

European Table Tennis Union a.s.b.l.



Minutes of the

ETTU CONGRESS 2013

Saturday, 5th of October 2013 at 09:30 a.m.

MINUTES OF THE ETTU CONGRESS 2013 (Schwechat, Austria)

Minutes of the ETTU Congress organised during the European Championships in Schwechat (Austria) on the 5th of October, 2013.

Present: Jean-François Kahn (Acting President),
Camille Gonderinger (Vice-President Finances),
Dorte Darfelt, Nikolas Endal, Ronald Kramer, Roman Markov, Aleksandar Matkovic (Vice-Presidents), Jeanny Dom (General Secretary);

Pierre Kass (Ass. Gen. Sec.), Arne Madsen, (ETTU Official), Maurizio Evangelista, (ETTU Marketing Department), Milica Nolic (Media Official). Oivind Eriksen (ETTU TC), Christian Rigaud (ETTU YC), Igor Heller (ETTU RC), Paul Schiltz (ETTU URC), Zdenko Kriz (ETTU VC), Lilamani De Soysa (ETTU Development Manager),
Martin Clark (ETTU Officer),
Hans Wilhelm Gäb, Mathias Vatheuer, Britta Gerlach, Mikael Andersson (observers)

44 member Associations
7 Proxies

a) President's Opening Remarks

The ETTU Acting President welcomed all delegates and asked the Austrian President, Dr. Gottfried Forsthuber to address some words to the Congress attendants.
Dr. Kahn asked to have a normal and quiet congress.
A minute of silence was held for the former ETTU President Mr. Nils Bergström.

b) Roll Call

Mrs. Dom announced prior to the roll call her retirement for the end of the year 2013.

51 member Associations were represented at the Congress: Albania, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Georgia (proxy to Turkey), Germany, Greece, Greenland (proxy to Denmark), Guernsey (proxy to England), Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Israel, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, F.Y.R.O. Macedonia (proxy to Croatia),
Malta (proxy to Isle of Man), Moldova, Monaco (proxy to France),
Montenegro (proxy to Romania), Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Scotland, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, Wales. The Associations of Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Estonia, Faroe Islands and Jersey were absent.

c) Approval of the Agenda

Item L will be treated before item K.
The Congress Agenda was approved unanimously.

d) Late entry of Propositions

A late proposition was distributed to the Congress and has been accepted with 45 votes in favour.

e) Appointment of scrutineers

Mr. Andreas Georgiou (CYP), Mr. Steen Hummeluhr (DEN) and Mr. Anton Hamran (SVK) were appointed by the Congress to act as scrutineers.

f) Annual Membership subscription

The Congress decided to maintain the annual membership fee at its present level, i.e. 350 EUR.

g) Consideration of the reports from the Officers, the Committee Chairmen and the Officials

All reports presented to the Congress were unanimously accepted.

h) Consideration of the financial statements 2012

The Vice-President for Finances presented in detail the audited Financial Statements for the year 2012 as well as the Balance Sheet on 31st December 2012. The auditor's report is included in the annex 1.

A summary of the Financial Statements 2012, as presented at the Congress by the Vice-President for Finances, is annexed (annex 2) to these minutes.

The Delegate of Norway asked if there was a forecast for the year 2013.

Mr. Gonderinger replied that he has the figures ready until July 2013 and they were in line with the budget.

The Delegate of Germany asked if there is any chance to receive some of the outstanding amounts from the company Triumph.

Mr. Gonderinger replied that this is not known but he informed this company being under "Administration".

The Delegate of Switzerland pointed out that the company Triumph is running some more companies and wanted to know if there would be a possibility to get from one of these some of the outstanding amounts back. He furthermore asked why this sum has not been included into the balance sheet of the year 2012.

Mr. Gonderinger replied that in case this sum would have been included into the accounting year 2012, the company Triumph could pretend that this amount has already been balanced and no more needed to be paid.

i) Report of the Financial Experts and of the Financial Auditor

Prior to giving his report, bearing in mind the various questions being raised by delegates relating to the 150,000 euros owing by Triumph Marketing, the Financial Expert gave a brief resumé of the position in respect of potential recovery of the debt. He remarked that it would appear that Triumph were in 'Administration' and as such the Administrators, usually a firm of accountants, would look carefully at the business to determine if it could be saved or would need to go into liquidation. Bearing in mind that it was a marketing company, it would seem unlikely that it would find itself in a position to continue to trade unless there were some major contracts to fulfil. In the event that it was to go into liquidation, the process may take a long time, even years, to conclude and the prospect of a dividend relating to the debt would be unlikely.

REPORT TO THE ETTU CONGRESS OF THE FINANCIAL EXPERT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR TO 31.12.2012

I would like to reiterate what I have said in previous years that the ETTU is a non-profit making organisation and as such all income generated can only be utilised for the benefit of Member Associations.

The Auditors have the responsibility to examine the records for accuracy and evidence in order to certify that the accounts are in accordance with the records and give a true and fair view of the Union's financial state of affairs.

It is my responsibility to review those accounts from a management perspective in term of the performance of the Executive as to the manner in which the income is generated and the expenditure is spent.

I have remarked on previous occasions that there is something of an anomaly inasmuch that there is an overlap in respect of Competitions and Marketing whereby income generated through sponsorship of events is identified as Marketing income and likewise the cost of subsidising organisers of events is included in Marketing costs. This leads, in my opinion to showing a poorer picture of net income generated through competitions than it actually is. Having said that, it is clear that net income from competitions is the main source from which the Union is able to promote the Development activities that are its other major functions.

