress, particularly for those to be elected for positions on the ITTF EC and the Board in November 2021, to put global objectives before personal, regional, or continental interest.

The precautionary measures taken in 2020 helped the ITTF to be today in a healthy situation. Let us profit from this position and start a new quadrennial working in unity to progress, to excel, to bring table tennis to new heights.

Table Tennis. For All. For Life.

Respectfully submitted,

RAUL CALIN SECRETARY GENERAL

## THE ITTF ACROSS THE GLOBE



## **OUR OFFICES** LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND HEADQUARTERS SINGAPORE world table tennis headquarters asia-pacific office

LEIPZIG, GERMANY ITTF FOUNDATION HEADQUARTERS







## STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

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

At the beginning of 2020, the ITTF commenced an initial review of the ITTF Strategic Plan 2018-2024, however with the pandemic quickly changing the way in which sport was being conducted around the world, focus was shifted. However, even without a review of the Strategic Plan, the work continued following the five priority areas and the associated objectives and outcomes that ITTF strives to achieve as part of its strategy.

As part of the internal review, at was evident that further progress was made across all priority areas, however at different levels depending on the limitations the global pandemic placed on each of the priority areas. For example, the continued improvement in Organisation and Governance was evident, an area that had limited impact due to the pandemic when compared to the International Events priority area. The progress made in relation to Organisation and Governance saw a further 23% increase from the prior year, to sit at an overall progress of 64% (2019: 41%). This improvement was also confirmed through the ASOIF Governance Review which saw the ITTF significantly improve in terms of overall Governance, and further evidence of the increased professionalism throughout the organisation.

The impact of COVID-19 was felt across the entire organisation, however with several of the objectives relating to Organisation and Governance not necessarily being related directly to the ability to play table tennis, or host major events, the improvements continued throughout the pandemic.

Progress was made across all priority areas; however, the amount of progress was less than in the previous two years due to changing priorities because of the pandemic, and the inability for certain objectives to be implemented. There was an overall average of 46% (2019: 38%, 2018: 25%) of progression towards all objectives being achieved. Although the ITTF has achieved significant progress on various objectives over the past few years, and with the introduction of World Table Tennis and the ITTF Foundation since the initial acceptance of the Strategic Plan, it is timely during 2021 to undertake a review of the Strategic Plan and better incorporate the new organisations. The Strategic Priority Areas will not be adjusted, and in most cases the objectives will only be adjusted based on the roles and responsibilities of each of the three organisations. In addition, COVID-19 will be taken into consideration, in which some objectives, at least in the short term, will need to be adjusted.

The revised and refreshed Strategic Plan would be presented to the ITTF AGM for endorsement, in line with the work that has already been undertaken, and how ITTF can continue to evolve and develop the sport of table tennis in a strategic way that helps to benefit not only the ITTF Membership, but all table tennis stakeholders.

## Events priori

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

- All Continental Federation agreements to be combined, with the vision to have a unified approach towards the growth and development of table tennis worldwide by 2021.
- 2 Ensure an equitable process in which the campaigning for elected positions meets higher standards, involving a stricter nomination process, as well as providing a platform to ensure a smooth transition when there is a change in leadership.
- Implement, monitor, develop and adapt as required the ITTF 'Code of Ethics' to ensure the highest level of ethical principles in all aspects of the sport.
- Further enhanced a more diversified, and targeted, portfolio of programs and activities to support National Associations through ITTF development activities.

- Introducing a more clear and understandable competition calendar for the future to help build an ongoing dialogue with fans for better engagement.
- The introduction of World Table Tennis and the new event series has helped to create in-demand events that appeal to host cities and countries, which are now starting to convert to hosting fees.
- The new partnership in place between WTT and IMG will improve the production level and consistency for international events providing greater promotion for table tennis.
- World Table Tennis Day was converted to World Table Tennis At Home Day for 2020, and saw representation from over 75% of National Associations participating in activities on the day.
- Significant work undertaken towards the launch of new event products, and new partnership opportunities from 2021 onwards.

"ALTHOUGH THE PANDEMIC PRESENTED ITS OWN CHALLENGES, AS AN ORGANISATION WE WANTED TO ENSURE THAT WE REMAINED FOCUSED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN HELPED TO GUIDE US IN OUR DECISION MAKING, WHILE ENSURING WE CONTINUED WORKING TOWARDS THE OVERALL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF TABLE TENNIS.".

STEVE DAINTON, ITTF CEO

## **ORGANISATION & GOVERNANCE 23%** IN 2020 **HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT 10%** IN 2020 9 **INTERNATIONAL EVENTS 5%** IN 2020 PROMOTION **5%** IN 2020 REVENUE **7%** IN 2020





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## 2020 EVENTS

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## 27 JAN - 2 FEB MAGDEBURG, GERMANY ITTF WORLD TOUR PLATINUM GERMAN OPEN

The confirmation of a star-studded field at the ITTF World Tour Platinum German Open meant the season-opener was always poised to throw up several mouth-watering clashes between many of the world's best players.

The entry list reads the who's who of international table tennis. From the legendary Ma Long to Tomokazu Harimoto, Hugo Calderano, Lin Yun-Ju and home favourite Dimitrij Ovtcharov in the men's field to Feng Tianwei, Kasumi Ishikawa, Chen Meng and Jeon Jihee for the women's, these high-profile names were ready to make the 21st edition of the German Open, first staged in Bremen in 1999, a dazzling affair.

Top seeds Xu Xin and Chen Meng from China justified their lofty positions as they won the respective men's singles and women's singles titles. They stormed their way to the top podium finish by taking down several of the heavyweights, including Ma for Xu and Ding Ning for Chen in the finals.

It was Xu's first win in a singles competition on the World Tour since the Australian Open in July 2019 and 18th of his career after overcoming Ma 4-0 (15-13, 11-8, 11-7, 11-5) in the final. Chen, on the other hand, enjoyed her 14th career success in the World Tour women's singles competition when she dispatched Ding 4-1 (3-11, 11-1, 11-7, 11-3, 11-1).

The stats for Chen were indeed telling. She extended her impeccable record in World Tour finals, winning a remarkable 17 out of 21. Additionally, 561 days have passed since she last lost a World Tour final, the 2018 Korea Open. Since then, she lifted eight titles, including two World Tour Grand Finals crowns.

Cheered on by the passionate crowd at the GETEC Arena in Magdeburg, Ovtcharov carried the host nation's hopes right to the semi-final before being outplayed by Ma, who won the six-game thriller 4-2 (11-3, 11-9, 11-13, 13-15, 11-3, 11-6).

There was also double delight for Xu and Chen as they partnered effectively with Liu Shiwen and Wang Manyu to secure the Mixed Doubles and Women's double titles, respectively. Xu and Liu defeated Japan's Jun Mizutani and Mima Ito 3-1 (12-10, 13-11, 7-11, 11-7) whilst Chen paired with Wang to secure the women's doubles title with a 3-1 (11-7, 8-11, 11-7, 11-8) victory over Japan's Miu Hirano and Kasumi Ishikawa.

Republic of Korea also showed their might in Germany as the pair of Cho Daeseong and Jang Woojin emerged from the qualification rounds to eventually clinch the men's doubles crown. Having ousted top-seeded compatriots Jeoung Youngsik and Lee Sangu in the penultimate round, they secured the title at the final at the expense of Ma and Lin Gaoyuan (10-12, 15-13, 12-14, 14-12, 11-6).

## EVENTS ITTF WORLD TOUR PLATINUM GERMAN OPEN

## 3 - 8 MAR DOHA, QATAR ITTF WORLD TOUR PLATINUM QATAR OPEN

China's Fan Zhendong and Chen Meng continued to make their presence felt on the world stage when they captured the respective Men's and Women's singles titles at the 2020 ITTF World Tour Platinum Qatar Open in Doha.

On the penultimate day of action, Ma Long and Xu Xin had combined to win the Men's Doubles event, whilst the Women's Doubles title went to another Chinese duo- Wang Manyu and Zhu Yuling. However, Japan Jun Mizutani and Mima Ito would deny China a clean sweep of all the titles when they secured the Mixed Doubles title.

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With her latest victory, Chen Meng had won 17 out of 21 women's singles finals on the ITTF World Tour after she defeated Ito, who was seeded third for the event. Besides showing her mental fortitude in dispatching the Japanese, Chen also demonstrated that same renowned mental strength when she outplayed compatriots Wang Yidi and Wang Manyu, the number four seed and defending champion, en route to the final.

Fan erased the heartbreak of crashing out at the quarter-final stage in Germany by defeating England's Liam Pitchford in an enthralling six-game battle in the final (11-9, 11-7, 8-11, 11-4, 6-11, 11-7). It was not, however, smooth sailing for the world number one as he survived an early scare in the first round where he was pushed to the distance over seven games by Sweden's Anton Kallberg (7-11, 11-6, 11-13, 11-5, 7-11, 11-8, 11-3). With his win, Fan regained his Qatar Open crown, which he had previously won in 2018, and sealed his 14th career title on the ITTF World Tour.

Whilst Fan experienced euphoria, Pitchford was left to rue what could have been after putting himself within touching distance of landing his first-ever ITTF World Tour Men's Singles title.

Earlier, Pitchford threw the form books out by overcoming title contenders including Belarus' Vladimir Samsonov, China's Lu Gaoyuan, Chinese Taipei's Chuang Chih-Yuan and Japan's Tomokazu Harimoto before going on to eliminate second seed Xu Xin from China in the semi-final. However, he could not complete his fairy tale run as he fell to Fan in the final.

