

ITTF Annual General Meeting

Zagreb, Croatia, 23rd May 2007, at 09.00 hours

MINUTES

1. Welcome and opening address

The President thanked the Croatian Table Tennis Association for the successful championship that was taking place, despite the difficult circumstances experienced in the past days with the hospitalization of the event's Executive Director. He thanked Mr. Gojko Skrbic for having prepared such a strong team. A gift was presented to the President of the Croatian Table Tennis Association, Mr. Dragutin Surbek and to Mr. Radivoj Hudetz, the Tournament Director, who in turn wished all members a successful AGM.

A minute of silence was observed for colleagues and friends of the table tennis family that had passed away recently, in particular former General Secretary of the ITTF, Mr. Albert Shipley. Mr. Hans Giesecke had attended the funeral on behalf of the ITTF the previous day.

2. Appointment of Chairman of Meeting

Mr. Adham Sharara was appointed Chairman of the meeting.

3. Roll call and verification of proxies

Roll call was taken and proxies verified:

- 124 Associations were present with delegates
- plus 5 proxies for a total number of 129 votes.

4. Appointment of scrutineers

A list of 12 scrutineers, 2 per continent, was received and approved.

5. Minutes of previous General Meeting (Bremen, 27th April 2006)

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held in Bremen, Germany, were signed by the President as a true record of the meeting.

6. Presentations

6.1. Personal Honorary Membership

Mr. Colin Clemett (ENG) unanimously was appointed Personal Honorary Member of the ITTF.

6.2. Merit Awards

Mr. Hans-Jürgen Haase (GER) was awarded the ITTF Merit Award.

6.3. Other presentations

- Ms Jane Pinto of Kenya was appointed to the President's Advisory Council on request by the President.
- Gifts were presented by the ITTF President to the Associations that have hosted the Executive Committee meetings since Bremen 2006: China, Hong Kong and Turkey.

7. Report of Nomination Committee (document A20)

In addition to his written report, Mr. Yuri Posevin, Chairman of the Nomination Committee, made an oral presentation to the AGM about the activities of the Nomination Committee since Bremen and gave statistics and other information about the selection process for Committee members in Zagreb.

8. Membership applications (Comoros and Nauru)

The AGM approved the applications from Comoros and Nauru as new members of the ITTF, bringing the total of ITTF member associations to 204.

A video presentation was made by the bid committee of the 2010 Moscow World Championships with supporting speeches from the President of the Russian Table Tennis Association and the Deputy Mayor of Moscow.

A video presentation and update report were also made by the organisers of the Beijing Olympic Games (438 days from the start of the Olympic table tennis competition).

9. Executive Committee Reports

9.1. President - A. Sharara (document A1)

The report was accepted as presented.

9.2. Deputy President – G. Segun (document A2)

The report was accepted as presented.

9.3. Executive Vice President (Finance) – N. Harwood (document A3)

The report was accepted as presented.

9.4. Executive Vice President - Yang Shuan (document A4)

The report was accepted as presented.

9.5. Executive Vice-President – C. Bergeret (document A5)

The report was accepted as presented.

9.6. Executive Vice President – K. Kimura (document A6)

The report was accepted as presented.

9.7. Executive Vice President - J. Faragó (document A7)

The report was accepted as presented.

10. Continental Vice Presidents' Reports

10.1. Africa (document A8)

The report was accepted as presented.

10.2. Asia (document A9)

The report was accepted as presented.

10.3. Europe (document A10)

The report was accepted as presented.

10.4. North America (document A11)

The report was accepted as presented.

10.5. Latin America (document A12)

The report was accepted as presented.

10.6. Oceania (document A13)

The report was accepted as presented.

11. Executive Director's Report (document A14)

The report was accepted as presented.

12. Reports from Committees and Commissions

12.1. Equipment (document A15)

The report was accepted as presented.

12.2. Media (document A16)

The report was accepted as presented.

12.3. Ranking (document A17)

The report was accepted as presented.

12.4. Rules (document A18)

The report was accepted as presented.

12.5. Sports science (document A19)

The report was accepted as presented.

12.6. Technical (document A21)

The report was accepted as presented.

12.7. Umpires & Referees (document A22)

The report was accepted as presented.

12.8. Athletes' Commission (document A23)

The report was accepted as presented.

12.9. Junior Commission (document A24)

The report was accepted as presented.

12.10. Olympics Commission (document A25)

Mr. Jordi Serra said that a meeting of the Olympic Commission had taken place the day before and that a proposal from the Rules committee regarding the number of matches of a contest of the first stage of the team events had been discussed but not retained. Furthermore, several technical officials for the Beijing Games had been appointed and dates of Olympic qualification events clarified. The World Qualification Tournament was allocated to Budapest (HUN). The report was accepted as presented.

