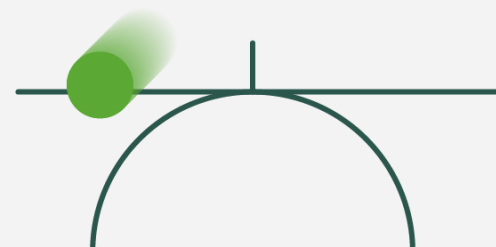




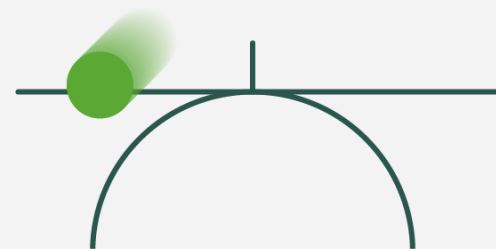
TERMS OF REFERENCE

UMPIRES AND REFEREES COMMITTEE



TERMS OF REFERENCE – ITTF UMPIRES AND REFEREES COMMITTEE

Document Title	Terms of Reference - Umpires and Referees Committee
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Article 1 – Legal Basis and Authority

1.1 The Umpires and Referees Committee (“the Committee”) is constituted as a Permanent Committee of the International Table Tennis Federation (“ITTF”) in accordance with Article 1.71.1 of the ITTF Statutes.

1.2 These Terms of Reference (“TOR”) are issued under the authority of the ITTF Executive Board, which holds the exclusive power to establish and amend the terms governing all Committees, except as provided otherwise by the Statutes.

1.3 In the event of inconsistency between these TOR and the ITTF Statutes, the provisions of the Statutes shall prevail without exception.

1.4 The Committee shall function in an advisory, regulatory and supervisory capacity in matters concerning the training, education, appointment, performance and integrity of umpires and referees, except where the ITTF Council expressly delegates authority under Article 1.71.8 of the Statutes.

1.5 The Committee plays a joint role, together with the Equipment Committee, in advising the Executive Board on racket control policies and procedures, and assists the Executive Board in ensuring compliance with all technical officiating standards.

1.6 The Committee shall play a role in receiving and acting on integrity-related reports from technical officials, as provided herein.

Article 2 – Purpose

2.1 The Committee is responsible for overseeing globally the training, certification, appointment and performance of umpires and referees within the ITTF structure.

2.2 The Committee shall work to uphold the highest standards of integrity, competence, fairness and consistency in officiating across all ITTF events.

2.3 The Committee shall advise the Executive Board, Council, Competition Programme and other relevant ITTF bodies on matters related to officiating, and shall ensure effective cooperation with the development, education, legal and technical units.

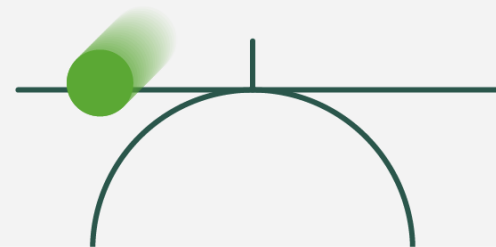
2.4 The Committee shall support the establishment and continuous updating, dissemination, implementation and improvement of officiating standards, systems, materials, controls, databases, and evaluation mechanisms.

Article 3 – Composition



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3.1 The Committee shall consist of eight full members and six corresponding members, appointed by the AGM in odd-numbered years, based on nominations received from Member Associations and recommended by the Nominations Committee.

3.2 One full member shall be appointed Chair of the Committee by the ITTF Council.

3.3 Two full members shall be appointed Deputy Chairs by the ITTF Council. One shall be responsible for Umpires ("Deputy Chair – Umpires") and the other one shall be responsible for Referees ("Deputy Chair – Referees").

3.4 A staff member appointed by the CEO shall serve as Secretary of the Committee, with speaking rights but without voting rights.

3.5 An Executive Vice-President appointed by the Executive Board shall serve on the Committee.

3.6 The President and Secretary General shall be ex officio members.

3.7 The Committee may invite individuals with specialized expertise, including experts in officiating education and technical administration, to attend its meetings or specific sessions.

3.8 The AGM shall appoint, suspend, or remove members of the Committee in odd-numbered years, acting on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee and in accordance with the Statutes.

3.9 Nominations may only be submitted by the Member Association of which the nominee is a member or Official. Nominations shall be lodged no later than ninety (90) days prior to the AGM at which appointments are to be made.

3.10 No person may be appointed to more than one Committee simultaneously. No more than four Committee positions may be held by Officials affiliated with the same Member Association. No member of the Executive Board may serve on a Permanent Committee.

