



INTERNATIONAL PARALYMPIC TABLE TENNIS COMMITTEE
A Standing Committee of the International Paralympic Committee

SPORTS ASSEMBLY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 1/2006

Minutes of a meeting of the IPC Table Tennis STC held at 18h05 on Friday 26 and 09h00 on Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 January 2007 at the Gustav Stresemann Institute, Bonn, Germany.

PRESENT: Øivind Eriksen (Chairperson), Alison Burchell, Jiri Danek, Aart Kruimer, Leandro Olvech, Nico Verspeelt, Karol Ziduliak

BY INVITATION: David Grevemberg, Georg Schlachtenberger (IPC) and Raúl Calín (ITTF liaison)

APOLOGIES: Vincent Boury, Gaël Marziou, Silas Chiang

WELCOME: the Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting indicating there would be a social function on Saturday evening and that David and Georg would attend on Sunday morning. A special welcome was extended to Karol who was attending his first meeting and to Raúl who was attending this meeting in his ITTF capacity. In terms of activities this year, moving to ITTF and finalising the new tournament system would be time-consuming. It would otherwise be business as usual with the system that had been implemented over the years which would continue, develop and improve. Working with the ITTF would provide more opportunities but there was much work to be done.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: of the meeting held from 20 to 22 January 2006 in Bonn and from 26 to 28 September 2006 in Montreux were confirmed and signed noting that TD appointments were done taking into account the economic problems of the organisers.

2. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: the STC noted the report from the Chairperson including:

2.1 marketing of and sponsorship:

- Donic: the STC had previously approved the Waldner SC table and thus Donic as a preferred supplier as they had offered good prices on equipment;
- Schenker: there had been no progress on this as the IPC was following up together with an agreement signed several years ago with CISM for transport assistance;
- travel agency, advertising on the website and contracts: the previous Chairperson had negotiated with a travel agency to advertise on our website for about €200 for 3 months while the travel agency would sign a contract developed by IPC and do the travel arrangements for persons with a disability.

2.2 representative to the IPC Sports Council: the STC should appoint a new representative to replace the previous chairperson.

2.3 vice-chairperson: similarly, the STC should appoint a new vice-chairperson.

2.4 insurance: the insurance cover provided by the IPC was circulated and noted and this would need to be discussed with the ITTF in future.

The STC resolved to:

- a) ask Alison to put on the website the approval of the Waldner table;

- b) inform the travel agency that it would not be possible to sign a contract until there was clarity on the relationship with the ITTF;
- c) appoint Alison as the representative to the Sports Council;
- d) appoint Nico as the vice-chairperson.

3. TREASURER’S REPORT: the STC noted the Treasurer’s report including:

3.1 sanction and capitation fees for Bilbao of €2 778,59 had not yet been paid and bid fee for the 2006 world championships may not have been refunded by IPC.

3.2 report on the budget for 2006:

- members who had received funds in advance of expenditure had mostly submitted invoices and receipts to the IPC every two months;
- the balances on the capitation account for previous years were:
 - 1 January 2005: €100 828,98
 - 1 January 2006: €129 764,69 (corrected)
 - 1 January 2007: €148 442,41 (current but some changes were possible)
- thus income in 2006 had been €85 125,67 and expenditure €66 447,95 with a surplus of €18 677,72;
- Italy, USA and Argentina had not paid their capitation fees from 2006;

3.3 report on the budget for 2007:

100	IPC grant	24,000.00 €	10	Chairperson	1,500.00 €
200	Sanction fees	5,750.00 €		Representation	1,500.00 €
300	Capitation fees (regions)	28,080.00 €	15	Vice Chairperson	- €
	Capitation fees (other)	45,600.00 €	20	Treasurer	1,300.00 €
400	Grant development	- €		Administration	600.00 €
500	Classification seminars	1,250.00 €		Oslo-Bonn (1 time)	700.00 €
600	Bank interest	500.00 €	25	STC meetings	10,000.00 €
700	Marketing	- €		Bonn - January 2007	5,000.00 €
900	Other income manual sales	2,000.00 €		Kranjska Gora	5,000.00 €
999	Total income	107,180.00 €	30	ITTF - IPTTC	7,500.00 €
				3 Meetings	7,500.00 €
			35	Development	5,000.00 €
				2007 expenses	5,000.00 €
			40	Tournament Officer	7,350.00 €
				Administration	1,550.00 €
				Meeting New Regulations	800.00 €
				TD Seminar	3,000.00 €
				TD education preparation 2009-2010	2,000.00 €
			45	Technical Officer	4,500.00 €
				Administration	500.00 €
				Racket control	4,000.00 €
			50	Medical Officer	6,250.00 €
				Administration	250.00 €
				Iran 2007	4,000.00 €
				Busan 2007	1,500.00 €

