

Board of Directors Meeting

(Formerly the Council)

Minutes

of the Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation, held on Wednesday 2nd May 2001 at the Osaka Convention Centre, Japan, at 9 a.m.

1. Welcome and President's Opening Remarks

The President welcomed all new members to the meeting and remarked that it was a historical moment as it was the first session of the BOD. He said that all directives for electing the future BOD would be laid out in the Revised Constitution.

2. Roll Call

Present

Adham Sharara	President
Pierre Albertini	Deputy President
George Segun	Executive Vice-President
Nils Bergström	Executive Vice-President
Han Sang Kook	Executive Vice-President (<i>Finance</i>)

Chérif Hajem	Continental Vice-President (<i>Africa</i>)
M. C. Chowhan	Continental Vice-President (<i>Asia</i>)
Stefano Bosi	Continental Vice-President (<i>Europe</i>)
Miguel Delgado	Continental Vice-President (<i>Latin America</i>)
Sheri Pittman	Continental Vice-President (<i>North America</i>)
Neil Harwood	Continental Vice-President (<i>Oceania</i>)

Continental Representatives

Africa

Berthe Bakary
Khaled El-Salhy
Olabanji Oladapo
Jane Pinto
Ganief Fataar

Asia

Khalil Al-Mohannadi
Rabee Al Turk
Choo Wee Kiang
Koji Kimura
Park Do Cheon
S. H. Shah
Tony Yue
Sharokh Shahnazi

Europe

Reto Bazzi
Judit Faragó
André Damman
Radivoj Hudetz
Yuri Posevin
Alan Ransome
Walter Rönmark
Eberhard Schöler
Rudolf Sporrer

Latin America

Alaor G. P. Azevedo
Melecio Rivera
Norman Carrillo
Jorge Herrera

North America

Bruce Burton

Oceania

Patrick Gillmann
Graeme Ireland
David Jackson

Committee Chairmen

Claude Bergeret (*Athletes' Commission*)
Arne Madsen (*Media*)
Colin Clemett (*Rules*)
Yao Zhenxu (*Technical*)

Odd Gustavsen (*Equipment*)
André Damman (*Ranking*)
Jean-François Kahn (*Sports Science*)

In Attendance

Ranga Ramanujan	President's Advisory Council
Misha Kapetanac	President's Advisory Council
Hans Giesecke	President's Advisory Council
Rufford Harrison	President's Advisory Council
Jordi Serra	Executive Director
Anders Thunström	Marketing Director
Peter Jensen	Media and Communication Manager
Lilamani de Soysa	Administrative and Project Co-ordinator
Etsuko Enami	President's Assistant
Christian Véronèse	Marketing Manager
Glenn Tepper	Development Officer for Oceania
Liu Yi	Interpreter

Apologies for Absence

Yang Shuan (*Executive Vice-President*)
Philippe Hao Thyn Voon (*Africa*)
Jimmy McClure (*PAC*)

Absent

Boniface Hougbonou (*Africa*)
Stephen Blanchard (*Latin America*)

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting (24th April 2001, Osaka, Japan)

The Minutes of the previous meeting will be adopted at the next meeting of the BOD.

3. Appointment of Committee Chairmen

Eight Committee Chairmen were nominated and confirmed as follows:

- **Athletes' Commission:** Claude Bergeret
- **Equipment:** Odd Gustavsen
- **Media:** Arne Madsen
- **Ranking:** André Damman
- **Rules:** Colin Clemett
- **Sports Science:** Jean-François Kahn
- **Standing Orders:** Yuri Posevin
- **Technical:** Yao Zhenxu

The new Umpires and Referees Committee was discussed at length and it was agreed that the appointment of a Chairman for this Committee would be decided at a later date. In the meantime it would function as **the Umpires and Referees Commission** under the tutelage of the Executive Committee. Two secretaries were appointed: Mr. Aksel Beckman of Denmark for the referees' section and Mr. Aly Salam of the USA for the umpires' section.

Mr. Adham Sharara stressed the importance of educating umpires and referees and said that the main tasks of the Commission were to improve the *Presentation, Education and Planning* (PEP) of umpires and referees. It was said that the final report of the Umpires and Referees Task Force would be used as the basic work document for the Commission with the exception of the age limit proposal (to be discussed in 2002), and the financial implications of forming an elite group.

4. Co-option of Chairmen as per Constitution Item 1.7.7

All Committee Chairmen and the Chairwoman of the Athletes' Commission were co-opted to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will be composed of 33 members for the period 2001-2003.

BOD members were appointed ex-officio members for the following Committees:

- **Equipment:** Tony Yue, one more appointment TBD
- **Media:** Jane Pinto and Alan Ransome
- **Ranking:** Graeme Ireland, one more appointment TBD
- **Rules:** S. H. Shah and Walter Rönmark
- **Technical:** David Jackson and Khaled El Salhy

5. Propositions and Resolutions (document B4)

1-BD-01 Proposed by Rules Committee (3.4.4.1)

That play shall be continuous throughout a match, except for authorised intervals.

This would bring together all the regulations concerning continuity and intervals.

ACCEPTED.

2-BD-01 Proposed by Executive Committee and Athletes' Commission (3.4.4.1.1)

That when games are played to 11 points, the interval between games shall be one (1) minute.

