

Executive Committee

Minutes

of the Executive Committee Meeting held at the Classic Savoy Hotel, in Funchal, Madeira, **30 October 2004**, at 09h00 hours.

1. President's welcome and opening remarks

The President of the Madeira Table Tennis Association, Mr. Carlos Leon, welcomed the Executive Committee to Madeira and said it was a pleasure and an honour to host the meeting in Funchal. He said that the possibility to host the World Cadet Challenge and the Junior Circuit Final was a "dream come true" for his Association and country. Mr. Adham Sharara thanked him in return for their hospitality and for hosting an ITTF event with such efficiency and professionalism.

Adham Sharara explained that Mr. Yang Shuan could not attend the meeting as VP of BOCOG he was receiving the IOC Coordination Commission in Beijing at the same time.

2. Roll call

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| Adham Sharara | President |
| Pierre Albertini | Deputy President |
| George Segun | Executive Vice-President |
| Nils Bergström | Executive Vice-President |
| Han Sang Kook | Executive Vice-President (Finance) |
| Judit Faragó | Executive Vice-President |

In attendance

| | |
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| Jordi Serra | Executive Director |
| Lilamani de Soysa | Project Manager |
| Glenn Tepper | Development Manager |
| Mikael Andersson | Global Junior Programme Manager |
| Christian Veronese | TMS - Event Marketing Manager |

Invited to attend

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| Tony Yue | Junior Commission |
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Apologies for absence

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| Yang Shuan | Executive Vice-President |
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3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

4. Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting (Athens, 18 August 2004)

The Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 18 August 2004 during the Olympic Games were signed by the President as a true record of the meeting.

4.2 Business arising from the Minutes (not covered by Agenda)

In answer to Mr. Nils Bergström's request for update information regarding item 6.4 Tax issues it was reported that Mr. Adham Sharara and Mr. Jordi Serra would be meeting the Swiss tax authorities in Bern in the near future in

order to clarify the status of the ITTF Headquarters in Renens so that a maximum amount of the taxes paid on renovations could be recouped.

5. Olympic Games update

5.1. Post-Games report

Mr. Jordi Serra said that he was in the process of preparing the final post-Games report, which he would send to the EC for review within the next week.

5.2. ASOIF/IOC debriefing

Mr. Jordi Serra reported that he had attended a meeting with all the other Federations on 10 October and the final report had been distributed. The report had included all remarks and suggestions made at previous ASOIF meetings. He said that the web traffic during the Olympic Games had been exceptionally good, 11 million hits before the Games and 50 million during the Games. Mr. Adham Sharara also said that a Korean newspaper had reported that table tennis had been the best event at the Olympic Games.

6. Olympic Fund

6.1 Net amount and payment schedule

Mr. Jordi Serra announced that the first Olympic payment of USD 2.3 million had arrived in the ITTF bank account the previous day. The 2nd payment was awaited by the end of November and the final 10% will be received after the finalisation of ATHOC accounts around June 2005. He said that the renovations to the Headquarters were now entirely paid off and that the problems arising from the recent cash-flow problems would all be settled.

6.2 Continental allocation

The financial allocation was already agreed upon at the Executive Council meeting in Chile last December with a guaranteed 50% increase over the previous quadrennial but distributed over 5 years (2004-2008 inclusive). If the final amount to the ITTF from the IOC represents more than a 50% increase over the previous quadrennial, then the ITTF would adjust its allocation to the Continental Federations accordingly. However, if the IOC fund were less than a 50% increase, the amount guaranteed to the Continents would be maintained.

7. Marketing Update (TMS)

Mr. Adham Sharara referred to the summary produced by TMS regarding all ITTF marketing income activities. He said TMS was planning to extend its activities to the Junior programme and two sponsorship presentations would be made to two companies in the near future. He reported that the contract with Liebherr had been finalised, covering the Shanghai WTTC and title sponsorship for 2006 and 2007 WTTC. Mr. Sharara also said that both the 2006 and 2007 WTTC organisers had preferred to receive a guaranteed fixed amount from the ITTF/TMS for these two events instead of a percentage sharing.

