

INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

PARA TABLE TENNIS DIVISION



TECHNICAL DELEGATE EVALUATION REPORT

(submitted by Silas Chiang on 18th June, 2011)

Name of Tournament **PTT Thailand Open**

Ranking Factor **Factor 20**

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

Chairperson of the Organizing Committee
Major-General Osoth Bhavilai

Venue **Bangkok Youth Centre (Thai-Japan), Thailand**

Period of Competition **7 to 13 June 2011**

Name of Technical Delegate **Silas Chiang**

Report submitted to ITTF **13th June, 2011**

1. AUTHORITY: the **PTT Thailand Open**, with the endorsement of the Table Tennis Association of Thailand, was organized by the Sports Association for the Disabled of Thailand, the National Paralympic Committee under the auspices and authority of the International Table Tennis Federation (Para Table Tennis Division).

2. EVENTS: the following events were played:

- ◆ Men's singles (class 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8-9, 10)
- ◆ Women's singles (class 2-3, 4, 5, 6-10)
- ◆ Men's team (class 1-2, 3, 4, 5, 6-7, 8-9, 10)
- ◆ Women's team (class 2-3, 4-5, 6-10)

3. SCHEDULE:

The following schedule was observed :-

- ◆ **Arrivals:** All teams arrived on 7th of June
- ◆ **Classification :** 7th and 8th June
- ◆ **Practice days:** 7th and 8th June
- ◆ **Team Managers meeting:** 8th June 2011 at 4:00p.m.
- ◆ **Opening ceremony:** 9th June 2011 at 1:00p.m.
- ◆ **Competition days:** 9th -12th June 2011
(Singles events on 9th -10th June & Team events on 11-12 June)
- ◆ **Closing ceremony & Farewell Dinner :** 12th June 2011
- ◆ **Departure:** 13th June 2011

4. RULES: the event was conducted in accordance with the current Laws of Table Tennis, the Regulations for International Competitions and specific PTT directives.

5. EQUIPMENT: the following equipment were used:

Tables: Andro Magnum SC, Andro Magnum SCW (wheelchair users)

Nets: Double Happiness

Balls: Andro*** white

Floor: synthetic rubber floor.

All 11 competition tables are wheelchair accessible

6. TECHNICAL DELEGATE

Mr. Silas Chiang (Hong Kong)

7. REFEREE and DEPUTY REFEREES

Referee : Mr. Cyril Sen (Malaysia)

Deputy Referees : Mr.Niwat Semangern (Thailand) and Mr. Roger Ho (Singapore)

8. INTERNATIONAL UMPIRES AND NATIONAL UMPIRES

12 International Umpires were from outside,19 from Thailand and they were all International Umpires.

Total of 29 umpires, all IUs. 11 foreign and 18 Thais.



9. CLASSIFIERS

Dr. Cheng Shun Ping (Chinese Taipei) and Mr. Marwan Dia (Jordan)

10. CLASSIFICATION

All new players and players who were to have their classification reviewed were asked to arrive as early as possible on 7th June and they did. A total of 31 classifications were done by noon on 8th June. 29 of them are for new players and 2 are for review. We had enough time for making the full team list to be circulated at the Team Managers meeting as well as making preparation for the draw of Singles that afternoon. The Classifier Report will be sent to the Classification Secretary together with copies of the passports of those who are newly classified.

11. ENTRY PROCESS

Only entries submitted by or confirmed by the national associations were accepted

Deadline for the first entry (entry by number) including request for Classification was set on 31st March 2011, while that for the second entry (entry by name) on 5th May 2011

Due to limited space we could only set 10 tables in the venue and the maximum number of players to be accepted was set at 150. After inspecting the venue, the Referee was able to add an eleventh table for wheelchair play only.

12. SYSTEM OF PLAY

For all Singles and Team event, the first stage was played in a round-robin basis With two players/teams from each group advancing to the second stage which was played in a knock-out format For groups with 5 or less players/teams, they played round robin.

In view of 4 full days for competition, and with a total of 109 players, all Singles and Team matches played to the best of 5 games.

Medals were awarded for the first three places. For M2 Singles, and M1-2 and W6-10 Teams, we had only 3 players and only gold and silver medals were awarded.

It is worth to note that for all medal ceremonies, they had arranged a flag bearer to stand at the back of the winner. If there were mixed team winning, they arranged 2 flags.



13. SEEDING

Seeding for all the events were done according to the latest ITTF PTT ranking list at 1st April, 2011.

14. TEAM MANAGERS MEETING

The Team Managers meeting was held on 8th June at 4:00p.m. in the Venue and followed by the draw for Singles. The draw for Team events was done on 10th June at 11:45a.m. when all team lists were confirmed.

