



INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

PARA TABLE TENNIS DIVISION: 1/2012

Minutes of a meeting of the Para Table Tennis Division held in Budapest, Hungary on 20, 21 and 22 January 2012 from 16h30.

MEMBERS: Øivind Eriksen (Chairperson), Emese Barsai, Lill Bhagwan, Alejandra Gabaglio, Juraj Stefak, Nico Verspeelt, Barbara Talbot, Gorazd Vecko

COOPTED ADVISORS: Alena Kánová, Gaël Marziou

BY INVITATION: Neil Harwood (Executive Vice-President), Graeme Ireland

IN ATTENDANCE: Alison Burchell

APOLOGIES: John Ng, Jolanda Paardekam

WELCOME: the Chairperson welcomed all to the first meeting noting that some members still had to arrive.

- 1 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:** the minutes of the meeting held on 23 and 24 October 2011 were confirmed and signed.
- 2 **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:** the Division noted the Chairperson's report including:
 - 2.1 succession planning: in order to ensure continuity, all members should identify someone to be trained and train them.
 - 2.2 PTT terms of reference: had been approved by the Executive Committee on 7 January 2012 and would be sent to the Board of Directors for information in March 2012.
 - 2.3 GBR:
 - historically, the ITTF had members from the home countries, which was unique in the ITTF, and this was not likely to change.
 - the entry process must be run for PTT through ITTF members in terms of the ITTF regulations whereas entries were done by BTTAD as the designee for the home countries.
 - separating the home countries for entries would mean that England and Wales would enter.
 - for Olympic and Paralympic Games, GBR was the country and entries were done by the NOC and NPC respectively.
 - this would affect several other associations which had not properly integrated.

The Division asked:

- i) Nico and Alison to discuss what work can be transferred to the Headquarters and Gaël to work on automating the data_common system and classification list updates.
- ii) all to identify people who could be trained to take over as part of a succession plan.

The Division resolved to enforce the regulations specifically 3.7.1.3 with all national associations submitting entries to events with immediate effect.

3 VICE-CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: the Division noted that there was no report necessary.

4 TREASURER'S REPORT: the Division noted the Treasurer's report including:

4.1 capitation fees 2011 and sanction fees 2012:

- capitation fees were outstanding from Copa Tango for 2011.
- negotiations were underway to finalise the capitation fees from the European Championships once deductions for meeting expenses had been agreed.
- Egypt had underpaid €154,00 and this was being pursued.
- of 13 events in 2012, 9 had paid the sanction fee.

4.2 income and expenditure for 2011: this had not yet been provided from the Headquarters.

4.3 2012 budget: this had been finalised by the SOC and sent out in November 2011.

4.4 IPC grant: had been confirmed at €29 065.00 but was unlikely to be kept at this level in future as the Sports Council would review the funding formula.

The Division noted that some funds had been converted into Swiss francs and invested but that the balance of funding should be monitored as it remained in €.

The Division asked:

- i) Øivind to follow up on the expenses from 2011 with the Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games).
- ii) Alison to provide the IPC with the documentation required to ensure payment of the grant.

5 SECRETARIAT'S REPORT: the Division noted the Secretariat's report including:

5.1 marketing and sponsorship: a corporate social responsibility proposal including junior activities, development and PTT had been developed by the Marketing Division, in addition to a donor programme, which would be released soon.

5.2 review of the strategic plan: this still required the input of the members before it was finalised.

5.3 code of conduct: a slightly revised format would be available by the end of January 2012 and translations would be investigated.

5.4 anti-doping: RTP issued on 23 December 2011 and published on the website.

5.5 education of referees:

- 2 IR conferences had been held in 2011 where international referees had been trained in PTT and Dr Wu's programme (Singapore was more successful than Austria).
- appointments of referees was being done by the URC with the organisers so that an experienced IR would work with an IR who did not yet have PTT experience to ensure the pool of experienced IRs was expanded.

5.6 liaison with IWAS: was ongoing and revolved around the tournaments organised by IWAS.