3.11 Provided that sufficient female nominations have been submitted, not less than twenty-five percent (25%) of full members shall be selected from among female nominees.

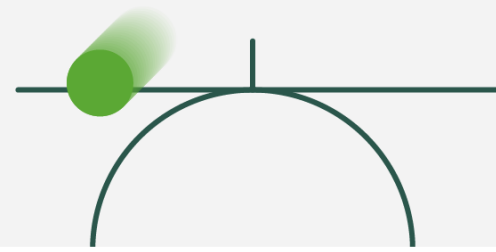
3.12 The term of office of all Committee members shall coincide with that of the ITTF Executive Board.

Article 4 – Chair



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4.1 The Chair shall be appointed by the ITTF Council in odd-numbered years on the recommendation of the Executive Board and shall serve for the duration of the Committee's term.

4.2 The Chair shall:

- provide strategic leadership to the Committee and ensure compliance with these Terms of Reference and the ITTF Statutes;
- convene, determine the agenda of, and preside over Committee meetings in accordance with the ITTF Statutes and relevant policies, including the Conflict of Interest Policy;
- oversee the articulation, drafting and presentation of any recommendations, including reports to the ITTF Council and Executive Board;
- ensure constructive and inclusive deliberation among all Committee Members;
- oversee liaison with relevant ITTF structures;
- monitor participation levels of members and, in consultation with the ITTF Staff Member, initiate procedures in cases of inactivity;
- jointly with the Committee Secretary, communicate with ITTF departments as necessary to fulfil the Committee's mandate.

4.3 The Chair shall attend the Annual General Meeting with the right to speak but not to vote, and may attend Council meetings as an expert adviser, with the right to speak but no voting rights.

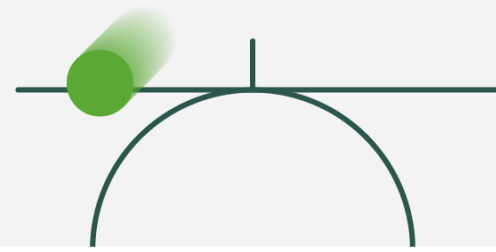
Article 5 – Deputy Chairs

5.1 The two Deputy Chairs shall support the Chair in fulfilling the Committee's functions and shall serve as focal points within their designated domains of officiating.

5.1.1 The Deputy Chair (Umpires) shall supervise matters related to umpire training, certification, course structure, evaluation processes, and ongoing education.

5.1.2 The Deputy Chair (Referees) shall supervise matters related to referee development, appointment processes, evaluation, competition implementation, and cooperation with event organisers.

5.2 The Deputy Chairs shall act in place of the Chair during absences, temporary unavailability, or incapacity. Where the Chair becomes vacant, the Deputy Chairs shall exercise the functions of the Chair until the ITTF Council appoints a new Chair.



5.3 The Deputy Chairs shall support meeting preparation, assist in monitoring member engagement and regional coordination, and contribute to the strategic direction and reporting obligations of the Committee.

5.4 The Deputy Chairs shall not automatically acquire the speaking privileges of the Chair at the AGM or ITTF Council meetings unless acting as Acting Chairs for the purpose of such attendance.

Article 6 – ITTF Staff Member (Secretary)

6.1 The Secretary of the Committee shall be a staff member of the ITTF appointed by the Chief Executive Officer. The Secretary shall not be a voting member of the Committee.

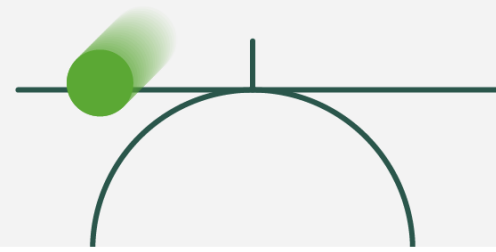
6.2 The Secretary shall:

- facilitate the logistical organisation of meetings and ensure adequate notice and circulation of agendas and supporting documentation;
- prepare and distribute the minutes of meetings, obtain approval from the Chair, and record key decisions;
- coordinate correspondence between Committee members and submit proposals to the Chair for circulation when decision by correspondence is initiated;
- support the Chair in facilitating communication with ITTF departments and third parties, as required;
- maintain records of member participation and assist in monitoring compliance with these Terms of Reference;
- ensure adherence to ethical, confidentiality and data protection standards in the administration of the Committee's business.

6.3 The Secretary shall provide administrative continuity during changes in Committee membership and may be present in any Committee sub-committees or sub-groups.