	Manuals	500.00 €	
55	Selection Officer & Classification Secretary		11,200.00 €
	Administration	8,200.00 €	
	Meetings	3,000.00 €	
60	Regional representatives		21,400.00 €
	Europe	5,800.00 €	
	Americas	8,100.00 €	
	Africa	5,500.00 €	
	Asia/Oceania	2,000.00 €	
65	Webmaster		800.00 €
	Administration	800.00 €	
70	Athletes representative		500.00 €
	Administration	500.00 €	
75	Gifts awards		3,070.00 €
	Awards	2,070.00 €	
	Transport	1,000.00 €	
80	Coaching		10,000.00 €
	Manuals	5,000.00 €	
	Meeting & ITTF seminar	3,000.00 €	
85	Software		2,000.00 €
	Program use 2007	2,000.00 €	
95	Surplus		14,810.00 €
99	Total expenditure	92,370.00 €	107,180.00 €

3.4 asset register lodged with the IPC and submission of information on IPTTC assets: this had been updated and the laptop for Christian should be removed.

3.5 payment of Vincent's invoices for the DVD: this had been paid.

3.6 Dr Wu's proposed contract, involvement of Nico, payment for 2006:

- fees for 3 tournaments in 2006 had been paid to Dr Wu;
- the manuals had been updated as had the programme after comments from Raúl and Patrick Ringel;
- Karol usually asked the referees for tournaments to use the programme but had to be sure the referee knew how to use it;
- there was a maximum of 5 changes possible before the programme had to be re-authorised as changes to class, gender and removing names was possible over and above the 5 changes;
- adding or changing a name required 1 of the 5 changes and this had to be cross-checked with Nico for classification;
- thus no late entries were permitted with this programme;
- a different way to control the use of the programme should be investigated;
- the proposed contract, once finalised, should be signed by the Chairperson to the end of 2008 with a payment of €1 per participant at the tournament where the programme was used to a maximum of €2 000 for the calendar year.

The STC resolved:

- a) not to approve any application for a tournament for Spain as the capitation fees from Bilbao had not been paid;
- b) to ask Alison to inform the Spanish Paralympic Committee of this decision copied to Bilbao;
- c) to request the IPC to transfer the US\$1 500 bid fee to the IPTTC capitation account;
- d) to write off the balance of the capitation fees due if no success was achieved through the Spanish Paralympic Committee;
- e) to ask Øivind to follow up the capitation from Italy, Leandro from USA and Nico from Argentina;
- f) to request Jiri not to approve any tournaments for Italy, USA and Argentina for 2007 until payment had been received;
- g) to request Jiri not to approve any tournaments if the approval fee had not been received;
- h) to approve the budget set out above;
- i) to ask Alison to request the IPC Finance Department to remove Christian's laptop;
- j) to ask Karol to contact Dr Wu about a programme draft which could be sent to referees to check they were familiar with it;
- k) to ask Nico to investigate an alternative method of controlling access to the programme;
- l) to ask Nico to finalise the draft contract for approval by the STC and signature by Øivind.

4. SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT: the STC noted the Secretary General's report including:

4.1 communication including deadlines for the:

- ITTF magazine: 20 February, 20 April, 20 June, 20 August, 20 October and 20 December 2007;
- IPC newflash: 2nd and 4th Monday of the month;
- IPC bulletin: 1st Wednesday of the month;
- Paralympian: 6 February, 4 May, 3 August and 2 November 2007;
- website was updated regularly and, depending on the discussions with ITTF, may undergo a revamp.

4.2 volunteer form for the website with job descriptions (classifier by Aart or Nico, referee and umpire by Karol and TD by Øivind): none had been submitted.

4.3 strategic plan update and work done for IPTTC by the IPC: this would be done soon.

4.4 code of conduct for IPTTC including final approval: this would be done soon.

4.5 contracts including IOSD Games and world championships, their purpose, implementation, monitoring and action to be taken if organisers and/or IPTTC default:

- the IPC would monitor the contracts although currently there was very little sanction imposed;
- the ITTF gave funds to organisers so it was easier to control the contract;
- the contracts for the regional championships would include doping control and racket control.

4.6 IPC logo included in the ITTC logo: this would be discussed with the ITTF.

4.7 transport of equipment: dealt with above in 2.1.

4.8 GAISF and fair play awards: as with the Laureus Awards, nominations for GAISF should be sent via the NPCs and for the fair play awards, this should be included in the TD report format with the referee to pass on information to the TD from the umpires.

4.9 equipment and gifts: should be stored in either the Bonn or Lausanne offices.

