



## **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

MINUTES of MEETING

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015

At Bendigo Stadium Bendigo Australia

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

James Morris (President), Graeme Ireland (ITTF BoM), Tearoa Iorangi, Patrick Gillmann (ITTF EC), Gary Williams (NZL), Peter Marriott (TTA), Phil Males (AO), Michael Brown (ODO), Steve Dainton (ITTF), Christian Holtz (PSP) Barbara Talbot (Para)

#### **1) MEETING OPEN & WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN:**

Meeting Opened at 1.07pm

President James Morris welcomed those present.

Acknowledgement was made to the late Keith Bowler who passed away early March. Phil Males gave a brief history of Keith's achievements and the acknowledgment from his family.

A minute silence was observed.

#### **2) APOLOGIES:**

Anthony Ho, Paul Kyle, Will Goodier, Reagan Moses, Cathy Gauthier, Anolyn Lulu

Apologies not Received :- Louis Terii TEINAORE, James Ji, Susan Perez

#### **3) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS METINGS**

Bendigo 2014 – Confirmed as a True and Correct record

Business Arising will be dealt with in on other items on the agenda.

#### **4) FINANCIAL**

##### MC Subsidy:-

It was proposed earlier by the President that an offer of AUD\$450-00 be allocated to MC members who attended the meeting in Bendigo from overseas. This was conveyed to all MC members prior to the meeting. As only Tearoa Iorangi from the Cook Islands attended, the subsidy will be paid to him only. CONFIRMED by MC members present, Tearoa abstained due to conflict of interest.

##### Player Subsidies for Oceania Cup & Para:-

It was budgeted that a portion of the funding be set aside for these events and this was allocated by the ODO and confirmed by the President. For those associations who did not take up the funding this was allocated to Yoshua Shing from Vanuatu to enable him to travel.

The ultimate aim is to fund all Oceania Cup participants

CONFIRMED by MC members present.

##### ITTF-Oceania Junior Championships Subsidies:-

New Zealand have requested that any funding is equal for every association.

Australia also indicated that everyone should get a benefit.

Patrick Gillmann said that in the past it was the Big 5 but now that no longer applies, every association is equal regardless of size and population.

It was resolved that James Morris, Michael Brown and Graeme Ireland would liaise and come up with a proposal for subsidies for the Junior Championships and also look to extend it to the World Junior Championships for qualified associations.



#### Gifted Money:-

Phil Males advised that he had been contacted by solicitors Baker, O'Brien & Toll from Bundaberg Queensland in relation to a bequest that somebody wanted to make to Oceania Table Tennis. They requested a copy of the constitution as we are not incorporated, which was duly provided. So far we heard nothing back from them in relation to this. AO to follow up. In consultation with Peter Marriot who suggested the Aust. Sport Foundation had provision for bequests.

#### Financial Report:-

Michael Brown gave a brief outline of the history of the finances from 2012. It was allocated to the ITTF office in Singapore but there were difficulties managing this outside the region which were compounded when getting the books audited.

The software used was changed from MYOB to Wave Financial which is a free software.

MB gave a summary of the report to date and reviewed the 2014 Financial report which had been finalised and audited by a local auditor for a very reasonable price.

The auditor also recommended that the debt outstanding from the 2011 Oceania Cup in Adelaide still on the books be written off as the company is now bankrupt and there is no hope of recovering the debt. This was agreed and will be done in the 2015 Financial year.

### **5) OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION**

Qualification for 2016 Rio Olympics is set for 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> April 2016 but at this stage there is no host. Michael Brown is investigating possible venues in Bendigo which is not the stadium being used for the Oceania Cup. It is proposed that the event be combined with the Oceania Championships with the preliminary rounds of the OC being played earlier and then used as qualification for the final round of the Olympic qualification. Michael Brown showed on screen the proposed system for the last day final rounds. This concept was confirmed by the meeting.

This qualification event needs more TV/Marketing associated with it the need to showcase the event is paramount.

Graeme Ireland will confirm with Raul Calin from ITTF re the actual numbers that can be qualified. TTNZ reported that they have signed a criteria agreement with the NZOC which would basically exclude players from attending Rio even though they have qualified.

Discussion on the disappointment of the situation ensued and an idea was tabled that maybe NZ players should not play the Oceania Qualifier in the future.

It was agreed that it is too late for Rio and status quo be retained.

### **6) DEVELOPMENT**

Michael Brown gave a verbal report and advised that he is now working 50% for OTTF and 50% for ITTF so he will not be doing so many development visits. Training is in progress to train suitable people which OTTF will sub-contract to make future visits. Michael will manage this program.

Patrick Gillmann indicated that he thought the coaching level in OTTF has improved significantly.

*Meeting was suspended for a short break at 2.43pm*

*Meeting resumed at 3.05pm*



## 7) MARKETING

Steve Dainton from the ITTF Singapore office advised that the TMS agreement expired in 2014 and has been renewed for another 4 years with a bit more funding than before.

Steve also said that the Oceania Cup had been getting better each year it was being staged in Bendigo and it was very pleasing to ITTF that this was happening as it justified the support.

Broadcasting rights have been negotiated with Fox Sports in the region with 4.5 countries in region now broadcasting table tennis.

There have had issues with Sky Sports in New Zealand and it was proposed that they be sent a tape regardless and hope they broadcast it at some time.

Getting sponsors is tough as Table Tennis is fighting for sponsors with other sports. The Oceania Cup has been supported extraordinarily well due to the efforts of Michael Brown.

The concept of the event is to raise the economy of an event and to support athletes/organisers.

The Oceania Cup is the best event outside Europe and Asia – Well done.

