

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (1)

MINUTES

Of the Executive Committee Meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation held on 14th August 2008 at 15:00 hrs at Peking University, Beijing, China.

1. **President's welcome and opening remarks**

The President welcomed all to the Olympic Games and explained that some urgent decisions need to be made while in Beijing, therefore, two short meetings would be held to deal with some urgent matters. The minutes of the previous meeting as well as the minutes for the meetings in Beijing would be approved at the next EC meeting.

The President gave special thanks to Mr. Yang Shuan not only for his presence at the EC meeting knowing how busy he is during these days, but also for the excellent facilities prepared for the Olympics and the excellent table tennis venue. It was noted that Bill Gates (Microsoft) had arrived in the hall to watch some matches.

2. **Roll call**

Adham Sharara	President
George Segun	Deputy President
Claude Bergeret	Executive Vice-President
Judit Faragó	Executive Vice-President
Neil Harwood	Executive Vice-President (Finance)
Koji Kimura	Executive Vice-President
Yang Shuan	Executive Vice-President

In attendance

Jordi Serra	Executive Director
Glenn Tepper	Director of Development Programmes
Odd Gustavsen	Equipment Committee Chairman

3. **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as presented.

4. **Olympic Fund Allocation (see Annex)**

The 2009-2012 Olympic Fund allocation and the detailed breakdown for each Continent to be presented to the next Continental and Development Council was proposed and unanimously accepted. Mr. Adham Sharara, Mr. Neil Harwood, Mr. Jordi Serra and Mr. Glenn Tepper would meet with the presidents of the Continental Federations to present the Continental Olympic Fund allocation, as well as the ITTF-Continental plan funding for the next 4 years.

The Development Director will also meet with each Continental President present in Beijing to discuss the 2009-2012 Continental Development Plan and the agreements of understanding.

5. **Racket testing**

5.1 Testing Plan as of 1 September 2008

It was decided to conduct Racket testing at all ITTF Pro Tour events, the Women World Cup and the men World Cup for the period September to end of December 2008. The Racket testing plan for Junior events would continue as previously planned. It was also decided that at all testing both the e-nez and RAE detection systems would be used.

Mr. George Segun, Mr. Odd Gustavsen and Mr. Jordi Serra will meet to prepare a detailed plan from 1st September to 31st December 2008 regarding the Racket tests to be conducted at ITTF events, the representatives of the EC, the racket controllers and advisers to be present in each event.

5.2 Reports from CAR (Barcelona) and Japan

Mr. Adham Sharara reported on the letter received from the Japan TT Manufacturers Association, which included some testing performed in Japan. It was decided that the ITTF testing protocol would continue as it is and that the report from Japan although informative does not have any impact on the ITTF's current rules.

A comprehensive report was received from the Research centre in Barcelona (CAR), which confirmed the high reliability of the e-nez device in detecting VOCs. This confirms the ITTF's confidence in e-nez. Many circumstances may lead a racket to be tested negative, which is mainly due to the cumulative effect of VOCs present. A racket may be just under the limit, also a booster may have very low VOCs present, however when the booster is "added" to the racket, the total amount of VOCs may exceed the acceptable tolerance and therefore the racket does not pass the test.

The report from the Luxembourg lab of a test commissioned by the ITTF's EC to determine the composition of boosters and tuners (additives) reveals that these products contain very harmful components and even some contain poison. The ITTF must be extremely strict in implementing its rules regarding the prohibition of any additives as was decided by the ITTF's AGM in Guangzhou.

It was decided that the Luxembourg report would be sent to ALL associations and ALL manufacturers but without identifying the brand name of each product tested. The identification of a brand would be made to the brand owner only.

Mr. Odd Gustavsen was asked to write to all manufacturers regarding the decisions taken by the EC and also provide to them the reports received.

5.3 VOC Tolerance

The Equipment Committee recommended to the ITTF EC that a tolerance level of 1 ppm per item in a racket would be announced as the maximum tolerance accepted. This means a total of 5 ppm per racket (1 ppm per sponge, 1 ppm per rubber and 1 ppm per blade, taking into consideration 2 sheets of sponge and 2 sheets of rubber, for a total of 5 ppm).

Mr. Odd Gustavsen also reported on tests made on rubbers and rackets purchased on the market. 200 tests were conducted and the items were measured when purchased, a day later, 2 days later and 3 days later. It was found that after 72 hours of airing all equipment was VOC free and passed the e-nez test.

5.4 Glue Working Group

The Glue Working Group held a meeting in Barcelona, CAR Sant Cugat, on 28 June 2008. During this meeting the different models of Mini-RAE were examined and it was determined that MiniRAE Lite would be used as a back-up of the e-nez devices in international events. The GWG also reviewed the experiences of test carried out during junior events and studied the new generation of e-nez devices. At that meeting Mr. Lineros presented a first analysis of several boosters. Finally, Mr. Gustavson presented 2 prototypes of new devices to be used to control the thickness of rackets.

Mr. George Segun advised the EC that the Glue Working group had its last meeting and that this Group's work is now finished and is disbanded. The

remaining and continuing work as of now is transferred to the Equipment Committee.

5.5 RAE back-up

It was decided that the RAE testing device would be used at ALL events at which Racket testing will take place. The new mini RAE devices (Mini-RAE Lite) will be bought by the ITTF in order to supply to all the ITTF Competition Managers attending ITTF events to be used as a back-up of the e-nez devices.

6. Pro Tour Modifications Proposal (see Annex)

The ITTF President informed that the selection process of the Competition Director has been successfully concluded and Mrs. Judit Faragó has been selected as a new Competition Director of the ITTF starting 1st. September 2008.

Mrs. Faragó thanked all the colleagues of the EC and the ITTF President for entrusting her such a responsibility and expressed her wish to continue in the future with the same degree of collaboration she had up to now with all the EC members.

Mrs. Judit Farago presented to the EC a list of modifications and changes affecting the 2009 Pro Tour programme. She explained the reason for each change. The list of changes was all accepted fully by the EC.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the EC will be held on 23 August 2008 at 15:00 hrs at Park Plaza Hotel, Beijing, China.

8. Any other business

The difficulty in obtaining accreditations was explained by the President. It was reported that Bill Gates was still at the ITTF stands watching the matches.

9. Adjournment

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 16:45 hrs.

Meeting Chairman, Adham Sharara