5.7 liaison with CP-ISRA: was focusing more on Boccia and 7-a-side football.

5.8 liaison with INAS:

- the proposal to transfer governance had been positively received by the INAS Executive but some questions had arisen.
- some discussions would therefore be necessary at some appropriate point.

5.9 liaison with Special Olympics International and Deaflympics:

- the Deaf sometimes regarded themselves as able-bodied and having a different language.
- with SOI, there was an obvious disability.
- SOI had a good infrastructure, access to funding and a rigorous programme of health checks for athletes.
- the classification was done through banding based on performance.

- the rules and regulations for SOI table tennis referred to ITTF or IPTTC for the table tennis event in their Games.
 - the Deaf held a Games every 4 years and was now adding a championships on a regular basis.
 - again, the rules and regulations made reference to ITTF and ITTF officials had previously been appointed as members of the jury and technical commission (usually combined) and as referee.
 - currently the championships were being organised with the help of the JTTA and the Deaf had asked ITTF to pay the travel costs of the ITTF officials who may be appointed.
- 5.10 logo: the ITTF had reviewed its branding guidelines and had proposed 2 options for a logo for PTT.

The Division noted that the issue of the impact of a double disqualification on the rating system had not been resolved and asked Nico to discuss a solution with Graeme.

The Division resolved to:

- a) make contact with both SOI and Deaflympics/ISCD to discuss signing a memorandum of understanding.
- b) use the logo which was closest to the current logo.

6 DEVELOPMENT REPORT: the Division noted the report from the Development Department including:

6.1 courses:

- Jordan would run a self financed coaching course.
- the ITTF-PTT L1 manual in French had been printed and would be available for distribution.
- ITTF participated in a youth leadership camp in Doha organised by the UN recently and a PTT component had been included.

6.2 continental development agreements:

- in the next 4 year cycle, the funding for development had increased.
- the continental agreements should include PTT development.

The Division asked Neil to discuss with continental presidents the inclusion of PTT in the continental agreements and the regional representatives to follow up.

7 PLAYERS' COMMITTEE REPORT: the Division noted the report including:

7.1 brochure on player education on the rules including racket testing and doping control: this had been received from Vincent and would be updated after the AGM and BoD meetings in case there were changes to the racket testing process.

7.2 donations to the Museum: contact with the Museum curator had been established and items were being sourced.

7.3 criteria, questionnaire for an award for the best organised tournament:

- the Players' Committee had proposed a questionnaire to be put on the website for players to complete after each event.
- if this was implemented, the questionnaire circulated by TDs would no longer be necessary.

7.4 criteria for the best players awards:

- in reality, the best players at an event should win the class singles.

- another approach could be to reward performance taking into account results over a year for a senior and/or junior player or the award could acknowledge participation or fair play.
- currently the awards for the best players sitting men and women and standing men and women were worked out on points at the regional championships.

7.5 member from Africa and Asia:

- Pieter du Plooy was proposed to represent Africa and Koh Zhi Liang from Asia.
- the Table Tennis Association of Malaysia had supported Koh's nomination.
- the SA Table Tennis Board had supported Pieter's nomination.

7.6 medals for coaches in team events:

- the Players' Committee recommended this continue.
- it would not be possible in the Paralympic Games as this event was not under the jurisdiction of the ITTF.
- for some teams, it was not always the coach who received the medal.
- some players, when receiving medals, did not wear their official team uniform and sometimes, sent a representative to receive a medal.
- at some events, the medal ceremony was held during the final dinner and players consequently did not wear official team uniform.
- if a medal event was held late in the day, players may have left to go home.
- the issue of respect for medal ceremonies should be raised at the team leaders' meeting.

The Division noted that the Players' Committee wanted more support when they held meetings with players.

The Division asked:

- i) the Players' Committee to recommend written criteria with a "formula" for the players' player award after its meeting in Lignano.
- ii) the Players' Committee to recommend at which events and from which date medals should be awarded to coaches.
- iii) the Players' Committee and Gorazd (TDs) to ensure that players receiving medals were dressed in official team uniform.
- iv) Gorazd to put the online questionnaire on the organisation of events.

