

Olympic Commission

Minutes

Of the Olympic Commission Meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation, held on 22nd May 2007 at the Westin Hotel, Zagreb, Croatia, at 12h30.

1. President's welcome and opening remarks

The President welcomed the Olympic Commission members to the meeting.

2. Roll call

Adham Sharara	President
George Segun	Deputy President
Yang Shuan	Executive Vice-President
Koji Kimura	Executive Vice-President
Judit Faragó	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 E. Rivera	Continental Vice-President (Latin America)
Bruce Burton	Continental Vice-President (North America)
Patrick Gillmann	Continental Vice-President (Oceania)
Yao Zhenxu	Competition Manager Beijing 2008

Invited to attend

Rudolph Sporrer	Chairman Rules Committee (for item 5.2.b)
Georgios Seliniotakis	Technical Delegate Beijing 2008

In attendance

Jordi Serra	Executive Director
Lilamani de Soysa	Project Manager
Hu Yixiong	BOCOG
Xu Jun	BOCOG

Apologies for absence

Sachiko Yokota	Technical Delegate Beijing 2008
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3. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved as presented.

4. Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting (Hong Kong, 18.12.2006)

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Olympic Commission held in Hong Kong were signed by the President as a true record of the meeting.

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

No other business than that covered by the Agenda.

5. Beijing 2008

5.1 Visit to Beijing during Sport Accord update (NH)

Mr. Neil Harwood reported that several fruitful meetings had been held in Beijing with officials from BOCOG as well as preliminary meetings with the London Organising Committee.

5.2 Specific rules for Beijing 2008

5.2.a. Update of Qualification System Rules. (IOC)

Mr. Jordi Serra distributed an updated document with changes that affected the qualification timelines and the date of the final ranking to be used for the selection of teams for the Olympic Games.

5.2.b. Proposal from Rules Committee Chairman.

Changes on specific regulations:

The Chairman of the Rules Committee proposed that all 5 matches of a contest of the team events should be played in the group stage in order to avoid unfair advantage to the team that wins the toss in case of a tie within the group. The Competition Manager of BOCOG did not favour this intention on the grounds that a contest would be prolonged once a team had won 3 matches unnecessarily and that interest would be lost for the matches that followed.

After a detailed discussion the proposal was defeated by a majority vote and it was decided to maintain the system as it is without change, but that the Beijing Team System would be studied again after the Games to ensure that the best possible system be proposed for London 2012.

5.3 International Technical Officials: Referees, Medical Officer, Racket control and Jury

The following officials for the Beijing Olympic Games were appointed:

Referee - Ms Zhang Hua (CHN)

3 Deputy Referees – Mike Skinner (CAN), Chan Cheong-Ki (HKG) and Steve Welch (ENG).

Medical officer – Dr. Jean-François Kahn

The Jury composed of the Continental Vice-Presidents, except for Asia which would be represented by Mr. M. C. Chowhan.

The Chairman of the Jury - Mr. Han Sang Kook.

The Umpires and 3 Racket control personnel to be appointed in December.

6. Olympic Qualification Tournaments

6.1 Continental Qualification events

Mr. Jordi Serra said that all dates for the Continental Qualification Tournaments had been confirmed but requested Asia to inform the ITTF of any regional events that would qualify players for the Olympics.

6.2. World Final Qualification Tournament

The World Final Qualification Tournament will be held in Budapest, Hungary from 8 to 11 May 2008.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Olympic Commission will take place in Palo Alto, USA on 10th December 2007 during the World Junior Championships.

8. Any other business: No other business.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 13h30.