The STC resolved to ask:

- a) Aart/Nico (classifier), Karol (referee and umpire) and Øivind (TD) to submit job descriptions for the website asap to Alison;
- b) Alison to update the strategic plan and code of conduct;
- c) Alison to follow up with the IPC and ITTF about transport for equipment;
- d) Øivind, Nico and Alison to discuss the logo with ITTF;
- e) Jiri to include fair play in the TD report format.
- f) Ask Alison to ensure that doping and racket control were included in the regional championships contract.

5. ITTF-ITTC LIAISON REPORT: the STC noted the ITTF-IPTTC Liaison's report including:

5.1 status of relations including:

- meeting with ITTF in Montreux: minutes of the meeting had been distributed;
- the committee established by the ITTF: Øivind, Nico and Alison would meet the committee of Neil, Jordi and Raúl on 17 and 18 March 2007 in Lausanne (to be confirmed);
- the ITTF AGM would meet at the end of May 2007 in Zagreb;
- the ITTF Executive would meet in February 2007 to recommend to the Assembly in May 2007 that it accept the transfer of governance;
- the IPC GB would meet in April 2007 to approve the transfer of governance recommended by the Table Tennis Forum;
- there would be no move till the ITTF set up was established and the IPC would continue its support till then;
- the agreement would be signed between the IPC and ITTF;
- the IPC proposed that it support the appointment of an administrative person with 50% of a salary as the ITTF had originally agreed to provide 50%;
- there was a person already working part-time for the ITTF;
- the capitation fees from the regionals and other tournaments would be generated;
- inclusion of an "introduction to classification" in the ITTF umpires seminar had been done following the inclusion of the rules for wheelchair play;
- further discussions on integration with ITTF including the circuit, U14, U17 and U21 events would occur in due course;
- the ITTF constitution would be reviewed in due course;
- membership (NPC or NF) would be included in discussions with the ITTF;
- progress with Kenya, Lesotho and East Timor would be picked up under development.

5.2 name for the STC within the ITTF: IPTTC would be one of the ITTF's committees.

In separate discussions with the IPC Sports and Finance Directors, the STC noted the following:

- the ITTF was ready to accept the STC;
- the date for transfer of governance should tentatively be set for 1 July 2007;
- the IPC would draft an agreement to be signed with the ITTF;
- with the sport manager job description, the STC and ITTF could assess whether a full-time appointee was necessary within ITTF;
- the aim was to maintain the standard of work achieved by the STC and improve;
- the IPC provided services for all sports and the STC had taken ownership of its work;
- the grant provided by the IPC to sports had increased to €200 000 for project based proposals;

- as an IF sport, the ITTF could expect to receive €24 000 to support its contribution to the Paralympic Games;
- table tennis had been ranked highest of all IPC sports in the McKinsey report as the progress made since 1996 was profound;
- the sports should be sold as high performance competitions in order to gain sponsorship;
- there had been a surplus in 2005 and 2006 but this was not the case previously;
- appointing a table tennis manager plus doing the work the STC had scheduled was not possible with €100 000;
- the staff person would oversee the transition and provide continuity to support the STC's succession plan;
- it was premature to determine if staff support was necessary;
- continuity for the STC had not been a major problem due to effective subcommittees;
- the STC should be viewed as an asset which the ITTF was purchasing;
- the assets of the STC should be dedicated to the transfer and seen as an investment by the ITTF as the IPC would lose an asset;
- the IPC proposed to transfer the balance of €100 000 in 2 instalments to the ITTF and to retain €48 000 at 1 July 2007 for past work and support for the transfer process in the future;
- the IPC saw the transfer of €100 000 as its contribution to 50% of the costs of a staff person for 2 years whereas the STC saw this as capitation funds raised from tournament participants which helped to fund its operations;
- table tennis should be sold as a success story, as high performance athletes with a social responsibility component;
- being successful led to more activities which required more funding;
- the STC was possibly being penalised for having been successful in building the capitation funds;
- the IPC provided services to all sports and did not charge them;
- it would be disappointing if the ITTF took a zero based budget approach particularly when the IPC would continue to contribute to table tennis as it would add value beyond imagination;
- the IPC and STC would need to walk the road together to get what was needed.

The STC asked:

- a) all to think about a name for the committee;
- b) the IPC Sports Director to circulate a draft transfer of governance agreement, the job description of a sport manager and to submit a "scientific basis" to explain the retention of €48000;
- c) Alison to request the IPC that the transfer of €100 000 in 2 payments on 1 July 2007 and 1 January 2008;
- d) Alison to suggest to the IPC that, in relation to the grant from IPC, if there was a deficit by the transfer of governance date, the STC would pay the deficit but if not, the full amount of "surplus" should be paid over to the ITTF.

