

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS,
Düsseldorf (GER)
Monday 29th May 2017
Saturday 3rd June**

Present:

Ronald Kramer (NED), (President)
Ivo-Goran Munivrana (CRO), (Deputy President)
Dorte Darfelt (DEN), (Vice-President for Finances)
Heike Ahlert (GER), (Vice-President)
Nikolas Endal (CZE), (Vice-President)
Sonja Grefberg (FIN), (Vice-President)
Pedro Moura (POR), (Vice-President)
Cristinel Romanescu (ROU), (Vice-President)
Petr Korbel (CZE), (co-opted EB member)
Richard Scruton (Secretary General)
Pierre Kass (Deputy Secretary General)
Sandra Deaton (Youth Committee Chair) - item 12 (BLR presentation)
Alexandre Petkevich (BLR) - item 12
Igor Heller (Ranking Committee Chair) - item 18
Dimosthenis Messinis (Competiton Manager) - item 18

Welcome of the President

The President welcomed the Executive Board members.

1. Adoption of the agenda:

The agenda was agreed.

2. a. Minutes of the meeting in Noordwijk, NED (11th and 12th March 2017):

The minutes of the meetings in Noordwijk were agreed and adopted.

2. b. Minutes of the meeting in Bratislava, SVK (18th March 2017):

The minutes of the meeting in Bratislava were discussed and adopted after some amendments.

3. Report of President, Deputy President and Vice-Presidents:

- *meeting with Sportradar, Munich GER (RK, RCS, PK)*

The President reported about the meeting with Sportradar. The co-operation goes well but the Champions League Men needs improvements.

- *meeting with Petra Sörling, Schiphol NED (RK)*

The President met with Petra Sörling to discuss the situation of the ITTF election.

- *meeting with Thomas Weikert and Jean-Michel Saive, Maastricht NED (RK)*

The President reported about the meeting.

- *visit to World MiniPingPong, Ostrava CZE (RK)*

The President visited the World MiniPingPong festival in Ostrava where 300 participants attended. Mr. Endal added that it was a good event for the public and showed a video of the event.

- *ITTF Future Events working group meeting, Shanghai CHN (RK)*

The President informed that the whole discussion was postponed until after the election. The events working group is looking for the financial model which should go with any new system. The events working group agreed to ask the ITTF EC to put some extra money in it to get a good financial model to go along with any new event with less teams in the end. There will be a report to the ITTF BoD within a week.

- *discussion with Michael Maze, (RK)*

Michael Maze sent an apology for his behaviour at the European Championships in Budapest. The letter has been sent to the offended persons.

- *TTCL Men Final, Orenburg RUS (RK)*

The President reported about the TTCL Men final in Orenburg, stated it was a nice event, however after Orenburg's 3:0 victory of the first leg, the winner was already decided after the first match. He met with the new manager Mr. Kiyayev from Gazprom Orenburg, joined by Vladimir Samsonov, Dimitrij Ovtcharov and Viktor Andreev. The President introduced the opportunity for Gazprom to sponsor ETTU's Champions League.

- *ECL Women Final, Berlin GER*

Mrs. Darfelt informed about the ECL women final in Berlin. She reported about the high quality matches. She wished to have in the ETTU news section more pictures from players rather than only from sponsors and officials.

- *ETTU Cup Men Final, Angers FRA*

Mr. Moura reported about the ETTU Cup Men final. A very exciting event but after the first set the winner was decided (due first leg victory).

- *ETTU Cup Women Final, Bursa TUR (CR)*

Mr. Romanescu reported about the ETTU Cup women final in Bursa. Bursa was the clear favourite. A nice atmosphere and live TV production.

Mr. Romanescu proposed a small prize money for the winners of the ETTU Cups.

The President concluded that there is a need for a change in the system of the club competition finals as too many matches ending 3:0 in the first leg which is leading to a too quick theoretical end i.e. in case the 3:0 winner of the first leg wins the first match in leg 2 but the remaining matches needs still to be played without real value. He proposed the TTCL Management Board to take up this matter in their next meeting and to discuss any possible changes to the current system.

4. ITTF:

- Elections

The EB spoke about the current situation of the ITTF election.

- AGM, Board of Directors, consideration of propositions and resolutions

The President informed that 2 scrutineers from Europe need to be appointed.

The proposals were discussed.

- Dinner with ATTU guests

All arrangements were finalised for the dinner on Wednesday, 31st May.

