



INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

PARA TABLE TENNIS DIVISION: 1/2011

Minutes of a meeting of the Para Table Tennis Division held in Dock 2 and 4, Ahoy Centre, Rotterdam, the Netherlands on 12 and 13 May 2011 from 17h00 to 20h00 and 14 May 2011 from 09h00 to 17h00.

PRESENT: Øivind Eriksen (Chairperson), Vincent Boury, Juraj Stefak, Nico Verspeelt, Gorazd Vecko, Karol Ziduliak

CORRESPONDING MEMBER: Edimilson Pinheiro

BY INVITATION: Neil Harwood (ITTF Executive Vice-President), Gaël Marziou, Alena Kánová, Jolanda Paardekam, Sir Philip Craven (IPC President) and Rita van Driel (IPC Governing Board)

IN ATTENDANCE: Alison Burchell

APOLOGIES: Lill Bhagwan, Silas Chiang, Teresa Morello (resigned), Barbara Talbot

WELCOME: the Chairperson welcomed all members, incoming and outgoing, to the meeting. There was an induction on the structure of PTT, the other ITTF committees and the work of PTT including job descriptions.

During the welcome for the second part of the meeting, the Chairperson recognised the contribution of Karol Ziduliak, Edimilson Pinheiro and Vincent Boury to the work of PTT over the years.

The Division welcomed the President of the IPC to the meeting, noting that one of the major challenges for the next 8 to 10 years would be the improvement of classification systems. The terminology of the Dutch Open being a “side event” may not properly describe the event. The feeling at the ITTF World Championships was vibrant. The ITTF Executive Vice-President noted the integration process had gone well and encouraged the focus on the sport.

The Chairperson also welcomed Peter Marriott, CEO of Table Tennis Australia, to the meeting. TTA was investigating an annual Fa20 event being held in Sydney.

1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: minutes of the meeting held 3 and 4 November 2010 were confirmed and signed.

2 CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT: the Division noted the Chairperson’s report including:

2.1 marketing of PTT:

- sponsorship for the PTT World Championships, the regional championships and some Fa40 events:
 - the Marketing Director would work with the organisers for the 2014 PTT World Championships to raise sponsorship and provide equipment with the aim to reduce costs for players.
 - to understand the work of PTT, Steve may attend the Asia-Oceania Championships.
- other marketing opportunities: would continue to be investigated.

- social responsibility brochure: had been produced to raise funds for education and training, development and PTT.

2.2 status of the PTT Division:

- succession planning: this was ongoing.
- PTT terms of reference: no progress had been made on the overall restructuring of committees although the terms of reference had been submitted.
- nominations for the PTT Division and new members: had been approved by the AGM and BoD.
- PTT members serving on other ITTF committees for 2011: there were some PTT persons on other committees.
- areas of assistance from the ITTF:
 - circuit of junior events: Holger Nikelis would present a proposal.
 - GBR: this could be discussed further during the Sheffield tournament.
- integration:
 - regional representatives were working in this area.
 - a meeting had been held with the chairperson and a member of the Media Committee about support for PTT events.
 - some media personnel may attend regional championships to learn about the process.
- IPC grant: the first payment had been received.

The Division asked:

- a) Alison to liaise with Gaël to publish the details of the outgoing and incoming members.
- b) SOC to discuss GBR with BTTAD at the Sheffield events.

The Division resolved to co-opt Gaël on to the Division as an advisor and Jolanda as the current chairperson of the Players' Committee (PC) as an advisor.