Pitchford did earn some measure of comfort with his runner-up finish with Paul Drinkhall in the Men's Doubles. It was a remarkable feat, considering they had to qualify for the main draw. Their journey towards a top podium finish was only stopped by Ma and Xu, who secured their 14th ITTF World Tour men's doubles title as pair, 11 years after their firstever success together, at the 2009 Qatar Open.

Whilst the Women's Singles title eluded her, Ito finished atop the podium by defeating China's Wang Chuqin and Sun Yingsha, the Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games mixed team gold medallists (11-8, 7-11, 11-4, 15-13) to clinch the Mixed Doubles title with Jun Mizutani.

## **EVENTS ITTF WORLD TOUR PLATINUM QATAR OPEN**

## II - 15 MAR MUSCAT, OMAN ITTF CHALLENGE PLUS OMAN OPEN

India's Sharath Kamal Achanta found joy in Muscat when he defied all odds to win the men's singles title by beating Portugal's Marcos Freitas, the top seed (6-11, 11-8, 12-10, 11-9, 3-11, 17-15).

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The outpouring of emotions from Achanta after he secured the winning point was understandable as it was his first singles title at an open international tournament for a decade. Achanta's last win was in 2010 when he beat Hong Kong's Li Ching in the final on the ITTF World Tour in Cairo.

Japan's Hitomi Sato also smashed her way to the top podium finish in the Women's Singles when she outclassed compatriot Miyu Kato 4-2 [14-16, 12-14, 17-15, 11-9, 11-8, 11-9] even as her country found further success with Honoka Hashimoto and Hitomi Sato securing gold in the Women's Doubles event.

In the final, it was a gruelling duel between Sato and Kato, which went the distance over six games that the former finally prevailed (14-16, 12-14, 17-15, 11-9, 11-8, 11-9). It was Sato's sixth title at an open international tournament, her fifth on the ITTF Challenge Series.

Three out of the four women's singles semi-finalists were from Japan. Apart from Sato and Kato, Honoka Hashimoto also reached the penultimate round where the number four seed lost to Sato (11-6, 8-11, 10-12, 11-9, 6-11, 11-3, 11-7). On the other end, Kato ended the hopes of Monaco's Yang Xiaoxin, the sixth seed (11-9, 11-8, 11-5, 11-7).

While the Japanese justified their top seed positions, Serbia's Aleksandar Karakasevic and Slovakia's Lubomir Pistej recorded an unlikely win to secure the top prize in the Men's Doubles.

Evergreen Karakasevic showed that even at 44 years of age, he still had that prowess on the tables. The right-handed Serb combined effectively with left-handed doubles partner Pistej to take down the recently crowned Belgian champions, Martin Allegro and Florent Lambiet, the top seeds (11-8, 11-6, 11-6).

It was a tussle between the first and second seeds in the Women's Doubles as Hashimoto and Sato, the top seeds, defeated Singapore's Lin Ye and Zeng Jian in straight games (11-3, 11-9, 11-7) to clinch the Women's Doubles title.

In the Mixed Doubles event, France's Tristan Flore and Laura Gasnier erased the heartbreak of settling for a runner-up finish in Portugal barely a month ago by emerging 3-0 winners over Spain's Alvaro Robles and Maria Xiao in just under 20 minutes.





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## 8 - 10 NOV WEIHAI, CHINA DISHANG 2020 ITTF WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

The first event as part of the #RESTART series saw China's Chen Meng emerged victorious after she outplayed compatriot Sun Yingsha (11-13, 11-6, 11-9, 11-6, 11-8) to claim the Women's World Cup at her first attempt in Weihai, China.

Significantly, it gave the table tennis world the first glimpse of international action since play was halted for eight months due to COVID-19 restrictions. The event also signalled a new normal with safety guidelines put in place in advance of play. Athletes now showed respect for their fellow rivals and match officials by swapping out the traditional post-match handshake with bowing, fist, elbow bumps and racket tapping.

Chen, the world number one and tournament favourite, returned to familiar winning ground at the Weihai Nanhai Olympic Center to capture her 19th Women's Singles title in ITTF senior competitions. She had only lost five finals in the process.

Chen, who hails from Qingdao, was crowned Women's Singles champion at the 2020 China

National Championships at the same venue in October. She was largely dominant in the gold medal match against Sun, who was making her Women's World Cup debut.

After dropping the first game, Chen showed her true champion quality by fighting back to win the next four games. "Last month, I also won a title in the same venue, and now this World Cup is a high point for me. I feel very happy to be stood here with the trophy," said Chen.

Chen's path to victory included 4-0 wins over both Romania's Bernadette Szocs and American Lily Zhang before prevailing in a seven-game thriller against Germany's Han Ying in a gripping semifinal [4-11, 11-8, 11-8, 11-9, 7-11, 9-11, 11-4].

Sun had booked her showdown with Chen after solid showings against Japanese duo, Mima Ito (12-10, 11-8, 11-6, 10-12, 4-11, 11-4) and Kasumi Ishikawa (11-6, 11-4, 11-4, 11-7).

Ito took the bronze medal after seeing off Han in straight games (11-2, 11-7, 11-9, 11-4). It was a

first-ever podium finish for Ito at an ITTF Women's World Cup as her only ever appearance at the event was back in 2016.

Before her semi-final defeat to Sun, Ito had been impressive with 4-1 victories over Jeon Jihee from the Republic of Korea and Chinese Taipei's Chen Szu-Yu.

"I am satisfied with my performance against Han Ying. I achieved the standards that I know I can, and I managed to get over my loss in the semifinal. If I evaluate this event out of 100, I will give myself a score of 50," said Ito.

There were drama, upsets and enthralling table tennis action, which captivated a global audience. American Lily Zhang claimed some measure of revenge against Singapore's Feng Tianwei during their Round of 16 clash as the poster girl of USA put her 2019 bronze medal match defeat to the Singaporean behind her.

## EVENTS DISHANG 2020 ITTF WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Although Han did not go home with any medals, it was a Women's World Cup debut to remember for the German. The 14th seed had defeated Jeon and Britt Eerland of the Netherlands in straight games in the group stage before claiming further scalps against seventh seed Sofia Polcanova of Austria and fourth seed Cheng I-Ching of Chinese Taipei. She then pushed Chen to the distance in their semi-final clash before bowing out.

There was also a career-first for Puerto Rico's Adriana Diaz, who progressed to the knockout stages. Diaz booked her place in the last 16 with group-stage victories over Canada's Zhang Mo and Ukraine's Margaryta Pesotska before falling to Sun Yingsha (5-11, 5-11, 8-11, 11-8, 7-11).

History was made when American Wu Yue ensured that three players qualified from the Pan American region for the very first time.

## 13 - 15 NOV WEIHAL, CHINA DISHANG 2020 ITTF MEN'S WORLD CUP

Days after the curtain came down on a successful Women's World Cup in Weihai, preparations began for the Dishang 2020 ITTF Men's World Cup, which took place from November 13 – 15, 2020.

Following an identical format to the women's event, the Men's World Cup, also part of the #RESTART Series, saw 21 world-class players battle for top honours in Weihai.

Headline acts included China's reigning World and Olympic champion, Ma Long, world number one and defending Men's World Cup champion, Fan Zhendong, Japan's Tomokazu Harimoto and 2017 Men's World Cup champion Dimitrij Ovtcharov of Germany.

The three-day table tennis spectacle saw Fan retain his crown as the top seed overcame fellow Chinese star, Ma Long, the number two seed, in a thrilling seven-game final (3-11, 11-8, 11-3, 11-6, 7-11, 7-11, 11-9) to clinch his third consecutive Men's World Cup title and fourth in total. In doing so, Fan drew level with the record set by compatriot Ma Lin.

Remarkably, Fan has also won four out of the five finals he has reached in his distinguished career. His only loss came at his debut in 2015 in Halmstad when beaten by Ma Long. He clinched gold in 2016 in Saarbrucken, 2018 in Paris and in 2019 in Chengdu. No other player has ever won the Men's World Cup in three straight years.

Fan's journey in Weihai began with an openinground win over Chinese Taipei's 39-year-old Chuang Chih-Yuan, the number 17 seed, before a quarter-final victory against 19-year-old Lin Yun-Ju, the fifth seed also from Chinese Taipei. In the semi-final, Fan ended the adventures of the Republic of Korea's Jang Woojin, the number 12 seed [11-5, 11-8, 13-11, 11-8].

In his victory speech, Fan paid tribute to the people who had worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the event's success.

"I would like to thank the Local Organising Committee and the ITTF who, under such difficult circumstances, managed to pull off one of the biggest events like the World Cup. I would also like to thank my team. Despite this pandemic, we could continue to train at a very high level. After eight months without international events, I didn't feel very rusty or unable to do what I set out to," said Fan.

Despite settling for silver, there was some measure of revenge for Ma Long over Harimoto after the latter had eliminated him in the semi-final a year ago. The two-time Men's World Cup champion staged an epic battle in his semi-final clash with Harimoto which he eventually prevailed in a sevengame thriller (11-7, 3-11, 6-11, 8-11, 11-8, 11-6, 11-4).

"Harimoto has made a huge improvement to his game in the last two years. I lost to him last year in the World Cup. Even at 1-3 down, I did not give up, and my coach kept encouraging me and giving me tips," said Ma Long, the Men's World Cup champion in 2012 and 2015

Harimoto clinched the bronze medal after dispatching the Republic of Korea's Jang Woojin (7-11, 7-11, 11-9, 11-6, 14-12, 6-11, 11-5) in the third-place playoff. "Winning a medal is still a good achievement. No match was easy here," said Harimoto.

