



INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

PARA-TABLE TENNIS DIVISION: 1/2009

Minutes of a meeting of the Para-Table Tennis Committee held from 16h00 on 30 January to 13h00 on 1 February 2009 in Lausanne, Switzerland.

PRESENT: Øivind Eriksen (Chairperson), Vincent Boury (from 31 January 2009), Alison Burchell, Silas Chiang, Jiri Danek, Aart Kruimer, Gaël Marziou (from 31 January 2009), Leandro Olvech, Nico Verspeelt, Karol Ziduliak

BY INVITATION: Neil Harwood (ITTF Vice-President), Lila de Soysa (ITTF Project Manager), Jordi Serra (ITTF Executive Director), Edimilson Pinheiro

WELCOME: the Chairperson welcomed all present especially Edimilson who was attending his first meeting.

- 1 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:** of the meeting held from 12 and 16 September 2008 were confirmed and signed subject to:
 - a) second bullet in 10.1 and 10i) being amended to the number of umpire teams = number of tables x 2 + 2 teams;
 - b) third bullet in 10.1 and 10ii) being amended to read 50%;
 - c) 12iii) being amended to 1 October 2010 for seedings for the world championships.
- 2 **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:** the Division noted the Chairperson's report including:
 - 2.1 marketing of PTT and sponsorship:
 - Schenker: follow up with IPC on the agreement with CISM for transport assistance: the IPC had made no progress.
 - sponsorship for the PTT pro tour: a meeting with TMS would be held during the ITTF World Championships in Yokohama.
 - marketing opportunities: this would be explored with TMS, whose experience was based on television rights and sponsorship, as well as with the IPC given the success of the Beijing Paralympic Games.
 - 2.2 status of the PTT committee:
 - succession planning and job descriptions for all portfolios including addressing women and those with high support needs: all would be complete by the end of February 2009;
 - PTT nomination, appointment process and possible exemption in terms of the limit on nominations from national associations for 8 members made up of the chairperson, vice-chairperson and 6 others:
 - the nomination forms had been sent out to national associations with a deadline of 2 March 2009 for submission to the ITTF Headquarters;
 - all associations could submit nominations which would be over and above the limit of nominations for each national association (4 on 4 committees but PTT was excluded as with sports science);

- after the deadline, the nominations committee would consider the nominations and make recommendations ultimately to the General Assembly;
- the ITTF Headquarters would publish all nominations on 15 April 2009;
- not all positions for the PTT Division had been included;
- the term of office would be 2 years.
- PTT members serving on other ITTF committees: while there was nothing in writing preventing this, it was better for the committee to co-opt additional members to assist, some of whom may have PTT experience.
- incorporating PTT regions into the ITTF regions, linked to the regional Paralympic committees:
 - guidance from the ITTF was needed for the ITTF continents to work together with the Paralympic regions;
 - the status of Great Britain as one or as per ITTF national associations should be discussed with those national associations comprising Great Britain;
 - for the short-term, the PTT should keep 4 regions and develop into the 6 ITTF continents in the medium to long-term;
 - the key was integration at a national level and having a contact person for PTT in each national association would assist;
 - issues relating to PTT should be included in the agreements being developed by the ITTF Development Department.
- areas of assistance from the ITTF:
 - a joint working group for Olympic and Paralympic Games for 2012:
 - the appointed TDs for both Olympic and Paralympic Games should meet jointly with LOCOG;
 - the TD for the Olympic Games would be nominated in Yokohama and the same process should be followed for the Paralympic Games;
 - the circuit, U14, U17 and U21 events with information on numbers of players in the different age groups, organising youth events U15 (cadets), U18 (juniors) and U21 with the age determined from 1 January each year:
 - the Asia Para Games would organise a junior event for players between 14 and 19 years old.
 - there were 129 players under 25 years of age on the classification database.
 - membership (NPC or NF) discussions including the Czech Republic:
 - in the Czech Republic, there were 2 organisations for the physically disabled;
 - the Czech Table Tennis Association was ready to accept the organisation of disabled, but only one;
 - some national associations may need to consider accepting members from each disability group as an interim measure;
 - entries for PTT competitions should be accepted from national associations only (not NPCs) with effect from 1 January 2010.
- ITTF grant from the IPC of €24 000 and report: this should cover 2008's activities and another to indicate the plans for 2009.
- TUEs and anti-doping control:
 - the abbreviated TUEs no longer existed;
 - all TUEs should be sent to Etsuko who would send to Dr Kahn;
 - should the B sample be tested, it would be at the expense of the player.
- AGM in Japan: would be held on 30 April 2009.

