



INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

Para Table Tennis Division 1/2016

Minutes of a meeting of the Para Table Tennis Division held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 04 March 2016 from 10:00 am.

MEMBERS:

Dorte Darfelt (Chairperson), Nico Verspeelt (Vice Chairperson), Juraj Stefak (Medical Officer), Gorazd Vecko (Tournament Officer), Barbara Talbot, Georgios Seliniotakis, John Ng, Lotfi El Haidag (Continental Representatives)

BY INVITATION:

Alena Kánová, Trevor Hirth, Petra Sörling, Leandro Olvech, Raul Calin, Emese Barsai

COOPTED ADVISOR:

Oivind Eriksen

APOLOGIES:

Alejandra Gabaglio, Gael Marziou

WELCOME, REGISTER AND APOLOGIES

The Chairperson welcomed everybody.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: the minutes of the meeting held on 10 and 11 October 2015 were confirmed and signed.

2. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: the Division asked to note the Chairperson's report including:

Succession planning: there was a brief overview of the personal succession planning for the members of the PTT Division. Dr Stefak informed the members, that Dr Sheng confirmed his readiness to replace Dr Stefak but if possible, only after 2 years (2018). Mr Gorazd mentioned Mr Ales Letonja and one more person of his potential substitutes. The tournament officer position should be ideally an ITTF professional staff in the future. The ideal scenario would be such in which none of the members has not a conflict of interest existing or perceived, but for the moment, this is not possible.

2.1. The PTT Division will have to set up a new structure and begin a more professional way within in a framework of an extra meeting.

2.2. *Contact with continental federations:* during the Championships the Chairperson planned to keep in touch with the leader of Continental Presidents and National teams leader but there was no time for it. The Division invited all regional leaders for Regional Championships in 2015 and would plan it again in 2017.

2.3. *Working group for Tokyo 2020:* The Division would have to think about to set up a new competition structure which could be more efficient. There were lots of problem in Costa Rica during the last qualification event in 2015, the Division would have to think about also to change the system, team event being possibly replaced by doubles.

In order to avoid the same situation in the future, the application of the Penalty Policy (similar to other ITTF events) could be a good incentive, if somebody does not play a match.

The Division asked:

- Georgios to ask Gael and Dimitrios to find the best solution how and how many points should be deducted from the players who did not play at the event, starting only after Rio 2016 Paralympic Games.



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- 3. SLOVENIA LOC:** made a presentation for hosting the 2017 Regional Championships with a Power Point and a video. The event is planned to organize in Lasko, venue for many PTT events in the past. New lift and air-conditioning will be arranged soon.

As the Division had to give a chance for the other applicants also, the Division asked:

- Emese to collect the presentation from both applicants, after the Division members will be able to vote and make a decision on the host for the 2017 European Championships.

- 4. VICE-CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:** the Division asked to note the Vice-Chairperson's report including:

3.1 *Dr Wu Program:* it was working very well. The program was ready for the Paralympic Games. The contract would be finished at the end of 2016, so the Division needs to renew the contract.

Referees should know the program also.

3.2 *Review of the Directives 2016 (Proposal sent out):* the Directives together with the Annexes had to be published until the end of March.

The Division needed to correct the Directives together soon, before start of first tournament for the future. Main items, changes which will be prepared as:

- WC presentation must have been kept as soon it is possible,
- WTC capitation fees
- WT events: 2 bronze medals will be given. One coach per team will get medal.
- F40: only one site inspection needed.
- Delete: Junior and Veteran application fee from Directives.

The Division asked:

- Emese to note that in November the Division would have to know in advance who would have responsibility for the Directives and the Annexure in 2017.
- Nico, Georgios and Gorazd to finish the draft of the new Directives.

- 5. SECRETARIAT'S REPORT:** the Division is asked to note the Secretariat's report including:

5.1. *Player biographies:* the deadline, when we would send all documents to the IPC, will be in July.

5.2. *Capitation fee 2014:* the French organizers have not transferred us the capitation fee yet from 2014. They paid once only 1000€ instead of 6300 €. We sent a new letter them, but also copied to the French Association that time. If they were still going to not pay, we had to contact directly the French Association.

5.3. *Capitation fee 2015:* there are only two countries that have not paid yet: Argentina and Costa Rica. We have been in contact them, so probably they would transfer the amount soon. (Argentina have paid since.)