- 3 VICE-CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:** the Division noted the Vice-Chairperson's report including:
 - 3.1 use of Dr Wu's programme to 2012: the agreement had been signed for use till the end of 2012.
 - 3.2 sportspersonship award: a response had been sent and no response had been received.
- 4 TREASURER'S REPORT:** the Division noted the Treasurer's report including:
 - 4.1 sanction and capitation fees:
 - 2009 German Open capitation fees: 50% had been received in September 2010 and the balance would be paid in 2011.
 - status on 2010 and 2011: besides the German Open from 2009, all sanction and capitation fees were paid in 2010 and payments were up to date for 2011.
 - 4.2 income and expenditure for 2010: the details still had to be compiled.
 - 4.3 2011 budget: had been developed at the last meeting.
- 5 SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT:** the Division noted the Secretary General's report including:
 - 5.1 communication deadlines for the submission of articles below:
 - ITTF publications:
 - Table Tennis Fascination: had, for the second year, included photos of PTT players from the World Championships.
 - Future Spin (U18): was issued periodically.
 - development magazine: would be issued once a year.

- Enewsletter: was issued as necessary.
 - press releases: were issued as necessary.
 - website: articles should be provided with photographs and TDs had been requested to do this from tournaments.
 - IPC publications:
 - newsflash: as and when available.
 - bulletin: had been discontinued.
 - athletes' bulletin: this would be converted to a Facebook page.
 - Paralympian: quarterly with deadlines in late July (submission end May) and December (submission end October).
- 5.2 review of the strategic plan: the plan had been updated and circulated.
- 5.3 code of conduct for ITTF for PTT to sign: this had been updated and circulated.
- 5.4 anti-doping: the RTP for 2011 had been issued and follow ups done on whereabouts information.
- 5.5 regional composition, terms of reference and job descriptions: the job descriptions had been updated on the basis of the terms of reference but the composition had not been submitted.
- 5.6 liaison with IWAS: 24 players had participated in the Junior Games with 17 new players being classified and discussions were taking place for the IWAS World Games.
- 5.7 liaison with CP-ISRA: nothing seemed to be happening.

The Division asked:

- a) Alison to update the strategic plan to cover the changes in the structure of the Division and circulate again.
- b) all members to comment on the strategic plan.
- c) the SOC to review the strategic plan at its next meeting.
- d) Alison to work with the regional representatives to consolidate the terms of reference for subcommittees and job descriptions.
- e) Alison to find ways to get the code of conduct signed.

The Division resolved to adopt the code of conduct.

- 6 TD COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** the Division noted the TD Coordinator's report including:
- 6.1 job descriptions for TDs: this had been circulated and the job was different from that of the referee.
 - 6.2 competition, deputy competition and FOP managers and full or part-time status: having a competition manager at the world championships and perhaps the regional championships could be considered but this would not replace the need for TDs in the short-term.
 - 6.3 handbook: no progress as yet.
 - 6.4 training system: including:
 - update training system: this was in process.
 - trainers: these would be identified shortly partly based on who was present in Split.
 - application form: would be assessed if it was necessary versus recruiting.
 - recruitment of trainees: this was underway.
 - examination: this would be developed based on the training materials.
 - certification: this would be developed based on the concept of trainee and TD.
 - mentoring trainee TDs: this would be done through the education and training system along with appointments as deputy TDs at relevant events.
 - update the TD list on the website from 1 January 2011: this would be updated after the training in Split.

- new TDs to be trained in 2011: 2 new trainees had been identified and others were being identified.

The Division asked:

- a) Gorazd to communicate with the trainee TDs trained in Genoa.
- b) all to recommend people to be trained as TDs.

7 DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT: the Division noted the Development Officer's report including:

7.1 new nations (regional representatives and regional development officers): the regional representatives should work with the continental ITTF associations, the ITTF continental development officers and regional Paralympic committees to promote PTT.

7.2 courses:

- there were 25 coaching courses and 5 URC courses which included PTT currently scheduled for 2011.
- a development course run under the umbrella of the IPC had been held in El Salvador and a course would be held in Namibia which had been initiated by Lill, both funded from the PTT grant.
- continuing cooperation with the IPC was planned.
- the project in Ethiopia had stalled, the MoU had not been signed and the equipment held back.
- 3 new English speaking, 1 new French speaking and 2 new Spanish speaking course conductors had been trained.
- coaching manuals existed in English, Spanish, Arabic, Portuguese and French.

7.3 continental development agreements: the inclusion of PTT in the continental agreements for the next 4 year Olympic cycle was being discussed.