- classification and selection documents to ITTF Headquarters: would be sent to the ITTF once a person to develop a database was identified.

The Division asked:

- a) Øivind, Nico, Neil and Jordi to meet TMS about sponsorship for the PTT tour during the ITTF World Championships in Yokohama;
- b) Neil and Jordi to meet IPC about financial support for various aspects of PTT's work, the integration of PTT into national associations and issuing a joint letter to their respective memberships;
- c) Aart to discuss with Stefak his nomination as Medical Officer;
- d) Øivind, Nico, Neil and Jordi to meet the ITTF regional vice-presidents;
- e) Øivind, Nico, Neil and Jordi to meet the national associations comprising Great Britain about the status of Great Britain in PTT events;
- f) Jordi to discuss with Glenn Tepper including in the continental agreements items relating to PTT;
- g) Lila to write to each national association to appoint a PTT contact person;
- h) Nico and Gaël to research the possibility of organising viable youth events;
- i) all to send to Alison by 14 February 2009 the report on activities for 2008 and a proposal for activities for 2009 so that Alison could submit to Jordi by the end of February 2009 to be sent to the IPC;
- j) Neil and Jordi to discuss with the IPC the acceptance of entries for PTT tournaments from national associations from 1 January 2010;
- k) Nico to attend the AGM on behalf of PTT with Øivind;
- l) Øivind to contact Liying about developing a database for classification to be used by the ITTF Headquarters and then Nico to transfer all documents to the ITTF Headquarters.

The Division resolved to recommend to the Executive Committee that entries for PTT tournaments be accepted only if submitted by national associations with effect from 1 January 2010 but until then, entries would be accepted from both NPCs and/or national associations.

3 VICE-CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: the Division noted the Vice-Chairperson's report including:

3.1 use of Dr Wu's programme to 2012:

- instead of signing annually, the contract should be signed for a longer period as almost all PTT tournaments used it;
- Nico would work with Dr Wu to develop a document to confirm what referees need to provide in terms of results for the website;
- often the referee used the programme rather than the computer operator;
- the TD was better placed to start up the process and the referee once the tournament started;
- the estimated purchase price of the programme was €10 000 and this should be investigated against other programmes as well as maintaining the programme;
- €3 538,00 had been paid over 2 years for the use of the programme.

3.2 IPC General Assembly Kuala Lumpur 18 to 23 November 2009: 2 people should attend from ITTF and the decision would be made in June 2009 after ITTF elections.

The Division asked:

- a) Jordi to sign the contract with Dr Wu to 2012 in principle;

b) Mr Yao, Graeme Ireland and Gaël to investigate the viability of purchasing Dr Wu's programme.

4 TREASURER'S REPORT: the Division noted the Treasurer's report including:

4.1 sanction and capitation fees: Liverpool, Germany, Poland, Italy; African Championships and IWAS (2007):

- for 2007, capitation fees were outstanding from the IWAS and African Championships;
- Liverpool, Poland, Germany and Italy had paid for 2007;
- capitation fees for the German Open for 2008 were outstanding despite several promises to pay and Copa Tango may have paid some of the fees;
- the amount from Poland reflected deductions for payments made for fees for the coaches seminar;
- Madrid (2009) still had outstanding fees.

4.2 insurance: including liability insurance covering legal fees: the medical and travel insurance had been finalised but the legal fees (CAS) would be investigated.

4.3 financial report 1 July 2007 to 31 December 2007: this had been considered previously.

4.4 financial report 1 January to 31 December 2008:

- the year produced €100 000 surplus but this was due in part to the payment from IPC of €24 000 plus the second transfer of €50 000;
- the balance on 1 January 2008 was €81.901,70 with a surplus in 2008 of €99.399,63 and a final balance on 31 December 2008 of €181.301,33
- interest for €80 000 on 4% produced €1 764,63;
- expenditure included the Paralympic Games.

4.5 budget for 2009:

- including a budget for women based on free accommodation for class 1 and 2 at events, a budget matched by ITTF and training camp for women before large events on each continent were addressed under development;
- travel to the Romanian event for service rule was included;
- €100 000 would be put into a fixed term account;
- interest was difficult to predict.