It was also reported that a new 4-year contract with Volkswagen was just signed by the ITTF President a few days before and VW would continue to sponsor certain ITTF events mainly in Asia. It was also reported that contract had been signed with CCTV and Eurosport covering the WTTC, Men and Women's World Cup and some European events. Mr. Christian Veronese provided more details on all the agreements made by TMS on behalf of the ITTF.

8. World Table Tennis Championships

8.1 Shanghai 2005

8.1.1 Report on coordination Visit, Shanghai, Sept, 10-11.

Mr. Nils Bergström reported that he had been in Shanghai from 8-12 September, visited the Panasonic Open and had studied the facilities

for the 2005 WTTC. He said that there were still a lot of preparations to be done and that the bulletin was not yet ready but should be prepared and sent out soon. He said the Shanghai venue had adequate space but that the inside should be refreshed in preparation for the WTTC. He also said that the main hall would have 10 tables, the sub hall was just across the street and that there would be 3 practice halls. He reported that the 5 star Hua Ting hotel would be the official hotel for all ITTF members and that the players would be in another 4 star hotel. The hotels were situated 10-15 minutes away by bus but the traffic would be specially regulated by the police during the WTTC. Concerning extra hospitality for accompanying guests, Mr. Nils Bergström was requested to propose USD 110 for a double room and 130 for a single room. Breakfast would be served for all in the hotels and lunch and dinner in a tent outside the hall.

Mr. Bergström was requested to present to Mr. Yao Zhenxu with a list of all the pending questions regarding extra hospitality, visas for journalists, etc., to be discussed in Beijing in December. It was said that Mr. Jordi Serra and Ms Lilamani de Soysa would visit the WTTC and AGM facilities in December before the next EC and EC+ meetings to be held in Beijing.

On request of the Women's Working Group it was also said that the Women's Forum would be added to the WTTC directives and a draft document should be presented to the next EC.

The Shanghai WTTC would begin on Friday 29th April and the Finals would take place on Friday 6th May 2005.

8.2 Bremen 2006

Mr. Adham Sharara said there was not much to report except that the Organisers had accepted to receive a fixed amount from the ITTF and not a percentage of the sponsorship income. Mr. Nils Bergström would propose dates for the coordination visits once the contract was signed.

8.3 Zagreb 2007

The above also applies to Zagreb 2007 and the same contract would be used. It was reported that Mr. Ivo-Goran Munivrana had been re-elected Vice President of the Croatian Olympic Committee.

8.4 2008 bids

It was reported that one application had been received by the deadline date for the 2008 WTTC from Guangzhou, China.

8.5 Team WTTC playing system update

Mr. Adham Sharara said that he had received 7 proposals and they had been sent out to the Working Group. Based on the input the EC will present one or two proposals to the Board of Directors meeting in Shanghai. He said that from the answers received the Osaka system (2001 WTTC) seemed to be widely appreciated with some modifications.

9. Working Groups

9.1 Glue Working Group

Mr. George Segun reported that the Glue Working Group had held its first meeting on September 11 in Barcelona at the CAR research centre. The Group had decided that there would be no tolerances of organic solvents. The first thing to be done now was to find a device to detect and control the harmful solvents. He reported that to their surprise the FIT was lobbying for certain tolerances as their own experiments had shown that the toxicity levels were very low. It had been decided that a control device should be

found within the next three months (the costs of those on the market are still high) and that Mr. Federico Lineros who was in charge of glue approvals and Mr. Odd Gustavsen should meet with the FIT in January 2005.

9.2 Calendar Working Group

Ms Judit Faragó reported on the ITTF Calendar and issues related to it. She presented to the Executive Committee her recommendations for the future function of the Calendar Working Group. Her recommendation was accepted unanimously and would be presented to the Board of Directors in Shanghai for implementation (Report and guidelines presented to the EC from Chairwoman attached).

9.3 International Working Group for Women and Sport (IWG)

Ms Lilamani de Soysa explained that she had been co-opted to the IWG, an independent group composed of senior decision makers from sport on all Continents whose mission was to accelerate the process of change in order to redress the imbalances that women face in their participation and involvement in sport. Ms de Soysa had just attended her first IWG meeting held at Smith College Boston, USA. Ms de Soysa said that the IWG hoped she would be responsible for implementing IWG initiatives with other International sports federations and as she was based in Lausanne to be a working link with the IOC and its women's commission.