The Division asked the regional representatives to liaise with the continental associations, the continental development officers and regional Paralympic committees to promote PTT and development activities.

8 PLAYERS' COMMITTEE REPORT: the Division noted the report including discussion at a separate meeting with the members of the Players' Committee:

8.1 brochure on player education on the rules: this existed and its continued value should be assessed by the PC.

8.2 hall of fame and merit award:

- the hall of fame plaques had been given out in Gwangju and 2 replacements in Rotterdam.
- the addition of players to the hall of fame would need to be monitored annually.
- the merit award was for people who had served table tennis over a long period of time and nominations were approved by the Executive Committee.

8.3 donations to the Museum: the Para section needed to be developed and donations to help this happen were appreciated.

8.4 criteria for an award for the best organised tournament: this had been referred to the Players' Committee.

8.5 criteria for the best player award over a year or only the regional and world championships: this had been referred to the Players' Committee.

8.6 athletes' representation, co-option to the Division, member from Africa:

- the presence of players at Division meetings added value to the process.

- a player had been elected to the Athletes' Commission and it would be important for her to be well informed about Division activities and for the Division to provide all support possible for her.
- thus co-opting the player serving on the Athletes' Commission should be considered which would also add another player voice to the Division.
- a player representative from Africa still had to be found although the association of a candidate had been approached several times, no response had been received.

8.7 communication:

- the PC would represent all interest groups, players from all regions, wheelchair and standing players.
- by working as a team, significant progress could be made.
- some aspects of the PC report could be expressed more sensitively.
- there were 2 or more sides to the story and it was important to hear them to ensure that information and decisions taken were as accurate as possible.

8.8 specific recommendations:

- if there is no limit on the number of players entered for an event, more than 1 playing hall should be allowed; *response: there is no specific limit on the number of halls but a deputy referee may be needed for each hall which had an impact on the entry fees.*
- the referee and TD should assess the number of tables needed once entries are submitted; *response: this is difficult as team compositions were not confirmed by the second entry and could only be confirmed on arrival; the number of tables was usually set; the organisers should state the number of entries that they could accommodate on the basis of the number of tables, the time and the accommodation available.*
- there should be a limit on the entry fee for Fa20 and Fa40 events; *response: players could select which tournaments to participate in and one of the criteria could be cost; some organisers were apparently charging for a single supplement where the hotel did not charge this; hotel costs varied with the tourist season; the organisers sometimes offered hotels and transport options to associations and teams to organise themselves; the rating system may also help players to select which tournaments to attend.*
- Fa40 events should be of a higher standard; *response: this was the intention and would be addressed in an ongoing way; this would also depend on available facilities.*
- the entry fee should reflect the hotel standard; *response: the entry fee should incorporate the full package; different hotel standards varied per country.*
- teams should be able to book their own accommodation and transport and be charged a different entry fee; *response: this was provided for but was currently at the discretion of the organisers.*
- a questionnaire on the event should be distributed to players; *response: this had been done over several years with a poor response including it being distributed with the start numbers; discussion electronically could be more effective.*
- all players should have their own medical insurance; *response: agreed either through the player or the association.*
- all events should have a clause stating players/teams participate at their own risk; *response: this will be investigated.*
- organisers should have transport insurance which covers wheelchairs and prostheses; *response: all players in principle should have their own insurance for "personal equipment", all transport companies should have insurance and organisers should check and if there was negligence, the player should be able to claim.*
- a list of passports scanned should be updated and issued to organisers to scan only those outstanding; *response: agreed – the system has been adapted.*