It was a debut to remember for Jang, who knocked out several higher-ranked players, including Brazil's Hugo Calderano, the fourth seed in his opening round, Japan's Koki Niwa, the eighth seed and compatriot Jeoung Youngsik.

It was also an unforgettable maiden Men's World Cup appearance for Slovenia's Darko Jorgic. Jorgic pushed Ma Long hard over a six-game openinground encounter (11-7, 12-14, 11-9, 11-13, 13-11, 11-3). He had also ended the hopes of Africa in the group stage by beating the continent's leading light, Nigeria's Quadri Aruna, the 13th seed (11-4, 8-11, 10-12, 12-10, 11-8, 11-4).

Germany's Dimitrij Ovtcharov and Sweden's Mattias Falck were the top finishers for Europe. Ovtcharov, the seventh seed, was defeated by Ma Long in the quarter-final (11-9, 11-4, 11-7, 7-11, 11-5) whilst Falck, the number six seed, also bowed out at the same stage when he lost to Harimoto (11-9, 11-8, 11-9, 4-11, 11-9).

## 19 - 22 NOV ZHENGZHOU, CHINA BANK OF COMMUNICATIONS 2020 ITTF FINALS

It was mission accomplished for Ma Long at the Bank of Communications 202 ITTF Finals. Having suffered a narrow defeat at the hands of compatriot Fan Zhendong precisely seven days ago in the Men's World Cup final, Ma was a man on a mission to exact revenge in Zhengzhou.

He accomplished the mission with flying colours, as the Chinese superstar won the gold medal for the sixth time since he first secured the top podium place in Macao in 2008. Ma has now won the ITTF Finals twice as many times as his nearest challenger, Wang Liqin, who triumphed on three occasions in 1998, 2000 and 2004.

After accounting for Germany's Patrick Franziska, the number 13 seed (12-10, 11-1, 11-6, 11-4), Ma saw off the challenges of Sweden's and number eight seed, Mattias Falck (11-5, 7-11, 5-11, 11-6, 11-9, 13-11) to book his place in the semi-final spot where he would go on to eliminate compatriot and second seed, Xu Xin (11-13, 11-9, 11-9, 11-8, 11-7).

"I am very happy after winning such a tough battle. Every point was difficult to win, and I believe that Fan Zhendong could feel it too. In the end, it was just a great relief for me. In terms of overall ability on the table, Fan is second to none at this current point in time.

"Since last year, we have played each other in several finals, including at the Men's World Cup last week, and he had the upper hand. In today's match, I really wanted to challenge him, and thankfully I managed to win," said Ma.

Fan reached the final showdown courtesy of his semi-final victory over the tournament's surprise package, Republic of Korea's Jang Woojin, the number 14 seed (11-8, 11-4, 13-15, 11-8, 11-5).

On the opening day of action, Jang had caused two of the biggest shocks of the event, saving two match points in the fifth game on his way to disposing Japan's Tomokazu Harimoto, the fourth seed (6-11, 2-11, 11-7, 7-11, 12-10, 11-2, 11-5) before knocking out China's Lin Gaoyuan, the fifth seed, at the quarter-final stage (11-7, 10-12, 1-11, 11-7, 12-10, 8-11, 11-6).

Chen Meng meanwhile became the first player to win ITTF Finals gold in four consecutive years when she defeated Wang Manyu, the fourth seed (11-9, 11-13, 14-12, 11-8, 11-5) in what was a repeat of the final one year ago, also in Zhengzhou.

In the opening round, Chen was tested by Japan's Miyu Kato. She overcame her biggest challenge, recovering from two games to nil deficit against Germany's Petrissa Solja, the no.14 seed (9-11, 10-12, 11-5, 11-5, 11-8, 11-6), to claim victory in the quarter-final.

With her place in the semi-final secured, Chen went on to defeat Sun Yingsha, the third seed, in straight games (11-9, 11-8, 11-8, 12-10) before booking a final showdown with the in-form Wang Manyu.

In her penultimate round, Wang had ended the hopes of Japan's Mima Ito, the number two seed, with a powerful display of her own (11-3, 11-4, 11-9, 11-6). That win saw the 21-year-old reach her first international final since last year's ITTF Finals defeat to Chen, but she could not strike revenge against her irrepressible opponent.

Chen's latest victory meant she would add to her proud record of wins in 2017 (in Astana), 2018 (Incheon) and 2019 (Zhengzhou). In doing so, she also broke the record of three successive gold medals that she had shared with Liu Shiwen, who

## EVENTS BANK OF COMMUNICATIONS 2020 ITTF FINALS



Chen is now level with Zhang Yining on four women's singles titles at the ITTF Finals. Zhang had previously held the record outright thanks to her wins in 2000, 2002, 2005 and 2006.

The Bank of Communications 2020 ITTF Finals was the third and final event of the #RESTART series, which heralded the return of international table tennis after eight months of suspended activities due to COVID-19.

## 25 - 29 NOV MACAO, CHINA WTT MACAO PRESENTED BY GALAXY ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

WTT Macao presented by Galaxy Entertainment Group was a special promotional showcase held from November 25-29, 2020. The event offered a first glimpse into the future of the sport with World Table Tennis (WTT).

The finals, witnessed by a capacity crowd at the Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion in Macao, were decided by best of nine games – one of many innovations on display at WTT Macao. Offering a first glimpse into the future of the sport, WTT Macao proof-of-concept showcased a thrilling, original playing format with 32 of the world's biggest table tennis stars (16 in men's singles and 16 in women's singles) battling it out in brand-new WTT surrounds.

The prize money was an equal pot for both men and women, distributed based on performance.

The event provided players, fans, and media an opportunity to experience a taste of what to expect when WTT launched its first annual calendar of events in 2021.

It was a moment that caught the attention of a global audience, leaving a special legacy for the sport, with Ma Long and Sun Yingsha showing their star quality once again by capturing the respective men's and women's titles.

In two all-Chinese finals, Ma, the number three seed, overcame Wang Chuqin, number seven seed, whilst Sun, the number two seed, defeated Chen Xingtong, the number eight.

Ma opened his campaign in Macao with a win against Lin Gaoyuan and a loss to Xu Xin. The Dragon" however, roared back to life with victories

over Republic of Korea's Jeoung Youngsik in the quarter-finals, before his second success of the event against Lin again paved the way for a final showdown against Wang Chuqin.

Wang, on the other hand, was unbeaten and highly impressive in his previous rounds. His passage to the final started included victories over Sweden's Mattias Falck, the sixth seed, in straight games and a quarter-final win over Brazil's Hugo Calderano, number four seed.

Heading into the final, Wang had won two of his three encounters against Ma but could not repeat another winning performance against Ma this time around.

Ma's gold medal haul saw him take home USD 72,500 in prize money whilst Wang earned himself

## VENTS WTT MACAO

a silver medal and USD 50,000 for his efforts.

Sun Yingsha's road to the women's title in Macao was far from straightforward. In the Top Four Seed Battle, she lost to both Wang Manyu and Ding Ning, the number three and second seeds. In the quarter-finals, Sun defeated Wang Yidi before crossing paths once more with Wang.

In an epic semi-final, Sun recovered from a three-games to one deficit [8-11, 11-7, 7-11, 2-11, 11-7, 11-10, 12-10) to reach the final. Against Chen Xingtong, Sun rarely put a foot wrong, the 20-year-old having grown in stature. She got her hands on gold and USD 70,000 in prize money.



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## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

## COMPETITIONS

2020 was a unique year in our life. In 2019 the ITTF Competitions Department was growing, and had ambitious plans for 2020. We've expected an exciting year, with the Olympic Games, the last edition of the "old" WTTC Team event and over 120 other international events. Unfortunately due to Covid-19, just as other sports around the world, table tennis had to re-evaluate its plans too.

## PLANS FOR 2020

Before the pandemic, the Competition Department planned to organize thirteen (13) World Tour events and thirteen (13) Challenge events. In the first quarter of 2020 three (3) World Tour events were held;Germany, Hungary and Qatar. Regarding the Challenge events, three (3) events were completed; Portugal, Oman and Spain, whilst the Challenge event in Poland was interrupted during the qualification days. After an extremely consistent 2019, in 2020the pandemic unfortunately ruptured our professional event calendar from April onwards.

A number of World and Continental Olympic and Paralympic Qualification events were also affected by

the pandemic and following the postponement of the Games events affected were rescheduled to 2021. The ITTF World Olympic Singles Qualification tournament was successfully rescheduled and organized in 2021 in Qatar and the Paralympic World Qualification Tournament in Slovenia. BE DA

Besides the senior competitions out from the thirty-four (34) Junior events and seventeen (17) Para Tour events, four-four (4-4) competitions were completed.

Although the ITTF invested enormous amount of time and energy into the World Veteran Tour, after a successful inaugural year in 2019, all events planned for 2020 had to be cancelled. The same decision was taken for TTX events.

In general, the ITTF and the Competition Department prioritized the health of the athletes and other competition related persons and complied always with the best-practices and regulations of the local organizers and world health authorities.

## WTTC 2020

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The World Team Table Tennis Championships was originally scheduled to be held in March 2020, before being rescheduled twice to June and then September after decisions made by the ITTF EC and the LOC.

The ITTF then postponed the event once more and asked the Organising Committee to find suitable dates in the early part of 2021. The ITTF and the Competition Department was in close contact with the LOC and until the very last moment we hoped the competition could take place in February 2021. With a 2021 schedule that included the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, it was not feasible to push the World Team Table Tennis Championships further and instead we were forced to cancel the event.

