

**INTERNATIONAL PARALYMPICTABLE TENNIS COMMITTEE**



**TECHNICAL DELEGATE**

**EVALUATION REPORT**

<b>Name of Tournament :</b>	<b>Arafura Games 2007</b>
<b>Ranking Factor Applied for :</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Responsible Federation :</b>	<b>Ocean Paralympic Committee</b>
<b>Chairman of Organising Committee :</b>	<b>Jason Hellwig (APC) Mr. Neil Fuller (AWD Coordinator)</b>
<b>Dates of Play :</b>	<b>11 - 19 May 2007</b>
<b>Name of Technical Delegate :</b>	<b>Steven Lee</b>
<b>Report submitted to IPC and IPTTC :</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> May 2007</b>

## **1-Background**

Arafura Games in the past was a tournament for able-bodied athletes. It is a leading international sporting competition for emerging champions of the Asia Pacific region and it held every two years in Darwin, the capital of Australia's Northern Territory.

This year, for the first time, The Arafura games also incorporates the Oceania Paralympic Championships for men and women AWD Program. There are 7 events for the disabled athletes; Table Tennis is one of the events. Other sporting events include, Athletics, Cycling, Powerlifting, Swimming, Basketball and Tennis.

## **2-Accommodation**

No entry fees were charged for the games. Food and accommodation were the responsibilities of the participating nations. The Organising Committee provided information regarding accommodation venues and bookings.

Almost all of the accommodation houses were located close to the Central Business District and a short drive from sporting venues. These ranged from five-star hotels, motels and apartments to backpacker-style accommodation, with facilities for the disabled athletes.

## **3-Venue**

Table Tennis was located at Marrara Indoor Stadium. The stadium is 11 kilometers from the city of Darwin. It is a Northern Territory Government facility and forms part of the Marrara Sporting Precinct. Its spacious high technology air thrust parquet floor and bleacher seating easily caters for over 1000 people – all in air-conditioned comfort. The stadium has seating capacity for up to 1400 people.

There is a tournament control room with computer, PA system, plus two rooms for meeting and resting.

There are disabled facilities in the 4 change rooms and washrooms.

Floor:	Wooden floor, very good for wheelchairs players
Lighting:	very good, about 1000 lux
Spectator seats:	about 500 for the participants and spectators for wheelchairs – directly on the area
Official's room:	4
Toilet and change room:	4

## 4-Equipment

- (all ITTF approved)
- Tables: 10, Stigar Elite Roller
- Balls: Stige (3\*) white
- Surroundings and Score boards

The tournament organiser altered the table to comply with IPTTC regulations.

## 5-Competition Days

- 11<sup>th</sup> May (Fri) Team Arrival
- 12<sup>th</sup> May (Sat) Classifications  
Opening ceremony
- 13<sup>th</sup> May (Sun) Training
- 14<sup>th</sup> May (Mon) Open events
- 15<sup>th</sup> May (Tue) Teams event
- 16<sup>th</sup> May (Wed) Teams event
- 17<sup>th</sup> May (Thur) Individual Singles event
- 18<sup>th</sup> May (Fri) Individual Singles event
- 19<sup>th</sup> May (Sat) Closing ceremony

## 6-Number of Participants

A total of eleven countries participated. - Australia, Venezuela, Malaysia, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Timor, Germany and Thailand.

Mens Wheelchair players: 7  
Mens Standing players: 21  
Womens Wheelchair players: 4  
Womens Standing players: 4  
With a total of **36** players.

Team leader and coach: 6  
Support staff: 2

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Total: 44

2 players from USA and 3 from Philippines entered but did not arrive.

The number of participants was less than expected in this tournament. It may be due to the long travel distance involved or the number of participants in other sports for some countries.