6. TD COORDINATOR'S REPORT: the STC noted the TD Coordinator's report including:

- 6.1 the handbook, selection section, examination, an application form, a checklist with explanation of items on the checklist available for 2007, education plan for 2007, recruitment criteria, doping control and managing discipline: this would be done soon.

6.2 TD ID cards and certificates: the same certificates as already in use would be used and ID cards should be issued for all IPTTC personnel and athletes but would be discussed with the ITTF.

6.3 the Fair Play Awards with TDs to work with the referees, umpires and use the questionnaire: this was covered in item 4.8 above.

7. DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT: the STC appointed Alison as a temporary replacement for this portfolio until clarity was obtained in discussions with the ITTF.

The STC noted the Development Officer's report including:

7.1 player education on the rules and updated brochure: this should move to the Athlete Representative's report.

7.2 development of women and the severely disabled in all areas: this should be an issue considered in all portfolios.

7.3 promotional DVD, funding and distribution: these had been distributed in November 2005 and some were stored in the IPC office and the ITTF office in Shanghai.

7.4 equipment including Waldner table, recognition by ITTF and IPTTC and information on the website: this had still to be done.

7.5 new mandate including "new table tennis nations" (Kenya, Lesotho, East Timor and Ghana), equipment and a Fa 10 tournament, facilitating education, recreation, social activities leading to elite player development: this should be discussed with the ITTF.

7.6 ITTF shipping company: there was no clarity on this.

7.7 Lebanon and Nigeria: had submitted applications to IPC for development funding for table tennis.

The STC agreed to support the applications from Lebanon and Nigeria subject to safety being considered in Lebanon and Nigeria indicating it was serious about correcting the negative image in IPTTC it had developed over the past years.

The STC asked:

a) all STC members to include the development of women and the more severely disabled in their work consciously;

b) Leandro to discuss with Vincent the languages on the DVD;

c) Alison to contact Gaël about including the recognition of the Waldner table;

d) Alison to discuss with the ITTF the concept of "new table tennis nations", equipment, education etc.

e) Alison to discuss with the ITTF whether they had sponsors for transport of equipment.

8. ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT: the STC noted the Athlete Representative's report including:

8.1 database for athletes with the identification numbers of athletes fitting into the rating system ID numbers and IPC database: no progress had been made.

8.2 website development and hall of fame: no progress had been made.

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

- 9.1 tournament information on the website with all templates and documents needed by TDs on the website: the new tournament application form would be put on the website but the other documents had to be checked.
- 9.2 regional championships in 2007:
- only Europe was up to date on the procedures;
 - Asia and Oceania would now be in Busan and not Seoul;
 - there was basic information available for Rio de Janeiro which had a limited entry of 120 for table tennis of a total athlete entry for the Games of 1 300 and for which no entry fee would be payable as governments would pay for their teams;
 - a proposal on the allocation of slots had been submitted to the IPC Sports Director in September 2006 and a counter proposal received using the allocation according to class and gender was not possible;
 - slots would be allocated according to ranked players with an allowance for new countries with 1 slot each;
 - table tennis was not included in the All Africa Games so a new host would need to be found.
- 9.3 World Singles Cup: no application had been received.
- 9.4 World Team Cup and the review by the Tournament Committee: no application had been received.
- 9.5 shorter questionnaire on the organisation of tournaments, review and feedback: the questionnaire still had to be revised.
- 9.6 new tournament system:
- players would have to qualify through the singles for the Fa 40 finals;
 - in the finals, there would only be singles and open;
 - classifiers would be needed for Fa 40 tournaments;
 - there should be 4 days with open, singles and team or 3 days without an open event;
 - if it was to be an elite event like the Paralympic Games and world championships, there should be no open;
 - if there was no open in this event, there should not be an open in the Fa 20 either as a player would accumulate more points;
 - an option would be to reduce the number of points to 0 for Paralympic Games and world championships to equalise the situation but this could only be done via the Forum.
- 9.7 tournament organiser's handbook and education: no progress had been made.
- 9.8 "fair play" award in reports: this had been covered above.
- 9.9 World Championships 2010: Silas would visit Korea in February 2007 and Slovenia had indicated an interest shortly before the meeting but the deadline for applications was 30 June 2007.
- 9.10 distribution of players' education brochure: Jiri had a copy of this.
- 9.11 regional awards: 7 were required for each region (1 organiser, 2 men and women's players' player, 2 for men and women sitting and standing best players).
- 9.12 IWAS and Arafura Games: both these events had missed the deadlines for applying for approval but were deemed to be events which would develop the sport.

