

OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC COMMISSION

Meeting Room Roxette, Tylosand Hotel, Halmstad, Sweden

Wednesday, 2nd May 2018, 9:00 h

Minutes

1. President's Welcome and Opening Remarks

The ITTF President welcomed all the participants and hoped everyone was enjoying the WTTC so far as well as all the previous meetings.

2. Roll Call

Thomas Weikert	President
Khalil Al-Mohannadi	Deputy President
Petra Sörling	Executive Vice-President
Bruce Burton	Executive Vice-President
Masahiro Maehara	Executive Vice-President
Alaa Meshref	Executive Vice-President
James Morris	Executive Vice-President
Nestor Tenca	Executive Vice-President
Shi Zhihao	Executive Vice-President
Ryu Seung Min	IOC Member
Khaled El-Salhy	Continental President (Africa)
Tony Yue	Continental Representative (Asia)
Ronald Kramer	Continental President (Europe)
Juan Vila	Continental President (Latin America)
Tony Kiesenhofer	Continental Representative (North America)
Antony Ho	Continental President (Oceania)
Sachiko Yokota	Tokyo 2020 Representative

In Attendance

Zoran Primorac	Athletes Commission Representative
Steve Dainton	CEO
Raul Calin	Secretary General
Didier Leroy	Head of World Championships
Graeme Ireland	Technical Commissioner
Arne Madsen	Media Committee Chairman
Iulia Necula	Executive Assistant & Athletes' Manager
Claudia Vatheuer	Assistant to the President

3. Approval of the Agenda

The OPC approved the Agenda.

4. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

4.1 Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting (15th December 2017)

1-OPC-20180502

The OPC unanimously adopted the 2017-12-10 OPC minutes as factual.

4.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

No business has arisen from the previous Minutes.

5. Youth Olympic Games update

5.1 Qualification Events

The Secretary General informed that the qualification process is close to an end with only 3 qualifications events left from the Road to Buenos Aires series:

- Road to Buenos Aires series in Asia, to be held in Thailand
- Road to Buenos Aires series in North America, to be held in Canada
- Road to Buenos Aires series in Oceania, to be held in Cook Islands

These events will decide 6 boys and 6 girls to qualify for the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires.

The Secretary General wanted to thank Table Tennis Canada and the IOC for the support and extra work necessary to ensure that players from North Korea will participate at the qualification event in Canada.

Mr Calin also informed the OPC members that the final places for Buenos Aires will be allocated through the 1st July 2018 World Ranking.

5.2 Athlete Role Models

As previously announced in Astana, during the selection process for the Role Model Athletes, there were targeted English and Spanish speaking candidates with the ability to actively communicate with the players.

The two persons confirmed by the IOC as Role Models Athletes are Mr Ryu Seung Min from Korea Republic and Ms Galia Dvorak from Spain.

They were also confirmed for the Pre-YOG Training Camp in Shanghai.

5.3 Pre-YOG Training Camp

Mr Shi Zhihao informed that except small issues with the schedule, everything is well planned and organized, and confirmed Zhang Yining as a coach of the Pre-YOG Training Camp.

Mr Tony Yue stated that during the same period of time the Asian Junior Championships will be held in Myanmar and informed that both qualified players from Hong Kong might not be able to attend the Training camp due to the clash of dates.

6. Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games

6.1 Progress Report

Mr Thomas Weikert informed that himself, Mr Steve Dainton and Mr Raul Calin visited Tokyo in the middle of January, and as seen from the Presentation done by the Tokyo 2020 Representative, Ms Sachiko Yokota, during the AGM, the preparations are running smoothly.

The Secretary General explained that the ITTF has made a proposition to Tokyo 2020 to have thirteen (13) days of competition over a period of fourteen (14) days. This would allow to have a day of rest for the athletes between the individual and the team events. The recommended system has been discussed with the Olympic Broadcasting Services (OBS) and it will avoid as much as possible clashes with Badminton, as well as playing the finals during the so called "Super Saturday," the 8th day in the Olympic Program, when all Athletics finals are being held.

