



# INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION PARA TABLE TENNIS DIVISION

## TECHNICAL DELEGATE'S REPORT

**Name of Tournament:** PTT Thailand Open 2014

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**Ranking Factor:** Factor 20

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**Name of the National Association/Organizer:** Sports Association of Disabled Thailand (under the Royal Patronage of His Majesty the King) and the Table Tennis Association of Thailand

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**Name of Chairperson of the Organizing Committee:** Major-General Osoth Bhavilai

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**Venue:** Eastern National Sports Training Center, (Pattaya Sports Stadium), Pattaya, Chon Buri,, Thailand

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**Dates of play:** 4<sup>th</sup> ~ 6<sup>th</sup> August 2014

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**Name of Technical Delegate:** Cyril SEN

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**Report submitted to ITTF PTTD:** 28<sup>th</sup> August 2014

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**Airport:** Suvarnabhumi International Airport, Bangkok is about a 90-minute drive to the hotel. Those arriving at Don Mueang International Airport were also met and transported to the hotel, the only difference being that the journey by road took about 2 hours.

**Accreditation:** Accreditation cards were handed out at the Technical Meeting. Though this was not found to be a necessity at this tournament, it would have been better if all participating teams had provided the photographs of all team members so that the organisers could ensure that all cards had photographs.

**Accommodation:** All players and officials stayed at:  
A-One Pattaya Beach Resort  
North Pattaya Beach Road, 115/9 Moo  
9 Pattaya City, Chonburi  
20150 Thailand  
[www.aone-pattaya-resort.com](http://www.aone-pattaya-resort.com)



It is a 4-star hotel comprising of 4 separate yet connected buildings, located about a 20-minute drive from the venue. The players and officials were pleasantly surprised with the quality of the facilities and service.



Although almost all participants including wheelchair users were housed in the New Wing which had adequate facilities for the latter, those that required wheelchair-specific bathrooms because of the size of their wheelchairs, were provided with accommodation in the Beach Wing, a building built specifically for wheelchair users. Although there were adequate rooms available in the Beach Wing, a few wheelchair users who required the wheelchair-specific bathrooms were inadvertently housed in the New Wing. The organisers have given their assurance that this oversight would not happen in the future, and I am confident that they will keep their word.



Free wifi service was available in the lobby as well as in the rooms.

**Meals & Refreshments:**

❖ Breakfast and dinner was at the hotel, whilst lunch was by way of lunch-boxes provided at the venue. Both, breakfast and dinner were of good quality with a fairly good spread. On the nights when matches ended late, dinner was made available till well past the normal hours so that no one had to go away hungry. Lunch, though served in a box, was of fairly good quality on most days.



If there is anything the organisers could do to make the meals even better, it would be to have more less-spicy food (western style) made available during dinner.

- ❖ There was adequate space and facilities for wheelchair users, who were assisted by the hotel staff as and when required.
- ❖ Bottled water was available for all at the venue.
- ❖ Coffee and tea, with snacks/fruit, were available for officials and guests, in the refreshments' space behind the stage in the venue.



**Transportation:**

Transport between airport and hotel and vice versa was well organized.

Due to the extended time taken from airport to hotel and back, teams/officials arriving/leaving at different times were required to wait for others so as to efficiently utilise the available transport. This resulted in some having to wait fairly long/leave quite early. Though most were understanding and appreciated the efforts made by the organisers, it would be to the organisers' credit if, in future, the waiting time could be minimized to no more than 45 minutes.



The meet-and-greet was well handled with the organisers having arranged for those arriving to be met as soon as they had exited the air-bridge. This made it very convenient for the participants to clear immigration in the shortest time possible, and was much appreciated by all. There was sufficient wheelchair accessible transport.

On practice days, a shuttle service for both wheelchair and non-wheelchair users was made available at reasonable intervals. On competition days, the shuttle service was at half-hour intervals during the peak periods, and at hourly intervals during the low periods.

Besides the above, a van was available for use by team officials in the event of urgent need.



**Venue:**

Eastern National Sports Training Center, (Pattaya Sports Stadium)



Competition Located in the main building of the Sports Stadium.  
 Hall & There were 11 wheelchair-compatible and 5 standing-only competition  
 Practice tables.  
 Hall: Tables were arranged in 4 rows of 4 each. The available space in the hall (100M x 50M) could easily accommodate 20 tables, if required, and this luxury of space allowed for the Practice Area of 6 tables to be in the same hall as the competition, but partitioned off by screens.

The whole hall was grandly decorated and well presented.