- all TDs and referees should be made aware of mistakes and should ensure uniformity in the application of the rules and regulations; *response: agreed and the PC should communicate with the TD copied to Gorazd.*
- all new regulations should be sent to the players for approval first: *response: in developing the agenda for a PTT meeting, proposals would be distributed and would allow the PC to be consulted.*
- the website should be updated to include all new regulations in the correct place; *response: agreed.*
- a page for the Players' Committee and an email facility established; *response: done.*
- new rules for classification should be put on the website; *response: agreed in principle but full profiles being published could allow some players/coaches to learn how to cheat; the classification process and basic profiles were included in the Classification Code.*
- a Players' Committee page should be developed on FaceBook; *response: the PC would follow up.*
- results from events should be published on the website while the event is in progress; *response: agreed but sometimes this was dependent on the organisers; if it was available, it should be advertised; if Gaël had access to the internet when he was at an event, this could be done.*
- format of play in London should have 2 players going to the knock-out phase; *response: this had been investigated but the time available did not allow this but could be investigated for 2016.*
- no player should be prevented from participating in any event by their association; *response: this was an internal matter to an association but in the ITTF, the association was responsible and accountable for entries of players; however, should case law be available, this would be considered.*

The Division asked Jolanda to:

- a) follow up on:
 - the need for the players' brochure on rules.
 - the value of an award for the best tournament and criteria for this.
 - the value of an award for the best player, the criteria and when it should be awarded e.g. results over a year or only at the regional and world championships.
 - a representative from Africa.
- b) consult on the co-option of the player representative on the Athletes' Commission onto the Division.

The Division resolved to:

- i) co-opt Jolanda onto the Division as an advisor in her capacity as chairperson of the Players' Committee.
- ii) approve the appointment of Ed Levy (Americas), Rebecca McDonnell (Asia-Oceania) to the Players' Committee.
- iii) approve the job descriptions for the Players' Committee and for the representative to the Athletes' Commission noting that the Athletes' Commission may have a different approach.

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

- 9.1 shorter questionnaire on the organisation of tournaments, review and feedback:
 - the questionnaire was available but the feedback received was generally limited but was taken seriously.
 - a survey through Facebook could be done.

- 9.2 review of the tournament structure, more than 1 event per country, more regular world championships:
- playing best of 5 games was a positive development.
 - players often said they wanted to play more matches and then said that they were playing too many matches.
 - having more regular world championships could be affected by having willing organisers.
 - joint world championships were a good initiative but would depend on having good organisers willing to undertake the project.
 - the ITTF results management system was not always compatible with PTT needs.
 - the event in Rotterdam included too many activities but having the PTT event allowed umpires to work, sometimes for the first time, at a PTT event.
 - a top 12 per class could be organised together with the ITTF world championships.
 - should the tournament structure change, it could only be implemented in 2014.
 - changing the tournament structure was integrally linked to selection issues for world championships and Paralympic Games.
 - there was no real difference in standard in Fa40 and 20 events but the difference could be clearly defined or the events should not have different factors allocated.
 - originally Fa40 was intended to mirror the Pro Tour but the resources were not available to the same extent as the Pro Tour.
 - the main difference was the number of players both events but it seemed that younger players were competing in Fa20, possibly because of classification but once classified, they may move to Fa40 events.
 - there were not enough tournaments being organised in Africa and Oceania.
 - as the rating system seemed not to provide as much of an incentive to participate than the ranking system, an incentive to go to attractive tournaments had to be considered for implementation from 1 January 2012.
 - an aspect could be having Paralympic qualification events.
 - applying the deadline for entries could reduce the number of entries or a limit on the number of entries could be implemented.
 - sometimes accepting entries was done to ensure a class was viable.
 - the TD should be the person to close the entries in consultation with the organisers.
 - the implementation of an online system would help the entry process.
 - in order to capitalise on the success of the parallel event in Rotterdam, the organisers for Dortmund should be approached for a similar activity in 2012.
 - the PTT event in Rotterdam was an initiative from the organisers and the Dutch NOC-NPC.
 - there were several umpires who were enthusiastic to officiate at the PTT event and probably future PTT events.
 - having more than one event in a country annually may be too much but it could be “special events” like for tetra players, youth.
 - tournament organisers should not be individuals but linked to and endorsed by the national association to ensure accountability.
 - tournament organisers should be able to decide if they would accept the payment of entry fees in cash after the deadline but this would be at their own risk.
 - sponsorship was possible for an event to be organised for “beginners” (young and/or new players) as well as a Fa40 event.
 - a tournament could be combined with an international rehabilitation products trade fair in Düsseldorf.

