



INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation held on Tuesday, 1st May 2018 at 09h00 at the Tylosand Hotel Congress Hall in Halmstad, Sweden.

1. President's Welcome and Opening Address

The President, Mr Thomas Weikert, gave the welcome to the Delegates and introduced the video of the official song from Per Gessle of the World Championships: "*Name You Beautiful*." Following the video, Mr Weikert introduced the ITTF Executive Vice-President and President of the Swedish Table Tennis Association, Mrs Petra Sörling. Mrs Sörling spoke about the preparation since the allocation of the Championships in 2013. Mrs Sörling then introduced the Chairman of the City Council of Halmstad Mr Johan Rydén, who addressed the delegates, speaking about the city and the region and thanked them for their confidence, hoping they would enjoy the event.

After his speech, the ITTF President presented a plaque to Mr Rydén.

Mr Weikert introduced Mr Francesco Ricci Bitti, President of ASOIF, as well as Mr Ryu Seung Min, IOC Member and Olympic Champion, who he thanked for the work done in recent times, particularly at the last refugee camp in Jordan. In the absence of Mr Vladimir Samsonov, the ITTF President welcomed to the meeting Mr Zoran Primorac as the Athletes' Commission representative.

2. Appointment of a Chair

Mr Thomas Weikert gave a warm welcome to the ITTF Honorary President, Mr Adham Sharara, thanking him for the work done in the last few years as AGM Chair. Mr Thomas Weikert was nominated by the Executive Committee (EC) to be the Chair of the AGM.

01-AGM-2018.05.01

The AGM accepted by acclamation the nomination of Mr Thomas Weikert as AGM Chair.

3. Roll Call of Associations Present and Verification of Proxies

The Secretary General confirmed that there were 135 associations present, and 9 proxies allocated, for a total 144¹ votes.

¹ Including the late arrivals after the coffee break and before the proceedings with propositions and resolutions

4. Appointment of Scrutineers

02-AGM-2018.05.01

The AGM appointed the following as scrutineers from the nominations provided by the Continental Federations (in alphabetical order within the continent):

Africa:	Mr BETHO François Mederic (CGO) and Ms MADINA Said Djama (DJI)
Asia:	Mr SERMKIJSEREE Korakij (THA) and WONG Hui Leng (SIN)
Europe:	Ms BRAND Katja (SUI) and Mr PURINSH Egils (LAT)
Latin America:	Mr CRUCETA Geovanny (DOM)
North America:	No scrutineers
Oceania:	No scrutineers

5. Confirmation of the Minutes of the AGM Held on 31st May 2018 Dusseldorf

The Secretary General explained that following the 2017 AGM, the Rules Committee met to finalize the text of the Propositions and Resolutions that had passed. The Chair of the 2017 AGM proposed that, for better clarity, the Constitution 1.12.8.1 should be worded in a different way, which was accepted by the Rules Committee Chair. Not having any other observations or remarks, the Chair signed the minutes as factual.

03-AGM-2018.05.01

The AGM adopted the 2017 AGM minutes as factual.

6. Presentations

6.1 Plaques to the organizers of the best events in 2017 were presented to:

- THA TTA, for the best World Junior Circuit event
- BLR TTA, for the best Challenge event
- KOR TTA, for the best World Tour event
- GER TTA, for the best World Tour Platinum event
- CAN TTA for the best World Cup event
- CHN TTA for the best Continental event

Plaques were also presented for their outstanding organization to:

- LUX TTA for the 2017 World Junior Circuit Finals in Luxembourg
- FIJ TTA for the 2017 World Cadet Challenge in Suva
- ITA TTA for the 2017 World Junior Championships in Riva del Garda
- KAZ TTA for the 2017 World Tour Grand Finals in Astana
- SWE TTA for the 2018 World Table Tennis Championships

6.2 A plaque in recognition for the World Tour Title Sponsorship support was presented to:

- SEAMASTER

A plaque in recognition for the World Championships Title Sponsorship support was presented to:

- LIEBHERR

Plaques in recognition for World Championships Major Sponsorship support were presented to ²:

- TATA wooden door

Plaques to Equipment Sponsors for their contribution to the World Championships were presented to ³

- DOUBLE HAPPINESS
- BUTTERFLY

- 6.3 A plaque in recognition for his outstanding services to the ITTF was presented to:
- Mr Glenn TEPPER

A plaque in recognition for his great contribution for the ITTF to have a member association in every territory in the world was presented to:

- Mr Dragomir CIOROSLAN

A plaque in recognition for providing opportunities to Latin American players to practice in the Swedish National Training Centre in Koping was presented by LATTU to:

- Mr Soren AHLEN

A gift in recognition for his contribution in the commercial and marketing areas was presented to:

- Mr Anders THUNSTROM

- 6.4 ITTF Management Presentation
The CEO introduced the new management team of the ITTF to all delegates and a video of the last year's achievements was shown.

