

OCEANIA TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES of MEETING

Friday 18th April 2014

At Bendigo Stadium Bendigo Australia

PRESENT:

Patrick Gillmann (President), Graeme Ireland (ITTF BoM), James Morris (ITTF BM), Anthony Ho (ITTF BoM) Paul Kyle, Will Goodier, Anolyn Lulu, Cathy Gauthier, Phil Males (ED), Michael Brown (ODO)

1) MEETING OPEN & WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN:

Meeting Opened at 9.08am

President Patrick Gillmann welcomed those present

2) APOLOGIES:

Louis Terii Teinaore, Tearoa Iorangi, Reagan Moses

No apologies – James Ji

3) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Suva 2012 - **CONFIRMED**

4) REVIEW OF BGM

Nil

5) REVIEW OF FINANCIAL

TMS Contract in Final Year – Final amount is €50000 (2 x €25000)

DHS sponsorship also received – re-negotiable end 2014

6) APPOINTED POSITIONS

Positions were appointed in 2012 for what was perceived to be a 4 year term after the elected positions were changed to 4 years in the constitution. However there is nothing recorded about terms for the appointed positions so it was considered relevant that these positions be confirmed until 2016

Positions confirmed or appointed as follows:-

Executive Director: Philip Males

Finance Director: **Position to be abolished**

URC Chairperson: David Delpratt

Three (3) committee members to be appointed in addition

Chairman Classification & Technical: **Position to be abolished**

Para TT Barbara Talbot

Women's Co-ordinator: Cathy Gauthier

Veterans: Paul Kyle (change from James Morris)

Pacific Commission: Anthony Ho

Calendar/International Open Co-ordinator Will Goodier (change from Paul Kyle)

Change of Title

Junior / Youth James Morris (change from Patrick Gillmann)

Finance Paul Kyle

Marketing Patrick Gillmann

Technical -**New Position** Graeme Ireland

AGREED

7) WORLD JUNIOR CIRCUIT

2014 Cook Islands – preparations in hand

2015 Australia will nominate

2016 No applications received

MB - Who hosts the qualification events if 2 Tournaments held in the same year.

Australia indicated that they may be hosting a Junior Circuit event every year so if that is the case then whoever hosts the other Junior Circuit event will host the qualifications events as well. If Australia is the only country then they will host the qualification events.

8) WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS – Shanghai China Nov/Dec

Cannot confirm participants until after the qualification event in Cook Islands in May

MB – Outlined new proposal for qualification system so that we get all area representation

Basically if there are 8 or more teams then 1 place would be from Australia or New Zealand and second place would be from one of the Pacific Countries.

Discussion ensued and many views were put.

It was decided 5 – 2 that for the 2015 qualification it would be a test event for the new system and the MC would assess the result after and decide on its future.

Should there not be 8 or more teams competing in the 2015 qualification then the status quo remains and the test event would not take place until there were 8 or more teams.

AGREED

It was brought up that more lead time needs to be allowed for acceptance of the position by the qualifying countries. Following the withdrawal of New Zealand last year at a very late stage and Oceania could not substitute a replacement team at short notice more time is needed.

This year there should be no problem as there is a 2 month window.

It was also noted that countries do not have players in pipeline for the future so more emphasis should be put into Hopes and Cadet players

9) WORLD CADET CHALLENGE

Cannot confirm participants until after the qualification event in Cook Islands in May

PG – Proposal to alter the WCC regulations so that signed documentation is obtained from a player's parents or guardians, that should a player qualify for the WCC then they will definitely go.

PK – A maximum amount that is paid by the parents/guardians should be made known to them before the qualifier so they know how much they are up for.

AGREED

10) WORLD CUPS 2014

Confirmation of Participants yet to be decided but will be winners of the Men and Women 2014 ITTF-OCEANIA Cups currently being held in Bendigo

Event hosts for the Women's World Cup not yet confirmed but will be around 10-12 October. The Men's will be in Dusseldorf Germany 24-26 October

AGREED

11) OCEANIA CHAMPIONSHIPS

2015 Junior – Kiribati, but as decided at the BGM a deadline of 30/06/14 has been set to confirm this event with Kiribati. Michael Brown to follow up.

Plan B would be Australia as they are nominating for a Junior Circuit event.

12) OCEANIA CUP

2015 Bendigo -

2016 Not yet allocated but there are a number of interested parties

It is proposed to reduce the ITTF-Oceania Cup to 8 Men and 8 Women, and remove the Pacific Cup. The event would fall in line with other continental cups – Africa (Top 16), Europe (Top 12), Latin America (Top 12). Top 8 is the right number for Oceania at the moment, and would introduce a restriction of 2 entries for each National Association, which is also the maximum number of participants at the ITTF World Cup per National Association, which this is a qualification event for.