Call Located in the main hall and  
 Area: separated from the competition area by screens, the large space available made it comfortable for the wheelchair teams to access the CA tables as well as to assemble for the presentation.



Floor: Synthetic rubber mats laid over a cement floor.

Lighting: Was good and adequately covered the competition hall, practice area and call area.  
 On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of competition (5<sup>th</sup> August), there was no lighting from the time of the arrival of the teams at the hall up till 09:10 hrs. This was apparently due to a major lighting cable fault in the building. However, the maintenance crew is to be commended for restoring the power supply in the shortest time possible so that the delay in the start of the competition was not too long.

Spectator Seating:

Elevated terraced seating for 3000+ was available. However, as there was no elevated seating available for wheelchairs, some allocation of space was made on the field of play. Even with the use of 12 tables, this allocated space was more than sufficient.



Gluing Area:

Covered area outside the hall.

Competition Management Table:

This was located beside the stage (VIP seating area) and the Call Area. There was sufficient allocation of table space for the TD, Referee team, Computer Operator, and Competition & Results team.

Work Rooms:

There was one accessible room located in and adjacent to the playing area which was made available for:

- ❖ TD & Referee
- ❖ Classification
- ❖ Individual Events Draws

Although this same room was made available for Classification, parts of the classification exercise were conducted in the Call Area as the room was rather warm.

Officials Lounge: This was well setup and located adjacent to the competition management table.

Wheelchair Storage & Repair: A separate room was made available, whilst repairs were conducted in an area close to the entrance to the hall. There was one instance where a wheelchair required a broken part to be welded and the time available for the repair to be completed before the player was on again, was about 90 minutes. This repair required the wheelchair to be taken to a welding shop in the town. Kudos to the mechanic who got the wheelchair repaired and back within one hour.

Change Rooms:

At the back of the hall are located male and female rest rooms with change rooms with accessible toilets.

In the front of the hall are located male and female wash rooms with accessible toilets.



Medical: It was good to see that, throughout the competition, medical staff were on stand-by on the field of play whilst an ambulance was available at the venue.

### Equipment:

Tables: Competition Hall: 16 nos. (11 wheelchair and 5 standing); Andro Magnum SCW, Blue; [Practice Hall: 6 nos.]



Nets: Andro; Blue  
Balls: Nittaku \*\*\* white  
Score Indicator: Andro; Black  
Towel Boxes: Foldable cardboard; Yinhe (blue); Andro (black)  
Surrounds: Donic; DHS; TOT; SET; (blue)  
Umpire's Chair: Raised  
Umpire's Table: Flip-type on raised chair  
Asst. Umpire's Table: DHS (blue) and Andro (black) collapsible chipboard  
Team Names: Boards with printed country names and flags hung on surrounds  
Team Match Score Indicator: Blue boards with white numbers

### Other Facilities:

Hall & Equipment: Good co-operation was received from those responsible and the field of play was kept tidy almost all the time.

Communication: ❖ Chest of drawers located in the Call Area, and a notice board located at the entrance to the playing hall. There was even an information board at the hotel information desk.  
❖ Wifi was available in the venue and the TD and Referee were provided with a mobile phone each.



### Competition Programme:

2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2014	Arrival day for some; Classification; Practice
3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2014	More arrivals; Continuation of Classification; Practice; Technical Meeting & Draw for Singles Events; Referee's Briefing for umpires
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2014	Singles Events preliminary stages up to 2 <sup>nd</sup> stages; Opening Ceremony; Draw for Team Events
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2014	Singles Events final stages; Team Events preliminary stages

6<sup>th</sup> August 2014 Team Events final stages; Medal Ceremonies for Singles and Team Events; Farewell Dinner

7<sup>th</sup> August 2014 Departure of delegations

### Competition Hours:

4th August 2014 09:00 ~ 19:30

5th August 2014 09:00 ~ 21:00

6<sup>th</sup> August 2014 09:00 ~ 19:15

### Participants:

Countries:	25
Male:	135 (Wheelchair : 70; Standing : 65)
Female:	34 (Wheelchair : 20; Standing : 14)
Staff:	50
Total:	219

### Events Contested:

Class Singles: SF2; SF3; SF4-5; SF6; SF7-8; SF9-10; SM1; SM2; SM3; SM4; SM5; SM6; SM7; SM8; SM9; SM10

Class Teams: TF2-3; TF4-5; TF6-10; TM1; TM2; TM3; TM4; TM5; TM6; TM7; TM8; TM9; TM10

Due to insufficient entries, no Class 11 event was held.

