

**INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION
PARA TABLE TENNIS DIVISION**



**TECHNICAL DELEGATE
EVALUATION REPORT**

Name of Tournament:	2017 Oceania Para Championships
Factor Applied for:	50
Responsible Federation:	OTTF & Fiji Table Tennis Association
Chairman of Organising Committee:	Anthony Ho
Dates of Play:	12th – 16th April 2017
Name of Technical Delegate:	Steven W.H. Lee
Report submitted to ITTF PTT:	30th April 2017

1- The venue

The 2017 ITTF PTT Oceania Para Table Tennis Regional Championships was held in conjunction with the 2017 ITTF-Oceania Cup and Junior Championships.

The Vodafone Arena previously referred to as “The Dome” is the first of its kind in Fiji. The magnificent multi-purpose hall has a seating capacity of up to 4000 and has hosted huge events such as Oceania Basketball Championship and 2003 Pacific Games (Basketball).

A shopping mall is located conveniently just around the corner to the venue which includes supermarket, restaurant, bank and shops.



2- Accommodation and Meals

The organizer arranged four hotels for accommodation.

1. Grand Pacific Hotel (wheelchair accessible)
Has a large number of rooms for wheelchair persons' use.



2. Pacific Theological College

A hostel type which is also accessible for wheelchairs and is reasonably priced to reduce the participants' expenses.

Wheelchair friendly rooms with 2 single beds each and a 4 share wheelchair friendly room, one VIP wheelchair friendly room.

Female shower/toilet and male shower/toilet on a share basis in each of the female and male wings.



3. Holiday Inn
4. Peninsula Hotel

Breakfast, lunch and dinner were arranged by the teams themselves. The reason meals are not offered for all participants is due to the extra costs involved, so most of the national associations prefer to manage their own meals to reduce costs.

Water is provided at the venue.

3-Playing Venue

The stadium has set up 2 TV Show courts (20m by 10m) and 5 standard size courts on each side.



A practice area is located at the back of the arena with 5 tables.

Spectators stands are located on the first and second floors. They can accommodate about 4,000 people. As there are no lifts, wheelchair persons can only watch on the sides of the floor level.

Floor:	Tinsue
Lighting:	Approximately 1000 lux
Spectator seats:	about 4000
Rooms for Official:	TD, Referee's room and Office Umpire's room
Toilet and change rooms:	4



The racket testing and call area was adjacent to the training hall.
The control table for Officials was in the playing hall.

The Call area is located at the back of the playing area. The passage is rather limited and it causes some inconvenience for the wheelchair players. Fortunately the numbers of wheelchair players are not many; otherwise the Call area is too small to accommodate the players.

There is no air-conditioning inside the venue. Only the office has air-conditioning. As it is hot during the day, the athletes need to drink lots of water. Bottled water and drinks were provided by the host association.

Overall the facilities were satisfactory.

4-Equipment

- Tables:	2 tables – Double Happiness Rainbow Show courts 5 tables – Double Happiness T1818W 5 tables - Double Happiness T1223 Training area: 5 tables - Double Happiness T1818W
- Nets:	Double Happiness

- Balls: Double Happiness (40+ White)
- Score boards: Double Happiness
- Surroundings: Blue
- Towels Box: Double Happiness



5-Competition Days

- 10-12 April Classification Seminar, Umpire and Referee courses
Team Arrival & Classification
- 13 April Technical meeting
- 13 & 14 April Individual Singles event
- 15 April Teams event
- 16 April Presentation
- 17 April Departure

6-Number of Participants

This is the first time Fiji has hosted the Oceania Championships. The two previous championships were hosted by Australia. As the location of Fiji is closer than many other Oceania countries, therefore there are more participating countries than the last two championships.

A total of ten countries participated.

- Mens Wheelchair players: 14
- Mens Standing players: 17
- Womens Wheelchair players: 7
- Womens Standing players: 8

There were ten participating nations with 46 athletes. Only seven individual events and two team events were official matches.

To provide opportunities for competition for players, unofficial team events were also

conducted so that players could get maximum benefit from the competition.