The STC asked:

- a) Jiri to ensure that all documents required by organisers and TDs were on the website;

- b) Leandro to follow up with the organisers of the ParaPanAm tournament about the payment of the capitation fee and daily allowance, to negotiate the limit of 120 to enable a balance of new countries being able to enter and to preserve the status of the more severely disabled, especially women, and what would happen if a country wanted to pay for additional athletes to enter the table tennis event;
- c) Karol to delete the section on the World Team Cup from the regulations;
- d) Leandro to revise the questionnaire on the organisation of tournaments;
- e) Øivind to prepare a mandate for Karol, with input from Raúl, Gaël and Nico to look at the maximum number of matches played at the Paralympic Games and at the world championships to enable a review of the factor allocated to various tournaments at the next STC meeting;
- f) Jiri and Øivind to develop regulations for the new tournament system including 4 days with 3 events, limiting the entry fees, signing a contract, having 4 players from 2 countries to make an event, all multi-sport games being Fa 20 with an exception that IPTTC qualified officials could be appointed from the host country;
- g) Jiri to put the new application forms for Fa 20 and 40 on the website;
- h) Jiri to publicise on the website the deadline for the 2010 world and the regional championships;
- i) Jiri to email to all TDs a copy of the players' education brochure so that it could be distributed at tournaments;
- j) Jiri to order gifts for the regional championships;
- k) Nico and Gaël to devise a system to select the best players for which Nico would be responsible at each championship and which would also apply to the world championships and Paralympic Games;
- l) all STC members to submit to Jiri by the end of May 2007 candidates to receive gifts;
- m) Jiri to reflect to the organisers of the IWAS and Arafura Games that an exception had been granted, that Fa 20 had been allocated and that they should apply the regulations in future.

10. TECHNICAL OFFICER'S REPORT: the STC noted the Technical Officer's written report including:

10.1 updated handbook with the following changes:

1.6.4 Unless the rally is a let, a player shall score a point if:

1.6.4.4 his or her opponent does not maintain a minimum contact (with back of the thigh) with the cushion(s) when the ball is in play.

1.7.4 The height of one or maximum two cushions is limited to 14cm in playing conditions with no other addition to the wheelchair.

3.5.4 An International Championship must fulfill the following requirements to earn the ranking factor of 30, as decided by the IPTTC Tournament Officer, which could be an event:

3.5.4.7 The maximum number of teams per country with all players from the same country in one event is 1 or 2 (as decided by the TD).

3.5.4.8 The maximum number of players per country in one class is 3 or 6 (as decided by the TD).

3.5.4.9 Players from different countries cannot form teams in the team event.

3.5.4.10 Persons of different genders cannot form teams in the team event.

3.8.2.2.2 In Fa 50 tournaments,

3.8.2.2.2.1 there may be up to 4 players per country if 2 classes are combined with a maximum of 3 players from the same class

- 3.8.2.2.2.2 may be up to 5 players per county if 3 classes are combined with a maximum of 3 players from the same class
- 3.8.2.2.2.3 if 2 or 3 classes are combined and 4 or 5 players per country competed in the singles event, there can be only 1 team per country in the team event composed of a maximum of 4 players
- 3.8.2.2.2.4 All regional championships must use the same event format as the following world championships or Paralympics Games. The IPTTC Selection Officer may decide on another format for regional championships in exceptional circumstances.
- 3.8.2.2.3 In Fa 10-30 tournaments, there may be up to 6 competitors per country per class. A minimum of four competitors will form a competition. If there are less than four competitors in an event, the players will be transferred to the next higher numbered class.
If a singles Class 5 or 10 does not have four entries, the TD must combine this with the next lower class or with the next lower combination of classes.
- 3.8.3.5 The ideal number of players in combined classes in all tournaments (not championships) is to be decided by the Referee in consultation with the TD to ensure the ideal number for the system of play with a minimum of 1 player from each class including the lowest class.
- 3.11.1 Walk over rules: if the match is not played for any reason (illness, injuries, players not present at the event, etc.), no ranking points are given. If the match started, even if only 1 point is played, then points are given.
When a player does not show up for a competition or for a match he or she will be penalized by the deduction from his or her ranking points he or she should have earned if he or she had played the match in which he or she did not show up. This would however affect only the first match scheduled for that player which was not played and not any subsequent match in the event.
The regulations for applying the rule shall be as follows:
- 3.11.1.1 Before the competition a player
- 3.11.1.1.1 informs the organizers and TD before the draw is made that he/she will not participate
No deduction of points
- 3.11.1.1.2 informs the organizers after the Draw that he/she will not arrive for circumstances beyond his/her control (flight cancelled, serious and verifiable injury or illness [broken leg, appendicitis,...], death in close family,...) No deduction of points
- 3.11.1.1.3 does not show up without any information to organizers Yes, Deduction of points
- 3.11.1.2 During the competition a player
- 3.11.1.2.1 at a certain stage of an event does not play his/her next scheduled match in this event, except if a present classifier doctor confirms that he/she is injured Yes, Deduction of points
- 3.11.1.2.2 cannot start a match because his/her racket has been found illegal and has no spare one Yes, Deduction of points
- 3.11.1.2.3 does not show up for a match for political reasons Yes, Deduction of points
- 3.11.1.2.4 is not able to show up for a match in an event, because he/she has entered in more than one event Yes, Deduction of points
- 3.11.1.2.5 does not show up for an event because he/she has been disqualified for the remainder of a competition for his/her misbehavior in this or another event Yes, Deduction of points
- 3.11.3 Match Conduct
- 3.11.3.2.1 For a player, adequate medical recovery time may be allowed by the Referee after consulting the classifier or medical doctor at the tournament, if the player is unable to play temporarily due to the nature of his/her disability or condition.