The Division resolved:

- a) to co-opt Koh Zhi Liang and Pieter du Plooy on to the Players' Committee till the end of the Players' Committee's term of office.
- b) to present the best organised tournament in 2012 at an appropriate opportunity in 2013.

8 ATHLETES' REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: the Division noted the report including:

8.1 IPC Athletes' Council: Alena had contacted the chairperson of the IPC Athletes' Council who was pleasantly surprised that ITTF had a representative from PTT on the ITTF Athletes' Commission, seemingly the only IF to do so.

8.2 ITTF Athletes' Commission:

- the next meeting would be held during the World Championships.
- recent discussions had covered racket control and the ranking system for able-bodied.

9 TOURNAMENT OFFICER'S REPORT: the Division noted the Tournament Officer's report including:

9.1 review of the tournament structure, more than 1 event per country, more regular world championships, "special events", junior events and age groups, rating factor:

- 24 years of age was possibly the upper limit for juniors but there may not be enough players to warrant a junior tournament.
- having more than 2 events in 1 country would probably favour Europe.
- if 2 events were held in 1 country, it should not exclude the regional championships being held in addition to another Fa20 or 40 event hosted in the same country as this could assist with some countries being able to meet the tournament credit.
- a junior circuit could be established as players may want to compete for a title e.g. continental championships although a junior player could participate in current “senior” events.
- due to privacy legislation, no ages could be published.
- if a junior circuit was to be organised, it should be under 18 and combined with a current event.
- more research was necessary.

9.2 calendar for 2012 including TV in Slovenia:

- the calendar had been published.
- Brazil had to decide the venue for their event.
- Argentina wanted to move the date to be immediately after the Brazil event and this was possible.
- Argentina had agreed that entry fees should be paid via bank transfer and not in cash although the payment of the first entry fee would be stringently enforced.
- USA had asked to change the last playing date of their event to 1 December 2012.
- Copa Costa Rica would be added once contracts and payments had been made.
- some organisers seemed to be entrepreneurs and this needed to be investigated further.
- a lift was being installed in Slovenia and Slovakia had proposed that the event be organised in Bratislava.
- the television company would be appointed for the Lasko event.

9.3 Regional Championships 2013, 2015 and AUT course and evaluations, and open entries for regional championships:

- Italy and China would organise the regional championships in 2013 in Europe and Asia respectively.
- there was some interest in Americas, a possibility in Africa and a probability in Oceania.
- there were no formal applications for 2015.
- all regionals should be organised by the end of September 2013 as classifications had to be checked at other tournaments before selections took place.
- for 2013, the undertaking for organisers to host an AUT course had been included in the contract and would hopefully increase the standard of umpiring.
- for the Para Pan Am Games, the likelihood that entries would be open to all players without a limit on the number of entries was non-existent as the games organisers operated within a finite limit for the games overall.

9.4 World Championships 2014:

- following integration, the Marketing Division had been requested to work on the commercial aspect of the event (sponsorship and television).
- the aim would be to create an income stream and reduce participation costs.
- the Marketing Director would visit Beijing after Chinese New Year to meet the organising committee.
- with the contract, some broadcast had been included which would hopefully lead to coverage on itTV and assist in raising some sponsorship.
- the regional championships in 2013 could serve as a preparatory event for the world championships.

- there was a possibility of an experienced person being appointed as competition manager for the event in China.

9.5 ODESUR Games 2014:

- every 4 years, the ODESUR Games were organised in Latin America but would be held in Chile with some Para sports being involved although this still had to be confirmed.
- at this point, such an event would not be included for the rating list.

9.6 tournament organisers' handbook and education: in process.

9.7 behaviour penalty policy:

- the referee was able to enforce discipline in the playing venue.
- the national association should be responsible for the behaviour of team members and incidents should be reported to the association.

9.8 numbers in groups to 4 from 2013: this had been resolved and would be implemented from 2012.

