



**The International Table Tennis Federation**

# **Handbook**

**2019**

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The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), founded in 1926, is the world-governing body of the sport of table tennis with 226 member Associations in the world.

The ITTF supervises the staging of World Championships annually, and several other world title events. Around 120 international tournaments are sanctioned by the ITTF yearly. Its main function is to govern and develop the sport for the benefit of over thirty million competitive players in all parts of the world.

Table Tennis is an Olympic and Paralympic sport and is in the programme of the Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games as well as of all Multisport Games.

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*Paragraphs which have been introduced or significantly amended as a result of decisions made at the 2018 Annual General Meeting or the 2018 Board of Directors Meeting, are listed separately as an Annex and are shown as shaded\*.*

*The implementation date of each change is specified; if there is no such specification, the change shall take effect from 1 January of the following year once a decision is taken.*

*\* With the exception of the new Constitution*

## ITTF website (ITTF.com)

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The current ITTF Handbook is available in its entirety on the ITTF website for printing or downloading.

# 1 CONSTITUTION

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## 1.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

### 1.1.1 NAME

- 1.1.1.1 The Federation shall be called the International Table Tennis Federation, referred to elsewhere in this Constitution by its abbreviated title "ITTF".

### 1.1.2 COMPOSITION

- 1.1.2.1 The ITTF shall consist of the affiliated table tennis organisations, referred to elsewhere in the Rules as "Associations", governing the sport in accordance with the principles of the ITTF in any territory generally regarded as constituting a national, historical or other unity.
- 1.1.2.2 Associations shall not be regarded as agents of the ITTF.

### 1.1.3 PRINCIPLES

- 1.1.3.1 The principles of the ITTF shall be general unity of action, mutual respect of Associations in their dealings with one another and the inadmissibility of discrimination against Associations or individuals on racial, political, religious, gender or other grounds.
- 1.1.3.2 The ITTF is committed to providing a sport and work environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Each individual has the right to participate and work in an environment which promotes equal opportunities and prohibits discriminatory practices.
- 1.1.3.3 The ITTF is committed to providing a sport environment free of harassment on any basis without exception.
- 1.1.3.3.1 The Executive Committee shall impose appropriate disciplinary sanctions from warnings to exclusions from all kind of activity in the ITTF, when a complaint of harassment has been substantiated. The same disciplinary sanctions shall be imposed if a false accusation has been substantiated.
- 1.1.3.4 The ITTF is committed to take a responsible approach to safeguarding the environment and managing resources through its practices in hosting events and in managing its operations.
- 1.1.3.5 The ITTF shall observe the general and fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, including, but not limited to, the Code of Ethics and Compliance; the Code of Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions, the Olympic Movement Medical Code and the IPC Handbook; and no provision of this Constitution shall be deemed to conflict with or derogate from those principles.
- 1.1.3.6 The ITTF shall co-operate with the IOC, ASOIF, GAISF, IPC, and other organisations that recognise it as the controlling and governing authority for table tennis throughout the world.

## **1.1.4 OBJECTIVES**

- 1.1.4.1 The objectives of the ITTF shall be:
- 1.1.4.1.1 to uphold the principles of the ITTF and to develop the spirit of friendship and mutual assistance among Associations and players;
  - 1.1.4.1.2 to regulate relations between Associations and between Associations and other organisations;
  - 1.1.4.1.3 to seek continual improvement in the technical standard of table tennis and in the extent of participation in the sport throughout the world;
  - 1.1.4.1.4 to foster friendly sporting competition and to eliminate unfair and unsporting practices such as match fixing, match corruption, irregular and illegal betting, doping or illegal equipment to enhance performance;
  - 1.1.4.1.5 to establish and enforce the Constitution, the Laws of Table Tennis, the Regulations for International Competitions, the Regulations for World, Olympic and Paralympic Title Competitions, the Anti-Doping Rules, the Code of Ethics, the Anti-Harassment Policy and Procedures and any other ITTF regulations;
  - 1.1.4.1.6 to publish the English standard text of the Laws, Rules and regulations mentioned in 1.1.4.1.5;
  - 1.1.4.1.7 to encourage the publication of the regulations mentioned in 1.1.4.1.5 in other languages and to check the accuracy of such publications;
  - 1.1.4.1.8 to promote and to supervise World, Olympic, Paralympic and ITTF Continental title competitions;
  - 1.1.4.1.9 to employ the funds of the ITTF as may be expedient in the interests of international table tennis;
  - 1.1.4.1.10 to endeavour to increase participation at all levels, to enhance the popularity of the sport, to develop new sources of revenue, and to manage the sport through a systematic planning process;
  - 1.1.4.1.11 to encourage players, coaches and officials to present the sport positively in the best ways so as to enhance its image;
  - 1.1.4.1.12 to encourage and to support the promotion of women in sport at all levels and to ensure significant representation of women in ITTF committees, commissions and working groups.

## **1.1.5 LEGAL STATUS**

- 1.1.5.1 The ITTF is a not-for-profit organisation governed by article 60ff. of the Swiss Civil Code;
- 1.1.5.2 The ITTF is endowed with legal status and its members, officers and employees shall not be responsible for its debts, unless it is by a grossly negligent or willful conduct.

## 1.2 MEMBERSHIP

### 1.2.1 ELIGIBILITY

- 1.2.1.1 An Association complying with 1.1.2.1 may be elected a member but it shall be recognised as representative only of the territory in which it controls and governs the sport.
- 1.2.1.2 Where one or more Associations represent table tennis in only part of an area generally regarded as constituting a unity, an Association representing the sport in any other part of the same unity may apply for membership, provided that
- 1.2.1.2.1 its separateness is due to circumstances outside the sport and of the players concerned;
- 1.2.1.2.2 the jurisdiction it claims is clearly limited, in title and constitution, to the territory in which it controls the sport;
- 1.2.1.2.3 it is otherwise qualified for membership.
- 1.2.1.3 In the consideration of such an application, the views of any Association already in membership from the same unity shall be taken into account and in no circumstances shall two Associations be recognised as exercising authority over the same territory.
- 1.2.1.4 An organisation located outside the territory of any Association may be granted temporary attachment to an Association for the purpose of receiving aid in development and competition; the extended territory shall be regarded as being within the member's control, but approval of the attachment shall be reviewed at each AGM and shall not be renewed indefinitely.

### 1.2.2 APPLICATION AND ELECTION

- 1.2.2.1 Applications for membership shall be made on a form approved by the Executive Committee.
- 1.2.2.2 All applications shall be submitted not later than 6 calendar months before the date of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) at which the application is to be considered, except applications from previous member Associations. Such applications may be accepted with immediate effect at the discretion of the Executive Committee, without the need to allow the 6 calendar months. Any such acceptance must be ratified at the next AGM.
- 1.2.2.3 The Executive Committee shall review all applications on behalf of the AGM and make recommendations on acceptance.
- 1.2.2.4 Applications for membership shall be considered by the next AGM and shall be accepted if they receive at least 2/3 of the votes cast.

- 1.2.2.4.1 In the consideration of an application in respect of an area for which there is a recognised Continental Federation, the views of that Federation shall be taken into account.
- 1.2.2.5 In the consideration of applications for combined membership by Associations formerly in separate membership, or for separate membership by Associations which were formerly components of an Association which has divided, or for recognition of changes in the territory in which an Association controls the sport, the views of the organisations concerned and any circumstances outside their control shall be taken into account; secession in other circumstances is not to be encouraged.
- 1.2.2.6 The representatives of an Association elected to membership at an AGM shall be entitled to attend the meeting.
- 1.2.2.7 Election and membership of an Association shall not carry any implications in respect of the political, diplomatic or national status of the area concerned, but only to its conduct of table tennis therein.

### **1.2.3 SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION**

- 1.2.3.1 An Association wishing to resign from the ITTF shall give notice in writing to the Secretariat; the resignation may take effect at any time from the receipt of such notice until the 31st December of the same year, but the Association shall be liable for the subscription due for that year. The written resignation must detail the reason for resignation, proposed timing and all efforts that have made toward retaining affiliation. The Association and the ITTF must have first engaged in either direct or mediate discussions with the purpose of affiliation being retained.
- 1.2.3.2 An Association which fails to pay its subscription for 3 successive years shall automatically be suspended from membership; it shall not be liable for subscriptions during the period of suspension and may be re-admitted to membership on payment of part or all of the subscriptions previously due, at the discretion of the Executive Committee; the suspension in this case is a full suspension.
- 1.2.3.3 An Association that is suspended from membership shall, including but not limited to, not be entitled to nominate or enter players for any event held under the jurisdiction of the ITTF nor to attend or be represented at an AGM or EGM (Extraordinary General Meeting) nor to nominate any person for election to the Executive Committee, Board of Directors (referred to elsewhere in this Constitution as "Board"), any committee, commission or working group nor shall any individual nominated by the Association be entitled to participate in the activities of the Executive Committee, Board, any committee, commission or working group; further:

- 1.2.3.3.1 no match official nominated by the Association shall officiate at any ITTF sanctioned event;
- 1.2.3.3.2 the Association shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the ITTF including but not limited to participation in development activities nor to receive any grants from the ITTF;
- 1.2.3.3.3 the Association shall not be entitled to host an ITTF sanctioned event save that where an ITTF sanctioned event has been approved prior to the suspension, the Executive Committee may establish a committee to oversee the organisation of such sanctioned event under conditions approved by the Executive Committee, at its discretion.
- 1.2.3.4 An Association which seriously and persistently fails to maintain the principles or to respect the Constitution and decisions of the ITTF may be censured, fined, suspended or expelled by an AGM or EGM by a two-thirds majority; a suspension may be cancelled by an AGM or EGM by a two-thirds majority.
- 1.2.3.4.1 In a case of a suspension, the AGM or EGM may allow players from the suspended Association to compete in events under the jurisdiction and flag of the ITTF.
- 1.2.3.5 Before the AGM or EGM suspends an Association, the Association must have been sent notice in writing of the proposed suspension at least one month before the AGM or EGM at which the suspension is to be considered; the Association shall be afforded an opportunity to present its case at the AGM or EGM.
- 1.2.3.6 The Executive Committee may act to suspend an Association pending the AGM or EGM, provided that:
  - 1.2.3.6.1 clause 1.2.3.5 is applied;
  - 1.2.3.6.2 decision on the suspension is by a unanimous vote;
  - 1.2.3.6.3 all Associations are informed of the suspension providing reasons.
- 1.2.3.7 The Association which has been suspended or expelled may appeal to the Court of Arbitration of Sport.

## **1.2.4 RIGHTS OF THE ASSOCIATIONS**

- 1.2.4.1 The Associations have the following rights:
  - 1.2.4.1.1 To appoint up to 2 delegates to take part in the AGM or EGM in which each Association has one vote cast.
  - 1.2.4.1.2 To submit proposals or resolutions for inclusion in the agenda of the AGM or EGM or the Board.
  - 1.2.4.1.3 To nominate candidates for election or appointment within the ITTF according to the specific rules.

- 1.2.4.1.4 To enter players for participation in competitions organised under the authority of the ITTF according to the specific qualification rules of each competition.
- 1.2.4.1.5 To take part in and benefit from ITTF's assistance, development and educational programmes organised directly or through the Continental Federations.
- 1.2.4.1.6 To exercise all other rights arising from the Constitution or from any other ITTF Laws and regulations.

## **1.2.5 OBLIGATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATIONS**

- 1.2.5.1 The Associations have the following obligations:
  - 1.2.5.1.1 To fully comply with all duties and provisions of the Constitution, Laws and Regulations established by the ITTF as well as with all decisions taken in accordance therewith.
  - 1.2.5.1.2 To apply the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules, the ITTF Code of Ethics and the Anti-Harassment Policy and Procedures.
  - 1.2.5.1.3 To immediately notify the ITTF about any major change on the Association (Constitution, change of President and/or General Secretary, its address and/or contact details)
  - 1.2.5.1.4 To request their own members to comply with the ITTF Constitution. Laws and Regulations established by the ITTF.
  - 1.2.5.1.5 To fulfil at all times the requirements necessary for eligibility to membership
  - 1.2.5.1.6 To pay the annual subscription to the ITTF.
  - 1.2.5.1.7 In the event of any dispute leading to disaffiliation, the ITTF retains all the rights as the international governing body, as if the association was affiliated for the purpose of calling for information and/or specific obligation to be fulfilled by the Association.

## **1.3 ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS**

### **1.3.1 CONTINENTAL FEDERATIONS**

- 1.3.1.1 Associations may group themselves into Continental Federations for the purpose of promoting and regulating table tennis within a given continental area; such Federations shall be supported and encouraged by the ITTF, which shall co-operate with them in all matters, provided that the constitution, general principles, rules and policy of the Continental Federation conform to those of the ITTF.

- 1.3.1.2 Each Continental Federation shall provide the Secretariat with a copy of its Constitution and with details of any subsequent changes not later than 3 calendar months after the meeting at which they are made.
- 1.3.1.3 Upon request by a Continental Federation and approval by the Executive Committee, a Continental Federation may be allowed to use the ITTF name and logo as part of the “brand name” of the Continental Federation.
- 1.3.1.4 Membership of the Continental Federation shall be open to Associations whose address in the ITTF Directory is situated within the appropriate Continental area except where, for reasons outside the control of sport, an Association is not acceptable to its appropriate Continental Federation; in such circumstances, which shall not necessarily prevent recognition of the Continental Federation concerned, the Association failing to secure membership shall have the right to appeal to the ITTF to assist in securing membership or, failing that, attachment to another adjacent Continental Federation.
- 1.3.1.5 Organisations eligible for membership of the ITTF but not yet having applied for membership may, with the consent of the Board, be included in the appropriate Continental Federation for a period not exceeding 1 year but renewable by each AGM; the players of such an organisation shall enjoy the privileges of players of a member Association but only in the Continent concerned.
- 1.3.1.6 Parts of an Association which lie wholly within a Continental area other than that in which the address of that Association in the ITTF Directory is situated may, with the permission of the Board and the consent of their Association, be attached to the Continental Federation in whose area they lie for the purpose of competition and the encouragement of table tennis; with the same permission and for the same purposes, Associations lying wholly outside but adjacent to the Continental area concerned may similarly be attached, with the consent of the Federation of the Continent of which they form a part.
- 1.3.1.7 The championship title competitions of a Continental Federation shall be open only to the players of its member and attached Associations and the ITTF shall recognise such competitions as the sole Continental title championships for that Continent.

### **1.3.2 CONTINENTAL FEDERATIONS AFFILIATION**

- 1.3.2.1 The Continental Federations shall be affiliated to the ITTF according to established criteria, proposed by the Board following a proposal of the Continental and Development Council.
- 1.3.2.2 The affiliated Continental Federations will renew every 4 years, in the year after the Olympic Games, specific strategic quadrennial agreements with the ITTF.

- 1.3.2.3 The affiliation of the Continental Federations has the following goals:
- 1.3.2.3.1 increase cooperation in events and marketing as well to develop table tennis cooperatively.
  - 1.3.2.3.2 legalise the status of continental federations within the ITTF constitution.
  - 1.3.2.3.3 provide development funding agreements to the affiliated continental federations.
  - 1.3.2.3.4 provide the use of the ITTF brand and customised continental logo.
  - 1.3.2.3.5 ensure marketing support and commercial strategic agreements through contractual Memorandums of Understanding with the ITTF.
  - 1.3.2.3.6 link continental events to the ITTF world title events to reinforce greater marketing value and ensuring the participation of the top players.

### **1.3.3 OTHER GROUPS OF ASSOCIATIONS**

- 1.3.3.1 A group of Associations shall, in principle, include associations that share common objectives (promotion of table tennis in any of its forms or categories, organisation of competitions for specific titles or for areas united by language, history and/or culture)
- 1.3.3.2 Each recognised group of Associations shall have the right to organise specific competitions open to all the Associations of the group provided that the Constitution is observed in respect of play with unaffiliated organisations.
- 1.3.3.3 Each recognised group of Associations shall have the following obligations:
- 1.3.3.3.1 To fully comply with all duties and provisions of the Constitution, Laws and regulations established by the ITTF, as well as with all decisions taken in accordance therewith.
  - 1.3.3.3.2 To apply the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules, the ITTF Regulations against illegal betting and corruption and the ITTF Code of Ethics.
  - 1.3.3.3.3 To immediately notify the ITTF about any change on the membership of the group (Constitution, change of President and/or General Secretary, its address and/or contact details).
  - 1.3.3.3.4 To ensure their own members comply with the ITTF Constitution, Laws and regulations established by the ITTF.

## 1.4 HONORARY POSITIONS

### 1.4.1 HONORARY PRESIDENT

- 1.4.1.1 Any past President of the ITTF shall be automatically bestowed the title of “ITTF Honorary President” with a set of privileges decided by the Executive Committee from time to time. This title can only be revoked by a majority vote of the AGM.

### 1.4.2 PRESIDENT’S ADVISORY COUNCIL

- 1.4.2.1 The President may appoint a President’s Advisory Council to advise him or her on various matters. Members of the President’s Advisory Council shall be invited to attend the AGM and EGM as observers and they will have a set of privileges decided by the Executive Committee from time to time.
- 1.4.2.2 The terms of office of the President 's Advisory Council shall coincide with that of the Executive Committee.

### 1.4.3 PERSONAL HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

- 1.4.3.1 A person who has given long, outstanding service to the ITTF may, on retirement, be appointed a Personal Honorary Member for his or her lifetime by the AGM on a recommendation by the Board.
- 1.4.3.2 Personal Honorary Members shall be entitled to attend World Championships, with free hospitality, and to attend the AGM and the EGM with the right to speak but not to vote.

## 1.5 GOVERNANCE

### 1.5.1 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 1.5.1.1 The **Annual General Meeting**, referred to elsewhere in this Constitution as **AGM**, is the supreme governing body of the ITTF and consists of the assembled representatives of the Associations.
- 1.5.1.2 The AGM has the following functions and powers:
- 1.5.1.2.1 to amend the Constitution and the Laws of Table Tennis.
- 1.5.1.2.2 to elect the ITTF President, the ITTF Executive Vice-Presidents and all members of the Board, at an AGM held in the year following the year of the Olympic Games. All members elected shall serve for a four-year term and shall be eligible for re-election not more than twice in the same role. After 3 full terms any member should have 1 waiting period term before opting

- for the same role.
- 1.5.1.2.3 to appoint, in odd numbered years, the full and corresponding members of committees and commissions, on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee; except for the Nominations Committee which shall be appointed in even numbered years by the Executive Committee.
- 1.5.1.2.4 to designate the host Association of the ITTF World Championships
- 1.5.1.2.5 to delegate any of its powers to the Board or to the Executive Committee, on the request of at least one-quarter (1/4) of the Associations not in arrears.
- 1.5.1.2.6 to ratify the work done by the Board and the Executive Committee since the last AGM.
- 1.5.1.2.7 to decide to deal with a matter normally delegated to another ITTF body or decided upon by this body.
- 1.5.1.2.8 all the other functions and responsibilities mentioned from 1.5.1.8.1.1 to 1.5.1.8.1.14.
- 1.5.1.3 Representation of Members and attendance
- 1.5.1.3.1 Each Association shall be entitled to 2 representatives, referred to elsewhere in this Constitution as “delegates” at an AGM.
- 1.5.1.3.2 The Executive Committee members, the Board members, the ITTF senior staff, the Honorary Presidents, the Personal Honorary Members and the President's Advisory Council members are also allowed to attend the AGM with the right to speak but not to vote. All members of committees and commissions shall be entitled to attend the AGM as observers, without speaking or voting privileges unless representing an Association. The Committee and Commissions Chairs and the Technical, Junior and Gender Commissioners, as expert advisers, will have the right to speak. The AGM Chair, exceptionally, can allow special guests to attend and speak at the AGM too.
- 1.5.1.3.3 Representation by letter or proxy is not permitted.
- 1.5.1.4 Delegates
- 1.5.1.4.1 Delegates shall be appointed by the appropriate body of the Association they represent; they shall either carry the citizenship (passport) of this Association or shall have their-main residence in the territory controlled by this Association for no less than 12 months. Delegates of Associations belonging to the same state unity, with the same kind of national passport, must have their main residence for no less than 12 months in the territory where the Association has the jurisdiction. The Executive Committee, under special circumstances, can grant exceptions from this rule in a case-by-case basis.

- 1.5.1.4.2 The ITTF will cover the cost of travel and accommodation for one delegate from each Association not in arrears to attend the AGM the year of elections of the ITTF Executive Committee members according to the guidelines approved by the Executive Committee
- 1.5.1.5 Place and Time
- 1.5.1.5.1 An AGM shall be held at the place, and during the period, of the World Championships or, if the World Championships is not held at the due time, at such other place and date as the Executive Committee may determine.
- 1.5.1.6 Notice of Meeting
- 1.5.1.6.1 Notice of the meeting, giving details of the place, date and time and the business to be transacted, shall be sent by post or e-mail to:
- 1.5.1.6.1.1 each Association;
  - 1.5.1.6.1.2 the Executive Committee members;
  - 1.5.1.6.1.3 the Board members, the ITTF senior staff;
  - 1.5.1.6.1.4 the Honorary Presidents;
  - 1.5.1.6.1.5 the Personal Honorary Members and
  - 1.5.1.6.1.6 the President's Advisory Council members.
- 1.5.1.6.2 The notice shall be sent not later than 2 calendar months before the date of the meeting.
- 1.5.1.7 Notice of Business
- 1.5.1.7.1 Details in writing of propositions and resolutions to be dealt with at an AGM must reach the Secretariat not later than 3 calendar months before the date of the meeting.
- 1.5.1.7.2 Notice of the actual closing date in each year for the receipt of business and propositions shall be sent to all Associations by the Secretariat not later than 6 calendar months before the date of the meeting.
- 1.5.1.7.3 Propositions and resolutions, other than changes to the Constitution or the Laws, of which due notice has not been given but which, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, relate to the business in hand or relate to an emergency may be admitted by a vote in favour of 2/3 of the votes cast at the AGM.
- 1.5.1.8 Procedure
- 1.5.1.8.1 The agenda for an AGM shall include:
- 1.5.1.8.1.1 the appointment of a Chair;

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- 1.5.1.8.1.2 a roll call of the Associations present;
  - 1.5.1.8.1.3 the appointment of scrutineers;
  - 1.5.1.8.1.4 the confirmation of the Minutes of the previous AGM or EGM;
  - 1.5.1.8.1.5 the consideration of applications for membership;
  - 1.5.1.8.1.6 the receipt of the Strategic Plan of the ITTF and the Annual General Report, including reports from the Executive Committee members, the Continental Presidents, the Committee Chairs, the CEO and the Secretary General;
  - 1.5.1.8.1.7 the receipt of reports from the Olympic and Paralympic Commission, the Development and Continental Council and the Ethics Commission;
  - 1.5.1.8.1.8 the receipt of the financial report, the audited statement of accounts for the previous year, the consideration of the next year and quadrennial estimate of income and expenditure and the appointment of Auditors;
  - 1.5.1.8.1.9 the consideration of propositions and resolutions and the reports of the committees or commissions that have studied them;
  - 1.5.1.8.1.10 when appropriate, the election of President, Executive Vice-Presidents and the composition of committees;
  - 1.5.1.8.1.11 the consideration of arrangements for future World Championships;
  - 1.5.1.8.1.12 the ratification of the work done by the Board and the Executive Committee since the last AGM;
  - 1.5.1.8.1.13 the announcement of the place and date of the next AGM;
  - 1.5.1.8.1.14 the consideration of any other business.
  - 1.5.1.8.2 No speaker shall speak more than once on a proposition except that the proposer shall have the right of reply and that the Chair may, at his or her discretion, allow a speaker to speak more than once to answer a query arising from his or her original statement.
  - 1.5.1.8.3 The Chair shall decide how many speakers will be permitted to speak on a proposition and when the vote shall be taken, except that a motion "that the question now be put" shall be voted on immediately, without further discussion; if such a motion is carried the proposition or any amendment before the meeting shall then be voted on immediately, without further discussion, subject to the right of reply by the mover of the substantive proposition.
  - 1.5.1.8.4 A question once decided may not be reverted to for re-discussion and re-vote unless the Chair rules, as a matter of urgency, that a case has been made for supposing that the decision taken may jeopardise the whole welfare of the ITTF; a motion to challenge the Chair's ruling that the matter

is not of sufficient urgency to justify reconsideration must be taken whenever it is moved.

#### 1.5.1.9 Voting

1.5.1.9.1 Each Association present not in arrears shall have 1 vote.

1.5.1.9.2 Questions shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast except that:

1.5.1.9.2.1 changes to the Constitution, suspensions or expulsions from membership, the acceptance of belated or emergency business or propositions and the revocation of a World Championships option require a majority of 2/3 of the votes cast;

1.5.1.9.2.2 changes to the Laws of Table Tennis require a 3/4 majority of the votes cast;

1.5.1.9.2.3 dissolution of the ITTF requires a 4/5 majority of the votes cast.

1.5.1.9.3 If there is an equality of votes on an administrative or financial matter the Chair shall have a casting vote; if there is an equality of votes on any other matter the motion shall fail, and the meeting shall proceed with the next business.

1.5.1.9.4 Voting other than in elections shall be either by a show of hands, by electronic device, by roll call or by secret ballot, as decided by the meeting on a proposition by the Chair.

1.5.1.9.5 Each President of a Continental Federation shall nominate 2 persons from his or her Continent, for approval by the meeting, to form a list of scrutineers.

