

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, BAKU (AZE) 07.02.2015

Present:

Ronald Kramer (NED), (President),
Ivo-Goran Munivvana (CRO), (Deputy President)
Heike Ahlert (GER), (Vice-President)
Veli Ozan Cakir (TUR), (Vice-President)
Nikolas Endal (CZE), (Vice-President)
Sonja Grefberg (FIN), (Vice-President)
Roman Markov (RUS) (Vice-President)
Richard Scruton (Secretary General)
Pierre Kass (Deputy Secretary General)
Güzel Nevin Atalay (TUR), (Medical Official) present item 1-4

Excused:

Dorte Darfelt (DEN), (Vice-President for Finances),
Petr Korbel (CZE), (co-opted member)

Welcome of the President

The President welcomed all members of the board and excused Mrs. Darfelt and Mr. Korbel who could not attend the meeting.

President's Opening Remarks – Welcome the Medical Official

The President welcomed the new appointed ETTU Medical Official, Dr. Güzel Nevin Atalay (TUR) and handed her over an ETTU scarf as welcome present.

Anti-Doping procedure at events was discussed and the Medical Official wants to prepare some guidelines for it.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted and the item SCI was added under any other business.

2. Minutes of the meeting in Lisbon (24. and 27.9.2014.)

The minutes of the EB meetings in Lisbon have been adopted.

3. Minutes of the meeting in Hoofddorp (10. and 11.12.2014.)

The minutes of the EB meetings in Hoofddorp were received at this meeting.
The EB members can send their remarks within a week.

4. Report of President, Deputy President and Vice-Presidents

The President reported having been very busy with the European Championships and the Top 16 event preparations and gave its compliments to the Azerbaijan TTF for their performance on the organisation of the event.

The Deputy President will report later when reaching the development item.

Mrs. Ahlert reported about the events group meeting in Hoofddorp (NED) where the event group had a recommendation on the number of participants for the European Olympic Qualification tournament. She said that Dirk Schimmelpfennig is leaving the event group as he was leaving DTTB to become sport director of the German OC. She had asked Richard Prause to take over the duties of Mr. Schimmelpfennig. The Deputy President had some reservations as there could be complaints from other centres because he's coming from WSA, same centre as the ETTU Development Manager is now part time employed.

The EB accepted Richard Prause as new member of the event group.

Mrs. Grefberg will report at later items.

Mr. Cakir had some meetings about the Euro-Asia All Stars Series to be hold in Istanbul (TUR).

Mr. Markov spoke about the ETTC preparation and asked the medical official for guidelines on nutrition to use at events. The medical official will prepare a nutrition plan.

5. Financial matters:

- Outstanding payments

The EB received prior the meeting a financial update from the Vice-President for Finances.

The Secretary General reported on the outstanding payments.

The Secretariat will remind the associations having not yet paid their invoices for the year 2014.

- Accounts 2014 and budget 2015

The Deputy Secretary General reported on the accounts 2014.

The Deputy President was not satisfied that development monies were not all used for development only.

Mr. Cakir informed that Turkish Airlines might be interested to sponsor ETTU with flight tickets.

Mr. Scruton pointed out that half of the deficit is due to the low participation of the Veterans Team Championships.

The President thanked the Vice-President for Finances for her remarks on the finances document and hoped that the year 2015 will become better.

- Fines

Nil

6. ITTF

- World Championships, Suzhou, CHN – AGM, Board of Directors

The President said there are no points from Europe to be raised at the ITTF AGM. For the ITTF BoD meeting, the Asians wanted the World Ranking system changed. The EB agreed in trying to have the present WR system changed.

The Secretary General proposed to wait for the report and agenda from ITTF.

- Extraordinary Congress – Wednesday 29.4.2015., agenda

The President said that the events group will provide with a report and a discussion about a number of questions.

Mrs. Ahlert spoke about the discussion points.

The President said that the winners of the European Games are directly qualified for the Olympic Games in the single event.

The President pointed out that participants might in future not be satisfied with only the winners qualifying and that in the years of the European Games, the European Championships might be integrated into the Games and no more organised separately.

A discussion arose on the way how the regulations are prepared and proposed.

The Secretary General said that the main point is the European Championships qualification system and explained the systems of the different options.

The EB members will receive a status report of the events group meeting from December 2014.

The Secretary General said that the document about eligibility has been withdrawn in Lisbon. He met with Rudolph Sporrer previous Saturday who will prepare a simple explanation what was proposed. ETTU and ITTF should try to get the same rule than the IOC has.