9.9 TD training:

9.9.1 handbook: comments on the current format had not been received so this would be finalised during the year.

9.9.2 trainers: some people who did the training sessions had been good while others had not prepared properly.

9.9.3 application form for 2013: applications would be open for 2013 and a form had been developed; Africa and Americas would be the priorities for training in 2013.

9.9.4 certification for trainee TD and TD: the list of TDs and trainees had been put on the website and trainee TDs would be appointed as deputy TDs where possible.

9.9.5 qualification and refresher: some of the current TDs should attend a refresher course.

9.10 award of bronze medals:

- the gold medal match was the focus and not having a bronze medal match could allow more focus on the gold medal.
- there was value to many players and countries to winning a bronze medal and it was important for governments.
- having 2 bronze medals may devalue the medal.
- a bronze medal match was the second most important match for spectators and television.

9.11 officials numbers and allowances:

- in some events, there were additional officials appointed which exceeded the number provided for in the contract.
- some categories of officials had different conditions of work.
- for classifiers, the agreed number of officials would be appointed and if any additional were appointed outside the contract, this would be for PTT's account unless an additional official was requested by the organisers.
- where possible, classifiers, deputy referees and umpires would share rooms and the TD, chief classifier and referee would have single rooms due to their workloads.

9.12 rules for mixed standing and sitting players: clarity was needed to confirm the rules under which a sitting and standing player competed in doubles and this would be done in terms of proposed changes for 2013 but was covered by the Handbook for Match Officials as a suggestion.

9.13 INAS European Championships:

- had requested support to organise a European Championships in 2012.
- it was likely that it would be open to other countries e.g. Japan and Hong Kong.
- in the meantime, if there was an INAS European Championship, class 11 should either be part of PTT events or the INAS event.
- this would imply support for the event from technical officials.

9.14 Commonwealth Games: for Glasgow 2014, there would be no PTT involvement but discussions were underway to address in the inclusion of PTT for 2018 for both men and women.

The Division asked:

- i) Gorazd, Nico and the Players' Committee to finalise work on the tournament structure review.
- ii) regional representatives to encourage potential organisers for the regional championships in 2013 and 2015 to submit applications urgently.
- iii) Gorazd to ensure that organisers were part of the national association and that TDs enforced the contracts.
- iv) Graeme and Alison to revise the misbehaviour policy.
- v) the Players' Committee to advise on the need to clarify the rules for doubles play where a standing and sitting player were involved.
- vi) Gorazd and Emese to follow up on the development of the tournament organisers' handbook by end of June 2012.
- vii) Gorazd to respond to INAS about the proposed European Championships.

The Division resolved:

- a) from 2013, all contracts to organise events be signed by the national association.
- b) from 2013, bronze medals would be awarded to 2 players in singles and team events in all tournaments, except for:
 - the Paralympic Games and other multi-sport events
 - events where there were only 4 or 5 players or teams where no bronze medal would be awarded.
- c) to approve the INAS event as an open class 11 event (Fa20).

10 MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT: the Division noted the Medical Officer's report including:

10.1 classification code review:

- the updated and shortened code would be in place for London.
- while there would be no classification in London, some protests should be expected.
- classification allocation criteria would be specified and published soon.
- the classification manual was in process, would include the parts of the old code which had been removed with more detail as necessary and published hopefully by London.
- the education of classifiers would be reflected in the list published indicating those who had undertaken the technical and ID seminar.

10.2 classifier education and manual:

- quality and competence of classifiers was important.
- a new page for classification had been added to the website.
- the new classification seminar system had started in 2011 in Split and Hong Kong including a level B seminar which was attended by current level C classifiers.
- 22 classifiers had been trained in the new system which included ID classification.
- several level A seminars would be held in 2012.
- classifiers would need to be competent in medical and technical aspects.
- a questionnaire would be sent out to those on the list of classifiers and responses would indicate if they were active.
- a refresher course for some classifiers may be necessary, the costs of participation would be for the classifier.
- a document explaining who could be a classifier should be put on the website and an application form developed.

