

ITTF Board of Directors Meeting

Zagreb, Croatia, 25th May 2007, at 09:00 hours

MINUTES

1. Welcome and President's opening address

The President welcomed all BOD members to Zagreb and said he was happy to see that even though China was still dominant, there were many unexpected victories from young players, which showed that the level of play was improving worldwide. He said the TV production locally was very good and this should be a requisite for all WTTC bids.

2. Roll call

Adham Sharara	President
George Segun	Deputy President
Yang Shuan	Executive Vice-President
Judit Faragó	Executive Vice-President
Koji Kimura	Executive Vice-President
Claude Bergeret	Executive Vice-President
Neil Harwood	Executive Vice-President (Finance)
Chérif Hajem	Continental Vice-President (Africa)
Choo Wee Kiang	Continental Vice-President (Asia)
Stefano Bosi	Continental Vice-President (Europe)
Melecio Rivera	Continental Vice-President (Latin America)
Bruce Burton	Continental Vice-President (North America)
Patrick Gillmann	Continental Vice-President (Oceania)

Africa

Ganief Fataar
Berthe Bakhary
Khaled El Salhy
Olabanji Oladapo
Jane Pinto
Philippe Hao Thyn Voon

Asia

Cai Zhenhua
Thana Chaiprasit
Chan Foong Keong
Park Do Cheon
Michel de Chadarevian
Sharokh Shahnazi

Europe

Gérard Velten
Zdenko Kriz
Alexander Murdoch
Reto Bazzi
Goran Vukobratovic
Walter Rönmark
Eberhard Schöler
Polona Cehovin Susin

Latin America

Alaor G. P. Azevedo
Keith Neblett
Carlos Marin

North America

Sheri Pittman

Oceania

Anthony Ho
Graeme Ireland
David Jackson

Committee Chairmen/women

Odd Gustavsén (Equipment)
Arne Madsen (Media)
André Damman (Ranking)
Rudolph Sporrer (Rules)
Jean-François Kahn (Sports Science)
Yuri Posevin (Nomination)
Yao Zhenxu (Technical)
Tony Yue (Junior)
Cindy Leung (Umpires & Referees)
Zoran Primorac (Athletes')
Albert Roojmans (Umpires & Referees)

President's Advisory Council

Ranga Ramanujan
Hans Giesecke
Rufford Harrison
Han Sang Kook
Nils Bergström
Colin Clemett

Invited to attend

Michael Bachtler (Chairman FIT) – for item 7
Bettina Mueller (for special presentation)

In attendance

Jordi Serra	Executive Director
Glenn Tepper	Development Manager
Mikael Andersson	Global Junior Programme Manager
Lilamani de Soysa	Project Manager
Etsuko Enami	Operations Manager
Liu Yi	Interpreter

Absent

Radivoj Hudetz (Europe)
Henri Djombo (Africa)
M. C. Chowhan (Asia)
Juan Carlos Garcia (Latin America)
Dorte Kronsell (Women's Working Group)
Sachiko Yokota-Heyerdahl (Athletes' Commission)

3. Minutes of previous Meetings (Bremen, Germany, 28th April 2006)

The Minutes of the previous BOD meeting held in Bremen were signed by the President as a true record of the meeting.

4. Electing and Co-opting Committee Chairmen/women

Committee chairmen were co-opted as follows. They were requested to inform the ITTF of their deputies as soon as possible:

Equipment	Odd Gustavsen (NOR)
Media	Arne Madsen (DEN)
Nomination	Yuri Posevin (RUS)
Ranking	André Damman (BEL)
Rules	Rudi Sporrer (AUT)
Sports Science	Jean-François Kahn (FRA)
Technical	Yao Zhenxu (CHN)
Umpires & Referees	Albert Rooijmans (NED)
Athletes' Commission	Zoran Primorac (HRV)
Junior Commission	Tony Yue (HKG)

The Nomination Committee was approved as follows:

Yuri Posevin (RUS)	Chairman
Lubi Sirje (EST)	Deputy
Ivam Passos Vinhas (BRA)	Full member
Valerie Murdoch (ENG)	Full member
Chan Foong Keong (MAS)	Full member
Cosmas Maduka (NGR)	Full member
Abdulla Al-Mulla (QAT)	Full member
Ulf Lönnqvist (SWE)	Full member
Dragoslav Apostolovic (SRB)	Special Advisor

Mr. Tony Yue thanked Ms Cindy Leung for the work accomplished under her leadership of the URC.