1.5.1.9.6 For each vote requiring scrutineers, including elections, names shall be taken from the list in alphabetical order, omitting the representative of any Association having a particular interest in the item, which is the subject of the vote.

#### 1.5.1.10 Elections

1.5.1.10.1 Where there are more candidates or options for a post or posts than the number of vacancies, as long as the simple majority (more than 50%) is not reached, additional ballots will be required. In this case, the candidate or option obtaining the smallest number of votes shall be eliminated.

1.5.1.10.2 If there is a tie for the lowest number of votes, a further vote shall be held amongst them to determine who is eliminated

1.5.1.10.3 Consecutive ballots will be organised until the election is decided.

1.5.1.10.4 At an election a ballot paper shall be considered valid only if the number of votes cast on this ballot equals the number of vacancies.

## **1.5.2 EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

- 1.5.2.1 An **Extraordinary General Meeting, "EGM"** shall be convened within 10 weeks of receipt by the Secretariat of a requisition in writing submitted by not less than 1/4 of the Associations not in arrears, representing at least 2 Continents.
- 1.5.2.2 For an EGM the notice shall be sent not later than 1 calendar month before the date of the meeting.
- 1.5.2.3 The requisition for an EGM shall specify the business for which the meeting is to be convened and no other business except the confirmation of the Minutes of the previous AGM or EGM shall be transacted at such a meeting.

## **1.5.3. THE BOARD**

- 1.5.3.1 The Board is a legislative authority of the ITTF dealing amongst other responsibilities with all ITTF regulations, except the Constitution and the Laws of Table Tennis. The Board has also the following functions and powers:
  - 1.5.3.1.1 to receive and consider reports from Commissioners and all committees and Commissions other than the Finance and Audit Committee, the Olympic and Paralympics Commission and the Development and Continental Council
  - 1.5.3.1.2 to appoint the committee Chairs according to 1.5.3.6 and all the members of the Finance and Audit Committee and all the members of the Ethics Commission.
  - 1.5.3.1.3 to consider propositions regarding ITTF regulations, other than the Constitution and Laws of Table Tennis.
  - 1.5.3.1.4 to award the host Association of the World Junior Championships, and other events, excluding the World Championships.
  - 1.5.3.1.5 to approve the ITTF Administrative and Technical Leaflets.
  - 1.5.3.1.6 to determine the number of full and corresponding members of each Committee.
  - 1.5.3.1.7 to delegate any of its powers to the Executive Committee.
- 1.5.3.2 The Board shall consist of the President, the Executive Vice-Presidents, the Presidents of Continental Federations, the Chair of the Athletes Commission or his or her appointee and 32 Continental representatives elected by each Continental Federation and confirmed by the AGM.
- 1.5.3.3 IOC members being players or officials of an Association or a Continental Federation shall become ex officio members of the Board.
- 1.5.3.4 All Chairs of committees and commissions and the Technical, Junior and Gender Commissioners shall be entitled to attend the Board meetings as

- expert advisers, without voting privileges but with the right to speak.
- 1.5.3.5 The number of Continental representatives shall be proportional to the number of the Continental Federation's member Associations not in arrears and shall not exceed 32.
- 1.5.3.6 The Board shall appoint, in odd numbered years, the Chairs of committees and commissions, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee; except the Chair of the Nominations Committee who shall be appointed by the Executive Committee in even numbered years and the Athletes' Commission whose Chair would be elected by the Commission.
- 1.5.3.7 The Board shall meet as required during the period of the World Championships but shall otherwise conduct its business by correspondence.
- 1.5.3.8 Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Board may be filled by simple majority vote at a Board meeting, but no temporary substitute shall be permitted to attend a Board meeting or to conduct Board business in place of a member absent or indisposed.
- 1.5.3.9 Board meetings procedure
- 1.5.3.9.1 The agenda for a Board meeting shall be sent to all its members not later than 1 calendar month before the date of the meeting.
- 1.5.3.9.2 At its meeting the Board shall review all propositions and resolutions submitted to the Board and, where appropriate, refer them for consideration by committees.
- 1.5.3.9.3 The Chair at a Board meeting shall be the President, or, in his or her absence, the Deputy President; if both are absent the members present shall elect one of their members as Chair for that meeting.
- 1.5.3.9.4 Every question at a Board meeting shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast; if there is an equality of votes the Chair shall have a casting vote.
- 1.5.3.9.5 Voting shall be by a show of hands, a roll call or a ballot, as decided by the meeting on a proposition by the Chair.
- 1.5.3.9.6 The ITTF shall pay a proportion of the travel costs of its members attending Board meetings, the proportion being decided from time to time by the Executive Committee.
- 1.5.3.9.7 The proposer of a proposition or resolution is invited to speak in the same way as indicated for the AGM under 1.5.1.8.2.

## **1.5.4 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- 1.5.4.1 The Executive Committee is the executive body of the ITTF with the power to handle the following duties:
- 1.5.4.1.1 To approve the internal Organisation rules of the ITTF.
  - 1.5.4.1.2 To appoint the CEO of the ITTF.
  - 1.5.4.1.3 To appoint the Chair of the Nominations Committee and all Commissioners and Panels or Working groups.
  - 1.5.4.1.4 To impose disciplinary sanctions for inappropriate conducts.
  - 1.5.4.1.5 To determine the terms of reference for all committees, commissions, working groups or panels that the Board or the Executive Committee may establish from time to time.
  - 1.5.4.1.6 To approve the ITTF strategic plan to be submitted to the AGM.
  - 1.5.4.1.7 To appoint the bank accounts of the ITTF and the persons with signature on them.
  - 1.5.4.1.8 To approve the remuneration of the President or any elected officer, if applicable. Such decisions must be minuted with specific mention of the names and amounts and must be reflected in the annual statement of the accounts.
  - 1.5.4.1.9 To review all applications for new membership and make recommendations on acceptance.
  - 1.5.4.1.10 To submit rules changes, propositions and resolutions to the AGM or to the Board.
  - 1.5.4.1.11 To define the use of the ITTF name and logo.
  - 1.5.4.1.12 To deal with all other current or urgent business and to assume all responsibilities which are not expressly attributed to another body within the ITTF.
- 1.5.4.2 The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the Chair of the Athletes Commission and 8 Executive Vice-Presidents of which one shall be appointed by the President as Deputy President and another one shall be appointed for finances.
- 1.5.4.3 The Executive Committee shall meet during the period of the World Championships and otherwise when convened by the President.
- 1.5.4.4 Vacancies at the Executive Committee
- 1.5.4.4.1 If the President resigns or is unable to continue in office, he or she shall be replaced by the Deputy President.
  - 1.5.4.4.2 A vacancy arising in the post of Deputy President shall be filled by an Executive Vice-President nominated by the President.

1.5.4.4.3 A vacancy arising in the posts of Executive Vice-Presidents during the first three years of the running term of office shall be filled by simple majority vote at the next AGM for the remaining years of the running term.

1.5.4.4.4 A vacancy arising in the post of the Chair of the Athletes Commission shall be filled by one the Deputy Chairs elected by this Commission.

## **1.5.5 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC COMMISSION**

1.5.5.1 The Commission shall consist of the members of the Executive Committee, Presidents of Continental Federations or their appointees, the Chair of the Para Table Tennis Committee or his or her appointee and a representative of the organising committees of the next Olympic and Paralympic Games.

1.5.5.2 The Commission shall be responsible for:

1.5.5.2.1 planning, control and supervision of the table tennis events in the Olympic and the Paralympic Games;

1.5.5.2.2 liaising with the International Olympic and Paralympic Committees, National Olympic and Paralympic Committees and Associations on all matters concerning Olympic and Paralympic competitions;

1.5.5.2.3 enforcement of the eligibility regulations and confirmation of the eligibility of entrants for Olympic and Paralympic events;

1.5.5.2.4 drafting and submission to the Board of proposals for a qualifying system for entry into Olympic and Paralympic events;

1.5.5.2.5 appointing a Jury, Technical Representatives and all match officials for the Olympic and Paralympic table tennis events;

1.5.5.2.6 ensuring that the table tennis events at Olympic and Paralympic Games comply with the letter and the spirit of the Olympic Charter and IPC Handbook respectively;

1.5.5.2.7 initiating and reviewing proposals for the table tennis events at the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

1.5.5.3 The Commission shall meet during the period of the AGM and at other times when convened by the President.

1.5.5.4 A member of the ITTF staff, appointed by the President, shall attend all meetings of the Commission and shall draft its minutes and reports.

1.5.5.5 The Commission shall submit a written report to the AGM.

## **1.5.6 DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINENTAL COUNCIL**

1.5.6.1 The Development and Continental Council shall be composed of the President, the Executive Vice-President in charge of Development and the Presidents of Continental Federations or their appointees.

- 1.5.6.2 The Development and Continental Council shall propose development programme initiatives and future development orientations of the ITTF, giving specific consideration to the promotion of gender equity, in co-operation with Continental Federations.
- 1.5.6.3 The Development and Continental Council shall also discuss all other matters of common interest to the Continental Federations and the ITTF.
- 1.5.6.4 The Development and Continental Council shall meet at the same occasion as the Olympic and Paralympic Commission.
- 1.5.6.5 The Development and Continental Council shall submit a written report to the AGM.

## **1.5.7 COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS**

### **1.5.7.1 Permanent Committees and Commissions**

- 1.5.7.1.1 The Equipment Committee, the Media Committee, the Para Table Tennis Committee, the Rules Committee, the Sports Science Committee, the Umpires and Referees Committee, the Veterans Committee and the Athletes Commission are further permanent Committees and Commissions.
- 1.5.7.1.2 The number of persons serving as full and corresponding members on each committee shall be determined by the Board a year before the nomination of committee members.
- 1.5.7.1.3 Committees shall normally meet during the period of the World Championships and shall otherwise conduct their business by correspondence.
- 1.5.7.1.4 A committee may set up sub-committees of its members to deal with specific areas of work; any reports or recommendations of such sub-committees shall be subject to endorsement by the full committee before publication or submission to the AGM or the Board.
- 1.5.7.1.5 Each committee shall take interest in Continental and Regional Federations' activities in their various fields and shall advise the Federations through the ITTF Executive Committee on ideas for further development.
- 1.5.7.1.6 A member of a committee who does not, within a reasonable specified period, express in writing an opinion on a written proposal circulated by or on behalf of the Chair of that committee shall be considered to have agreed to any resulting recommendation submitted in the name of the committee.
- 1.5.7.1.7 The Chair of each committee shall submit to the Board an annual report of the activities of the committee, drawing attention to any recommendations that the committee wishes to make; acceptance of the report shall not automatically imply acceptance of such recommendations.

1.5.7.1.8 A committee may be authorised to act on behalf of the Board but the extent and duration of this authority shall be specified by the Board and shall be reviewed not later than at the next meeting of the Board.

1.5.7.1.9 As far as possible all committee and commission meetings shall be opened to AGM delegates to attend as observers.

1.5.7.2. The Nominations Committee

1.5.7.2.1 The Nominations Committee shall be composed of at least 6 members determined and appointed by the Executive Committee including significant gender representation from nominations received from national associations in even numbered years with an Executive Vice-President and all Presidents of Continental Federations as ex-officio members.

1.5.7.2.2 The Nominations Committee shall check the qualification and validity of nominations for office, shall supervise the allocation of nominees to committees and shall recommend to the AGM the composition of committees and commissions; provided that sufficient number of female nominations is made for a committee, at least 25% of the number of full members of that Committee or Commission shall be selected out of female nominees.

1.5.7.3 The Finance and Audit Committee

1.5.7.3.1 The Finance and Audit Committee shall be composed of at least 3 independent members plus one Board member appointed by the Board, the Executive Vice-President in charge of Finance plus one ITTF staff (without vote).

1.5.7.3.2 The terms of office of the Finance and Audit Committee shall coincide with that of the Executive Committee

1.5.7.4 The Ethics Commission

1.5.7.4.1 The Ethics Commission shall be composed of at least 3 independent members appointed by the Board plus one ITTF staff (without vote).

1.5.7.4.2 The terms of office of the Ethics Commission shall coincide with that of the Executive Committee.

**1.5.8 OTHER APPOINTMENTS**

1.5.8.1 The Board may appoint other commissions, working groups or panels as may be needed from time to time.

1.5.8.2 The Executive Committee shall appoint:

1.5.8.2.1 A Technical Commissioner, whose term of office shall coincide with that of

the Executive Committee, plus 1 technical representative nominated by each Continental Federation and not from the same continent as the ITTF Technical Commissioner, for a total of six persons.

1.5.8.2.2 A Gender Commissioner, whose term of office shall coincide with that of the Executive Committee.

1.5.8.2.3 A Junior Commissioner plus one Continental Junior Commissioner nominated by each Continental Federation and not from the same continent as the ITTF Junior Commissioner, for a total of six persons, whose term of office shall coincide with that of the Executive Committee.

### **1.5.9 ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE**

1.5.9.1 Nominations for President, Executive Vice-Presidents and members of the Board or committees may be made only by the Association of which the nominee is a member; if this nomination is withdrawn after the nominee has been elected or appointed he or she may be removed from his or her post only by a 2/3 majority vote of the Board.

1.5.9.2 No more than 1 person from an Association shall be nominated for the Executive Committee and no-one shall be nominated for more than 1 post of the Executive Committee.

1.5.9.3 A member of an Association that is in arrears shall not be eligible for election.

1.5.9.4 Continental representatives on the Board shall each be from a different Association.

1.5.9.5 No person shall at the same time serve as a member of the Executive Committee and as a President of a Continental Federation.

1.5.9.6 No person shall serve at the same time as a member of more than 1 permanent committee and no more than 4 such posts shall be occupied by members of one Association.

1.5.9.7 No member of the Executive Committee shall serve on a permanent committee.

1.5.9.8 A person connected in any way with the manufacture, sale or endorsement of table tennis equipment or with consultation on such equipment:

1.5.9.8.1 shall not be eligible as a member of the Executive Committee; with the exception of the Athlete Commission Chair;

1.5.9.8.2 may serve on a committee but shall withdraw from a meeting or abstain from voting on an issue if so requested by a majority of the meeting that he or she is attending.

## **1.5.10 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- 1.5.10.1 Members of any ITTF decision-making body shall avoid any situation that could lead to a conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest. Any actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest must be declared and action taken by the individual to remove him/herself from the situation where a conflict may arise. It is the personal responsibility of each person to avoid any case of conflict of interest.
- 1.5.10.2 The ITTF conflicts of interest policy will set out the procedure for identifying and managing conflicts and potential conflicts of interests or duty affecting all persons involved in the administration of the ITTF and its business.

## **1.5.11 CHANGES TO RULES**

- 1.5.11.1 Rule change propositions and resolutions may be submitted to the AGM or the Board by Associations, the Executive Committee, Continental Federations, committees and commissions and to the AGM by the Board.
- 1.5.11.2 Rule change propositions to be considered at an AGM, EGM or a Board meeting must reach the ITTF not later than 3 months before the date of the meeting.
- 1.5.11.3 Amendments to the Constitution and the Laws of Table Tennis shall be made only at an AGM or EGM; amendments to other Regulations shall be made only at a meeting of the Board.
- 1.5.11.4 Details of all rule change propositions shall be published in the agenda of the meeting at which they are to be considered.
- 1.5.11.5 The implementation date of each change shall be specified; if there is no such specification, the change shall take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January of the following year once a decision is taken. Anti-doping rules may have a different implementation date if it is requested by WADA and/or approved by the Executive Committee.

## **1.6 ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES**

### **1.6.1 MANAGEMENT STAFF**

- 1.6.1.1 The Executive Committee shall appoint management staff on agreed terms and conditions and in accordance with the management plan approved by the Board from time to time.
- 1.6.1.2 A Chief Executive Officer (CEO) shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall be responsible for the direction and supervision of the ITTF's professional structure and programs.
- 1.6.1.3 The CEO shall appoint a staff member to serve as coordinator of each

committee.

- 1.6.1.4 The CEO shall employ such other staff as are deemed necessary following the Executive Committee approval, taking into consideration the ITTF annual budget and according to the ITTF open recruitment policy.

## **1.6.2 ADMINISTRATION**

### **1.6.2.1 Office**

- 1.6.2.1.1 The Head Office of the ITTF shall be in a place appointed by resolution of the AGM proposed by the Executive Committee or, in emergency, of the Board.

### **1.6.2.2 Languages**

- 1.6.2.2.1 The correspondence and proceedings of the ITTF shall be conducted in English or in such languages convenient for appropriate tasks and within the resources of the ITTF as may be determined from time to time by the Board, having particular regard to Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Russian and Spanish.
- 1.6.2.2.2 All languages of ITTF members are equally official and representatives shall be entitled to address meetings of the ITTF in their own language, subject to their provision of interpretation into one of the working languages fixed for use at that meeting.

## **1.7 FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

### **1.7.1 ACCOUNTS**

- 1.7.1.1 The financial year of the ITTF shall be from 1st. January to 31st December.
- 1.7.1.2 The Executive Vice-President responsible for finance shall ensure that an annual statement of accounts be prepared, which shall be audited by professional auditors, and that a yearly and quadrennial estimate of income and expenditure be presented.
- 1.7.1.3 The bank accounts of the ITTF shall be held at banks appointed by resolution of the Executive Committee.
- 1.7.1.4 The power of signature on the ITTF bank accounts should be restricted to the ITTF Trustees and the ITTF operational staff and decided by the Executive Committee. Individual signatures on any ITTF bank account shall be avoided.

## 1.7.2 TRUSTEES

- 1.7.2.1 The President, Deputy President and Executive Vice-Presidents shall be Trustees for the purpose of purchasing, selling, leasing or otherwise dealing with any freehold or leasehold property or other assets required by the AGM or the Board for the purposes of the ITTF.
- 1.7.2.2 The Trustees shall be authorised to use the funds of the ITTF in the purchase of such property and assets and shall stand possessed thereof and of the proceeds of sale thereof upon trust for the ITTF in such manner as the Board may from time to time direct.
- 1.7.2.3 The Trustees shall comply with any laws, statutes and requirements of the countries in which such trust property may be situated which relate to the purchase, sale and management of such property and the duties of Trustees in connection therewith.
- 1.7.2.4 The Trustees and their estates and effects shall be fully indemnified by the ITTF against all personal risk and expense arising as a result of their appointment as Trustees.
- 1.7.2.5 The Trustees shall cease to act in such capacity upon ceasing to hold office as President, Deputy President or Executive Vice-Presidents.
- 1.7.2.6 A Minute signed by the President and a member of the Management Staff shall be conclusive evidence of a decision of any ITTF body.

## 1.7.3 SUBSCRIPTIONS

- 1.7.3.1 Each Association shall pay an annual subscription of US\$150.
- 1.7.3.2 The first subscription shall be paid with the application for membership and subsequent subscriptions shall be due on 1st January of each year.
- 1.7.3.3 An Association shall be **in arrears** if its subscription has not been paid by 31st December of the year in which it is due.

## 1.8 JUDICIAL PROVISIONS

### 1.8.1 JUDICIAL BODIES OF THE ITTF

- 1.8.1.1 The following bodies of the ITTF have judicial powers:
  - 1.8.1.1.1 The AGM and the EGM.
  - 1.8.1.1.2 The Executive Committee.
  - 1.8.1.1.3 The Doping Hearing Panel and/or the ad-hoc Doping Review Panel or the ITTF Anti-Doping Manager depending on the circumstances and according to the ITTF Anti-Doping rules procedures.
  - 1.8.1.1.4 The Disciplinary Panels appointed by the Executive Committee according to the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions.

- 1.8.1.1.5 The Illegal Betting and Corruption Hearing Panel according to the ITTF Code of Ethics.
- 1.8.1.1.6 The Eligibility Commission according to the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions.

## **1.8.2 PROCEDURAL RULES APPLICABLE TO THE JUDICIAL BODIES OF THE ITTF**

- 1.8.2.1 The judicial bodies of the ITTF shall provide fair procedures to all parties involved and shall respect their fundamental rights. They recognise in particular:
  - 1.8.2.1.1 That any person acting with the ITTF will not participate in any interaction which could influence an outcome or decision relative to any specific matter if the person has a conflict of interest according to the ITTF Code of Ethics;
  - 1.8.2.1.2 The right of the person/Association charged to know what he/she/it is charged with and to examine his/her/its file;
  - 1.8.2.1.3 The right to know the penalties which might be imposed;
  - 1.8.2.1.4 The right to be heard, to present a defence, to produce evidence and to be assisted by counsel at their own expense.
  - 1.8.2.1.5 The right to present an appeal to any judicial decision.

## **1.8.3 COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS)**

- 1.8.3.1 The ITTF recognises the independent Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) with headquarters in Lausanne (Switzerland) to resolve disputes arising from this Constitution or other ITTF rules and regulations, or decisions of the ITTF which cannot be settled by the ITTF internal appeals process. The parties concerned shall undertake to comply with the Statutes and procedural rules of this Court of Arbitration for Sport and to accept and enforce its decisions, which are final.

## **1.8.4 JURISDICTION OF ASSOCIATIONS**

- 1.8.4.1 Membership and Representation
  - 1.8.4.1.1 A player shall be regarded as resident in a territory if his or her normal or main residence or base is in that territory; residence shall not be determined by continuity or by duration.
  - 1.8.4.1.2 Before accepting a player into membership an Association shall satisfy itself that he or she is or intends to be resident in its territory and it shall not retain him or her if he or she terminates such residence.
  - 1.8.4.1.3 Unless notified of any suspension or expulsion, Associations shall be entitled to regard any player or organisation resident in the territory of an Association and known to have been affiliated to it as eligible for participation.

- 1.8.4.1.4 No Association shall make a resident in a territory controlled by another Association or, except after a genuine change of residence, a member of another Association, a member or representative of itself without the prior permission of the other Association,
- 1.8.4.1.6 Any dispute under these regulations shall be referred to the Executive Committee.
- 1.8.4.2 Extent of Jurisdiction
- 1.8.4.2.1 In administering and interpreting its own regulations and decisions an Association shall exercise jurisdiction over:
- 1.8.4.2.1.1 players resident in its territory, while they are in that territory or in any other territory;
- 1.8.4.2.1.2 visiting players, while they are in its territory, except as provided in 1.8.4.3.1;
- 1.8.4.2.1.3 players representing it in a competition who are normally resident in the territory of another Association, but only while they are taking part in that competition;
- 1.8.4.3 Visiting Players
- 1.8.4.3.1 If a visiting player is officially representing his or her Association as a result of an invitation by the visited Association, the visited Association shall acquire no rights of penalty.
- 1.8.4.3.1.1 The responsible management committee shall have jurisdiction over the conduct of the competition, but no subsequent penalty shall be imposed on a visiting player for any offence committed in connection with that competition.
- 1.8.4.3.1.2 The visited Association may protest to the visiting player's Association about such an offence, but his or her own Association shall retain sole jurisdiction over him or her and the right to impose a penalty.
- 1.8.4.3.2 If a visiting player participates in table tennis activities other than as an official representative of his or her Association, whether or not his or her visit is the result of an invitation by the visited Association, he or she shall be subject also to the jurisdiction of the visited Association, which shall have the right to impose a penalty for any offence committed in connection with such activities.
- 1.8.4.3.2.1 No such penalty shall come into operation until at least 1 calendar month after its notification with an account of all the circumstances, to the visiting player's Association.

1.8.4.3.2.2 If the visiting player's Association makes no appeal within 1 calendar month of being notified the penalty may be imposed.

1.8.4.3.2.3 If an appeal is submitted within 1 calendar month the matter shall be referred to the Board and the penalty shall not come into operation before the appeal has been decided.

#### 1.8.4.4 Payments to Players

1.8.4.4.1 Except when acting under the direct instructions of his or her Association as its representative, a player may accept payment, reward, benefit or allowances for playing in any competition other than Olympic and Paralympic Games, or for exhibition or coaching,

1.8.4.4.2 Subject to any over-riding provisions of 1.8.4.4.1, each Association shall have absolute discretion to determine and regulate its own policy for payments, rewards, benefits and allowances in respect of players and events under its jurisdiction.

### 1.8.5 UNAFFILIATED PLAYERS AND ORGANISATIONS

1.8.5.1 The object is to control, but not to prevent, play between affiliated and unaffiliated players; only teams and players nominated by Associations shall participate in World and Continental Championships, but otherwise such player will, when not contrary to the principles of the ITTF or to the interests of its members, generally be permitted provided due application is made.

1.8.5.2 A player affiliated to an Association shall not take part in any competition, exhibition or coaching:

1.8.5.2.1 in the territory of another Association, unless the body under whose auspices the activity takes place is affiliated to and in good standing with the Association of the visited territory, except with the prior permission of that Association;

1.8.5.2.2 in a territory not having an Association or whose governing organisation is not affiliated to the ITTF, except with the permission of the Executive Committee, unless the Board has previously given permission for the governing organisation to be included temporarily in the appropriate Continental Federation pending an application for membership;

1.8.5.2.3 organised by an unaffiliated body, unless permission for the event has been given by the Executive Committee, except as provided in 1.8.5.6.