6.3 Tournament Credit

6.4.1 A Tournament credit will be determined by the Selection Officer 24 months before the date of the World Championships.

6.4.2 The length of the period to achieve the tournament credit established by the Selection Officer will be determined by the Selection Officer 24 months before the date of the World Championships.

6.4.3 To be eligible for a selection, the player must achieve the tournament credit during the given period.

6.4.4 The Tournament credit system will be used also for the Paralympic Games.

Comments

3. Nanism/dwarves are included in the Classification System with the understanding that the classifiers will allocate the appropriate class to the player.

10.2 translation of the handbook: into French would be done by Patrick Ringel, Spanish by Fernando Aguilar, Chinese by CK Chan and Russian where Hary Penov had been approached.

10.3 new page on the website to draw attention to changes in rules and regulations: this would be done via a summary of all changes made including to classification.

10.4 database update for referees and umpires on the website, adding the referee for each tournament to the calendar: there were 393 silver umpires (silver = exam in English), several bronze umpires (own language) and gold referees.

10.5 umpires' education seminars ("teachers"), review of umpires' exam, certification, regional umpires, guide, video, coordination with ITTF:

- the umpires education system would remain in place and be discussed with the URC together with other areas of cooperation;
- silver umpires could officiate at any IPTTC tournament and bronze in their own language;
- the powerpoint presentation for umpires' education had been updated;

10.6 review of IPTTC rule 1.6.5: this did not warrant any change.

10.7 plan for referees' seminars: this would likely take place in 2008.

10.8 mixed gender events (with Rating Committee): no progress had been made.

10.9 electronic entry form process: the 2nd entry form could be used based on the IPTTC-Dr Wu programme.

10.10 mandatory for participating nations to bring an umpire to the regionals: there had been a problem experienced with some regional championships where the regulation that there be 40% foreign umpires had not been met.

10.11 deputy referees for the Paralympic Games: nominations of available referees were considered.

10.12 referee for the ParaPanAm Games: the request from the organisers that Karol be appointed was considered.

The STC resolved to:

- a) approve all the changes to the regulations set out above;
- b) ask Karol to include the summary of changes on the website together with the updated handbook asap;
- c) ask Karol to update the website with personnel qualified by the IPTTC;
- d) ask Karol to discuss with the URC umpires' and referees education and other areas of cooperation;

- e) approve the appointments of Cindy Shiltz-Leung, Patrick Ringel and Dr Wu to the technical committee;
- f) ask Karol and Jiri to ask all TDs to consult the women participating in tournaments to see if there was a demand for mixed gender events;
- g) Nico to get the excel sheet 2nd entry form to send to Jiri, Karol and Gaël for inclusion for all 2nd entries not already on the website;
- h) make it mandatory for all participating nations in regional championships to bring an umpire to the regional championships at their cost for the international travel, save in the case that the organisers had already agreed to pay the international travel, until the requirement that 40% of the umpires be from countries other than the host country and that should a nation not bring an umpire, it would be fined €250,00;
- i) appoint Karol Ziduliak and Gaj Vidmar as deputy referees for the 2008 Paralympic Games noting that one deputy referee from China still had to be appointed;
- j) appoint Karol Ziduliak as the referee for the ParaPanAm Games.