5. Update Reports**5.1 Calendar working Group (Document A26)**

The report was accepted as presented by Mr. Khaled El-Salhy.

5.2 Glue Working Group

Mr. George Segun reported that several meetings of the Glue Working Group had been held since Bremen and that a reasonable cost control device (Enez) was now available which had been tested in Japan. The report was accepted and the BOD adopted the following recommendations unanimously:

- To adopt for use the Enez equipment as a control device, on the ban date or any date decided by the BOD;
- The RAE equipment, which had been approved worldwide for detecting VOCs and other elements to be used as a back up at Major ITTF events in case of a dispute during major events and to calibrate the Enez device;
- The Equipment Committee to begin training of personnel for the use of both the Enez and the RAE equipment.
- All National Association to be encouraged to purchase Enez equipment for their own use as soon as possible.

5.3 Veterans Working Group

Mr. Chan Foong Keong reported that there was increasing participation in World Veterans Championships and that it was time that the Working Group was transformed into a full-fledged Committee. It was decided that an interim Committee would be approved.

5.4 Women's Working Group (Document A27)

Ms Claude Bergeret made a detailed Progress report to the BOD of the work accomplished by the Women's Working Group since its establishment in 2003 and mentioned the equal prize money as an important achievement. She also pointed out the aims and objectives to be achieved in the future (***see document attached***).

5.5 ITTF/Continental Development Plans

Mr. Glenn Tepper reported that over a 100 development courses had been held worldwide in 2006, including 3 courses allocated through the Goodwill Fund. Equipment assistance had been distributed to over 30 countries. Therefore, in order to absorb the increasing workload the ITTF was in the process of hiring a Coordinator of Development Programmes (CDP). The coaching education system continued to evolve and the coach education CD was available in 3 languages and the level 2 and 3 coaching manuals were being prepared. The development magazine published last year was a very useful tool and would be published every 4 years.

6 World Championships

6.1 World Team Championships Playing System

Mr. Adham Sharara mentioned that proposition No. 12 would deal with the World Team Championships playing system and reminded the assembly of item 4.1.9.3 in the Handbook whereby «the system of play in team and individual events, shall be decided by the Board of Directors, on the recommendation of the Technical Committee and shall be notified to all Associations not later than 30 calendar months (team events) and 6 calendar months (individual events) before the start of the Championships.»

6.2 Number of players per association

Mr. Adham Sharara said that unless a specific decision was taken at the present BOD meeting, the number of players eligible for the doubles would be the same as the previous championships.

7 Propositions and Resolutions (Document A28)

Simple majority required

The President explained to the Board the current Glue issues and the incident that occurred in Japan. He proposed to amend the Japanese TTA's proposition No.6 with a three-step approach, which includes the proposed change by the Executive Committee. Mr. Kimura agreed on behalf of the Japan TTA to accept amending the JTTA's proposition. The President explained that this three-step approach would provide to each BoD member the level of comfort they need and each can decide how far they are willing to go with this issue.

Ms. Claude Bergeret and Mr. Stefano Bosi insisted on the fact that according to the report about the incident in Japan, this was not a confirmed case and should not be considered as such. This case is still only a possibility or probability but not confirmed.

Mr. Michael Bachtler, Chairman of FIT, addressed the BOD and presented the position of the FIT concerning proposal 6 about gluing, as follows:

- In favour of stopping the use of glues containing VCs
- To maintain the decision taken last year to stop the use of VC glues from 01.09.2008
- To inform all National Associations about the necessity for their players to stop using glues and to strictly control the established regulations.

