

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



Minutes of the

Extraordinary ETTU CONGRESS 2014

Thursday, 1st May 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

MINUTES OF THE ETTU EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS 2014 (Tokyo, Japan)

Minutes of the Extraordinary ETTU Congress organised during the WTTC in Tokyo (Japan) on the 1st May, 2014.

Present: Ronald Kramer (NED), (President),
Ivo-Goran Munivvana (CRO), (Deputy President)
Dorte Darfelt (DEN), (Vice-President for Finances)
Heike Ahlert (GER), Nikolas Endal (CZE), Sonja Grefberg (FIN),
Veli Ozan Cakir (TUR), Roman Markov (RUS), (Vice-Presidents),
Petr Korbel (CZE), (co-opted member)

Richard Scruton (Secretary General)
Pierre Kass (Deputy Secretary General)

Arne Madsen (ETTU Official), Milica Nikolic (Media Official), Christian Rigaud (ETTU YC), Igor Heller (ETTU RC), Paul Schiltz (ETTU URC), Oivind Eriksen (ETTU TC), André Damman (HM),
Walter Rönmark, Aleksandar Matkovic (ITTF BoD)
Mikael Andersson (ITTF)
Gérard Velten, Michel Gadai (guests)

Delegates of following member Associations (46) attended the Congress: Albania, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guernsey, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Italy, Jersey, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Scotland, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and Wales. The Associations of Andorra, Armenia, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Greenland, Israel, Lichtenstein, Macedonia, San Marino, Spain and Ukraine were absent.

1. Welcome by the ETTU President Ronald Kramer

The President welcomed all delegates, Executive Board members, officials, staff and guests.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda has been adopted.

3. President's Report

The President informed about the new way on how ETTU is going to deal with its extraordinary congresses i.e. giving it an informal character, open for discussion and exchanging views and voting will be only done during ordinary congresses. ETTU needed a new Secretary General and the President introduced Richard Scruton. He said being satisfied ETTU having restored its relations with ITTF, not only by signing the affiliation agreement, but also on personal and professional level. He told having been very busy in preparing the participation of ETTU in the first European Games which will be held in Baku in 2015 and rehearsal test event in February the same year. ETTU also worked a lot in terms of finding finances and is spending much time on generating income to bring down ETTU's deficit and to help organising associations in staging ETTU Events. He pointed out the two main priorities for ETTU and for this congress, being Events and Development.

4. Remarks of the Vice President for Finances

Mrs. Darfelt thanked all delegates for having elected her last year as Vice President for Finances and for having accepted the postal voting for the budget for 2014 and for having voted in favour of it. She told that it is a big task she has to do and thanked Pierre Kass for his help and efforts.

Since October 2013 she has been busy in checking all contracts in which ETTU is engaged and having an overview of the situation ETTU is in.

She informed that ETTU is in line with the budget 2014 but unfortunately ETTU has still some outstanding payments to do for the previous years.

The delegates already have heard in the previous congresses about ETTU's problem with the marketing company Triumph and ETTU now decided after having received consultation from lawyers that ETTU will no more waste any more money and time in trying to collect the amount that Triumph owes. The company has gone bankrupt and ETTU cannot be sure to get any money but still it would cost ETTU money to get help from a lawyer. As the income had been put into the ETTU budget over the past years, 2013 will end with a big deficit. ETTU is awaiting the figures and documents from its former VP Finances to close the financial year 2013 and to know exactly what the outcome is.

Associations still having outstandings towards ETTU were kindly requested to settle their debts urgently. ETTU has a new policy requesting invoices to be paid within 30 days after reception but also guarantees that ETTU will pay its invoices within the same time limit. ETTU is trying to find cost savings and office costs are reduced by 10.000 euros in 2 years by buying a copy machine instead of leasing / renting it. ETTU officials, while having to travel on ETTU purposes are trying to use the cheapest way for and the President who is officially entitled to fly business class for his ETTU work, is now flying economy class in budget air companies.

ETTU is looking for a new “website partner”, maybe a complete new website to be able to guarantee best support for TT family, this will however be a further impact on the budget - ETTU however does think that with a new website and with full control of it, and where it can manage some further income from sponsors / advertisements etc.

ETTU has cancelled the contract with its marketing manager and now in discussion with a possible new partner. This of course has a temporary negative influence on ETTU's finances.

The contract with the previous development manager has been cancelled too and ETTU is continuing in co-operation with ITTF, income for development purposes.

5. Development Plan 2014 – 2016

The Deputy President held a presentation on the development plan 2014-2016 (annex 1).

Mr. Hartmann (President LUX TTF) informed about a project of the Chinese TTA having decided to have their table tennis college in Luxembourg which has been taken into consideration in the future ETTU development plan.

Mr. Munivrana thanked all persons who contributed and especially to Mr. Gadal who contributed in the preparation of the presentation.

6. Consideration of Proposition from Romania: International Eligibility

The proposal from Romania on international eligibility (annex 2) has been discussed and a working group composed by Mr. Sporrer (AUT), Mr. Madsen (ETTU Official), Mrs. Sutcliffe (ENG), Mrs. Romanescu (ROU) and Mr. Kramer (ETTU President) has been created to investigate on its legal aspect.

7. The Future of European Championships from 2016

Mrs. Grefberg held a presentation on the future of European Championships from 2016 (annex 3).

A lively debate took place in which 15 representatives actively participated.

A relating questionnaire was distributed to all delegates with request to hand it back by latest on the 15th May 2014.

8. Any other business

Nil

9. Closure

The President thanked all participants of the congress and closed the meeting.