



International Table Tennis Federation

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 1

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive Committee held at in the Rom Room, Renaissance Marriott Hotel, Dortmund, Germany, on Saturday 24 March 2012 at 14h04.

- 1. President's welcome and opening remarks:** the Executive Committee noted that, should any problems be experienced during the World Championships, they would be swiftly resolved. This could be a record entry and may reflect the impact of the Development Program although in future, the newer associations would need to participate in the continental championships as a pre-requisite to the World Championships.

Mr M Vatheuer, General Secretary of the Deutsche Tischtennis Bund, welcomed the Executive Committee to Germany and wished everyone a pleasant stay in Bochum and Dortmund. The Organising Committee had processed 4 000 accreditations including: 850 players and 400 coaches/physiotherapists from 145 associations; 370 volunteers; 300 media and there would be live TV transmission around the world. All delegations had received visas except Sierra Leone. There would be more than 60 large LED screens in the venue. 120 men's and 92 women's teams had been included in the draw.

The Executive Committee noted that Mr Yang Shu'an was not able to attend due to work commitments, but that his resignation would come into effect at the AGM. The Executive Committee noted that Mr Yang's contribution to the ITTF would be acknowledged in an appropriate way at a future event instead of at the AGM.

2. Roll call:

Adham Sharara	President
Khalil Al-Mohannadi	Executive Vice-President
Chérif Hajem	Executive Vice-President
Neil Harwood	Executive Vice-President (Finance)
Koji Kimura	Executive Vice-President
Melecio Rivera	Executive Vice-President
Petra Sörling	Executive Vice-President
Thomas Weikert	Executive Vice-President
Vladimir Samsonov	Athlete Representative – ex officio

In attendance

Judit Faragó	CEO and Executive Director (Competitions)
Glenn Tepper	Deputy CEO and Executive Director (Development)
Jordi Serra	Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games)
Mikael Andersson	Executive Director (Education and Training)

Alison Burchell Deputy Executive Director (Operations)
Anders Thunstrom Managing Director, TMS

Apologies

Yang Shu'an Deputy President

3. Approval of the agenda: the Executive Committee approved the agenda as presented with the addition of item 13.1 Deputy President.

4. Minutes

- 4.1 Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 January 2012: the minutes were confirmed, approved and signed.
- 4.2 There was no further business arising from the minutes, which was not otherwise covered by the agenda.
- 4.3 Report on tasks from the last EC meetings: the list would be updated and circulated with timeframes added.

5. Competitions: the Executive Committee noted that:

- 5.1 2012 World Championships update:
 - For the first time in the World Team Championships, a 5th division had been added in the men's event.
 - The new visa system had been successfully implemented.
 - The airport pick up system and timelines had worked well.
 - The LED screens had been provided by Tissot, a new ITTF sponsor.
 - The catering facility was a long distance from the main venue.
 - The jury meeting would be held later in the evening.
 - The payment of entry fees and extra accommodation by associations was proceeding well.
 - The museum had been set up in the exhibition hall.
- 5.2 2012 World Junior Championships host:
 - The SATTB had been promised funding, which had not materialised and, as a result, the event would not be held in Cape Town in 2012.
 - The ATTF wished to keep the event in Africa and had proposed Morocco as a replacement.
 - Colombia, India, Puerto Rico and China were other possibilities.
 - As there was no finality, the Board of Directors would be requested to authorise the Executive Committee to award the 2012 World Junior Championships to the most appropriate host.
 - The title sponsor, Volkswagen, would also be consulted on the venue for the World Junior Championships.
- 5.3 2013 World Championships update:
 - A delegation from the FFTT was present.
 - A presentation would be done at the AGM.
 - The qualification matches would be played in INSEP and in Paris-Bercy.
- 5.4 World Tour 2012:
 - A new sponsor, GAC, had signed up as Title Sponsor for the new World Tour.
 - All events to date had been successful with large entries.
 - The qualification and preparation process for the Olympic Games may negatively affect participation numbers for events near those dates.
 - The Grand Finals would be played in Hangzhou, China.
- 5.5 Illegal On-Line Betting and additional rules:

- ASOIF had presented a new set of rules after the deadline for proposals, which could be a new chapter in the Handbook for 2013 if approved by the Board of Directors.
- ASOIF was strongly encouraging the IFs to approve and implement the rules before the 2012 Olympic Games.
- The Board of Directors could be requested to empower the Executive Committee to apply the rules until they were approved at its next meeting.

The Executive Committee congratulated the DTTB on the detailed preparations for the World Championships, which would be reflected in a high quality event.

The Executive Committee agreed to propose to the Board of Directors that, under any other business, the "illegal betting" item be added.