Mr. Zoran Primorac provided the view of the athletes and urged the BoD not to change the date of 1.09.2008 to maintain the change till after the Olympic Games. Ms. Claude Bergeret read a letter prepared by the athletes' commission also asking the BoD to maintain the date of 1.09.2008.

After a detailed discussion involving a large number of BoD members, the President asked the BoD to proceed to the vote:

BoD – Proposition No. 6 amended

Proposition	Glue Ban	ITTF Testing
6.1	<p>Immediate announcement by the ITTF to the table tennis community that Glues containing volatile compounds are NOT to be used by any player effective immediately.</p> <p>Any player using such glues will be doing so at his/her own health risk and the ITTF will not be held responsible of any consequences.</p> <p>All ITTF existing approval of any glue is withdrawn effective immediately.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">PASSED</p>	<p>Implementation of ITTF testing and sanctions for failed tests to commence on 1 January 2008 for Junior events and on 1 September 2008 for all other events.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">PASSED</p>

6.2		<p>As of today, in the case that a proven severe health incident is confirmed (confirmation and severity to be judged by a recognized medical authority endorsed by the ITTF's Sport Science Chairman), ITTF testing would commence immediately at that date (confirmation of the incident) and sanctions applied immediately to failed tests.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">PASSED</p>
6.3		<p>Implementation of ITTF testing and sanctions for failed tests to commence on 1 September 2007 for all events.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DEFEATED</p> <p>12 in favour, 28 against</p>

Ms Sheri Pittman (USA) and Mr. Olabanji Oladapo (NGR) requested that their votes in favour of proposition 6.3 be recorded in the Minutes accordingly.

<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p><i>proposed by the Rules Committee</i></p>	<p><u>3.4.4 INTERVALS</u> To modify current paragraphs 3.4.4.2.4 and 3.4.4.2.5:</p> <p>"3.4.4.2.4 On receiving a valid request for a time-out the umpire shall suspend play and he, while seated, shall either hold up a white card with the hand on the side of the player or pair who requested it till the end of the time-out or shall place a special signboard on the table court of that player or pair.</p> <p>3.4.4.2.5 The white card or the signboard shall be removed and play resumed as soon as the player or pair making the request is ready to continue or at the end of 1 minute, whichever is the sooner."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PASSED.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <p><i>proposed by the Executive Committee</i></p>	<p><u>4.1.5 SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES</u> To delete "to the organisers" on the following point :</p> <p>"4.1.5.1 The intention to enter teams or players shall be notified to the organisers and to</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PASSED.</p>

	the ITTF in a preliminary . . .”	
9 <i>proposed by the Executive Committee</i>	<p><u>4.1.5 SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES</u></p> <p>To delete present paragraph 4.1.5.3</p> <p>4.1.5.3 Two sets of these entry forms shall be returned to the organisers and one set to the Secretariat; . . .</p> <p>And to replace it by</p> <p>“4.1.5.3 One set of these entry forms shall be returned to the Secretariat; . . .</p>	PASSED.
10 <i>proposed by the Executive Committee</i>	<p><u>4.1.6 MODIFICATION OF ENTRIES</u></p> <p>To modify 4.1.6.1:</p> <p>4.1.6.1 Additional or modified entries may be accepted by the organisers, if notified by a representative of the nominating Association, at any time up to the date of day before the draw.</p>	PASSED (with the deletion of the word “Additional”)
11 <i>proposed by the Executive Committee</i>	<p><u>4.1.9 EVENTS</u></p> <p>To modify 4.1.9.7.2:</p> <p>4.1.9.7 Each Association shall be entitled to 5 entries in each singles event, with 1 additional entry in the appropriate event for each place held by its player in the first 10 places of the first issue of the ITTF world ranking list in the year of the Championships, up to 7 players in each individual event.</p> <p>4.1.9.7.1 The host Association may enter up to 7 pairs in the mixed doubles and 7 players in each other individual event.</p> <p>4.1.9.7.2 Different players may be entered in each doubles event. However, the number of players entered in doubles must not exceed the number of players entered in the corresponding singles. In mixed doubles the number of pairs entered must not exceed the number of players nominated in the men’s or women’s singles, whichever is the lower.</p>	PASSED.
12	<u>Draw of the 2nd Stage of the World Team Championships</u>	