13. Financial Statements

13.1. Audited Financial Statements

The audited financial statements for 2006 were presented by Mr. Jordi Serra with detailed explanations and statistics. The statements were adopted by the AGM.

13.2. Appoint Auditors for 2007

On recommendation from Mr. Neil Harwood, the AGM accepted Ernst & Young to be the auditors for 2007.

13.3. Adjusted budget 2007 and 2008

The AGM accepted the adjusted budgets for 2007 and 2008 as presented.

13.4. 2007 Audit timing

It was reported that the audited financial statements for 2007 would not be ready in time for the WTTC next year in Guangzhou, due to the early date of the championships. Therefore, the non-audited financial statements would be presented to the AGM in Guangzhou and the audited financial statements will be presented in 2009 together with the audited statements for 2008.

14. Propositions and Resolutions (document A28)

Propositions to the AGM 2007 Document A28

2/3 majority required

<p>1</p> <p><i>proposed by the French Table Tennis Federation</i></p>	<p>1.6 ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS</p> <p>To have a collective election of all 6 Vice Presidents following the same procedure. Then the new Executive Committee will allocate to one of the elected Vice-Presidents the finance portfolio. Also the President will nominate one of the elected Vice Presidents as the Deputy President. (to modify 1.5.2.1, 1.5.3.1, 1.6.1, 1.11.1 accordingly)</p> <p><i>Explanation:</i> <i>At present 3 persons of the Executive Committee are elected separately and individually by the AGM: the President, the Deputy President and the Vice President finances.</i> <i>Concerning the President the procedure is a good one because it confers him with a stronger legitimacy.</i> <i>In contrast the other two particular elections are not justified.</i> <i>Concerning the finance position, the new Executive Committee will allocate to one of the elected Vice-Presidents the finance portfolio.</i> <i>Regarding the Deputy President it seems very important that the President himself (herself) nominates the person who will represent him (her)..</i></p>	<p>Proposal to collectively elect the Deputy President: ACCEPTED</p> <p>Proposal to collectively elect the Executive Vice-President (Finance): DEFEATED.</p>
<p>2</p> <p><i>proposed by the Hong Kong Table Tennis Association</i></p>	<p>1.10 COMMITTEES and 1.12 OTHER APPOINTMENTS</p> <p>All Committees & Commissions Meetings shall be opened to all AGM delegates, <i>as far as possible</i>, to attend as observers so that more ITTF Member Associations' representatives can have in-depth understanding in ITTF affairs and opportunities to bring up their positive and professional suggestions.</p>	<p>ACCEPTED with correction as indicated in italics and bold in the original text.</p>

Propositions to the AGM 2007

3/4 majority required

<p>3</p> <p><i>proposed by the Rules Committee</i></p>	<p>2.4 THE RACKET</p> <p>To delete current paragraph 2.4.2</p> <p>“2.4.2 At least 85% of the blade by thickness shall be of natural wood; an adhesive layer within the blade may be reinforced with fibrous material such as carbon fibre, glass fibre or compressed paper, but shall not be thicker than 7.5% of the total thickness or 0.35mm, whichever is the smaller.”</p> <p>and to replace it by</p> <p>“2.4.2 The blade shall be of any material or shall consist of layers of different materials, other than flexible substances comparable to sponge or rubber.”</p> <p>At the same time the wording “any layer within the blade” shall be removed from paragraph 2.4.5:</p> <p>“2.4.5 The blade, any layer within the blade and any layer of covering material or adhesive on a side used for striking the ball shall be continuous and of even thickness.”</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> It was detected that on the market there is a remarkable number of racket blades which do not comply with law 2.4.2 due to the composition and structure of its different layers. Practically the legitimacy of racket blades cannot be checked as far as these specifications of layers are concerned. Moreover it was verified by several other sports (such as badminton, tennis, skiing,...) that the use of new artificial materials or even metal components does not harm the sport but on the contrary could open new fields for suppliers. In the case of table tennis it just has to be made sure that no part of the blade is made of substances similar to sponge or rubber in order to avoid any expansion of the sandwich rubber covering the racket.</p>	<p>WITHDRAWN.</p>
<p>4</p> <p><i>proposed by the Finnish Table Tennis Association</i></p>	<p>2.6 THE SERVICE</p> <p>According to 2.6.5 only the arm has to be removed but not the hand. Surely this is not the intention and therefore this law should be completed to read as follows:</p> <p>“2.6.5 As soon as the ball has been projected, the server’s free arm and hand shall be</p>	<p>ACCEPTED.</p>

	<p>removed from the space between the ball and the net.”</p> <p>However, as law 2.6.4 already clearly states that the ball “shall not be hidden from the receiver by the server or his doubles partner or by anything they wear or carry” we suggest, as a second option, that law 2.6.5 is totally deleted as 2.6.4 covers the need.</p>	
<p>5</p> <p><i>proposed by the German Table Tennis Federation</i></p>	<p>2.8 THE ORDER OF PLAY</p> <p>“2.8.4 When one player who is in a wheelchair due to a physical disability and a non disabled player (not in a wheelchair) are a pair playing doubles, the requirements of 2.8.3 will apply accordingly.”</p> <p><i>This situation is not regulated, but in many countries non-disabled players and players in a wheelchair play together in the same team.</i></p>	<p>WITHDRAWN.</p>

15. Future World Championships

15.1. Update 2008 Guangzhou

A large delegation from Guangzhou made a video presentation and update report on the preparations for the Guangzhou World Championships.