### Organising Committee:

Tournament Director:	Maj. Gen. Osoth Bhavlai
Main Contact:	Wilailak Tancharoen
Member:	Narumon Subsri

### Officials:

TD:	Cyril Sen	MAS
Referee:	Lee Yock Chin	MAS
Deputy Referee:	Niwat Semangern	THA
Chief Umpire	Chusakal Varayanon	THA
Classifiers:	Sharad Pandit	AUS
	Cannie Leung Yim Fan	HKG

Umpires: 48 in total comprising of 2 foreign (MAS = 1, USA = 1) and 46 local umpires. 8 of the umpires were female. 20 were IUs.

As there was no testing for VOC, this number was enough, and provided some umpires the opportunity to have some time-off.

On the whole, all the umpires carried out their duties satisfactorily, though some of them were not strict in enforcing the service rules.

## **Volunteers:**

**Ball persons:** Between 20 and 3 persons were present at any one time. We were never short. They did a great job and were well managed.



**Liaison:** Every delegation was provided with a liaison person (though some delegations had to share where the delegation was very small). These young volunteers did an excellent job, and this was openly expressed by many of the teams.

## **Meetings & Draws:**

The Technical Meeting, chaired by Dr. Attarit of the Organising Committee, was held at 15:30 hours on 3<sup>rd</sup> August at the Suphannahong Hall, 3rd Floor, Main Wing, A-One Hotel. This was followed by the draw for the Class Singles.

The good cooperation given by all those present is very much appreciated.



The draw for the Class Teams was conducted at the venue on 4<sup>th</sup> August.

The Referee's Briefing for umpires was held at 18:00 hours on 3<sup>rd</sup> August in the same room as the Technical Meeting. All umpires, except one, were present.

**Classification:** A total of 25 athletes were classified. The one player who applied for a review was requested to have it done at another competition as the classifiers at this tournament had classified this player at a previous competition.

**Information, Communication & Results:** Information and results were communicated via the pigeon holes (chest of drawers) at the Call Area, and notice board at the entrance to the hall. Information boards at the hotel were also used to keep teams informed. The liaison personnel were an asset in this area as they assisted in ensuring teams received information issued at short notice.

Besides the above, results were posted on the IPTTC website from time to time.

As a bonus, live streaming was made available on the local Nakhon Ratchasima Province television station as well as on the computer at ([http://nakornproduction.com/home/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=58&Itemid=142](http://nakornproduction.com/home/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=58&Itemid=142))

**Ceremonies:**

Opening Ceremony: This was held at 13:00 hrs on 4<sup>th</sup> August, four hours after the start of play on the first day. It was well organized with short speeches and an interesting performance by a dance troupe.



Medal Ceremonies: The medal ceremony for the Class Singles events was scheduled for 11:30 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of play, but due to the time lost to the power failure, it was postponed and held together with the Class Teams events medal ceremony on the last day of play, resulting in the medal ceremony being held from 19:30 to 20:45 hours.



Farewell Party: This was held at the hotel on the night of the 6<sup>th</sup>. All participants that had taken the hospitality package, officials and volunteers were invited. The food was good, there was a live singer, and karaoke was available for those who wished to sing. As the events in the playing hall only ended at 20:45, the dinner started late for many. A number of dignitaries, including the Mayor of Pattaya, attended the dinner.

**Questionnaire for Participating Teams:**

		2014 PTT Thailand Open Questionnaire for Participating Teams					
		Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	% of sum total of V.Good & Good
		_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	
1	Hotel						
	Lobby	20	10	0	0	0	100
	Bed Room	16	14	0	0	0	100
	Bath Room	6	24	0	0	0	100
	Comments, if any:	Nil					
2	Meals						
	Breakfast	12	9	9	0	0	70
	Lunch	9	11	9	1	0	67
	Dinner	9	20	1	0	0	97
	Comments, if any:	Nil					
3	Transportation						
	Bus from airport to Hotel	12	17	1	0	0	97
	Shuttle service	9	20	1	0	0	97
	Comments, if any:	Nil					
4	Managers Meeting						
	Venue (in Hotel)	12	23	0	0	0	100
	Clear information	11	18	3	0	0	91
	Comments, if any:	Nil					
5	Communication						
	Organizing Committee	13	21	1	0	0	97
	Liaison Officers	12	18	2	0	0	94
	Competition Information	16	15	1	0	0	97
	Comments, if any:	Nil					