15. PERSONS ON THE BENCH

We strictly carried out the following regulations for persons to be permitted on the bench.

In singles events, 1 seat for a coach on the playing field (behind the surrounds).

In the team events 5 seats for coach and players of the team playing the match.

All other players could only watch in the area further behind the surrounds. First Aid personnel set their tables on the two sides of the venue.

16. COMPETITION

A total of 202 Singles matches and 84 Team matches were played. All to the best of 5 The Table Tennis Association Thailand assisted a great deal. All umpires were helpful and worked well with each other. Mr. Niwat Semangern, the Thai Deputy Referee did a good job and assisted the Referee a lot. The other Deputy Referee, the one appointed from Singapore however was not proactive enough to organize matters and help solve problems.

We scheduled 30 minutes for a Singles match for the first day and 40 minutes for the second day for knock-out. For the team match, due to time constraint we only allowed 2 hours for each match, and we had to use spare tables as much as possible to finish all the matches on time. The longest match recorded is 3 hours and 10 minutes.

March-in of players were made for the first morning and first afternoon session for Singles events. For Team events, in order to save time we only arranged umpires to match in while players were guided to their tables beforehand for the first day. For the final day of Team events normal march-in of teams were organized.

17. LIGHTING

Lighting in the venue was not as much as those recorded in the Inspection Report, probably due to that fact that all side lightings were not switched on. At the time of inspection the layout plan for tables was not ready and no consideration given to those side-lightings which may affect players facing them. In fact, for tables further away from the stage they are just more than 400 lux.

18. WIND FLOW

The playing venue is quite windy due to doors needed to be open for entrance of spectators, particularly those in wheelchairs who could use only a few of the entrance with ramps set up. The playing area was warmer while the stage cooler. The air-conditioning was to be adjusted at times though it was not always efficient as how the system worked. Some tables experienced a slight breeze.

19. SECRETARIAT

There was no Secretariat set up at the venue and the Business Centre of the Hotel was only used for liaison persons. This made teams who had problems very difficult to seek assistance from the Organizer.

No souvenir program book was made nor any paper on the officials list. This made the teams difficult to look for the right officials for assistance.

Moreover, there were too few people speaking English.

20. ENTRY FEES

Entry fee of € 550 per person (2 in a room) was charged and for extra day 80 Euro per person /per night.

A number of comments were received that the entry fee was too high, and teams expected better hotel service and meals. Lunch box was small in quantity while that of dinner in hotel was with very little choice.

21. OFFICIAL HOTEL

Princeton Park Suites Hotel, a 3 star hotel was for all participating teams and international officials.

Some complaint received for the narrow bath room door and with a step. In fact bath room doors were all taken off and a curtain was replaced. For big wheelchairs it was difficult for them to enter. In future specific door width should be included in the Prospectus, and participating teams are to take note of it.

22. TRANSPORTATION

The organizers provided transportation for teams and officials to and from airport to hotel, and shuttle bus/van between hotel and venue.

The transport for the day of teams arrival on 7th June was not so good as some teams or officials had to wait in the airport for 1-3 hours and had to call the Organizer for transport. The classifier from Chinese Taipei had to call Taipei to find out the phone number before he could call the Organizer. He waited in the airport for over 2 hours.

This might have probably due to heavy traffic.

Though it was only some 5 minutes by car to the venue, it was impossible to walk from hotel in view of the heat and also the quite heavy traffic situation along the road. We should expect some improvement when better communications are developed among responsible officials of the Organizer.

23. OBLIGATIONS

All officials and players were made to understand and agree to be bound by the ITTF Anti-Doping, Anti-Harassment and Classification policies and procedures during the event. Everyone in the participating teams signed the Indemnity Waiver Form as requested.

24. WEATHER DURING COMPETITION

The average temperature was 25-29° Celsius. It rained almost everyday, in the afternoon or evening. Luckily it did not affect the competition, except the very loud noise of heavy rain when they poured onto the roof of the venue.

25. PROFESSIONAL CHEER LEADER

The Organizer had hired a professional cheer leader for Thai players during their finals. Though he was only the Thai team, the atmosphere was just good. I remembered he was at the Wheelchair Fencing Final between a Thai and a Hong Kong female fencer in the 2004 Sydney Paralympics.



26. ARTICLES TO ITTF WEBSITE

Two articles were completed relating to the Thai Open. One on a Class 6 Thai male player THAINIGOM Rungroj who started playing table tennis when he was 13 and he was of full determination in his table tennis career. He happened to have a very supportive father, a policeman and also a dedicated coach, also a policeman. The other article was on a Netherland player Tonnie HEIJNEN who has a Thai wife and is planning to establish a school of table tennis in Bangkok, as his first such attempt in Asia. Both articles appeared in the ITTF website during the competition.