As different departments of the ITTF and the LOC invested significant amount of time and resources to find a solution for holding this event, without doubt, the postponements and later the cancellation of the event were the most difficult decisions of the year.

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS COMPETITIONS

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## **#RESTART**

With the pandemic-enforced suspension on the ITTF's activities since mid-March, it was a priority for the ITTF to kickstart activities with health and safety in mind.

The #RESTART consisted of the two World Cups (Men's & Women's) and the highly anticipated Finals. Players were finally able to compete for world ranking points within the month of November. ITTF in close collaboration with CTTA employed due diligence in ensuring that safety measures are in place to protect athletes, coaches, officials and supporting staff within the 'bubble'.

As a result of the joint efforts of the LOC and the ITTF, we've had zero COVID-19 case, and table tennis was among the first international sports which could #RESTART their activities during the global pandemic.

> GABOR FELEGYI Competitions director



## **HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT**

The High Performance & Development Department (HPD) plans for the year 2020 were ambitious - the year marked the conclusion of the 2017-2020 Olympic Cycle with the Continental Development Programs in full swing after the make-up of the Memorandums of Understanding for the final two years and at the same time comprehensive preparations were underway for a new Development Plan covering the 2021-2024 quadrennial. However, following the outbreak of the pandemic we were forced to put in place severe saving plans, which included also heavy cuts in relation to staff, and reduced the programs to the bear minimum, if anything was possible at all, also due to the strict traveling restrictions.

The described realities make it difficult to report about new hights, or milestones achieved, but nonetheless the HPD Team tried to soldier on bravely, very much with the different stakeholders in mind, such as, but not limited to member Associations (MAs), players, coaches, match officials, administrators etc., who in most of the cases were facing even harder situations and challenges. Very much thanks to the dedication, passion and solidarity of each and every Team

member our reactions to the (international) table tennis standstill could be swift; from May on we started introducing a number of online activities that were also all we could do in those time. The first one to be launched was the "Table Tennis at your fingertips" series of webinars, through which we tried to reach out to the widest possible range of profiles present in our sport. Shortly after we also introduced the "Online Weekly Lessons" that in 2020 featured two seasons of these appealing coaching and training tutorials, and finally also the "4 Classes with Massimo Costantini", in which contemporary guidance was provided to coaches of all levels and backgrounds.

Apart from a couple of Development and High Performance activities that were held in the first three months of the year, only one Technical Course, funded by Olympic Solidarity, was held throughout the year and it was the brave Member Association of North Macedonia to pave the restart. The course was a success, and equally important for us was to acknowledge that with discipline and proper guidelines in place we can get back to onsite activities, an important takeaway that we have continued cherishing till present days.

On the other hand, the only area that could go ahead without major disturbances was the first global examination for International Umpires, which represented a proper milestone - in spite of all the difficulties 43% of the Member Associations embraced this new way of the examination delivery by enrolling 878 candidates, which is pretty much in line with the statistics when the examination was done onsite on national level.

Finally, looking optimistically toward the future and not allowing the pandemic to interfere in our plans, but in the worst case just delay them, the second, enriched edition of the Member Association Categorisation was carried out that was later on used for the distribution of the development funding that from 2021 onward the ITTF dedicates to the Continents through the newly set up Master Continental Agreements.

Simultaneously we also progressed with the unveiling of the new ITTF Development Plan that will guide us through the period 2021-2024. The aim of this major revision was to keep and even further enrich all the many components of the previously known programs and projects that have

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been run under the Department's umbrella in the past, but at the same time release a number of brand-new initiatives and incentives that address better and more specifically the needs of our major stakeholders that we learned about throughout time. The implementation of this new system and the significant expansion of the portfolio required also a restructuring of the Department as such, which is now based on four main pillars -Participation, Development, High Performance and Education that will hopefully with its resources, i.e. financial, material and human, contribute in an effective and successful way to the achievement of the bold and aspiring objectives as they were set within the ITTF Strategic Plan.

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**POLONA CEHOVIN HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR** 

## **HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT FACTS & FIGURES**

## **CONTINENTAL DEVELOPMENT**

**12** ON-SITE ACTIITIES **40** MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS ATTENDED

PARTICIPANTS PARTICIPANTS AT ON-SITE ACTIVITIES 41% FEMALE PARTICIPATION

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Release of the second edition of the Member Association Categorisation, which is reviewed biennially. The MA Categorisation aims at assessing the different development levels of the ITTF membership, hence indicating their development needs, which are later on addressed within the Continental Development Programs.
- ITTF RESTART: After months of global standstill due to pandemic, along with the events restart also development activities resumed, namely in the form of an Olympic Solidarity Technical Coaching Course in North Macedonia, the first ever coach education course held in the country.
- Asia Forum covered by Mounir.

## ADMINISTRATION

42 NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

**1384** INDIVIDUALS enrolled on ITTF Administration online course



7558 HRS OF LEARNING

**175** GERTIFICATES AWARDED in 2019 **407%** MORE THAN LAST YEAR

## **HIGH PERFORMANCE**

ACTIVITIES

GLOBAL HP • 24 ATTENDEES TRAINING DURATION OF 12 DAYS CAMPS

**12 MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS** 

## EDUCATION



**FIRST EVER GLOBAL ONLINE INTERNATIONAL UMPIRE FXAMINATION STATS** 

99 MAs +878 IU CANDIDATES

60% PASS RATE compared to 57% in 2018

% of Female Candidates declined from 29.18% in 2018 to 26.77% in 2020

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Finalisation of the ITTF Education Matrix encompassing the education pathway for 10+ profiles;
- Development of a brand new syllabus for initial levels of Match Officials education based on the new Education Matrix

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- With Future In Mind: despite the contingent times, the WFIM scholarships were placed in the plan and 32 players (16 female & 16 male) benefitted from Olympic Solidarity Fund (20 players) and ITTF Fund (12 players). Players were identified based on performance, results and future potential.
- Online Activities: 3 major areas have been developed in 2020
  - 4 Classes with Massimo Costantini, set up as a relevant guide for coaches of all levels, from grassroots to elite.
  - Online Weekly Lessons, 2 Seasons of online lessons were released providing inside explanations on how table tennis works at the highest level but at the same time to also providing a series of exercises on the virtual table on how to improve one's technique/tactic.

## **HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT FACTS & FIGURES**

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS / EVENTS** WEBINARS



Born out of necessity against the background of 2020, the High Performance & Development "TT at your fingertips" webinars quickly picked up a following during 2020 when it became clear that halls around the world would remain locked and table tennis was to take place at home and online for the foreseeable future. In 2020, 33 webinars took place, accompanying the table tennis community throughout weeks of lockdown and relaxation. With topics targeting an audience from all (table tennis) walks of life, players, coaches, officials and fans found something to tune in to. Kicking off with the first episode on "Table tennis in the times of COVID-19", where elite players shared the challenges they were facing and their solutions to them.

In the 32 episodes that followed our quests of many different backgrounds and profiles discussed, or lectured, about junior, senior and Para table tennis, gender balance in sport, national team coaching, match officiating, sports science, Member Association administration, and much more.

## PARTICIPATION

50

## **8 ONLINE SERVICES**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Development of the Participation Program concept featuring a combination of MA Online services and National Activities on site to be accessible to all 226 ITTF Member Associations with its start from 2021 onward.
- Creating online services menu developing the content and supporting educational materials for online sessions' delivery.
- Research for partnerships digital platform for online services, artificial intelligence.

## **HPD PROMOTION / MEDIA** FACEBOOK **f**

## **212 POSTS** INCREASE OF 23% PAGE LIKES

2020 Coaches Day Celebration

Japanese Player Pathway webinar warp up and picture hana goda

## YOUTUBE 🗖

## **IST SEASON**

WEEKLY TRAINING LESSONS 2 SEASONS, 5 EPISODES EACH

**2ND SEASON** 



## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT**

Chinese Super League prep and bubble webinar wrap up, picture Team Koala

Average impressions of 154k

Average impressions of

Max Impressions of

Max Impressions of 232K

Average impressions of

93k

**VIDEO ANALYSIS** 



## **MARKETING & MEDIA**

2020 was a year of challenges and finding solutions.

We were on track for our most successful commercial year to date before our whole business was turned upside down due to Covid-19.

Cancellation of events meant no commercial income to the ITTF and renegotiation of all our contracts for a situation both the ITTF and the commercial partners had never experienced.

It was very clear that it was essential for the ITTF to do everything it could to bring back Table Tennis in a safe and sustainable way. This was the only way we could unlock our commercial contracts and start having finances roll back into the ITTF to keep the business operating.

Thankfully we had the amazing opportunity coordinated by CTTA to host the #Restart series which allowed us to bring in commercial revenue to ensure that the end of year finances was in a healthy position.

During Covid-19 the media team had to work hard and be very creative to ensure that the ITTF digital and social were still engaging for our fans despite not live event content. This worked well with a steady increase of followers and engagement through campaigns like #TableTennisAtHome and profiling players training and activities at home.

The one benefit of the pandemic is that it allowed the ITTF Marketing and media team to focus on putting together the detailed plans and strategy for World Table Tennis

## which kicked off in 2021.

### The pillars put together:

- + Events structure and host city procurement strategy
- + Partnership program and offerings
- + Media rights packing and sales strategy
- + Social, content strategy to grow fanbase
- + Digital, website, data and app roadmap
- + TV production plan and implementation strategy

These pillars allowed WTT to have a successful launch at WTT Macao which showed the world the new positioning of the sport for the modern era.

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WTT announced its strategic partner IMG who will work holistically with WTT across Data, TV production, Media rights, sponsorship and host city sales.