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

- 11.1 classification cards (new format, indication of limits on serve): no progress had been made.
- 11.2 classification handbook and consistent terminology (with interim coaching committee): this would be finalised in May 2007.
- 11.3 INAS-FID classification update: no progress had been made but the IPC GB had confirmed that class 11 would not participate in 2008.
- 11.4 athlete nominees for Classification Committee: no nomination had been forthcoming.
- 11.5 players list on the website (Classification Secretary) and link to the IPC unique identity number: no progress had been made with the ID number.
- 11.6 liaison with CP-ISRA: Aart had attended the AGM in Lisbon and done a presentation on table tennis which had addressed the perceived marginalisation of CP players.
- 11.7 classifier education: this was ongoing with more classifiers being educated annually but the eagerness and numbers of trainee classifiers doing the course had decreased. Rio had included a seminar.
- 11.8 definition of severe disability: this would be discussed in May 2007.
- 11.9 Nanism or dwarfism: this would be discussed in May 2007.
- 11.10 classification account closure: this had been done although €250 was still in the account until it was clear whether it should be transferred to Lausanne or Bonn.
- 11.11 implementation of the new system for sitting classes for 2009:
 - for those players already in the system, some had moved to the standing classes voluntarily and some had been asked to be classified in the new system;
 - a player currently in the system would be reviewed and this would come into effect 1 January 2009;
 - new players were classed immediately in the new system;
 - part of the problem of changing classes now was that ranking points would be lost.
- 11.12 transparencies in presentation format: this had not yet been done.
- 11.13 classifiers' needs in 2007: classifiers were not always available in numbers as per the regulations for tournaments.
- 11.14 newsletter for classifiers: the Americas had requested an update on classification, suggesting a newsletter.

The STC resolved to:

- a) ask Aart, with the assistance of Raúl (design) and ATTC (production) to finalise the classification cards, which could also serve as basic ID cards to be used by all IPTTC personnel, with the classifiers meeting in May 2007;
- b) ask Aart to finalise the classification handbook, definition of severe disability more detail on Nanism/dwarfism, an update on classification with the classifiers meeting in May 2007;
- c) ask Alison to request, via the website and forum, nominations of an athlete to serve on the classification committee;
- d) ask Jiri to follow up with Amman to see if it was possible to include a classification seminar;
- e) ask Aart to review all class 5 players during the regionals and other tournaments;
- f) ask Aart to submit his transparencies to the IPC to be converted to powerpoint;
- g) ask Aart and Nico to keep the number of classifiers appointed for tournaments as per the regulations depending on their availability;
- h) ask Aart to assess the need for a newsletter to be sent out to the NPCs on classification at the meeting with classifiers in May 2007.

12. SELECTION OFFICER'S REPORT: the STC noted the Selection Officer's report including:

- 12.1 regional championships 2007, events and format of play leading to the Paralympic Games: would be published on the website.
- 12.2 rules for Paralympic Games selections:
 - would be published on the website once amendments as discussed were incorporated in the draft document;
 - the Bipartite Commission slots would be recommended by the Selection Committee to the IPC for approval;
 - achieving representation should be considered by combining the élite (qualification) and universality (representation) but élite should be considered in the context of each class;
 - the targets set should be achieved;
 - tournament credits had to be added to the Qualification Guide;
 - the team slots were preliminary and could only be confirmed after selections were done;
 - provision had to be made for re-allocation of slots after the process to confirm slot allocation and acceptance;
 - the tournament credit, given it was quite late, should be 50 including a regional championship;
- 12.3 ranking system for combined classes in the Paralympic Games: this was not discussed.
- 12.4 the points system for team events for the Paralympic Games: this was not discussed.
- 12.5 tournament credits: dealt with above in 12.2.

The STC resolved to:

- a) approve the document for selections for the Paralympic Games as amended;
- b) approve the tournament credit for 2007 as 50 including the regional championship.

13. COACHING COMMITTEE SECRETARY'S REPORT: the STC noted the Coaching Committee Secretary's report including:

- 13.1 six hours content for the ITTF level 1 coaching course:

- the English and Spanish versions of the manual were ready, the French version had to be checked and the German and Italian versions were being translated;
 - the focus was the main ITTF languages;
 - a response from the ITTF was awaited about sponsorship for printing the manual;
 - it would cost €5 000 per language;
 - it was possible to sell the manual through the website and the ITTF.
- 13.2 criteria for best coach: this would not be awarded but discussed at the next coaching conference.
- 13.3 coaches' education: would be piloted in Buenos Aires in 2006 as different focus points seemed necessary depending on whether it was a table tennis or disability audience.
- 13.4 the next conference: could possibly be a regional conference.
- 13.5 integration with the ITTF as well as level 2 and 3:
- a manual for ITTF lecturers was being developed;
 - people would be sent to the ITTF course presenters' seminar;
 - the ITTF had already requested that level 2 be developed as well as level 3 and the best coaches in each class would be approached.
- 13.6 certification: would start in 2007 with a database being developed, 30 hours of practical work would be required with a supervisor's report etc.
- 13.7 meeting: was held in Montreux and a website may be developed.
- 13.8 composition of the committee: was reviewed.