Mr. Adham Sharara said that the ITTF was proud and supportive of this nomination and that Ms de Soysa would organise her time so that IWG dates should not clash with ITTF dates.

9.4 Proxies Working Group

Mr. Pierre Albertini said that since Athens he had prepared the attached draft questionnaire and sent it out to the Working Group for feedback. With the approval of the Executive Committee and some minor changes, it was decided that the questionnaire would be sent out to all national associations and Board members as soon as possible.

10. Professional Staff update

Mr. Adham Sharara reported that several contracts that had been pending had been extended and that it was urgent to advertise for the position of Media Manager. He said the position would be advertised in three distinct ways: first for the full position of Media Manager similar to the post held by previous Media Manager, second for a consultant who would do the major events and third a young journalist who could be trained by the consultant and who could take over the position in a couple of years.

It was reported that Habiba Besic's contract would be renewed effective 1 January 2005 based on the recommendation of the executive Director.

It was reported that Mr. Chuck Hoey would like to extend his stay with the ITTF as museum curator. He had now been in Lausanne for almost one year and had done a considerable amount of work on the archives (classifying, describing, scanning and putting historical documents on CDs and the website). He was also preparing the travelling exhibit. It was said that there was still at least one years work to do and that Mr. Hoey's services would be retained as a consultant for at least one more year. Mr. Jordi Serra would discuss the contractual details with Mr. Hoey.

It was reported that Mr. Roman Plese would not be hired as a full-time development officer but would work on an event-per-event basis from next year. It was also said that two new positions would be necessary as of next year, for the reception and a museum assistant. It was also said that 2 new interns would be working at the ITTF next year.

11. Committee Structure Review update

Mr. George Segun reported that he had received about 16 responses to his questionnaire and the general feeling was the necessity to restructure the committees and that the current structure and functioning of committees was not adequate. It was felt that the committees should be set up in a way that they reflect more the ITTF's change and development. Another meeting of the Working Group would be held in January and a proposal would be submitted to the EC in Shanghai.

12. Anti-Doping and WADA

12.1 Sanctions review

Mr. Jordi Serra reported that a lawyer had been contacted in Geneva who is already working with several other International Federations. He would prepare a written sanctions review by the end of November. This item was referred to the EC meeting in Beijing.

12.2 Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) Panel.

Mr. Jordi Serra said that according to decision made in Athens the proposal made by a Swiss laboratory had been accepted and they would present a panel of physicians by the following week.

13. Representations and appointments

13.1 Appointment of Technical Delegates (Arab Games 2004, Francophone Games 2005, Olympic Games 2008.)

It was reported that Mr. Mohammed Al-Naji (QAT) and Dr. Mohammed Al Ruwashid (KSA) had been nominated as technical delegates for the Arab Games.

Mr. Chérif Hajem would be the technical delegate and Mr. Berte Bakhary would be the representative of the ITTF for the Francophone Games to be held from 7-17 December 2005 in Niamey, Niger.

It was said that the ITTF accepted the nomination of Mr. Yao Zhenxu as the Competition Manager for the Beijing Games and that Mr. Neil Harwood should be one of the technical delegates together with Mr. Georgios Seliniotakis. The final decision would be made at the Olympic Commission meeting in Beijing, in December.

13.2 World Cup

It was reported that Mr. Chérif Hajem had represented the ITTF at both the Men's and Women's World Cups held in China and Mr. Anders Thunström represented TMS. The Men's World Cup will be held in Belgium next year (2005) and in France in 2006, but no hosts for the Women's World Cup yet.

13.3. Sport for all conference

It was reported that Ms Judit Faragó would be representing the ITTF development programme at the next Sport for all Conference in Rome, Italy, 11-14 November.

14. Ranking point penalties policy

The Ranking point penalties policy drawn up by Mr. André Damman was adopted by the EC to be effective from 1st January 2005. It was decided that a Ranking Penalty Commission should be created to deal with cases that need more action than just losing points. It was decided that representative from the coaches should be included in the commission (See adjusted policy document attached).

15. Bad behaviour policy

This item was referred to the next EC meeting in Beijing where a panel would be appointed. Mr. George Segun was requested to propose a panel for disciplinary action.

