

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, Terni (ITA) 11.07.2008

Present: S. Bosi (President), E. Schöler (Deputy President), J.F. Kahn (FRA), A. Matkovic (SRB), Y. Posevin (RUS), P. Sörling (SWE) (Vice-Presidents), J. Dom (General Secretary), D. Steffen (YC Chairperson – item 1), M. Evangelista (Marketing Department – item 6)

1. Welcome of the Italian Association

The President of the Italian Table Tennis Federation, Francesco Sciannimanico, welcomed all ETTU Officials to Terni. He expressed the hope to overcome all the small problems occurring at such a large event and he promised that he and the organising committee will do their utmost to have great European Youth Championships. He wished good luck to the ETTU Officials for the EB meeting. Stefano Bosi thanked the Italian Federation for hosting the European Youth Championships in Terni and for providing all necessary facilities to the Executive Board.

2. Presentations:

European Youth Championships 2010

2.1 **A Russian Delegation** led by the Deputy Sports Minister of Tatarstan presented the city of Kazan as possible venue for the EYC in the year 2010.

Venue: Kazan Basketball Hall and
Kazan Central Sport Palace

Accommodation: Hotel Mirage (5***** Hotel)
Hotel Korsten (5***** Hotel)
Several hotels of a lower standard

Hospitality cost: between 50 € and 100 € per person per day depending on which hotel the associations will choose for their delegations.

Visa: The Tatarstan delegation promised that there will be no problem with regard to entry visas for all ETTU Member Associations.

Shuttle service: Regular shuttle service will be offered.

2.1 **A Turkish Delegation** led by the President of the Turkish Federation presented the city of Istanbul as possible venue for the EYC in the year 2010.

Venue:	Cebeci Arena
Accommodation:	4**** and 5***** Star Hotels will be offered to the Associations
Hospitality cost:	between 70 € and 80 € per person per day depending on the choice of the Associations with regard to single / double or triple rooms.
Visa:	The Turkish Federation promised that there will be no problem with regard to entry visas for all ETTU Member Associations, which in most cases can be obtained directly at the airport.
Shuttle service:	Shuttle services will be provided every 15 minutes during the morning and evening sessions, and every 30 minutes for the rest of the day.
Meals:	Lunch and Dinner will be served at the hall, breakfast will be served in the hotels.

After some discussion the Executive Board unanimously decided to allocate the 2010 European Youth Championships to Istanbul (Turkey). As the candidate for 2011 withdrew its candidature, the Executive Board also unanimously decided to allocate the 2011 European Youth Championships to Kazan (Russia).

The exact cost of accommodation, the names of all hotels etc. is to be dealt with in St. Petersburg. A final decision with regard to the hospitality will also be taken during the EC in St. Petersburg.

The dates for the Championships:

2010 Turkey, Istanbul	16 th – 25 th of July 2010
2011 Russia, Kazan	15 th – 24 th of July 2011

3. Report of the ETTU Officers

3.1 Stefano Bosi mentioned the coaching seminar held in Istanbul last June, which will be discussed at a special item later on the Agenda. He also reported about his last inspection visit to St. Petersburg. He informed the Board members that Hungary withdrew their application to host the European Championships in 2011. In addition he mentioned that he is going to attend the Olympic Games

- 3.2 Eberhard Schöler informed that he had been working on possible regulation changes (separate item on the Agenda). He also mentioned that the German Bundes-League changed their format from 4 to 3 players in both men and women events. A new playing system similar to the Olympic system will be used from September 2008 on: A1-B2, A2-B1, A3-B3, A1-B1, double A2/3/4 – B2/3/4. In addition, he informed about a new fun activity with table tennis called HEADBALL because it was played with the head instead of rackets. The first World Championships would take place this month, with most of the rules being identical to table tennis.
- 3.3 Petra Sörling mentioned that she attended the second final match in the ECL, at the same time referring to the special point on the agenda concerning this final match.
- 3.4 Alexander Matkovic gave a short report on the second final match in the ETCM in which the French club of Angers was the winner.

