

Farewell to Alison Burchell – and hopefully also a see you later.....

Alison Burchell ended her job at ITTF by the end of December 2014. Alison had a lot of different assignments but PTT has always been the main field.

Alison began her career with table tennis back in 1999 where she helped at the Panamor SA Open in May 1999 as an umpire in Johannesburg.

After that she helped organise the first Africa-Middle East Championships in Johannesburg in 1999 as chair of the LOC

After Margit Beckmann stood down as secretary general of the ITTC (International Table Tennis Committee for the disabled), Alison was invited to take on this role and attended the first meeting in July 2001

Together with Øivind Eriksen, Nico Verspeelt and David Grevemberg from the IPC, she met the ITTF in March 2007 to discuss the integration process which was then agreed and took place on 1 July 2007.

Alison continued as secretary general until 2009 where she joined the staff of the ITTF and Alison really raised the level of PTT in her professional way.

I got to know Alison late 2011 as we began to speak about if I should be involved in PTT. For me it has been a great pleasure working with Alison. She is deeply dedicated to what she believes in, very competent and sometimes also uncompromising but always to the benefit of PTT players.

For a person coming from able body table tennis into the world of Para Table Tennis you need both mentoring and tuition and this I got from Alison that I am very grateful for.

The PTT division has just had a meeting in Copenhagen and all the members of the division expressed their thanks to Alison and hopefully a see you later.

We hope for the best in the future for Alison.

On behalf of the PTT division

Dorte Darfelt