10.3 implementation of the new system for sitting classes in 2011:

- the review of class 5 players had taken place over the past 5 years.
- if those who had not participated in an event to date, they would be reviewed when they did enter an event.

10.4 INAS classification update:

- the system was still being refined.
- those players who had undergone all parts of the system had been added to the ITTF list which should be the same as the list published by INAS.
- over 68 players had been classified and only 2 had been declared ineligible.
- a report was being prepared on one player who was deemed to have cheated for INAS to consider excluding him from all sports.
- some research topics had been identified which were ready to be implemented with researchers from Australia, South Africa and Chinese Taipei.
- INAS was charging an annual registration fee and players could not participate if they were not registered.
- this registration system potentially affected ITTF as players who were not on the INAS list, which required them to pay the registration fee to INAS, would not be eligible to participate in ITTF events.

10.5 length of the femur stump: had been included in the classification allocation criteria.

10.6 IPC Medical Code:

- the IPC Assembly had approved the Medical Code.
- thus the Medical Code had to be signed by all IPC members as a condition of membership before the London Paralympic Games.
- as there were possibly some additional liabilities which could arise for ITTF, some legal advice should be sought which could also include how best to mitigate any risk for ITTF.
- for the classification code, IWBF had signed the code with an attachment which indicated deviations from the code which had been agreed by the IPC.

10.7 classification in 2011:

- several players had had their classes changed at the regional championships with a focus on players likely to go to London.
- administration skills of classifiers had to improve in ensuring all details were included on the ICC and sent to the secretary as soon as possible after the event.
- checking the classifications of junior players would be repeated as they developed.

The Division asked:

- i) Juraj, Nico and Alison to finalise a small change to the classification code.
- ii) Alison to seek legal advice on the IPC Medical Code and how best to mitigate potential risks to ITTF.
- iii) Jordi to sign the IPC Medical Code once the required legal advice had been received.
- iv) Nico to follow up with INAS to correct the INAS classification list to ensure it corresponded with the ITTF list.

The Division resolved to:

- a) approve the revised classification code and recommend that the Executive Committee and Olympic and Paralympic Commission also approve it.
- b) approve the Medical Code, subject to ii) above, and to ask the Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games) to sign.
- c) continue the research subject to a positive response from INAS on the transfer of governance.

11 SELECTION OFFICER'S REPORT: the Division noted the Selection Officer's report including:

11.1 selections for the 2012 Paralympic Games:

- the selection documents had been sent out to all associations by the ITTF and NPCs by the IPC.
- all responses had to be submitted by 15 February 2012.
- the selection meeting would be held 2 to 5 March 2012.
- some selections may be declined by the NPC or the player in which case the first alternate would be selected provided that no more than 3 players per class or team from an NPC were selected.
- all NPCs would be informed of the outcome of the individual, team and bipartite allocations by 12 March 2012 and all confirmations of selections had to be submitted so that all entries were confirmed with IPC and LOCOG by 9 April 2012.
- 46 countries had qualified players and this may increase to 47 if an alternate player was finally selected.
- this number was likely to be similar to the number of countries for Beijing.
- 26 countries were from Europe, 7 from America, 3 from Africa, 1 Oceania and 10 from Asia.
- all NPCs had been requested to submit profiles of all qualified players.
- hopefully by 1 July 2012, all players selected for London would have played against 2 players who had been rated in order to get an accurate rating for seeding purposes.

11.2 selection issues resulting from the implementation of the rating system:

- the best way to encourage participation was to use the tournament credit system.
- 200 points to be accumulated over 24 months was proposed for Fa50, 40 and 20 events.
- having a requirement that players compete in an event outside their continent was proposed.
- the majority of tournaments were held in Europe and this had an impact on a player's ability to qualify if they were outside Europe.
- the tournament structure was not being implemented in having 1 Fa40 and 2 Fa20 events per continent per year.
- in 2011, no men's class 1 player from Europe participated in an event outside Europe.
- some airlines did not allow more than a certain number of wheelchair players on a flight.
- more events needed to be organised in other continents.
- the participation of players in an event had to be meaningful to qualify for the tournament credit.