- 9.3 calendar for 2011, warning letters:
- the calendar on the website was up to date except for the All Africa Games.
 - the warning letters had not been issued but discussions had taken place with the organisers.
- 9.4 signature of contracts for all events: all had been signed except for the All Africa Games and ParaPanAm Games.
- 9.5 Regional Championships 2011 and AUT course and evaluations:
- 9.5.1 Croatia (European Championships):
- the doping agreement had been signed.
 - as the European Championships was similar in size and had several people involved in the Paralympic Games involved, SwissTiming would hopefully attend to test the PRIS system.
 - an AUT course would be held.
- 9.5.2 Hong Kong (Asia-Oceania Championships):
- the NPC was negotiating with a possible sponsor.
 - there was good liaison between the HKTTA and the NPC.
 - a meeting had to be held in Hong Kong to finalise the recommended referee team.
- 9.5.3 the All African Games (African Championships):
- the PTT would be part of the able-bodied event.
 - the Games dates were 3 to 18 September 2011 while the PTT event would probably take 4 days towards the end of the Games.
- 9.5.4 the ParaPanAm Games (Americas Championships):
- the Games were under the jurisdiction of the IPC.
 - doping control was centralised for all sports.
 - transport could take up to an hour from the Village to venue.
 - a referee team had to be nominated.
- 9.6 World Championships 2014:
- the contract had been signed.
 - some Chinese players had indicated that the venue was out of town with little opportunity to socialise but the world championships were about competition.
 - the umpires and referees would be appointed through the normal URC processes.
- 9.7 Regional Championships 2013 and 2015:
- for 2013, Italy and China were interested.
 - for 2015, France and Germany were interested.
 - for 2015, PTT may be part of the ParaPanAm and All Africa Games.
- 9.8 tournament organiser's handbook and education: cooperation with Raúl would assist the process.
- 9.9 inclusion of PTT events on the ITTF calendar: information should be sent to Etsuko to update.
- 9.10 number of teams in 3 combined classes in Fa20: with the rating system, flexibility could be introduced in the number of teams in Fa20 events.
- 9.11 priority for teams from the host in Fa40 and players in the same class: to be discussed with the Players' Committee.

The Division asked:

- a) the Players' Committee to take responsibility for the tournament questionnaire, working with Gorazd, to finalise the questions to be included.

- b) Gorazd to work with Nico and the Players' Committee on reviewing the tournament structure, a definition of "special events" and report to the next meeting.
- c) Gorazd, Emese and Alison to work on the tournament organiser's handbook and Alison to contact Raúl to see if a draft already existed.
- d) Gorazd to propose updates to the directives for team events in Fa20 and host teams in Fa40 after discussing with the Players' Committee.
- e) Alison to follow up the appointment of referee teams with the URC.
- f) Alison to put the withdrawal penalty policy on the agenda for the next meeting.

10 TECHNICAL OFFICER'S REPORT: the Division noted the Technical Officer's report including:

- 10.1 update of the handbook and integration with the ITTF documents:
 - changes to the ITTF Handbook chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4: had been approved by the AGM (chapters 1 and 2) and Board of Directors (chapters 3 and 4).
 - directives for events which incorporated exceptions to the ITTF Handbook had been approved.
- 10.2 proposed changes to the laws of table tennis, regulations and handbook for match officials:
 - a new chapter for the Handbook for Match Officials and Handbook for Tournament Referees had been amended to include PTT.
 - both the HMO and HTR would be formally published in September 2011.
 - the HMO advised referees that PTT players, where appropriate, should be allowed to wear tracksuit pants.
- 10.3 doubles match option to be played as the last match:
 - the Board of Directors had approved the flexibility for PTT to decide the doubles match in the team event to be played 3rd or 5th in the match.
 - the Players' Committee should advise if the doubles match should be 5th in all team matches.
 - the doubles would be played last in the Paralympic Games.
- 10.4 education of referees:
 - the URC would follow up the continuing integration of PTT into the referees' education and training system.
 - Bruce Burton was undertaking a review of the umpires' and referees' education and training system and may recommend an increase the number of PTT events at which evaluations took place and to ensure the continued integration of PTT into courses.
- 10.5 technical officials: the URC was discussing the issue of technical officials with a disability being BB umpires and possibly referees.