- 6.5 ITTF Foundation
The President introduced Mr Leandro Olvech, who did a presentation of the proposed ITTF Foundation and, after the presentation, asked the members for their endorsement for the Foundation's establishment.

04-AGM-2018.05.01

The AGM unanimously approved the establishment of the ITTF Foundation.

- 6.6 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games
After reminding everyone of the excellent news of the inclusion of the Mixed Doubles event at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and the two additional events at the 2020 Paralympic Games, the Secretary General introduced Mrs Sachiko Yokota, Tokyo 2020 Table Tennis Sport Manager. She made a presentation on the progress in preparation for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

- 6.7 2019 World Championships
Mr Roland Natran and Mr Gabor Felegy, President and Secretary General of the Hungarian Table Tennis Association, made a presentation update of the World Championships to be held in Budapest in 2019.

² CHINA UNICOM and TISSOT were not present, so those plaque presentations were deferred.

³ GERFLOR was not present, so this plaque presentation was deferred.

7. Membership

The Secretary General informed that from the 226 member associations, only one is suspended, Kuwait. However, it seems the Kuwait government and the IOC are getting closer to a solution, hopefully before the 2019 AGM.

8. Annual Reports from the Executive Committee

The AGM adopted the following reports:

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| 8.1 | President: Thomas Weikert | (document A1) |
| 8.2 | Deputy President: Khalil Al-Mohannadi | (document A2) |
| 8.3 | Executive Vice President (Finance): Petra Sörling | (document A3) |
| 8.4 | Executive Vice-President: Bruce Burton | (document A4) |
| 8.5 | Executive Vice-President: Masahiro Maehara | (document A5) |
| 8.6 | Executive Vice-President: Alaa Meshref | (document A6) |
| 8.7 | Executive Vice-President: James Morris | (document A7) |
| 8.8 | Executive Vice-President: Shi Zhihao | (document A8) |
| 8.9 | Executive Vice-President: Nestor Tenca | (document A9) |

9. Annual Reports from the Continental Federations

The AGM adopted the following reports:

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| 10.1 | Africa | (document B1) |
| 10.2 | Asia | (document B2) |
| 10.3 | Europe | (document B3) |
| 10.4 | Latin America | (document B4) |
| 10.5 | North America | (document B5) |
| 10.6 | Oceania | (document B6) |

10. Annual Reports from the CEO, Deputy CEO and Directors

The AGM adopted the following reports:

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|------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| 10.1 | Chief Executive Officer | (document C1) |
| 10.2 | Deputy Chief Executive Officer | (document C2) |
| 10.3 | Competitions Program | (document C3) |
| 10.4 | Development Program | (document C4) |
| 10.5 | Education and Training Program | (document C5) |
| 10.6 | Marketing Program | (document C6) |
| 10.7 | Operations Program | (document C7) |

11. Annual Reports from Committees and the OPC

The AGM adopted the following reports:

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| 11.1 | Equipment Committee | (document D1) |
| 11.2 | Media Committee | (document D2) |
| 11.3 | Nominations Committee | (document D3) |
| 11.4 | Para Table Tennis Committee | (document D4) |
| 11.5 | Rules Committee | (document D5) |
| 11.6 | Sports Science and Medical Committee | (document D6) |
| 11.7 | Umpires' and Referees' Committee | (document D7) |
| 11.8 | Veterans' Committee | (document D8) |
| 11.9 | Olympic and Paralympic Commission | (document D9) |

12. Finance

The ITTF Executive Vice-President of Finance, Mrs Petra Sorling, made an introduction highlighting that, for 2017, the ITTF was presenting more detailed financial statements based on the key operational areas of the ITTF: marketing, competitions, administration, high performance and development, governance and Olympic/Paralympic related matters.

In order to improve the management and control systems, a risk management workshop was organized in November 2017 and together with the Finance Committee and the new Chief Financial Officer, Mr Michael Brown, a new Financial Policy has been developed. Those are some of the improvements in the area of finances in the last 12 months, including the integration of the finances in Singapore and Lausanne.

Mrs Sorling then mentioned the record levels of revenue and investment, of which details were given in the first financial forum held two days earlier in Halmstad, and then she introduced the CFO for his report.