- 1.8.5.3 The Association controlling the territory in which a player is resident shall be responsible for ensuring that he or she complies with the requirements of 1.8.5.2.
- 1.8.5.4 A player resident in a territory which has no governing organisation or whose governing organisation is not affiliated to the ITTF shall not take part in any competition, exhibition or coaching in the territory of an Association, except with the permission of the Executive Committee, unless the Board has previously given permission for the governing organisation to be included temporarily in the appropriate Continental Federation pending an application for membership.
- 1.8.5.5 The Executive Committee may give permission for a table tennis competition to be organised by an unaffiliated body provided that:
- 1.8.5.5.1 the organising body has undertaken to comply with the appropriate ITTF regulations;
  - 1.8.5.5.2 the organising body has undertaken not to include affiliated players in the event unless their Associations have given permission;
  - 1.8.5.5.3 the organising body has undertaken not to include unaffiliated players in the event unless the Executive Committee has given permission;
  - 1.8.5.5.4 the application to organise the event is supported by the Association, if any, controlling the territory in which the competition is to take place;
  - 1.8.5.5.5 the supporting Association has accepted responsibility for ensuring that the organising body observes the requirements of 1.8.5.5.1-3.
- 1.8.5.6 Where an Association is prepared to accept responsibility for the conduct of an event organised in its territory by an unaffiliated organisation no special permission is required, but the Association shall notify the Secretariat, which will advise all other Associations that the event is in order.

## **1.9 FINAL PROVISIONS**

### **1.9.1 DISSOLUTION**

- 1.9.1.1 The ITTF shall not be dissolved other than at an EGM specially convened for the purpose.
- 1.9.1.2 The balance of funds in hand at the time of dissolution shall be divided equally among the Associations not at that time in arrears

### **1.9.2 CONCLUDING PROVISIONS**

- 1.9.2.1 This Constitution was approved effective immediately by the ITTF AGM held in Halmstad, Sweden, 1st of May 2018.

## 2 THE LAWS OF TABLE TENNIS

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### 2.1 THE TABLE

- 2.1.1 The upper surface of the table, known as the playing surface, shall be rectangular, 2.74m long and 1.525m wide, and shall lie in a horizontal plane 76cm above the floor.
- 2.1.2 The playing surface shall not include the vertical sides of the tabletop.
- 2.1.3 The playing surface may be of any material and shall yield a uniform bounce of about 23cm when a standard ball is dropped on to it from a height of 30cm.
- 2.1.4 The playing surface shall be uniformly dark coloured and matt, but with a white side line, 2cm wide, along each 2.74m edge and a white end line, 2cm wide, along each 1.525m edge.
- 2.1.5 The playing surface shall be divided into 2 equal courts by a vertical net running parallel with the end lines, and shall be continuous over the whole area of each court.
- 2.1.6 For doubles, each court shall be divided into 2 equal half-courts by a white centre line, 3mm wide, running parallel with the side lines; the centre line shall be regarded as part of each right half-court.

### 2.2 THE NET ASSEMBLY

- 2.2.1 The net assembly shall consist of the net, its suspension and the supporting posts, including the clamps attaching them to the table.
- 2.2.2 The net shall be suspended by a cord attached at each end to an upright post 15.25cm high, the outside limits of the post being 15.25cm outside the side line.
- 2.2.3 The top of the net, along its whole length, shall be 15.25cm above the playing surface.
- 2.2.4 The bottom of the net, along its whole length, shall be as close as possible to the playing surface and the ends of the net shall be attached to the supporting posts from top to bottom.

### 2.3 THE BALL

- 2.3.1 The ball shall be spherical, with a diameter of 40mm.
- 2.3.2 The ball shall weigh 2.7g.
- 2.3.3 The ball shall be made of celluloid or similar plastics material and shall be white or orange, and matt.

## 2.4 THE RACKET

- 2.4.1 The racket may be of any size, shape or weight but the blade shall be flat and rigid.
- 2.4.2 At least 85% of the blade by thickness shall be of natural wood; an adhesive layer within the blade may be reinforced with fibrous material such as carbon fibre, glass fibre or compressed paper, but shall not be thicker than 7.5% of the total thickness or 0.35mm, whichever is the smaller.
- 2.4.3 A side of the blade used for striking the ball shall be covered with either ordinary pimples rubber, with pimples outwards having a total thickness including adhesive of not more than 2.0mm, or sandwich rubber, with pimples inwards or outwards, having a total thickness including adhesive of not more than 4.0mm.
- 2.4.3.1 *Ordinary pimples rubber* is a single layer of non-cellular rubber, natural or synthetic, with pimples evenly distributed over its surface at a density of not less than 10 per cm<sup>2</sup> and not more than 30 per cm<sup>2</sup>.
- 2.4.3.2 *Sandwich rubber* is a single layer of cellular rubber covered with a single outer layer of ordinary pimples rubber, the thickness of the pimples rubber not being more than 2.0mm.
- 2.4.4 The covering material shall extend up to but not beyond the limits of the blade, except that the part nearest the handle and gripped by the fingers may be left uncovered or covered with any material.
- 2.4.5 The blade, any layer within the blade and any layer of covering material or adhesive on a side used for striking the ball shall be continuous and of even thickness.
- 2.4.6 The surface of the covering material on a side of the blade, or of a side of the blade if it is left uncovered, shall be matt, bright red on one side and black on the other.
- 2.4.7 The racket covering shall be used without any physical, chemical or other treatment.
- 2.4.7.1 Slight deviations from continuity of surface or uniformity of colour due to accidental damage or wear may be allowed provided that they do not significantly change the characteristics of the surface.
- 2.4.8 Before the start of a match and whenever he or she changes his or her racket during a match a player shall show his or her opponent and the umpire the racket he or she is about to use and shall allow them to examine it.

### 2.5 DEFINITIONS

- 2.5.1 A *rally* is the period during which the ball is in play.
- 2.5.2 The ball is *in play* from the last moment at which it is stationary on the palm of the free hand before being intentionally projected in service until the rally is decided as a let or a point.
- 2.5.3 A *let* is a rally of which the result is not scored.
- 2.5.4 A *point* is a rally of which the result is scored.
- 2.5.5 The *racket hand* is the hand carrying the racket.
- 2.5.6 The *free hand* is the hand not carrying the racket; the *free arm* is the arm of the free hand.
- 2.5.7 A player *strikes* the ball if he or she touches it in play with his or her racket, held in the hand, or with his or her racket hand below the wrist.
- 2.5.8 A player *obstructs* the ball if he or she, or anything he or she wears or carries, touches it in play when it is above or travelling towards the playing surface, not having touched his or her court since last being struck by his or her opponent.
- 2.5.9 The *server* is the player due to strike the ball first in a rally.
- 2.5.10 The *receiver* is the player due to strike the ball second in a rally.
- 2.5.11 The *umpire* is the person appointed to control a match.
- 2.5.12 The *assistant umpire* is the person appointed to assist the umpire with certain decisions.
- 2.5.13 Anything that a player *wears or carries* includes anything that he or she was wearing or carrying, other than the ball, at the start of the rally.
- 2.5.14 The *end line* shall be regarded as extending indefinitely in both directions.

### 2.6 THE SERVICE

- 2.6.1 Service shall start with the ball resting freely on the open palm of the server's stationary free hand.
- 2.6.2 The server shall then project the ball near vertically upwards, without imparting spin, so that it rises at least 16cm after leaving the palm of the free hand and then falls without touching anything before being struck.
- 2.6.3 As the ball is falling the server shall strike it so that it touches first his or her court and then touches directly the receiver's court; in doubles, the ball shall touch successively the right half court of server and receiver.
- 2.6.4 From the start of service until it is struck, the ball shall be above the level of the playing surface and behind the server's end line, and it shall not be hidden from the receiver by the server or his or her doubles partner or by anything they wear or carry.

- 2.6.5 As soon as the ball has been projected, the server's free arm and hand shall be removed from the space between the ball and the net.  
The space between the ball and the net is defined by the ball, the net and its indefinite upward extension.
- 2.6.6 It is the responsibility of the player to serve so that the umpire or the assistant umpire can be satisfied that he or she complies with the requirements of the Laws, and either may decide that a service is incorrect.
- 2.6.6.1 If either the umpire or the assistant umpire is not sure about the legality of a service he or she may, on the first occasion in a match, interrupt play and warn the server; but any subsequent service by that player or his or her doubles partner which is not clearly legal shall be considered incorrect.
- 2.6.7 Exceptionally, the umpire may relax the requirements for a correct service where he or she is satisfied that compliance is prevented by physical disability.

## **2.7 THE RETURN**

- 2.7.1 The ball, having been served or returned, shall be struck so that it touches the opponent's court, either directly or after touching the net assembly.

## **2.8 THE ORDER OF PLAY**

- 2.8.1 In singles, the server shall first make a service, the receiver shall then make a return and thereafter server and receiver alternately shall each make a return.
- 2.8.2 In doubles, except as provided in 2.8.3, the server shall first make a service, the receiver shall then make a return, the partner of the server shall then make a return, the partner of the receiver shall then make a return and thereafter each player in turn in that sequence shall make a return.
- 2.8.3 In doubles, when at least one player of a pair is in a wheelchair due to a physical disability, the server shall first make a service, the receiver shall then make a return but thereafter either player of the disabled pair may make returns.

## **2.9 A LET**

- 2.9.1 The rally shall be a let:
- 2.9.1.1 if in service the ball touches the net assembly, provided the service is otherwise correct or the ball is obstructed by the receiver or his or her partner;

## 2: The Laws of Table Tennis

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- 2.9.1.2 if the service is delivered when the receiving player or pair is not ready, provided that neither the receiver nor his or her partner attempts to strike the ball;
- 2.9.1.3 if failure to make a service or a return or otherwise to comply with the Laws is due to a disturbance outside the control of the player;
- 2.9.1.4 if play is interrupted by the umpire or assistant umpire;
- 2.9.1.5 if the receiver is in wheelchair owing to a physical disability and in service the ball, provided that the service is otherwise correct,
  - 2.9.1.5.1 after touching the receiver's court returns in the direction of the net;
  - 2.9.1.5.2 comes to rest on the receiver's court;
  - 2.9.1.5.3 in singles leaves the receiver's court after touching it by either of its sidelines.
- 2.9.2 Play may be interrupted
  - 2.9.2.1 to correct an error in the order of serving, receiving or ends;
  - 2.9.2.2 to introduce the expedite system;
  - 2.9.2.3 to warn or penalise a player or adviser;
  - 2.9.2.4 because the conditions of play are disturbed in a way which could affect the outcome of the rally.

### **2.10 A POINT**

- 2.10.1 Unless the rally is a let, a player shall score a point
  - 2.10.1.1 if an opponent fails to make a correct service;
  - 2.10.1.2 if an opponent fails to make a correct return;
  - 2.10.1.3 if, after he or she has made a service or a return, the ball touches anything other than the net assembly before being struck by an opponent;
  - 2.10.1.4 if the ball passes over his or her court or beyond his or her end line without touching his or her court, after being struck by an opponent;
  - 2.10.1.5 if the ball, after being struck by an opponent, passes through the net or between the net and the net post or between the net and playing surface;
  - 2.10.1.6 if an opponent obstructs the ball;
  - 2.10.1.7 if an opponent deliberately strikes the ball twice in succession;
  - 2.10.1.8 if an opponent strikes the ball with a side of the racket blade whose surface does not comply with the requirements of 2.4.3, 2.4.4 and 2.4.5;
  - 2.10.1.9 if an opponent, or anything an opponent wears or carries, moves the playing surface;
  - 2.10.1.10 if an opponent, or anything an opponent wears or carries, touches the net assembly;

- 2.10.1.11 if an opponent's free hand touches the playing surface;
- 2.10.1.12 if a doubles opponent strikes the ball out of the sequence established by the first server and first receiver;
- 2.10.1.13 as provided under the expedite system (2.15.4).
- 2.10.1.14 if both players or pairs are in a wheelchair due to a physical disability and
  - 2.10.1.14.1 his or her opponent does not maintain a minimum contact with the seat or cushion(s), with the back of the thigh, when the ball is struck;
  - 2.10.1.14.2 his or her opponent touches the table with either hand before striking the ball;
  - 2.10.1.14.3 his or her opponent's footrest or foot touches the floor during play.
- 2.10.1.15 if, where an opposing doubles pair includes at least one player in a wheelchair, any part of the wheelchair or a foot of a standing player crosses an imaginary extension of the centre line of the table

## **2.11 A GAME**

- 2.11.1 A game shall be won by the player or pair first scoring 11 points unless both players or pairs score 10 points, when the game shall be won by the first player or pair subsequently gaining a lead of 2 points.

## **2.12 A MATCH**

- 2.12.1 A match shall consist of the best of any odd number of games.

## **2.13 THE ORDER OF SERVING, RECEIVING AND ENDS**

- 2.13.1 The right to choose the initial order of serving, receiving and ends shall be decided by lot and the winner may choose to serve or to receive first or to start at a particular end.
- 2.13.2 When one player or pair has chosen to serve or to receive first or to start at a particular end, the other player or pair shall have the other choice.
- 2.13.3 After each 2 points have been scored the receiving player or pair shall become the serving player or pair and so on until the end of the game, unless both players or pairs score 10 points or the expedite system is in operation, when the sequences of serving and receiving shall be the same but each player shall serve for only 1 point in turn.
- 2.13.4 In each game of a doubles match, the pair having the right to serve first shall choose which of them will do so and in the first game of a match the receiving pair shall decide which of them will receive first; in subsequent games of the match, the first server having been chosen, the first receiver shall be the player who served to him or her in the preceding game.

## 2: The Laws of Table Tennis

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- 2.13.5 In doubles, at each change of service the previous receiver shall become the server and the partner of the previous server shall become the receiver.
- 2.13.6 The player or pair serving first in a game shall receive first in the next game of the match and in the last possible game of a doubles match the pair due to receive next shall change their order of receiving when first one pair scores 5 points.
- 2.13.7 The player or pair starting at one end in a game shall start at the other end in the next game of the match and in the last possible game of a match the players or pairs shall change ends when first one player or pair scores 5 points.

### **2.14 OUT OF ORDER OF SERVING, RECEIVING OR ENDS**

- 2.14.1 If a player serves or receives out of turn, play shall be interrupted by the umpire as soon as the error is discovered and shall resume with those players serving and receiving who should be server and receiver respectively at the score that has been reached, according to the sequence established at the beginning of the match and, in doubles, to the order of serving chosen by the pair having the right to serve first in the game during which the error is discovered.
- 2.14.2 If the players have not changed ends when they should have done so, play shall be interrupted by the umpire as soon as the error is discovered and shall resume with the players at the ends at which they should be at the score that has been reached, according to the sequence established at the beginning of the match.
- 2.14.3 In any circumstances, all points scored before the discovery of an error shall be reckoned.

### **2.15 THE EXPEDITE SYSTEM**

- 2.15.1 Except as provided in 2.15.2, the expedite system shall come into operation after 10 minutes' play in a game or at any time when requested by both players or pairs.
- 2.15.2 The expedite system shall not be introduced in a game if at least 18 points have been scored.
- 2.15.3 If the ball is in play when the time limit is reached and the expedite system is due to come into operation, play shall be interrupted by the umpire and shall resume with service by the player who served in the rally that was interrupted; if the ball is not in play when the expedite system comes into operation, play shall resume with service by the player who received in the immediately preceding rally.

- 2.15.4 Thereafter, each player shall serve for 1 point in turn until the end of the game, and if the receiving player or pair makes 13 correct returns in a rally the receiver shall score a point.
- 2.15.5 Introduction of the expedite system shall not alter the order of serving and receiving in the match, as defined in 2.13.6.
- 2.15.6 Once introduced, the expedite system shall remain in operation until the end of the match.

# 3 REGULATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

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## 3.1 SCOPE OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS

### 3.1.1 Types of Competition

- 3.1.1.1 An *international competition* is one that may include the players of more than one Association.
- 3.1.1.2 An *international match* is a match between teams representing Associations.
- 3.1.1.3 An *open tournament* is one that is open to the players of all Associations.
- 3.1.1.4 A *restricted tournament* is one that is restricted to specified groups of players other than age groups.
- 3.1.1.5 An *invitation tournament* is one that is restricted to specified Associations or players, individually invited.

### 3.1.2 Applicability

- 3.1.2.1 Except as provided in 3.1.2.2, the Laws (Chapter 2) shall apply to World, Continental, Olympic and Paralympic title competitions, open tournaments and, unless otherwise agreed by the participating Associations, to international matches.
- 3.1.2.2 The Board of Directors shall have power to authorise the organiser of an open tournament to adopt experimental law variations specified by the Executive Committee.
- 3.1.2.3 The Regulations for International Competitions shall apply to:
  - 3.1.2.3.1 World, Olympic and Paralympic title competitions, unless otherwise authorised by the Board of Directors and notified in advance to the participating Associations;
  - 3.1.2.3.2 Continental title competitions, unless otherwise authorised by the appropriate Continental Federation and notified in advance to the participating Associations;
  - 3.1.2.3.3 Open International Championships (3.7.1.2), unless otherwise authorised by the Executive Committee and notified in advance to the participants in accordance with 3.1.2.4;
  - 3.1.2.3.4 open tournaments, except as provided in 3.1.2.4.
- 3.1.2.4 Where an open tournament does not comply with any of these regulations the nature and extent of the variation shall be specified in the entry form; completion and submission of an entry form shall be regarded as signifying acceptance of the conditions of the competition, including such variations.

- 3.1.2.5 The Laws and Regulations are recommended for all international competitions but, provided that the Constitution is observed, international restricted and invitation tournaments and recognised international competitions organised by unaffiliated bodies may be held under rules laid down by the organising authority.
- 3.1.2.6 The Laws and the Regulations for International Competitions shall be presumed to apply unless variations have been agreed in advance or are made clear in the published rules of the competition.
- 3.1.2.7 Detailed explanations and interpretations of Rules, including equipment specifications for International Competitions, shall be published as Technical or Administrative Leaflets by the Board of Directors; practical instructions and implementation procedures may be issued as Handbooks or Guides by the Executive Committee. These publications may include mandatory parts as well as recommendations or guidance.

## **3.2 EQUIPMENT AND PLAYING CONDITIONS**

### **3.2.1 Approved and Authorised Equipment**

- 3.2.1.1 The approval and authorisation of playing equipment shall be conducted on behalf of the Board of Directors by the Equipment Committee; an approval or authorisation may be suspended by the Executive Committee at any time and subsequently the approval or authorisation may be withdrawn by the Board of Directors.
- 3.2.1.2 The entry form or prospectus for an open tournament shall specify the brands and colours of table, net assembly, flooring and ball to be used; the choice of table, net assembly and ball shall be as laid down by the ITTF or by the Association in whose territory the competition is held, selected from brands and types currently approved by the ITTF; for selected ITTF sanctioned tournaments, the flooring shall be of a brand and type currently approved by ITTF.
- 3.2.1.3 Any ordinary pimped rubber or sandwich rubber covering the racket shall be currently authorised by the ITTF and shall be attached to the blade so that the ITTF logo, the ITTF number (when present), the supplier and brand names are clearly visible nearest the handle.  

Lists of all approved and authorised equipment and materials are maintained by the ITTF Office and details are available on the ITTF website.
- 3.2.1.4 Table legs shall be at least 40cm from the end line of the table for wheelchair players.

#### **3.2.2 Playing Clothing**

- 3.2.2.1 Playing clothing shall consist of a short-sleeved or sleeveless shirt and shorts or skirt or one-part sports outfits, socks and playing shoes; other garments, such as part or all of a tracksuit, shall not be worn during play except with the permission of the referee.
- 3.2.2.2 The main colour of a shirt, skirt or shorts, other than sleeves and collar of a shirt shall be clearly different from that of the ball in use.
- 3.2.2.3 Clothing may bear numbers or lettering on the back of the shirt to identify a player, his or her Association or, in club matches, his or her club, and advertisements in accordance with the provisions of 3.2.5.9; if the back of a shirt bears the player's name, this shall be situated just below the collar.
- 3.2.2.4 Any numbers required by organisers to identify a player shall have priority over advertisements on the centre part of the back of a shirt; such numbers shall be contained within a panel having an area not greater than 600cm<sup>2</sup>.
- 3.2.2.5 Any markings or trimming on the front or side of a playing garment and any objects such as jewellery worn by a player shall not be so conspicuous or brightly reflecting as to unsight an opponent.
- 3.2.2.6 Clothing shall not carry designs or lettering which might cause offence or bring the game into disrepute.
- 3.2.2.7 The players of a team taking part in a team match, and players of the same Association forming a doubles pair in a World, Olympic or Paralympic Title Competition, shall be dressed uniformly, with the possible exception of socks, shoes and the number, size, colour and design of advertisements on clothing. Players of the same Association forming a doubles pair in other international competitions may wear clothes of different manufacturers, if the basic colours are the same and their National Association authorises this procedure.
- 3.2.2.8 Opposing players and pairs shall wear shirts that are of sufficiently different colours to enable them to be easily distinguished by spectators.
- 3.2.2.9 Where opposing players or teams have a similar shirt and cannot agree which of them will change, the decision shall be made by the umpire by lot.
- 3.2.2.10 Players competing in a World, Olympic or Paralympic title competition or Open International Championships shall wear shirt and shorts or skirt of types authorised by their Association.

#### **3.2.3 Playing Conditions**

- 3.2.3.1 The playing space shall be rectangular and not less than 14m long, 7m wide and 5m high, but the 4 corners may be covered by surrounds of not more than 1.5m length; for wheelchair events, the playing space may be reduced, but shall not be less than 8m long and 6m wide.

- 3.2.3.2 The following equipment and fittings are to be considered as part of each playing area: The table including the net assembly, printed numbers identifying the table, flooring, umpires tables and chairs, score indicators, towel and ball boxes, surrounds, boards on the surrounds indicating the names of players or Associations, and small technical equipment which shall be fitted in a way that does not affect play.
- 3.2.3.3 The playing area shall be enclosed by surrounds about 75cm high, all of the same dark background colour, separating it from adjacent playing areas and from spectators.
- 3.2.3.4 In World, Olympic and Paralympic title competitions the light intensity, measured at the height of the playing surface, shall be at least 1000 lux uniformly over the whole of the playing surface and at least 500 lux elsewhere in the playing area; in other competitions the intensity shall be at least 600 lux uniformly over the playing surface and at least 400 lux elsewhere in the playing area.
- 3.2.3.5 Where several tables are in use, the lighting level shall be the same for all of them, and the level of background lighting in the playing hall shall not be greater than the lowest level in the playing area.
- 3.2.3.6 The light source shall not be less than 5m above the floor.
- 3.2.3.7 The background shall be generally dark and shall not contain bright light sources or daylight through uncovered windows or other apertures.
- 3.2.3.8 The flooring shall not be light-coloured, brightly reflecting or slippery and it shall be resilient; the flooring may be rigid for wheelchair events.
- 3.2.3.8.1 In World, Olympic and Paralympic title competitions the flooring shall be of wood or of a brand and type of rollable synthetic material authorised by the ITTF.
- 3.2.3.9 Technical equipment on the net assembly shall be considered part of it.

#### **3.2.4 Racket Control**

- 3.2.4.1 It is the responsibility of each player to ensure that racket coverings are attached to their racket blade with adhesives that do not contain harmful volatile solvents.
- 3.2.4.2 A racket control centre shall be established at all ITTF World Title, Olympic and Paralympic competitions as well as at a select number of ITTF World Tour and Junior Circuit competitions and may be established at Continental and Regional competitions.
- 3.2.4.2.1 The racket control centre shall test rackets, according to the policy and procedure established by the Executive Committee on recommendation of the Equipment Committee and Umpires and Referees Committee, to ensure that rackets abide by all ITTF regulations including, but not limited

### 3: Regulations for International Competitions

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to, racket covering thickness, flatness and presence of harmful volatile substances.

3.2.4.2.2 The racket control test shall be carried out after the match at random only where the player does not submit the racket for a before match test.

3.2.4.2.3 Rackets that do not pass the racket control test before the match cannot be used but may be replaced by a second racket which which may be tested immediately if time permits, but if not, will be tested after the match; in the case where rackets do not pass a random racket control test after the match, the offending player will be liable to penalties.

3.2.4.2.4 All players are entitled to have their rackets tested voluntarily without any penalties before the match.

3.2.4.3 Following 4 accumulated failures on any aspect of racket testing in a period of four years, the player may complete the event, but subsequently the Executive Committee will suspend the offending player for 12 months.

3.2.4.3.1 The ITTF shall inform the suspended player in writing of such suspension.

3.2.4.3.2 The suspended player may appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport within 21 days of the receiving of the letter of suspension; should such an appeal be submitted, the player's suspension would remain in force.

3.2.4.4 The ITTF shall maintain a register of all racket control failures with effect from 1 September 2010.

3.2.4.5 A properly ventilated area shall be provided for the attachment of racket coverings to rackets, and liquid adhesives shall not be used anywhere else at the playing venue.

“Playing venue” means that part of the building used for table tennis and its related activities, facilities and public area.

#### **3.2.5 Advertisements and Markings**

3.2.5.1 Inside the playing area, advertisements shall be displayed only on equipment or fittings listed in 3.2.3.2 or on playing clothing, umpires' clothing or players' numbers and there shall be no special additional displays.

3.2.5.1.1 Advertisements or markings in or next to the playing area, on playing clothing or numbers and on umpires' clothing, shall not be for tobacco goods, alcoholic drinks, harmful drugs or illegal products and they shall be without negative discrimination or connotation on the grounds of race, xenophobia, gender, religion, disabilities or other forms of discrimination.

3.2.5.2 At Olympic and Paralympic Games advertisements on playing equipment, on playing clothing and on umpires' clothing shall be according to IOC and IPC regulations respectively.

