

## **MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, HOOFDDORP (NED) 10-11.12.2014**

### **Present:**

Ronald Kramer (NED), (President),  
Ivo-Goran Munivrana (CRO), (Deputy President)  
Dorte Darfelt (DEN), (Vice-President for Finances)  
Heike Ahlert (GER), (Vice-President)  
Sonja Grefberg (FIN), (Vice-President)  
Roman Markov (RUS) (Vice-President)  
Richard Scruton (Secretary General)  
Pierre Kass (Deputy Secretary General)

### **Excused:**

Veli Ozan Cakir (TUR), Nikolas Endal (CZE), (Vice-Presidents),  
Petr Korbel (CZE), (co-opted member)

### **Welcome of the President**

The President welcomed all members of the board and excused the Vice Presidents who could not attend the meeting.

### **President's Opening Remarks**

The President reported item by item.  
He was at the World Junior Championships in Shanghai (CHN) and stated that Europe needs to close the gap.  
He mentioned the success of the European Championships in Lisbon.

### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda has been adopted.

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

The minutes of the meetings in Lisbon could not be completed in time due to the office moving and other workload.

### **3. Report of President, Deputy President and Vice-Presidents**

#### **- Visit to Europe Youth Top-10, Tours (RK, RS)**

The Europe Youth Top-10 was a well organised event in Tours and the first event for the new Youth Committee Chair Sandra Deaton.

#### **- Visit to Eurotalents, Saarbrücken (HA, RS)**

Mrs. Ahlert told having been impressed by the Eurotalents camp in Saarbrücken (GER).

Mr. Scruton said that it was a good camp with a nice atmosphere and that the development manager did a good job too.

The President also congratulated the Deputy President for his work done in development.

**- Meeting with BEGOC and ASTF, Baku (RK, RS)**

The President and the Secretary General had some visits to Baku.

**- Visit to Men's World Cup, Düsseldorf (RK)**

The President presented the ETTU Honorary Membership award to Mr. Schöler at the Men's World Cup in Düsseldorf (GER).

**- Visit to Asia-Europe All Stars Challenge, Zhangjiagang (RK)**

The President told that the matches at the Asia-Europe All Stars Challenge in Zhangjiagang (CHN) were at a high level although Europe was unable to present its five strongest players. ATTU President was present and had a discussion with the ETTU President on the affiliation to ITTF.

**- Meeting with sportsman media group, Vienna (NE, PK)**

The Deputy Secretary General reported about the meeting with the sportsman media group which took place in Vienna (AUT).

**- Visit to Russian Open, Yekaterinburg (RK, RS)**

The President and the Secretary General visited the Russian Open in Yekaterinburg (RUS) where they signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the 2015 European Championships and met local sponsors.

Mr. Kramer received the President's Cup.

Mr. Markov reported about the first OC meeting of the 2015 EC which took place on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

**- EOC General Assembly meeting, Baku (RK)**

Mr. Kramer attended the 43<sup>rd</sup> EOC General Assembly in Baku (AZE) and was impressed by the speech of the ASTF President.

He had further meetings with BEGOC and ASTF.

**- Visit to World Junior Championships, Shanghai (RK, RS)**

The President and Secretary General attended the OPC and DCC meeting at the World Junior Championships in Shanghai (CHN).

Many people want to have the World ranking system changed as with the current system players don't lose points while not playing which makes it difficult for the young players.

Mrs. Ahlert came to the secretariat in Luxembourg on the 9<sup>th</sup> October to prepare the event's group meeting.

## **- Correspondence**

Slovenia celebrates its 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary and therefore wants to hold an ETTU event in 2015.

## **- Any other relevant meetings**

nil

## **4. Financial matters:**

### **- Outstanding payments**

The Vice President for Finances reported on the outstanding payments.

### **- Accounts 2014**

The Vice President for Finances reported on the accounts of the year 2014.

### **- Budget 2015**

The Vice President for Finances reported on the 2015 budget.

### **- Fines**

The Vice President for Finances reported on the fines ETTU had to impose towards some clubs.

## **5. Development:**

### **- Eurotalents**

The Deputy President informed the board that the gap between Europe and Asia was known before and could not be corrected within short time.

The ACG coaches wanted a 21 and under programme but he wanted to do Eurotalents. ETTU now needs to contact the coaches of the selected players and visit them. Spring 2015 needs a new procedure. The Development Manager did a good job and now took in addition a part time job in the Werner Schlager Academy in Schwechat (AUT) and he still remains the coach for the Croatian women's team.

There was no coaching conference done in 2014.

The Deputy President spoke about the ACG members.

The Development Manager wanted to have a budget of 15.000 euros for the 11 selected players to work with them in the year 2015.

