

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



**TECHNICAL DELEGATE**

**EVALUATION REPORT**

<b>Name of Tournament:</b>	<b>ParaPanamerican Games 2007</b>
<b>Ranking Factor Approved for:</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Name of the National Federation:</b>	<b>Brazilian Paralympic Committee</b>
<b>Chairman of Organising Committee:</b>	<b>Mr. Arthur Nuzman</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of August, 2007</b>
<b>Name of Technical Delegate:</b>	<b>Leandro Olvech - ARG</b>
<b>Report submitted to IPC and ITTC:</b>	<b>August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007</b>

**Participants:**

15 Nations: 49 Men WC  
20 Women WC  
41 Men ST  
5 Women ST  
21 Coaches  
17 Support Staff  
Total Staff: 38

<b>Total:</b>	<b>153 People</b>
---------------	-------------------

**Previous Communications with the OC**

This was a critical area. Considering that the contact wasn't with just one person and it was a huge organising committee (CORIO) in some ways it worked excellent. The contact with the National Paralympic Committees was perfect, may be the best ever in a Parapanam.

The information received regarding entries was perfect, very professional. Those related to seminars, conferences and protocol were very good.

May be the weakest issue to evaluate this games, at least from the point of view of the table tennis technical delegate, was the sport specific information and those related to the international technical officers (ITO's).

I have started the contact with CORIO in February 2006. I have been asking them to start in many areas but as it was a big structure, the bureaucracy made it slower during last year, and then they were very hurried this year. The internal communication in CORIO could work better, we have been asked to send several times the same information by different people and also when we arrived to Rio de Janeiro they asked some of them again. It made us work much more and unnecessarily. The air tickets for the officers were bought just the week before of the planned arrival; it occasioned a stress prior to the competition.

**Reception at the airport:** Very Well organized. Not any problem.

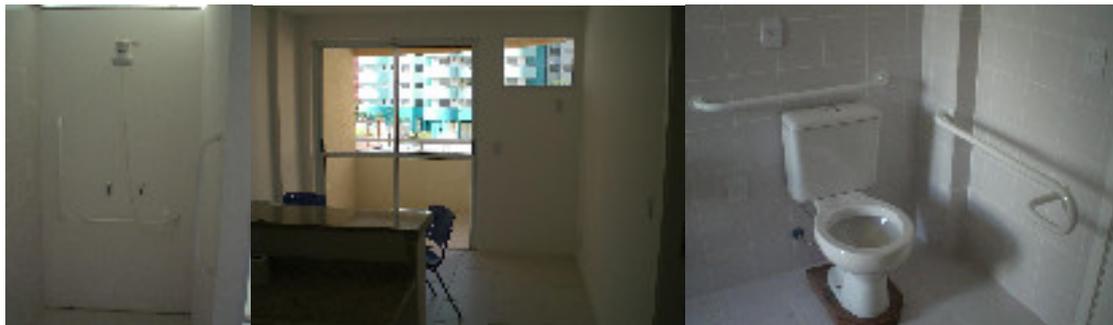
**Accreditation:** It worked perfectly. At one side of the Pan-American Village, there was a "welcome centre" where the delegations and officers were received through a quick and safe process. The permitted area for every kind of accreditation was followed strictly.

**Accommodation:** The Pan-American Village is located at Barra de Tijuca, a relatively new neighbourhood in the west of Rio de Janeiro. Rounded by nature, three big lagoons and many mountains. The village was composed by big buildings with apartments for 2 or 4 people. The capacity is 8000 people and the size 420 thousands m<sup>2</sup>. Most of the buildings were accessible; perhaps some ramps to access them could have smoother faces.



Pan-American Village

There were many extra services like laundry, info terminals, photocopying services, a TV room per building, recreational pool, Internet access rooms, storage rooms for the delegations, housekeeping, ecumenical service, internal newspaper and a fitness centre. There was an international area inside the village with a bank, post office, a bar, tourist services, orthopaedic repairing services, a disco, etc. There was also a medical centre and many offices for meetings and conferences. The service inside the village was just great. Paralympic Level.



Pan-American Apartment – Accessible Bathroom



Pan-American Village – International Zone

**Meals:**

There was restaurant inside the village with 24 hrs service. The variety and quality of the food was very good, international, and with options for vegetarians. All descriptions of the food were in the 3 official languages (English, Spanish and Portuguese) and included the calories per serve. The delegations had the chance to ask for lunchboxes. It was also possible to have some snacks at the venue.



