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## ***Referees in the ETTU***

This document intends to lay down the procedures and criteria for the selection of referee teams for ETTU controlled events. It also projects good cooperation between ITTF-URC and ETTU-URC not only for the appointment of referees at ITTF controlled events. It drafts ways of performance assessment.

### **Principle**

The ETTU fully recognizes and applies the present ITTF qualification and training programmes for International Referees (IR).

The ETTU-URC monitors the performance of the European IR at all events and aspires to a fruitful cooperation with ITTF – URC on this behalf.

The ETTU – URC works out the proposals for the appointment of referees at all ETTU controlled events and advises the selection of IR from Europe for the World Championships and the Olympic Games.

### **General procedure**

#### **Deadlines**

The proposals for the appointment of referees observe the following deadlines:

##### ***European Championships (Men, Women, Youth):***

The ETTU-URC transmits its proposal including 2 reserves to the EB 10 to 12 months before the Championships for the referee and 5 to 6 months before for the deputy referees. After the answer of the EB, the ETTU-URC consults the organizing association and, for the deputies, the referee.

##### ***Other ETTU-competitions:***

The ETTU-URC transmits its proposal including 2 reserves to the EB 5 to 6 months before the competition for the referee and 4 months before for the deputy referees. After the answer of the EB, the ETTU-URC consults the organizing association and, for the deputies, the referee.

##### ***Schedule for appointments:***

A member of the ETTU-URC keeps a list of the ETTU events and of the deadlines, presently Andreas Georgiu (Cyprus); it may be published. Presently, Paul Schiltz (Luxembourg) is dealing with the appointments of referees.

#### **Choice of the referees: Persons to be selected**

- A member of ETTU-URC, presently Mick Strobe (England), keeps records about refereeing of European referees at ETTU events, at World events, at Pro Tour events and at other events announced through the ITTF calendar. The starting years for the list are: 2002 for ETTU, 2000 for ITTF and Pro Tour, 2004 for the other events. The list shall be published.
- Rules have to be set up in order to proceed in a fair way for all good and active referees.
- The host country may submit suggestions, but at the end the ETTU-URC is competent and responsible for a balanced, fair and efficient referee team.
- A selection must be endorsed by the parent association, which confirms that the selected referee accepts his/her appointment.

## **Composition of the referee teams at European Championships and Youth European Championships**

### ***Number of referees of the referee team***

ETTU applies the number recommended by ITTF, i.e. (number of venues x 2) + 1. If one hall includes more than 20 tables, an additional referee is required: (number of venues x 2) + 2.

### ***International Referees in the referee team***

All referees of the team must be an active International Referee.

### ***Geographical distribution of the members of the referee team***

It is important to include referees from different regions of Europe; at least 2 should be from different parts (north-south, east-west) than the host country

### ***Experience***

1 referee with no or little experience at large events shall be included in the referee team; all other must be more experienced.

All referees must have been referee or deputy referee at one international competition\* at least during the past 4 years. This condition will be implemented as soon as the list submitted by Mick Strode (England) will be available.

*\* Competition shown in the ITTF calendar*

### ***Next organizer***

One member of the referee team should be from the next organizing association.

### ***Members from ETTU – URC in the referee team***

1 out of 5, or 2 out of 6 and more referees should be member of ETTU – URC. This number is the targetable minimum and maximum.

### ***Referee***

The referee should be from the host country. If this is not possible, the referee must be a member of the ETTU-URC or proposed by the ETTU-URC.

He/she must be very experienced, and fluently speak English.

### ***Referee team***

In case of 2 to 4 referees, one is from the host country, if they have an IR.

In case of 5 or 6 referees, two can be from the host country, if they have.

In case of 7 or more referees, three can be from the host country, if they have.

### ***Assistant referees***

The organizer may appoint, on his own initiative or on the request of ETTU EB, up to 2 persons, experienced with table tennis events and fluent at least in English, assisting the referee for technical aspects as umpire scheduling and control, racket control, elaboration, design and dissemination of information, regular inspection of halls and other facilities, liaison to local organizer etc. These assistant referees attend the meetings of the referee team, but do not act as referees on the court or during the draws.

## **Procedure for the appointment of referee teams at other ETTU controlled events included in the ITTF calendar:**

According to the ETTU Handbook and logical considerations, all ETTU – competitions shall have 1 referee and at least 1 deputy referee.

All referees and deputy referees must be International Referees (IR).

In case of lighter\* events, i.e. with few tables or sessions in one small hall, for saving costs, the deputy referee can exceptionally be an IR officiating as an umpire at the event, taking only over the job of the referee if needed. If such situation is planned, the ETTU-URC must give its prior agreement, the “stand-by” deputy referee must be of another country than the referee’s association and the referee and his/her deputy must work out an action plan beforehand.

*\* Presently, the ETTU-URC considers the following events as “lighter” events: Junior and Cadet Top 10, Europe-Asia competition, European Super Cup etc.*

## **Appointment by the ETTU of neutral umpire/referee teams at the final stages (after round robin) of the European Champions or Nations League matches:**

At least one member of the 2 neutral umpires should be an IR or a BB umpire. Exceptionally a BB candidate can replace a BB umpire. The ETTU-URC wishes to have applied this as soon as possible, despite it may cost more. One member of the ETTU-URC will monitor the performance of the referee/umpire team, and the reports about, in order to guarantee best consistency. The ETTU-URC wishes to definitely implement this matter for the season 2010/2011. The ETTU secretariat presently takes care of these appointments.

### **Costs**

At ETTU controlled events the costs of the journey, the hospitality and the allowances shall be paid by the organizer or by ETTU according to the rules laid down. If an organization requires more referees than normal (more halls, more referees proposed by the organizer etc.), the organizer shall pay the additional costs. In case of a stand-by deputy-referee the ETTU will reimburse 33% of the travel costs, except for referees of the home association.

## **Referee Performance**

The ETTU-URC monitors the performance of the referees through

- 1) The referee's report, which is compulsory and has to be submitted latest 21 days after the event or 72 hours for the European League and ETTU Cup matches
- 2) The referee's log file including a list of yellow & red cards, which is compulsory for all competition and has to be submitted together with the report.
- 3) The ETTU and ITTF competition manager's report and recommendations, which shall contain a part about the performing of referees.
- 4) The local competition manager's report, which is optional and can be submitted in between the same deadlines as under 1).
- 5) The report of the home and visiting team during European League matches, which is optional and can be submitted in between 5 working days.

Templates for these reports, similar to those used by ITTF, will be elaborated by ETTU-URC and submitted to the involved parties. Gerhard Schnabel (Germany) is on charge of this task.

The ETTU-URC will closely cooperate with ITTF-URC for the development and design of procedures about the assessment of referees and for the improvement of their performance and consistency. Gerhard Schnabel (Germany) and Paul Schiltz (Luxembourg) assure the link to ITTF.

## **Competition management team. Duties of referee and deputy referee**

A document describing the rights and duties of the referee, the ETTU competition manager and the local Tournament director shall be worked out in order to ensure a smooth cooperation and a responsible solidarity of the competition management team. Paul Schiltz (Luxembourg) is preparing the document.

The same document should give a conspectus of duties, rights and good practice of a referee and a deputy referee at table tennis events in Europe. Paul Schiltz (Luxembourg) is preparing the document.

Comments about this document may be addressed to [paul.schiltz@eursc.org](mailto:paul.schiltz@eursc.org). Possible changes will be discussed latest during the next European Championships.