4. Finances

- 4.1 The Vice-President Finance informed that the following Associations still have outstanding payments from 2006 and earlier. These Associations are FAR – GEO – GIB – ISL – ISR. While the Associations FAR-GEO-GIB and ISL remain suspended until the outstanding payments will be received, the ISR Association will be allowed to participate because they proved having transferred the amount, even though the money was not yet received by ETTU.
- 4.2 It was also decided that the Iceland players will not be allowed to participate in the individual events if their outstanding payment is not received beforehand.
- 4.3 The VP Finances informed that in the meantime he compiled the final accounts for the year 2007 and that the audit company within the next 2 weeks will check these figures. He mentioned that the ETTU has an excess of about 80.000 € mainly because of more income and that the expenditure figures are more or less those stated in the budget.
- 4.4 He also informed about the situation of the running financial year where the figures are in line with the presented budget.

5. European Championships 2008

- 5.1 The EB discussed the prepared propositions and agreed to put them forward to the St. Petersburg Congress. It was also decided to submit a resolution to look into all aspects of future European Youth Championships.

- 5.2 With regard to a proposition by the French Association, the applicant will be asked to pass on this matter to the WG Group established (see item 13), which is to look into the future of the European Champions League.
- 5.3 As the deadline for candidatures and nominations was not yet reached, concrete information about it could not be given.
- 5.4 The first ETTU meetings in St. Petersburg were fixed as follows:
 04.10.2008 – 03,00 p.m. Executive Board Meeting including presentation.
 05.10.2008 – 09,30 a.m. ETTU Congress
 Further meetings are planned for 06.10. and for 09.10.2008.
- 5.5 During the EYC, the ETTU had some problems with regard to the racket tests. In St. Petersburg, the ETTU needs to be very careful when doing these tests. Of course ETTU will stick to the rules, and the thickness of the rubbers cannot exceed 4 mm. It is planned to have random testing. ITTF will be asked to supply updated information regarding the test devices and procedures. All players and coaches must be informed about these details. The Referee, the Competition Manager, the Chairman of the Technical Committee and the Technical Committee members will be asked to work on all the necessary information and instructions for everybody involved.

6. Marketing Report

The Executive Board took knowledge of the comprehensive report of the ETTU Marketing Department and discussed the following items thoroughly:

- 6.1 The EB took notice of the draft agreement with the Asian Table Tennis Union regarding a new EURO – ASIA Event . The 31st of July was fixed as deadline for signing the contract if the agreement should already come into effect in 2009. If it will be after end of July the project has to be postponed to the year 2010. Possible dates for the project: 8th – 9th of June or 1st and 2nd of June and 10th and 11th of November 2009 – alternating once in Asia and once in Europe.
- 6.2 The co-operation agreement with the TIBHAR Company as ETTU Development Sponsor has been renewed and prolonged up to end of August 2012.
- 6.3 The co-operation agreement with the JOOLA Company as equipment and title sponsor for the European Nations League 2009-2012 is still under negotiation but close to being finalised.

- 6.4 The Marketing Department is still negotiating with the Croatian Association regarding a co-operation agreement for the title sponsorship at the EVC 2009 in Porec.
- 6.5 The GERFLOR co-operation agreement for 2008-2010 is not yet signed, as part of the contract needs to be redrafted. Nothing will change with regard to the content but for legal reasons a slight change of the wording needs to be done.
- 6.6 The EB took notice of the financial settlement of the Exhibition Area in St. Petersburg. In connection with the LIEBHERR EC the Russian Federation was asked to inform the ETTU Marketing Department immediately regarding the host broadcaster.
- 6.7 The EB took notice of the new LOGOS for the various ETTU Events, such as ECL, ETC and ENL.
- 6.8 The equipment company KILLERSPIN will receive a last reminder regarding outstanding payment. In the event this will not be successful in a short time, the file will be handed over to the ETTU lawyer.
- 6.9 The EB took notice of the packages offered to the different companies regarding live TV-Streaming. The EB also took notice of the 2 co-operation agreements drafted so far, i.e. with NETEYES (HUN) and HAHN-E-BUSINESS. Contenthouse so far has not paid their debts and ETTU offered them to pay in two instalments (1.7.2008 and end of August 2008), an offer which was accepted by Contenthouse.
- 6.10 The EB took notice of the statistics of the ETTU web-site.
- 6.11 The EB was informed that the Media Official stopped her co-operation with ETTU due to the lack of time. Mr. Laszlo Mura (HUN) will work during the EYC for ETTU. A decision with regard to a future Media Official is postponed to St. Petersburg. E. Schöler recommended to advertise this position.
- 6.12 By majority, the EB decided to enter into a contract with the MELTWATER-NEWS (electronic system of web news) for a period of 3 years.
- 6.13 The proposal of the Marketing Department regarding flags for every Association and every club was rejected. The EB is of the opinion that ETTU flags should only be supplied for big events such as EC, EYC, EVC, OCQ etc.). The design of the medals is OK, however the cost for engraving needs to be checked.