5. ETTU Extraordinary Congress (30th May 2017):

- Presentations

The President informed the need to add the presentation from Luxembourg (update 2017 ETTU).

The Executive Board agreed that the meeting will not be about ITTF elections but about ETTU events.

Mrs. Ahlert explained and went through her Congress presentation.

6. Financial Matters:

The Vice-President for Finances informed that her financial report to the Congress will be short as the details will be presented during the Ordinary Congress in Luxembourg.

- Accounts 2016

The Vice-President for Finances informed about the financial result of 2016 i.e. a surplus of 59.906 Euros.

- Budget 2017

The Vice-President for Finances repeated that a breakeven budget for 2017 has been adopted by the Congress delegates and the first months of the accounts for 2017 are in line with the budget.

- Outstanding payments

9 national Associations have not yet paid in full their 2016 outstandings.

7. Development:

- Programme 2017

The Deputy President stated that most of the ETTU Development activities were mentioned during the Congress.

He informed about a small problem with the coaching conference in Poland. Polish TTA changed the venue of the Polish Open and also wished than to change for the conference.

- 18 and under

The Deputy President had discussed with the Development Manager and the Secretary General and will propose to change the under 18 program to a under 17 program.

- Coach Education

The TT study is at the end of the first academic year. 2 students were supported by ETTU who are among the best students.

- World Cadet Challenge (Suva FIJ)

The decision to have the World Cadet Challenge in Fiji will become very expensive in regards to travel costs.

The Secretary General informed about his discussion with the Development Manager whom estimated a travel expenditure of minimum 2.100 Euros per person with a total expenditure of up to 35.000 Euros. ETTU receives a total of 25.000 Euros from ITTF funds for the World Cadet Challenge.

ETTU will try to get additional financial support from ITTF.

The next WCC will take place in Japan in 2018, then Poland in 2019, followed by Thailand in 2020.

8. Executive Board evaluation:

- Expert Panels/Working Groups

A Constitutional Review working group meeting will be held in the late afternoon of June 3rd.

9. Board of Appeal vacancy:

ETTU will receive an application for the July Executive Board meeting.

10. Report of Secretary General: written report

Mrs. Darfelt thanked the ETTU staff for the ETTU-ATTU dinner arrangement.

11. Club Competitions: written report

The proposed prize money allocation to the TTCLM is in principle ok but for a confirmation the budget needs to be available.

The President proposed to publish prize money allocation on the ETTU website. An announcement will be done after the July Executive Board meeting.

12. Events:

- 2016-2017 European Championships Qualification

Nothing to report.

- 2017 European Veterans Championships – Helsingborg SWE

The 2017 European Veterans Championships' organisation is going to plan. 2.100 people have entered.

- 2017 European Youth Championships – Guimarães POR

The draw for the team competitions will be held on Tuesday, 6th June in Düsseldorf.

The event organisation is going as planned. The company Stag will be the floor provider. Mr. Moura reported about some accommodation problems with a number of Associations which the Portuguese TTF is trying to solve.

- 2017 European Championships – Luxembourg LUX

The Secretary General informed that Luxembourg TTF is doing well with their second tier sponsorship. Jonny Cowan has helped the ticket sales promotion and other promotion as video clips, announcing 100 days to go etc.

The Prospectus will be available within a week. The draw will be held on July 12th in Luxembourg.

- 2017 Europe Youth Top 10 – Worcester ENG

Nothing further to report.

- 2017 Asia Europe All Stars Challenge

There are 2 possible dates: 28-29.10.2017 (Saturday-Sunday) or 29-30.10.2017 (Sunday-Monday). The event will be held in China, city to be confirmed.

- 2018 Youth Olympic Games European Qualification – Split CRO

Mr. Munivrana said that there are only 5 months before the qualification Games starts. The hall and hotel are booked. However nothing is yet received about the coverage of the expenses. There will be no financial support from the city of Split. Zoltan Bencsik will be asked to work on the prospectus. NOCs received the information about the dates.

Mr. Moura informed that in case of no financial support to Split, Portugal could step in to organise the qualification in Portugal.

It was agreed to await ITTF's decision on money allocation for the event organisation.

Mr. Munivrana proposed following hotel rates:

150 Euros in a 4* hotel per person in a single room

140 Euros in a 3* hotel per person in a single room

110 Euros in a 4* hotel per person in a double room

100 Euros in a 3* hotel per person in a double room

- 2018 ETTU Calendar

The 2018 ETTU Calendar is nearly ready to be published. The first stage (or qualification stage) of the European Championships dates need to be added.