The Division resolved to implement a tournament credit of 130 (including Fa50, 40 and 20 events) for the 2014 world championships to be achieved over 24 months starting 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2013 provided that a bonus of 20 points would be allocated for each event in which a player competed outside his or her continent.

12 RATING OFFICER AND WEBMASTER'S REPORT: the Division noted the Ranking Officer and Webmaster's report including:

12.1 integration with the ITTF website and web server:

- the news on the ITTF website was now integrated into the PTT website.
- the only server being used currently was the PTT one.

12.2 players' database including classification:

- the web application had recently been started.
- most work had been done on the database aspect.

- a lot of time was spent on the rating system which had prevented progress in other areas and thus Gaël would not be involved in the rating system development once he found a successor.
- 12.3 rating system, Austrian motion (Fa50, 80 and 100 weighting 1.5) and inactivity:
- the decision at the last meeting was to exclude Fa50, 80 and 100 from the rating system to encourage participation.
 - Austria had proposed to the Board of Directors that these major events be included but at a rating weighting of 1.5 but this had been re-directed to the Division.
 - the world championships and Paralympic Games were events where players entered by selection i.e. they were closed events.
 - the weighting applied only if a player won, not if he or she lost.
 - unlike the able-bodied, there were some disabled players who never lost currently.
 - the Players' Committee had proposed at the last meeting that the regional and world championships and Paralympic Games be excluded but had changed its mind after feedback from players.
 - one of the reasons for excluding these events was to encourage young/new players to participate.
 - if a player did not participate for a 12 month period (to be updated each time the ratings were updated), he or she would be removed from the rating list published, but retain the points accumulated except for the 5% depreciation.
- 12.4 rating list for class 11:
- the ranking, according to PTT, would only have included the regional championships.
 - as a result, the ratings had not been published as the results for the Global Games in the required format had not been received.
 - the deadline for publishing was the end of January 2012.
 - further work would be done on the rating in consultation with INAS table tennis to ensure it was accurate.
- 12.5 online entries:
- Gaël's conflict of interest as his company had submitted a quote for 70 days of work to develop the system.
 - other quotes should be requested to protect PTT and Gaël.
 - the system would ensure entries were submitted by the national associations.
 - the system should assist organisers.
 - ongoing support and ownership of the source code would be an important consideration.
 - the specifications document could be used for other quotes.
 - the reliance on Dr Wu's programme was a potential risk and access to the source code was needed to mitigate any risk.
- 12.6 data protection and privacy statement: this had been included on the website.
- 12.7 appeal from Chinese Taipei:
- the measurement of the racket covering could not be challenged as it is a matter of fact according to the rules.
 - the racket covering was the same as had been identified as non-compliant in Gwangju.
 - the referee's decision, according to the rules, could not be appealed.
 - the jury had upheld the decision of the referee.
 - the racket testing process did not affect most able-bodied top players as the equipment was provided directly by the manufacturer.
 - the long pips without sponge rubber was used extensively by PTT players and had an ITTF logo on indicating it was authorised.

- a report should be sent to the Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games) to raise the concerns about the process, a rubber which was authorised not being compliant with the ITTF authorisation and proposing that such rubbers be allowed for the Paralympic Games.
- normally racket testing did not check the length of pimples but this had been done in PTT events.
- the main concern was after match testing but for the Paralympic Games, all testing would be before match.
- the Athletes' Commission had proposed no rubbers being removed as part of the racket testing process, that testing be before match as a principle and that there should not be any testing for gloss except if a complaint was received.

The Division thanked Alejandra Gabaglio and Darryl Sterling for supporting the ongoing update of the website and for the move to a content management system.