Restaurant at the Village

**Transport:**

Paralympic Games (PG) level, Buses every 20 minutes to the Venue and coming back. Same system as in PG, (T1, T2, T3, etc). Personal car for the Technical Delegate, and Chiefs de Mission, chance to ask for a car for other ITO's.



Exit to the transport center (1,2) – Arrival to the Venue (3)

**Communication:**

CORIO provided the sport and logistic information to the participants with necessary anticipation; the results were updated frequently. The competition schedules were delivered very soon.

**Security:**

Strictly control of the accreditations with scanners. There was a metal control of the people and luggage at the village entry and in some venues.

**Main Venue:**

Rio Centro

Inaugurated on 1977, this is the biggest exposition centre in Latin America. Rio Centro was also the Venue for Judo and Sitting Volleyball

Floor: Tara flex

Lighting: 1000 Lux apr.

Temperature: Perfect

Spectator Seats: 1462

Referee's Table: In one of the smaller sides of the field of play

Gluing Room: Some tables outside the competition hall

Officials Rooms: Technical Delegate, Referee, Umpires Lounge, Restroom for players, Doping Control Room, Information Centre, Racket Control, Protocol, Ceremonies, Paralympic Family Lounge and many storage rooms.

Toilets: 6 Rooms with toilets and chemical ones for wheelchair users



<b><u>Equipment:</u></b>	Tables:	10 pcs. Tibhar blue, ITTF app. + 10 pcs. for warming up, all accessible.
	Net:	Tibhar, ITTF Approved
	Scorers:	Tibhar / Tissot
	Surroundings:	CORIO
	Balls:	Tibhar *** White, ITTF Approved

<b><u>Programme:</u></b>	August 7 <sup>th</sup> :	- Arrivals of Teams and classifications
	August 8 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> :	- Classifications (Seminar) and Training
	August 11 <sup>th</sup> :	- Coaching Committee Presentation
	August 12 <sup>th</sup> :	- Technical Meeting, Umpires Seminar , Opening Cerem.
	August 13 <sup>th</sup> :	- Open Events
	August 14 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> :	- Single Events
	August 15 <sup>th</sup> :	- Americas Table Tennis Committee Assembly
	August 16 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> :	- Team Events
	August 19 <sup>th</sup> :	- Closing Ceremony
	August 20 <sup>th</sup> :	- Departures

Competition started at 9/10hs and finished around 19/20hs, and 17:30hs on last day.

The timetable was perfectly arranged by the referee and his team with advice from the TD. 40 minutes for single matches and 2 hours planned for teams.

**Meetings:** A technical meeting was held in the morning of 12<sup>th</sup> and included some words from the organizers. The open draw was made prior to the meeting leaded by the referee using Dr. Wu’s software. There was a simultaneous translation that made it much easier.

**Entry Fee:** There was not any entry fee for the participants!

**Ceremonies:** The Opening ceremony was organised on 12<sup>th</sup> of August with a marching of delegations, live music, acrobat shows and opening speeches. Superb level!



Brazilian Anthem performed by a guitar player / Marching of Brazilian Delegation



Live Music / Acrobat Show

### **Medal Presentations:**

Medals presentations were at the end of each type of event during the lunch break or at the end of the daily session. There was a nice podium and the players were escorted by nice dressed ladies. The flags were transported and hauled up by militars with their protocol. The presentations were very nice but during the first round it took around 15 minutes and more than 10 minutes pause in between. It was solved during the second session of medals presentation and reduced to 8 and 3 minutes in between.

### **Production:**

The production team was composed by the producer, Portuguese announcer, (English announcer for awards) sound technician, DJ and producer assistant. There was a marching before every round of matches; it was carried by the players, coaches and umpires. We decided to announce the events when they step in the FOP in order to do it faster. The first day at the morning session it took 290 seconds (the aim was less than 180) then it was reduced but the announcer was monotone and too fast. At the end of the first day it was clear, understandable and fast.

### **Classifications:**

New Classifications: 22  
 Classifications to confirm: 4  
 Requests for review: 2  
 Total: 28 classifications

### **EDP:**

**Two Educational Seminars were organised, for Umpires and Classifiers**

**Classification:** 3 candidates passed, 2 from ARG, 1 from VEN

**Umpires:** 2 BRA candidates passed the English test, 4 passed the Spanish test (2 CHI, 1 CUB, 1 URU)

### **Results:**

The results were given to the NPCs together with all other sports. I have requested the competition manager to provide CDs to TT managers but that was no possible.