Covid-19 has certainly slowed down the implementation of WTT and patience is needed for the project to reach its indeed heights.

## MATT POUND MARKETING DIRECTOR

## **ITTF FOUNDATION**

While 2020 was far away from what we had expected, the ITTF Foundation did not let the pandemic hold us back. It has taught us to focus on our human relations in the micro and macro level, and standing united we will finally see the light.

"We are thankful to the ITTF for guiding and working closely together to find joint solutions within these difficult times. We are grateful to our Governing Board and Board of Trustees who have to take the right decisions for the best of our work, A big thank you to the ITTF Foundation team, whose

dedication is much appreciated and inadmissible to our cause." - Leandro Olvech, ITTF Foundation Director

With most of our projects and activities cancelled or postponed when Covid-19 was declared a global pandemic in March 2020, it is worth to mention the achievements besides aside from the obstacles.

We are happy to share that in 2020, the Dream Building Fund has supported eight field projects that use table tennis to bring positive social

change. Despite the obstacles cause by Covid-19, Ping 4 Alzheimer's, Ping Pong Alkmaar, and the Dream Building with Refugees in Azraq were able to restart partially while respecting local quarantine regulations, while the others adapted their projects to local possibilities.

As a part of the ITTF Sustainability Working Group, the ITTF Foundation has been working to establish protocols and campaigns to promote the peaceful co-existence of nature and human activities.





Within TT4ALL, we have witnessed the power of unity and solidarity through table tennis. Thanks to the 171 countries and territories, we have celebrated the World Table Tennis 'at Home' Day on April 6 with the longest and craziest table tennis rally. Thousands of table tennis enthusiasts have joined us online that day, to send out the message that no one is left alone even during these difficult times.

> LEANDRO OLVECH **ITTF FOUNDATION DIRECTOR**

## ITTE FOUNDATION WORLD TABLE TENNIS DAY 2020

We have observed the out-of-box creativity of our table tennis community, as our original celebration plan had to be cancelled due to Covid-19.

Health and safety come first, and physical activity is even more important than in "normal" times during the pandemic. Using the benefits of our digital era, all members of our table tennis community and beyond were invited to take part of the craziest, longest online table tennis rally. Rackets and random objects of everyday life were used to hit the ball or perform a trick shot in front of any table.

As a result, we have made history with a 24-hour video marathon with non-stop table tennis including original, archived footage in HD, taken everyone down the memory lane with historical matches, and materials from our own projects and programmes.

Check out how the table tennis community celebrated the World Table Tennis 'at Home' Day: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZfPqMStMNcU&list=PLVdG7G703elQTWpFLUtFVOORqGXF11mSu&index=2

The best of the craziest longest table tennis rally ever:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dr5MrWVYAjQ&list=PLVdG7G703elQTWpFLUtFVOORqGXF11mSu&index=1

## **#TABLETENNISUNITED 2020**

Began in June 2020, #TableTennisUnited is a global fundraiser campaign to support the worldwide table tennis community in need with Covid-19-related issues.

In 2020, #TableTennisUnited has supported 47 initiatives and individuals around the world thanks to 57 generous donors and the ITTF Group.

## Find out more about #TableTennisUnited:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=le\_t2Lfl2vU&list=PLVdG7 G703elS5z67RBSub4E\_--b2hFi\_L





## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS ITTF FOUNDATION**



## **ITTF FOUNDATION OTHER STATISTICS**

## **KEY MILESTONE ACHIEVED**

**75%** OF **226** COUNTRIES & INDEPENDENT TERRITORIES JOINED THE WORLD TABLE TENNIS DAY





EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND PROJECT TO SUPPORT IRAN TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION AFTER THE FLOOD

## 58

## TABLE TENNIS UNITED FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

CREATED AFTER PANDEMIC OUTBREAK TO SUPPORT THOSE NEGATIVELY AFFECTED BY **COVID-19 CONSEQUENCES:** 

**INITIATIVES SUPPORTED** 







## INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITIONS

**BRONZE** FOR ITTF PARKINSON'S WORLD TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS AT SPORTS BUSINESS AWARD IN THE CATEGORY **BEST SPORTS GOVERNING INITIATIVE** 

MENTION D'HONNEUR FOR THE **HEADQUARTERS INAUGURATION VIDEO** AT THE FICTS

ERATION OF SPORT TELEVISIONS AND OF THE IMAGES ON SCREEN) SPORTS AND MOVIES AWARD

## **3X FINALIST** AT THE SPORTS BUSINESS AWARD AND THE FICTS SPORTS AND **MOVIES AWARD**

SPORTS BUSINESS AWARD, 3X FINALIST, IX BRONZE (FOR ITTF PARKINSON'S WORLD TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS)

FICTS FESTIVAL, 3X FINALIST, IX MENTION D'HONNEUR FOR "HEADQUARTERS INAUGURATION" VIDEO

WE THANK OVER 80% OF ALL 226 COUNTRIES AND INDEPENDENT **TERRITORIES FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN ITTF FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES** 

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS ITTF FOUNDATION**



## MEMBER RELATIONS

This is my first report as Member Relations Director covering the year of 2020, where I have summarized what happened in 2020.

And I would like to make you more familiar with this department and our main duties.

### **AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

+ Improve and develop regular and constructive communications between the ITTF, Continental Federations, and Member Associations, to ensure that the global Table Tennis community is better connected and aligned.

+ Continually review and analyze the key stakeholders of Table Tennis to identify their respective needs, and support Continental Federations and Member A Associations to ensure a coherent approach to stakeholder management.

+ Develop a culture of diversity and gender equality at all levels of Table Tennis governance.

+ Strengthen the capacities of Continental Federations, and in turn their Member Associations, through equitable investment, with clear accountability for recipients.

+ Provide Continental Federations and member associations with accessible tools and resources to ensure continual professional development of the administration of Table Tennis

+ To inspire grassroots participation and create a legacy wherever ITTF events are held.

+ Assist the different organizers and entities

+ Responsible for communicating the vision and growth of the ITTF to member associations and ensure that ITTF investments through various agreements are implemented in line with the overall ITTF vision and strategy for global table tennis

## 2020

As for most of my colleagues with the sudden outbreak of covid-19 in 2020 made this year to be enumerated in the history of the world. The most important thing that the year 2020 did was that it helped the people to find other ways to work remotely and activate a plan B as all ITTF activities were suspended and pushed us to do our best to bring the entire table tennis community together through new available technological tools, with more activities online and overcoming the various difficulties.

## LAST NORMAL ACTIVITY IN 2020

32 representatives from the World and Asian Member Associations have attended the Table Tennis. For All. For Life. Forum in Asia hosted by the ITTF and Qatar Table Tennis Association during the 2020 ITTF World Tour Platinum Qatar Open 5 to 8 March 2020.

Organized in March 2020 where presentations, and panel discussions from ITTF senior staff at the forum ranged from the new ITTF Strategic Plan to the future of the ITTF World Table Tennis Championships, fan engagement, professionalizing Member Associations and High Performance.

The forum had the goal of bringing together the expertise across Asia and learning from each other's experiences to developing table tennis across all facets including commercial, high performance, and good governance.

### ITTF AMERICAS

In 2020 thanks to the efforts of many of our leaders in Americas, with the support of the ITTF and Panam Sports, with the aim to prioritize a continental vision over historical regional structures in the conviction that the Americas unit will allow a higher level in quality. The new organisation forces us to work strongly aligned with the ITTF's strategic plan, and pursues the highest development in all the countries that have also limited economic resources, geographic or population limitations Many efforts and meeting were organized for the good preparation of this important historic moment for the Americas, the process was under the leadership of two American ITTF Executive Vice-Presidents, Nestor Tenca and Bruce Burton as part of the transition ahead of the election of the ITTF Americas leadership.

During these pandemic times it is refreshing to be part of something so positive and historic. The ever-increasing success of the Pan Am Games, Pan American table tennis competitions, and the rising stars from the Americas on the world scene,

There are challenges remaining of course, but this AGM and election of officials, represents a critical step towards a promising future. A future where cooperation with Pan Am Sports, ACODEPA, the ITTF, and especially the member associations composing Americas.

## MASTER CONTINENTAL AGREEMENT

This new reflection on the different way to approach and build our Continental strategic agreements that will allow us the implementation a concrete action plan for the next 4 years starting from 2021 , a new Continental Strategy aligned on the whole projects that ITTF is making thanks to the strategic plan, It will be supported by a detailed and dynamic Operational Plan which sets out actions, targets and responsibilities for each of the objectives, and hence will guide the effort and resources of the International Table Tennis Federation ITTF Group ( ITTF ,ITTF Foundation , WTT ) to ensure success towards 2024, The key objective is to combine all Continental agreements, with the vision to have a unified approach towards the growth and development of table tennis worldwide by 2021.

We are listening to Continents and, based on some experiences, are looking to rebrand or reposition this investment, to better align to the specific needs of each region.

Negotiations are still pending with Asia.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS MENBER RELATIONS**

The review of our Continental agreements that will be more focused in the implementation of a common and revamped strategy over all the continents with the following five key areas

- + Organization and governance
- + Development (HPD)
- + Events
- + Revenue
- + Inclusiveness

More than 45 meetings were organized in 2020 with all continental federations to align and agree on the different objectives .key areas to be implemented through the new Master Continental Agreement.

Through this Master Continental Agreement, I really believe that table tennis can become bigger in each continent especially if we all work collaboratively, with the passion that exists in all our table tennis family.

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## **MEMBERSHIP**

During this AGM in Houston, we will have the opportunity to decide and welcome our 227th ITTF Member Associations Falkland Islands.