"ITTF Hopes" shall include "Continental Hopes" and the Deputy President therefore recommended the Eurotalents programme.

Mrs. Grefberg proposed the Finnish Open (December 2015) for a camp of the 11 selected players.

## **6. Marketing:**

### **- Website**

The Secretary General informed about the meeting in Vienna with the sportsmen media group. Mr. Endal, Mr. Kass and Mr. Theis represented ETTU. The President wished to receive 20 free premium membership subscriptions for ETTU.

### **- Social media**

The Secretary General had discussed with the Press Officer on how to improve ETTU's Facebook page.

ITTF recommended ETTU to create a youtube channel to gain income. The sportsman media group recommended not to have an ETTU youtube channel as they wanted to have a single platform on the web (ETTU TV) where matches are shown.

### **- Men's Champions League TV Broadcast**

ETTU had asked the ECL men clubs to confirm production of an international high quality TV signal of its home matches when reaching the semi-final and final matches.

### **- Transportation partner**

Mr. Scruton and Ms. Antic prepared a document about event's sponsorship which was needed for Mr. Cakir who had contacted companies being interested in becoming a partner.

### **- DONIC, Nittaku ball contract**

ETTU's agreement with Donic (ball supplier at EC) will end after the European Championship in 2015. Mr. Scruton requested acceptance from the 2015 EC organisers for ETTU's ball supplier to be used at the event.

### **- Flooring**

A meeting with the company Gerflor is scheduled for the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2015 in Luxembourg.

## **7. Report of Secretary General:**

### **- New office location**

The Secretary General informed on the secretariat's new location in Luxembourg.

### **- Staff, applications and interviews**

The Secretary General informed the board on the applications received and the candidates selected for an interview.

## **- Dates of 2015 EB meetings**

### ***Top 16 Baku (AZE)***

EB meeting 07.02.2015

### ***WTTC Suzhou (CHN):***

Extraordinary Congress 29.04.2015

EB meeting 27.04.2015 and 29.04.2015 (after Congress)

The EB shall arrive on the 25<sup>th</sup> and depart on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

### ***EYC Bratislava (SVK):***

EB meeting 11.07.2015

### ***EC Ekaterinburg (RUS):***

Ordinary Congress 30.09.2015

EB meeting 26.09.2015 and 02.10.2015

### ***End of year EB meeting (tbd)***

Around 09.12.2015

Mr. Gadai planned to make a presentation on the future of Table Tennis in ETTU in Bratislava at the EYC meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

## **- ITTF**

The Secretary General attended the junior commission meeting. All Continents were represented.

## **- World Cadet Challenge, BAR**

The Secretary General congratulated the Europe team for their success at the 2014 World Cadet Challenge.

## **- Visual Reality**

The Secretary General notified the board that ETTU engaged the company Visual Reality for the Top 16 and the EC in 2015.

BEGOC will contact them for the Top 16 in Baku (AZE).

ETTU has no contract with Visual Reality.

## **- President's Cup**

The EB agreed on the President's Cup.

## **- Hall of Fame**

ETTU wants to set up a European Table Tennis Hall of Fame and commence at the 2015 EC in Ekaterinburg (RUS) with a dinner. An advisory board is needed, as well as administrative support.

## **- Archivist**

ETTU received 2 applications.

## **- Calendar 2015, 2016**

The 2015 ETTU calendar is completed and the 2016 edition will be prepared soon.

## **- Review of constitution and regulations**

The Secretary General will report on that item in a further meeting.

## **- Directory, INFO 2014/5**

The EB members received an updated directory.  
The ETTU Info number 5 will be released next week.

The EB accepted the proposed SCI co-opted member, Mrs. Diane Schöler, to the ETTU Veterans Committee.

### *European Games in Baku (AZE)*

As ETTU has to save money, the EB decided which ETTU persons needing to be present. The President, Deputy President and the Secretary General must be present during the whole period.

Mrs. Ahlert, Mrs. Grefberg and Mr. Kass will stay from 12<sup>th</sup> till 16<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Endal and Mr. Markov will stay for the second part of the event.

## **8. Events:**

### **- Events Group**

A meeting with the events group members was scheduled after this meeting. Mrs. Ahlert pointed out that the main discussion points will be the EC team qualification, the evaluation of the EC in Lisbon, the draft regulations to be prepared for the Congress in Suzhou i.e. the European Championships and the under 21 Championships.

### **- 2014 ETC – Lisbon POR**

**A questionnaire was done for evaluation and some answers are already received.**

### **- 2014 Europe Youth Top 10 – Tours FRA**

The 2014 Europe Youth Top 10 in Tours (FRA) was well organised.