16. Manufacturers mark on playing clothing (FIT proposal)

It was explained that the FIT would like the EC to make a proposal to the BOD concerning the space allocated to manufacturers on players' shirts. The EC decided to ask the FIT to make a proposal through a national association.

17. Next Meetings

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled to be held in Beijing, China on 10 December and the Executive Council meeting on 11 December 2004.

18. Any other business

18.1 Withdrawal of Li Jao, Danish Pro Tour. Players no show policy

The EC studied the withdrawal of the Dutch player Ms. Li Jao from the semi-final match of the Danish Open and examined as well the point of view provided by the Netherlands Table Tennis Association. The Executive Committee considered that a player shall not withdraw from any ITTF event except for reasons of illness or injury, and made the following decision:

1. To forfeit the prize money won by Ms. Li Jao for her semi-final result at the Danish Open.
2. To ban Ms. Li Jao from entering any ITTF titled events from 24 October 2004 for a period of six months.
3. To warn the NTTB and the coach, Mr. Peter Boon, that this withdrawal is unacceptable by the ITTF and will be subjected to sanction in case of reiteration.

18.2 ITTF anti harassment policy

Mr. Adham Sharara reported that in order to be inline with other international bodies and to avoid any possible harassment cases without a clear policy, it was decided that an anti-harassment policy would be developed by the Women's Working Group reflecting the international and cultural diversity of the ITTF. Ms Lilamani de Soysa was requested to prepare a draft of the policy for the EC for review in December.

18.3 Sport film festival

It was reported that the ISHRAQ film which had been selected for viewing at the Sport Film Festival in Milan had a good chance of winning the public's choice award as people were voting on masse for it on the website. Mr. Adham Sharara would go for the Awards Gala evening in Milan on 3 November.

It was also reported that a new ITTF film had been made in cooperation with the IOC during the ITTF course held in Afghanistan, which was now ready and would be viewed by the EC in the afternoon. The film features Steve Dainton's work in Afghanistan.

18.4 Athlete representative for WWG

It was reported that the ITTF's Women Working Group (WWG) was still awaiting news from the Swedish Association regarding approval of Asa Svensson to be co-opted as athlete representative for the WWG.

18.5 Policy for more women in committees

It was accepted that a letter should be written to all the national federations encouraging them to nominate more women to committees and commissions at the next elections. The WWG was asked to make a proposal for the next BOD on how to increase the participation of women at the ITTF.

- Mr. Tony Yue gave a detailed update report on junior activities and thanked the EC, the staff and the national associations for their support to the global youth programme. He said that the Junior programme should now be reviewed taking into

consideration the experience and its rapid growth. A priority of the programme was to have better and more players in the circuit and he discussed the future strategies to be used: training camps before the events, involving senior players, creating junior stars through a matching-stars programme, having rules and regulations that don't change easily, etc. He mentioned the absence of a Sri Lankan girl who was unable to attend due to visa problems and said it was a priority to make sure that all selected players are able to participate. He also mentioned the growing costs of the programme as well as the growing need for more media coverage and technical help and the need to raise the prize money. He mentioned some fears about the Junior Circuit Finals to be held in the Dominican Republic where the absence of diplomatic ties with China could create visa problems for Chinese players.

Mr. Tony Yue said that the next Junior World Championships will be held with 16 teams but it was time to think of expansion. He asked the ITTF to look at the Junior Programme as an investment for the future and raised many questions of sponsorship, media, TV broadcasting and how to involve the coaches more in the junior programmes.

Ms Judit Faragó congratulated the Junior Commission for the work accomplished and the significant improvement in the quality of the events over the past year and said that the ITTF would have to make a bigger investment to maintain the momentum.

Mr. Mikael Andersson provided more details on the Global Junior programme in general and on the current event in Funchal in particular. He also updated the EC on the World Junior Championships preparations in Kobe.

- Mr. Glenn Tepper presented a document that he had produced showing all the development programmes held since 1999 and all the equipment distributed by the ITTF to each Continent (by association). He was requested to present the document to the next AGM. This information is available as a database on the ITTF web site.

19. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 14h15.