### **Officials:**

Technical Delegate: Leandro Olvech – ARG  
 ITTF PTT Staff: Nico Verspeelt - BEL  
 Referee: Karol Ziduliak – CAN  
 Deputy Referees: Delano Lai Fatt – CAN  
 David DelVecchio - USA  
 Classifiers: Aart Kruimer – NED  
 Rafael M. Cayere – PUR  
 Nadia Vaccaro – ARG  
 Cintia Marino - ARG  
 Racket Controller: Odd Gustavsen – NOR  
 ITTF PTT Rep: Oeivind Eriksen - NOR  
 Umpires 30 totally, 14 foreigners and 16 nationals.

## **Organizing Committee \* (brief):**

CORIO Chairperson:	Arthur Nuzman
Secretary General:	Carlos Osorio
Parapan Integration:	Tatiane Jacusiel
Technical Officers/Delegates Manager:	Frederico Nantes
Technical Meetings:	Soraya Carvalho
Classification:	Guillermo Sanchis Gritsch
Sport Services (Entries):	Renata Simoes

### **Table Tennis**

Competition Manager:	Toshimi Nakashima
Producer:	Cristiana Fontes
Deputy Competition Manager:	Jose Zipperer
Umpire's Coordinator:	Vilmar Schindler
Field of Play Set up:	Luciano Vale
Results:	Kleber Ribeiro
Warming up Area and Balls control:	Carlos Lira
Information Centre:	Carlos Tavares
Coordination of Volunteers:	Janaina Peters
Racket Control assistant:	Luciana Koch
Control Desk auxiliary:	Gisele Stigner

\* (These are not necessarily the responsible of the mentioned areas but they were the contact for table tennis)



CORIO Offices located at Barra de Tijuca in Brazilian Olympic Committee building

**Doping Control:** It was agreed with the IPC to control 8 players through doping tests, 6 for single's gold medal winners and 2 for team event's players. Not any news regarding results was received up to this time.

**Racket Control:** (extracted from the report of the Racket Controller, Odd Gustavsen)  
**Summary:**  
1 player had bad solvent (in a voluntary test) - which was record high. ☆)  
1 player had an illegal covering.  
Details attached.

### **Procedure adapted:**

The referee and the racket control agreed

- 1) in general to test **after** the match, except
- 2) for the finals when the tests should **before** the match.

Testing after the match was done when the umpires, having received a note, collected the rackets and delivered these in the racket control room.

Testing before the match was collected by sending a note to the umpires.

The players normally collected the rackets themselves, but some time we brought them out.

It was a common purchase of Dragger tubes for both games, and we took over the remaining. We became a bit short of toluene tubes, which we compensated for by testing two at a time in the box. This went fine without any consequences.

We tried to explain the testing to the players; what we did and what the target was. Demonstrations of Enez were done to umpires and players.

### **Software:**

The used software to run the competition was Dr. Wu's program and, as the software for the whole games was Atos (used in Olympic and Paralympic Games) all draws, schedules and results processed by our system had to be re-entered in Atos. There were 2 scoreboards per table and a big screen announcing the events and results. The schedules and results were informed on the games intranet and Internet.

### **Press:**

The services for the press were good organised, they received daily releases, special places for photographers and media were foresee. An internal coverage for the village habitants was also done through a daily newspaper.

**Spectators Services:** The spectators didn't receive any written information, not any show or game during the breaks was organised as in other sports during the games.

### **Meetings / Presentations:**

CORIO agreed with IPC to organise exclusively Seminars, Assemblies or Meetings with direct impact on the games to be focused on the competition. We agreed with them to just ask for the rooms to organise such events without direct impact. It was better to finally take benefit using that time where many people is present together, but in the other hand it was harder to do it without the CORIO support.

#### • **Coaching Presentation**

- Presented by the Americas Representative of the Coaching Committee, Alejandra Gabaglio.
- The coaching structure and certification system was explained to 24 participants from 9 countries.



- **Regional Women's Meeting**

- The work and aims from the ITTF women's group as presented and debated led by Alejandra Gabaglio.
- More than 20 participants from 6 countries have been present.
- The report of the meeting will be circulated independently.



