



INFO 2017/1

Luxembourg, 16th January 2017

01. FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Dear Friends

Happy 2017!

2017, the year of ETTU's 60th Anniversary, will be the year when we will be witnessing the first ever Under 21 European Table Tennis Championships. This event is designed to be a stepping stone for our top European juniors towards becoming top players at future our European, World and Olympic tournaments. We are very pleased with our Russian colleagues organising the inaugural event on 2-5 February in Sochi.



At the same moment, 3-5 February, our French colleagues will be hosting the 2017 ITTF-Europe Top-16 Cup in Antibes. With our top male and female players participating and the organisation in the very capable hands of Bernard Grosso and Claude Bergeret and their team, this will no doubt be a top event.

The qualification for the 2017 (team) EC is well underway. These matches, of which many are played in sold out venues, appear to get quite some attention, locally, through internet and even live on TV in some cases. It shows that table tennis is very much alive, if well marketed and promoted. In Antibes we will make the draw for the play-offs of the Team Qualification for the 2017 European Championships in September in Luxemburg. This draw will be made already now, before the last matches in the groups will be played, to know which team will have the first home or away match. This will give the possible runners-up more time to adequately prepare for these undoubtedly exciting play-off matches.

2017 will also be the year when elections for the ITTF Executive Committee and its President will take place, at the AGM in Düsseldorf. ITTF's Deputy President Khalil Al-Mohannadi (QAT) has recently officially announced his candidacy for the Presidency. Current ITTF President Thomas Weikert announced his candidacy already in October 2016. In his New Year's speech he has made a plea to 'work much more closely with continents to develop table tennis in all areas'. This is what ETTU has been working on for the past three years, all for the benefit of the development of table tennis in Europe. There are still many issues to be solved and cooperation can always be enhanced, but I think - after due consideration in our December Executive Board meeting - Thomas Weikert with his experience, deserves our support.

I wish everybody a Happy New Year!

Kindest regards



Ronald Kramer



02. ETTU EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS 2017 – date change!

Following discussions with ITTF, the 2017 ETTU Extraordinary Congress will be held on Tuesday 30th May 2017 (10:00) during the LIEBHERR 2017 ITTF World Championships in Düsseldorf. Please note this date for your diary. The agenda will be available shortly.

03. EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017

After discussions with Portugal Federation (FPTM) officials the ETTU Executive Board has agreed to a request to hold the 2017 European Youth Championships at the Multiusos de Guimarães in the city of Guimarães, a venue located 40 minutes from the Oporto Airport. This facility offers excellent playing conditions with the possibility to make a layout of maximum 26 tables for all the matches in one hall. Following the inspection by the ETTU Competition Manager Dimosthenis Messinis in November, the ETTU Executive Board was informed that the venue in Guimarães fully meets all the requirements, having everything under one roof.

04. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS QUALIFICATION (TEAM EVENTS)

Please note the draw for the 5 play-off matches (home and away) will take place on Sunday 5th February 2017 during the ITTF Europe Top 16 Cup at the Azur Arena in Antibes FRA. The 2nd position teams of the 10 groups A to J will be drawn at random.

05. LIEBHERR ITTF EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017 – SEEDING

The Executive Board has approved the following proposal from the Ranking Committee chair Igor Heller for seeding of teams:

The seeding order for the European Championships Team Events shall be based on the results of the qualification event.

1. Championships Division

The 10 group winners of the Championships Qualification Division will be seeded 1 to 10. The 5 winners of the play-off matches of the Championships Qualification Division will be seeded 11 to 15.

Inside these two parts of the seeding list, the seeding order will be determined by counting the points of the 3 highest ranked eligible players on the current World Rankings.

The team of the host Association will be seeded among all the teams according to the points of the 3 highest ranked eligible players on the current World Rankings.

2. Challenge Division

The 5 losers of the play-off matches of the Championships Qualification Division will be seeded 1 to 5.

The 10 teams finished 3rd in the Championships Qualification Division will be seeded 6 to 15.

The winner of the Challenge Qualification Division will be seeded among all the teams according to the points of the 3 highest ranked eligible players on the current World Rankings.

3. Standard Division

All teams will be seeded among all the teams according to the points of the 3 highest ranked eligible players on the current World Rankings.



06. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS QUALIFICATION

ITTF has confirmed World Ranking points will be allocated for all European Championships Qualification matches.

07. OFFICIALS

The Executive Board is pleased to confirm the reappointment of Club Competitions Official Arne Madsen (DEN) and Medical Official Prof. Dr. Nevin Aysel Güzel (TUR).

08. EUROPE TOP 16 CUP APPLICABILITY OF ITTF REGULATION

Please note ITTF Regulation for International Competition 3.2.5.6 (temporary advertisements on table undercarriage) does not apply for the 2017 Europe Top 16 Cup.

09. EVENTS – 2017

The Executive Board has awarded the Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games European Qualification to the Croatia Association to be held in the city of Split on Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th November 2017.

10. EVENTS – 2019

The Executive Board has awarded the 2019 European Youth Championships to the Czech Association to be held in the city of Ostrava.

11. DATES FOR YOUR 2017 DIARY

Please note the following dates:

- **STAG European Under 21 Championships**, Sochi RUS – Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th February
- **ITTF Europe Top 16 Cup**, Antibes FRA – Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th February
- **European Veterans Championships**, Helsingborg SWE – Monday 26th June to Saturday 1st July
- **STAG European Youth Championships**, Guimarães POR – Friday 14th to Sunday 23rd July
- **Europe Youth Top 10**, Worcester ENG – Friday 8th to Sunday 10th September
- **LIEBHERR ITTF European Championships**, Luxembourg LUX – Wednesday 13th to Sunday 17th September
- **ITTF Para TT European Championships**, Laško SLO – Tuesday 26th September to Thursday 5th October
- **Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games European Qualification**, Split CRO – Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th November

12. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2018, 2019 AND 2020

Please note the dates for 2018 National Championships are **Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th March 2018**, for 2019 National Championships are **Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd March 2019** and for 2020 National Championships are **Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th March 2020**.

13. THANK YOU FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Thank you to the many member Associations who have paid their 2016 invoice. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Member Associations with unpaid 2016 invoices are kindly requested to assist European Table Tennis Union by giving this matter their earliest attention.

Best wishes from the ETTU Secretariat and Staff



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