Article 7 – Rights of Committee Members at the AGM

7.1 Committee members may attend the Annual General Meeting as observers, without the right to speak or vote, unless they are participating in their capacity as representatives of a Member Association, in which case they shall enjoy the usual rights of delegation consistent with that representation.



Article 8 – Training and Education

8.1 The Committee shall develop and regularly update the global training system and website for umpires and referees, including syllabi, course materials, teaching resources, e-learning modules and instructor standards.

8.2 The Committee shall appoint qualified Course Instructors and Evaluators and liaise with organisers to deliver courses and conduct evaluations at ITTF events.

8.3 The Committee shall work closely with the Development and Education Programmes to coordinate courses requested by Member Associations.

8.4 The Committee shall prepare and update the *Handbook for Match Officials* and the *Handbook for Tournament Referees* and ensure their consistent application worldwide.

Article 9 – Certification, Evaluation and Performance Standards

9.1 The Committee shall issue certifications to umpires and referees who achieve competency requirements and shall maintain criteria for certification levels and progression.

9.2 The Committee shall establish and maintain evaluation systems to assess performance, including continuous assessment and event-based review.

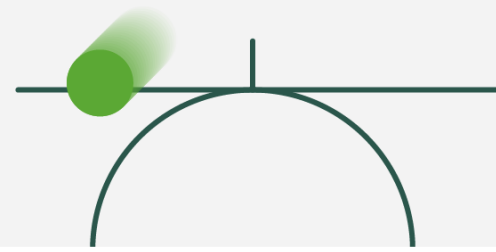
9.3 The Committee shall monitor the performance of umpires and referees and shall take corrective action when necessary, including re-training, reassessment, temporary restrictions or withdrawal of certification, in accordance with ITTF procedures. Such actions do not overturn, affect, or modify the finality of the decision taken.

9.4 The Committee shall maintain an up-to-date global database of umpires and referees, including qualifications, certifications and evaluation history.

Article 10 – Appointment of Officials

10.1 The Committee shall select match officials for World Title Events in consultation with the Competition Programme and event organisers.

10.2 The Committee shall recommend referee teams and umpires to the Olympic and Paralympic Commission for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.



10.3 The Committee shall appoint referee teams for ITTF-sanctioned events in coordination with organisers and ensure appropriate global distribution and gender representation.

Article 11 – Racket Control Centre

11.1 The Committee shall cooperate with the Equipment Committee in recommending to the Executive Board policies and procedures for racket control.

11.2 The Committee shall oversee the application of racket control procedures at events, ensuring that rackets are tested in accordance with all ITTF regulations, including flatness, covering thickness, continuity of layers, evenness, and detection of harmful or volatile substances.

11.3 The Committee shall liaise with the racket control centre and relevant staff to ensure integrity and uniformity in testing procedures across all ITTF competitions.

Article 12 – Liaison and Cooperation

12.1 The Committee shall work closely with the Rules Committee in the drafting, interpretation, amendment and application of the Laws and relevant Regulations.

12.2 The Committee shall liaise with the Equipment Committee concerning technical specifications for equipment and the interpretation and enforcement thereof during events.

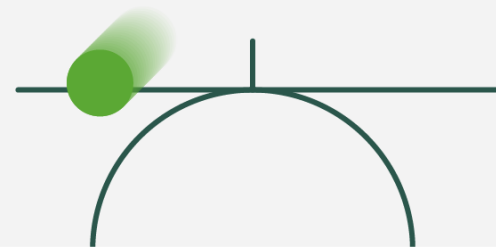
12.3 The Committee shall liaise with the Athletes Commission, Rules Committee and Equipment Committee on matters relating to rule interpretation, implementation, practical application at events, and consistency of officiating.

12.4 The Committee shall contribute to the drafting of directives, regulations and policies for submission to the Executive Board.

Article 13 – Integrity Reporting

13.1 The Committee shall receive reports from technical officials concerning suspicious approaches, attempted manipulation or any improper requests relating to match-fixing or influencing officiating.

13.2 The Committee shall document such reports and forward them immediately to the ITTF integrity or safeguarding unit in accordance with ITTF Statutes and relevant policies.



13.3 The Committee shall ensure education and awareness for umpires and referees regarding ethical and integrity obligations.

Article 14 – Resource Management

14.1 The Committee shall develop and manage an annual budget covering training, certification, evaluations, course-related payments and officiating development activities.

14.2 The Committee shall maintain transparency and accountability in the use of resources and ensure compliance with ITTF financial procedures.