- 3.2.5.3 With the exception of LED (light-emitting diode) and similar devices advertisements on the surrounds of the sides of the playing area, fluorescent, luminescent or glossy colours shall not be used anywhere in the playing area and the background colour of the surrounds shall remain dark.
- 3.2.5.3.1 Advertisements on surrounds shall not change during a match from dark to light and vice versa.
- 3.2.5.3.2 LEDs and similar devices on surrounds shall not be so bright as to disturb players during the match and shall not change when the ball is in play.
- 3.2.5.3.3 Advertisements on LED and similar devices shall not be used without prior approval from ITTF.
- 3.2.5.4 Lettering or symbols on the inside of surrounds shall be clearly different from the colour of the ball in use, not more than two colours and shall be contained within a height of 40cm.
- 3.2.5.5 There may be up to 6 advertisements on the floor of the playing area; such markings
- 3.2.5.5.1 may be placed 2 at each end, each contained within an area of 5m<sup>2</sup>, and 1 at each side of the table, each contained within an area of 2.5m<sup>2</sup>;
- 3.2.5.5.2 at the end shall not be less than 3m from the table's end line next to the marking;
- 3.2.5.5.3 shall be of the same uniform colour different from the colour of the ball in use, unless other colours have been agreed in advance with the ITTF;
- 3.2.5.5.4 shall not alter significantly the surface friction of the flooring;
- 3.2.5.5.5 shall consist only of a logo, wordmark or other icons, and shall not include any background.
- 3.2.5.6 Advertisements on the table shall comply with the following requirements:
- 3.2.5.6.1 There may be 1 permanent advertisement of the manufacturer's or supplier's name or logo on each half of each side of the table top and on each end.
- 3.2.5.6.2 There may be 1 temporary advertisement, which also can be of the manufacturer's or supplier's name or logo, on each half of each side of the table top and on each end.
- 3.2.5.6.3 Each permanent and each temporary advertisement shall be contained within a total length of 60cm.
- 3.2.5.6.4 Temporary advertisements shall be clearly separated from any permanent advertisements.
- 3.2.5.6.5 Advertisements shall not be for other table tennis equipment suppliers.
- 3.2.5.6.6 There shall be no advertisement, name of table, name or logo of the manufacturer or supplier of the table on the undercarriage, except if the table manufacturer or supplier is the title sponsor of the tournament.

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- 3.2.5.7 There may be 2 advertisements on nets on each side of the table which shall be clearly different from the colour of the ball in use, shall not be within 3cm of the tape along the top edge; advertisements placed on parts of the net within the vertical extensions of the side lines of the table shall not obscure visibility through the mesh.
- 3.2.5.8 Advertisements on umpires' tables or other furniture inside the playing area shall be contained within a total area on any face of 750cm<sup>2</sup>.
- 3.2.5.9 Advertisements on playing clothing shall be limited to
- 3.2.5.9.1 the maker's normal trademark, symbol or name contained within a total area of 24cm<sup>2</sup>;
- 3.2.5.9.2 not more than 6 clearly separated advertisements, contained within a combined total area of 600cm<sup>2</sup>, on the front, side or shoulder of a shirt, with not more than 4 advertisements on the front;
- 3.2.5.9.3 not more than 2 advertisements, contained within a total area of 400cm<sup>2</sup>, on the back of a shirt;
- 3.2.5.9.4 not more than 2 advertisements, contained within a combined total area of 120cm<sup>2</sup>, only on the front and the sides of shorts or skirt.
- 3.2.5.10 Advertisements on players' numbers shall be contained within a total area of 100cm<sup>2</sup>.
- 3.2.5.11 Advertisements on umpires' clothing shall be contained within a total area of 40cm<sup>2</sup>.

### 3.2.6 Doping Control

- 3.2.6.1 All players participating in international competitions, including Junior competitions, shall be subject to in-competition testing by the ITTF, the player's National Association and any other Anti-Doping Organisation responsible for testing at a competition in which they participate.

## 3.3 MATCH OFFICIALS

### 3.3.1 Referee

- 3.3.1.1 For each competition as a whole a referee shall be appointed and his or her identity and location shall be made known to the participants and, where appropriate, to the team captains.
- 3.3.1.2 The referee shall be responsible for
- 3.3.1.2.1 the conduct of the draw;
- 3.3.1.2.2 the scheduling of the matches by time and table;
- 3.3.1.2.3 the appointment of match officials;
- 3.3.1.2.4 conducting a pre-tournament briefing for match officials;

- 3.3.1.2.5 checking the eligibility of players;
  - 3.3.1.2.6 deciding whether play may be suspended in an emergency;
  - 3.3.1.2.7 deciding whether players may leave the playing area during a match;
  - 3.3.1.2.8 deciding whether statutory practice periods may be extended;
  - 3.3.1.2.9 deciding whether players may wear track suits during a match;
  - 3.3.1.2.10 deciding any question of interpretation of Laws or Regulations, including the acceptability of clothing, playing equipment and playing conditions;
  - 3.3.1.2.11 deciding whether, and where, players may practise during an emergency suspension of play;
  - 3.3.1.2.12 taking disciplinary action for misbehaviour or other breaches of regulations.
- 3.3.1.3 Where, with the agreement of the competition management committee, any of the duties of the referee are delegated to other persons, the specific responsibilities and locations of each of these persons shall be made known to the participants and, where appropriate, to the team captains.
- 3.3.1.4 The referee, or a responsible deputy appointed to exercise authority in his or her absence, shall be present at all times during play.
- 3.3.1.5 Where the referee is satisfied that it is necessary to do so he or she may replace a match official with another at any time, but he or she may not alter a decision already made by the replaced official on a question of fact within his or her jurisdiction.
- 3.3.1.6 Players shall be under the jurisdiction of the referee from the time at which they arrive at the playing venue until they leave it.

#### **3.3.2 Umpire, Assistant Umpire and Stroke Counter**

- 3.3.2.1 An umpire and an assistant umpire shall be appointed for each match.
- 3.3.2.2 The umpire shall sit or stand in line with the net and the assistant umpire shall sit directly facing him or her, at the other side of the table.
- 3.3.2.3 The umpire shall be responsible for:
  - 3.3.2.3.1 checking the acceptability of equipment and playing conditions and reporting any deficiency to the referee;
  - 3.3.2.3.2 taking a ball at random as provided in 3.4.2.1.1-2;
  - 3.3.2.3.3 conducting the draw for the choice of serving, receiving and ends;
  - 3.3.2.3.4 deciding whether the requirements of the service law may be relaxed for a player with physical disability;
  - 3.3.2.3.5 controlling the order of serving, receiving and ends and correcting any errors therein;

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- 3.3.2.3.6 deciding each rally as a point or a let;
- 3.3.2.3.7 calling the score, in accordance with specified procedure;
- 3.3.2.3.8 introducing the expedite system at the appropriate time;
- 3.3.2.3.9 maintaining the continuity of play;
- 3.3.2.3.10 taking action for breaches of the advice or behaviour regulations;
- 3.3.2.3.11 drawing by lot which player, pair or team shall change their shirt, should opposing players or teams have a similar shirt and cannot agree which of them will change.
- 3.3.2.3.12 ensuring that only authorised persons are at the playing area.
- 3.3.2.4 The assistant umpire shall:
  - 3.3.2.4.1 decide whether or not the ball in play touches the edge of the playing surface at the side of the table nearest him or her;
  - 3.3.2.4.2 inform the umpire for breaches of the advice or behaviour regulations.
- 3.3.2.5 Either the umpire or the assistant umpire may:
  - 3.3.2.5.1 decide that a player's service action is illegal;
  - 3.3.2.5.2 decide that, in an otherwise correct service, the ball touches the net assembly;
  - 3.3.2.5.3 decide that a player obstructs the ball;
  - 3.3.2.5.4 decide that the conditions of play are disturbed in a way that may affect the outcome of the rally;
  - 3.3.2.5.5 time the duration of the practice period, of play and of intervals.
- 3.3.2.6 Either the assistant umpire or a separate official may act as stroke counter, to count the strokes of the receiving player or pair when the expedite system is in operation.
- 3.3.2.7 A decision made by the assistant umpire in accordance with the provisions of 3.3.2.5 may not be overruled by the umpire.
- 3.3.2.8 Players shall be under the jurisdiction of the umpire from the time at which they arrive at the playing area until they leave it.

### 3.3.3 Appeals

- 3.3.3.1 No agreement between players, in an individual event, or between team captains, in a team event, can alter a decision on a question of fact by the responsible match official, on a question of interpretation of Laws or Regulations by the responsible referee or on any other question of tournament or match conduct by the responsible management committee.

- 3.3.3.2 No appeal may be made to the referee against a decision on a question of fact by the responsible match official or to the management committee on a question of interpretation of Laws or Regulations by the referee.
- 3.3.3.3 An appeal may be made to the referee against a decision of a match official on a question of interpretation of Laws or Regulations, and the decision of the referee shall be final.
- 3.3.3.4 An appeal may be made to the competition management committee against a decision of the referee on a question of tournament or match conduct not covered by the Laws or Regulations, and the decision of the management committee shall be final.
- 3.3.3.5 In an individual event an appeal may be made only by a player participating in the match in which the question has arisen; in a team event an appeal may be made only by the captain of a team participating in the match in which the question has arisen.
- 3.3.3.6 A question of interpretation of Laws or Regulations arising from the decision of a referee, or a question of tournament or match conduct arising from the decision of a competition management committee, may be submitted by the player or team captain eligible to make an appeal, through his or her parent Association, for consideration by the ITTF Rules Committee.
- 3.3.3.7 The Rules Committee shall give a ruling as a guide for future decisions, and this ruling may also be made the subject of a protest by an Association to the Board of Directors or a General Meeting, but it shall not affect the finality of any decision already made by the responsible referee or management committee.

## **3.4 MATCH CONDUCT**

### **3.4.1 Score Indication**

- 3.4.1.1 The umpire shall call the score as soon as the ball is out of play at the completion of a rally, or as soon as is practicable thereafter.
  - 3.4.1.1.1 In calling the score during a game the umpire shall call first the number of points scored by the player or pair due to serve in the next rally of the game and then the number of points scored by the opposing player or pair.
  - 3.4.1.1.2 At the beginning of a game and when a change of server is due, the umpire shall point to the next server, and may also follow the score call with the next server's name.
  - 3.4.1.1.3 At the end of a game the umpire shall call the number of points scored by the winning player or pair followed by the number of points scored by the losing player or pair and may then name the winning player or pair.
- 3.4.1.2 In addition to calling the score the umpire may use hand signals to indicate his or her decisions.

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- 3.4.1.2.1 When a point has been scored, he or she may raise his or her arm nearer to the player or pair who won the point so that the upper arm is horizontal and the forearm is vertical with the closed hand upward.
- 3.4.1.2.2 When for any reason the rally is a let, he or she may raise his or her hand above his or her head to show that the rally has ended.
- 3.4.1.3 The score and, under the expedite system, the number of strokes shall be called in English or in any other language acceptable to both players or pairs and to the umpire.
- 3.4.1.4 The score shall be displayed on mechanical or electronic indicators so that it is clearly visible to the players and the spectators.
- 3.4.1.5 When a player is formally warned for bad behaviour, a yellow marker shall be placed on or near the score indicator.

#### **3.4.2 Equipment**

- 3.4.2.1 Players shall not choose balls in the playing area.
  - 3.4.2.1.1 Wherever possible players shall be given the opportunity to choose one or more balls before coming to the playing area and the match shall be played with the ball chosen by the players.
  - 3.4.2.1.2 If a ball has not been chosen before players come to the playing area, or the players cannot agree on the ball to be used, the match shall be played with a ball taken at random by the umpire from a box of those specified for the competition.
  - 3.4.2.1.3 If a ball is damaged during a match, it shall be replaced by another of those chosen before the match or, if such a ball is not available, by one taken at random by the umpire from a box of those specified for the competition.
- 3.4.2.2 The racket covering shall be used as it has been authorised by the ITTF without any physical, chemical or other treatment, changing or modifying playing properties, friction, outlook, colour, structure, surface, etc.; in particular, no additives shall be used.
- 3.4.2.3 A racket shall successfully pass all parameters of the racket control tests.
- 3.4.2.4 A racket shall not be replaced during an individual match unless it is accidentally damaged so badly that it cannot be used; if this happens the damaged racket shall be replaced immediately by another which the player has brought with him or her to the playing area or one which is handed to him or her in the playing area.
- 3.4.2.5 Unless otherwise authorised by the umpire, players shall leave their rackets on the table during intervals; but if the racket is strapped to the hand, the umpire shall allow the player to retain his or her racket strapped to the hand during intervals.

### **3.4.3 Practice**

- 3.4.3.1 Players are entitled to practise on the match table for up to 2 minutes immediately before the start of a match but not during normal intervals; the specified practice period may be extended only with the permission of the referee.
- 3.4.3.2 During an emergency suspension of play the referee may allow players to practise on any table, including the match table.
- 3.4.3.3 Players shall be given reasonable opportunity to check and to familiarise themselves with any equipment which they are to use, but this shall not automatically entitle them to more than a few practice rallies before resuming play after the replacement of a damaged ball or racket.

### **3.4.4 Intervals**

- 3.4.4.1 Play shall be continuous throughout an individual match except that any player is entitled to:
  - 3.4.4.1.1 an interval of up to 1 minute between successive games of an individual match;
  - 3.4.4.1.2 brief intervals for towelling after every 6 points from the start of each game and at the change of ends in the last possible game of an individual match.
- 3.4.4.2 A player or pair may claim one time-out period of up to 1 minute during an individual match.
  - 3.4.4.2.1 In an individual event the request for a time-out may be made by the player or pair or by the designated adviser; in a team event it may be made by the player or pair or by the team captain.
  - 3.4.4.2.2 If a player or pair and an adviser or captain disagree whether a time-out is to be taken, the final decision shall be made by the player or pair in an individual event and by the captain in a team event.
  - 3.4.4.2.3 The request for a time-out, which can be made only between rallies in a game, shall be indicated by making a "T" sign with the hands.
  - 3.4.4.2.4 On receiving a valid request for a time-out the umpire shall suspend play and shall hold up a white card with the hand on the side of the player or pair who requested it; the white card or another appropriate marker shall be placed on the court of that player or pair.
  - 3.4.4.2.5 The white card or marker shall be removed and play resumed as soon as the player or pair making the request is ready to continue or at the end of 1 minute, whichever is the sooner.
  - 3.4.4.2.6 If a valid request for a time-out is made simultaneously by or on behalf of both players or pairs, play will resume when both players or pairs are

ready or at the end of 1 minute, whichever is the sooner, and neither player or pair shall be entitled to another time-out during that individual match.

- 3.4.4.3 There shall be no intervals between successive individual matches of a team match except that a player who is required to play in successive matches may claim an interval of up to 5 minutes between those matches.
- 3.4.4.4 The referee may allow a suspension of play, of the shortest practical duration, and in no circumstances more than 10 minutes, if a player is temporarily incapacitated by an accident, provided that in the opinion of the referee the suspension is not likely to be unduly disadvantageous to the opposing player or pair.
- 3.4.4.5 A suspension shall not be allowed for a disability which was present or was reasonably to be expected at the beginning of the match, or where it is due to the normal stress of play; disability such as cramp or exhaustion, caused by the player's current state of fitness or by the manner in which play has proceeded, does not justify such an emergency suspension, which may be allowed only for incapacity resulting from an accident, such as injury caused by a fall.
- 3.4.4.6 If anyone in the playing area is bleeding, play shall be suspended immediately and shall not resume until that person has received medical treatment and all traces of blood have been removed from the playing area.
- 3.4.4.7 Players shall remain in or near the playing area throughout an individual match, except with the permission of the referee; during intervals between games and time-outs they shall remain within 3 metres of the playing area, under the supervision of the umpire.

## **3.5 DISCIPLINE**

### **3.5.1 Advice**

- 3.5.1.1 In a team event, players may receive advice from anyone authorised to be at the playing area.
- 3.5.1.2 In an individual event, a player or pair may receive advice only from one person, designated beforehand to the umpire, except that where the players of a doubles pair are from different Associations each may designate an adviser, but with regard to 3.5.1 and 3.5.2 these two advisers shall be treated as a unit; if an unauthorised person gives advice the umpire shall hold up a red card and send him or her away from the playing area.
- 3.5.1.3 Players may receive advice at any time except during rallies provided play is not thereby delayed (3.4.4.1); if any authorised person gives advice illegally the umpire shall hold up a yellow card to warn him or her that any further such offence will result in his or her dismissal from the playing area.

- 3.5.1.4 After a warning has been given, if in the same team match or the same match of an individual event anyone again gives advice illegally, the umpire shall hold up a red card and send him or her away from the playing area, whether or not he or she was the person warned.
- 3.5.1.5 In a team match the dismissed adviser shall not be allowed to return, except when required to play, and he or she shall not be replaced by another adviser until the team match has ended; in an individual event he or she shall not be allowed to return until the individual match has ended.
- 3.5.1.6 If the dismissed adviser refuses to leave, or returns before the end of the match, the umpire shall suspend play and report to the referee.
- 3.5.1.7 These regulations shall apply only to advice on play and shall not prevent a player or captain, as appropriate, from making a legitimate appeal nor hinder a consultation with an interpreter or Association representative on the explanation of a juridical decision.

#### **3.5.2 Misbehaviour**

- 3.5.2.1 Players and coaches or other advisers shall refrain from behaviour that may unfairly affect an opponent, offend spectators or bring the sport into disrepute, such as abusive language, deliberately breaking the ball or hitting it out of the playing area, kicking the table or surrounds and disrespect of match officials.
- 3.5.2.2 If at any time a player, a coach or another adviser commits a serious offence the umpire shall suspend play and report immediately to the referee; for less serious offences the umpire may, on the first occasion, hold up a yellow card and warn the offender that any further offence is liable to incur penalties.
- 3.5.2.3 Except as provided in 3.5.2.2 and 3.5.2.5, if a player who has been warned commits a second offence in the same individual match or team match, the umpire shall award 1 point to the offender's opponent and for a further offence he or she shall award 2 points, each time holding up a yellow and a red card together.
- 3.5.2.4 If a player against whom 3 penalty points have been awarded in the same individual match or team match continues to misbehave, the umpire shall suspend play and report immediately to the referee.
- 3.5.2.5 If a player changes his or her racket during an individual match when it has not been damaged, the umpire shall suspend play and report to the referee.
- 3.5.2.6 A warning or penalty incurred by either player of a doubles pair shall apply to the pair, but not to the non-offending player in a subsequent individual match of the same team match; at the start of a doubles match the pair shall be regarded as having incurred the higher of any warnings or penalties incurred by either player in the same team match.

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- 3.5.2.7 Except as provided in 3.5.2.2, if a coach or another adviser who has been warned commits a further offence in the same individual match or team match, the umpire shall hold up a red card and send him or her away from the playing area until the end of the team match or, in an individual event, of the individual match.
- 3.5.2.8 The referee shall have power to disqualify a player from a match, an event or a competition for seriously unfair or offensive behaviour, whether reported by the umpire or not; as he or she does so he or she shall hold up a red card; for less serious offenses which do not justify disqualification, the referee may decide to report such an offense to a Disciplinary Panel (3.5.2.13).
- 3.5.2.9 If a player is disqualified from 2 matches of a team or individual event he or she shall automatically be disqualified from that team event or individual competition.
- 3.5.2.10 The referee may disqualify for the remainder of a competition anyone who has twice been sent away from the playing area during that competition.
- 3.5.2.11 If a player is disqualified from an event or competition for any reason, he or she shall automatically forfeit any associated title, medal, prize money or ranking points.
- 3.5.2.12 Cases of very serious misbehaviour shall be reported to the offender's Association.
- 3.5.2.13 A Disciplinary Panel appointed by the Executive Committee, consisting of 4 members and a chair, shall decide on appropriate sanctions for offences reported by the referee of an event within 14 days of the end of the event. The Disciplinary Panel shall decide according to directives given by the Executive Committee.
- 3.5.2.14 An appeal against the Disciplinary Panel's decision may be made by the disciplined player, adviser or official within 15 days to the ITTF Executive Committee, whose decision on the matter shall be final.

#### **3.5.3 Good Presentation**

- 3.5.3.1 Players, coaches and officials shall uphold the object of good presentation of the sport and safeguard its integrity by refraining from any attempt to influence the elements of a competition in a manner contrary to sporting ethics:
- 3.5.3.1.1 Players have to do their utmost to win a match and shall not withdraw except for reasons of illness or injury.
- 3.5.3.1.2 Players, coaches and officials shall not participate in any form of or support betting or gambling related to their own matches and competitions.
- 3.5.3.2 Any player who deliberately fails to comply with these principles shall be disciplined by total or partial loss of prize money in prize events and/or by suspension from ITTF events.

- 3.5.3.3 In the event of complicity proven against any adviser or official the relevant national Association is also expected to discipline this person.
- 3.5.3.4 A Disciplinary Panel appointed by the Executive Committee, consisting of 4 members and a chair, shall decide on whether an infringement committed and if necessary on appropriate sanctions; this Disciplinary Panel shall decide according to directives given by the Executive Committee.
- 3.5.3.5 An appeal against the Disciplinary Panel's decision may be made by the disciplined player, adviser or official within 15 days to the ITTF Executive Committee whose decision on the matter shall be final.

### **3.6 DRAW FOR KNOCK-OUT COMPETITIONS**

#### **3.6.1 Byes and Qualifiers**

- 3.6.1.1 The number of places in the first round proper of a knockout event shall be a power of 2.
  - 3.6.1.1.1 If there are fewer entries than places, the first round shall include enough byes to make up the required number.
  - 3.6.1.1.2 If there are more entries than places, a qualifying competition shall be held such that the number of qualifiers and the number of direct entries together make up the required number.
- 3.6.1.2 Byes shall be distributed as evenly as possible throughout the first round, being placed first against seeded places, in seeding order.
- 3.6.1.3 Qualifiers shall be drawn as evenly as possible among the halves, quarters, eighths or sixteenths of the draw, as appropriate.

#### **3.6.2 Seeding by Ranking**

- 3.6.2.1 The highest ranked entries in an event shall be seeded so that they cannot meet before the closing rounds.
- 3.6.2.2 The number of entries to be seeded shall not exceed the number of entries in the 1st round proper of the event.
- 3.6.2.3 The entry ranked 1 shall be placed at the top of the first half of the draw and the entry ranked 2 at the bottom of the second half, but all other seeded entries shall be drawn among specified places in the draw, as follows:
  - 3.6.2.3.1 the entries ranked 3 and 4 shall be drawn between the bottom of the first half of the draw and the top of the second half;
  - 3.6.2.3.2 the entries ranked 5-8 shall be drawn among the bottom places of the odd-numbered quarters of the draw and the top places of the even-numbered quarters;

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- 3.6.2.3.3 the entries ranked 9-16 shall be drawn among the bottom places of the odd-numbered eighths of the draw and the top places of the even-numbered eighths;
- 3.6.2.3.4 the entries ranked 17-32 shall be drawn among the bottom places of the odd-numbered sixteenths of the draw and the top places of the even-numbered sixteenths.
- 3.6.2.4 In a team knockout event only the highest ranked team from an Association shall be eligible for seeding by ranking.
- 3.6.2.5 Seeding by ranking shall follow the order of the latest ranking list published by the ITTF except that:
  - 3.6.2.5.1 where all the entries eligible for seeding are from Associations belonging to the same Continental Federation the latest list published by that Federation shall take precedence;
  - 3.6.2.5.2 where all the entries eligible for seeding are from the same Association the latest list published by that Association shall take precedence.

#### **3.6.3 Seeding by Association Nomination**

- 3.6.3.1 Nominated players and pairs of the same Association shall, as far as possible, be separated so that they cannot meet before the closing rounds of an event.
- 3.6.3.2 Associations shall list their nominated players and pairs in descending order of playing strength, starting with any players included in the ranking list used for seeding, in the order of that list.
- 3.6.3.3 The entries ranked 1 and 2 shall be drawn into different halves and those ranked 3 and 4 into quarters other than those occupied by the first two.
- 3.6.3.4 The entries ranked 5-8 shall be drawn as evenly as possible into eighths other than those occupied by the first four.
- 3.6.3.5 The entries ranked 9-16 shall be drawn as evenly as possible into sixteenths other than those occupied by higher ranked players or pairs and so on, until all the entries have been allocated.
- 3.6.3.6 A men's or women's doubles pair consisting of players from different Associations shall be considered a pair of the Association of the player ranked higher in the World Ranking List, or, if neither player is in this list, in the appropriate Continental Ranking List; if neither player is included in a World or Continental Ranking List, the pair shall be considered a member of the Association whose team is ranked higher in the appropriate World Team Ranking List.
- 3.6.3.7 A mixed doubles pair consisting of players from different Associations shall be considered a pair of the Association to which the man belongs.

3.6.3.8 Alternatively, any doubles pair consisting of players from different Associations may be considered a pair of both of these Associations.

3.6.3.9 In a qualifying competition, entries from the same Association, up to the number of qualifying groups, shall be drawn into separate groups in such a way that qualifiers are, as far as possible, separated in accordance with the principles of 3.6.3.3-5.

#### **3.6.4 Alterations**

3.6.4.1 A completed draw may be altered only with the permission of the responsible management committee and, where appropriate, the agreement of the representatives of Associations directly concerned.

3.6.4.2 The draw may be altered only to correct errors and genuine misunderstandings in the notification and acceptance of entry, to correct serious imbalance, as provided in 3.6.5, or to include additional players or pairs, as provided in 3.6.6.