## 8) PARA TABLE TENNIS

**Christian Holtz** gave a presentation on the Pacific Sports Partnership program. This report is an update on the progress made from last year. The program is run through TTA and sponsored by the Australian Government. Christian advised that the program is under review as the Australian Sports Commission participation will come to an end and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade will take over the program. They are currently waiting on the Australian Budget in May to see what happens in the future. The signs that the Table Tennis program will continue when transferred to DFAT are good as TTA was invited to a seminar whereas some other sports involved in the program were not.

The ASC had excess funds in the lead down to the end of their participation and TT was invited to lodge an application for extra funding. This was done with a marketing aspect.

Christian then gave a rundown on the participating countries in his program. The program in PNG has been suspended until a governance review but it will not affect current funding. Depending on the review the funding could be directed for another country with Tonga the suggestion.

James Morris said that OTTF will support as much as possible.

Christian and Michael to link to review Vanuatu after Cyclone Pam.

Peter Marriott said that TTA is fortunate to get Christian and as a result the ASC loves TTA.

Christian was thanked for his report and his work.

**Barbara Talbot** presented a written report and spoke to it.

An ITTF committee has been set up to look at qualification and other matters. Graeme Ireland is on the committee and will liaise with Barbara.

Patrick Gillmann said that capitation fees for Para players is not fair and Para should be on the same basis as able bodied players.

With hosting should OTTF bid in lieu of other hosts, possible savings if they do.

Some associations in New Zealand expressed interest for the next Para Regionals in 2017.

Patrick Gillmann to follow up with ITTF in regard to Autonomy, OTTF Para Committee and integration



### 9) ITTF JUNIOR CIRCUIT

2015 Australia – Event held at the Seagulls club on the Gold Coast. Peter Marriott gave a quick report and indicated that it went off very well. The actual Seagulls club with its food facilities was a big hit and was utilised to the upmost.

Peter indicated that Australia would apply to run an event in 2016.

New Zealand suggested that ITTF should be lobbied to reduce number of Global Junior events.

### 10) WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Event will be held in France later this year. Qualifying will be at the ITTF-Oceania Junior Championships.

Michael Brown said that a new system would be introduced next year if there are 8 or more teams. There would be 1 spot for Australia or New Zealand and 1 for a Pacific Island Team. If less than 8 teams enter then it would be one round robin only and the 1 & 2 teams would qualify.

### 11) WORLD CADET CHALLENGE

Date and venue not yet allocated by ITTF

Qualification event will be conducted on the 12<sup>th</sup> May in Kiribati.

At the 2014 event the Australian girls were placed 6<sup>th</sup> and almost 5<sup>th</sup> but were just piped.

### 12) OCEANIA CUP

New system to be introduced of 8 Men and 8 Women. Graeme Ireland and Michael Brown have been working on fine tuning the system and it should come out after the Australian Open.

It is possible that countries could have their own qualification system to qualify players to attend the Oceania Cup qualification. That event could be attached to an existing event so as not to create a new event which would be counterproductive. Possibly National Opens.

### 13) OCEANIA CHAMPIONSHIPS

No host at this stage for next year but Michael Brown talking with Bendigo to combine with Olympic Qualification and have at their Table Tennis Stadium. Michael to follow up and confirm by the next meeting in Suzhou so it can be confirmed by the MC and ITTF will then be advised.

No applications for the Junior event in 2017. Cook Islands may be interested. Should have Junior Circuit event and training camp as well but must keep within a week if possible.

### 14) CONSTITUTION

Phil Males advised that a new constitution had been developed by himself and Graeme Ireland. A draft was sent out to all MC members and affiliated associations for their comments. So far no comments had come back.

It is proposed that a SPM will be held prior to the BGM wherever it may be and if adopted then the new constitution would take effect from the following BGM.

### 15) UMPIRES & REFEREES

Unfortunately Dave could not be in attendance due to his Referee duties but a report was tabled on the activities of the URC. One item noted was that the URC now has new members, one from Australia, Fiji and New Zealand to work with Dave as Chairman.

The MC thanked Dave for his work at this event to present, in conjunction Michael, an excellent tournament.



## 16) MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

James Morris asked that this be deferred to the Suzhou meeting

AGREED

## 17) ATHLETES COMMISSION

Dave Powell had been voted onto the ITTF Athletes Commission and he is very keen to participate on the OTTF MC. Graeme Ireland proposed that David Powell be included on the MC but without a vote until the OTTF Constitution changed next year where the OTTF Athletes Commission Chairman would be part of the MC and with a vote.

Patrick Gillmann said that the ITTF Athletes Commission Chairman could not be a voting member on the ITTF Executive Committee as it would compromise the constitution that only one person from a country may be on the EC. The same can be said for our current constitution and it is also in the new constitution.

The OTTF Athletes Commission would have 5 members which includes the chairman and a Para representative, however only 1 per country except for the Para representative which can come from the same country as one of the other members.

The proposal was agreed.

## 18) ITTF COMMITTEES

Nominations by National Associations for various committees are as follows:-

Rules Committee	Phil Males (AUS)
Umpires & Referees	Alan Hopkins (AUS)
Veterans	Paul Kyle (NZL)
Junior Commissioner	James Morris (NZL)
Para Division	Barbara Talbot (AUS)

## 19) COMPETITION SCHEDULE

World Junior Circuit 2015 – Seagulls Australia (Completed)

World Championships 2015 – Suzhou China

Oceania Junior Championships – Kiribati

World Junior Championships – France

World Cadet Challenge – TBA

## 20) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Patrick Gillmann said that we should push for proxies for the ITTF AGM. Even though there are no elections there will be voting and Oceania should submit proxies for every meeting regardless.

The meeting in Suzhou will now be a Management Committee meeting with invitations to any other Oceania people and ITTF officers and staff.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.49pm

Minutes Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_