5.4. *Online entry system (Georgios):* based on the last communication from Monday, all information has been filled in on the web, except the events. The Sport 80 company members promised that they would send the first draft of screen view during that week. So the Division would be able to produce before the next event.

5.5. *IPC Grant:* On September 30th we sent the middle report to the IPC and until the end of March we will have to send the last and closing report, together with the new application for 2016. ITTF was one of the highest supported Sport Federations.

5.6. *Agitos Foundation 2016:* coaching manual could be included under this program once it would be ready by Christian Lillieroos (PTT 1 level).

5.7. Summary of income/expenses 2015:



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	PLANNED BUDGET	REALISED
INCOME		
Agitos		668
IPC	15000	36827,9
Sanction fee	3900	5005,19
Capitation FA20, FA40	50000	126169
Interest	0	3316,5
Classification	3000	800
Other income		7867,58
Total	71900	180654,17

	PLANNED BUDGET	REALISED
EXPENDITURE		
Meetings		
PTTD	34000	7851,11
Other	6000	
2014 expenditures		2276
Chairperson	3600	528
Vice-Chairperson	1000	288,44
Development Program	30000	23757,12
Medical officer	4000	48,92
Classification		6513,62
Selection Officer	8000	9192,6
Tournaments	1000	4593,72
Webmaster	5000	1951,53
referee education	5000	532,62
Parapan Games	0	3407
Athlete representative	1000	
Players committee	5500	3760,32
Regions		
Africa	5000	591,08
Americas	5000	
Asia	5000	666,58
Europe	5000	
Oceania	5000	
Media/TV	5000	
Other expenses	3500	991
Gifts	2000	
Dr. Wu	2000	2089
Mr Dimitrios Katis	0	4000
IPC	0	610
Online entry system	25000	
Class 11 provision	5000	
Racket testing provision	5000	
Bank charges		72,32
Total	176600	73720,98



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The allocation (5000€) for the Continents was available every year, but most of the times never used. The Development program is ready to suggest projects, but there need to be a better communication. Due to the lack of activity with these allocations, it was proposed to reduce the allocation to 2,000 EUR and put together the other 15,000 EUR for projects led by the Development Program, in agreement with the continental representatives.

The Division asked:

- the continental representatives to find out what kind of activities they would like to coordinate together with Mr Olvech in 2016. (deadline will be 15 March 2016)

6. DEVELOPMENT REPORT: the Division is asked to note the report from the Development Program including:

- 6.1. *Development agreements:* the Development program presents a proposal every 4 years to the ITTF Executive Committee, and they allocated the funding based on the signed agreement with each continent. The next cycle would be from 2017 to 2020 and the EC increased the total amount with 20% (1.2 million in total). A part of the total amount was fixed for specific projects (for example for the Women activities, continents).
- 6.2. *PTT Activities:* they will be allocated for 2016 after discussion with the continental representatives.
- 6.3. *TT for All:* the date: 06 of April in 2016. The website is available in 8 languages.
- 6.4. *Dream-building:* social project
- 6.5. *UNOSPD initiative:* 6 times per year they organized conferences for youth leaders from development counties. They gave special attention for disabilities. The Division could nominate a young leader under 25, who could be able to representative the disability part.
- 6.6. *Nepal project:* this project was started one year and a half ago. An earthquake destroyed the training center, so it was rebuilt supported by this program. This was the biggest project ever in the history of ITTF Development.

The Division asked:

- the Continental Representatives that for the next year they would send their recommendations/ideas earlier, beginning of the year or the year before.
- Emese to check the possibility to share the ITTF articles on PTT website regarding to the PTT happenings.

7. PLAYERS' COMMITTEE REPORT: the Division is asked to note the Players' Committee report including:

- 7.1 *Actions taken since last meeting:* according to the last PTT Division meeting Ela Madejska elected as special advisor for class 11. Terms of Reference are being under preparation, and the main target is to be valid for 4 years period, not only 2 years. About the Ukrainian player, Yuriy Shchepanskiy had a successful operation and went back for training.
- 7.2 *Women's Class 1 to be separate for 2018:* need to find new class 1 players, because they have to play every time in higher class. Until the number of players will increase there is not possibility to separate this class. Depending how many class 1 players enter for an event, it could be separated or combined.
- 7.3 *Limit Entry for class 11 tournaments to increase numbers per tournaments:* in 2015 a lot of class 11 events were cancelled because lack of the participants. The Division may try to give possibility only 3 or 4 events per year (especially where the classification will be held) for organizing class 11, which situation assumes that more players will take part in one event. The Division will help to find out the best solution for this problem.