3.6.4.3 No alterations other than necessary deletions shall be made to the draw of an event after it has started; for the purpose of this regulation a qualifying competition may be regarded as a separate event.

3.6.4.4 A player shall not be deleted from the draw without his or her permission, unless he or she is disqualified; such permission must be given either by the player if he or she is present or, if he or she is absent, by his or her authorised representative.

3.6.4.5 A doubles pair shall not be altered if both players are present and fit to play, but injury, illness or absence of one player may be accepted as justification for an alteration.

#### **3.6.5 Re-draw**

3.6.5.1 Except as provided in 3.6.4.2, 3.6.4.5 and 3.6.5.2, a player shall not be moved from one place in the draw to another and if for any reason the draw becomes seriously unbalanced the event shall, wherever possible, be completely re-drawn.

3.6.5.2 Exceptionally, where the imbalance is due to the absence of several seeded players or pairs from the same section of the draw, the remaining seeded players or pairs only may be re-numbered in ranking order and re-drawn to the extent possible among the seeded places, taking account as far as is practicable of the requirements for seeding by Association nomination.

#### **3.6.6 Additions**

- 3.6.6.1 Players not included in the original draw may be added later, at the discretion of the responsible management committee and with the agreement of the referee.
- 3.6.6.2 Any vacancies in seeded places shall first be filled, in ranking order, by drawing into them the strongest new players or pairs; any further players or pairs shall be drawn into vacancies due to absence or disqualification and then into byes other than those against seeded players or pairs.
- 3.6.6.3 Any players or pairs who would have been seeded by ranking if they had been included in the original draw may be drawn only into vacancies in seeded places.

#### **3.7 ORGANISATION OF COMPETITIONS**

##### **3.7.1 Authority**

- 3.7.1.1 Provided the Constitution is observed, any Association may organise or authorise open, restricted or invitation tournaments within its territory or may arrange international matches.
- 3.7.1.2 Players from affiliated ITTF member Associations, when competing internationally, can only participate in ITTF events, ITTF approved events and ITTF registered events entered through their national Association, as well as in ITTF recognised events entered through their National Olympic Committee or National Paralympic Committee respectively. Participation in any other type of event can only be allowed with the express written permission of the national Association of the player or the ITTF; permission to players will be considered given unless a specific or general notification is made by the national Association of the player or the ITTF withholding the permission to participate in an event or series of events.
- 3.7.1.3 A player or team may not take part in an international competition if he or she or it is suspended by his or her or its Association or Continental Federation.
- 3.7.1.4 No event may use a World title without the permission of the ITTF, or a Continental title without the permission of the appropriate Continental Federation.

##### **3.7.2 Representation**

- 3.7.2.1 Representatives of all Associations whose players are taking part in an Open International Championships event shall be entitled to attend the draw and shall be consulted on any alterations to the draw or any decisions of appeal that may directly affect their players.

### **3.7.3 Entries**

- 3.7.3.1 Entry forms for Open International Championships shall be sent to all Associations not later than 2 calendar months before the start of the competition and not later than 1 calendar month before the date for the close of entries.
- 3.7.3.2 All entries nominated by Associations for open tournaments shall be accepted but the organisers shall have power to allocate entries to a qualifying competition; in deciding this allocation they shall take account of the relevant ITTF and Continental ranking lists and of any ranking order of entries specified by the nominating Association.

### **3.7.4 Events**

- 3.7.4.1 Open International Championships shall include men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles and women's doubles and may include mixed doubles and international team events for teams representing Associations.
- 3.7.4.2 In world title competitions, players in youth, junior and cadet events must be under 21, under 18 and under 15 respectively on 31st December immediately before the calendar year in which the competition takes place; these age limits are recommended for corresponding events in other competitions.
- 3.7.4.3 It is recommended that team matches at Open International Championships be played according to one of the systems specified in 3.7.6; the entry form or prospectus shall show which system has been chosen.
- 3.7.4.4 Individual events proper shall be played on a knockout basis, but team events and qualifying rounds of individual events may be played on either a knockout or a group basis.

### **3.7.5 Group Competitions**

- 3.7.5.1 In a group, or "round robin", competition, all members of the group shall compete against each other and shall gain 2 match points for a win, 1 for a loss in a played match and 0 for a loss in an unplayed or unfinished match; the ranking order shall be determined primarily by the number of match points gained. If a player is defaulted after the completion of a match for any reason, he or she shall be deemed to have lost the match, which shall subsequently be recorded as a loss in an unplayed match.
- 3.7.5.2 If two or more members of the group have gained the same number of match points their relative positions shall be determined only by the results of the matches between them, by considering successively the numbers of match points, the ratios of wins to losses first in individual matches (for a team event), games and points, as far as is necessary to resolve the order.

### 3: Regulations for International Competitions

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- 3.7.5.3 If at any step in the calculations the positions of one or more members of the group have been determined while the others are still equal, the results of matches in which those members took part shall be excluded from any further calculations needed to resolve the equalities in accordance with the procedure of 3.7.5.1 and 3.7.5.2.
- 3.7.5.4 If it is not possible to resolve equalities by means of the procedure specified in 3.7.5.1-3 the relative positions shall be decided by lot.
- 3.7.5.5 Unless otherwise authorised by the Jury, if 1 player or team is to qualify the final match in the group shall be between the players or teams numbered 1 and 2, if 2 are to qualify the final match shall be between the players or teams numbered 2 and 3 and so on.

#### **3.7.6 Team Match Systems**

3.7.6.1 Best of 5 matches (New Swaythling Cup system, 5 singles)

3.7.6.1.1 A team shall consist of 3 players.

3.7.6.1.2 The order of play shall be

- 1) A v X
- 2) B v Y
- 3) C v Z
- 4) A v Y
- 5) B v X

3.7.6.2 Best of 5 matches (Corbillon Cup system, 4 singles and 1 doubles)

3.7.6.2.1 A team shall consist of 2, 3 or 4 players.

3.7.6.2.2 The order of play shall be

- 1) A v X
- 2) B v Y
- 3) doubles
- 4) A v Y
- 5) B v X

3.7.6.2.3 In Para TT events, the order of play may be as in 3.7.6.2.2 except that the doubles match may be played last.

3.7.6.3 Best of 5 matches (Olympic system, 4 singles and 1 doubles).

3.7.6.3.1 A team shall consist of 3 players; each player shall compete in a maximum of 2 individual matches.

- 3.7.6.3.2 The order of play shall be
- 1) A v X
  - 2) B v Y
  - 3) doubles C & A or B v Z & X or Y
  - 4) B or A v Z
  - 5) C v Y or X

3.7.6.4 Best of 7 matches (6 singles and 1 doubles)

3.7.6.4.1 A team shall consist of 3, 4 or 5 players.

3.7.6.4.2 The order of play shall be

- 1) A v Y
- 2) B v X
- 3) C v Z
- 4) doubles
- 5) A v X
- 6) C v Y
- 7) B v Z

3.7.6.5 Best of 9 matches (9 singles)

3.7.6.5.1 A team shall consist of 3 players.

3.7.6.5.2 The order of play shall be

- 1) A v X
- 2) B v Y
- 3) C v Z
- 4) B v X
- 5) A v Z
- 6) C v Y
- 7) B v Z
- 8) C v X
- 9) A v Y

### **3.7.7 Team Match Procedure**

3.7.7.1 All players shall be selected from those nominated for the event.

3.7.7.2 The name of the team captain, playing or non-playing, shall be designated beforehand to the umpire.

3.7.7.3 Before a team match the right to choose A, B, C or X, Y, Z shall be decided by lot and the captains shall name their teams to the referee or his or her representative, assigning a letter to each singles player.

### 3: Regulations for International Competitions

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3.7.7.4 The pairs for a doubles match need not be nominated until the end of the immediately preceding singles match.

3.7.7.5 A team match shall end when one team has won a majority of the possible individual matches.

#### **3.7.8 Results**

3.7.8.1 As soon as possible after the end of a competition and not later than 7 days thereafter the organising Association shall send to the ITTF Secretariat and to the Secretary of the appropriate Continental Federation details of the results, including points scores, of international matches, of all rounds of Continental and Open International Championships and of the closing rounds of national championships.

#### **3.7.9 Television and Streaming**

3.7.9.1 An event other than World, Continental, Olympic or Paralympic title competitions may be broadcast by television only with the permission of the Association from whose territory the broadcast is made.

3.7.9.2 Participation in an international event presumes the consent of the Association controlling the visiting players to the televising of that event; in World, Continental, Olympic or Paralympic title competitions such consent is presumed for the showing anywhere of live or recorded television during the period of the event and within 1 calendar month afterwards.

3.7.9.3 All streaming of ITTF events (all categories) shall be subject to compliance with the ITTF streaming certification process and a Streaming Certification Fee (SCF) shall be charged to the rights holder of the event.

### **3.8 INTERNATIONAL ELIGIBILITY**

3.8.1 Eligibility in Olympic title competitions is regulated separately by 4.5.1 and eligibility in Paralympic title competitions is regulated separately by the IPC and 4.6.1; additional eligibility regulations apply to World title events (4.1.3, 4.2.3, 4.3.6, 4.4.3).

3.8.2 A player shall be regarded as representing an Association if he or she accepted to be nominated by this Association and subsequently participates in a competition listed in 3.1.2.3 or in regional championships other than individual events at Open International Championships.

3.8.3 A player is eligible to represent an Association only if he or she is a national of the country in which that Association has jurisdiction, except that a player who has already represented an Association of which he or she was not a national in accordance with previous rules may retain that eligibility.

- 3.8.3.1 Where the players of more than one Association have the same nationality, a player may represent one of these Associations only, if he or she is born in or has his or her main residence in the territory controlled by that Association.
- 3.8.3.2 A player who is eligible to represent more than 1 Association shall have the right to choose which of the relevant Associations he or she will represent.
- 3.8.4 A player is eligible to represent a Continental Federation (1.18.1) in an event of continental teams only if he or she is eligible to represent a member Association of this Continental Federation according to 3.8.3.
- 3.8.5 A player shall not represent different Associations within a period of 3 years.
- 3.8.6 An Association may nominate a player under its jurisdiction (1.21) to enter any individual events of Open International Championships; such nomination may be indicated in results lists and ITTF publications but does not affect the eligibility of this player according to 3.8.2.
- 3.8.7 A player or his or her Association shall, if so requested by the referee, provide documentary evidence of his or her eligibility and his or her passport.
- 3.8.8 Any appeal on a question of eligibility shall be referred to an Eligibility Commission, consisting of the Executive Committee, the Chair of the Rules Committee and the Chair of the Athletes' Commission, whose decision shall be final.

# 4 REGULATIONS FOR WORLD, OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC TITLE COMPETITIONS

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## 4.1 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

### 4.1.1 Authority for Organisation

- 4.1.1.1 The title "World Championships", referred to in this Section as "Championships", shall be bestowed by the AGM on the championship events at a tournament organised by an Association entrusted with the task.
- 4.1.1.2 The closing date for applications to stage Championships shall be specified by the Executive Committee and notified to all Associations, giving at least 6 months' notice.
- 4.1.1.3 All applications shall be considered by the Executive Committee and shall be submitted to the AGM, together with the report of the Selection Committee, if applicable, on venues for the occasion in question.
- 4.1.1.4 Where necessary, the AGM or the Executive Committee may ask one or more members of the appropriate Committee to visit the country of an Association applying for the right to organise the Championships to satisfy themselves as to the adequacy of the proposed playing and other arrangements; the cost of such visits shall be borne by that Association.
- 4.1.1.5 If, after an option has been granted, circumstances change in such a way as to be likely to prejudice the satisfactory conduct of the Championships, the option may be revoked by a 2/3 majority vote at an AGM prior to the Championships; between AGMs the Board of Directors shall have power to transfer the Championships or to take any other appropriate action.

### 4.1.2 Responsibilities of Organisers

- 4.1.2.1 An Association granted the right to organise the Championships, hereafter referred to as the "organisers" shall be responsible for conducting them in accordance with the Laws of Table Tennis, the Regulations for International Competitions and the Regulations for World Title Competitions, as modified or supplemented by any directives authorised by the Board of Directors.
- 4.1.2.2 Organisers shall provide accommodation and meals from lunch on the day before the Championships begin until breakfast on the day after the Championships end for:
  - 4.1.2.2.1 not more than 2 men and 2 women players nominated by an Association;
  - 4.1.2.2.2 1 delegate to the AGM from each Association if he is not already included in the nominated players listed above;

- 4.1.2.2.3 members of the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors and the Olympic and Paralympic Commission, full members of committees and the Technical and Gender Commissioners;
- 4.1.2.2.4 up to 3 Doping Control Supervisors appointed by the Sports Science and Medical Committee;
- 4.1.2.2.5 members of the Athletes' Commission not already included in the nominated players' lists;
- 4.1.2.2.6 Honorary Presidents;
- 4.1.2.2.7 Personal Honorary Members;
- 4.1.2.2.8 members of the President's Advisory Council;
- 4.1.2.2.9 International Umpires, Referees and Evaluators from other Associations invited in accordance with the ITTF directives for match officials at World Title Competitions;
- 4.1.2.2.10 up to 7 members of the ITTF staff including 1 assisting the Doping Control Supervisors.
- 4.1.2.3 If the business of the ITTF extends outside the period of the Championships the period of hospitality for those entitled to participate in such business shall be extended correspondingly.
- 4.1.2.4 Organisers shall provide free medical care and medicine for all participants, but each Association is recommended to insure its players and officials against illness and injury for the duration of the Championships.
- 4.1.2.5 Organisers shall meet the cost of transport between the place of accommodation and the playing hall.
- 4.1.2.6 Organisers shall request their national authorities to waive visa charges for all participants.
- 4.1.2.7 Organisers shall ensure free access to the playing hall and free circulation therein for all the players, officials and members listed in 4.1.2.2, for any additional players and committee members and for any interpreter, doctor or medical adviser appointed by the ITTF.
- 4.1.2.8 Organisers shall provide first-class interpreting in at least four languages, preferably by simultaneous translation with the appropriate equipment.
- 4.1.2.9 Organisers shall provide the ITTF with offices at the venue of the Championships and place at its disposal translation, computer, internet, telephone, telefax and duplicating facilities.
- 4.1.2.10 Organisers shall publish a prospectus giving the main details of the organisation of the Championships, including:
  - 4.1.2.10.1 the dates and place of the Championships;
  - 4.1.2.10.2 the events to be held;

## 4: Regulations for World, Olympic and Paralympic Title Competitions

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- 4.1.2.10.3 the equipment to be used;
- 4.1.2.10.4 the procedure for entry, the entry fees and the undertakings required;
- 4.1.2.10.5 the date and place of the draw;
- 4.1.2.10.6 the dates of Jury meetings and of AGM sessions;
- 4.1.2.10.7 the extent of hospitality for players and officials;
- 4.1.2.10.8 any directives authorised by the Board of Directors for the Championships.
- 4.1.2.11 During the Championships Organisers shall make available promptly to members of the ITTF Executive Committee, Board of Directors members and team captain's details of results, including points scores; as soon as possible after the completion of the Championships Organisers shall publish the complete results, including points scores, and circulate them to all Associations.

### 4.1.3 Eligibility

- 4.1.3.1 Only an Association which is not in arrears (1.7.3.3) and has taken part with at least one player or team (an entry) in its preceding Continental Championships, including qualification tournaments, or Continental Games, shall be eligible to enter teams or individual players in the Championships.
- 4.1.3.2 In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the association corresponding to the new nationality shall register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.
- 4.1.3.3 Such player shall not represent the new Association before:
  - 4.1.3.3.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;
  - 4.1.3.3.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;
  - 4.1.3.3.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.
  - 4.1.3.3.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.
- 4.1.3.4 A player having participated already in World Championships shall retain his or her eligibility.

#### **4.1.4 Entry Fees and Levy**

- 4.1.4.1 The entry fees shall be US\$100 for each entry in a team event, US\$50 for each pair in a doubles event and US\$25 for each entry in a singles event.
- 4.1.4.2 The entry fees shall be paid to the organisers at the time of entry and shall be shared equally between the organisers and the ITTF.
- 4.1.4.3 Fees for entries from an Association are due from that Association and shall always be payable, except that the Board of Directors may waive the fees where an Association is prevented from participating in the Championships by circumstances outside its control.

#### **4.1.5 Submission of Entries**

- 4.1.5.1 The intention to enter teams or players shall be notified to the ITTF in a preliminary notification form provided by the Secretariat; the closing date for the receipt of this form shall be not later than 4 calendar months before the start of the Championships.
- 4.1.5.2 Information shall be distributed, together with the prospectus, by the Competition Department and entries shall be submitted as required.
- 4.1.5.3 The closing date for the final entries shall be not later than 2 calendar months before the start of the Championships.
- 4.1.5.4 An Association may nominate up to 5 players and a non-playing captain for a team event; if a non-playing captain is not appointed one of the team players shall be designated as captain.
- 4.1.5.5 An Association shall rank its nominated players and pairs in order of playing strength, which shall be consistent with their current world ranking.
- 4.1.5.6 The ITTF may accept only formal nominations by an eligible Association, which are received, properly signed by a responsible representative of the nominating Association, on or before the closing date.

#### **4.1.6 Modification of Entries**

- 4.1.6.1 Modified entries shall be accepted, if notified by a representative of the nominating Association, at any time up to the day before the first official draw at World Championships (for individual events).
- 4.1.6.2 Change the composition of a team may be accepted if notified by a representative of the nominating Association up to the time of the Jury meeting preceding the World Team Championships; no further changes will be accepted after this deadline.
- 4.1.6.3 As soon as he or she arrives at the Championships venue, the representative of an Association requesting a change to the draw in consequence of any

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error or absence shall notify the referee or his or her deputy, or confirm any change already notified, on a form provided for the purpose.

- 4.1.6.4 A request for modification of an entry cannot be considered unless it is made or confirmed by the representative of an Association immediately on arrival, other than a request based on the subsequent absence, illness or injury of one player of a doubles pair, which shall be made as soon as the contingency arises.
- 4.1.6.5 All alterations that are authorised shall be notified immediately to team captains and, where appropriate, to Association representatives.

### 4.1.7 Entry Obligations

- 4.1.7.1 The entry form shall contain a statement, to be signed by a responsible representative of the nominating Association on behalf of all its nominated players and captains, that they understand and accept the conditions of the Championships and that they are prepared to compete against all other teams and individuals participating; no entry shall be valid unless accompanied by this declaration.
- 4.1.7.2 In individual events all entrants are accepted as individual competitors; they shall be bound to do their utmost to win the events for which they are entered, irrespective of whether other entrants from the same Association have been accepted to take part, and they shall not withdraw except for reasons of illness or injury.

### 4.1.8 Jury

- 4.1.8.1 The Jury shall consist of the Technical Commissioner, Chairs of the Technical, Rules and the Umpires' and Referees' Committees, a representative of the Competition Department, a representative of the organising committee and the referee; the referee shall have the right to speak but not to vote.
- 4.1.8.2 If any of the nominated Chairs is unable to attend a meeting of the Jury he or she may nominate to attend in his or her place another member of his or her Committee, who shall have the right to speak and to vote.
- 4.1.8.3 The Chair of the Jury shall be appointed by the members of the Jury.
- 4.1.8.4 Any Association directly affected by a matter under consideration at a Jury meeting shall be entitled to be represented at that meeting but shall not be entitled to vote.
- 4.1.8.5 The Jury shall have power to decide any question of appeal within the jurisdiction of a tournament management committee and to authorise team changes.

4.1.8.6 The Jury shall meet before the start of the Championships to be informed of all draw alterations requested up to that time and to decide any requests for changes in the composition of teams; any subsequent questions of draw alteration shall be decided by the Technical Commissioner in conjunction with a representative of the Competition Department and the Jury shall meet again only when convened by the Chair to consider appeals against its administrative decisions or decisions of the referee.

#### **4.1.9 Events**

4.1.9.1 In even numbered years, the Championships shall include men's team and women's team events; while in odd numbered years the Championships shall include men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles events.

4.1.9.2 In doubles events, both players may be from different Associations.

4.1.9.3 The system of play in team and individual events, the system of qualification in the team event and their implementation dates shall be decided by the Board of Directors, on the recommendation of the Technical Commissioner and the Competition Program.

4.1.9.4 Team matches shall be the best of 5 singles, as provided in 3.7.6.1.

4.1.9.5 There shall not be more than 128 places in the first round proper of a singles and not more than 64 places in the first round proper of a men's, women's and mixed doubles event, unless otherwise authorised by the Executive Committee.

4.1.9.6 Each Association shall be entitled to enter 3 men and 3 women players in each singles event, with one additional player ranked in the top 100 and one additional player ranked in the top 20 of the ITTF world ranking list issued in January of the year of the Championships to a maximum of 5 men and 5 women. The maximum entry for each association is 4 players for men's doubles, 4 players for women's doubles and 2 men and 2 women for mixed doubles; all players may be different, however, each association can only enter a maximum of 2 combined pairs (players from different associations) per doubles event.

4.1.9.6.1 The host Association may enter up to 6 men and 6 women in each singles event, 3 men's doubles, 3 women's doubles and 3 mixed doubles regardless of ranking.

4.1.9.7 Players of the same Association shall be separated according to 3.6.3.1, 3.6.3.3, 3.6.3.4 and 3.6.3.5 only in preliminary rounds and groups and in the first round of the draw but not in further rounds.

### **4.1.10 Default**

- 4.1.10.1 An Association whose team is entered in the draw but which fails to compete in the event without adequate justification may be subject to disciplinary action by the AGM.
- 4.1.10.2 A team may begin, continue and complete a team match only with the full complement of players specified for the event, except that the referee may, at his or her discretion, allow a team to play with one player absent or an individual match to be omitted from the sequence where he or she is satisfied that the absence is due to accident, illness, injury or other circumstances outside the control of the player or the Association concerned, including disqualification by the referee in accordance with his or her authority.
- 4.1.10.3 An Association whose team begins to play in the event but which fails to complete its schedule of matches shall be liable to forfeit its entitlement to hospitality for its representatives at the Championships; an appeal against forfeit may be made to the Jury, whose decision shall be final.

### **4.1.11 Doping Control**

- 4.1.11.1 Doping control shall be carried out in accordance with ITTF Anti-Doping rules (Chapter 5).

### **4.1.12 Awards and Presentations**

- 4.1.12.1 The permanent Championship trophies shall be:
  - 4.1.12.1.1 the Swaythling Cup for the men's team event;
  - 4.1.12.1.2 the Marcel Corbillon Cup for the women's team event;
  - 4.1.12.1.3 the St Bride Vase for the men's singles event;
  - 4.1.12.1.4 the G Geist Prize for the women's singles event;
  - 4.1.12.1.5 the Iran Cup for the men's doubles event;
  - 4.1.12.1.6 the W J Pope Trophy for the women's doubles event;
  - 4.1.12.1.7 the Heydusek prize for the mixed doubles event.
- 4.1.12.2 The Association whose team wins a team event, and the winner of an individual event, shall be entitled to hold the appropriate trophy until 31st December in the year following that in which it is won; the pair winning a doubles event shall agree or decide by lot the order in which each of them shall hold the trophy for half of the specified period.
- 4.1.12.3 A player who wins the men's or women's singles event 3 times in succession or 4 times in all shall receive from the ITTF a half-size replica of the appropriate trophy as a permanent possession.

- 4.1.12.4 In both team and individual events the winners shall receive gold medals, the losing finalists silver medals and the losing semi-finalists bronze medals.
- 4.1.12.5 At presentation ceremonies for both team and individual events the national flags of the gold, silver and bronze medal winners shall be raised and the national anthem of the gold medal winner shall be played.
- 4.1.12.6 The Association whose team or player wins a trophy shall acknowledge its receipt in writing and at the end of the specified period shall deliver it, within 14 days of a formal notification by the Secretariat, at an agreed time and to an agreed place.
- 4.1.12.7 The Association acknowledging receipt of a trophy shall be responsible for its safe keeping including the arrangement of insurance. The cost of insurance and of inscription of winners' names, which in team events should include any non-playing captain, shall be borne by the Association whose team or players wins a trophy.
- 4.1.12.8 If a trophy is lost while in the possession of an Association, that Association shall be responsible for the provision of a similar replacement.
- 4.1.12.9 At the closing ceremony the Egypt Cup, the symbol of the friendship of the Championships, shall be handed over to a representative of the city in which the next Championships will take place; this city shall hold the Egypt Cup until the next Championships.

#### **4.1.13 Commercial Rights**

- 4.1.13.1 The ITTF exclusively owns and controls all commercial rights in and to the Championships. Such Commercial Rights to include, without limitation and in each case on a worldwide basis, all:
  - 4.1.13.1.1 audio, visual and audio-visual and data rights (in every medium, whether or not existing as at the date of these regulations);
  - 4.1.13.1.2 sponsorship, advertising, merchandising, marketing and other forms of rights of association;
  - 4.1.13.1.3 ticketing, hospitality and other concession rights; and
  - 4.1.13.1.4 other rights to commercialise the Championships (including without limitation any so-called "event rights" and any right to authorise the taking of bets on the Championships).
- 4.1.13.2 The ITTF shall be entitled to exploit the Commercial Rights in such manner as it considers appropriate, including granting licences in respect of the same (or part thereof) to the relevant Association or to other third party(ies) from time to time.
- 4.1.13.3 Each Association shall ensure that their members (officials, players, delegates and other affiliates) shall:

## 4: Regulations for World, Olympic and Paralympic Title Competitions

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- 4.1.13.3.1 comply with any and all rules, regulations and/or guidelines in relation to the exploitation of the Commercial Rights which may be issued from time to time by or on behalf of the ITTF; and
- 4.1.13.3.2 provide such rights, facilities and services as are required to enable the ITTF and/or the relevant third party to fulfil their obligations under any arrangements for the exploitation of any of the Commercial Rights and shall not by any act or omission infringe any exclusive rights granted there under or otherwise cause any breach thereof to occur. For the avoidance of doubt only the ITTF may enforce this rule against an Association and no third party shall be entitled to do so.