Mr Raul Calin noted that following the inspection, Tokyo 2020 expressed their positive support to the mentioned days format, but it was not yet officially confirmed. He stated that it is urgent to receive the confirmation, and the ITTF will need to wait the feedback from Tokyo 2020 before proceeding with the next steps.

Mr Calin also mentioned that during the ASOIF Annual Meeting held in Bangkok, many International Federations were complaining regarding the timelines and decision making process with Tokyo 2020.

In regard to the site inspection scheduled in August 2018, Ms Sachiko Yokota reported that no visits are permitted inside the Venue from July 2018 to December 2019 due to the renovation of the venue.

Ms Yokota will convey the message to the LOC to try to find a solution on this matter.

In regard to the hotel for the ITTF family, and based on the Rio 2016 experience, the ITTF recommends that the hotel for the ITTF Family should be located close to the Table Tennis venue, and agreed that an official letter should be sent to the LOC with this intention.

On a question from Mr Tony Yue about the equipment, the OPC was reminded that the equipment was already decided some time ago:

Tables: San-Ei
Balls: Double Happiness
Floor: Tinsue

Mr Zoran Primorac informed that, from the players perspective, the colour of the table represents no issue, but they did make some remarks about the scoring boards.

The OPC, after deliberations, recommends the Equipment Committee to allow Sanei to use for Tokyo 2020 the same color as in Rio 2016.

The test event dates were ratified. The Team World Cup will be held in Tokyo from 6th until 10th November 2019.

Mr. Tony Yue asked about the Jury nomination process. The Secretary General informed that the entire Technical Officials nomination process will be outlined in the second half of the year and will be presented at the next OPC meeting.

Following the professionalization of the umpire structure, the EVP in charge of the URC, Mr Bruce Burton, strongly recommended that the nomination process for umpires and referees for the Olympic and Paralympic Games should follow the same criteria as for World Title events, by selecting valuable, experienced and well-prepared officials.

6.2 Olympic Team Format Brief Report

Mr Tony Kiesenhofer submitted a written report on the outcome of the test made at the Team World Cup in London with the proposed new Olympic Team Format.

Mr Kiesenhofer as well as Mr Arne Madsen gave a positive feedback, highlighting the marketing benefits and improvements over the previous system.

Generally, the new proposed Olympic Team format is satisfactory as it causes the best players of each team to play against each other.

The Olympic and Paralympic Commission decided to follow the recommendation made by the working group to use the proposed playing format during the next Olympic Games.

Zoran Primorac mentioned that the team playing in the position ABC would have a slight advantage over the one playing position XYZ, but he acknowledged that it's hard to find a perfect system.

02-OPC-02052018

The OPC decided to follow the recommendation made by the working group and use the proposed playing system during the next Olympic Games.

6.3 Qualification System (detailed version)

The Secretary General reported that the detailed version of the Qualification System is actually the same as approved by the OPC in January, but in the format used by the IOC, as they want unified documentation of the qualification documents across the different Olympic sports and disciplines, to make it easier for the NOC's to understand.

Given the complexity of the document, the group decided that a more simplified version should be created and published for the ITTF stakeholders after the required validation by the IOC.

The Secretary General stated that this was the first time that the OPC has decided the system and that the technical commissioner feedback has been taken into consideration. He thanked everyone for their input and involvement.

03-OPC-02052018

The OPC decided to ratify the Olympic Qualification System as approved by the IOC.

7. Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games

7.1 Qualification System

Mr Raul Calin reminded the members of the OPC that in the last meeting in Astana it was decided to delay the consideration on the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games Qualification System until the new ITTF Classification Code would be ratified by the IPC, and further discussions with the IPC would be held.

It was reported that there was a general feeling that the initially proposed system was not solving the problem in terms of the representation at the Paralympic Games, particularly in the cases of Oceania and Africa.

Additionally, a consideration on the current active international players was made in the different classes, to ensure having a proper representation of the current levels of activity in the World Para Table Tennis.

The proposed system tries to ensure fair representation from all continents and it was circulated in advance, to ensure all continents would be able to discuss with their technical people.

04-OPC-02052018

The OPC decided to approve the proposed Qualification System to Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

8. Any Other business

No other business.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10h30.

Thomas Weikert
President

Date

Raul Calin
Secretary General

Date