<p><i>proposed by the German Table Tennis Federation</i></p>	<p>After the 1st stage, teams placed 1, 2 and 3 in groups A, B, C and D (12 teams) shall continue in a knockout competition (last 16, quarter finals, semi-finals and final) in order to decide the final positions 1 to 12.</p> <p>The winners of each group (4 teams) will move directly into the quarter-finals (they have a Bye in the round of last 16) and will be seeded accordingly (winner of group A seeded 1st, winner of group B seeded 2nd, winners of groups C and D drawn into positions 8 and 9).</p> <p>The teams placed 2nd and 3rd in the groups will be drawn randomly into the remaining positions, with the exception that teams having played against each other in the group stage shall not meet again in the first round of the knock-out competition.</p> <p><i>This would be an improvement of the system used at the World Team Championships in Bremen 2006 where several teams had to play against a team in the first match of the knockout competition, which they already had met in the group stage.</i></p> <p><i>If this system is adopted, it would be possible, of course, that teams from the same group would meet again in one of the quarterfinals, semi-finals or the final.</i></p>	<p>PASSED.</p>																		
<p>13</p> <p><i>proposed by the Junior Commission</i></p>	<p><u>Qualification System for Junior World Championships</u> to be applied from 2010 until 2014 <i>(According to 4.4.3.2 the system of qualification for team and individual events shall be determined by the Board not later than 18 months before the start of the Championships.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To increase the number of teams to 20 (compared to the present 16) = 80 players ➤ To invite additional 16 individual entries from the U-18 junior world ranking (compared to the present 32) = 16 players ➤ To have the same total number of participants: 96 players (80 + 16) for the boy's and girl's category. <p>This would give the following distribution of team quotas:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Europe</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5 teams (at present 4)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 „NEW“ team</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Asia</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5 teams (at present 4)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 „NEW“ team</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Africa</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3 teams (at present 2)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 „NEW“ team</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>North America/Latin America combined</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4 teams (at present 3)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 „NEW“ team</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oceania</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2 teams (at present 1)</td> </tr> </table>	Europe	5 teams (at present 4)	1 „NEW“ team		Asia	5 teams (at present 4)	1 „NEW“ team		Africa	3 teams (at present 2)	1 „NEW“ team		North America/Latin America combined	4 teams (at present 3)	1 „NEW“ team		Oceania	2 teams (at present 1)	<p>PASSED.</p>
Europe	5 teams (at present 4)																			
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	<p>1) 1 „NEW“ team Host association 1 team (as at present)</p> <p>No more spot for ITTF U-18 World Ranking position, but in case a quota is not used, it is given to the next highest ranked team from U-18 World Team Ranking, regardless of the continent.</p>	
<p>14</p> <p><i>proposed by the Sports Science Committee</i></p>	<p><u>ITTF Anti-Doping Rules</u></p> <p><u>5.5.4 Out of Competition Testing</u></p> <p>“5.5.4.1 Out of competition testing may be carried out in any country at any time. ITTF has identified a Registered Testing Pool of those Athletes who are subject to out of competition testing: this pool includes all athletes in the top 200 50 places of the men’s and women’s ITTF world ranking list as well as all athletes qualified for the Olympic games. ITTF may revise its Registered Testing Pool from time to time as appropriate.”</p>	<p>PASSED.</p>
<p>15</p> <p><i>proposed by the USA Table Tennis Association</i></p>	<p><u>Directives for Match Officials at World Title Competitions and ITTF Sanctioned Events</u></p> <p><u>Nomination, Acceptance and Declination of Match Officials</u></p> <p>“All Referee and Umpire nominations must also be accepted – or declined – by the Parent association of the nominee. Age will not be a consideration in the selections of Referees and Umpires.”</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> <i>The ITTF URC has developed a standard of officiating for umpires resulting in the best umpires earning a Blue Badge designation. To specify age limits for certain events is arbitrary and discourages those umpires who have demonstrated the highest standards of officiating. In many associations, because of work, umpires are not available to travel until they have passed the present arbitrary age limit used for some events.</i></p> <p>PASSED.</p>	