### **4.2 WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS**

#### **4.2.1 Authority for Organisation**

- 4.2.1.1 The title "World Junior Championships", referred to in this Section as "Championships", shall be bestowed by the AGM on the championship events at a tournament organised by an Association entrusted with the task.
- 4.2.1.2 The closing date for applications to stage Championships shall be specified by the Executive Committee and notified to all Associations, giving at least 6 months' notice; applications shall be accepted only for the next 2 Championships.
- 4.2.1.3 All applications shall be considered by the Executive Committee and shall be submitted to the Board, together with details on venues for the occasion in question.
- 4.2.1.4 Where necessary, the Board or the Executive Committee may ask the Junior Commissioner to visit the country of an Association applying for the right to organise the Championships to satisfy themselves as to the adequacy of the proposed playing and other arrangements; the cost of such visits shall be borne by that Association.
- 4.2.1.5 If, after an option has been granted, circumstances change in such a way as to be likely to prejudice the satisfactory conduct of the Championships, the option may be revoked by a 2/3 majority vote at the AGM preceding the Championships; between AGMs the Board of Directors shall have power to transfer the Championships or to take any other appropriate action.

#### **4.2.2 Responsibilities of Organisers**

- 4.2.2.1 An Association granted the right to organise the Championships, hereafter referred to as the "organisers" shall be responsible for conducting them in accordance with the Laws of Table Tennis, the Regulations for International Competitions and the Regulations for World Junior Championships, as modified or supplemented by any directives authorised by the Board of Directors.

- 4.2.2.2 Organisers shall provide accommodation and meals from lunch on the day before the Championships begin until breakfast on the day after the Championships end for
  - 4.2.2.2.1 not more than 2 boys players nominated by an Association eligible for the boys team event;
  - 4.2.2.2.2 not more than 2 girls players nominated by an Association eligible for the girls team event;
  - 4.2.2.2.3 not more than 1 coach of an Association participating in 1 or 2 team events;
  - 4.2.2.2.4 members of the ITTF Executive Committee and the Junior Commissioner;
  - 4.2.2.2.5 up to 2 Doping Control Supervisors appointed by the Sports Science and Committee;
  - 4.2.2.2.6 up to 2 ITTF Committee or Commission Chairs nominated by the Executive Committee;
  - 4.2.2.2.7 International Umpires, Referees and Evaluators from other Associations invited in accordance with the ITTF directives for match officials at World Title Competitions;
  - 4.2.2.2.8 up to 7 members of the ITTF staff.
- 4.2.2.3 Organisers shall provide free medical care and medicine for all participants, but each Association is recommended to insure its players and officials against illness and injury for the duration of the Championships.
- 4.2.2.4 Organisers shall meet the cost of transport between the place of accommodation and the playing hall.
- 4.2.2.5 Organisers shall request their national authorities to waive visa charges for all participants.
- 4.2.2.6 Organisers shall ensure free access to the playing hall and free circulation therein for all the players, officials and members listed in 4.2.2.2, for any additional players and ITTF officials and for any interpreter, doctor or medical adviser appointed by the ITTF.
- 4.2.2.7 Organisers shall provide the ITTF with offices at the venue of the Championships and place at its disposal translation, computer, internet, telephone, telefax and duplicating facilities.
- 4.2.2.8 Organisers shall publish a prospectus giving the main details of the organisation of the Championships, including
  - 4.2.2.8.1 the dates and place of the Championships;
  - 4.2.2.8.2 the events to be held;
  - 4.2.2.8.3 the equipment to be used;
  - 4.2.2.8.4 the procedure for entry, the entry fees and the undertakings required;

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- 4.2.2.8.5 the date and place of the draw;
- 4.2.2.8.6 the dates of Jury meetings;
- 4.2.2.8.7 the extent of hospitality for players and officials;
- 4.2.2.8.8 any directives authorised by the Board of Directors for the Championships.
- 4.2.2.9 During the Championships Organisers shall make available promptly to members of the ITTF Executive Committee, Board of Directors members and team captains details of results, including points scores; as soon as possible after the completion of the Championships Organisers shall publish the complete results, including points scores, and circulate them to all Associations.

### 4.2.3 Eligibility

- 4.2.3.1 Only an Association which is not in arrears (1.7.3.3) shall be eligible to enter teams or individual players in the Championships.
- 4.2.3.2 The system of qualification for team and individual events shall be determined by the Board not later than 18 months before the start of the Championships.
- 4.2.3.3 All players shall be juniors according to 3.7.4.2.
- 4.2.3.4 In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the association corresponding to the new nationality shall register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.
- 4.2.3.5 Such player shall not represent the new Association before 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association.
- 4.2.3.6 Players being 15 years of age or older at the date of registration cannot represent their new Association at World Junior Championships except that
- 4.2.3.7 A player having participated already in World Junior Championships shall retain his or her eligibility.

### 4.2.4 Entry Fees

- 4.2.4.1 The entry fees shall be US\$50 for each entry in a team event, US\$30 for each pair in a doubles event and US\$15 for each entry in a singles event.
- 4.2.4.2 The entry fees shall be paid to the organisers at the time of entry and shall be shared equally between the organisers and the ITTF.
- 4.2.4.3 Fees for entries from an Association are due from that Association and shall always be payable, except that the Board of Directors may waive the fees

where an Association is prevented from participating in the Championships by circumstances outside its control.

### **4.2.5 Qualification and Entries**

- 4.2.5.1 The intention of an Association qualified to enter teams or players shall be notified to the organisers and the ITTF in a preliminary notification form provided by the Secretariat; the closing date for the receipt of this form shall be not later than 4 calendar months before the start of the Championships.
- 4.2.5.2 Information shall be distributed, together with the prospectus, by the Competition Department and entries shall be submitted as required.
- 4.2.5.3 Two sets of these entry forms shall be returned to the organisers and one set to the Secretariat; the closing date for the receipt of these forms shall be not later than 2 calendar months before the start of the Championships.
- 4.2.5.4 An Association may nominate up to 4 qualified boys and up to 4 qualified girls players.
- 4.2.5.5 An Association shall rank its nominated players and pairs in order of playing strength, which shall be consistent with their current ranking in the World Junior Ranking List.
- 4.2.5.6 Organisers may accept only formal nominations by an eligible Association, which are received, properly signed by a responsible representative of the nominating Association, on or before the closing date.

### **4.2.6 Modification of Entries**

- 4.2.6.1 The nominating Association may change the composition of a team by notifying the organisers up to the time of the Jury meeting preceding the Championships, but in no circumstances after the start of the event.
- 4.2.6.2 As soon as he or she arrives at the Championships venue, the representative of an Association requesting a change to the draw in consequence of any error or absence shall notify the referee or his or her deputy, or confirm any change already notified, on a form provided for the purpose.
- 4.2.6.3 A request for modification of an entry cannot be considered unless it is made or confirmed by the representative of an Association immediately on arrival, other than a request based on the subsequent absence, illness or injury of one player of a doubles pair, which shall be made as soon as the contingency arises.
- 4.2.6.4 All alterations that are authorised shall be notified immediately to team captains and, where appropriate, to Association representatives.

### **4.2.7 Entry Obligations**

- 4.2.7.1 The entry form shall contain a statement, to be signed by a responsible representative of the nominating Association on behalf of all its nominated players and captains, that they understand and accept the conditions of the Championships and that they are prepared to compete against all other teams and individuals participating; no entry shall be valid unless accompanied by this declaration.
- 4.2.7.2 In individual events all entrants are accepted as individual competitors; they shall be bound to do their utmost to win the events for which they are entered, irrespective of whether other entrants from the same Association have been accepted to take part, and they shall not withdraw except for reasons of illness or injury.

### **4.2.8 Jury**

- 4.2.8.1 The Jury shall consist of the ITTF Junior Commissioner, a representative of the ITTF Competition Department, a representative of the ITTF World Junior Program, the Championships Director (or his or her equivalent), a representative of the organising committee and the referee; the referee shall have the right to speak but not to vote.
- 4.2.8.2 If the ITTF Junior Commissioner is unable to attend a meeting of the Jury he or she may nominate an appointee to attend in his or her place who shall have the right to speak and to vote.
- 4.2.8.3 The Chair of the Jury shall be appointed by the ITTF Junior Commissioner or in his or her absence by the representative of the ITTF World Junior Program.
- 4.2.8.4 Any Association directly affected by a matter under consideration at a Jury meeting shall be entitled to be represented at that meeting but shall not be entitled to vote.
- 4.2.8.5 The Jury shall have power to decide any question of appeal within the jurisdiction of a tournament management committee.
- 4.2.8.6 The Jury shall meet before the start of the Championships to be informed of all draw alterations requested up to that time; any subsequent questions of draw alteration shall be decided by the ITTF Junior Commissioner and the Jury shall meet again only when convened by the Junior Commissioner to consider appeals against its administrative decisions or decisions of the referee.

### **4.2.9 Events**

- 4.2.9.1 The Championships shall include boys' team and girls' team events as well as boys' singles and doubles, girls' singles and doubles and mixed doubles events.

4.2.9.1.1 With the exception of mixed doubles events, both players of a doubles shall be from the same Association.

4.2.9.2 The system of play and the system of qualification in the team and individual events, shall be decided by the Board of Directors, on the recommendation of the Junior Commissioner, Technical Commissioner and the Competition Program, and shall be notified to all Associations not later than 6 calendar months before the start of the Championships.

#### **4.2.10 Default**

4.2.10.1 An Association whose team is entered in the draw but which fails to compete in the event without adequate justification may be subject to disciplinary action by the AGM.

4.2.10.2 A team may begin, continue and complete a team match only with the full complement of players specified for the event, except that the referee may, at his or her discretion, allow a team to play with one player absent or an individual match to be omitted from the sequence where he or she is satisfied that the absence is due to accident, illness, injury or other circumstances outside the control of the player or the Association concerned, including disqualification by the referee in accordance with his or her authority.

4.2.10.3 An Association whose team begins to play in the event but which fails to complete its schedule of matches shall be liable to forfeit its entitlement to hospitality for its representatives at the Championships; an appeal against forfeit may be made to the Jury, whose decision shall be final.

#### **4.2.11 Doping Control**

4.2.11.1 Doping control shall be carried out in accordance with ITTF Anti-Doping rules (Chapter 5).

#### **4.2.12 Awards and Presentations**

4.2.12.1 In both team and individual events the winners shall receive gold medals, the losing finalists silver medals and the losing semi-finalists bronze medals.

4.2.12.2 At presentation ceremonies for both team and individual events the national flags of the gold, silver and bronze medal winners shall be raised and the national anthem of the gold medal winner shall be played.

### **4.2.13 Commercial Rights**

4.2.13.1 The ITTF exclusively owns and controls all commercial rights in and to the Championships. Such Commercial Rights to include, without limitation and in each case on a worldwide basis, all:

4.2.13.1.1 audio, visual and audio-visual and data rights (in every medium, whether or not existing as at the date of these regulations);

4.2.13.1.2 sponsorship, advertising, merchandising, marketing and other forms of rights of association;

4.2.13.1.3 ticketing, hospitality and other concession rights; and

4.2.13.1.4 other rights to commercialise the Championships (including without limitation any so-called "event rights" and any right to authorise the taking of bets on the Championships.

4.2.13.2 The ITTF shall be entitled to exploit the Commercial Rights in such manner as it considers appropriate, including granting licences in respect of the same (or part thereof) to the relevant Association or to other third party(ies) from time to time.

4.2.13.3 Each Association shall ensure that their members (officials, players, delegates and other affiliates) shall:

4.2.13.3.1 comply with any and all rules, regulations and/or guidelines in relation to the exploitation of the Commercial Rights which may be issued from time to time by or on behalf of the ITTF; and

4.2.13.3.2 provide such rights, facilities and services as are required to enable the ITTF and/or the relevant third party to fulfil their obligations under any arrangements for the exploitation of any of the Commercial Rights and shall not by any act or omission infringe any exclusive rights granted there under or otherwise cause any breach thereof to occur. For the avoidance of doubt only the ITTF may enforce this rule against an Association and no third party shall be entitled to do so.

## **4.3 WORLD CUP**

### **4.3.1 Composition**

4.3.1.1 A World Cup for Men and a World Cup for Women shall be held on an annual basis or every 2 years in even numbered years and Continental World Cups or an equivalent shall serve as the qualification for the World Cups. The qualification and playing system will be an integral part of the ITTF's Competition Program.

4.3.1.2 Participants will be provided with free meals and accommodation from dinner on the evening before the start of the competition to breakfast on the morning after it ends; continental representatives will also be provided with free return travel tickets to the venue.

#### **4.3.2 Authority**

- 4.3.2.1 The ITTF shall be the sole owner of the World Cup title and tournaments.
- 4.3.2.2 An Association may be granted permission to organise the tournament; submission of an application to do so shall be regarded as implying knowledge and acceptance of these and all other applicable regulations.
- 4.3.2.3 Organisers shall not, without prior consent of the ITTF, delegate any of their authority nor make any contract or agreement with any other body, such as a Regional Association, a municipal authority or a sponsor.
- 4.3.2.4 Any agreement made between the organisers and any other body shall not conflict with nor derogate from the principle of these regulations; in case of any dispute the authority of the ITTF, as exercised through its representatives, shall be paramount.
- 4.3.2.5 The ITTF may enter into contracts with promoters or sponsors.

#### **4.3.3 Appointments**

- 4.3.3.1 For each tournament the ITTF Competition Department shall appoint a Tournament Director and a Competition Manager.
- 4.3.3.2 The Tournament Director shall be responsible to the ITTF Competition Department for ensuring observance of the conditions laid down for the tournament, including approval of the arrangements made by the organisers for ceremonies and presentations, protocol and seating arrangements at ceremonies and social functions and the presentation of play.
- 4.3.3.3 The Competition Manager shall be responsible to the ITTF for ensuring the adequacy of equipment and playing conditions, supervising the draw and scheduling matches.

#### **4.3.4 Doping Control**

- 4.3.4.1 Doping control shall be carried out in accordance with ITTF Anti-Doping rules (Chapter 5).

#### **4.3.5 Playing System**

- 4.3.5.1 The playing system will be determined by the Executive Committee on recommendation by the Competition Department. The selected players and their associations will be informed of the playing system to be used in the prospectus at the same time as the issuance of the invitation to the participants.

### **4.3.6 Eligibility**

- 4.3.6.1 In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the association corresponding to the new nationality shall register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.
- 4.3.6.2 Such player shall not represent the new Association before:
- 4.3.6.2.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;
- 4.3.6.2.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;
- 4.3.6.2.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.
- 4.3.6.2.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.
- 4.3.6.3 A player having participated already in the World Cup shall retain his or her eligibility.

### **4.3.7 Jury**

- 4.3.7.1 The Jury shall consist of the ITTF Executive Vice-President responsible for the World Cup, the ITTF Director of Competition, a representative of the organising committee and the referee; the referee shall have the right to speak but not to vote.
- 4.3.7.2 If either the ITTF Executive Vice-President responsible for the World Cup or the ITTF Director of Competition is unable to attend a meeting of the Jury he or she may nominate an appointee to attend in his or her place who shall have the right to speak and to vote.
- 4.3.7.3 The Chair of the Jury shall be appointed by the ITTF Executive Vice-President responsible for the World Cup.
- 4.3.7.4 Any Association directly affected by a matter under consideration at a Jury meeting shall be entitled to be represented at that meeting but shall not be entitled to vote.
- 4.3.7.5 The Jury shall have power to decide any question of appeal within the jurisdiction of a tournament management committee.
- 4.3.7.6 The Jury shall meet before the start of the tournament to be informed of all draw alterations requested up to that time and the Jury shall meet again only when it has to consider appeals against its administrative decisions or decisions of the referee.

### **4.3.8 Commercial Rights**

- 4.3.8.1 The ITTF exclusively owns and controls all commercial rights in and to the Championships. Such Commercial Rights to include, without limitation and in each case on a worldwide basis, all:
- 4.3.8.1.1 audio, visual and audio-visual and data rights (in every medium, whether or not existing as at the date of these regulations);
  - 4.3.8.1.2 sponsorship, advertising, merchandising, marketing and other forms of rights of association;
  - 4.3.8.1.3 ticketing, hospitality and other concession rights; and
  - 4.3.8.1.4 other rights to commercialise the Championships (including without limitation any so-called "event rights" and any right to authorise the taking of bets on the Championships.
- 4.3.8.2 The ITTF shall be entitled to exploit the Commercial Rights in such manner as it considers appropriate, including granting licences in respect of the same (or part thereof) to the relevant Association or to other third party(ies) from time to time.
- 4.3.8.3 Each Association shall ensure that their members (officials, players, delegates and other affiliates) shall:
- 4.3.8.3.1 comply with any and all rules, regulations and/or guidelines in relation to the exploitation of the Commercial Rights which may be issued from time to time by or on behalf of the ITTF; and
  - 4.3.8.3.2 provide such rights, facilities and services as are required to enable the ITTF and/or the relevant third party to fulfil their obligations under any arrangements for the exploitation of any of the Commercial Rights and shall not by any act or omission infringe any exclusive rights granted there under or otherwise cause any breach thereof to occur. For the avoidance of doubt only the ITTF may enforce this rule against an Association and no third party shall be entitled to do so.

## **4.4 WORLD TEAM CUP**

### **4.4.1 Composition**

- 4.4.1.1 A World Team Cup shall be staged every 2 years in odd numbered years and the Continental Team Champions shall be invited to take part. The qualification and playing systems will be an integral part of the ITTF's Competition Program.
- 4.4.1.2 If the team of the host Association is qualified by its ranking at the preceding World Team Championships then the team placing 8th at these World Team Championships shall participate.

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4.4.1.3 Participants will be provided with free meals and accommodation from dinner on the evening before the start of the competition to breakfast on the morning after it ends.

### **4.4.2 Authority**

4.4.2.1 The ITTF shall be the sole owner of the World Team Cup title and tournament.

4.4.2.2 An Association may be granted permission to organise the tournament; submission of an application to do so shall be regarded as implying knowledge and acceptance of these and all other applicable regulations.

4.4.2.3 Organisers shall not, without prior consent of the ITTF, delegate any of their authority nor make any contract or agreement with any other body, such as a Regional Association, a municipal authority or a sponsor.

4.4.2.4 Any agreement made between the organisers and any other body shall not conflict with nor derogate from the principle of these regulations; in case of any dispute the authority of the ITTF, as exercised through its representatives, shall be paramount.

4.4.2.5 The ITTF may enter into contracts with promoters or sponsors.

### **4.4.3 Appointments**

4.4.3.1 For each tournament the ITTF Competition Department shall appoint a Tournament Director and a Competition Manager.

4.4.3.2 The Tournament Director shall be responsible to the ITTF Competition Department for ensuring observance of the conditions laid down for the tournament, including approval of the arrangements made by the organisers for ceremonies and presentations, protocol and seating arrangements at ceremonies and social functions and the presentation of play.

4.4.3.3 The Competition Manager shall be responsible to the ITTF for ensuring the adequacy of equipment and playing conditions, supervising the draw and scheduling matches.

### **4.4.4 Doping Control**

4.4.4.1 Doping control shall be carried out in accordance with ITTF Anti-Doping rules (Chapter 5).

### **4.4.5 Playing System**

4.4.5.1 The playing system shall be determined by the Executive Committee on recommendation by the Competition Program. The selected teams and their Associations shall be informed of the playing system to be used in the

prospectus at the same time as the issuance of the invitation to the participants.

#### **4.4.6 Eligibility**

- 4.4.6.1 In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the association corresponding to the new nationality shall register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.
- 4.4.6.2 Such player shall not represent the new Association before
- 4.4.6.2.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;
- 4.4.6.2.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;
- 4.4.6.2.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.
- 4.4.6.2.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.
- 4.4.6.3 A player having participated already in the World Team Cup shall retain his or her eligibility.

#### **4.4.7 Jury**

- 4.4.7.1 The Jury shall consist of the ITTF Executive Vice-President responsible for the World Team Cup, the ITTF Director of Competition, a representative of the organising committee and the referee; the referee shall have the right to speak but not to vote.
- 4.4.7.2 If either the ITTF Executive Vice-President responsible for the World Team Cup or the ITTF Director of Competition is unable to attend a meeting of the Jury he may nominate an appointee to attend in his place who shall have the right to speak and to vote.
- 4.4.7.3 The Chair of the Jury shall be appointed by the ITTF Executive Vice-President responsible for the World Team Cup.
- 4.4.7.4 Any Association directly affected by a matter under consideration at a Jury meeting shall be entitled to be represented at that meeting but shall not be entitled to vote.

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- 4.4.7.5 The Jury shall have power to decide any question of appeal within the jurisdiction of a tournament management committee and to authorise team changes.
- 4.4.7.6 The Jury shall meet before the start of the tournament to be informed of all draw alterations requested up to that time and the Jury shall meet again only when it has to consider appeals against its administrative decisions or decisions of the referee.

### 4.4.8 Commercial Rights

- 4.4.8.1 The ITTF exclusively owns and controls all commercial rights in and to the Championships. Such Commercial Rights to include, without limitation and in each case on a worldwide basis, all:
- 4.4.8.1.1 audio, visual and audio-visual and data rights (in every medium, whether or not existing as at the date of these regulations);
  - 4.4.8.1.2 sponsorship, advertising, merchandising, marketing and other forms of rights of association;
  - 4.4.8.1.3 ticketing, hospitality and other concession rights; and
  - 4.4.8.1.4 other rights to commercialise the Championships (including without limitation any so-called "event rights" and any right to authorise the taking of bets on the Championships).
- 4.4.8.2 The ITTF shall be entitled to exploit the Commercial Rights in such manner as it considers appropriate, including granting licences in respect of the same (or part thereof) to the relevant Association or to other third party(ies) from time to time.
- 4.4.8.3 Each Association shall ensure that their members (officials, players, delegates and other affiliates) shall:
- 4.4.8.3.1 comply with any and all rules, regulations and/or guidelines in relation to the exploitation of the Commercial Rights which may be issued from time to time by or on behalf of the ITTF; and
  - 4.4.8.3.2 provide such rights, facilities and services as are required to enable the ITTF and/or the relevant third party to fulfil their obligations under any arrangements for the exploitation of any of the Commercial Rights and shall not by any act or omission infringe any exclusive rights granted there under or otherwise cause any breach thereof to occur. For the avoidance of doubt only the ITTF may enforce this rule against an Association and no third party shall be entitled to do so.

## 4.5 OLYMPIC COMPETITIONS

### 4.5.1 Eligibility

- 4.5.1.1 To be eligible for participation in the Olympic Games a player, coach or official shall comply with the Olympic Charter as well as with the ITTF rules. In particular the above mentioned persons shall
- 4.5.1.1.1 be entered by their National Olympic Committee (NOC);
  - 4.5.1.1.2 respect the spirit of fair play and non violence, and behave accordingly on the field of play;
  - 4.5.1.1.3 respect and comply in all aspects with the World Anti-Doping Code;
  - 4.5.1.1.4 not allow their person, name, picture or sports performances to be used for advertising purposes during the Olympic Games, except as permitted by the IOC Executive Board.
- 4.5.1.2 The entry or participation of a player in the Olympic Games shall not be conditional on any financial consideration.
- 4.5.1.3 Any player shall be a national of the country of the NOC which is entering him or her.
- 4.5.1.3.1 A player who is a national of 2 or more countries at the same time may represent either one of them, as he or she may elect.
  - 4.5.1.3.2 After having represented one country in the Olympic Games, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognised by the ITTF, a player may not represent another country unless he or she meets the conditions set forth in 4.5.1.3.3.
  - 4.5.1.3.3 In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the NOC of the new association in the Olympic Games shall register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.
  - 4.5.1.3.4 A player shall not represent the new NOC before:
    - 4.5.1.3.4.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;
    - 4.5.1.3.4.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;
    - 4.5.1.3.4.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.
    - 4.5.1.3.4.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.

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4.5.1.3.5 If an associated state, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence, if a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of a change of border, or if a new NOC is recognised by the IOC, a player may continue to represent the country to which he or she belongs or belonged. However, he or she may, if he or she prefers, choose to represent his or her country or be entered in the Olympic Games by his or her new NOC if one exists. This particular choice may be made only once.

4.5.1.4 A player having participated already in the Olympic Games shall retain his or her eligibility.

4.5.1.5 All disputes relating to the determination of the country which a player may represent in the Olympic Games and in particular issue specific requirements relating to nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of the player, including the duration of any waiting period, shall be resolved by the IOC Executive Board.

### 4.5.2 Events

4.5.2.1 The Olympic competition shall include at least men's singles, women's singles, men's team and women's team events.

4.5.2.2 The Team Match System in team events and the system of play in both team and individual events including any qualifying competitions shall be decided by the Board of Directors, on the recommendation of the Olympic and Paralympic Commission, and all Associations shall be notified in accordance with the schedule set by the IOC.