- 2018 European Women's Super Cup/Team Top 6 – Berlin GER

A meeting with Andreas Hain has been arranged for Sunday June 3rd at 1330.

- 2018 European Youth Championships – Cluj-Napoca ROU

An inspection visit will take place in late September or early October.

- 2018 Europe Youth Top 10 – Bergen NOR

Norway cannot hold the event in Bergen as the city took away its support. It may be held in Trondheim. Confirmation will be received on or before the European Youth Championships. A new presentation will then be held during the EB meeting in Luxembourg. In case of refusal the Croatian and the Portuguese TTF would be ready to step in.

- 2018 Europe Top 16 Cup – presentation by the Swiss Association

The President and Secretary General had a meeting with Swiss TTF. The proposal is to host the event in Montreux for 3 consecutive years. Mrs. Ahlert pointed out that the bid has not been opened for 2020 and there may be other Associations interested. Mr. Munivrana said it is in principle a good idea but that ETTU needs to reopen the bid and this time for a 3 years period. The Executive Board decided to reopen the bid for the next 3 years.

Mrs. Grefberg asked why ETTU is not opening all events for more years in advance. ETTU will notify Associations about a good proposal received for 3 years but giving them time to also apply.

- 2018 European Under 21 Championships – presentation by the Belarus Federation
A presentation was given by Mr. Petkevich (BLR TTF).

The date has been discussed and finally confirmed to the 8-11.03.2018.

The Executive Board allocated the event to Belarus, city of Minsk.

- 2018 European Championships – presentation by the Spanish Federation

The Spanish TTA will give a presentation in Luxembourg. Spain TTA is interested to hold it in connection with other events i.e. a festival of TT including a Veterans Championships.

- 2019 European Veterans Championships – Budapest HUN: correspondence

The President informed that he spoke with the Croatian TTA President whom is ok now with the decision taken.

- 2019 European Games – Minsk BLR

Table Tennis is confirmed as participating sport in the Games and a contract has been signed. ITTF wants ETTU to have mixed doubles in the Games. It was agreed to appoint Oivind Eriksen as technical delegate for Table Tennis.

- Bids for future events

It was agreed to open all events for the next 5 years with the opportunity for a host Association to host an event in consecutive years.

13. Marketing: written report

The President welcomed Steve Dainton. Mr. Dainton reported about the good financial results due to having the rights back within ITTF. There will be a commercial strategic investment for each Continent. For ETTU, Mr. Dainton proposed the best investment would be going into human resources, growing the office space together to work hand in hand on marketing and media. An investment is available of 200.000-250.000 USD for next 4 years. The President said ETTU needs a professional marketing manager in the office in Luxembourg. ECTQ matches need promotion. The President said that would help also the ITTF-Europe branding.

Mrs. Darfelt asked about the process on whom to come up with something. Mr. Dainton replied it is in the budget for 2017 so we can go on with it. He will draft a contract within soon. Mrs. Darfelt said that the EB has a meeting in July to finalise the details.

The Secretary General informed that Jonny Cowan's opinion is that for ETTU a key person is required doing content (social media, generating video clips).

14. Hall of Fame:

- Panel meeting (25th April 2017)

The minutes were distributed. 4 new members had been agreed.

15. Athletes Commission:

The EB discussed the proposal from HKTTA about the material of the blades.

16. Para Table Tennis:

Mrs. Darfelt believes that within some years the Para TT Championships will be transferred to the Continents.

17. 60th Anniversary:

The Secretary General said we were behind schedule but invitations will be sent out within 2 weeks. Mrs. Grefberg presented the financial calculation. The President informed about the available 20.000 Euros from a sponsorship.

18. Any other business:

Mr. Munivrana proposed to support again the TT Talent Consortium project with 600-700 Euros for player profiling at the final Eurotalents camp. The EB agreed.

Mrs. Ahlert reported that Mrs. Grefberg and Mr. Moura worked on the ECTQ for 2019. Trying to find a solution that as many Associations as possible will enter. Mrs. Ahlert continued reporting on the proposed best system. Every team having the chance to become European Champion. Mrs. Ahlert asked the EB to take time to read the proposal and give comments.

Igor Heller and Dimosthenis Messinis presented a new digital results archive with a link from the ETTU website. The Executive Board members warmly thanked them for their new initiative.

The EB agreed to the TTCL Management Board set-up document.

19. Closure:

The President thanked the attendees for their contributions and closed the meeting.