Resolutions to the Board of Directors 2007

Simple majority required

<p>A</p> <p><i>proposed by the Executive Committee</i></p>	<p><u>WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS</u></p> <p>To be added in the World Championships' official prospectus and bulletin.</p> <p>To limit the size of the official delegations to</p> <p>2 coaches, 1 doctor, 2 physiotherapists, 1 chief of delegation, the President of the Association, 2 AGM delegates plus the number of players selected by the Association and eligible for the competition.</p> <p>We could add to that umpires, ITTF officials and spouses of the persons included in the delegations.</p> <p>All the others must be listed separately and dealt separately by the Organising Committee especially concerning the visa request.</p>	<p>To be amended as total no. 7, of support staff (medical staff, coaches etc)</p> <p>PASSED.</p>
<p>B</p> <p><i>proposed by the Executive Committee</i></p>	<p><u>WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS</u></p> <p>To be added in the World Championships' directives, prospectus and bulletin.</p> <p>Policy concerning no show at the World Championships:</p> <p>A cancellation deadline must be fixed by the Organising Committee (between 15 and 30 days, depending on the organisers)</p> <p>a) The OC should not cancel the rooms of the persons taken in charge by them except if they receive official information of the associations concerned</p> <p>b) For the others the OC should not cancel the rooms if</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - they have received the full payment in advance or - they have received the confirmation of the date and time of arrival or - they have received an official confirmation of the flight tickets by the company or the travel agency. <p>In case the OC does not receive one of these 3 above confirmations on time they are free to cancel the rooms.</p> <p>If there are still cancellations of rooms with cost to the organisers then the participants should reimburse at least the first 2 days of no shows, not the whole period.</p>	<p>PASSED.</p>

Mr. Cherif Hajem, on behalf of the BOD presented a gift to Ms Bettina Mueller for her help in collecting t-shirts from top players and distributing to developing nations.

8 World Junior Championships

8.1 USA (Palo Alto), 2007

Mr. Mikael Andersson reported that preparations were in progress for the event and difficult issues such as entry visas were being dealt with by the competent authorities. Ms Sheri Pittman said that the USOC had given a grant to fund the Executive Council meeting to be held in Palo Alto.

8.2 New Zealand (Auckland), 2008

It was reported that preparations were being made as scheduled and that a junior circuit event would be held in North Shore, Auckland this year.

8.3 Colombia (Cartagena de Indias), 2009

A video presentation was made by the Organisers of the 2009 Junior World Championships.

8.4 Bids and selection for 2010

Bratislava, Slovakia was selected to be the organisers of the Junior World Championships in 2010.

8.5 Bids for 2011

The bid process was now open for the 2011 event.

9 Global Junior Programme (Junior Circuit, JC Finals and Cadet Challenge)

Mr. Tony Yue made a brief update about the ITTF Global Junior Programme. The World Cadet Challenge and World Junior Circuit Finals will be held in South Africa and the Junior World Championships in Palo Alto (USA) at the end of the year. Over 20 Junior Circuit events were scheduled for 2007. Sponsorship, coaches' programme and matching stars programme were in place and progressing successfully. It was confirmed that glue testing for Junior events would begin 1st January 2008.

10 World Cup Events and ITTF Pro Tour

It was reported that the Men's World Cup 2007 would take place in Barcelona, Spain (12-14 October 2007) and the Women's World Cup, including a fashion contest for clothing manufacturers, would take place in Chengdu, China (28-30 September 2007). The Men's World Cup 2008 had been allocated to Belgium and a request to host the Women's World Cup 2008 had been received from Italy. The first option for the Men's World Cup 2009 was reserved for Germany but no possible organisers (except China) for the Women's event.

Mr. Adham Sharara said that there would be major changes made to the Pro Tour in 2008 and that the Directives would be updated by a special working group to be meet in due time.