### 4.5.3 Doping Control

4.5.3.1 Doping control shall be carried out in accordance with IOC rules and the World Anti-Doping Code.

## 4.6 PARALYMPIC COMPETITIONS

### 4.6.1 Eligibility

4.6.1.1 To be eligible for participation in the Paralympic Games a player, coach or official shall comply with the constitution of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) as well as with the ITTF rules. In particular the above mentioned persons shall:

4.6.1.1.1 be entered by their National Paralympic Committee (NPC);

4.6.1.1.2 respect the spirit of fair play and non violence, and behave accordingly on the field of play;

4.6.1.1.3 respect and comply in all aspects with the World Anti-Doping Code;

- 4.6.1.1.4 not allow their person, name, picture or sports performances to be used for advertising purposes during the Paralympic Games, except as permitted by the IPC Governing Board.
- 4.6.1.2 The entry or participation of a player in the Paralympic Games shall not be conditional on any financial consideration.
- 4.6.1.3 Any player shall be a national of the country of the NPC which is entering him or her.
- 4.6.1.3.1 A player who is a national of 2 or more countries at the same time may represent either one of them, as he or she may elect.
- 4.6.1.3.2 After having represented one country in the Paralympic Games, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognised by the ITTF, a player may not represent another country unless he or she meets the conditions set forth in 4.6.1.3.3.
- 4.6.1.3.3 In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the NPC of the new association shall register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.
- 4.6.1.3.4 A player shall not represent the new NPC before:
- 4.6.1.3.4.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;
- 4.6.1.3.4.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;
- 4.6.1.3.4.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.
- 4.6.1.3.4.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.
- 4.6.1.3.5 If an associated state, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence, if a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of a change of border, or if a new NPC is recognised by the IPC, a player may continue to represent the country to which he or she belongs or belonged. However, he or she may, if he or she prefers, choose to represent his or her country or be entered in the Paralympic Games by his or her new NPC if one exists. This particular choice may be made only once.

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4.6.1.4 A player having participated already in the Paralympic Games shall retain his or her eligibility.

4.6.1.5 All disputes relating to the determination of the country which a player may represent in the Paralympic Games and in particular issue specific requirements relating to nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of the player, including the duration of any waiting period, shall be resolved by the IPC Governing Board.

### 4.6.2 Events

4.6.2.1 The Paralympic competition shall include at least men's and women's class singles, men's and women's team events and any other event included by the IPC Governing Board on the recommendation of the Olympic and Paralympic Commission (OPC).

4.6.2.2 The Team Match System in team events and the system of play in both team and individual events including any qualifying competitions shall be decided by the Board of Directors, on the recommendation of the OPC, and all Associations shall be notified in accordance with the schedule set by the IPC.

### 4.6.3 Doping Control

4.6.3.1 Doping control shall be carried out in accordance with IPC rules and the World Anti-Doping Code.

## 4.7 WORLD PARA TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

### 4.7.1 Authority for Organisation

4.7.1.1 The title "World Para Table Tennis Championships", referred to in this Section as "Para TT Championships", shall be bestowed by the Executive Committee on the championship events at a tournament organised by an Association entrusted with the task.

4.7.1.2 The closing date for applications to stage the Para TT Championships shall be specified by the Executive Committee and notified to all Associations, giving at least 6 months' notice.

4.7.1.3 All applications shall be considered by the Executive Committee together with the report of the Selection Committee, if applicable, on venues for the occasion in question.

4.7.1.4 Where necessary, the Executive Committee may ask one or more members of the appropriate Committee to visit the country of an Association applying for the right to organise the Para TT Championships to satisfy themselves as

to the adequacy of the proposed playing and other arrangements; the cost of such visits shall be borne by that Association.

- 4.7.1.5 If, after an option has been granted, circumstances change in such a way as to be likely to prejudice the satisfactory conduct of the Para TT Championships, the option may be revoked by the Executive Committee prior to the Para TT Championships.

#### **4.7.2 Responsibilities of Organisers**

- 4.7.2.1 An Association granted the right to organise the Para TT Championships, hereafter referred to as the "organisers" shall be responsible for conducting them in accordance with the Laws of Table Tennis, the Regulations for International Competitions and the Regulations for World Title Competitions, as modified or supplemented by any directives authorised by the Board of Directors.
- 4.7.2.2 Organisers shall provide accommodation and meals from the evening before the Para TT Championships begin until the morning after the Para TT Championships end for:
- 4.7.2.2.1 members of the ITTF Executive Committee and the Para Table Tennis Committee;
  - 4.7.2.2.2 International Umpires and Referees from other Associations invited in accordance with directives issued by the ITTF;
  - 4.7.2.2.3 five international classifiers invited in accordance with directives issued by the ITTF;
  - 4.7.2.2.4 up to 3 members of the ITTF staff.
- 4.7.2.3 If the business of the ITTF extends outside the period of the Para TT Championships the period of hospitality for those entitled to participate in such business shall be extended correspondingly.
- 4.7.2.4 Organisers shall provide free medical care and medicine for all participants, but each Association must insure its players and officials against illness and injury for the duration of the Para TT Championships.
- 4.7.2.5 Organisers shall meet the cost of transport between the place of arrival in the country, the accommodation and the playing hall.
- 4.7.2.6 Organisers shall request their national authorities to waive visa charges for all participants.
- 4.7.2.7 Organisers shall ensure free access to the playing hall and free circulation therein for all the players, officials and members listed in 4.7.2.2, for any additional players and committee members and for any interpreter, doctor or medical adviser appointed by the ITTF.
- 4.7.2.8 Organisers shall provide first-class interpreting in at least English.

#### 4: Regulations for World, Olympic and Paralympic Title Competitions

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- 4.7.2.9 Organisers shall provide the ITTF with offices at the venue of the Championships and place at its disposal translation, computer, internet, telephone, telefax and copying facilities.
- 4.7.2.10 Organisers shall publish a prospectus giving the main details of the organisation of the Para TT Championships, including
- 4.7.2.10.1 the dates and place of the Para TT Championships;
  - 4.7.2.10.2 the events to be held;
  - 4.7.2.10.3 the equipment to be used;
  - 4.7.2.10.4 the procedure for entry, the entry fees and the undertakings required;
  - 4.7.2.10.5 the date and place of the draw;
  - 4.7.2.10.6 the dates of Jury meetings;
  - 4.7.2.10.7 the extent of hospitality for technical and ITTF officials;
  - 4.7.2.10.8 accessibility for persons with a disability in the accommodation, transport and venues;
  - 4.7.2.10.9 maximum numbers of players and officials;
  - 4.7.2.10.10 any directives authorised by the Board of Directors for the Para TT Championships.
- 4.7.2.11 During the Para TT Championships Organisers shall make available promptly to members of the ITTF Executive Committee, the Para TT Committee and team managers details of results, including points scores; as soon as possible after the completion of the Para TT Championships Organisers shall publish the complete results, including points scores, and circulate them to all Associations.

#### **4.7.3 Eligibility**

- 4.7.3.1 Only an Association which is not in arrears (1.7.3.3) shall be eligible to enter teams or individual players for the Para TT Championships.
- 4.7.3.2 In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the association corresponding to the new nationality shall register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.
- 4.7.3.3 Such player shall not represent the new Association before:
- 4.7.3.3.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;
  - 4.7.3.3.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;

4.7.3.3.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.

4.7.3.3.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.

4.7.3.4 A player having participated already in the World Para Table Tennis Championships shall retain his or her eligibility.

#### **4.7.4 Entry and Capitation Fees**

4.7.4.1 The entry fees shall be set by the Organisers and approved by the Para TT Committee.

4.7.4.2 The entry fees shall be paid to the Organisers at the time of entry and shall include capitation fees set by the Para TT Committee from time to time.

4.7.4.3 Fees for entries from an Association are due from that Association and shall always be payable, except that the Board of Directors may waive the fees where an Association is prevented from participating in the Para TT Championships by circumstances outside its control.

#### **4.7.5 Submission of Entries**

4.7.5.1 The closing date/s for entries shall be decided by the Organisers and approved by the Para TT Committee but shall not be later than 2 calendar months before the start of the Para TT Championships.

4.7.5.2 Entries by number and name shall be submitted on forms distributed, together with the prospectus, by the Organisers.

4.7.5.3 An Association may enter up to 3 players per class and 1 team per class per country.

4.7.5.4 An Association shall rank its players in order of playing strength, which shall be consistent with their current world ranking.

4.7.5.5 The ITTF may accept only formal nominations by an eligible Association, which are received, properly signed by a responsible representative of the nominating Association, on or before the closing date.

#### **4.7.6 Modification of Entries**

4.7.6.1 Entries by an Association may be modified with the approval of the Technical Delegate.

4.7.6.2 Entries may be modified by the referee on the advice of the Chief Classifier.

### **4.7.7 Entry Obligations**

- 4.7.7.1 The entry form shall contain statements committing team members to the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules, the ITTF Classification Code, to be signed by a responsible representative of the nominating Association and all players and officials, that they understand and accept the conditions of the Para TT Championships and that they are prepared to compete against all other teams and individuals participating; no entry shall be valid unless accompanied by this declaration.
- 4.7.7.2 In individual events all entrants are accepted as individual competitors; they shall be bound to do their utmost to win the events for which they are entered, irrespective of whether other entrants from the same Association have been accepted to take part, and they shall not withdraw except for reasons of illness or injury.

### **4.7.8 Jury**

- 4.7.8.1 The Jury shall consist of 3 representatives appointed by the Para TT Committee.
- 4.7.8.2 Any Association directly affected by a matter under consideration at a Jury meeting shall be entitled to be represented at that meeting but shall not be entitled to vote.
- 4.7.8.3 The Jury shall have power to decide any question of appeal within the jurisdiction of a tournament management committee and to authorise team and classification changes.
- 4.7.8.4 The Jury shall meet before the start of the Championships to be informed of all draw alterations up to that time and the Jury shall meet again to consider appeals against administrative and classification decisions or decisions of the referee.

### **4.7.9 Events**

- 4.7.9.1 The Para TT Championships shall include at least men's and women's class singles, men's and women's team events and any other event included by Para TT Committee.
- 4.7.9.2 The system of play in events and its implementation date shall be decided by the Para TT Committee, on the recommendation of the Technical Commissioner.

### **4.7.10 Doping Control**

- 4.7.10.1 Doping control shall be carried out in accordance with ITTF Anti-Doping rules (Chapter 5).

#### **4.7.11 Awards and Presentations**

- 4.7.11.1 In both team and individual events, the winners shall receive gold medals, the losing finalists silver medals and the winners of the bronze medal play-off bronze medals.
- 4.7.11.2 At presentation ceremonies for both team and individual events the national flags of the gold, silver and bronze medal winners shall be raised and the national anthem of the gold medal winner shall be played.

#### **4.7.12 Commercial Rights**

- 4.7.12.1 The ITTF exclusively owns and controls all commercial rights in and to the Championships. Such Commercial Rights to include, without limitation and in each case on a worldwide basis, all:
  - 4.7.12.1.1 audio, visual and audio-visual and data rights (in every medium, whether or not existing as at the date of these regulations);
  - 4.7.12.1.2 sponsorship, advertising, merchandising, marketing and other forms of rights of association;
  - 4.7.12.1.3 ticketing, hospitality and other concession rights; and
  - 4.7.12.1.4 other rights to commercialise the Championships (including without limitation any so-called "event rights" and any right to authorise the taking of bets on the Championships).
- 4.7.12.2 The ITTF shall be entitled to exploit the Commercial Rights in such manner as it considers appropriate, including granting licences in respect of the same (or part thereof) to the relevant Association or to other third party(ies) from time to time.
- 4.7.12.3 Each Association shall ensure that their members (officials, players, delegates and other affiliates) shall:
  - 4.7.12.3.1 comply with any and all rules, regulations and/or guidelines in relation to the exploitation of the Commercial Rights which may be issued from time to time by or on behalf of the ITTF; and
  - 4.7.12.3.2 provide such rights, facilities and services as are required to enable the ITTF and/or the relevant third party to fulfil their obligations under any arrangements for the exploitation of any of the Commercial Rights and shall not by any act or omission infringe any exclusive rights granted there under or otherwise cause any breach thereof to occur. For the avoidance of doubt only the ITTF may enforce this rule against an Association and no third party shall be entitled to do so.

# 5 ANTI-DOPING RULES

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## INTRODUCTION

### Preface

At the ITTF Board of Directors meeting held on 2 May 2014 in Tokyo ITTF accepted the revised (2015) World Anti-Doping Code (the "*Code*") to be implemented with effect from 1 January 2015. These Anti-Doping Rules are adopted and implemented in accordance with ITTF's responsibilities under the *Code*, and are in furtherance of ITTF's continuing efforts to eradicate doping in the sport of Table Tennis.

These Anti-Doping Rules are sport rules governing the conditions under which sport is played. Aimed at enforcing anti-doping principles in a global and harmonised manner, they are distinct in nature from criminal and civil proceedings and are not intended to be subject to, or limited by any national requirements and legal standards applicable to such proceedings. When reviewing the facts and the law of a given case, all courts, arbitral tribunals and other adjudicating bodies should be aware of and respect the distinct nature of these anti-doping rules implementing the *Code* and the fact that these rules represent the consensus of a broad spectrum of stakeholders around the world as to what is necessary to protect fair sport.

### Fundamental Rationale for the Code and ITTF's Anti-Doping Rules

Anti-doping programs seek to preserve what is intrinsically valuable about sport. This intrinsic value is often referred to as "the spirit of sport". It is the essence of Olympism; the pursuit of human excellence through the dedicated perfection of each person's natural talents; it is how we play true. The spirit of sport is the celebration of the human spirit, body and mind, and is reflected in values we find in and through sport, including:

- Ethics, fair play and honesty
- Health
- Excellence in performance
- Character and education
- Fun and joy
- Teamwork
- Dedication and commitment
- Respect for rules and laws
- Respect for self and other participants
- Courage
- Community and solidarity

Doping is fundamentally contrary to the spirit of sport.

## Scope

These Anti-Doping Rules shall apply to ITTF, each *National Association* of ITTF and to *Athletes*, *Athlete Support Personnel* and other *Persons* in the activities of ITTF or any of its *National Associations* by virtue of the *Participant's* membership, accreditation, or participation in ITTF, its *National Associations*, or their activities or *Events*. Such *Persons*, who are deemed to have accepted and to be bound by these Anti-Doping Rules (and to have submitted to the authority of ITTF to enforce these Anti-Doping Rules and to the jurisdiction of the hearing panels specified in Article 5.8 and Article 5.13 to hear and determine cases and appeals brought under these Anti-Doping Rules) as a condition of their membership, accreditation and/or participation in the sport:

- a. all *Athletes* and *Athlete Support Personnel* who are members of ITTF, or of any *National Association*, or of any member or affiliate organisation of any *National Association* (including any clubs, teams, associations or leagues);
- b. all *Athletes* and *Athlete Support Personnel* participating in such capacity in *Events*, *Competitions* and other activities organised, convened, authorised or recognised by ITTF, or any *National Association*, or any member or affiliate organisation of any *National Association* (including any clubs, teams, associations or leagues), wherever held;
- c. any other *Athlete* or *Athlete Support Personnel* or other *Person* who, by virtue of an accreditation, a licence or other contractual arrangement, or otherwise, is subject to the jurisdiction of ITTF, or of any *National Association*, or of any member or affiliate organisation of any *National Association* (including any clubs, teams, associations or leagues), for purposes of anti-doping; and
- d. *Athletes* who are not regular members of ITTF or of one of its *National Associations* but who want to be eligible to compete in a particular *International Event*. ITTF may include such *Athletes* in its *Registered Testing Pool* so that they are required to provide information about their whereabouts for purposes of *Testing* under these Anti-Doping Rules for at least three months prior to the *International Event* in question.

It is the responsibility of each *National Association* to ensure that all national-level *Testing* on the *National Association's Athletes* complies with these Anti-Doping Rules. In some countries, the *National Association* itself will conduct *Doping Control* described in these Anti-Doping Rules. In other countries, many of the *Doping Control* responsibilities of the *National Association* have been delegated or assigned by statute or agreement to a *National Anti-Doping Organisation*. In those countries, references in these Anti-Doping Rules to the *National Association* shall apply, as appropriate, to the *National Anti-Doping Organisation*.

These Anti-Doping Rules shall apply to all *Doping Control* over which ITTF and its *National Associations* have jurisdiction.

Within the overall pool of *Athletes* set out above who are bound by and required to comply with these Anti-Doping Rules, the following *Athletes* shall be considered to be *International-Level*

*Athletes* for purposes of these Anti-Doping Rules, and therefore the specific provisions in these Anti-Doping Rules applicable to *International-Level Athletes* (as regards *Testing* but also as regards *TUEs*, whereabouts information, results management, and appeals) shall apply to such *Athletes*:

The first 250 Men and 200 Women in the General List of ITTF World Ranking, available on [http://www.ittf.com/ittf\\_ranking/](http://www.ittf.com/ittf_ranking/), and,

The first 8 Men and Women in each Class in the Para Table Tennis rating, available on <http://www.ipttc.org/rating/>.

### 5.1 DEFINITION OF DOPING

Doping is defined as the occurrence of one or more of the anti-doping rule violations set forth in Article 5.2.1 through Article 5.2.10 of these Anti-Doping Rules.

### 5.2 ANTI-DOPING RULE VIOLATIONS

The purpose of this Article is to specify the circumstances and conduct which constitute anti-doping rule violations. Hearings in doping cases will proceed based on the assertion that one or more of these specific rules has been violated.

*Athletes* and other *Persons* shall be responsible for knowing what constitutes an anti-doping rule violation and the substances and methods which have been included on the *Prohibited List*.

The following constitute anti-doping rule violations:

#### 5.2.1 The presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* in an *Athlete's Sample*

##### 5.2.1.1 It is each *Athlete's* personal duty to ensure that no *Prohibited Substance* enters his or her body. *Athletes* are responsible for any *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* found to be present in their *Samples*. Accordingly, it is not necessary that intent, *Fault*, negligence or knowing *Use* on the *Athlete's* part be demonstrated in order to establish an anti-doping violation under Article 5.2.1.

[Comment to Article 5.2.1.1: An anti-doping rule violation is committed under this Article without regard to an *Athlete's Fault*. This rule has been referred to in various CAS decisions as "Strict Liability". An *Athlete's Fault* is taken into consideration in determining the Consequences of this anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.10. This principle has consistently been upheld by CAS.]

##### 5.2.1.2 Sufficient proof of an anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.2.1 is established by either of the following: presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* in the *Athlete's A Sample* where the *Athlete* waives analysis of the *B Sample* and the *B Sample* is not analysed; or, where the *Athlete's B Sample* is analysed and

the analysis of the *Athlete's B Sample* confirms the presence of the *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* found in the *Athlete's A Sample*; or, where the *Athlete's B Sample* is split into two bottles and the analysis of the second bottle confirms the *Presence* of the *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* found in the first bottle.

[Comment to Article 5.2.1.2: The Anti-Doping Organisation with results management responsibility may in its discretion choose to have the B Sample analysed even if the Athlete does not request the analysis of the B Sample.]

**5.2.1.3** Excepting those substances for which a quantitative threshold is specifically identified in the *Prohibited List*, the presence of any quantity of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* in an *Athlete's Sample* shall constitute an anti-doping rule violation.

**5.2.1.4** As an exception to the general rule of Article 5.2.1, the *Prohibited List* or *International Standards* may establish special criteria for the evaluation of *Prohibited Substances* that can also be produced endogenously.

**5.2.2 Use or Attempted Use by an Athlete of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method**

[Comment to Article 5.2.2: It has always been the case that Use or Attempted Use of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method may be established by any reliable means. As noted in the Comment to Article 5.3.2, unlike the proof required to establish an anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.2.1, Use or Attempted Use may also be established by other reliable means such as admissions by the Athlete, witness statements, documentary evidence, conclusions drawn from longitudinal profiling, or other analytical information which does not otherwise satisfy all the requirements to establish "Presence" of a Prohibited Substance under Article 5.2.1. For example, Use may be established based upon reliable analytical data from the analysis of an A Sample (without confirmation from an analysis of a B Sample) or from the analysis of a B Sample alone where the Anti-Doping Organisation provides a satisfactory explanation for the lack of confirmation in the other Sample.]

**5.2.2.1** It is each *Athlete's* personal duty to ensure that no *Prohibited Substance* enters his or her body and that no *Prohibited Method* is used. Accordingly, it is not necessary that intent, *Fault*, negligence or knowing Use on the *Athlete's* part be demonstrated in order to establish an anti-doping rule violation for Use of a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method*.

**5.2.2.2** The success or failure of the Use or Attempted Use of a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* is not material. It is sufficient that the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* was Used or Attempted to be Used for an anti-doping rule violation to be committed.

[Comment to Article 5.2.2.2: Demonstrating the "Attempted Use" of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method requires proof of intent on the Athlete's part. The fact that intent may be required to prove this particular anti-doping rule violation does not undermine the Strict Liability principle established for violations of Article 5.2.1 and violations of Article 5.2.2 in respect of Use of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method.]

## 5: ITTF Anti-Doping Rules

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*An Athlete's "Use" of a Prohibited Substance constitutes an anti-doping rule violation unless such substance is not prohibited Out-of-Competition and the Athlete's Use takes place Out-of-Competition. (However, the presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in a Sample collected In-Competition will be a violation of Article 5.2.1 (Presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers) regardless of when that substance might have been administered.)]*

### **5.2.3 Evading, Refusing or Failing to submit to Sample Collection**

Evading Sample collection, or without compelling justification refusing or failing to submit to Sample collection after notification as authorised in these Anti-Doping Rules or other applicable anti-doping rules.

*[Comment to Article 5.2.3: For example, it would be an anti-doping rule violation of "evading Sample collection" if it were established that an Athlete was deliberately avoiding a Doping Control official to evade notification or Testing. A violation of "failing to submit to Sample collection" may be based on either intentional or negligent conduct of the Athlete, while "evading" or "refusing" Sample collection contemplates intentional conduct by the Athlete.]*

### **5.2.4 Whereabouts Failures**

Any combination of three Missed Tests and/or Filing Failures as defined in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* committed within a twelve-month period, by an Athlete, in a *Registered Testing Pool*.

### **5.2.5 Tampering or Attempted Tampering with any part of Doping Control**

Conduct which subverts the *Doping Control* process but which would not otherwise be included in the definition of *Prohibited Methods*. *Tampering* shall include, without limitation, intentionally interfering or attempting to interfere with a *Doping Control* official, providing fraudulent information to the *Anti-Doping Organisation* or intimidating or attempting to intimidate a potential witness.

*[Comment to Article 5.2.5: For example, this Article would prohibit altering identification numbers on a Doping Control form during Testing, breaking the B bottle at the time of B Sample analysis, or altering a Sample by the addition of a foreign substance. Offensive conduct towards a Doping Control official or other Person involved in Doping Control which does not otherwise constitute Tampering shall be addressed in the disciplinary rules of sport organisations.]*

### **5.2.6 Possession of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method**

**5.2.6.1** *Possession by an Athlete In-Competition of any Prohibited Substance or any Prohibited Method, or Possession by an Athlete Out-of-Competition of any Prohibited Substance or any Prohibited Method which is prohibited Out-of-Competition unless the Athlete establishes that the Possession is consistent with a therapeutic use exemption ("TUE") granted in accordance with Article 5.4.4 or other acceptable justification.*

**5.2.6.2** *Possession by Athlete Support Personnel In-Competition of any Prohibited Substance or any Prohibited Method, or Possession by an Athlete Support Personnel*

*Out-of-Competition* of any *Prohibited Substance* or any *Prohibited Method* which is prohibited *Out-of-Competition*, in connection with an *Athlete*, *Competition* or training, unless the *Athlete Support Personnel* establishes that the *Possession* is consistent with a TUE granted to an *Athlete* in accordance with Article 5.4.4 or other acceptable justification.

[Comment to Article 5.2.6.1 and 5.2.6.2: Acceptable justification would not include, for example, buying or Possessing a Prohibited Substance for purposes of giving it to a friend or relative, except under justifiable medical circumstances where that Person had a physician's prescription, e.g., buying Insulin for a diabetic child.]

[Comment to Article 5.2.6.2: Acceptable justification would include, for example, a team doctor carrying Prohibited Substances for dealing with acute and emergency situations.]

### **5.2.7 Trafficking or Attempted Trafficking in any Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method**

**5.2.8 Administration or Attempted Administration to any Athlete** *In-Competition* of any *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*, or Administration or Attempted Administration to any *Athlete Out-of-Competition* of any *Prohibited Substance* or any *Prohibited Method* that is prohibited *Out-of-Competition*.

### **5.2.9 Complicity**

Assisting, encouraging, aiding, abetting, conspiring, covering up or any other type of intentional complicity involving an anti-doping rule violation, *Attempted* anti-doping rule violation or violation of Article 5.10.12.1 by another *Person*.