Adham Sharara, Meeting Chairman

GLUE WORKING GROUP MEETING

Minutes

of the Glue Working Group Meeting held at the CAR (High Level Sports Center), in Sant Cugat, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain, **11 September 2004**, at 10:00 hours

1. Welcome and opening remarks

Mr. Georges Segun, Chairman of the Group welcomed all the members presents to CAR with special thanks to the former Chairman of the Equipment Committee, Mr. Rufford Harrison, who accepted to be member of the Working group and to assist it with his long experience on these issues.

2. Roll call

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| George Segun | Executive Vice-President and Chairman of the Research and Development Advisory Board |
| Rufford Harrison | Member of the President's Advisory Council and former Chairman of the Equipment Committee |
| Odd Gustavsen | Chairman of the Equipment Committee |
| Jean-François Kahn | Chairman of the Sports Science Committee |

In attendance

Jordi Serra Executive Director

Invited to attend

Federico Lineros Member of the Equipment Committee (in charge of glues)

3. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved as presented.

4. Analysis of Doha accepted proposition on gluing.

4.1 History of Toxic Liquid Organic Solvents problem

Mr. Rufford Harrison explained the history of the liquid organic solvents problem tracing back to the 1990's, from the time that the police went to a sports shop in Osaka to confiscate table tennis glues, till the recent attempts to find alternatives to the current glue system, specially with the pressure sensitive adhesives (PSA) and the development of water based glues.

The terms of reference of the Working Group are given by the Japanese proposal approved at the Board of Directors held in Doha:

"It should be prohibited that players use glue containing organic solvents by the following steps:

Step I

1. Prohibit the use of glues containing liquid organic solvents in the playing venue.

2. Prohibit to set up a gluing room in the playing venue
3. Above 1&2 will take effect from 1st September 2006

Step II

1. The use of liquid volatile organic solvents by players should be prohibited
2. Implementation on 1st September 2007"

Mr. Odd Gustavsen pointed out that the prohibition affects the organic solvents on the glues. This is the mandate of the BoD. It is important to avoid discussions on prohibition of toxic or harmful glues due to the fact that the degree of toxicity or harmfulness changes from country to country.

4.2 Names and tolerance of organic elements in currently approved glues

It was agreed that item 4.2 of the agenda be skipped because the BoD had already taken its decision on banning of existing goods that contain organic solvents.

4.3 Health and transportation hazards implications of currently approved glues.

Mr. Federico Lineros presented different documents to the Working Group.

The first one from the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment "Assessment of use of high volatility solvents containing glues for gluing rubber on to table tennis rackets – Example Cyclohexane" concludes that "glues should be banned for use in table tennis unless some measures for reduction of exposure will be taken, which include the use of extractor hood or a commitment to glue outside. Generally, children should not use such glues".

The other ones were the official reports from ILO (International Labour Organization) and IPCS (International Programme on Chemical Safety) for some of the most currently used solvents on table tennis glues: Cyclohexane (highly flammable, vapour/air mixtures are explosive, inhalation provokes dizziness, headache, nausea, exposure on the skin or eyes causes redness) and n-Heptane with similar effects.

The fact that these solvents are highly flammable causes lots of problems for transportation in aircrafts by the players. Only proper and secure packaging of the glues is allowed on the aircrafts.

5. Suggestions on steps toward smooth banning or elimination of existing glues

5.1 Simple laboratory tests

The full Working Group agreed that an easy system to control that a glue has no organic solvents is the key issue to implement any ban. Different possibilities of control should be studied:

- Gas chromatography
- Ecography (High Frequency Ultra sounds)
- Near Infrared Spectroscopy (NIRS)

- Other solutions should be:

PSA

Impermeable film (aluminium) between the sponge/rubber and the wood.
All the rubbers should have the impermeable film attached.

Two problems related to the control system are the probably high cost of the devices and the necessity of a friendly use of the device.

5.2 Approvals

The Working Group decided to recommend to the ITTF Executive Committee that the approvals of new glues be suspended forthwith.

6. Any other business.

Manufacturers of new glues. It was decided that the Chairman of Equipment Committee, Mr. Odd Gustavsen, and Mr. Federico Lineros (expert on glues in the Committee) should meet with FIT President, Mr. Michael Bachtler. It is hoped that a lot of information on the research efforts in glue manufacture will be made available to both during their meeting.