The Division asked:

- i) Neil to liaise with Jordi to ensure that PTT was integrated into the planning for the new website and server for the ITTF.
- ii) Alison to liaise with David about including the period of inactivity update each time the ratings were updated.
- iii) Alison to procure 2 further quotes for the online entry system within 1 month so that the quotes could be assessed independently with the SOC to make the final decision.
- iv) Nico to liaise with Dr Wu to ensure that PTT had a safe way to access the source code for the programme in the event he retired.
- v) Øivind to submit a report should be sent to the Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games), copied to the chairpersons of the URC and Equipment Committee, to raise the concerns about the racket testing process, a rubber which was authorised not being compliant with the ITTF authorisation and proposing that such rubbers be allowed for the Paralympic Games.
- vi) Gorazd to put a note on the website to advise players that racket testing would be available at Fa40 events and that those who had failed the racket testing in the regional championships should attend such events.
- vii) Neil to contact the Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games) to ensure that the qualified racket testing coordinators appointed for Fa40 events were briefed about the problems experienced at PTT events.

The Division resolved to:

- a) include Fa50, 80 and 100 in the rating system with a weighting of 1.5 for singles and 1.0 for team events with effect from 1 January 2012.
- b) uphold the decision of the jury and not to reinstate points to the 2 players from Chinese Taipei.

13 REGIONAL REPORTS: the Division noted the regional representatives' reports including:

13.1 Americas:

13.1.1 Para Pan Am Games:

- in the regional games organised by the Americas Paralympic Committee, participation of countries was higher than at a PTT regional championships due to the support of governments although the number of players was similar.
- a regional meeting for players and coaches was held during the Games and the development magazine distributed with Alejandra's contact details.

- at the meeting, Domingo Arguello had been proposed as an advisor for Latin America for the Players' Committee.
 - the Para Pan Am Youth Games would be organised in 2013.
- 13.1.2 CD: a promotional DVD had been developed to promote PTT in cooperation with the Development Program and which would be distributed at the world championships in English, Spanish, French and Arabic.
- 13.1.3 integration: several associations had not integrated and this would be addressed.
- 13.1.4 development and new countries:
- a self-funded course had been held in Chile.
 - a coaching course combined with a training camp for new players would be organised in Uruguay and this initiative would be shared with LATTU.
 - a coaching course was being investigated for Dominican Republic as well as Virgin Islands and Santa Lucia.
- 13.1.5 regional committee:
- the regional committee should not have a separate identity from ITTF.
 - the regional committee still had to be formed.
- 13.2 Africa:
- 13.2.1 All Africa Games: discussions were ongoing to include PTT in the next Games but the regional championships in 2011 were finally organised by Egypt.
- 13.2.2 integration: the president of the ATTF had committed to integration and this would be pursued.
- 13.2.3 development and new countries:
- Cameroon had formed an association for the physically disabled and had been requested to work closely with the national association.
 - the first African women's PTT level 1 coaching course would be held in March/April 2012 in Algeria.
- 13.2.4 regional committee: no progress had been made.
- 13.3 Asia:
- 13.3.1 integration and India: the history of the integration process in India was outlined and the recommendation of the TTFI considered and approved.
- 13.3.2 development and new countries: the previous development committee had been dissolved.
- 13.3.3 regional committee: had to be established.
- 13.4 Europe:
- 13.4.1 integration:
- a meeting had been held in Split to discuss integration of PTT into ETTU and Dorte Kronsell had been requested to liaise with PTT.
 - The ETTU had requested PTT to submit any proposed changes to the constitution in order to accommodate PTT, establish a PTT committee with a presentation to be done at the ETTU AGM in Dortmund.
 - integration at a national level had to be followed up.
- 13.4.2 development and new countries:
- a meeting had been held with the ETTU development officer, a questionnaire would be sent out to associations and youth training camps would be organised.
 - the resources of the Development Program should be investigated as trainers for courses and training camps.
 - should there be PTT people who had experience in coaching be interested in being trained to give courses, they should contact the Development Program to be trained.
- 13.4.3 regional committee: this would be discussed.

13.5 Oceania:

13.5.1 separation of Oceania on the rating list with effect from 1 April 2012: to be addressed.

13.5.2 integration: no issues of concern had been experienced.

13.5.3 development and new countries: with Australia being the force in the region, significant steps had been taken.