The Division asked Alison to work with Gaël on the rules page on the website.

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

- 11.1 classification code ratification: the IPC was assessing the code but changes should be incorporated as necessary.
- 11.2 classifier education and manual:
 - the draft should be available by the next meeting and would be published by the end of 2011.
 - some players had been identified as cheating in classification and action should be taken.
 - trainee classifiers should be trained to deal with pressure applied by coaches and coaches should be advised not to apply pressure on classifiers.
 - PTT had disqualified a player in 2005 and then suspended her for 2 years for cheating in classification.

- a player who cheated in classification who wished to play again would have to start again effectively as a new player.
 - some team management were encouraging players to go through the classification process to be classified into a lower class.
 - referees should consult the TD before taking action against a player or athlete support personnel which could include a red card.
 - the revision of the description of classes was underway and would become more functional than medical.
 - other trainers would be able to run seminars at regional level and perhaps without a tournament but this would not be recorded as a full seminar.
 - all regional seminars would be level B.
- 11.3 implementation of the new system for sitting classes for 2011: the review of class 5 was being implemented.
- 11.4 INAS-FID classification update:
- after miscommunication, it had become clear that PTT would need to use the computer based tests to assess “sports intelligence” which meant that touchscreens would need to be purchased and classifiers trained to use the system.
 - the IPC and INAS had been informed that PTT wanted to review the need to use the touchscreen test after London.
 - there was no immediate need to have a seeding or rating system for class 11.
- 11.5 length of the femur stump: this would be clarified in Split.
- 11.6 classification information for TD training: this would be developed from the classification manual and code.
- 11.7 classifier at Fa40 events: this system was now working.

The Division asked:

- a) Juraj and Gaël to work on the communication of classification information through the website.
- b) Juraj and Alison to work on updating the classification code and other documents.
- c) the Players’ Committee to help to address cheating and bad behaviour towards officials, particularly classifiers.
- d) Juraj, Nico and Alison to revise and publicise the procedures to be followed for players alleged to have cheated in classification.
- e) Gaël to make contact with Yves Drapeau to begin the process of migrating results to PTT for the rating system.
- f) Alison to work on a draft for sanctions associated with bad behaviour.

12 SELECTION OFFICER’S REPORT: the Division noted the Selection Officer’s report including:

12.1 proposals for the Parapan American Games 2011:

- 128 slots had been allocated to table tennis including class 11;
- the allocation of slots would be managed as was done with the previous Games and the Paralympic Games.
- as the final entries were not known early enough, the medals should not have the class engraved to allow for flexibility in combining classes.

12.2 presence at regional championships: this would be assessed on a case by case basis.

13 RANKING OFFICER AND WEBMASTER’S REPORT: the Division noted the Ranking Director and Webmaster’s report including:

13.1 integration with the ITTF website and web server: some progress was being made.

- 13.2 players' database including classification: the basic structure of the ITTF database would be used to assess whether it could be adapted to use for PTT purposes.
- 13.3 calendar management: no progress had been made but hopefully a copy of the calendar would be available to assess.
- 13.4 rating system, incentives to participate:
- the system had been published and feedback from some players received.
 - there would be an update at the beginning of June 2011.
 - the system would not reward participation but performance.
 - for 1 year of inactivity, 2% of the rating would be lost.
 - to encourage participation of all players, the tournament credit system could be combined with players having to participate in a tournament outside their own continent.
 - the tournament credit was currently used only to qualify for world championships and Paralympic Games but could be used for qualification for regional championships.
 - if the regional championships were removed from the tournament credit, it would remain a qualification event but for continents where there were few tournaments, removing the regional championships may disadvantage some players.
 - the introduction of the rating system was aimed to have an accurate seeding system whereas using the ranking system for London could lead to strong players being drawn in the same group.
 - the qualification/selection system for London would be based on the ranking list system.
- 13.5 online entries: the adaptation of the able-bodied system was being investigated.
- 13.6 avoiding errors in team results submitted in Dr Wu's programme: most errors on the results occurred in the team events and umpires or the computer operators and should be corrected by the referee.
- 13.7 data protection: the issue affected ITTF as a whole and would need to be followed up with a new form for players to sign and, combined with the code of conduct, would require those handling data to manage it appropriately.