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7.4 *Doubles competition for 2017 World Team Championships*: it is not possible to combine with the team World Championships.

7.5 *Concerns about Africa & Middle Eastern development and improvement*: it is possible to support these development countries, but they have to be ready to organize an event, and be able to apply. Everybody could be a host. PTT Division supported Moroccan TTF last year in organization.

7.6 *Ranking and rating system not working 100%*: (see point 9)

7.7 *Walkovers and Suspicious Results* – it was not possible to solve this problem at that moment. The best direction could be in the future, if somebody withdraws from a match, then he/she could not play again during this event or to apply a penalty in the ranking.

7.8 *Sponsors for Prize money*: it is always on the agenda, the Division try to do the best, but it still has been very difficult to “sell” the Para TT events.

7.9 *Ongoing issues*:

a) Live streaming and scoring in FA40 tournaments: they should be broadcasted through the ITTF YouTube channels. The Division had to fix in the contracts/Directives that everybody would have to use the ITTF channels.

b) Classification system: some changes expected after the senior classification meeting in Bratislava. They have been waiting for the players’ suggestions by e-mail.

c) Tokyo 2020 working group: has not been working very well (2.3).

d) Marketing the sponsorships: to contact with Matt Pound to check the further possibilities.

e) The short services in class 1 and 2: there were not enough competition held from the last meeting, so the Players’ Committee have not make decision in this matter yet.

f) Online questionnaire: it will be published soon again on PTT website.

8. ATHLETES’ REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: the Division is asked to note the Athlete’s Representative report including:

8.1 *Athletes Committee news*: they had a meeting also with the Chairman Vladimir Samsonov. During the meeting, the main points were the racket control, and the balls quality. The players tried to help and give feedback to the manufacturers.

Also was speaking about the Ranking Policy because it is actually again just closing the qualification period for Olympic and Paralympic Games. The PTT should share the experiences with the World Ranking Committee also.

The able-bodied players want mixed doubles held also in Tokyo. The next meeting will be held in July.

8.2 *Players’ Committee ToR*: to be valid for 4 years.

9. TOURNAMENT OFFICER’S REPORT: The Division asked to note the Tournament Officer’s report including:

9.1 *Site inspection in Indonesia*: he went to Indonesia just before that meeting. He had meeting with the local NPC, and he thought it could be a good area of our development program also. The first Indonesian Open will be organized in July probably.

9.2 *review of the tournament structure of the junior event*:

The first U23 event was held in Lignano, and being successful. It was a 2 days’ competition and starting with only singles. If the Division would like to accept organizing team events also, the organizers should provide one more day for it, which could be then too expensive for the participants.

There is a separated ranking list published for this category. The next step could be the Regional Youth Championships once if there will be enough number of young participants in every Continent. The Division will have to update the Directives with the



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rules of U23 events. Furthermore, it is very important to promote much better kind of new tournament.

9.3 *review of the tournament structure of World Team WC*: there were 2 candidates Slovakia and Romania for 2017. Regardless of where this first event will be held, it is not possible to estimate how many teams will attend. The tournament officer's proposal was a 3 days' competition period as:

1. day: arrival
2. day: training and meetings
- 3-5. days: competition
6. day: departure

The first stage can be organized with 4 teams per group, then the first 2 teams are going to the "winner group", and the last 2 teams to the "losers group" and this stage can be played in KO system or in groups also. The Players' Committee will discuss if there is interest to organize a second stage also for the losers of the first stage or not. Maximum only 3 players can be entered per team and minimum 5 teams needed per class. The new system will be used (the same will be used during the team events at the Paralympic Games). One team per class per country can be entered.

9.4 *2016 Calendar*: in this year there will be held 6 FA20 tournaments and 3 of FA40 but still there are opened questions. The organizers canceled the Greek Open and the Jordan Open because of the insufficient entries. There are fewer events with less participants due to the fact of being a Paralympic year.

9.5 *Regional Championships*:

The deadline was 31st December 2015, it is not possible to consider new applications. The candidates are:

AFRICA:

- Kenya - accepted

ASIA:

- Jordan
- China

AMERICA:

- Brazil - accepted, Georgios will go for a site inspection soon.
- Chile

EUROPE: (the decision postponed until the Para TT Division will request formally the presentations to both applicants)

- Spain
- Slovenia

OCEANIA:

- Fiji – accepted, but more information needed regarding the accommodation options.