- **A Meeting of the Americas nations** was held on 14<sup>th</sup> August chaired by myself with the following agenda:

- Chairperson's Report, by Leandro Olvech, about the period since the last assembly in 2005.
- Panams 2009: Intention to organise it: USA, VEN, ESA, MEX, CRC and ARG.
- Panams 2011: Guadalajara, MEX. It is confirmed that MEX organize the Panam and Parapanam games.
- Technical Officer's Report, by Karol Ziduliak
- Development Officer's Report, by Alejandra Gabaglio
- ITTF PTT – ITTF Relationships, by Oeivind Eriksen



*As it was too late (11:30pm) and during competition days, it was proposed to continue the last points of the agenda during the lunch break on 16<sup>th</sup> of August.*

- **16th August Meeting**

The atmosphere of this second meeting was much more informal and consisted in presentations but with the emphasis on questions and answers.

- Glues, present ad future, by Odd Gustavsen
- ITTF PTT new tournament structure, by Oeivind Eriksen
- Beijing Paralympic Games, qualification process, by Nico Verspeelt

**Important Mention:**

*After the last day of Competition, on the morning of Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>, the player class 1 from Argentina, Carlos Maslup, suffered a cerebral brain haemorrhage. He was taken to the Hospital "Miguel Couto". Maslup had no conscience and was in coma. I personally went to visit him and was in contact with Dr. Miyagi, the Chief de Mission Pablo Videla and Jose Luis Campo argentine member of the IPC governing board. At that time they mentioned that the support from CORIO was as good as expected.*

*I have been in contact regarding this matter with some IPC authorities, and they were regularly updated contacting the Argentine people and myself. The wife of Maslup arrived to Rio on Monday morning and he passed away on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>.*

*He was 48 years old, married with Claudia and the family was also composed by their little girl Agustina. Born in Mendoza but lived a long time in Mar del Plata. He played in the national team for around 10 years with a significant success. He also competed during the 80's in Athletics and Swimming.*

*I personally had the chance to train him at the end of the '90s and then we were friends.*

*My condolences for his family and friends. We will miss you Carlos!*

**Evaluation:**

**Accommodations:** Very good level of the Village

**Transport:** Paralympic Games Level!

**Venue:** Paralympic Games Level!

**Security:** Paralympic Games Level!

**Sport Equipment:** Paralympic Games Level!

**Umpires:** Best level in ParaPanamerican Championships ever!

**Ball Retrievers:** Many volunteers, always smiling and helping.

**Competitions:** Time schedule perfectly followed, just a few rounds started late because of long matches on previous round.

**Information:** The information was distributed by OC and deputy referee fast and often.

**Spectators Attendance:** Great attendance during the morning and afternoon, many school kids came by bus and gave a great atmosphere to the competition.

**Spectators Services:** Compared to other regional competitions it was very good, but not as good as other sports during this Parapanams. More clear information could be delivered in order to make the people understand what is going on on the field of play. (Competition events, Classes, rules, etc)

**Medal Presentations:** The first round was too long (ceremony in itself and pauses in between) but then it improved to be perfect.

**Computers and Software:** Other critical area, **IF** we were informed that the Atos system can be used to run the whole competition perhaps we could use our software just for the draws and to send the results to the ranking director and all the rest with Atos. We never received the software description prior to the competition, for that reason we were prepared to use our one together with Atos and it made things slower and increased the job of the Referee's team (triple check instead of once)

**Org. Committee:** Most of the people that I have had the chance to contact were very professional but the internal communication seems to be not the best. (Please see "Previous Communication with OC" on page 2)

**CONCLUSION:** *First of All, THANKS for the organization of these games, nobody doubts that Rio organised the BEST Panams EVER, as games and as table tennis as well.*

*During the technical meeting I use to provide a “Tournament Evaluation Form” to the team managers, I use to say that it is not mandatory to fill it BUT if a country doesn't give it to me at the end of the competition I should consider that everything was perfect for the team. For the first time I didn't received any form...*

*IF I have to evaluate this table tennis competition as a regional one I should say, Perfect!*

*As I know you were trying to reach the Paralympic Games level, then I have evaluate it more detailed as I did. As a brief of my recommendations I will finish with 2 basic items.*

- *Try to start working earlier*
- *Improve the internal communications*

*To finalize I would like to wish the best for this very nice people for the future sport events, I must say that they gave their best.*



Leandro Olvech  
ITTF PTT – Technical Delegate

[lolvech@ittf.com](mailto:lolvech@ittf.com)