The Division agreed that the tournament credit period for the 2014 World Championships would be 1 October 2012 to 31 December 2013.

The Division asked:

- a) the Players' Committee to give feedback by the next meeting on the parameters which could be changed for the rating system and Gaël to provide the parameters by mid-June 2011.
- b) Gaël to review the online registration system and advise whether it could be adapted or whether a new system should be designed.

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

14.1 Americas:

- most countries were integrated.
- however, at least one country was merely signing the documents while not working to full integration.
- a women's workshop had been held in Uruguay.
- there would be 5 tournaments in the region.

14.2 Africa:

- a meeting had been held with the presidents of various zones who had committed to promote PTT.
- Egypt had been approached to host the African Championships but had not responded but hopefully the inclusion in the All Africa Games would resolve this issue.

14.3 Europe:

- some research had been done on the state of integration in Europe.
- a meeting had been held with members of the ETTU Board and various points needed to be followed up.
- the president of the ETTU had, in principle, agreed to attend part of the PTT European Championships.

14.4 Asia-Oceania and separation:

- the Asia representative would hold a meeting during the Taichung Open of the Asian Para Table Tennis Development Committee.
- following increasing liaison between the Oceania representative and the Oceania Development Officer, an integrated approach was encouraged when courses were offered and information conveyed to the Oceania representative to follow up.
- a meeting with countries from Oceania would be held during the Arafura Games.
- several associations were focusing on developing the PTT component.

15 LONDON 2012: the Division noted a report from the TD including:

15.1 player slots class 11: the IPC had responded that no extra slots were available so it would remain 6 men and 6 women.

15.2 qualification guide (wild cards for GBR, class 11):

- the clarification of qualification via regional championships had been approved by the Olympic and Paralympic Commission.
- similarly, discretion for slots to be allocated to the wild cards or the ranking list had been approved to protect regional representation should class 11 not be organised in a regional championships.
- the host was eligible for 4 wild cards (men and women's standing and sitting classes) was inserted into the qualification guide.
- all these proposed changes had to be approved by the IPC.

15.3 competition schedule:

- 2 sessions were planned with 90 minutes break to allow spectators from the morning session to leave and new ones to arrive for the evening session.
- 2 tables would be used for the finals.
- the schedule had been approved by the ITTF.

15.4 equipment:

- the table surface would be dark blue and the floor light blue.
- the decision on the colours would be finalised by the end of May 2011.

15.5 officials (NTOs and ITOs): the IPC had approved the proposed numbers for ITOs including 3 jury members and 4 classifiers but final written confirmation was awaited for both ITOs and NTOs.

15.6 jury: the appointments would be approved by the OPC in November 2011.

15.7 site inspection:

- this had been done in December 2010.
- the transport system to ExCel should be checked.
- the test event would be the Pro Tour Grand Final and would not include a PTT event as the venue was not built up for this purpose.

15.8 PRIS: liaison with SwissTiming and IPC was ongoing.

15.9 specific regulations: the draft document had been approved by the OPC.

The Division asked Alison to follow up with the IPC on the qualification guide, ITOs and NTOs.

16 NEXT MEETING: the dates for the next meeting to be held during the PTT European Championships would be circulated soon.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at about 14h00.

READ AND CONFIRMED AT THE MEETING

HELD ON

CHAIRPERSON

AMB/

20 June 2011