Could look to go one step further and say 1 per National Association for Pacific Islands to gain a greater variety of participants. The invites would be based on a new Oceania Rankings/Ratings system

The Pacific Cup would be abolished and integrated back into to the Oceania Championships.

Players would need to qualify by gaining points by playing an event in own country or in another country and then would be invited to participate by OTTF.

The proposal was agreed in principal and would start from 2016

AGREED

Meeting adjourned at 11.16am

Meeting re-commenced at 1.01pm

13) REGULATIONS

Oceania Junior Championships

It was proposed that Cadet Teams be 2 person teams and there is to be a Bronze Medal playoff

Under 18 Singles knockout will now be best of 7 Games in the knockout stage

AGREED

Oceania Senior Championships

Entries for individual events should be limited per event, not just as a number of entries. The current regulations state that the host association may enter 16 entries in the Open Men's Doubles Event for example. This number of entries should be at least 50% of the number of single entries. (This should also be adjusted in the Junior Championships regulations.)

Open Teams would have a maximum of 5 players and Under 21 a maximum of 4

Individual singles in all grades a maximum of 4 and doubles maximum of 2 with 4 for the mixed.

Host country with 1 more in each event

AGREED

Rankings (Ratings)

The current situation with the Oceania Ratings not being updated since July 2013 is not good. Either a new system or new administrator is required with preferably a system in which many people are able to operate if required.

In regards to the Top 8 concept for the ITTF-Oceania Cup, the concept of a ranking system similar to that of the World Tour Ranking System would be adopted, and would involve events within Oceania.

Michael Brown gave a rundown of what is proposed and discussion commenced.

David Jackson has a good system but only he can use it.

Anthony Ho said we should look at 2 systems one for HP and one for participating players.

The 1st stage would be to construct parameters and Rules to define the system.

Paul Kyle suggested we look at the NZ system and will follow up with the NZ Co-ordinator Andrew Palmer and will work through Michael. Tearoa Iorangi from Cook also expressed an interest in assisting in this area, Michael to work with him as well.

It was confirmed that the Classification & Technical position currently in the Regulations would be abolished and that Graeme Ireland would look after Technical matters.

AGREED

OLYMPIC GAMES QUALIFICATION

The aim is to have TV production for the Olympic Games Qualification Event, and to do so, we need to make the event more TV friendly, rather than each day having 1 qualifying match, as each day TV Production setup costs a lot of money.

Graeme Ireland said we should wait & see as the system with ITTF was up in the air at the moment and hopefully more would be known after Tokyo meetings.

MB outlined a proposed system with a visual presentation but does need more detail

GI said that it was 90% that the major role would be undertaken by the continents

It was decided that the concept was to make more TV friendly if at all possible.

14) UMPIRES & REFEREES

James Morris said that ITTF-Oceania should have a role in spreading IR's in the region and to define pathways for IR's. Australia has the only current IR's in the region, NZ has one but not active.

Graeme Ireland outlined the current pathway for National Referees but there was a problem with them progressing. However we still need to run more NR courses.

It was decided that URC Chairman Dave Delpratt would canvas associations for potential Umpires and Referees. There is a budget of AUD\$3000 in General Funds and approximately \$5000 in Development. Election for the Committee members to be undertaken.

15) DUTIES OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

A discussion on the duties of the MC was commenced

Website – Michael to continue to manage utilising the Singapore office where possible

Countries need to have Open Championships but there is no co-ordinator to ensure they do not clash with other events. It was suggested that Calendar and International Open co-ordinator be combined and a co-ordinator be appointed. Will Goodier was appointed

Rules & Regulations to be covered by Phil Males & Graeme Ireland

Paul Kyle would take on ranking as previously discussed

Graeme Ireland would become Technical.

Barbara Talbot remains with AWD and Dave Delpratt URC.

16) COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Everyone indicated that the event in Bendigo was good and there no complaints, the concept being very good. MB said that some teams would take part in the Easter Parade in Bendigo on Easter Sunday in which Table Tennis has a float. Good promotion for TT and the Bendigo event.

17) ADOPTION OF NEW LOGO

It was proposed that we adopt the new ITTF-Oceania Round Logo and that all other old logos be permanently done away with. **AGREED**

It was suggested that new pins be obtained. Michael to get quotes from local and overseas and come back to the MC.

18) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Constitutional Modifications

It was suggested a Special General Meeting be held by e-mail to make necessary constitutional changes.

Graeme Ireland said that it cannot happen that way

It was agreed to have a SGM at a time & place to be decided, probably before the next BGM unless it can be arranged earlier.

PM & GI to look at changes and distribute draft to the MC before end of year.

Oceania Marketing Consultant

Fred WOO was proposed. Patrick had already spoken to Fred previously and offered the position which Fred accepted. Just needed to confirm with the MC.

Will Goodier gave a short history of the Fred WOO connection in Australia.

AGREED

Oceania Regional Parra Event

Will Goodier requested to have the event in conjunction with the Oceania Cup in 2015 at Bendigo as it would be good promotion for both events. MB said that the extra 6 tables would be no problem and would look at a schedule as well.

AGREED in PRINCIPAL

Eligibility

Anthony Ho had raised an issue with ITTF about a player resident in Fiji since birth but on a foreign passport who wanted to represent Fiji at this year's World Team Championship. He played the OC in 2012 but it was not picked up at that time. It was appealed to ITTF but without success. They will try again and Patrick will also write in support.

OTTF President

Patrick Gillmann said that he now intended to resign as OTTF President and outlined the procedure/ James Morris as designated Deputy would take over as OTTF President.

This would leave a vacancy in the BOD positions and nominations were called for.

Paul Kyle was nominated and there being no other nominations Paul was moved up to the BOD position. This now left a vacancy in the ordinary MC position and Susan Perez from Tokelau was nominated and it was agreed that Susan would replace Paul as an ordinary member of the MC.

Patrick was thanked by James Morris for all his effort with OTTF over the years.

Will Goodier also thanked Patrick.

Patrick then left the meeting which was adjourned for a short break.

Meeting recommenced 15 minutes later with Susan Perez now joining the meeting as MC member.

James Morris welcomed Susan to the MC.

19) AWARD TO PATRICK

James Morris suggested we present Patrick with a memento of some sort. It was suggested a plaque with the ITTF-Oceania logo on similar to other type of awards given by ITTF and OTTF.

Michael Brown to organise and presentation to be made at the Oceania Meeting in Tokyo.

20) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ROLE

James Morris asked if Phil Males should leave the meeting whilst this was discussed. Most members indicated that if Phil wanted to stay then he could. Phil elected to stay.

James said that following Fiji 2012 a lot of roles had been taken from the ED especially the Finance side which went to Singapore and managed by Michael Brown.

It was suggested that the ED be paid a small wage and that a job description be prepared and also that KPI's be introduced.

After discussion it was moved by Paul Kyle and seconded by Graeme Ireland that the ED be paid AUD\$220-00 per month subject to a job description being submitted. Term would be for 2 years and then reviewed in 2016 at the MC meeting at the next championships following BGM elections.

AGREED

21) FINANCE

Financial Program

It was suggested by Phil that OTTF purchase the MYOB program Account Right Plus which can keep the data in the cloud. Cost would be around \$70-00 per month which includes support.
PM and MB to check out that it will work on PC and Mac and go ahead if deemed OK.

Credit Card

Patrick to surrender his credit card and give to Phil in Tokyo.
James indicated he did not want an OTTF card so Phil has only card.

Bi-Annual Plan

James suggested that OTTF develop a bi-annual plan which he had already discussed with Michael
Discussion ensued
Anthony suggested it be aligned with the Olympic Program
Will suggested it include Parra
Michael said that a plan was in place for the Development program but not for own funds

22) PATRICKS FUTURE

James gave a rundown on the situation.

All this was triggered by the election of Patrick to the ITTF EC and he was given 1 year to resign the OTTF Presidency. As he has now resigned Patrick has indicated his desire to continue working within Oceania and his favoured option was to continue with Marketing and the Development Program. Everyone was in agreement that Patrick services must be utilised to continue the development in Oceania.

Will Goodier suggested that a committee be created with PG as chair but with no power to make decisions or give financial commitments. James Morris would be the other committee member and they would consult and then communicate if necessary for a decision. Certain actions could be made conjointly with reference to the MC.

Moved Will Goodier, seconded Anthony Ho that a Development & Marketing Committee be created with Patrick as chair and James as a member and this be offered to Patrick. James to undertake that task.

AGREED

23) ODO DIRECTION

It was agreed that the direction of the ODO was OK. All monetary decision must be decided by the chair that impacts on the budgets.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.48pm

Minutes Confirmed: _____