6. Athletes' Commission report: the Executive Committee noted that:

- A questionnaire on the organisation of tournaments had been distributed during 3 World Tour events to generate feedback to assist in improving the standard of tournaments.
- Discussions had been held with the URC about the Athletes' Commission proposals for racket control.
- A meeting would be held with the President during the World Championships to discuss the ranking system.

7. Racket Control: the Executive Committee noted that:

7.1 Racket Control Detection Group report:

- Some devices were available to measure VOC but no device had been found to measure thickness of racket coverings without removing the racket cover.
- Having a reflective sheet to measure the thickness could be added by the manufacturers in the future.
- A process to approve the entire racket covering should be considered i.e. to include the sponge.
- In order to approve the full racket (blade, sponge and racket covering), a new system was necessary using a specialised laboratory.
- A self-adhesive racket covering could be investigated where the players removed and replaced the racket covering themselves after demonstrating the various properties of the blade, sponge and racket covering.
- A new adjusted testing system would be necessary for the new poly ball.
- Thus a specification document to commission equipment should be developed to meet the ITTF's needs.
- The testing equipment developed should be reliable and used world-wide and be applicable to players in developed and developing countries alike.
- Appointing in-house technical experts could assist the ITTF taking the initiative.

7.2 Appeal from William Henzell:

- There had been a wide variation in the results of the VOC tests at the Oceania Olympic qualification event until the filters were changed on the mini-RAE machines.

- The rackets tested before the filters were changed were re-tested and were in the normal range.
- As a result, the player had requested that his racket failure not be counted when his racket failed after the filters had been changed.

1-EC-03-2012

The Executive Committee commissioned the Racket Detection Group to investigate, in order of priority, the feasibility of:

- a) The addition by the manufacturer of a reflective sheet to the blade, blade approval and any consequential rule changes required.
- b) The use of self-adhesive racket coverings which could be removed and re-attached by the player.
- c) Commissioning specific equipment to measure thickness without removing the racket covering.

2-EC-03-2012

The Executive Committee, after a detailed discussion, resolved to reject the appeal from Mr Henzell and asked the CEO to inform him of the outcome.

8. AGM: the Executive Committee noted that:

8.1 Membership application:

- The Republic of Chad had submitted its application although it had not been submitted within the required period.

8.2 Philippines dispute:

- There were 2 groups operating in Philippines; one recognised by the Government and another by the NOC.
- The NOC had suspended the president of the association and recognised others to run the association.
- As a result, the delegates of the association had changed at short notice as the ITTF recognised the association recognised by the NOC.

3-EC-03-2012

The Executive Committee resolved to request the AGM to waive the required period for membership application and consider the application of the Chad Table Tennis Association.

9. BoD vacancies and election: the Executive Committee noted that Juan Villa, Antonio Gomez and Leonel Aguilar would be proposed to replace Carlos Marín, Jairo Paez and Aubrey Edwards as members of the Board of Directors.

10. London Olympic Games: the Executive Committee noted that:

10.1 Equipment update: all issues had been resolved.

10.2 Athletes to test the venue: the nominations from the Athletes' Commission would be requested.

10.3 Award for participation in the Olympic and Paralympic Games:

- In 2008, awards had been given to players who had participated in 6 Olympic Games.
- Now there were 3 players who would be participating in their 7th Olympic Games in addition to at least one player for their 6th Olympic Games.

10.4 Other pending issues:

- The draw would be done on 25 July 2012.
- The book launch had been set for 26 July 2012 and copies would be available for the VIP lounge.
- Opening ceremony would be on 27 July 2012.

11. Finance: the Executive Committee noted that:

11.1 Congo DR debt and Chile TTA debts:

- Congo DR had indicated the payment would be made in Dortmund.
- Chile had accumulated debt as a result of prize money not paid for Pro/World Tour events.

11.2 Audits in Lausanne and Ottawa:

- Once the audit was complete, the invoice to Chile for its outstanding debt would be transferred to Lausanne.
- The audit would be done in Lausanne at the end of April and in Ottawa at the beginning of May 2012.

12. Dates of immediate meetings: the Executive Committee noted that its next meetings would be:

AGM: 27 March 2012 (09h00)
OPC: 28 March 2012 (09h00)
BoD: 29 March 2012 (09h00)
EC-2: 1 April 2012 (09h00)

13. Any other business

13.1 Deputy President: as a result of Mr Yang's resignation, the Executive Committee noted that in terms of the constitution, the longest serving Executive Committee member would ordinarily become the Deputy President. Currently there were two Executive Vice-Presidents with the same length of service. The Executive Committee noted that Mr Koji Kimura graciously declined and congratulated Mr Neil Harwood on taking up the position of Deputy President effective 27 March 2012 until the AGM to be held in May 2013.

14. Adjournment: there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 17h12.

Adham Sharara
President

Date