The budget considered, based on input from Beijing, was:

EXPENDITURE		
Chairperson		€ 8,000.00
Meetings	€ 1,500.00	
Administration	€ 1,500.00	
Korea	€ 1,500.00	
Regionals	€ 3,500.00	
Vice Chairperson		€ 4,000.00
Korea	€ 1,000.00	
Yokohama	€ 1,500.00	
Kuala Lumpur	€ 1,500.00	
Treasurer		€ 2,000.00
Administration	€ 1,000.00	
Representation	€ 1,000.00	
PTT Division meetings		€ 28,000.00
Lausanne	€ 13,000.00	

INCOME	
IPC	€ 24,000.00
Sanction fees	€ 4,800.00
Capitation taxes	€ 100,000.00
Classification seminars	€ 2,000.00
Bank interest	€ 3,000.00
Total	€ 133,800.00

	Italy, June	€ 8,000.00	
	Other meetings	€ 7,000.00	
Development			€ 8,000.00
	Different costs	€ 8,000.00	
Tournament officer			€ 3,800.00
	2 regionals	€ 3,000.00	
	Organisation	€ 800.00	
Technical officer			€ 650.00
	Administration	€ 150.00	
	Travel	€ 500.00	
Medical officer			€ 7,000.00
	Different costs	€ 7,000.00	
Selection Officer/Classification			€ 12,000.00
	Administration	€ 9,000.00	
	Regionals	€ 3,000.00	
Regional representatives			€ 11,300.00
	Europe	€ 300.00	
	Americas	€ 7,000.00	
	Africa	€ 2,000.00	
	Asia & Oceania	€ 2,000.00	
Webmaster			€ 2,000.00
	Different costs	€ 2,000.00	
Athletes representative			€ 1,000.00
	Administration	€ 1,000.00	
Gifts, awards			€ 3,500.00
	Awards & gifts	€ 1,500.00	
	Uniforms	€ 2,000.00	
Coaching			€ 4,000.00
	Administration	€ 1,000.00	
	ITTF level 2	€ 3,000.00	
Dr Wu's Software			€ 2,000.00
Surplus			€ 36,550.00
Total		€ 97,250.00	€ 133,800.00

The Division asked:

- a) Alison to follow up the payment of the capitation fees from ASCOD (€2 240) and IWAS;
- b) Lila, Karol (Argentina), Germany (Nico) and Jiri to follow up on outstanding fees;
- c) Lila to send copies of correspondence on payment of fees to the relevant national association and continental associations for information so that they were aware of the issue and possible impact on their players;
- d) Jordi to investigate insurance for legal fees;
- e) Jordi to put €100 000 in a fixed term deposit.

The Division approved the budget reflected above.

5 SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT: the Division noted the Secretary General's report including:

5.1 communication deadlines for the submission of articles below:

- ITTF magazine: end February, May, August, October 2009;
- IPC newsflash: 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month;

- IPC bulletin: 1st Wednesday of the month;
 - Paralympian: 30 January; 30 April; 31 July; 9 October 2009.
- 5.2 review of the strategic plan: would be done.
- 5.3 code of conduct for ITTF for PTT to sign: drafts for specific officials and athletes had been developed.
- 5.4 PTT terms of reference: an initial draft had been developed with a view to guide the new PTT Division which would be approved or amended by the Executive Committee.

The Division asked:

- a) Leandro and Edimilson to send an article on coaching and Americas respectively to Alison for the Paralympian;
- b) Edimilson and Alison to work on an article on integration for the ITTF Magazine and Paralympian;
- c) Jiri to inform TDs, in a similar way to the coaching course conductors, to write a short article with pictures for the ITTF website;
- d) Jordi to take the issue of an ITTF code of conduct and the draft terms of reference to the Executive Committee.

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

6.1 TD training:

- job descriptions for TDs, competition, deputy competition and FOP managers and full or part-time status:
 - a competition manager should be appointed for the world championships and Paralympic Games;
 - the implementation would be from the world championships working through to Fa20 tournaments so there was still a need for TDs in the short-term;
 - job descriptions existed within ITTF for the competition manager;
- the handbook (including a selection section, doping control, managing discipline, examination, application form, checklist with explanation of items on the checklist available for 2007, use of Dr Wu's programme): this had not been updated.
- job description, identify need for TD, update training system, someone to train and to be trained:
 - there were currently 25 TDs of whom 16 were active (8 senior TDs, 8 TDs, 4 junior TDs, 5 trainee TDs);
 - at least 5 more TDs should be trained during a 3 day course at most regional championships;
 - the ITTF had training for competition managers;
 - being active as a TD was a necessity and perhaps refresher courses would be necessary;
 - senior TD seminars should be held during world championships;
 - people had been identified to do the training.
- recruitment criteria, application form, examination for Fa 20:
 - candidates would be selected and should have a solid all-round knowledge of table tennis, possibly be an organiser;
 - application forms would be sent out mid-February 2009 to be submitted by end of March 2009;
 - an examination would be developed as part of the certification process.