I want to thank the ITTF Executive Committee members for their help assistance and guidance during my work, the Continental Presidents for their cooperation during our discussions and several meetings in 2020 to make the Master Continental Agreement reality, and of course my staff colleagues for their full collaboration on all our projects to make our International Table Tennis Federation better and stronger.

> MOUNIR BESSAH ITTF MEMBER RELATIONS DIRECTOR



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# FINANCIAL UPDATES



## **FINANCIAL UPDATES CFO REPORT**

## **FINANCES**

2020 was a year in which the ITTF faced many financial challenges, obstacles, and hurdles. As part of the Risk Management Workshop held in late 2019, many potential risks were discussed, but the idea that international travel would be ultimately cancelled, and crossing borders would become near impossible, was not one of the risks mentioned during the workshop.

The year commenced with the ITTF in a relatively stable financial position, and with ambitions for significant growth. COVID-19 flipped everything around, with more cautious and prudent measures necessary. The World Health Organisation declared a global pandemic in early March, and the International Olympic Committee followed by postponing the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games in late March. The months that followed created various new challenges that the ITTF has never faced from a financial perspective. Event suspensions to postponements to cancellations were common in the months to follow.

By September, the ITTF announced the #RESTART series of events, which helped generate positive news throughout the table tennis world and helped to stabilise some of the ITTF finances during the ongoing uncertainty. The financial situation was stabilised until unfortunately at the end of the year the cancellation of the 2020 World Table Tennis Championships was necessary which impacted on the final result of the 2020 ITTF finances.

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Considering the overall impact of the global pandemic, which resulted in a cancelled World Table Tennis Championships, postponed Olympic & Paralympic Games and various other event cancellations throughout the year, an operational loss of USD608k should be seen as a positive result.

Marketing Rights income was decimated from a record USD16.1m in 2019 to USD6.7m in 2020 due to the various event cancellations. A prudent approach in terms of the release of Olympic Revenue Share from the Rio 2016 Olympic Games will assist ITTF in the years to come but impacted on the final 2020 result as well.

income, investments and expenses were still incurred, but in line with the new reality of the reduced income. This approach allowed us to minimise the overall loss.

## FOUR YEAR OVERVIEW

Traditionally the ITTF has operated on a four-year Olympic cycle, heavily relying on the Olympic Games Revenue Share as the main income, during the 2017-20 guadrennial this changed significantly. When comparing to the two previous quadrennials, which saw a modest increase in revenues of 10% (or USD5m) which was essentially the increase of Olympic Games Revenue Share between the two different quadrennials, meaning that the ITTF itself saw no internally generated revenue growth over the eight-year period.

However, during 2017-20 total revenues increased to USD78.8m (a 78% increase) compared to the prior quadrennial. The large majority of this growth was through the in-house management of the Commercial Rights, and resulted in record levels of investment and spending towards the growth and development of table tennis. The ITTF invested over USD82m into the growth of table tennis over the four-year period. In addition, by the end of 2020, the ITTF has retained USD3.27m of the Olympic Games Revenue Share from Rio 2016, to be released in 2021 due to the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

Taking into consideration the above figures, the ITTF made an operational loss of USD220.000 over the four-year period, which included a payment of USD7.7m back in early 2017 to buy back its own commercial rights, and during a period which also included a cancelled World Table Tennis Championships, a postponed Olympic Games and a global pandemic.

In addition to the strong financial result, the foundation has been laid for significant growth in the coming years once the global pandemic subsides, and we are ready to see table tennis grow.

> MICHAEL BROWN CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

\$78.8M **RECORD REVENUE - 78% INCREASE** FROM PRIOR OUADRENNIAL

## \$82.25M **INVESTED** TO GROW THE SPORT OF TABLE TENNIS

>\$3.26M **OLYMPIC RESERVE** 



6.894272

Although there was a significant reduction in

## **FINANCIAL UPDATES HIGHLIGHTS**



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CURRENT LIABILITIES 8.036.959

NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES 3.448.581

EQUITY 6.211.184

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AT DEC 31, 2020 (IN USD)

	Note	2020	2019
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	6,701,708	2,694,462
Term Deposits	4	-	5,500,000
Trade and other receivables	5	3,149,606	3,030,741
Prepaid expense		951,138	2,223,121
Total Current Assets		10,802,452	13,448,324
Non-Current Assets			
Term Deposit – Museum Fund	4, 6	2,000,000	2,000,000
Total non-current assets		2,000,000	2,000,000
Capital Assets			
Tangible fixed assets	7	4,190,686	3,423,393
Intangible assets	8	703,586	397,398
Total Capital Assets		4,894,272	3,820,791
Total Assets		17,696,724	19,269,115
Current Liabilities			
Trade creditors		2,348,603	1,644,445
Deferred revenues - Olympic funding	9	3,269,868	6,019,868
Deferred income and accrued expense	10	2,418,488	2,379,852
Total current liabilities		8,036,959	10,044,165
Non-Current Liabilities			
ITTF Museum Fund	6	2,000,000	2,000,000
Other committed funds		1,000,000	117,846
Bank loans		113,025	-
Total non-current liabilities		3,113,025	2,117,846
Restricted Funds	11	335,556	181,607
Equity			
Unrestricted funds	11	6,189,812	6,926,895
Currency translation adjustments	11	21,372	(1,398)
Total Equity		6,211,184	6,925,456
Total Liabilities and Equity		17,696,724	19,269,115

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

Income
Marketing rights
Olympic fund
Competitions
High Performance & Development
Equipment Approval Fees
ITTF Foundation
Membership fees
Other income
Total Income

## Expenses

Competitions Marketing expenses Administration expenses High Performance & Development Member Relations Governance Foundation Equipment Olympics & Paralympics

Foreign Currency Gains and (Losses)

## **Total Expenses**

**Results from operation** Use of restricted funds Allocation to restricted funds

Net results for the period

Note	2020	2019
12	6,659,903	16,148,749
9	2,750,000	4,250,000
13	2,254,231	672,294
14	165,416	277,516
15	1,440,036	1,676,600
	772,229	-
	33,900	33,900
16	693,108	459,348
	14,768,823	23,518,407
17	(6,268,673)	(9,618,763)
18	(3,651,211)	(4,172,687)
19	(3,547,569)	(3,331,586)
20	(431,921)	(2,411,253)
21	(243,969)	(1,136,961)
22	(395,999)	(2,049,752)
23	(589,907)	(484,239)
24	(195,689)	(127,205)
25	(23,585)	(19,361)
28	(28,701)	(91,891)
	(15,377,224)	(23,443,698)
	(608,401)	74,709
	184,464	-
	(313,146)	(181,142)
	(737,083)	(106,433)

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020 (IN USD)

	Note	2020	2019
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net results for the period	11	(737,083)	(106,433)
Adjustments for:			
Amortisation of intangible assets	8	141,313	223,010
Depreciation of plant and equipment	7	100,080	89,098
Allocation to restricted funds		153,949	181,607
Loss on disposal of plant and equipment		-	-
Loss on foreign exchange		28,701	91,891
Changes in working capital			
Increase in prepayments		1,271,983	(842,074)
Decrease in trade and other receivables	5	(118,865)	262,430
(Decrease)/increase in payables		704,158	(3,892)
(Decrease)/increase in accrued expenses	10	38,636	(200,686)
Decrease in deferred revenues – Olympic funding	9	(2,750,000)	(4,250,000)
Net cash (used in)/generated from operating activitie	s	(1,167,128)	(4,555,049)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(43,921)	(199,463)
Purchase of intangible fixed assets		(59,377)	(231,926)
Proceeds from disposal of term deposit	4	4,500,000	[2,800,000]
Investment/proceeds in/from Museum Fund	6	[800,000]	400,000
Net cash used in investing activities		3,596,702	(2,831,389)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(867,373)	(43,921)
Purchase of intangible fixed assets		(447,501)	(59,377)
Proceeds from disposal of term deposit	4	5,500,000	4,500,000
Investment/proceeds in/from Museum Fund	6	-	(800,000)
Net cash generated from investing activities		4,185,126	3,596,702
Net decrease in cash and equivalents		4,013,177	(840,501)
Cash and cash equivalents as at 1 January		2,694,462	3,606,452
		(E 021)	(71 4 00)
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes		(5,931)	(71,489)

## NOTES TO THE **CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2020**

## ACTIVITY

1.

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

- and players;
- b) to regulate relations between affiliated table tennis associations and between table tennis associations and other organizations;
- participation in the sport throughout the world;
- d) to foster friendly sporting competition and to eliminate unfair and unsporting practices;
- Competitions;
- Regulations;
- publications;
- h) to promote and to supervise World and Olympic title competitions; and

- to enhance its image.
- representation of women in ITTF Committees, Commissions and Working Groups.

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

### SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES 2.

### **BASIS OF ACCOUNTING** 2.1

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

Transactions and balances among the consolidated organisations have been eliminated.

These consolidated financial statements will be approved by the Audit & Finance Committee of ITTF on 19 July 2021 in representation of the ITTF Board of Directors.

a) to develop the spirit of friendship and mutual assistance among affiliated table tennis associations

c) to seek continual improvement in the technical standard of table tennis and in the extent of

e) to establish and maintain the Laws of Table Tennis and the Regulations for international

f) to publish the standard text of the Rules, consisting of the Constitution, the Laws and the

g] to encourage the publication of the Rules in other languages and to check the accuracy of such

i) to employ the funds of the ITTF as may be expedient in the interests of international table tennis. i) to endeavor to increase participation at all levels, to enhance the popularity of the sport, to develop new sources of revenue and to manage the sport through a systematic planning process. k) to encourage players, coaches and officials to present the sport positively in the best ways so as

I) to encourage and to support the promotion of women in sport at all levels and to ensure significant

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

## **CHANGE IN PRESENTATION**

During 2020, equipment staff's expenses have been reclassified from administrative expenses to equipment expenses. The relative expenses in relation to this area from 2019, have not been adjusted, but a disclosure is mentioned within the relative notes, which assists for comparative purposes.