Contact JTTA. Mr. Gustavsen will contact JTTA and ask for assistance taking into consideration that the proposal accepted by the BoD came from Japan.

Contact Mr. Tiefenbacher. Mr. Gustavsen will contact Mr. Konrad Tiefenbacher for future research needed.

Planning schedule. Mr. Segun and Mr. Serra will present a planning schedule to the Working group specifying timelines and action plan.

Contact Dräger. Mr. Lineros will contact Dräger (company providing the current testing system) in order to find out if they can assist regarding the control system of organic solvents.

7 Adjournment

The Meeting was adjourned at 12:45 h.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Meeting between the Glue Working Group and the CAR Research Centre 11 September 2004, at 17:00, in CAR.

At the meeting at 17:00 the 5 ITTF members mentioned earlier were present plus the following representatives of CAR:

Mr. Josep Escoda, Head of Technology

Mr. Xavier Balius, Head of Biomechanics

Mr. Joan Arnau, Table Tennis expert and High School Director

Mr. Paulino Leronés, Glues Expert.

The discussions focused on new glues and device for control as follows:

1. CAR brought an expert to advise on steps toward achieving the objectives. Water-based glues already exist on the market but without the same impact on rubbers like the current glues.

2. One prominent point in the discussion was the need to have performance related glues, which do not contain organic elements.
3. Device for control must be simple and such that will simply tell whether organic elements are present or not.
4. CAR was mandated to look for a manufacturing firm for the device for control. If nothing is available they will try to find out if it is possible to create a device to detect the presence of organic solvents on glues.
5. The research will mainly be focused on:
 - a. Light detector/spectroscopy (NIRS)
 - b. Gas chromatography
 - c. Bioimpedance
6. In passing and referring to good performance necessary for the benefit of our sport CAR's expert mentioned a similar experience with paddle.
7. Timeline of 3 months was given to CAR to report back to the Working Group about their efforts on alternative new glues. CAR felt that the period of 3 months might be too tight, but they were encouraged to work hard on it and report not later than January 2005.

The future of the Calendar Working Group

When I was elected as the ITTF Executive Vice President in May 2003, it was agreed, that I continue for one more year to chair the Calendar Working Group until the ITTF finds someone to take it over.

Now the time has come to make this step and after consultations I would like to propose Mr. Khaled El-Salhy to the Executive Committee as the Chairman. Beside him, the TMS-representative (Anders Thunström) and the ITTF EC-representative (I was asked by the President to be the person), there will be a representative from each Continental Association who is aware of the dates within the continent, to be a correspondent of the Calendar Working Group to provide input and dates of events on the continent.

The aim of this change is to give representation to each continent, to involve them deeper in the shaping of the calendar now that we have a wide range of competitions with the relatively new Junior events and with more Pro Tour/Open events all around the world.

At the same time with the structure change, I would like to submit to the EC a proposal for the guidelines of the Working Group for further consideration.

STRUCTURE

Decisions made by

- Chairman (Khaled El-Salhy)
- TMS representative (Anders Thunström)
- EC representative (Judit Faragó)

Input and dates are provided by

- 6 continental correspondent members
 - Africa: Oluranti Lajide (NGR)
 - Asia: Khalid Al-Mawlawi (QAT)
 - Europe: Jeanny Dom (LUX)
 - Latin America: TBD
 - North America: Doru Gheorghe (USA)
 - Oceania: Phillip Males (AUS)

PRINCIPLES

1. to have the 4-year cycle for the suggested dates and period of the World TT Championships (senior and junior)

Senior: second half of March in the Olympic year, second half of May in other years

Junior: first half of December

2. to have a confirmed and detailed calendar of the ITTF events at least 24 months ahead

Points 1., 2. would give the continents a chance of better planning.

3. to keep the clear priority of events following the order of:

a/ Olympic Games

b/ Continental Championships (with the desire to have them within the same period)

c/ ITTF World title events (Pro Tour, World Cup, World Junior Circuit, World Cadet Challenge)

d/ Multisport and special events (Commonwealth Games, Arabic Games, Universiade, etc.)

e/ Continental events (Europe TOP 12, Asian Cup, etc.)

f/ Other events

4. to integrate the events of the Global Junior Program
Close cooperation is needed with the Junior Commission

5. trying to keep the dates steady but being flexible with the changes when necessary
With fixing the dates more ahead, we surely can't avoid changes which are usually made for a good reason.