The World Team Cup event would be revived and held in Magdeburg, Germany (5-7 October 2007) and Linz, Austria in 2008.

11 ITTF Academy update

Mr. Adham Sharara said that a formal meeting had been held, since the last BOD meeting, with the Peking University where an education programme would be put in place for coaches and juniors. More information to follow in due course.

12 Olympic Games 2008

No new information about Beijing 2008 since the presentation at the AGM. The World Final Qualification Tournament will be organised by the Hungarian Table Tennis Association, in Budapest, 8-11 May 2008.

13 Appointment of Commissions and Working Groups

Working groups were appointed as follows:

Athletes' commission.

Zoran Primorac (HRV)	Chairman
Lyne Desjardins (CAN)	Deputy
Boudjaja Sofian (ALG)	Africa
Koji Matsushita (JPN)	Asia
Nikoleta Stefanova (ITA)	Europe
Viktor Subonj (USA)	North America
Thiago Monteiro (BRA)	Latin America
Neha Aggarwal (IND)	Junior representative
Darius Knight (ENG)	Junior representative

Junior Commission

Tony Yue (HKG)	Chairman
Sheri Pittman (USA)	Deputy
Oluranti Lajide (NGR)	Africa
Rajeev Bodas (IND)	Asia
Zita Pidl (HUN)	Europe
Ivam Passos Vinhas (BRA)	Latin America
Patrick Gillman (NCL)	Oceania

Women's Working Group

Hajera Kajee (RSA)	Chairwoman
Dorte Kronsell (DEN)	Deputy
Mary Musoke (UGA)	Africa
Sachiko Hayerdahl-Yokota (JPN)	Asia
Emilia Gheorghie (USA)	North America
Norma Jara (PAR)	Latin America
Anolyn Lulu (VAN)	Oceania

Veterans interim Committee

Chan Foong Keong (MAS)	Chairman
Jeanny Dom (LUX)	Europe
Galal Ezz (EGY)	Africa
Olga Kahan (USA)	North America
Alaor Azevedo (BRA)	Latin America
Ron Garrett (NZL)	Oceania
Diane Schoeler (GER)	Swaythling Club
Hans Westling (SWE)	Swaythling Club

New Technologies & Research Advisory Board

George Segun (NGR)	Chairman
Zhang Xiaopeng (CHN)	Deputy
Yuri Posevin	Russia
Michael Scott	USA
Odd Gustavsen	Norway
Jean-François Kahn	France
Abel Toriola	Nigeria
Anthony Ho	Fiji
Rodrig Paz	Colombia

Calendar Working Group

Khaled El-Salhy (EGY)	Chairman
Jeanny Dom (LUX)	Europe – Deputy
Oluranti Lajide (NGR)	Africa
Jackie Tay (SIN)	Asia
David Jackson (CAN)	North America
Ron Garrett (NZL)	Oceania
Anders Thunstrom (CAN)	TMS

14 Next meeting (Guangzhou, 2008)

The next meeting of the BOD will be held on 29th February 2008, in Guangzhou, China.

15 Any other business

• Technical leaflets

It was decided that the EC would have the responsibility of approving changes to the Technical Leaflets proposed by the Equipment Committee.

- Mr. Arne Madsen reported that apart from the Swaythiling Club Awards for Best Player and Fair-Play, two other awards would be made, selected by the journalists, for the most impressive players and the biggest surprise.
- Ms Lilamani de Soysa said that a proposal should be made to deal with the case of delegates to the AGM who receive free hospitality but do not attend the meeting.
- Mr. Michel de Chadarevian expressed the wish to have a Friendship Tournament as in Bremen for the delegates and officials, once again in Guangzhou.
- Mr. Adham Sharara said that he was happy with the outcome of the meeting and used the maturity of the BoD provided a positive feeling he had about the spirit in which the work was accomplished within the BOD. He added that the French word »MURE« best describes the BoD at this meeting: M for Maturity within the BOD, U for the increasing Universality of table tennis, R for Respect amongst the members, and E for Equity among the Continents.

16 Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 15h31.

Meeting Chairman, Adham Sharara