13.5.4 regional committee: already existed under the umbrella of OTTF.

13.6 co-option of the regional representatives on to the continental association boards: this would be addressed in Dortmund and the DCC in December 2012.

13.7 affiliation to regional Paralympic committees: this would assist the development in the regions, support the development of new countries and promote integration.

The Division asked:

- i) Neil to send a letter to the Ministry of Sport in India requesting the Ministry to support the TTFL, as the ITTF member, to facilitate the integration PTT players into the TTFL.
- ii) all to refer correspondence in integration issues to Alison.
- iii) Alison to investigate affiliation by ITTF to the regional Paralympic committees except for Oceania which would be followed up by the OTTF.
- iv) regional representatives to submit information on the integration template and development in their reports.

The Division resolved to encourage integration more systematically.

14 LONDON 2012: the Division noted a report including:

14.1 competition event summary schedule: was on the website but would be subject to change following the team selections.

14.2 equipment:

- ball: white Nittaku 3*(Japanese).
- table: 26 Double Happiness rainbow tables and 22 TW1818 tables (dark blue top).
- floor: Tinsue blue.

14.3 ITOs including jury: all nominations had been approved and published on the website and a jury of 3 appointed for the first time from Europe, Americas and Asia.

14.4 site inspection:

- the Pro Tour Grand Finals served partially as a test event.
- a walk-through was done to identify where facilities would be built.
- the hotel would be the Crowne Plaza, 7 minutes walk from the venue, where wheelchair rooms were available.

14.5 PRIS: the system had been tested in Split and corrections made at the Pro Tour Grand Finals which Swisstiming would implement.

14.6 review of events for Rio 2016:

- the world championships and Paralympic Games, in PTT, had very similar event formats.
- 2 new sports (triathlon and canoeing) had been added to the programme for Rio and this would require some medals and player slots to be taken from other sports as IPC sports were not likely to be affected as much and the limit on the number of medal events and athlete places had been agreed contractually.
- currently ITTF had 29 medals, including 2 additional events with 12 slots for class 11, and should be proactive in reviewing the programme as proposals would need to be submitted to IPC soon after the London Paralympic Games.
- in the process, PTT should consider ways in which table tennis could contribute to the IPC's vision of "inspiring and exciting the world".

- there was a good chance that the number of player slots and medal events may be reduced for table tennis.
- principles should include:
 - how to excite players, spectators and television.
 - how to promote PTT, severely disabled and women.
 - what event/s would be exciting, a “quick buzz” and fluid rather than stop-start.
 - what format of play would not end predictably i.e. once the singles event had happened, it would be easy to predict the results in the team events.
 - what format would promote friendship across the table and thus promote more than the individual.
 - what format would attract spectators who were not familiar with table tennis but who may want to share the “Paralympic experience”.
 - what format of play would lead to a predictable time schedule and time for events.
- operational issues included:
 - format included singles, doubles, teams and mixed teams (gender and class).
 - finals should be spread out over a day and not played at the same time.
 - the number of ceremonies took up a significant amount of time.
 - a rating system for doubles would be possible.
 - 3 hours for a team match was too long to hold attention although the last match was exciting.
 - with a team match, it was not possible to predict when it would end for spectators and television.
 - in order to focus on women, perhaps women’s finals should be separated from the men’s.
 - in the team event, it was a repeat of singles events i.e. 4 singles and 1 doubles and was more predictable as a result.
 - the singles and doubles events could be scheduled at different times in an event.
 - some creative thinking for the selection process would be necessary.

The Division asked:

- i) all to send accreditation information and photographs in jpeg in the next week to Alison.
- ii) Graeme to convene a working group of Alena and Nico to consider proposals for Rio at the world championships in Dortmund to be presented at the next meeting.

15 NEXT MEETING: the Division agreed to meet on 4 September 2012 in London.

The Division thanked Emese for hosting the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 13h46.

READ AND CONFIRMED AT THE MEETING

HELD ON

CHAIRPERSON

AMB/

22 January 2012