27. QUESTIONNAIRES

18 Questionnaires were distributed to each of the participating teams on 10th June and 16 of them returned by noon the following day. The findings are good and positive, and a brief account on the comments is summarized as follows :

- Entry fees are too high and not compatible to the hotel service and meals quantity and quality;
- Some teams and officials had to wait in the airport for 1-3 hours, and they needed to call the Organizer to arrange transport to hotel;
- Communications not very efficient, and the Secretariat office was not set in the Venue. The Business Centre in the hotel used mainly for liaison people;
- Volunteers including ball persons are vey good, though some were not proactive enough

The findings of the questionnaires are in below :-

PTT Thailand Open 2011

Questionnaire for Participating Teams



Team Managers/Head Coaches of each of the Participating teams please complete the simple questionnaire on the **PTT Thailand Open** this would help us to improve in future competitions for people with disabilities, and return by noon of 12th June 2011 Please give a "tick" to the boxes of your choice in below:-

	<u>Very Good</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Very Poor</u>
1. Hotel					
Lobby	9	5	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bed Room	5	7	3	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bath Room	3	5	6	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments, if any:	<u>Hotel Service not so good, bath room door narrow & step</u>				
2. Meals					
Breakfast	6	7	3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lunch (box)	2	8	1	4	1
Dinner	5	5	2	4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments, if any:	<u>Breakfast good, Lunch box small quantity, Dinner little cho</u>				
3. Transportation					
Bus from airport to Hotel	5	4	4	3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments, if any:	<u>Some teams and officials waited at airport for 1-3 hours.</u>				
4. Managers Meeting					
Venue (in Hotel)	7	4	5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Information clear	8	2	5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments, if any:	_____				
5. Communications					
Organizing Committee	5	8	3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Liaison Officers	6	5	4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Competition Information	5	7	3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments, if any:	<u>not very good due to language problem.</u>				

	<u>Very Good</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Very Poor</u>
6. Competition					
Competition Format	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments if any: _____					
7. Umpires					
Standard of Service	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments, if any: _____					
8. Volunteers of Service					
Helper	<input type="checkbox"/> 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ball persons	<input type="checkbox"/> 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments, if any: <u>Very good, some not proactive.</u>					
9. Officials					
Competence	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Helpful	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments, if any: _____					
10. General Impression					
On the Championships	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11. Entry fee of 550					
(Including Capitation tax)	Yes	Alright	No		
Acceptable?	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 6		
Comments, if any: <u>Entry too high, expect better Hotel service and meals</u>					

General Comments, if any: 16 questionnaires returned, they are by participating teams.

Thank you and please return it to the Technical Delegate by Noon on 12 June 2011.


 Technical Delegate

12th June 2011

28. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Play Best of 3 games for team events with 5 teams.** Most teams preferred to have best of 5 and this had made the schedule very tight. Thus I would propose for groups with 5 teams in team events, only best of 3 games be played, as they would play round robin;
- 2. Play Best of 3 games for team events for Class 1 and 2.** This may be good as players in higher classes may get tired easily at the finals. In fact, the more tired the players the longer they would take for the latter sets of competition;

3. **Discrepancies in the actual situation or organization.** There are discrepancies in the preparation of the event by the Organizer when compared to those in the Inspection Report. It would be better if the Inspection is done by the appointed Technical Delegate as required in the rules as far as possible, as the TD can follow up all the requirements agreed with the Organizer earlier, and no excuse whatsoever;
4. **Meeting with actual technical officials during Inspection.** In future TD Inspection it is proposed that it should include a meeting with the those directly involved in the organization of competitions. In the case of the Thai Open no proper meeting had ever been held between officers of the Table Tennis Association Thailand and those of the Disabled Association.
This can help integration of the 2 organizations as well.
5. **Lighting needed to be checked** taking into consideration of the layout of tables in the venue as far as possible.
6. **Wind flow is needed to be considered** at the time of inspection. Players and spectators entrance to the venue would need to be taken into account as to improve the possible lighting and wind flow problems. Air-conditioning will also need to be assessed as whether they can be adjusted easily when needed.
7. The number of copiers and their speed would need to be checked during the TD Inspection. This problem gave the TD and Referee a big headache for the printing of competition schedules after draws. We were late to give out to teams.
8. Findings in the questionnaire should be referred to when the same organizer applies for PTT events in future.

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