

INTERNATIONAL PARALYMPIC TABLE TENNIS
COMMITTEE

TECHNICAL DELEGATE

EVALUATION REPORT

Name of Tournament / Championships : Commonwealth Games 2006
Women's Wheelchair Championships

Ranking Factor Approved for : 10

Responsible Federation : Commonwealth Games 2006

Chairman of Organising Committee : Y.A.M. Tunku Imran

Dates of Play : 13-25 March 2006

Name of Technical Delegate : Neil Harwood

Report submitted to IPC and IPTTC : 6 May 2006

1-Background

Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games held on 15 to 26 March 2006. Table Tennis is one of the events. Other sporting events include: Aquatics, Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Cycling, Gymnastics, Hockey, Lawn Bowls, Netball, Rugby 7s, Shooting, Squash, Triathlon and Powerlifting.

In 1997, the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) included in its Constitution the requirement for host cities from 2006 onwards to conduct events for Elite Athletes with a Disability (EAD).

The Manchester 2002 Local Organising Committee took the initiative to include ten full medal events for athletes with a disability across five sports despite no formal CGF constitutional obligation. The medal events at Manchester included the following: Athletics; Power Lifting; Lawn Bowls; Swimming and Table Tennis.

All events for athletes with a disability were completely integrated into the competition programme at peak times in the schedule. The competition formats and operational signoff were conducted by each respective Paralympic sport governing body.

In November 2003 the CGF made the formal decision that the Melbourne EAD Sporting Program would comprise 12 events across four sports: Aquatics – Swimming; Athletics; Table Tennis and Power Lifting.

Each CGA can enter up to three athletes in each event.

2-Accommodation

All the athletes live in the Games village. The village is comprehensively equipped with good facilities. Wheelchair access is available in the rooms, bathrooms, toilet and other facilities. Accommodations were very good.

All the officials stayed at the Mercure hotel in the city.

The restaurant in village is opened 24 hours to supply food. The food consists of different varieties for choosing. The players are very satisfied in that regard.

Drinks, fruits and snacks are also available to the athletes at the playing venue.

3-Venue

The playing venue is located at the stadium at Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre, Albert Park. The venue is fully equipped with, toilets, showers and restaurant. The floor surface and lighting are first class and complies with competition regulations.

This tournament was played in two separate arenas. The main arena only has two tables. The secondary arena has eight tables with the practising area having 10 tables. All the tables are suitable for wheelchair competition.

There is an office with telephone, photocopier and computer in the ground floor.

Floor:	Red Taraflex
Lighting:	800 lux, suitable, without daylight
Spectator seats:	about 1000 for the participants and spectators For wheelchairs – directly on the area
Gluing area:	Special room
Officials room:	Referee room, meeting room Classification room Results/computer room

4-Equipment

- Tables: 10 Tables – Stiga Expert (Blue)
- Net: Stiga
- Balls: Stiga *** Orange
- (All ITTF approved)
- Surroundings (Stiga) and Score boards

5-Competition Days

- 13 March (Mon) Arrival
- 15 March (Wed) Classification & Opening Ceremony
- 23 March (Tue) Classification & Training
- 22 March (Wed) Competition - Qualifying Round 1
- 23 March (Thur) Competition - Qualifying Round 2, 3
- 24 March (Fri) Competition - Quarter Final
- 26 March (Sun) Competition – Bronze Medal & Gold Medal Match
Medal ceremony & Closing Ceremony

6-Number of Participants

A total of nine countries participated.

AUSTRALIA	3
BANGLADESH	1
ENGLAND	3

KENYA	3
LESOTHO	1
MALAYSIA	2
NIGERIA	3
SOUTH AFRICA	2
WALES	2

Total Womens wheelchair players: 20

7-Transport

The Games arranged buses to transport the athletes between the village and the playing venue. There is little traffic. The only interference is the security check.

8-Officials

Competition Management team:

- Competition Manager: Mr. Phil Davis
- Assistant Competition Manager: Mr. Daniel Andrews
- Field of Play Operations Manager: Mr. Alan Hopkins
- Administrative Assistant: Ms Rhonda Flint
- IPC Liaison: Mr. Stephen Frawley

Classifier: Mr. Leonard Powell (AUS)
Mrs. Barbara Powell (AUS)

Referee: Mr. Graeme Ireland (AUS)
Deputy Referee: Mr. Steven Lee (AUS)
Mr. Mike Skinner (CAN)
Mr. Nemmara V Raman (IND)

Jury: Mr. Alan Ransome (ENG)
Mr. Chandra Madhosingh (CAN)

Racket Controller: Mr. Ronald Keyhoe (AUS)
Mr. Chandra Madhosingh (CAN)
Mr. Robert Pappalardo (AUS)

Chief Umpire: Mrs. Fran Keyhoe (AUS)
Umpires: 44

There were a total of 28 umpires from Australia. There was also 15 umpires from other nations: CAN 1, ENG 2, IND 2, KEN 1, MAL 2, NZL 1, NIG 1, PAK 1, SCO 1, SIN 1, RAS 1, WAL 1.

9-Meetings

Manager's meeting was held at 1600 on 14 March. As most of the matters have been arranged and prior notices were given to all the participating nations, the meeting finished soon with a short briefing from CGF Chairperson, TD, Competition Manager and the Referee regarding matters that need to be attended to.

Umpire Briefing was held at 1900 on 14 March after the Manager's meeting.

Technical Officials Venue and Equipment Familiarisation
13 March 2006 1900 to 2100

Competition Rehearsal
14 March 2006 0900 to 1200

10-Draws

This tournament only consists of women's wheelchair Open event. The playing was round robin group in the preliminary stage and knock out in the secondary stage. The number of participants is not large, with only 20 participating.

The draw was conducted under the IPTTC's regulations. Since there is only one event, time spent was minimal. The Open draw – Phase 1 was done at 1300 on 18 March and the Phase 2 was done at 1000 on 24 March.

11-Classification

2 IPTTC classifiers were responsible for classifying players. They were very efficient. A total of 6 players were required to be classified, commencing on 15 March from 1100pm to 1500pm.

12-Results

The competition results group was fairly efficient.

The results of the day's matches were delivered to the CGA on the night. The results for the whole tournament were ready before departure of the teams.

13-Other Staff

There were doctors, physiotherapist on duty at the playing venue. There were lots of volunteers from the Games during the whole competition well. They were very helpful in providing assistance. The tournament was run in a smooth fashion.

14- Other Matter

The women's wheelchair event was included in the Commonwealth Games for the second time. Nigeria has a very high standard. It is a pity they do not participate in other IPTTC events and therefore the players are not in the ranking list. Some players expressed the view that men's event should e included in the future.

As a conclusion, this tournament was very successful. All the arrangements were very well planned. I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the organising committee for the great work done.

6 May 2006
Steven W.H. Lee
IPTTC Technical Delegate