## 2.2 BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

	Country of	Consolidation	Ownership	
Name	Country of incorporation	Method	31 December 2020	31 December 2019
International Table Tennis Federation	Switzerland	Fully consolidated	Ultimate par	ent company
International Table Tennis Federation Asia-Pacific Ltd	Singapore	Fully consolidated	100%	100%
International Table Tennis Federation – North America	Canada	Fully consolidated	100%	100%
ITTF Foundation	Germany	Fully consolidated	100%	100%
World Table Tennis Pte Ltd	Singapore	Fully consolidated	100%	100%

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

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

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

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

### 2.3 FOREIGN CURRENCIES

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

## I) TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES

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

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

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

## **II) TRANSLATION**

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

The main exchange rates used are as follows:

1 USD against:	20	19
	Average	Year-end
SGD	1.3791	1.3220
CHF	0.9386	0.8846
CAD	1.3408	1.2752
EUR	0.8768	0.8181

## 2.4 **REVENUE RECOGNITION**

### MARKETING RIGHTS

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

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

## **OLYMPIC FUND**

The Federation's policy is to release the Olympic revenue, as previously approved by the General Meeting as part of the budgeting process. The funds are to be released over the four-year period and in accordance with the ITTF's planned efforts in developing Table Tennis. The amount released during 2020 equated to 16% (2019: 25%) of the total fund received following the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, leaving 19% remaining to be released in 2021 due to the postponement of the Tokyo Olympic Games.

2018

 Average
 Year-end

 1.3565
 1.3447

 1.0065
 1.0333

 1.3263
 1.3271

 0.8959
 0.8906

### COMPETITION INCOME

The competition income is in relation to fees received on behalf of local organising committees, in relation to entry and participation fees. Competition income also relates to sanction fees for local organisers to host ITTF competitions. In addition, the WTT Macao event was managed through World Table Tennis Pte Ltd, therefore non-marketing related incomes generated from this event are also recognised as competition income. Those incomes are recognized when the respective competition takes place.

## HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT INCOME

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

## EQUIPMENT APPROVAL FEES INCOME

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

### TANGIBLE & INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS 2.5

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

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

Tangible fixed assets
Furniture
Equipment & Computers
Office Renovation
Equipment Laboratory
Museum Collection

33.3% straight-line basis 33.3% straight-line basis 33.3% straight-line basis 20% straight-line basis not depreciated

Intangible fixed assets IT & Software

20-33.3% straight-line basis

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

### FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT 3.

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

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

### **GENERAL NOTE IN CONNECTION WITH COVID-19** 3.1

In March 2020, the World Health Organization designated a new coronavirus disease (COVID-19) as a global pandemic. In response, governments around the world have implemented various public health and social measures aimed to slow the transmission of the virus, including orders to stay at or work from home, closure of non-essential businesses, cancellation of events and limitations on domestic and international travel. These measures have had a significant impact on global markets leading to economic fallout and uncertainty.

The ITTF has assessed the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on the financial statements as at 31 December 2020, especially considering the impacts on key judgements and significant estimates.

### 3.2 SHORT TIME WORK CONTRIBUTIONS

In the financial year 2020, ITTF received short time work contributions in accordance with the COVID-19 ordinance for unemployment insurance dated 20 March 2020 and subsequently amended. These contributions received from Switzerland, Germany and Singapore Governments, and were offset with the personnel expenses in the income statement for the year ended 31 December 2020. The amount of these contributions reached an amount of USD 337,270.21.

### 3.3 COVID-19 LOAN

In order to secure liquidity needs, ITTF has taken out a guaranteed COVID-19 loan for a total of CHF 0.5 million. The interest rate is 0.0% for up to CHF 500,000. The interest rate conditions can be adjusted to market developments on 31 March each year, for the first time on 31 March 2021, in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Department of Finance.

ITTF expects to repay the COVID-19 loan by the maturity date - maximum 8 years, or as exchange rates become more favourable.

During the term of the COVID-19 loan, ITTF may not distribute dividends or directors' fees, or repay capital contributions. In addition, further restrictions apply to the granting and repayment of loans to group entities and owners. During the validity of the Ordinance, investments in fixed assets that were not replacement assets are not allowed.

In accordance with the provisions on loss of capital and/or over-indebtedness in accordance with Art. 725 OR, the COVID-19 loan guaranteed up to CHF 500,000 is not considered as foreign capital (Art. 24 of the law on joint and several guarantees linked to COVID-19].

## 4. CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND TERM DEPOSITS

	2020	2019
Current accounts with banks	6,690,115	2,636,478
Foundation Deposit	-	56,141
Petty Cash	11,593	1,842
	6,701,708	2,694,462
Term deposits		
Current	-	5,500,000
Non-current	2,000,000	2,000,000
	2,000,000	7,500,000

The non-current term deposit asset corresponds to the amount of funds which have been received, as an Equity Guarantee liability from the Shanghai Municipal Education Commission and the Chinese Table Tennis Association in relation to the ITTF Museum. Further details are available under Note 6 below.

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

	2020	2019
United States Dollars	7,705,087	9,107,781
Swiss Francs	106,171	445,973
Euros	552,320	574,490
Singapore Dollars	245,780	36,947
Canadian Dollars	92,350	29,271
	8,701,708	10,194,462

## 5. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2019	2018
Accounts receivable - third parties	3,791,495	3,642,644
Accounts receivable - related parties	(700,640)	(507,270)
Accounts receivable	3,090,856	3,135,374
Accrued income	82,460	104,076
Bad debt allowance	(23,709)	(208,709)
Accounts receivable, net	3,149,606	3,030,741

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

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

## 7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Land and building (Renens)
Furniture
Equipment & Computers
Foundation Table Tennis Equipment
Office Renovations
Right-of-use Assets
Museum Collection

## Depreciation incurred during the period

Depreciation – Furniture and equipment Depreciation – Equipment & Computers Depreciation – Office Renovations Depreciation – Museum Collection

## 8. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Internally generated (TTX) Mobile Application IT Software WTT Brand Development

### Amortisation incurred during the period

Amortisation – Internally generated (TTX) Amortisation – Mobile Application Amortisation – IT Software

The internally generated intangible asset was developed during the years 2016 and 2017 and relates to Table Tennis X, a new discipline of Table Tennis game. As part of the internal transfer of the trademark from ITTF Asia Pacific Ltd to ITTF, the value of the intangible asset was written off, and offset against a deferred liability received as a prepayment.

The IT Software is the continued development of Table Tennis specific software that support the management and implementation of competitions. This includes entries management, results system and ranking engine.

2	020	2019
	2,742,326	2,742,326
	19,495	34,059
	68,209	75,246
	556,391	-
	45,339	62,015
	249,179	-
	509,747	509,747
L	⊧,190,686	3,423,393
2	020	2019
-	19,441	20,073
	46,264	33,649
	34,375	35,375
	-	
	100,080	89,098
	100,080	89,098
	100,080	89,098
2	100,080 020	<b>89,098</b> 2019
2		
2		2019
2		2019
2	020 - -	<mark>2019</mark> 205,457 -
2	020 - -	<b>2019</b> 205,457 - 135,690
2	<b>020</b> - 703,586 -	<b>2019</b> 205,457 - 135,690 56,250
	020 - 703,586 - 703,586	2019 205,457 - 135,690 56,250 397,398
	<b>020</b> - 703,586 -	2019 205,457 - 135,690 56,250 397,398 2019
	020 - 703,586 - 703,586	2019 205,457 - 135,690 56,250 397,398 2019 21,822
	020 - - 703,586 - 703,586 020 - -	2019 205,457 - 135,690 56,250 397,398 2019 21,822 92,149
	020 - 703,586 - 703,586	2019 205,457 - 135,690 56,250 397,398 2019 21,822

As several aspects of the software are already in operation, the amortization has been recorded based on the date of each payment. The expected useful life is between three-to-five years, dependent upon the specific type of software development.

The WTT Brand Development was initially capitalised during 2019, however has been fully expensed during 2020 and disclosed within the Administration Expenses under Professional Services.

## 9. DEFERRED REVENUES - OLYMPIC FUNDING

	2020	2019
Olympic funding at the beginning of the year	6,019,868	10,269,868
Used in year	(2,750,000)	(4,250,000)
Olympic funding at the end of the year	3,269,868	6,019,868
IO. DEFERRED INCOME AND ACCRUED EXPENSES		
	2020	2019
Deferred income & advance equipment approvals	1,589,077	1,343,078
Accrued expenses	829,411	1,036,774
	2,418,488	2,379,852

There is no deferred income (2019: USD 258,575) of licensing revenues from Table Tennis X in 2020, following the transfer of the trademark from ITTF Asia Pacific Ltd to ITTF.