ACCEPTED with the amendment that towelling will be after each 6 points.

3-BD-01 Proposed by Finland (3.5.2.5)

That a racket shall not be changed after the start of pre-match practice.

This would prevent a racket being changed between the practice period and the start of a match.

DEFEATED.

4-BD-01 Proposed by Equipment Committee (3.5.4)

That a player shall not use a racket that exudes volatile solvent, the limit of detection to be specified by the Equipment Committee.

This would prevent the use of "fresh glue".

DEFEATED.

5-BD-01 Proposed by Technical Committee (3.6 and 3.7.5)

1. That in the round robin stages of World and Olympic title competitions and Open International Championships the players shall be drawn into groups in accordance with their ranking and each shall be given a position number in the group.

2. That if 1 player is to qualify from a group, the final match shall be between the 1st and 2nd players in the group; if 2 players are to qualify, the final match shall be between the 2nd and 3rd players in the group and so on.

3. That the specified order need not be followed where it is otherwise decided by the ITTF for certain tournaments such as for the purpose of marketing.

The object is to make the final match in a group the one which decides who will qualify.

ACCEPTED with the proviso that in those events where "separation by Association" is required it will be maintained.

6-BD-01 Proposed by England (3.7.1.2)

That in any season, an Association may nominate one Veterans' tournament as its Veterans' Open International Championships.

This would allow an Association to stage 1 junior, 1 senior and 1 veterans' Open International Championship in each season.

ACCEPTED.

7-BD-01 Proposed by Technical Committee (3.7.4)

That in doubles events of Open International Championships, both players shall be from the same Association.

This would extend to Open International Championships (and Pro-Tour tournaments) the principle adopted for World Championships.

DEFEATED.

8-BD-01 Proposed by Technical Committee

1. That, if there are more entries than places in a World Championships event, qualification matches shall be played and that there shall be no byes against seeded players or pairs in the 1st round proper.
2. That qualification matches shall be on a knock-out basis, in groups of 8 players in singles and 4 pairs in doubles, with players drawn into groups in accordance with their ranking and with nominated players from the same Association drawn, as far as possible, into separate groups.
3. That the winners of qualifying groups shall be entered into the positions formerly allocated as byes against seeded players or pairs.

This would define the procedure for the qualification stage of World Championships events.

WITHDRAWN.

9-BD-01 Proposed by Executive Committee (3.8.3)

That in order to adopt the IOC Olympic Eligibility rule for the ITTF, item 3.8.3 should be modified to: "A player shall not represent different Associations within a period of 3 years, **unless both Associations (last Association represented and current Association) agree to reduce or waive the waiting period.**"

DEFEATED.

Resolutions

A Proposed by the Sport Science Committee and the Executive Committee

That the updated ITTF Anti-Doping Code (Handbook Chapter 5), which has been updated according to the new IOC Anti-Doping Code, be adopted and that the procedures as outlined in the corresponding ITTF Technical Leaflet (13) be approved.

ACCEPTED. with the amendment that any player qualified for the Olympic Games should be also subjected to out of competition testing (to be added in point 5.4 of Anti-doping code)

7. Appointment of Panels and Working Groups

- 7.1 The BOD agreed to form a **Junior World Championships Working Group** composed of a Chairman (to be named by the EC), 1 Executive Vice-President, 1 member of staff and 6 Continental representatives.
- 7.2 The BOD agreed to form a **Veterans Working Group** composed of a Chairman, 1 Swaythling Club representative, 1 World Veterans Championships representative and 6 Continental representatives.
- 7.3 It was agreed that the following Working Groups would continue without any changes, chaired by the following persons:

- Calendar group : Judit Faragó
- Research and Development Advisory Board: George Segun
- Merit Awards: Jimmy McClure
- President's Advisory Council: Xu Yinsheng

8. **Next Meeting**

The next BOD meeting will take place before the AGM in Zagreb, Croatia in April 2002.

9. **Any Other Business**

9.1 **WTTC 2005 and beyond**

It was agreed unanimously to separate all future World Championships with individual events in odd years and team events in even years. It was also decided that bids for 2005 would be opened as soon as possible and decided by vote at the 2002 AGM.

9.2 On request by Mr. Radivoj Hudetz the BOD decided that the wording of the new service rule would be further studied with experiments at tournaments before the actual application of the rule in September 2002.

9.3 Mr. Glenn Tepper thanked the BOD for its support and made a detailed presentation about his activities in Oceania and plans for the future as Development Manager of the ITTF.

9.4 Mr. Adham Sharara said that in the future it was necessary to make sure that the Hall of Fame inductees were present to receive their trophies as none of them had turned up for this years ceremony. Mr. George Segun presented Mr. Koji Kimura with the plaque for Mr. Nobuhiko Hasegawa from Japan, and Mr. Pierre Albertini presented the plaques to Mr. Yao Zhenxu for Jiang Jialiang, Guo Yuehua, Zhang Xielin, Liang Geliang and Ms. Cao Yanhua of China.

9.5 Mr. Christian Véronèse made a detailed visual presentation describing the progress of the www.ittfprotour.com website hosted by Sportalasia.

9.6 Ms. Claude Bergeret thanked the ITTF staff for their work in particular Ms. Etsuko Enami for her hard work and her willingness to help at all times.

10. **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:45.

Adham Sharara, Meeting Chairman