Country	Total Number of Athlete	Male										Female									
		TT1	TT2	TT3	TT4	TT5	TT6	TT7	TT8	TT9	TT10	TT1	TT2	TT3	TT4	TT5	TT6	TT7	TT8	TT9	TT10
AUS	17				2		3	2	2	1	1	1				2	1	1		1	
VEN	7			2	2				1	1				1							
KUW	1	1																			
MAS	5							2		3											
LIE	1								1												
TLS	2								1										1		
GER	2							2													
THA	1						1														
	<b>36</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>36</b>	<b>7</b>					<b>21</b>					<b>4</b>					<b>4</b>				

## 7-Transport

Hotel transfer was arranged at the airport. A free bus network operated for all accredited Arafura Games participants.

During the competition, from 7am to 9pm, there were shuttle bus services for two routes every 30 minutes to and from the accommodation venues and playing venue, including large buses for the wheelchairs. If there was request for wheels, arrangements were made for transportation by small buses. There is no traffic jam problem in Darwin. Transport arrangements are very satisfactory.

## 8-Officials

Classifiers: Arthur Wilks (AUS)  
Seto Phui Lin (MAS)  
Referee: Maurie Poole (AUS)  
Deputy referee: Angelo Tabone (AUS)  
Coordinator: Graham Symons (AUS)  
Computer: John Pudney (AUS)

Due to the budget, overseas and even interstate umpires did not come and assist. Only local personnel were used. Before the competition, the referee gave a three hours seminar on rules and regulations.

The table tennis event was managed by Graham Symons who was very capable, willing to help and very friendly. The person who is working on the computer, John Pudney was also very efficient. I pay tribute to both of them.

## **9-Meetings**

Team Manager's meeting was held at 3:30pm on 12th May. As most of the matters had been arranged and prior notices given to all the participating nations, the meeting finished quickly with a short briefing from Coordinator, TD and the referee regarding matters that needed to be attended to and changes to the player's list in the Open Doubles and Team events.

## **10-Draws**

The draw was made according to rules and regulations of ITTF & IPTTC.

The program to run this competition was designed by Dr Wu. The draw and operation was very efficient. Time was saved in the draw and scheduling. However Microsoft Office 2007 was installed in the computers, which led to some synchronisation problems with Dr Wu's program. This was rectified by Dr Wu afterwards. I take this opportunity to thank Dr Wu for his assistance. As the tournament referee was not familiar with the program, I had to assist him to operate.

## **11-Classification**

Two IPTTC classifiers were responsible for classifying players. They were very efficient. A total of 10 players were required to be classified.

## **12-Results**

All the schedules and results were generated by the computer which was very quick and efficient. The results were sent to the Games Centre for distribution as well as posted on the official web site. All information was given at the venue to the teams.

After the competition was finished, John managed to put the results on CD and they were distributed to the teams after presentation ceremony.

## **14-Other Staff**

The number of volunteers at the table tennis playing venue is inadequate. Ball boys/girls were only available in some session. Other volunteers and reserve umpires were needed to do the task.

There were Sports First Aid people on duty at the playing venue. The Sports Medicine Clinic was centrally located in the Marrara Sports precinct, next to the Marrara Hub.

The repairs and maintenance of AWD equipment was also offered.

Sir Philip Craven, IPC President was present in the second day of AWD table tennis competition.

## **15- Conclusion**

The tournament progressed smoothly throughout in a great atmosphere. Amongst some of the players from Australia are first-timers in international competition who benefited from the experience.

The Northern Territory government was very supportive in this event. Overall, this tournament was successful. The players were satisfied and indicated that they will return in two years' time. However, as an IPTTC factor 20 event, there are some suggestions for future improvements as follows:

1. If application can be made earlier from IPTTC on the categories, there may be more participants take part in the competition.
2. During the competition, there were two sessions where the venue was shared with Judo. This should be avoided so that the two sports are not affected by each other.
3. There were not enough qualified umpires. It may be considered desirable to run umpire seminar and exams before the Games to enable training for more local umpires.
4. According IPTTC regulation, there is a Per Diem allowance for the TD, Referees and classifiers. In future, these allowances should be built into the budget.
5. In the tournament control area, it would be more efficient if there were one or two permanent volunteers assisting in data input and other tasks.

Steven W.H. Lee  
IPTTC Technical Delegate