## II. RESTRICTED FUNDS & EQUITY

	2020	2019
Restricted funds at the beginning of the year	181,142	-
Allocation to funds	313,146	181,142
Use of funds	(184,464)	-
Cumulative translation adjustment	25,732	-
Restricted funds at the end of the year	335,556	181,142
	2020	2019
Unrestricted funds at the beginning of the year	6,926,895	7,033,327
Net results for the period	(737,083)	(106,433)
Unrestricted funds at the end of the year	6,189,812	6,926,895
Cumulative translation adjustment	21,372	(1,398)
Equity (audited figures)	6,211,184	6,925,496
12. MARKETING RIGHTS INCOME		
	2020	2019
Sponsorship income	3,112,361	9,047,389
Television & Data Rights	2,838,596	6,340,668
Advertising income	276,423	418,090
Social Media income	180,397	294,112
TTX Project	252,126	28,481
Strategic Investments	-	20,000

In 2016, a termination agreement between ITTF and TMS International included income guarantees through contracts entered into by TMS International for various marketing rights through to 2020, and some selected rights until 2024. The termination agreement stated that ITTF should receive USD11.55m during 2020 through the marketing rights contracted by TMS International. ITTF paid a 15% commission based on this amount of expected income. However, the amount of income received by the ITTF during 2020 was USD4m. The commission payment was made in advance in 2017 and was fully expensed during that year due to uncertainties of incomes being guaranteed.

## 13. COMPETITIONS INCOME

World Title events	
ITTF World Tour	
ITTF Challenge	
Para Table Tennis	
World Veterans Tour	
Multisport Games	
Other Competitions	

## 14. HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT INCOME

Grants	
Education	
Olympic Solidarity	
Other Income	

## 15. EQUIPMENT APPROVAL FEES

Balls
Racket Coverings
Tables
Nets
Sports Flooring
Equipment Testing Fees
Fines

## 16. OTHER INCOME

Merchandise Publications URC Exam Fees Rental income Other income

16,148,749

6,659,903

2020	2019
-	21,895
13,531	52,241
16,038	226,119
19,098	181,587
26,558	121,290
3,413	66,661
2,175,593	2,500
2,254,231	672,294

" L		
	2020	2019
	11,900	40,000
	2,596	30,738
	52,929	106,092
	97,991	110,686
	165,416	277,516

2020

2020	2019
262,400	317,240
676,235	703,370
251,200	268,800
23,040	25,440
52,800	52,800
174,361	304,950
-	4,000
1,440,036	1,676,600

2010	
<b>ZIII</b> Y	
2010	

346	13,240
-	80
27,548	276
152,938	127,501
438,501	129,585

	693 108	459 348
Museum	50,000	50,000
Interest	23,775	138,666

### 17. **COMPETITIONS EXPENSES**

	2020	2019
World Title events	2,285,258	3,637,079
ITTF World Tour	988,620	3,895,192
ITTF Challenge	176,422	802,350
ITTF World Junior Circuit	21,270	157,635
Para Table Tennis Competitions	11,566	36,375
Continental Competitions	97,944	169,313
Veterans Competitions	316	131,564
Multi-Sport Games	15,141	66,233
ITTF Rankings	2,213	5,379
Other Competitions	2,082,198	-
Human Resources – Salaries & Services	550,026	616,342
Human Resources – Expenses	37,699	101,302
	6,268,673	9,618,763

World Title events includes an amount of USD1.39m which was provided as a prepayment to the Korean Table Tennis Association, who were due to host the 2020 World Table Tennis Championships, following the cancellation of the event, no funds have been refunded, in a prudent approach, it was decided to expense the full amount in 2020.

Other competitions include the event implementation costs of WTT Macao held in 2020.

### 18. MARKETING EXPENSES

	2020	2019
Commissions - Internal	250,552	484,350
Commissions - External	31,819	335,866
Marketing expenses	1,117,868	599,416
Media expenses	711,928	471,816
Sponsorship expenses	86,775	234,321
Marketing Events	859	151,929
Commercialisation Agreements	93,295	150,673
Marketing Agreements	23,539	231,348
TTX Project	1,249,329	1,292,386
Human Resources – Salaries & Services	85,247	220,584
Human Resources – Expenses	220,584	168,791
	3,651,211	4,172,687

### 19. **ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES**

Lausanne Office Singapore Office North America Office Cologne Office Foundation Office Home Offices Depreciation & amortization Chateau Expenses Staff Meetings Professional Services Websites Technology & Software Publications Intellectual Property Anti-Doping Postage & Couriers Bank Fees & Charges Other Expenses Human Resources – Professional Development Human Resources – Salaries & Services Human Resources – Expenses

## Bad & Doubtful Debts totaled USD 48,004 (2019: USD 53,470) and is presented within Other Expenses.

### 20. **HIGH PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES**

High Performance & Development Activities Education Human Resources – Salaries & Services Human Resources – Expenses

High Performance & Development Activities which took place during the calendar year of 2020, also included the USD295,589 of funding which was carried over from the prior year. Therefore, the total investment into High Performance & Development Activities was USD340,802.

2020	2019
79,468	188,767
214,912	188,293
24,906	20,463
32,477	21,121
42,497	66,824
22,624	30,883
254,687	312,108
16,754	-
73	811
587,375	416,643
185,057	166,476
160,332	72,792
-	898
49,560	24,140
130,842	153,065
10,578	69,870
18,326	24,359
240,280	70,704
106,733	87,780
1,225,312	1,149,567
144,776	266,062
3,547,569	3,331,586

2020	2019
45,213	1,741,405
15,473	56,797
350,820	498,645
20,415	114,406
431,921	2,411,253

## 21. MEMBER RELATIONS

	2020	2019	
Member Relations Agreements	112,622	880,436	
Human Resources – Salaries & Services	124,359	249,573	
Human Resources – Expenses	6,988	6,952	
	243,969	1,136,961	

## 22. GOVERNANCE EXPENSES

	2020	2019
AGM & BoD	74,704	66,186
Executive Committee	91,143	297,142
ITTF President	58,426	191,417
Commissions & Committees	24,550	134,775
Affiliation Fees	5,433	5,769
Working Groups	3,810	158,276
ITTF Hall of Fame	-	4,984
Continental Meetings	26,006	31,794
Multi-Sport Games	-	-
Professional Consultancy	111,927	1,159,409
	395,999	2,049,752

Within the expenses incurred in relation to the ITTF President USD 43,690 (2019: USD 107,354) was paid as an honorarium for the services provided, this figure is also shown within Note 26.

## 23. FOUNDATION

	2020	2019	
Human Resources – Salaries & Services Support	278,563	283,218	
Project spending	285,656	84,950	
Other foundation expenses	25,688	116,071	
	589,907	484,239	

## 24. EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

	2020	2019
Table Tennis Equipment Testing Fees	86,371	83,401
Table Tennis X Equipment Testing Fees	2,707	-
Racket Control expenses	-	19,219
Research and Development	3,243	24,585
Human Resources – Salaries & Services	99,671	-
Human Resources – Expenses	3,697	-
	195,689	127,205

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## 25. OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC GAMES EXPENSES

## Olympic Games Youth Olympic Games Paralympic Games

## 26. HUMAN RESOURCES

ITTF Employees (Lausanne)
ITTF Employees (Singapore)
ITTF Employees (North America)
ITTF Foundation Employees
World Table Tennis Employees
ITTF Service Providers
World Table Tennis Service Providers
ITTF President

Administration Department Marketing Department Competition Department High Performance & Development Department Member Relations Department Equipment Department Foundation ITTF President

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

## 27. OPERATING LEASES

Maturity 1 Year Maturity 1-5 Years

ITTF has entered into leasing contracts for offices and office equipment. Rental contracts with a notice period longer than 12 months are taken into account when calculating future obligations. ITTF has contracted a lease term that has various lease term between 6 months to 18 months remaining for Lausanne offices. ITTF Asia Pacific Ltd has close to one year remaining for the Singapore Office space. ITTF Foundation has 14 months remaining on an office lease. The rental fee for all office spaces are fixed for the duration of the lease, and not exposed to Consumer Price Index fluctuations.

2020	2019
16,373	16,440
-	1,372
7,212	1,549
23,585	19,361
2020	2019
172,547	320,523
1,513,526	1,353,921
53,023	17,028
285,838	194,564
574,949	-
1,193,136	2,203,694
85,059	-
43,690	107,354
3,921,769	4,197,084
2020	2019
1,225,312	1,149,567
1,249,329	1,292,386
550,026	616,342
350,820	498,645
124,359	249,573
99,671	-
278,563	283,218
43,690	107,354
3,921,769	4,197,084

2020	2019
367,985	187,774
21,581	150,498
389,566	338,272

## 28 FINANCIAL RESULT

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

## 29. GUARANTEE / PLEDGED ASSETS

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

## **30. OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY LAW**

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

## 31. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

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

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



## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR**

WITH CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2020 OF INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION, LAUSANNE

## mazars

Mazars SA World Trade Center Avenue Gratta-Paille 2 CH-1018 Lausanne

Tel: +41 21 310 49 49 www.mazars.ch

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

Report of the Statutory Auditor on the Consolidated Financial Statements

As statutory auditor, we have audited the consolidated financial statements of International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), which comprise the balance sheet, the income statement, the cash flow statement and notes (pages 68 to 84) for the year ended December 31, 2020. These annual accounts have been subject to an ordinary audit, those of the previous year to an independent audit.

### Board of Director's Responsibility

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

### Auditor's Responsibility

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

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

### Opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2020 comply with Swiss law and the federation's articles of association.

## mazars

### **Report on Other Legal Requirements**

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

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

MAZARS SA

Michael Ackermann Licensed Audit Expert (Auditor in Charge)



Lausanne, July 19, 2021

Enclosures

 Consolidated financial statements (balance sheet, income statement, cash flow statement and notes)

## **FINANCIAL UPDATES AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Emmanuel Barilier Licensed Audit Experi

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

Text by Calvin Koh.

Design by Amanda Lam