6.2 TD ID cards and certificates: ID cards for all PTT personnel and athletes (classification) agreed with the ITTF: the ITTF had ID cards from the City of Lausanne.

The Division asked:

- a) Øivind and Jiri to finalise the TD job description, continue with the training process and to address the issue of examination and certification;
- b) Øivind to update the handbook.

The Division agreed not to pursue the production of ID cards.

7 DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT: the Division noted the Development Officer's report including:

7.1 promotional DVD:

- had been developed using images from the Beijing Paralympic Games in English, Spanish, French and Arabic;
- a separate ITTF DVD had been developed by ITTF Development Department which included images from Athens, classification and the promotional DVD.

7.2 mandate including "new table tennis nations" (Kenya, Lesotho, East Timor and Ghana), equipment for a tournament, facilitating education, recreation, social activities leading to elite player development:

- the ATTF had nominated various countries for support to hosting courses which included Lesotho;
- the placement of development with the regional representatives should be reviewed;
- working closely with the Development Department could assist establishing new PTT playing nations.

7.3 promotional poster:

- 3 versions would be developed at a cost of €600 and printing €600 for 2 000 copies;
- distribution could be by downloading from the website or at the AGM in Yokohama;
- advertising the poster in rehabilitation journals could assist promotion and distribution;
- approaching equipment manufacturing companies to distribute could be considered;
- an A3 poster could be included in table tennis magazines.

7.4 PTT on facebook: this had been developed to reach a different target group.

7.5 women's report: was noted as it had been circulated before the meeting.

The Division asked:

- a) Leandro to proceed with the poster concept, circulate designs for approval and discuss distribution of posters with Etsuko;
- b) Neil to discuss with Glenn the inclusion of developing PTT in Leandro's ITTF job description and mechanism for coordinating activities.

The Division agreed to request Alejandra to report via the Development Department copied to the chairperson.

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

8.1 brochure on player education on the rules translation: had now been published on the website and would hopefully be translated.

8.2 database for athletes, identification numbers linked to ranking/rating and classification: this had been completed.

8.3 hall of fame: the ITTF had a hall of fame and the criteria had been established as with the merit award.

8.4 athletes' representation: co-option onto the ITTF athletes' commission would be considered.

8.5 museum: a request would be posted on the forum for donations to the museum.

8.6 European training centre for PTT:

- could be opened in 2010 by people who were dedicated to PTT;
- it had a strong partnership with the French Paralympic Committee;
- the plan included opening similar centres in other continents.

8.7 improvements to tournaments:

- critical for wheelchair players was accessibility for accommodation and ablution facilities;
- in some tournaments, these issues were continuously ignored;
- outside portable/temporary toilets were mostly not used by players and organisers should not use them;
- players were frustrated that sanctions were not applied to those whom they believed were cheating in the classification system;
- combining classes for class 1 or 6 compromised the players but sometimes players argued for combination if the players in the higher classes were comparatively weak;
- increasing the number of events in Africa and Americas.

The Division asked:

- a) Vincent to post a request on the forum for donations to the ITTF museum;
- b) Lila to send to Alison the criteria for the hall of fame and for the merit award;
- c) Neil to discuss the co-option of Vincent as the athletes' representative onto the athletes' commission;
- d) Vincent to reflect on ways to improve the standard of tournaments;
- e) Vincent to suggest to players who wished to get images from the Beijing Paralympic Games to contact their NPC to contact the IPC;
- f) if time allowed, Vincent should liaise with Jordi about attending the athletes' commission meeting in Yokohama.

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

9.1 shorter questionnaire on the organisation of tournaments, review and feedback: a shorter version with 6 questions would be finalised.

9.2 PTT Tour: 3 tournaments had been approved for Fa 40 in 2009 with Korea applying to host a test event for the World Championships.

9.3 tournament organiser's handbook and education: an outline for the training had been developed.

9.4 regional championships 2009 and tournaments organised during this event:

- the regulations needed to be changed to confirm that no other tournament may be organised during the regional championships;
- events in the regional championships would be the same as those in the world championships;
- the draft regional championships contract with the doping control agreement had been updated to be signed by the Executive Director with each organiser;
- for the Asia-Oceania Championships, the tables purchased were the same colour as the floor and no funding was available to differentiate the colours;
- if the minimal playing conditions were not met, another organiser should be found;