### **- 2014 Asia-Europe All Stars Series – Zhangjiagang CHN**

The 2014 Asia-Europe All Stars Series in Zhangjiagang was well organised. The President made a compliment to the competition manager who worked hard on the event organisation.

**- 2015 European Top-16 Cup (World Cup Qualification) – Baku, AZE, 6.2.-8.2.2015., venue, contract, format and regulations, logo**

ASTF has a complete new board, new President and Secretary General. They want to organise major events in future. The hall for the European Games couldn't be used for the Top 16 as it wouldn't be finished in time and therefore had to be changed. The event will be played on 2 tables only, the EB tried to get it played on 4 tables. ETTU managed that the colours could be changed.

Mr. Munivrana wanted ETTU trying to convince ASTF to try their best to buy the floor so that on 4 tables can be played.

**- 2015 European Games – Baku AZE, 13.6.-19.6.2015., qualification, competition schedule, ITOs, Look**

The Secretary General mentioned the factsheets the EB had received. ETTU has been informed in September that the competition schedule for team events cannot be three hours for a team match but two and a half hour. ETTU appealed against this decision at a special dedicated committee.

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

Mrs. Grefberg informed that she checked the day before the meeting and saw that 1700 have registered and 1572 of them already paid entry fee. Expected are some 2000 participants. The organisers decided to prolong the first entry date.

Mrs. Grefberg said that Referees should pay their own travel costs but then they'll not come, therefore the organisers will take these costs over. The organisers will charge for players' transport but not many asked for. The competition will be played on 97 tables.

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

The competition manager made an inspection visit. The Deputy President pointed out that according to Mr. Plese's report, the flooring to be fixed direct on concrete floor without an underlay.

The organisers asked for a slight raise in the accommodation fees which has been refused by the EB.

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

ETTU received no information from Romania regarding the 2015 Europe Youth Top 10.

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

Mr. Markov spoke about their OC meeting they had the day before this meeting; they will decide by the end of this week on the budget and will present it together with their staff.

The title sponsorship was discussed.

Floor will be most probably Gerflor.

Mr. Markov was entrusted by the EB to act as the ETTU representative EB member for the 2015 EC.

Payment possibilities to their bank was discussed as Russia has no IBAN number.

The ETTU hotel will be confirmed.

ETTU wants a Hall of Fame dinner, Mr. Scruton will come back to it later.

Mr. Levitin wished to play the first rally.

#### **- 2015 Asia-Europe All Stars Series – hosting in Europe**

The 2015 Asia-Europe All Stars Series, Europe edition, could be a youth event and played in Slovenia.

ETTU has to check the available dates, maybe after the WJC in France on 6<sup>th</sup> December.

The event should have boys and girls participating.

#### **- 2016 European Top-16 Cup – bid from DEN (Odense)**

Interest from Denmark showed interest in staging the 2016 European Top-16 Cup. The Secretary General will contact them by next week.

ETTU needs to know it before the Top 16 in Baku in order to announce or to reopen the bid.

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

The decision on the number of participating players per NOC will be made at the Top 16 in Baku.

#### **- 2016 European Youth Championships – bid from CRO (Zagreb)**

Croatia withdrew their bid for the 2016 European Youth Championships. ETTU will have to reopen.

#### **- 2016 European Championships – Budapest, HUN**

nil

#### **- 2016 other bids**

nil

#### **- 2017**

nil

#### **- Other events**

The European Para TT Championships will be played from 10 – 18 October 2015 in Denmark.

Mrs. Ahlert and Mrs. Grefberg will be present as ETTU representatives.



## **9. Athletes Commission:**

Mrs. Grefberg reported about the AC meeting held in Lisbon at the 2014 EC. Time schedule problems have been discussed and the AC Para TT member wanted to get Para TT more integrated by having an event (eg. EC) together, in the same venue.

The Deputy President said that the Para TT is a difficult organisation, which makes integration difficult at the same event as it would increase the organisers' costs.

## **10. Paralympic Table Tennis:**

The Vice President for Finances informed that Mrs. Burchell will leave ITTF. She was involved in Para TT since many years and helped Mrs. Darfelt a lot in this field.

## **11. Any other business:**

Mrs. Ahlert informed the board that DTTB made a bid for the 2017 WTTC in Düsseldorf and tried also for the EC in 2017 but received not enough money therefore.

Mr. Schimmelpfennig will leave DTTB.

Mr. Scruton mentioned the WTTD on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2015. Mr. Olvech had a talk with Mr. Scruton and Mr. Kramer about it in Shanghai. ETTU supports this initiative.

ACG event meeting necessity in the first quarter of 2015 was discussed.

ETTU will make a complete review of its club cup competition regulations.

## **12. Closure**

---