7. Development:

The EB members had received a report from the Deputy President prior the meeting.

The Deputy President informed that the “Eurotalents” started well and achieved that 25 Associations participated in the development programme and other Associations showed interest for participation at future camps. Result of the programme was that 11 players born between 2001 and 2004 were selected and can participate in future programmes.

The “21 and under” is more difficult to organise but ETTU will keep the programme for 2015.

The Deputy President wants not only to concentrate on the 11 selected players in 2015 but wants to have at least 2 further camps as in 2014 in order not to lose a generation. He wants to keep the 21 and under and the Eurotalents programme.

The Executive Board decided to continue with the Eurotalents programme and keeps financial support of the U21 programme lower.

Coaches programme was seen as important by the EB but for 2015, there is no budget for it.

A meeting with Michel Gadat must be arranged to discuss the U21 and under programme.

Europe must select 3 boys and 3 girls for the Hopes camp in China and will select them among the 11 chosen players and will not make a separate new selection camp.

8. Marketing:

- Website

The Deputy Secretary General reported about the meeting in Vienna where technical matters were discussed.

The financial part of the contract with the sportsman group was discussed.

ETTU needs to have a webmaster.

A further meeting must be arranged with the sportsman group.

- Social media

Nil

- Men's Champions League TV Broadcast

All 4 semi-finalist clubs of the ECL men agreed to make TV production of their home matches according to the needs of the sportsman group.

- Transportation partner

Mr. Cakir spoke about a possible transportation partner for ETTU.

- DONIC, Nittaku ball contract

The Secretary General had contacted Mr. Becker on the ball contract.

- Flooring

The Secretary General rearranged a meeting with Gerflor for the 23rd February in Luxembourg.

Joola being the equipment supplier for the European Games and therefore also for the Top 16 in Baku.

9. Hall of Fame

The President informed about the setup of a steering and awards panel to start about nominations and procedures for an ETTU Hall of Fame. He hoped to launch it during the ETTU in Yekaterinburg. Members of the group are Hans Wilhelm Gäb, Walter Rönmark, Irina Palina, Radivoj Hudetz, Csilla Batorfi, Jeanny Dom and Ronald Kramer. A meeting is scheduled in Frankfurt and one of the main items is to nominate people for the HoF and looking for a sponsor.

10. Report of Secretary General:

- Staff

The Secretary General informed that Zita Pidl (HUN) was engaged as a part time project co-ordinator. She will administer the Hall of Fame, support the events group with the preparation for the 2 ETTU congresses, the Secretary General, checking all content on the website and other smaller projects.

The Deputy President preferred having an employee working at the ETTU Secretariat.

The President replied that she was by far the best candidate and ETTU accepted her to work from Budapest.

The Secretary General informed that a bookkeeper will be needed to work one day per week.

The ETTU competition department was discussed.

- Dates of 2015 EB meetings

The 2015 EB meeting dates were communicated at the previous EB meeting.
The ETTU Congress will be held on the 29th April and the venue is still to be allocated.

- Visual Reality

The arrangement with Visual Reality was discussed.

- Archivist

The Secretary General informed that he received two applications.
The EB agreed to appoint Christian Klaus (AUT) as ETTU archivist.
He's the author from the Vienna EYC and EC books.
The Secretary General had a meeting with him in Budapest.

- Calendar 2016

The Secretary General informed that the 2016 calendar has been drafted with all known ETTU and ITTF events. The document was sent to ITTF for their comments.
The date of the Top 16 event was discussed.

- Directory, INFO 2015/1

The Secretary General informed that an info was published two weeks ago. A further info will be issued soon.

- Review of constitution and regulations

The Secretary General will give some structure to the reviews.
The Secretariat is for the moment mainly focused on the review of the club cup competitions.

The Deputy President wanted a strategy to be prepared about the review which the EB has to approve. The President said that the EB needs to have a close look again at the document produced for the elections in 2013.

11. Club Competitions

- 2015 Finals, EB attendance

The ECL women second final will be played on the 4th April at 1300 local time in Istanbul.
The President will be attending the final together with Mr. Cakir as ETTU representatives.
The President will attend the ECL finals and the Deputy President the ETTU Cup finals.

12. Events:

- Events Group

Mrs. Grefberg informed about the events group discussion of the individual EC: adding mixed doubles to the individual EC, so that the individual EC will be composed by singles, doubles and mixed doubles events. The Championships will last 6 days, start on Tuesday, where on Tuesday and Wednesday the qualification matches will take place. There will be groups of 4 players and 2 are promoted to the next stage. At the individual

events, places for all associations will be allocated as follows: Host association 5 players, associations from position 1-4 from the previous EC can enter 5 players, associations from position 5-18 from the previous EC can enter 4 players and all remaining associations can enter 2 players per gender.