- the proposed entry fee for Asia-Oceania was €800 per person which may affect the final entry;
 - having a choice between different standard hotels could assist to reduce the price;
 - the host for the African Championships still had to be confirmed;
 - the Europeans, because of the size of entry, required a field of play manager and the appointment of Georgios Selinotakis should be discussed with the organising committee.
- 9.5 World Championships 2010 and tournaments organised during this event:
- the regulations needed to be changed to confirm that no other tournament may be organised during the world championships;
 - the bid document undertakings had to be confirmed by the site inspection team.
- 9.6 Commonwealth Games 2010:
- no ranking points would be allocated in line with the decision made in 2008;
 - the regulations had to be applied in full.
- 9.7 contracts for all events:
- contracts should be sent to the organisers by the ITTF Headquarters;
 - the penalty clause about cancelling tournaments to be included.
- 9.8 distribution of players' education brochure by TDs and web link:
- had been included on the website;
 - the organisers should be requested to print copies for distribution in the technical meeting.
- 9.9 TD appointments for African and world championships:
- the organisers for the African Championships should request a TD;
 - the TD for the world championships would be appointed at the next meeting;
 - deputy TDs would be appointed with input from the TD;
 - deputy TDs could be trainee TDs;
 - the FOP manager could be from the host country but would need to be negotiated with the host country as it was not included in the regulations.
- 9.10 gifts for the regional championships: the glass rackets were appreciated by the players but medals were ordinary.
- 9.11 status with the German Open, 2008:
- refund to some countries and players from 2008 had not been done;
 - capitation fees had not been paid as there was a request for this to be paid once fees from the 2009 event had been received;
 - although the sanction fee for 2009 had been paid by transfer, fees from 2009 were outstanding despite several promises;
 - although some countries and players had not received a refund, the PTT Division could not address this particular issue;
 - some players may have booked their flight tickets even though the tournament had not been approved;
 - the application form for the tournament had not met the requirements as it was not endorsed by the NPC.
- 9.12 projects for international events:
- Gilles de La Bourdonnaye and the French NPC would like to organise a Fa 20 in 2010, 2012, 2014;
 - World Singles Cup in Lyon would not be possible as it had been removed from the regulations;
 - major event in Paris (Fa 40) was being developed;
 - mixed competition during a Pro-Tour including para TT was being investigated.

The Division asked:

- a) Jiri to finalise the shorter questionnaire and Øivind, Vincent and Edimilson to ensure all appropriate questions were addressed, particularly accessibility of accommodation and ablution facilities;
- b) Karol to update the regulations to confirm that no other tournament may be organised during the regional and world championships and the Paralympic Games;
- c) Karol to get feedback from the referee on the use of tables which were the same colour as the floor;
- d) Øivind to discuss the appointment of Georgios Selinotakis as field of play manager for the European Championships;
- e) Nico, Karol, Jiri and Vincent to develop regulations for cancellation of events to be circulated to the Division by end March 2009 for it to be included in the tournament contract;
- f) Jiri to ensure TDs distributed the player education brochure;
- g) Jiri to investigate 35 smaller rackets as gifts and confirm the costs with the Division before ordering;
- h) Alison to draft a letter for Jordi to send to the German Open organisers, copied to the German NPC and national association, indicating that no further tournaments would be approved for Germany (including Stuttgart) but should the outstanding payment be received before 20 February 2009, the application for 2009 would have to be endorsed by either the NPC or the national association and the contract signed.

The Division agreed to:

- i) add to the regulations that no other tournament may be organised at the same time as the regional and world championships and Paralympic Games;
- ii) include in the contract a penalty for the organising committee to pay the cancellation costs for travel already paid by participants provided that should cancellation happen before the second entry, no penalty would be implemented;
- iii) appoint Nico as TD for the African Championships;
- iv) appoint Cindy Leung as deputy TD for the Asia-Oceania, Nico for the Americas, Nico for the European and, given exceptional circumstances, Alison for the African Championships;
- v) discuss the issue of differentiated capitation fees for each Fa tournament at the next meeting.

10 TECHNICAL OFFICER'S REPORT: the Division noted the Technical Officer's report including:

10.1 update of the handbook effective 1 January 2009:

- the ITTF had reviewed its rule book;
- the rules for PTT had been included as section 1;
- various other changes had been implemented;
- classification had been removed as it would be included in a separate handbook;
- as with the ITTF, the handbook was now called ITTF PTT rules and regulations;
- the top 12 and top 8 regulations had been deleted;
- increase in umpire teams for world championships and Paralympic Games and 50% to be from outside the host country;
- the history had been updated;
- additional changes made included a regulation about a player withdrawing from an event and that applications for tournaments had to be endorsed by the NPC or national