Mr Michael Brown went through the Financial Statements distributed to all Member Associations, highlighting the historical revenue record in 2017 and pointing out the fact of the lower dependence on the Olympic funding.

Mr Michael Ackermann, ITTF independent auditor from Mazars SA, indicated that in their opinion, the consolidated financial statements for the year 2017 comply with Swiss law and the federation's Articles of Association.

05-AGM-2018.05.01

The AGM unanimously approved the audited financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2017.

The AGM received a forecast budget for 2018-2020. A detailed report was presented. The delegate of Luxembourg, Mr Camile Gonderinger, congratulated Mrs Petra Sorling and her team for the detailed presentation at the financial forum held two days earlier. He encouraged the ITTF to repeat this initiative in the future. Mrs Sorling confirmed that this is the aim of the new ITTF management and encouraged all members to attend the Financial Forum in 2019.

06-AGM-2018.05.01

The AGM unanimously approved the forecasted budget 2018-2020.

13. Ratification of the Work Done by the Board of Directors and Executive Committee:

07-AGM-2018.05.01

The AGM unanimously ratified the work done by the Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

14. Strategic Plan

Mr. James Morris made an introduction on the work done to prepare the Strategic Plan being presented to the AGM.

Mr Morris thanked the ITTF Executive Committee, continental associations, staff, ITTF member associations and other stakeholders for their contributions, highlighting that it is a living and breathing document, which will be constantly updated as necessary.

Mr Dainton, ITTF CEO, gave complementary information regarding the Strategic Plan and explained the reasons why the ITTF partnered with Deloitte, one of the world's leading

consultancy firms, to elaborate this comprehensive plan. Mr Dainton introduced Mr Alan Switzer from Deloitte, who gave additional information from Deloitte's perspective. Finally, Mr Michael Brown went in detail over the different phases of the preparation and the foreseen operational plan to ensure the Strategic Plan is not only adopted, but also is properly implemented and followed-up.

A round of questions and answers, comments and remarks was opened with contributions from different delegates.

Mr Jjagwe Robert, Delegate from Uganda, praised the ITTF for presenting the first ITTF Strategic Plan and suggested that for this plan to work, it would be important to have also strategic plans in each of the continents and regions due to the different development needs in each part of the world. The ITTF CEO answered that the ITTF would be pleased to support the different Continental Associations to make the same exercise the ITTF has completed with the development of this strategic plan.

08-AGM-2017.05.31

The AGM unanimously adopted the Strategic Plan for 2018-2024.

15. Constitution Review

As introduction for the Constitution review process, Mr Weikert introduced Mr Francesco Ricci Bitti, ASOIF President, who made two presentations to the AGM. One on the role ASOIF has in the international sport community, and the other on the governance project led by ASOIF and that has been recognized by the Council of Europe. The membership received with interest Mr Ricci Bitti's presentations and Mr Ricci Bitti encouraged the members to continue the pathway of professionalisation and transparency of the management as well as the continuous pursuit of good governance.

Mr Weikert added that regulations and mechanism of control are important, but that also the integrity and the behaviour of the individuals in the leadership is equally important.

16. Propositions and Resolutions

The AGM considered the following proposition, which required a **2/3 majority (66.67%)** of the votes cast:

1	<p>Proposed by the ITTF Executive Committee</p> <p>Constitution reform ⁴</p> <p><i>Rationale: The 2017 ITTF AGM passed a resolution for the amendment to the ITTF Constitution to make it full compliant to the basic principles of good governance. Special consideration to be given to the establishment of transparent and enhanced dispute resolution mechanisms and adequate procedures to avoid conflicts of interests.</i></p> <p><i>In close cooperation with the International Olympic Committee and the Association of Summer Sports International Federations, and consulting all ITTF associations, the draft presented has been developed to try to align the ITTF constitution with the Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement, as suggested in the recommendation #27 of the 127th IOC Session held in Monaco on 8 and 9 December 2014.</i></p>	Passed Unanimously
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⁴ Attached document

The AGM considered the following proposition, which required a **3/4 majority (75%)** of the votes cast:

<p style="text-align: center;">2</p>	<p>Proposed by Hong Kong Table Tennis Association</p> <p>To add the word “Chinese” to 1.15.2.1:</p> <p>1.15.2.1 The correspondence and proceedings of the ITTF shall be conducted in English or in such languages convenient for appropriate tasks and within the resources of the ITTF as may be determined from time to time by the Board, having particular regard to Arabic, Chinese French, German, Russian and Spanish.</p> <p><i>Rationale: Chinese is one of languages that is understood and spoken by many people around the world. It is also one of the official languages of many international organisations.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Passed <i>(3/4 majority)</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p>Proposed by the Executive Committee and the Athletes Commission</p> <p>To amend 2.4.7:</p> <p>2.4.7 The racket covering shall be used without any physical, chemical or other treatment that may be considered harmful or unhealthy for the persons.</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is impossible to control boosters with the current equipment/procedures, so the actual rule cannot be enforced. 2. The main problem of the harmful substances in the way rubbers were collated to blades was mitigated with the introduction of the VOC controls. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Withdrawn</p>