Article 15 – Meetings

15.1 The Committee shall meet at least four times per calendar year. One such meeting shall take place, where practicable, during the period surrounding the Annual General Meeting, in accordance with Article 1.71.3 of the Statutes.

15.2 Meetings may be held in person, virtually or in hybrid format. The Chair shall convene meetings with reasonable notice and preside over proceedings.

15.3 A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of voting members. Where quorum is not met, the meeting may proceed for discussion purposes only, without the adoption of recommendations.

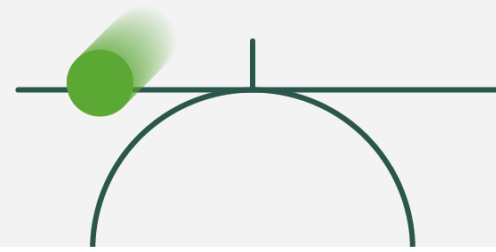
15.4 Written minutes shall be prepared by the Committee Secretary and approved by simple majority of the Committee Members. Minutes shall be circulated to all Committee members after each meeting for approval, and shared with the Executive Board and Council where appropriate.

Article 16 – Decision-Making by Correspondence

16.1 Where a written proposal is circulated by or on behalf of the Chair, any member who fails to provide a written opinion within the specified deadline shall be deemed to have endorsed any recommendation resulting from such proposal, in accordance with Article 1.71.6 of the Statutes.

Article 17 – Reporting

17.1 The Chair shall submit to the ITTF Council an annual report on the activities of the Committee, drawing attention to any recommendations it wishes to make.



17.2 Acceptance of such report shall not imply acceptance of any recommendation contained therein, unless expressly approved by the ITTF Council or AGM, as applicable.

17.3. The Chair shall submit an annual report of the committee's activities for inclusion in the ITTF Annual General Report.

Article 18 – Sub-Committees

18.1 The Committee may establish sub-committees composed of its members to address specific areas of work. Any report or recommendation originating from such sub-committees shall require endorsement by the full Committee prior to publication or submission to the AGM or the ITTF Council.

Article 19 – Inactivity and Removal

19.1 A member shall be considered inactive where, without valid reason, they fail to attend two consecutive meetings, attend fewer than half of the meetings held within any two-year period, or otherwise do not adequately fulfil their duties.

19.2 In cases of inactivity or failure to comply with these TOR, the Chair shall notify the member in writing and offer an opportunity to rectify the situation. Should inactivity persist, the Chair, in consultation with the Committee Secretary, may recommend removal to the Nominations Committee for consideration and, where applicable, recommendation to the AGM in accordance with the Statutes.

Article 20 – Conflicts of Interest

20.1 All members shall disclose any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest. Any person connected with the manufacture, sale or endorsement of table tennis equipment, or who consults on such matters, may serve on the Committee but shall, upon request by a majority of members, withdraw from discussion or abstain from voting on affected issues.

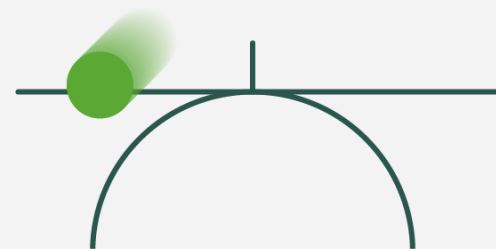
20.2 All confidential information acquired through Committee work shall be treated as confidential and may not be disclosed without authorisation or unless required by law.

Article 21 – Limitation of Authority and Prohibition of Unauthorized Claims



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21.1 No member of the Committee, including the Chair, the Deputy Chair, or any corresponding or full member, shall claim, assume, or exercise any role, power or responsibility that is not expressly conferred upon them by these Terms of Reference or by the ITTF Statutes.

21.2 Any authority not explicitly granted herein shall be deemed to be retained by the competent governance body of the ITTF as defined in the Statutes.

21.3 Any action undertaken by a member beyond the scope of the authority granted under these Terms of Reference or the Statutes shall be considered null and without effect unless subsequently ratified by the ITTF Council or the Executive Board, as applicable.

21.4 Where a member acts in excess of their authority or purports to extend their remit beyond what is expressly provided for, the Chair shall take appropriate action, including issuing a written warning. In the case of the Chair acting beyond their authority, the matter shall be referred to the Executive Board. Where appropriate, the matter may be referred to the Integrity Unit for review or further action.

21.5 Persistent or serious breaches of this provision shall constitute grounds for removal.

Article 22 – Amendment and Entry into Force

22.1 These Terms of Reference may only be amended by decision of the Executive Board.

22.2 They shall enter into force immediately upon adoption by the Executive Board.