- association (only by the national association from 1 January 2010), the use of Dr Wu's programme for results sent to the webmaster;
 - there must be a minimum contact of the rear side of the athlete's thigh with the cushion/seat when the player struck the ball;
 - if a player used the table as an additional support before striking the ball, a point would be awarded to the opponent;
 - as the ITTF rules covered a table being moved by a player, it was not necessary to include this in the PTT specific rules.
- 10.2 translation of the handbook: was on hold subject to discussions about the integration with the ITTF handbook;
- 10.3 discussions with the URC:
- URC was developing a refresher course for all IUs;
 - for referees, the training was on the job but new referees were appointed as deputy referees to assist this process;
 - there should be one training course for all referees which would include PTT matters.
- 10.4 regulations: dealt with in 10.1 above.
- 10.5 glue testing:
- the process should be maintained as is and be a responsibility of the referee;
 - some players wanted to have their rackets tested prior to the regional championships;
 - many national associations had the testing equipment and players should approach the national association for testing;
 - thickness was the major issue but concern about volatile liquids seemed to have been sorted out.
- 10.6 committee on integration of PTT specific rules and regulations (Rudy Sporrer, Graeme Ireland, Karol and Jordi to meet in Yokohama in April 2009):
- the ITTF had reviewed its rule book;
 - leaflets and directives also existed in ITTF as well as rules and regulations;
 - the committee should meet Neil and Øivind to confirm the process.
- 10.7 referees for regional championships:
- Graeme Ireland for Asia-Oceania with Cyril Sen and Khames Ahmad as deputy referees;
 - Karol as referee for Americas with Juan Carlos Medina and Hernan Brizuela as deputy referees.
- 10.8 the change to the wheelchair serve would be tested in Romania and Copa Tango.

The Division asked:

- a) Neil, Øivind and Karol to check with Odd about the need to purchase racket control equipment;
- b) Karol, Jordi to meet Neil and Øivind in Yokohama to confirm the processes to be followed for integrating PTT rules and regulations into the ITTF Handbook, directives as well as the proposed changes to the rules and then to meet to take the discussion further Rudy Sporrer, Graeme Ireland.

The Division agreed to appoint Graeme Ireland for Asia-Oceania with Cyril Sen and Khames Ahmad as deputy referees, Karol as referee for Americas Championships with with Juan Carlos Medina and Hernan Brizuela as deputy referees.

- 11 MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT:** the Division noted the Medical Officer's report including:
- 11.1 classification cards (new format, indication of limits on serve): this was removed from the agenda.

- 11.2 classification handbook and consistent terminology (with coaching committee), definition of severe disability, Nanism (1,4m for men and 1,37m for women), need for a newsletter: was in process.
- 11.3 INAS-FID classification update:
- information was outstanding from IPC as ITTF had responded that face to face interaction was required to develop a sport specific classification system;
 - if INAS-FID was to be included in London, then negotiations would have to be entered into about slot allocations.
- 11.4 classifier education and those who could offer seminars on the website, classification training within the ITTF development programme: was in progress.
- 11.5 classification account and seminar fees from Poland:
- those who did the course in Poland had not yet been added to the classifiers' database as the information required had not been provided;
 - seminar fees had been paid to the classification account;
 - at the end of 2008, the classification account stood at €750 of which €150 may need to be refunded;
 - the fees for classification seminars in the Americas were unclear.
- 11.6 implementation of the new system for sitting classes for 2009 and information on website: was in progress.
- 11.7 requests for reviews, protests in tournaments and championships, procedures, cheating to be added to the Handbook and cheating discussion in the forum, review and protest forms on the website:
- the appeals procedure should be checked with the Rules Committee and then go to the Executive Committee;
 - the re-evaluation process was specific to the PTT Division;
 - regulations about cheating would be included in the classification code.
- 11.8 multiple sub-minimal disability: was in progress.
- 11.9 technical classification issues: was in progress.
- 11.10 classification code: would be updated once the re-evaluation and protest procedures were confirmed.
- 11.11 outstanding payment: Rafael Martinez Cayere had still not received a refund from Brazil (Rio) for his airfare as he had to have a ticket in his possession in order to get a visa despite requests to Brazil to confirm the invitation.

The Division asked:

- a) Alison to draft a letter for Jordi to write to the IPC to confirm that the ITTF is not involved in the table tennis events for the Asian Para Youth Games in which INAS-FID players were participating;
- b) Aart to follow up on outstanding information of trainee classifiers from the seminar run in Poland;
- c) Leandro to confirm the status of the Americas classification seminar fees with Nico and Øivind;
- d) Nico to send to Jordi the final versions of the protest and re-evaluation procedures once a committee of Nico, Aart, Vincent, Gaël and Alison had confirmed them;
- e) Nico to finalise the code of conduct;
- f) Øivind to contact Alaor about the refund for Rafael once Aart and/or Leandro had provided the facts.

