



# INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS COMMITTEE FOR DISABLED

## EUROPE REGIONAL TABLE TENNIS ASSEMBLY

### MINUTES

A meeting of the ITTC EUROPE regional table tennis assembly was held on 15 July 2001 at 18h00 at the lodging facility of the European Table Tennis championships.

**MEMBERS:** IPC nations widely practicing table tennis in Europe attending the assembly with a mandate from their NPC were: Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Spain, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Norway, Slovakia, Sweden, (11).

Observing nations with no voting or speaking rights were: Austria, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Iceland, Italy, Israel, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Ukraine, Yugoslavia (14).

**CHAIRPERSON:** Christian Lillieroos (Chairperson, ITTC)

1. **CONFIRMATION OF SYDNEY 2000 MINUTES:** the minutes were distributed ahead of the meeting.
2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:** the motions that passed in the Assembly were read from the minutes and clarified.
3. **REPORTS:**

ITTC report: the Chairperson of the ITTC, Mr. Christian Lillieroos, gave a report from the ITTC for the information of the assembly. The report covered:

- 1.1 the new organization of the ITTC its sub-committees and functions.
- 1.2 the Selection Officer, Nico Verspeelt, gave a report on the selection system to be used for the 2002 world championships.
- 1.3 the Medical Officer, Aart Kruimer, gave a report on the adaptations of the new rules of classifications since Sydney and the progress of the mandate from the assembly to attempt to form 4 wheelchair classes and 4 standing classes. The most likely change is that after the 2002 World Championships the suggested change from ITTC will be a progressive standing classification system with 5 standing classes and 4 wheelchair classes, where some of the current more disabled class 4 will go down to class 3 and all the remaining class 4 and 5 will be combined to one class. The medical committee believed that it is necessary to keep 5 standing classes to maintain a fair system. The standing players have the whole body to classify, where the wheelchair athletes only have half their body to classify. If this motion passes in the Table Tennis assembly, it will be implemented directly, and all the players in the World Championships will be classified into their new class.

#### 4. OTHER TOURNAMENTS:

- a) The World Team Cup 2002, in Roermond Netherlands, did a presentation of their event. A 9 person bid committee came from the Netherlands and did a very strong presentation of how the

first World Team Cup will be organized. The tournament will be played July 3 - 7 2002, in a combined format where each nation has one 3 player team in each of the 4 categories. The events will be combined Men wheelchair team, Combined Women Wheelchair team, Combined Men standing team, and Combined Women standing two player teams. A discussion was conducted in regards to the format of the combined team format and what combined team point system will be used. The assembly expressed a concern of the new system that has not yet been tested.

- b) 2003 regional championships bids: the Assembly noted the procedure set out by the chairperson to be followed when submitting a bid to host a regional championships. A Presentation of the Zagreb bid committee was conducted for the 2003 European Paralympic Table Tennis Championships. The Vice President of the Croatia Olympic Committee was present together with the Croatia Paralympic Committee President and a group of 4 additional members of the bid committee. A video was presented to the Assembly about the table tennis traditions in Croatia. Zagreb will also be the host of the 2002 European able-bodied Championships. A decision on the bid will be made shortly after the European championships by the ITTC executive committee and the European Paralympic Committee.

5. **REGIONAL REPORT:** the European Paralympic Committee President, Mr. Hans Lindström, was invited to present a report covering developments in the region. A brief report was made and Mr. Lindstrom gave his remaining time to the discussion on the World Team Cup system.
6. **ELECTION OF A REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE 2001 – 2005:** the resolution taken at the assembly held in October 2000 in Sydney was that the regional representatives should be elected at the regional championships starting the year after the Sydney Paralympic Games for a four-year term of office. Voting for these positions should be by that region's national members and not by the whole world. The regional representative from Europe was voted for in a secret ballot election.

Nominations were called for through the IPC Headquarters, and the received nominated candidates, supported by his or her NPC, were circulated prior to the Assembly. The election period is to serve table tennis in the European region from now until the next regional elections in 2005, including working with the European Championships 2003 and 2005.

There was only one nominated candidate from the Czech Paralympic Committee. **Jiri Danek** won the ITTC regional election unopposed.

7. **THE 2002 WORLD PARALYMPIC TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS:** in Taipei, Chinese Taipei, made a presentation of their event with a power-point presentation.
8. **OTHER BUSINESS:** No other business was brought forward.

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