Contracts for the major events must include 20.000 USD assurance for the Regional Championships and 25.000 USD for every kind of World Championships in case if somebody withdraws from the organization of the event.

9.6 *TD seminars in 2016*: no planned in 2016. But the seminar held in Vejle in 2015 was very useful. There were 10 young candidates and PTT table tennis family members have been involved, who probably could be very good TDs in the future.

9.7 *Application system for the following World Championships*: The Division will open the BID with the deadline of 30th September. The deadline of the 2019 PTT Team World Championships will be 31st January 2017.

9.8 *Team events: back to the earlier used ranking system* – if the Division wanted to be fair, must go back and had to use again the earlier system, but needed to review how many points lower players will lose in case playing in higher classes.

9.9 *For all PTT events*: after the second entry, the draw must have done one week before the event and even the player who was in the draw will not attend at the end,



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will lose points It is not easy because the classifications, but the Division must revise the Ranking Default Policy.

9.10 Based on the request some countries, may request special prices for those participants who attend only a team or singles event of a PTT Open. But it depends on the organizers, not the competence of PTT Division.

The Division asked:

- The Tournament Officer to manage completing the Directives with the U23 ranking point system.
- Ian Marshall to promote the U23 events strongly.
- The Players' Committee to discuss if it is interesting to organizers a second stage also for the losers of the 1st stage or not.
- The Tournament Officer to ask Alison Burchell regarding the accommodation opportunity in Fiji.
- The ITTF Headquarters to add the contract for the WC 25.000 USD assurance and 20.000 USD assurance for Regional Championships, in case the organizer withdraw to organize the event.
- Emese to prepare the BID document for 2018 PTT World Championships with the deadline of 30th September 2016, and the deadline of the 2019 PTT Team World Championships will be 31st January 2017.
- Katis, Georgios, Alena and Gorazd will make decision after the meeting the best solution how the Division can restore the earlier used ranking system (how many points will lose a lower player in case playing in higher classes).
- Katis to revise and update the Ranking Default Policy.

10. CLASSIFICATION OFFICER'S REPORT: the Division is asked to note the Classification Officer's report including:

10.1 *General overview on the year 2015:* Vejle was held at the end of 2015, so nothing to add.

10.2 *Implementation of points from the last EC meeting in Vejle:* the most important implementation from Vejle was to review the introduction of classification ID players and review the protests in FA 40 tournaments.

10.3 *Classification seminars, evaluation of the year 2015 and 2016 planning:*

2015: there was held a top seminar during the last meeting in Vejle with 20 participants from 17 countries. From that time further Level A seminar were held in 3 more Regions (Asian Regional Championships, Copa Chile, Lignano Masters). Also was held a seminar during the Oceania Regional Championships, so only Africa was the exception.

2016: not necessary to held seminars because last year were held almost everywhere, and this is the Paralympic year. Of course it is possible to organize seminars anywhere, but the organizers have to indicate on time. The Division had requests on organizing classification during the Indonesia and USA Open.

9.4 *ID classifications and re-evaluations in 2015 and planning for 2016:* there were organized almost every Regional Championships plus during the Spanish Open in 2015. In Pattaya (FA40 event) the Division is planning to hold an ID classification and re-evaluation with 3 classifiers (2 people are not enough for going huge number of classification).

9.5 *Classification agenda on webpage:* all the results of classification after the tournament have been published without the diagnosis. The classification master list should have been updated.

9.6 *Evaluation of classification documents in paper and electronic form and storing of the documents:* the process became better in 2015. Thanks to Emiko Kajihara who helped a lot during the last few years to scan and saved the documents. After Paralympic Games we might be able to setup a new online database.



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9.7 *Senior classifiers meeting in 2016 Bratislava meeting*: it will be held on Bratislava, during the PTT Slovakian Open with Dr. Sheng Wu, Nico Verspeelt, Dr. Juraj Stefak, Heinz Zwerina and Sandra Sonn from Africa, where a lot of important points will be on the agenda.

9.8 *Classification manual*: it will be prepared soon.

9.9 *Lecturers for the Development Program*: there was organized one in India, and just now there are 2 and "half" classifiers who can translate and teach in more languages.

11. SELECTION OFFICER'S REPORT: the division is asked to note the Selection Officer's report including:

11.1. *Selection issues for the 2016 Paralympic Games*: closed. We have received every documents and the deadline was 15th February 2016.