6.14 The EB decided to cancel the individual text in chapters C to L – for example C.2 - and instead to deal with the “TV and Marketing Regulations” only in the Directives for the various events, in order to gain the necessary flexibility.

7. European Champions League

7.1 The EB thoroughly discussed the pending case of Kroppach and has already taken a decision in the event that the CAS in Lausanne decides for the second time in favour of ETTU. The EB was of the opinion to allow Kroppach, despite all, to compete in the ECLW 2008/2009.

7.2 The EB took notice of the complaint received from the French club of CESTAS. Unfortunately, according to ETTU regulations, a player coming from the Dominican Republic and representing the national team of the Dominican Republic cannot be considered as a “non-foreign” player. A respective answer will be sent to the French club.

7.3 During the meeting with the ECLM clubs recently in Frankfurt the clubs asked ETTU to create a working group dealing with the future of the European Champions League. The EB accepted to install such a working group under the lead of the Deputy President, Mr. Eberhard Schöler. Members will be: Arne Madsen (ETTU), Jeanny DOM (ETTU), Boris Abraham (Hennebont), Alan Bentsen (Roskilde) and Andreas Preuss (Düsseldorf).

A similar request from the participants in the ECLW was postponed.

8. Super Cup

Y. Posevin informed that he attended a meeting of the Organising Committee of this year's Super Cup and that everything is working according to plan. He explained that - once again - 2 days before the event the Russian Association will organise a coaching seminar. He asked the ETTU if it would be possible to receive a financial contribution for this purpose, which was accepted.

9. Youth and Development

9.1 Petra Sörling informed about the World Cadet Challenge which is going to take place in Helsingborg at the end of October 2008. She arranged, in co-operation with the Danish Association, that the European preparation camp can be held in Copenhagen in the official Danish training centre. As in past years, Jarek Kolodziejczyk and Gundars Ruisis will be the coaches and Zita Pidl the team-leader.

- 9.2 A women's course will be organised next September in Malta. Petra Sörling gave the information that ITTF finally agreed to participate, contributing some additional money.
- 9.3 In 2009 a women's course will be organised in Estonia.
- 9.4. The EUROKIDS camp which was supposed to be organised in Malta during the month of November this year most probably has to be postponed to January 2009. Or the ETTU need to find another organiser.
- 9.5 The next Mini-Cadet Tournament will be organised from 29.-31 August in Portugal.
- 9.6 For the Grubba project the ETTU, after having received the necessary reports, paid the first part of the financial contribution.
- 9.7 The equipment support (Montenegro-tables, Malta-floor mats) is under way. The Latvian Association withdrew their application, while Luxembourg asked to have their application postponed for a couple of months.

10. 1st European national teams coaches' seminar

The EB took notice of the written report received from Radivoj Hudetz and expressed their sincere thanks to Mr. Hudetz and the Working group. The publication on the ETTU Homepage were considered as very useful Mr. Hudetz will be asked to continue in keeping contact with the coaches of the different associations. The WG was asked to draft a concrete proposal for the next EB. Of course, ETTU will try to organise such a seminar every year.

11. Any other business

11.1 The ETTU Executive Board considered it not appropriate to organise an Advanced Umpires Training Course and an umpires evaluation before and during the European Championships. Also in our budget a financial contribution to the cost of such a project was not budgeted for the year 2008. The ITTF URC will be asked to postpone these activities to a Pro Tour event.

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