The AGM considered the following resolutions, which required a **simple majority (50%)** of the votes cast:

<p style="text-align: center;">A</p>	<p>Proposed by the Executive Committee</p> <p>The Rules Committee to propose to the 2019 AGM a review of items 8.4 and 8.5 of the new Constitution (1.21 and 1.22 of the current one) in order to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Analyse if these 2 items should be included on the current Regulations for or if it is necessary to integrate as part of a new regulation (ITTF Disciplinary Regulations) 2) To propose the new wording <p><i>Rationale: Some sections of the Constitution were repeatedly considered as outdated or not suitable as Constitutional Laws. In particular this refers to the “Jurisdiction of Associations” and to “Unaffiliated Players and Organisations”. This should be examined and clarified and a detailed proposal should be made to the AGM 2019.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Passed <i>Unanimously</i></p>
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B	<p>Proposed by the Finnish Table Tennis Association</p> <p>To review, by studying recorded matches, the effects on play of net-cord services.</p> <p><i>Rationale: Over the past few years there have been several proposals – the latest being that from the UAE in 2016 – to remove the provision for a let to be declared when the ball in service touches the net.</i></p> <p><i>The basis of these proposals was that most net-cord services cause no difficulty for the receiver and are returned just so that the server can serve again, but no evidence of this was given and the proposals were, understandably, rejected. However, the relevant information should be available in TV and film recordings.</i></p> <p><i>Therefore, it is now proposed that these be studied to determine whether or not there is justification for a future proposal to a rule change.</i></p> <p><i>It is proposed that the ITTF would make the survey.</i></p>	Defeated
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17. World Championships 2020

17.1 Bid Presentations

Mr Gordon Kaye, delegate of USA, informed the membership that USA Table Tennis decided to withdraw its bid for the 2020 World Championships and also informed the members of the USATT's intent to submit a bid to host the 2021 World Table Tennis Championships in the United States should the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Future Events Working Group in regard to the extended format of the World Championships.

In turn, the delegation of Busan, KOR, made a comprehensive presentation of their bid and answered the questions raised by the delegates.

17.2 Election

The AGM delegates proceeded then to vote on the bid of Busan to host the 2020 World Championships.

09-AGM-2017.05.31

The AGM unanimously agreed by acclamation to allocate the 2020 World Championships to the Korean Table Tennis Association, to be held in the city of Busan.

18. Future World Championships

18.1 Deadline for Bids for 2021 and 2022 World Championships

The members were informed that in order to re-align with the tradition of three years in advance allocation, that also better serves the potential organizers, the ITTF will open the bid process for the 2021 and 2022 World Table Tennis Championships simultaneously, following the conclusion of the 2018 World Championships.

The deadline of 30 September 2018 is set for the declaration of interest to host the events.

19. Next AGM

The next AGM will be held in Budapest, Hungary, in April 2019.

20. Any Other Business:

20.1 Mr Weikert informed the membership about the agreement made with the Swaythling Club International to send a joint letter with the call for applications to host the 2022 World Veteran Championships.

20.2 Mr Shi Zhihao gave a presentation on the new ITTF Museum, inaugurated in Shanghai, China, on 31st March 2018. Mr Shi reported that in one month, the ITTF museum has welcomed 5,000 visitors already, confirming that the move of the ITTF museum from Lausanne to Shanghai was the right decision. Mr Weikert thanked Mr Chuck Hoey, ITTF Museum Curator, for initiating the collection, and Mr Adham Sharara, ITTF Honorary President, for having the idea of moving the museum to China.

20.3 Mr Tony Yue informed the membership that Asia would like to propose Mr Afshin Badiie as the new Asian member of the BoD to fill the vacancy created.

20.4 Mr Georg Silberschmidt reported that following the resolution proposed by the Swiss Table Tennis Association in 2016, the ITTF has done some studies and the Swiss TTA would like to propose to make a deeper analysis until the end of 2018.

21. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned following the count of the Board of Directors voting at 14h45.

Thomas Weikert
President

Date

Raul Calin
Secretary General

Date