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

- 12.1 deadline for selections 1 January 2010 and seeding 1 October 2010 for the WC 2010 and the selections for the world championships would be the same as the regional championships and Paralympic Games.
- 12.2 proposals for the Parapan American Games 2011:
 - 128 slots had been proposed by the IPC;
 - the event would be part of the qualification process for London 2012.

The Division asked Jordi to confirm with the IPC that 128 slots for the Parapan American Games would be acceptable, that the capitation fee would be €36,00 per participant and that the other regulations in the Handbook would need to be implemented.

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

- 13.1 ITTF level 1 coaching course in Arabic, French version: the Arabic version had been printed and the French and Spanish versions were being designed.
- 13.2 coaches' education, seminars, course conductors' training and fees:
 - had been held in South America (7), Europe (1) and Oceania (2);
 - the LATTU development officer and ITTF Oceania development officer would be able to lead courses;
 - a course would be run during the Arafura Games, during the Asia-Oceania Championships and during the relevant course at Leipzig University;
 - courses identified by the ATTF would be combined courses and hopefully courses offered in the Americas would also be combined.
- 13.3 integration with the ITTF, certification as well as level 2 and 3: no progress yet.

14 RANKING OFFICER AND WEBMASTER'S REPORT: the Division noted the Ranking Director and Webmaster's report including:

- 14.1 ranking database collaboration with classification database: cooperation for including new players on the database had been implemented.
- 14.2 integration with the ITTF website:
 - slow progress was being made;
 - a search function would be included
 - the meeting between Mo and Gaël had not been held;
 - the multi-language component was missing where the Portuguese version not visible;
 - the forum could not run on the ITTF website;
 - China had blocked use of ipttc addresses.
- 14.3 calendar management with ITTF database and phasing out all references to IPTTC: this would be discussed with Mo.
- 14.4 rating and ranking: would be discussed with Mo and Tim Gautreau.
- 14.5 ittf email addresses: would be discussed as a matter of policy by the Executive Committee.
- 14.6 online entries: was linked to the establishment of the database and would follow after the merger of the calendar.

The Division asked:

- a) Gaël to discuss with Mo the continuing integration of the website, a meeting and calendar management;

- b) Gaël to discuss with Mo and Tim ranking and rating systems;
- c) Jordi to report back on the policy relating to ittf email addresses.

15 REGIONAL REPORTS: the Division noted the regional representatives' reports including:

- 15.1 discussions with the ITTF continental vice-presidents: to be arranged during the meetings in Yokohama.
- 15.2 Americas:
 - 2 tournaments would be held in the region viz. the Tango Cup and Brazilian Open;
 - a development report was attached to the report;
 - several events were used to include PTT and women's discussions;
 - a new website www.apttc.org would be launched soon;
 - a classification manual was still planned and Aart was in contact with Nadia;
 - a classification seminar would be held during the year.
- 15.3 Africa:
 - the venue for the African Championships had to be confirmed but could be in November or December 2009;
 - a development seminar would be held in Cairo in early March 2009 and contact would be made to include table tennis;
 - the 2011 All Africa Games venue was no longer Zambia and the Supreme Council of Sport in Africa would soon confirm the new host.
- 15.4 Europe including major changes in French NPC:
 - 7 tournaments were held in 2008;
 - in 2009, 8 tournaments were planned;
 - through the new tournament structure, the proportion of tournaments held in Europe had dropped;
 - cooperation with ETTU would be followed up.
- 15.5 Asia-Oceania:
 - a meeting of the committee would be held in Amman;
 - the first Asian Youth Para Games were held in Hong Kong and the second would be held in Tokyo in 2009;
 - to date, the Olympic Committee of Asia had not followed the model of an integrated games but the Asian Paralympic Committee hoped this would change for 2014 as Incheon would host the Asian Games and Asian Para Games perhaps in the same way as the Olympic and Paralympic Games;
 - the region hoped to host a women's event;
 - there were discussions with China about hosting a training centre;
 - the meeting about women in Beijing was successful;
 - the Arafura Games would be held in Darwin in May 2009.

The Division asked:

- a) Nico to circulate the presentation on integration by IPC, by the PTT Division and the draft letter for ITTF and IPC to send out to their respective memberships;
- b) the regional representatives to work with Leandro to identify a country or countries to host PTT courses with the ITTF development courses;
- c) Neil, Jordi with Øivind and Nico to meet the ITTF continental vice-presidents in Yokohama.

The Division agreed to co-opt Edimilson onto the Division as Americas representative.