The STC resolved to:

- a) ask Leandro to approach Liying (Chinese), Vincent (French) about translations;
- b) ask Leandro to investigate cheaper options for printing;
- c) ask Leandro to organise a run of 1 000 copies in English only to be printed;
- d) ask Leandro to confirm the copyright of the manual;
- e) request Leandro to discuss at the next coaching conference the criteria for best coach;
- f) request Leandro to review the composition of the committee and make recommendations for the next STC meeting.

14. REGIONAL REPORTS: the STC noted the regional representatives' reports:

14.1 Americas:

- there were no candidates yet for the 2009 regional championships;
- the office was open for 4 hours a day with the ParaPanAm Games;
- a classification seminar was held in Buenos Aires, and Las Vegas;
- an umpires seminar was held in Las Vegas and a coaching seminar in Buenos Aires;
- seminars for umpires, TD education and classification had been proposed for the ParaPanAm Games;
- the website had been translated into Spanish, English and Portuguese;
- 1 tournament for the region had been confirmed;
- payment of classification seminar fees to IPTTC, receipts for seminars to Nico.

14.2 Africa-Middle East: a new host for the regional championships was being investigated, practical presentations on coaching were done in Cairo at a week-long seminar organised by ASCOD and Gambia had submitted an application for development funding which would be discussed with ASCOD.

14.3 Europe:

- the seminar in Ukraine was being organised jointly with EPC, IPTTC and Ukraine with an invitation to be issued soon for 16 to 19 April 2007;
- applications for the 2009 regional championships were being investigated.

14.4 Asia and South Pacific: noted as circulated.

15. BEIJING 2008: the STC noted the following:

15.1 rules: these were covered in the selection report.

15.2 playing system: this was covered in the selection report.

15.3 report of meetings in Beijing + powerpoint presentations on the event, transport, air travel, the venue plan, Village and pictograms: these were noted.

15.4 appointment of 3 deputy referees, 2 of whom should be from China: there would be 1 deputy referee from China and thereafter referees from 2 other regions other than Asia should be considered.

15.5 technical:

- there would be 12 overseas and 20 Chinese umpires;
- 3 classifiers would be appointed;
- 2 racket controllers, 1 from China, would be appointed;
- electronic scores per table would be displayed and 16 national umpires would operate them from outside the playing area;
- player presentation would take place for the first match of each session;
- the schedule had been done 3 times but the final one would be done by the referee;
- the schedule could be 4 days for singles and 5 for teams or 4 days for the team and 5 for the singles with a rest day;
- on days 3, 4, 5, 9 and 10, finals would be held;
- 45 minutes were allowed for semis and finals and 30 minutes for all other round robin matches;
- BOCOG had requested that all finals be played on 1 table for support and television;
- a certificate would be given to the top 8 and if there were less in the event, 4 would be given;
- 2 ½ hours were allowed for team matches;
- there would be 8 tables maximum;
- all sports would receive from BOCOG air transport, uniforms, allowances and mobile phones where relevant;
- during the Pro Tour in December 2007, Silas and Chinese wheelchair players would check out the access and tables.

15.6 accommodation: Silas, Nico, Aart and Karol would perform functions during 2008 so Øivind, Alison should be lodged in the IPC hotel and Jiri, Leandro, Vincent and Gaël in a hotel for the 2008 Games, noting that this could change after discussions with the ITTF.

The STC asked Silas and Nico:

- a) review with Cindy the allocation of 30 minutes for round robin matches as 40 were preferred;
- b) check the placement of the LCD scoreboards;
- c) ensure that IPTTC members were invited to Beijing;
- d) respond to the accommodation request from BOCOG.

The STC resolved to appoint Aart as the chief classifier for 2008.

16. GENERAL: the STC considered the following items

- 16.1 rating review: noting that Gaël was not available to work on this presently, this would be considered at the next STC meeting.
- 16.2 longer term sanctions for disciplinary offences: this would be discussed with the ITTF.
- 16.3 IWAS liaison: noted the report tabled.
- 16.4 business cards: would not be made until the process with ITTF was clear.
- 16.5 2012 TD designate: with correspondence beginning with LOCOG, it would be helpful to appoint a liaison person who would also be the TD designate.
- 16.6 IPC directory: various appointments could now be updated and Alison would remain the contact person for the STC.
- 16.7 IPTTC-Dr Wu programme: would be used in all regional championships and tournaments where Nico was present and should be used in all other tournaments where the referees were familiar with it.

The STC resolved to:

- a) appoint Nico as the TD designate and liaison person with LOCOG;
- b) ask Alison to update the IPC directory;
- c) ask Karol to clarify when appointing referees that they should use Dr Wu's programme and put this on the website.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 14h40.

READ AND CONFIRMED AT THE MEETING

HELD ON

CHAIRPERSON

AMB/

5 February 2007