6. trying to introduce overlapping dates for different events
With such a great number of tournaments, we surely can't avoid several events being held on the same date, which shall be considered as an alternative, choice rather than clashes. This is a reality for the future that events of different categories (Major and Regular Pro Tours, senior and junior, etc.) will be allocated to the same dates and to have more events at the same date in different parts of the world.

PUBLICATION

- to use the ITTF website as the first and only source of input on dates and updates (responsibility of Etsuko Enami)
- to get the information from the website for the ITTF News and TT Illustrated (responsibility of Lila de Soysa and Ian Marshall)

Budapest, November 2004

Judit Faragó
Executive Vice-President

RANKING PENALTY POLICY FOR NO-SHOWS

PRINCIPLE : When a player does not show up for a competition or for a match he will be penalized by the deduction from his rating of the points he should have lost if he should have lost the match in which he did not show up.

This would however affect only the first not played match scheduled for that player.

Furthermore it has to be noticed that his opponent in the not played match will get no points for this match.

I. Extent of the ranking penalty policy which will be applied from 1st January 2005 on

- ITTF Pro Tour Tournaments
- World Junior Circuit
- World and Olympic Title Competitions

II. Ranking Penalty Commission

A Ranking Penalty Commission will be in charge of this policy and especially deal with cases under III-2-a and IV-g. This Commission is composed of:

- Executive Director (Co-ordinator)
- Chairman Rules Committee
- Chairman Ranking Committee
- Competition Manager on duty at the event
- 2nd Competition Manager
- Chairman Athletes Commission
- Representative of coaches

III. No-Show at a competition

| | PENALTY |
|---|----------------|
| A player nominated for a competition | NO |
| 1. informs the organizers <u>before the draw</u> is made that he will not come | NO* |
| 2. informs the organizers <u>after the draw</u> is made that he will not come a) for circumstances beyond his will (flight cancelled, no visa, late cancellation of financial governmental support, serious and verifiable injury or illness [broken leg, appendicitis,...], decease in close family,....) | NO* |
| b) for other reasons | YES |
| 3. does not show up without any information to the organizers | YES |

The Competition Manager on duty at a competition will report to the Ranking Penalty Commission all cases covered by this regulation which occurred during this competition with for each of them the issue he proposes. The Commission will then confirm or invalidate this issue.

IV. A player withdraws during a competition

| | |
|--|-----|
| a) at a certain stage of an event a player still in the run does not play his next match in the same event | YES |
| b) a player cannot start a match because his racket has been found illegal and he has no spare one | YES |
| c) a player does not show for a match because of political reasons (See ITTF Handbook 4.1.7) | YES |
| d) a player entered in more than one event does not show up for a match in one or more of these events (for instance, U-21) | YES |
| e) a player does not show up for an event because he has been disqualified for the remainder of a competition for his misbehaviour in another event | YES |
| f) a player does not show up for a match because he has to leave before the end of the competition (Because of commitments to his club or his Association, or because the time of his return flight or for any other reason) | YES |
| g) a player who has to give up in a match because of injury or illness does not show up for the next match he/she has to play | NO* |

V. A pair does not show up for a match in a doubles event

For such cases it seems difficult when not impossible to apply a ranking penalty because

- perhaps only one of the players forming a pair is guilty and it would be unfair to penalize his partner as well;
- furthermore it seems not logical to penalize a player on his individual ranking points for his behaviour in a doubles event.

VI. Team events

When it concerns only part of the team the regulations above would also apply (For instance when a player cannot play a singles of the team match because his racket was found illegal and he had no other suitable one, or when he was disqualified by the referee for the rest of the match). When the whole team does not show up or is not allowed to play by the referee because of the colour of their shirts or for any other reason there will be no individual penalty applied to the players.

VII. Bonus Points

The Bonus Points earned by a penalized player will not be affected, except that a player who does not play any match in an event cannot get Bonus Points for this event.

VIII. Appeals

When a player or his Association do not agree with a decision taken by the Ranking Penalty Commission an appeal may be made to the Executive Committee whose decision will be final.