15.2. Update 2009 Yokohama

The delegate from Japan reported the situation on the preparation for the WTTC in Yokohama. It was said that the Organising Committee had been established in February this year and that a delegation from Yokohama was present in Zagreb to study the event. He thanked the Zagreb Organising Committee for their kind hospitality and welcomed all to Yokohama in 2009.

15.3. Bids for 2011 and 2012

It was said that Qatar had shown its intent to bid for the WTTC in 2011. The deadlines for application for 2011: 30th September 2007 and the deadline for 2012: 30th September 2008.

16. Selection of 2010 World Championships

The bid from Moscow, Russia, was accepted as the host of the 2010 WTTC.

17. Election of Committees

All committee members as presented by the Nomination Committee were accepted by the AGM (*see document attached*).

18. Transfer of governance from IPC to ITTF

Mr. Neil Harwood explained that the integration of the IPTTC into the ITTF family had been approved by the ITTF and the Board of governance of the IPTTC. Mr. Oivind Eriksen and Mr. Nico Verspeelt from the IPTTC made a presentation and informed the AGM of the schedule in place for full integration. A new Committee

will be appointed in 2009 and administration tasks will be handed over to ITTF staff in due course.

19. Review of the ITTF Constitution in 2008

The ITTF President said that a request for changes to the Constitution would be sent out to all member associations and persons concerned within a month. All Associations were requested to send in their input so that the Constitution could be updated and approved in 2008.

20. Next AGM – Guangzhou, February 2008

The next Annual General Meeting of the ITTF will take place on 27th February 2008 in Guangzhou, China.

21. Any other business

- The delegate from Iraq made a plea for psychological and moral support for Iraqi table tennis during these very difficult times for the country.
- The delegate from Jamaica asked the ITTF to support politically unstable federations and made a plea for help to establish a table tennis Academy in Jamaica.
- The delegate from Congo Democratic Republic stated that it would be useful if all documents sent out from the ITTF would also be accessible in French.
- Ms Judit Faragó informed that the IOC Board had proposed to introduce Youth Olympics from 2012.
- The President thanked his colleagues and staff for their work in the past year, the EC members took it in turn to say a few words and Mr. George Segun thanked the President for his leadership and a well conducted AGM.

22. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 15h35.

Meeting Chairman, Adham Sharara

ASSOCIATIONS PRESENT AT AGM 2007 (124)

Albania	Algeria	Angola
Argentina	Armenia	Australia
Austria	Azerbaijan	Bahrain
Barbados	Belarus	Belgium
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Botswana	Brazil
Bulgaria	Burkina Faso	Burundi
Cambodia	Canada	Chile
China	Chinese Taipei	Colombia
Congo DR	Costa Rica	Cote d'Ivoire
Croatia	Cuba	Cyprus
Czech	Denmark	Djibouti
Dominican Rep.	Ecuador	Egypt
El Salvador	England	Estonia
Fiji	Finland	France
Germany	Ghana	Greece
Guatemala	Haiti	Honduras
Hong Kong	Hungary	India
Iran IR	Iraq	Ireland
Isle of Man	Israel	Italy
Jamaica	Japan	Jersey
Jordan	Kazakhstan	Kenya
Korea DPR	Korea R	Kosovo
Kuwait	Kyrgyzstan	Latvia
Lebanon	Libya	Liechtenstein
Lithuania	Luxembourg	Macao
Madagascar	Malaysia	Malta
Mauritius	Mexico	Moldova
Monaco	Mongolia	Montenegro
Morocco	Namibia	Nepal
Netherlands	New Caledonia	New Zealand
Nigeria	Norway	Oman
Pakistan	Poland	Portugal
Qatar	Romania	Russia
Saudi Arabia	Scotland	Serbia

Seychelles	Singapore	Slovak Republic
Slovenia	Somalia	South Africa
Spain	Sweden	Switzerland
Tahiti	Thailand	Tunisia
Turkey	Turkmenistan	Uganda
Ukraine	United Arab Emirates	USA
Uzbekistan	Venezuela	Wales
Yemen		

PROXIES (5)

Cook Islands	Laos	San Marino
Togo	Vanuatu	