My main ongoing concern has to be the continuing deficits the Union is incurring. 2012 was the fourth year in succession that a deficit has arisen totalling 253,723 euros since 2009 resulting in a reduction in net assets over that period of over 22%. Furthermore, the 2013 budget followed that trend with a further shortfall of 24,000 euros, albeit the VC Finance advises me that a strict control over expenditure has been undertaken in this current year. Clearly even after the loss of 150,000 euros following the bankruptcy of marketing company Triumph, which has not been incorporated within the accounts, there is no need to panic as last December the net assets would still have been 730,975 euros.

On the matter of net assets, may I remind you that the TOTAL "ASSETS" of 1,103,381 euros highlighted on the Balance Sheet is, in my opinion, to the untrained eye, somewhat misleading as the "NET ASSETS" at that time were 880,975 euros and in reality will be that 150,000 euros less due to the bad debt. I still believe that consideration should be given to my recommendations last year to amend the format of the Balance Sheet to make the position clear.

I am aware that there are some Member Associations from whom monies are currently still outstanding from 2012. This is not acceptable and perhaps some form of financial penalty needs to be imposed.

Given the current situation, there are sufficient funds on deposit that should not cause the Union any cash flow problems on the immediate future, albeit that a reversal of the trend of deficits needs to be reversed and a tighter control over debtors is called for.

Martin Clark FCCA (ETTU Financial Expert)

The Financial Expert then read out the Auditors Report to Congress (annex 1).

j) Release (Discharge) to the Executive Board

The member Associations attending the Congress unanimously approved the Financial Statements of the year 2012 as presented and granted release to the Executive Board in general and to the Vice-President of Finances in particular (as to the financial management of the Union) for the work done by them since the Congress in 2012 in Herning (DEN).

k) Consideration of propositions (see Annex 3)

The Delegate from Switzerland asked to postpone the decision about the European Championships and the Top 12 event which has been accepted.

The Delegate from Portugal asked what is planned for the next EC as they are interested to stage the event but only in case team events will be played.

Dr. Kahn postponed this decision to the new team.

The consideration of the propositions is written in the Annex 3.

Dr. Kahn highlighted Mrs. Dom's glittering sporting career that included five European and five World Championships, was crowned with record seven trophies Jeanny Dom has won as the best sportswoman of the year of Luxembourg between 1970 (first title) and 1978 (seventh title).

That is a record that is still standing nowadays, no other sportsman or sportswoman in Luxembourg has since then managed to equal or beat.

After her sporting career she worked for the Luxembourg TTF and later on for the ETTU. At the position of General Secretary, she was from 1995 and today Congress awarded her with the special farewell gift, a golden racket.

l). Election: ETTU President

Mr. Kramer, candidate for the vacancy of President, pointed out that he wanted to start with a new team as Executive Board.

After this announcement, Mr. Gonderinger, Dr. Kahn and Mr. Matkovic confirmed their comprehension for the wish of Mr. Kramer to start with a renewed team. With regard to their already more or less long serving for ETTU, the three EB members declared not to be candidate anymore for this new team and to leave their positions to the new candidates.

Mr. Kramer thanked the three leaving EB members for their work over many years for the benefit of the ETTU and its member Associations. This was applauded by the Congress.

Mr. Kramer presented the new team which he proposed to have elected:

Mr. Munivrana, Mrs. Darfelt, Mrs. Grefberg, Mr. Markov, Mr. Endal, Mr. Cakir, Mrs. Ahlert and himself.

The late proposal has been withdrawn.

Mr. Kramer asked the Congress to agree for election of those new persons to the EB. The Delegate of Denmark than asked the Congress if there are no other candidates for the vacant positions inside the EB.

As no reaction came, Mr. Kramer asked the Congress again to agree for election of those new persons to the EB. The Congress unanimously agreed.

(51 member Associations voted / 51 valid)

Elected ETTU Officials:

President	KRAMER Ronald (NED)	39 votes
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(49 member Associations voted / 49 valid)

Deputy-President:	MUNIVRANA Ivo-Goran (CRO)	36 votes
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Vice-President Finances:	DARFELT Dorte (DEN)	37 votes
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Vice-Presidents:	CAKIR Veli Ozan (TUR)	40 votes
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AHLERT Heike (GER)	37 votes
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GREFBERG Sonja (FIN)	37 votes
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Mr. Kramer thanked the Congress for their support and pointed out that the EB will have to work hard.

m) Budget 2014

Mr. Kramer informed that ETTU will send out the 2014 budget for approval to the Member Associations by postal ballot.

n) Any other business

The proposal to have in 2014 the EC with team events played in Portugal has been unanimously accepted by the Congress.

To enlarge the Board by 1 position i.e. to have a 9th EB member could not be voted during this Congress, however a vote on this general question was done and unanimous accepted by the Congress.

Mr. Kramer thanked for the good atmosphere during the Congress meeting.

The Delegate from Luxembourg raised the question whether the EB accepts to keep the ETTU office in Luxembourg. Mr. Kramer replied that it will stay in Luxembourg.

Mrs. De Soysa informed about the coaches conference to be held in Cardiff.

Mr. Kramer especially addressed his words to Mr. Eberhard Schöler in order to thank him for the tremendous and excellent work he did throughout all the years he was a member of the Executive Board in ETTU, he included in these thanks as well Mr. Bosi, Dr. Kahn, Mr. Gonderinger and Mr. Matkovic for their work done for ETTU. He furthermore thanked Mrs. Dom and Mr. Kass, Mr. Sporrer and all Delegates.