The maximum number of players shall not exceed 148 but in case all would enter as written above, there will be 157 entries. Playing format will start with a qualification.

Mrs. Ahlert informed about the discussion of the event group if the Under 21 should become a big or light event. The event group wants a duration of 4 days with the 16 best ranked of the under 21 set directly to the knock out system, 64 players play during the first 2 days in 16 groups of 4 players in a round robin system, the group winners come to the knock out field. Not more than 4 players per gender per national association to participate.

The Deputy President said that the event should become one of ETTU's main events and pointed out that it could be a disadvantage for the top 16 players not playing before the knock out round.

Mrs. Ahlert said that the discussion has been done in the last event group meeting and that the congress will have to decide about it.

- 2015 European Top-16 Cup (World Cup Qualification) – Baku, AZE, 6.2.-8.2.2015

Players and coaches were all satisfied.

- 2015 European Games – Baku AZE, 13.6.-19.6.2015., competition schedule

ETTU has not yet received a decision on the SCAF appeal done.

The ranking list of 1st March will be used for the 30 men and women in singles in addition to those 32 being in the teams.

There are extra places available for 3 men and 3 women allocated to universality.

The President being the universality representative had approved a woman player from San Marino and one from Cyprus.

The EB members attending the European Games must urgently book their flights.

- 2015 European Veterans Championships – Tampere, FIN, 29.6.-4.7.2015.

Mrs. Grefberg informed that now they have more than 1800 registrations but want to reach 2000. The preparations go on well, discussed with a TV channel to make a programme. She said that the online entries for the doubles can be improved.

She said that free hospitality for SCI members must be written in the rules, not only in the directives. The same applies for SCI members not having to pay entry fees.

The Referee appointments will be done by Gerhard Schnabel.

ETTU needs a clearer regulation and directives for the EVC.

A meeting must be arranged with the SCI.

- 2015 European Youth Championships – Bratislava, SVK, 10.7.-19.7.2015.

The Secretary General met the President and the Secretary General of the Slovakian TTA to discuss some minor points on the contract.

The URC recommended Petr Bohumsky (CZE) as the Referee.

The proposed hotel prizes will stay at the original level and the organisers changed 2 hotels.

The organisers ensured that the floor to be used in the second and training hall is perfect for playing.

They receive the floor from the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

- 2015 Europe Youth Top 10 – bid from ROU (Buzau), 18.9.-20.9.2015.

Romanian TTF asked and the EB agreed for a change of date to the 16-18.10.2015.

- 2015 European Championships – Yekaterinburg, RUS, 25.9.-4.10.2015.

Mr. Markov informed that the preparations go on well.

The OC had a request to get the drawings of the venue signed by ETTU officials.

- 2015 Asia-Europe All Stars Series – Junior Challenge, hosting in Europe

The Secretary General reported on the 2015 Asia-Europe All Stars Series and is waiting for the final reply from Asia.

ETTU needs to open a bid.

- 2016 European Top-16 Cup

After withdrawal from the Danish TTA, no association showed any interest for the moment.

- 2016 European Olympic Singles Qualification, 6.4.-10.4.2016., Istanbul, TUR

Mr. Cakir informed that the preparations go on well.

The event group recommended and the EB agreed in having not more than 3 players per gender per association in the qualification tournament. The qualification system was discussed. ETTU has to inform ITTF by the 20th February of the participants' number.

- 2016 European Youth Championships

The Croatian TTA had withdrawn and now applied again.

The Deputy President informed that Croatia had applied for the event but got then no confirmation for the hall due to the European Students' Games. Recently Croatian TTA received confirmation that they could get the hall and therefore applied again.

- 2016 European Championships – Budapest, HUN

The Secretary General had a meeting with the President of the Hungarian TTA and told that the organisers have a good venue.

- 2016 other bids

ETTU received no further bids for 2016.

- 2017 European Veterans Championships – Helsingborg, SWE

Nil

- 2017 other bids

Mr. Endal informed that the Czech TTA is thinking about bidding for the 2017 EYC in Ostrava.

- Other events

Nil

13. Athletes Commission:

Nil

14. Paralympic Table Tennis:

Nil

15. Any other business:

ETTU has to prepare and send a letter to its member associations informing on the ETTU selection criteria to the ITTF Hopes.

The Deputy President and the Secretary General will prepare the letter together.

16. Closure