11.2. *Selection committee meeting*: we had to organize the meeting before the WC in Kuala Lumpur. The countries will need to confirm their players, and if the Division received the endorsement on behalf of the IPC, then the final list will be closed and published on April.

11.3. *Situation Tournament credit 2018 WC*:

The Tournament Credit period will start on October 1st, 2016 to finish on December 31st, 2017.

Selection will be done on January 15th, 2018.

The tournament Credit points to achieved during this time period will be:

- Africa and Oceania: 80 points
- Americas and Asia: 130 points
- Europe: 150 points
- Only the Regionals Championships 2017 are included in the total of needed points.

11.4. *Revision of slots for classes for Tokyo 2020*:

Alejandra proposed to give one more slots to women classes which have 8 slots, to have 9 slots, is not a lot but is a change which increase the number of women participating. It depends on the number of women participants.

12. WEBMASTER'S REPORT: no report

13. RATING REPORT: no report

14. REGIONAL REPORTS: the Division is asked to note the regional representatives' reports including:

14.1 *Americas*: the Division noted that there was nothing further to add to the Chairperson's report.

14.1.1 Tournaments in America in 2015: Copa Tango XIII (Argentina), Chile Open, Copa Costa Rica

14.1.2 U23 tournaments: will be held in 2016, connecting with the FA tournaments in Argentina and Chile.

14.1.3 Development activities:

- 2015 Chile/ Classification Seminar Level A
- 2016 Classification seminars planned in Guatemala, Argentina
- A coaching course and PTT Training Camp was offered to Honduras.

14.1.4 Projects for 2016: TD seminar and promote participation of new countries.

14.2 *Africa*: a TD and classification seminar was held before the Regional Championships last year. Unfortunately, the 2nd Morocco Open has to be postponed for the second part of the year.



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14.2.1 The duties of the regional representatives about the budget: he suggested to prepare a "job" description for the Regional Representatives.

14.2.2 It is planned to organize the First African Forum for Para TT in Egypt.

14.2.3 The preparations for the 2nd Morocco Open in Agadir: postponed because in default of the participants.

14.2.4 He proposed to organize a technical coaching clinic for Para TT in Parallel with the Agadir competition

14.3 *Asia*: hopefully Thailand will be a potential candidate to be the host for 2019 Asia Championships. On the development side it is very difficult to find the contact person in Kazakhstan. The 8th Asian Para Games was held in Singapore at the end of 2015. A total of 37 events were offered and the Games ended successfully.

14.4 *Europe*: nothing to add to the report.

14.4.1 Integration: no changes.

14.4.2 Development: in 2015 there were TD and classification seminars held, in 2016 the plan is to manage a course for the training from the development countries.

14.4.3 Greek Open: was cancelled by the organizers.

14.5 *Oceania*:

14.5.1 Training camp and tournament in Fiji: In total, 27 athletes and 14 coaches from 9 countries participated in the regional camp and subsequently competed in the Fiji Para Open.

14.5.2 Pacific School Games – held in Adelaide November 2015: These games are generally held every four years and involve the Pacific and Asian nations for school aged children.

This year was the first time that table tennis was included. A disability competition was also run for the first time.

14.5.3 Funding Proposal from Oceania: This is a targeted proposal that would have a positive effect for growth and development of Para Table Tennis in the region.

15. 2016 PARALYMPIC GAMES: the Division is asked to note a report including:

14.1 *Travels and accommodation for the Paralympic Games:* the office is ready to contact with the officials. Nico will be a member of the Jury, Georgios will be the Technical Delegate. Gorazd, Alena and Alejandra will take part as a member of national team. The other Division members will be invited by ITTF, together with Sheng K. Wu.

16. WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017

15.1 *Make decision about the host in 2017:*

Slovak presentation for WTC 2017: Mr Anton Hamran and Mr Tomas Varga on behalf of the Slovakian organizers made a presentation for being host of 2017 PTT Team WC. Romanian presentation was made by Ms Sally Wood-Lamont via Skype. Based on the votes Slovakia will be the host of the 2017 ITTF PTT World Team Championships.

The Division asked:

- Emese to inform the winner and the loser applicants.

17. NEXT MEETING:

In Rio, during the Paralympic Games. Precise date to be announced later.



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18. Any other business

READ AND CONFIRMED AT THE MEETING:	
HELD ON:	04 March 2016, Kuala Lumpur
CHAIRPERSON:	