7-Transport

The organizers arranged for transportation to and from the playing venue. Travel time and distance from the hotel to the venue is within 20 minutes.

As the majority of wheelchair athletes gathered at same place, the vehicles for the wheelchair players were not sufficient. Repeated returns were necessary which leads to a longer waiting time to arrive at the venue.



8-Officials

Organizing committee:

Chair person:

Anthony HO

Tournament Director:

Michael BROWN

Tournament coordinator:

Steven REILLY

Classifiers:

Sheng WU (TPE)

Katrina FORSTER (AUS)

Tah Fatt ONG (MAS)

Referee:

Dave DELPRATT (AUS)

Deputy referee:

Graeme IRELAND (AUS)

Joachim KUSCHE (NZL)

There were 21 umpires assisting in the tournament, 14 from Fiji and 7 from overseas. Among the overseas umpires, 5 were from Australia and 2 from New Caledonia. They were all very professional and did a great job.

The Referee team was very professional and most helpful in the smooth running of the tournament.

Michael Brown and Christian Holtz were attentive to all aspects of the tournament and their involvement was much appreciated.



9-Meetings

The Technical meeting was held at 9.30am on 13th April. The Referee considered matters that needed to be attended to and made changes to the player's list in the team events.

10-Draws

The tournament was run with the use of Dr Wu's computer program which was most helpful to the referee, as it saved a lot of time and was accurate. The draw was conducted under ITTF PTT regulations. The Singles draw was done on 13 April after the Manager's meeting. The team draw was done on 14 April afternoon.

11-Classification

Most of the athletes are new. There are a total of 30 players needing classification. Three Classifiers were responsible for classifying the players and they were very efficient. A total of 28 players were required for classification. Classification commenced on 10 April at 10.00am. One of the players from Vanuatu was delayed by the flight and classification was done at 8.00am on the 13th April.

12-Racket Control

In regard to the racket testing, as this is the first time for many players participating in this championship, knowledge of the rules is limited. Testing is for educational purpose only.

Compulsory testing was conducted on 13 April during the competition. All tests were satisfactory and there was no instance of breach of the VOC regulations.



13-Education

Classification seminar, Umpire and Referee courses were conducted before the competition. Classifier seminar was conducted by Dr Sheng Wu. Umpire and Referee courses were conducted by Stephen Gillespie.

14-Broadcasting

During the competition period, TV broadcasted the matches on the show court every day.
<https://www.facebook.com/ITTFOceania/?fref=ts>

15-Results

All the schedules and results were generated by the computer program which was very quick and efficient. All information was given to the teams at the venue.

The playing schedule and results were posted on the wall of the passage way. There is no pigeon hole. As there are not many countries, the information was passed on to the teams directly.

Digital results were published on the PTT website.



16- Entertainment

The host association holds the welcoming dinner on the 12th at Holiday Inn Hotel. It was buffet style dinner. There was a Fijian ethnic dancing show.

The opening ceremony was held on 13th at noon. Competition began thereafter.

The competition finished on the 16th with the closing function held afterwards. There was live band playing in the closing function.



17- Evaluation:

Accommodation:	Very good
Transport:	Good
Playing venue:	Excellent
Sport equipment:	Excellent, ITTF approved
Light in the hall:	Excellent
Information:	Fair
Referee:	Excellent professional work
Umpires:	Very good work
Computer:	Excellent work
Organization:	Good
Medal presentation:	Very good

18- Conclusion and recommendations:

This championship sees an increased number of participating countries and players due to the great effort by Christian Holtz in this regard. As a whole, there are lots of areas to be improved. As disabled table tennis is still in a developing stage in Oceania, continued and increasing support is needed. It is hoped that there will be more players participating in the next Regional Championships.

Disabled matches were held at the same time as able-bodied matches. Resources were well arranged. As disabled table tennis is still developing in the Oceania region, this is of great assistance in the promotion of the sport.

Spectators were not many. It is suggested that in future school students can be invited to come and watch.

The tournament progressed smoothly throughout in a great atmosphere. Overall, this tournament was successful and the players were satisfied.

I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the organizing committee, officials, staffs and volunteers for the great work done.

Prepared by:
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