16 BEIJING 2008: the Division noted the TD and assistant TD's final report that:

- accessibility in Beijing was outstanding;
- the appointment by the IPC of an accessibility consultant greatly assisted;
- with lunch being in the Village, it took too long to do the return journey and the food provided at the competition venue was not for sportspeople and served cold;
- the start list format for the Olympic and Paralympic Games was the same but may not be appropriate for Paralympic Games in terms of umpires' allocations (done 30 minutes before the matches for the Olympic Games);
- the allocation of tables for media coverage proved a challenge;
- the number of umpires was insufficient, particularly foreign umpires and had to be increased;
- the transport was inadequate for the assistant TD;
- there was unhappiness from officials who had attended the Opening Ceremony that they had to pay to stay an extra day and for the closing ceremony whereas in the Olympic Games, the officials arrived after the opening ceremony but if they attended, they had to pay for the extra accommodation;
- the classifiers should be there for all play days;
- racket control was a problem as there was only 1 Chinese official in the end to do this;
- there was a change in the tables late in the process which affected player preparation;
- there was a challenge with the photographer positions.

17 LONDON 2012: the Division noted a report from the TD designate including:

- 17.1 the number of events and player slots depending on slot allocation by IPC: no information had been received from the IPC.
- 17.2 one coordination system for both Olympic and Paralympic Games: would be addressed through the ITTF Olympic and Paralympic Commission and an ITTF technical operations manager could be appointed.
- 17.3 inclusion of a jury added to the number of officials: TD, referee, medical officer and LOCOG competition manager would remain.
- 17.4 more NTOs and ITOs: for umpiring had to be increased from 20 NTOs and 12 ITOs to 18 NTOs and 18 ITOs for 8 tables.
- 17.5 TD, referee recommendations:
 - there should be 2 TDs in line with the ITTF practice for the Olympic Games;
 - the referee and 3 deputy referee recommendations from the Technical Officer would be considered by the URC in consultation with the LOCOG and submitted to the Division and then the Olympic and Paralympic Commission.

The Division asked:

a) Neil and Jordi to discuss with the IPC:

- the slot allocation for London to be a minimum of 264 and 24 medal events with the provision that if INAS-FID was included, there should be an increase in the number of slots;
- an independent person to convene the jury and the consequential accreditation access;

b) Neil and Jordi to address the following concerns with LOCOG and in one contract with 2 parts to be signed based on the Beijing experience:

- the appointment 2 TDs and 2 T1 cars as a result;
- the possibility of appointing an ITTF technical operations manager for both Games;
- all officials to stay for the full period and attend both opening and closing ceremonies;

- access for 2 ITTF photographers;
 - increase in the number of umpires including the proportion of foreign to local umpires i.e. 18 NTOs and 18 ITOs as umpires for 8 tables;
 - the standard of accessibility should be maintained;
 - the nuances of table and umpire allocations in the start lists should be considered;
 - if a packed lunch was to be provided at the venue, the content and ordering system should be addressed;
 - access to images of the table tennis event perhaps to be ordered from LOCOG during the Games, including being immediately available for the jury during the Paralympic Games.
- c) Neil and Jordi to involve the athletes' commission in discussions about equipment to be used.

The Division resolved to:

- i) nominate Nico as the TD for London 2012 Paralympic Games to the ITTF Olympic and Paralympic Commission;
- ii) recommend the appointment of 2 TDs for the Paralympic Games with the second being nominated at the next meeting;
- iii) receive nominations at the next meeting for the appointment of the referee and 3 deputy referees from the URC to be ratified by the PTT Division for recommendation to the Olympic and Paralympic Commission.

18 GENERAL: the Committee noted the following reports:

18.1 liaison with IWAS:

- the world games would be held in India in November/December 2009;
- only countries which were members of IWAS could participate in the games;
- only wheelchair and amputee athletes participated in the games which did not include CP players;
- there was a clash of dates with another sanctioned event;
- IWAS still owed capitation fees from 2007.

18.2 liaison with CP-ISRA: there was nothing to report except that Aart had informed CP-ISRA that he would not be fully available.

The Committee asked:

- a) Leandro to follow up with IWAS the possibility of having a development course immediately before their Games;
- b) Jiri to inform IWAS that no sanction would be allocated for their Games;
- c) Aart to inform CP-ISRA that no sanction would be allocated for their possible Games but that they should consider organising a games with IWAS.

19 NEXT MEETING: the new Division would meet during the European Championships in Genoa. The Division noted that Lila would be working from April 2009 with the International Working Group for women in sport in Sydney.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 13h05.

READ AND CONFIRMED AT THE MEETING

HELD ON

CHAIRPERSON

AMB/

1 February 2009