## 2014 PTT Thailand Open Questionnaire for Participating Teams



	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	% of sum total of V.Good & Good
<b>6 Competition</b>						
Format	17	18	0	0	0	100
Schedule	18	13	1	0	0	97
Comments, if any:	Nil					
<b>7 Umpires</b>						
Competence & Attitude	12	22	1	0	0	97
Discipline	23	9	0	0	0	100
Comments, if any:	Nil					
<b>8 Volunteers</b>						
Helpers	29	6	0	0	0	100
Ball persons	26	3	0	0	0	100
Comments, if any:	Awesome.					
<b>9 Officials</b>						
Competence	16	19	0	0	0	100
Helpful	22	10	0	0	0	100
Comments, if any:	Nil					
<b>10 General Impression</b>						
On the Championships	23	10	2	0	0	94
<b>11 Entry fee of €550</b>						
Acceptable ?	Yes 5	Alright 9	No 4			78
Comments, if any:	Nil					
General Comments, if any:	Nil					
Cyril Sen Technical Delegate 7th August 2014						

## Observations and Recommendations:

- Accommodation:** ➤ Based on the questionnaire and verbal comments received, almost all were more than satisfied with the facilities and services provided. For future events, greater attention must be paid to the bathroom needs of wheelchair users.
- To assist the organiser in determining which wheelchair users have special needs because of the large size of their wheelchairs, perhaps it would be prudent for the Associations, when submitting their entries, to make a special mention of this.
- Meals & Refreshments:** ➤ Dinner: though the quality was good, the participants would have been happier if more less-spicy food (western style) was made available.
- Lunch Box: it is important to ensure that the quality is maintained on all days.
- Venue:** ➤ Was large and comfortable, affording sufficient space for all activities. The presentation was very good.
- If a raised platform could be provided for wheelchair spectators (players and public) this would enhance the ability of the wheelchair users to better follow the action on court.
- Classification:** ➤ Though all the required facilities were made available, it is important to ensure that the room environment is comfortable for both, the classifiers and the players.
- The provision of a volunteer to coordinate and assist the classifiers was a much appreciated asset.
- Publicity:** ➤ Media Officer and Photographer: There were no personnel assigned for this. It is in the interest of the LOC to have their event publicized as much as, and as widely as, possible, but to do this, the right personnel are necessary. For future competitions, the LOC should appoint a photographer cum/and media officer to carry out these important functions.
- Administration:** ➤ Entry Process: It is appreciated that all the 25 Associations met the requirement of having their national TTAs endorse their entries. It is hoped that for future competitions, this would be done right from the submission of the First Entry Form, so that the organiser would be able to confirm entries as and when they are submitted.
- Liaison Officers:** ➤ These personnel did a good job and their efforts were very much appreciated by all. It is important that this be the norm in all future competitions.
- Competition:** ➤ Name of player and Association on back of shirt: Some teams met this requirement, whilst some did not do so at all. There were some that only partially met this requirement. However, the teams assured us that they will make every effort to comply in the coming competitions.

- Number of Playing Days: The number of entries received was beyond expectation, but most welcome as it made for a more competitive and interesting competition. However, this made for long hours of play and required the same player to play many matches in the same day. With the same, if not more entries expected next year (and with a part of the playing time given up for an Opening Ceremony), it is strongly recommended that future competitions be held over 4 days.

**Conclusion:**

A number of players expressed their happiness to be at such an event and to have had so many pleasant experiences and memories. This could be said for all, if not the very large majority of all those involved in the competition. The warmth and friendliness of the Thai people were of the highest order.

There is no doubt that the LOC did try hard to meet the requests and requirements of the delegations, even after accepting 40% more entries than was stipulated.

Overall, the event was well organized, and in my opinion, a great success. The choice of Pattaya as the city in which to hold the competition, not only was good for the sport, but also afforded all, especially the foreigners, the opportunity to visit a great beach resort city. I am in no doubt that the LOC, with its enthusiasm and dedication, can go on to organize even bigger and better competitions whilst still meeting the high standards expected of an international event.

In closing, I take this opportunity to thank all those involved, especially Dr. Attarit Srinkapaibulaya, Ms. Wilailak Tancharoen and Ms. Narumon Subsri for their patience and cooperation, the Referee, his team and the umpires for their dedication and cooperation, and all the volunteers, especially those young liaison officers, for their commitment and support even into the late hours of the night. Thanks to, to the Table Tennis Association of Thailand for the support and assistance given.

A word of special thanks to the Mayor, Mr. Itthiphol Khunplome and his people of the City of Pattaya for the support they gave in the organising of this competition and for the friendship they shared with one and all. It was because of their assistance and commitment that so much was achieved.

Congratulations to all for helping make the PTT Thailand Open 2014 a successful event.

Cyril SEN  
Technical Delegate