### **5.2.10 Prohibited Association**

Association by an *Athlete* or other *Person* subject to the authority of an *Anti-Doping Organisation* in a professional or sport-related capacity with any *Athlete Support Personnel* who:

**5.2.10.1** if subject to the authority of an *Anti-Doping Organisation*, is serving a period of *Ineligibility*; or

**5.2.10.2** if not subject to the authority of an *Anti-Doping Organisation* and where *Ineligibility* has not been addressed in a results management process pursuant to the *Code*, has been convicted or found in a criminal, disciplinary or professional proceeding to have engaged in conduct which would have constituted a violation of anti-doping rules if *Code-compliant* rules had been applicable to such *Person*. The disqualifying status of such *Person* shall be in force for the longer of six years from the criminal, professional or disciplinary decision or the duration of the criminal, disciplinary or professional sanction imposed; or

**5.2.10.3** is serving as a front or intermediary for an individual described in Article 5.2.10.1 or 5.2.10.2.

In order for this provision to apply, it is necessary (a) that the *Athlete* or other *Person* has previously been advised in writing by an *Anti-Doping Organisation* with jurisdiction over the *Athlete* or other *Person*, or by *WADA*, of the *Athlete Support Personnel's* disqualifying status and the potential *Consequence* of prohibited association; and (b) that the *Athlete* or other *Person* can reasonably avoid the association. The *Anti-Doping Organisation* shall also use reasonable efforts to advise the *Athlete Support Personnel* who is the subject of the notice to the *Athlete* or other *Person* that the *Athlete Support Personnel* may, within 15 days, come forward to the *Anti-Doping Organisation* to explain that the criteria described in Articles 5.2.10.1 and 5.2.10.2 do not apply to him or her. (Notwithstanding Article 5.17, this Article applies even when the *Athlete Support Personnel's* disqualifying conduct occurred prior to the effective date provided in Article 5.20.7.)

The burden shall be on the *Athlete* or other *Person* to establish that any association with *Athlete Support Personnel* described in Articles 5.2.10.1 or 5.2.10.2 is not in a professional or sport-related capacity.

*Anti-Doping Organisations* that are aware of *Athlete Support Personnel* who meet the criteria described in Articles 5.2.10.1, 5.2.10.2, or 5.2.10.3 shall submit that information to *WADA*.

*[Comment to Article 2.10: Athletes and other Persons must not work with coaches, trainers, physicians or other Athlete Support Personnel who are Ineligible on account of an anti-doping rule violation or who have been criminally convicted or professionally disciplined in relation to doping. Some examples of the types of association which are prohibited include: obtaining training, strategy, technique, nutrition or medical advice; obtaining therapy, treatment or prescriptions; providing any bodily products for analysis; or allowing the Athlete Support Personnel to serve as an agent or representative. Prohibited association need not involve any form of compensation.]*

### **5.3 PROOF OF DOPING**

#### **5.3.1 Burdens and Standards of Proof**

ITTF shall have the burden of establishing that an anti-doping rule violation has occurred. The standard of proof shall be whether ITTF has established an anti-doping rule violation to the comfortable satisfaction of the hearing panel bearing in mind the seriousness of the allegation which is made. This standard of proof in all cases is greater than a mere balance of probability but less than proof beyond a reasonable doubt. Where these Rules place the burden of proof upon the *Athlete* or other *Person* alleged to have committed an anti-doping rule violation to rebut a presumption or establish specified facts or circumstances, the standard of proof shall be by a balance of probability.

*[Comment to Article 5.3.1: This standard of proof required to be met by ITTF is comparable to the standard which is applied in most countries to cases involving professional misconduct.]*

## 5.3.2 Methods of Establishing Facts and Presumptions

Facts related to anti-doping rule violations may be established by any reliable means, including admissions. The following rules of proof shall be applicable in doping cases:

*[Comment to Article 5.3.2: For example, ITTF may establish an anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.2.2 based on the Athlete's admissions, the credible testimony of third Persons, reliable documentary evidence, reliable analytical data from either an A or B Sample as provided in the Comments to Article 5.2.2, or conclusions drawn from the profile of a series of the Athlete's blood or urine Samples.]*

**5.3.2.1** Analytical methods or decision limits approved by WADA after consultation within the relevant scientific community and which have been the subject of peer review are presumed to be scientifically valid. Any Athlete or other Person seeking to rebut this presumption of scientific validity shall, as a condition precedent to any such challenge, first notify WADA of the challenge and the basis of the challenge. CAS on its own initiative may also inform WADA of any such challenge. At WADA's request, the CAS panel shall appoint an appropriate scientific expert to assist the panel in its evaluation of the challenge. Within 10 days of WADA's receipt of such notice, and WADA's receipt of the CAS file, WADA shall also have the right to intervene as a party, appear amicus curiae, or otherwise provide evidence in such proceeding.

**5.3.2.2** WADA-accredited laboratories, and other laboratories approved by WADA, are presumed to have conducted Sample analysis and custodial procedures in accordance with the *International Standard for Laboratories*. The Athlete or other Person may rebut this presumption by establishing that a departure from the *International Standard for Laboratories* occurred which could reasonably have caused the *Adverse Analytical Finding*. If the Athlete or other Person rebuts the preceding presumption by showing that a departure from the *International Standard for Laboratories* occurred which could reasonably have caused the *Adverse Analytical Finding*, then ITTF shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding*.

*[Comment to Article 5.3.2.2: The burden is on the Athlete or other Person to establish, by a balance of probability, a departure from the International Standard for Laboratories that could reasonably have caused the Adverse Analytical Finding. If the Athlete or other Person does so, the burden shifts to ITTF to prove to the comfortable satisfaction of the hearing panel that the departure did not cause the Adverse Analytical Finding.]*

**5.3.2.3** Departures from any other *International Standard* or other anti-doping rule or policy set forth in the *Code* or these Rules which did not cause an *Adverse Analytical Finding* or other anti-doping rule violation shall not invalidate such evidence or results. If the Athlete or other Person establishes that a departure from another *International Standard* or other anti-doping rule or policy which could reasonably have caused an anti-doping rule violation based on an *Adverse Analytical Finding* or other anti-doping rule violation, then ITTF shall have the burden to establish that such a departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding* or the factual basis for the anti-doping rule violation.

**5.3.2.4** The facts established by a decision of a court or professional disciplinary tribunal of competent jurisdiction which is not the subject of a pending appeal shall be irrebuttable evidence against the *Athlete* or other *Person* to whom the decision pertained of those facts unless the *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes that the decision violated principles of natural justice.

**5.3.2.5** The hearing panel in a hearing on an anti-doping rule violation may draw an inference adverse to the *Athlete* or other *Person* who is asserted to have committed an anti-doping rule violation based on the *Athlete's* or other *Person's* refusal, after a request made in a reasonable time in advance of the hearing, to appear at the hearing (either in person or telephonically as directed by the hearing panel) and to answer questions from the hearing panel or ITTF.

## **5.4 THE PROHIBITED LIST**

### **5.4.1 Incorporation of the *Prohibited List***

These Anti-Doping Rules incorporate the *Prohibited List* which is published and revised by WADA as described in Article 4.1 of the *Code*. ITTF will make the current *Prohibited List* available to each *National Association*, and each *National Association* shall ensure that the current *Prohibited List* is available to its members and constituents.

[Comment to Article 5.4.1: The current Prohibited List is available on WADA's website at [www.wada-ama.org](http://www.wada-ama.org).]

### **5.4.2 *Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods Identified on the Prohibited List***

#### **5.4.2.1 *Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods***

Unless provided otherwise in the *Prohibited List* and/or a revision, the *Prohibited List* and revisions shall go into effect under these Anti-Doping Rules three months after publication of the *Prohibited List* by WADA without requiring any further action by ITTF. All *Participants* shall be bound by the *Prohibited List*, and any revisions thereto, from the date they go into effect, without further formality. It is the responsibility of all *Participants* to familiarise themselves with the most up-to-date version of the *Prohibited List* and all revisions thereto.

#### **5.4.2.2 Specified Substances**

For purposes of the application of Article 5.10, all *Prohibited Substances* shall be "Specified Substances" except substances in the classes of anabolic agents and hormones and those stimulants and hormone antagonists and modulators so identified on the *Prohibited List*. The category of *Specified Substances* shall not include *Prohibited Methods*.

[Comment to Article 5.4.2.2: Specified Substances identified in Article 5.4.2.2 should not in any way be considered less important or less dangerous than other doping substances. Rather, they are simply substances which are more likely to have been consumed by an Athlete for a purpose other than the enhancement of sport performance.]

### 5.4.3 WADA's Determination of the *Prohibited List*

WADA's determination of the *Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods* that will be included on the *Prohibited List*, the classification of substances into categories on the *Prohibited List* and the classification of a substance as prohibited at all times or *In-Competition* only is final and shall not be subject to challenge by an *Athlete* or other *Person* based on an argument that the substance or method was not a masking agent or did not have the potential to enhance performance, represent a health risk or violate the spirit of sport.

### 5.4.4 Therapeutic Use

5.4.4.1 The presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers*, and/or the *Use* or *Attempted Use*, *Possession* or *Administration* or *Attempted Administration* of a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method* shall not be considered an anti-doping rule violation if it is consistent with the provisions of a *TUE* granted in accordance with the *International Standard* for Therapeutic Use Exemptions.

5.4.4.2 If an *International-Level Athlete* is using a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method* for therapeutic reasons:

5.4.4.2.1 Where the *Athlete* already has a *TUE* granted by his or her *National Anti-Doping Organisation* for the substance or method in question, then that *TUE* is not automatically valid for international-level *Competition*. However, the *Athlete* may apply to ITTF to recognise that *TUE*, in accordance with Article 7 of the *International Standard* for Therapeutic Use Exemptions. If that *TUE* meets the criteria set out in the *International Standard* for Therapeutic Use Exemptions, then ITTF shall recognise it for purposes of international-level *Competition* as well. If ITTF considers that the *TUE* does not meet those criteria and so refuses to recognise it, ITTF shall notify the *Athlete* and his or her *National Anti-Doping Organisation* promptly, with reasons. The *Athlete* and the *National Anti-Doping Organisation* shall have 21 days from such notification to refer the matter to WADA for review in accordance with Article 5.4.4.6. If the matter is referred to WADA for review, the *TUE* granted by the *National Anti-Doping Organisation* remains valid for national-level *Competition* and *Out-of-Competition Testing* (but is not valid for international-level *Competition*) pending WADA's decision. If the matter is not referred to WADA for review, the *TUE* becomes invalid for any purpose when the 21-day review deadline expires.

[Comment to Article 5.4.4.2.1: Further to Articles 5.5.6 and 5.7.1(a) of the *International Standard* for Therapeutic Use Exemptions, ITTF may publish a notice on its website <http://www.ittf.com/anti-doping/> that will automatically recognise *TUE* decisions (or categories of such decisions, e.g. as to particular substances or

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methods) made by National Anti-Doping Organisations. If an Athlete's TUE falls into a category of automatically recognised TUEs, then he or she does not need to apply to ITTF for recognition of that TUE.

If ITTF refuses to recognise a TUE granted by a National Anti-Doping Organisation only because medical records or other information are missing that are needed to demonstrate satisfaction with the criteria in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*, the matter should not be referred to WADA. Instead, the file should be completed and re-submitted to ITTF.]

5.4.4.2.2 If the Athlete does not already have a TUE granted by his or her National Anti-Doping Organisation for the substance or method in question, the Athlete must apply directly to ITTF for a TUE in accordance with the process set out in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions* using the form posted on <http://www.ittf.com/anti-doping/>. If ITTF denies the Athlete's application, it must notify the Athlete promptly, with reasons. If ITTF grants the Athlete's application, it shall notify not only the Athlete but also his or her National Anti-Doping Organisation. If the National Anti-Doping Organisation considers that the TUE does not meet the criteria set out in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*, it has 21 days from such notification to refer the matter to WADA for review in accordance with Article 5.4.4.6. If the National Anti-Doping Organisation refers the matter to WADA for review in accordance with Article 5.4.4.6, the TUE granted by ITTF remains valid for international-level *Competition* and *Out-of-Competition Testing* (but is not valid for national-level *Competition*) pending WADA's decision. If the National Anti-Doping Organisation does not refer the matter to WADA for review, the TUE granted by ITTF becomes valid for national-level *Competition* as well when the 21-day review deadline expires.

[Comment to Article 5.4.4.2: ITTF may agree with a National Anti-Doping Organisation that the National Anti-Doping Organisation will consider TUE applications on behalf of ITTF.]

5.4.4.3 If ITTF chooses to test an Athlete who is not an *International-Level Athlete*, ITTF shall recognise a TUE granted to that Athlete by his or her National Anti-Doping Organisation. If ITTF chooses to test an Athlete who is not an *International-Level* or a *National-Level Athlete*, ITTF shall permit that Athlete to apply for a retroactive TUE for any *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* he or she is using for therapeutic reasons.

5.4.4.4 An application to ITTF to grant or recognise a TUE must be made as soon as the need arises and in any event (save in emergency or exceptional situations or where Article 4.3 of the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions* applies) at least 30 days before the Athlete's next *Competition*. The ITTF Executive Committee shall appoint a panel to consider applications to grant or recognise a TUE (the "TUE Committee"). The TUE Committee shall promptly evaluate and decide upon the application in accordance with the relevant provisions of *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions* and the specific protocols posted on the ITTF website. Its decision shall be the final decision of ITTF and shall be reported to WADA and other relevant *Anti-Doping Organisations*, including the Athlete's National Anti-Doping

Organisation, through ADAMS, in accordance with the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*.

[Comment to Article 5.4.4.4: The submission of false or misleadingly incomplete information in support of a TUE application (including but not limited to the failure to advise of the unsuccessful outcome of a prior application to another Anti-Doping Organisation for such a TUE) may result in a charge of Tampering or Attempted Tampering under Article 2.5.

An Athlete should not assume that his or her application to grant or recognise a TUE (or for renewal of a TUE) will be granted. Any Use or Possession or administration of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method before an application has been granted is entirely at the Athlete's own risk.]

#### **5.4.4.5 Expiry, Cancellation, Withdrawal or Reversal of a TUE**

5.4.4.5.1 A TUE granted pursuant to these Anti-Doping Rules: (a) shall expire automatically at the end of any term for which it was granted, without the need for any further notice or other formality; (b) may be cancelled if the Athlete does not promptly comply with any requirements or conditions imposed by the TUE Committee upon granting the TUE; (c) may be withdrawn by the TUE Committee if it is subsequently determined that the criteria for granting a TUE are not in fact met; or (d) may be reversed on review by WADA or on appeal.

5.4.4.5.2 In such event, the Athlete shall not be subject to any Consequences based on his or her Use or Possession or Administration of the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method in question in accordance with the TUE prior to the effective date of expiry, cancellation, withdrawal or reversal of the TUE. The review pursuant to Article 5.7.2 of any subsequent Adverse Analytical Finding shall include consideration of whether such finding is consistent with Use of the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method prior to that date, in which event no anti-doping rule violation shall be asserted.

#### **5.4.4.6 Reviews and Appeals of TUE Decisions**

5.4.4.6.1 WADA shall review any decision by ITTF not to recognise a TUE granted by the National Anti-Doping Organisation that is referred to WADA by the Athlete or the Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organisation. In addition, WADA shall review any decision by ITTF to grant a TUE that is referred to WADA by the Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organisation. WADA may review any other TUE decisions at any time, whether upon request by those affected or on its own initiative. If the TUE decision being reviewed meets the criteria set out in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*, WADA will not interfere with it. If the TUE decision does not meet those criteria, WADA will reverse it.

5.4.4.6.2 Any TUE decision by ITTF (or by a National Anti-Doping Organisation where it has agreed to consider the application on behalf of ITTF) that is not reviewed by WADA, or that is reviewed by WADA but is not reversed upon review, may be appealed by the Athlete and/or the Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organisation exclusively to CAS, in accordance with Article 13.

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[Comment to Article 5.4.4.6.2: In such cases, the decision being appealed is ITTF's TUE decision, not WADA's decision not to review the TUE decision or (having reviewed it) not to reverse the TUE decision. However, the deadline to appeal the TUE decision does not begin to run until the date that WADA communicates its decision. In any event, whether the decision has been reviewed by WADA or not, WADA shall be given notice of the appeal so that it may participate if it sees fit.]

5.4.4.6.3 A decision by WADA to reverse a TUE decision may be appealed by the *Athlete*, the *National Anti-Doping Organisation* and/or ITTF exclusively to CAS, in accordance with Article 5.13.

5.4.4.6.4 A failure to take action within a reasonable time on a properly submitted application for granting/recognition of a TUE or for review of a TUE decision shall be considered a denial of the application.

## 5.5 TESTING AND INVESTIGATION

### 5.5.1 Purpose of *Testing* and Investigations

*Testing* and investigations shall only be undertaken for anti-doping purposes. They shall be conducted in conformity with the provisions of the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* and the specific protocols of ITTF supplementing that *International Standard*.

5.5.1.1 *Testing* shall be undertaken to obtain analytical evidence as to the *Athlete's* compliance (or non-compliance) with the strict *Code* prohibition on the presence/*Use* of a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*. Test Distribution Planning, *Testing*, post-*Testing* activity and all related activities conducted by ITTF shall be in conformity with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*. ITTF shall determine the number of finishing placement tests, random tests and target tests to be performed, in accordance with the criteria established by the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*. All provisions of the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* shall apply automatically in respect of all such *Testing*.

5.5.1.2 Investigations shall be undertaken:

5.5.1.2.1 in relation to *Atypical Findings*, *Atypical Passport Findings* and *Adverse Passport Findings*, in accordance with Articles 5.7.4 and 5.7.5 respectively, gathering intelligence or evidence (including, in particular, analytical evidence) in order to determine whether an anti-doping rule violation has occurred under Article 5.2.1 and/or Article 5.2.2; and

5.5.1.2.2 in relation to other indications of potential anti-doping rule violations, in accordance with Articles 5.7.6 and 5.7.7, gathering intelligence or evidence (including, in particular, non-analytical evidence) in order to determine whether an anti-doping rule violation has occurred under any of Articles 5.2.2 to 5.2.10.

5.5.1.3 ITTF may obtain, assess and process anti-doping intelligence from all available sources, to inform the development of an effective, intelligent and proportionate Test Distribution Plan, to plan Target Testing, and/or to form the basis of an investigation into a possible anti-doping rule violation(s).

## 5.5.2 Authority to conduct *Testing*

5.5.2.1 Subject to the jurisdictional limitations for *Event Testing* set out in Article 5.3 of the Code, ITTF shall have *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition Testing* authority over all of the *Athletes* specified in the Introduction to these Anti-Doping Rules (under the heading "Scope").

5.5.2.2 ITTF may require any Athlete over whom it has *Testing* authority (including any Athlete serving a period of Ineligibility) to provide a Sample at any time and at any place.

*[Comment to Article 5.5.2.2: Unless the Athlete has identified a 60-minute time-slot for Testing between the hours of 11pm and 6am, or has otherwise consented to Testing during that period, ITTF will not test an Athlete during that period unless it has serious and specific suspicions that the Athlete may be engaged in doping. A challenge to whether ITTF had sufficient suspicion for Testing in that period shall not be a defense to an anti-doping rule violation based on such test or attempted test.]*

5.5.2.3 WADA shall have *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition Testing* authority as set out in Article 20.7.8 of the Code.

5.5.2.4 If ITTF delegates or contracts any part of *Testing* to a *National Anti-Doping Organisation* (directly or through a *National Association*), that *National Anti-Doping Organisation* may collect additional *Samples* or direct the laboratory to perform additional types of analysis at the *National Anti-Doping Organisation's* expense. If additional *Samples* are collected or additional types of analysis are performed, ITTF shall be notified.

## 5.5.3 Event Testing

5.5.3.1 Except as provided in Article 5.3 of the Code, only a single organisation should be responsible for initiating and directing *Testing* at *Event Venues* during an *Event Period*. At *International Events*, the collection of *Samples* shall be initiated and directed by ITTF (or any other international organisation which is the ruling body for the *Event*).

5.5.3.2 If an *Anti-Doping Organisation* which would otherwise have *Testing* authority but is not responsible for initiating and directing *Testing* at an *Event* wishes to conduct *Testing* of *Athletes* at the *Event Venues* during the *Event Period*, the *Anti-Doping Organisation* shall first confer with the ruling body of the *Event* to obtain permission to conduct and to coordinate such *Testing*. If the *Anti-Doping Organisation* is not satisfied with the response from the ruling body of the *Event*, the *Anti-Doping Organisation* may ask WADA for permission to conduct *Testing* and to determine how to coordinate such *Testing* in accordance with the procedures set out in the *International Standard for*

*Testing and Investigations.* WADA shall not grant approval for such *Testing* before consulting and informing the ITTF (or any other international organisation which is the ruling body for the *Event*). WADA's decision shall be final and not subject to appeal. Unless otherwise provided in the authorisation to conduct *Testing*, such tests shall be considered *Out-of-Competition* tests. Results management for any such test shall be the responsibility of the *Anti-Doping Organisation* initiating the test unless provided otherwise in the rules of the ruling body of the *Event*.

### 5.5.4 Test Distribution Planning

Consistent with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*, and in coordination with other *Anti-Doping Organisations* conducting *Testing* on the same *Athletes*, ITTF shall develop and implement an effective, intelligent and proportionate Test Distribution Plan that prioritises appropriately between disciplines, categories of *Athletes*, types of *Testing*, types of *Samples* collected, and types of *Sample* analysis, all in compliance with the requirements of the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*. ITTF shall provide WADA upon request with a copy of its current Test Distribution Plan.

### 5.5.5 Coordination of Testing

Where reasonably feasible, *Testing* shall be coordinated through ADAMS or other system approved by WADA in order to maximise the effectiveness of the combined *Testing* effort and to avoid unnecessary repetitive *Testing*.

### 5.5.6 Athlete Whereabouts Information

- 5.5.6.1 ITTF shall identify a *Registered Testing Pool* of those *Athletes* who are required to comply with the whereabouts requirements of the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*, and shall make available through ADAMS, a list which identifies those *Athletes* to be included in its *Registered Testing Pool* either by name or by clearly defined, specific criteria. ITTF shall coordinate with *National Anti-Doping Organisations* the identification of such *Athletes* and the collection of their whereabouts information. ITTF shall review and update as necessary its criteria for including *Athletes* in its *Registered Testing Pool*, and shall revise the membership of its *Registered Testing Pool* from time to time as appropriate in accordance with the set criteria. *Athletes* shall be notified before they are included in a *Registered Testing Pool* and when they are removed from that pool. Each *Athlete* in the *Registered Testing Pool* shall do the following, in each case in accordance with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*: (a) advise ITTF of his or her whereabouts on a quarterly basis; (b) update that information as necessary so that it remains accurate and complete at all times; and (c) make him or herself available for *Testing* at such whereabouts.

- 5.5.6.2** For purposes of Article 5.2.4, an *Athlete's* failure to comply with the requirements of the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* shall be deemed a *Filing Failure* or a *Missed Test* (as defined in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*) where the conditions set forth in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* for declaring a *Filing Failure* or *Missed Test* are met.
- 5.5.6.3** An *Athlete* in ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* shall continue to be subject to the obligation to comply with the whereabouts requirements of the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* unless and until (a) the *Athlete* gives written notice to ITTF that he or she has retired or (b) until he or she no longer satisfies the criteria for inclusion in ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool*.
- 5.5.6.4** Whereabouts information relating to an *Athlete* shall be shared (through ADAMS) with WADA and other *Anti-Doping Organisations* having authority to test that *Athlete*, shall be maintained in strict confidence at all times, shall be used exclusively for the purposes set out in Article 5.6 of the *Code*, and shall be destroyed in accordance with the *International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information* once it is no longer relevant for these purposes.
- 5.5.7 Retired Athletes returning to Competition**
- 5.5.7.1** An *Athlete* in ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* who has given notice of retirement to ITTF may not resume competing in *International or National Events* until he or she has given ITTF written notice of his or her intent to resume competing and has made him/herself available for *Testing* for a period of at least six months before returning to Competition, including (if requested) complying with the whereabouts requirements of the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*. WADA, in consultation with ITTF and the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organisation*, may grant an exemption to the six-month written notice rule where the strict application of that rule would be manifestly unfair to an *Athlete*. This decision may be appealed under Article 5.13. Any competitive results obtained in violation of this Article 5.5.7.1 shall be *Disqualified*.
- 5.5.7.2** If an *Athlete* retires from sport while subject to a period of *Ineligibility*, the *Athlete* shall not resume competing in *International or National Events* until the *Athlete* has given six months prior written notice (or notice equivalent to the period of *Ineligibility* remaining as of the date the *Athlete* retired, if that period was longer than six months) to ITTF and to his or her *National Anti-Doping Organisation* of his or her intent to resume competing and has made him or herself available for *Testing* for that notice period, including (if requested) complying with whereabouts requirements of Annex I to the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.
- 5.5.7.3** An *Athlete* who is not in ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* who has given notice of retirement to ITTF may not resume competing unless he or she notifies ITTF and his or her *National Anti-Doping Organisation* at least six months before he or she wishes

to return to *Competition* and makes him or herself available for unannounced *Out-of-Competition Testing*, including (if requested) complying with the whereabouts requirements of the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*, during the period before actual return to *Competition*.

### 5.5.8 **Independent Observer Program**

ITTF and the organising committees for ITTF's *Events* as well as the *National Association Events* shall authorise and facilitate the *Independent Observer Program* at such *Events*.

## 5.6 ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES

*Samples* shall be analysed in accordance with the following principles:

### 5.6.1 **Use of Accredited and Approved Laboratories**

For the purposes of Article 5.2.1 *Samples* shall be analysed only in laboratories accredited or otherwise approved by *WADA*. The choice of the *WADA*-accredited or approved laboratory used for the *Sample* analysis shall be determined exclusively by ITTF.

*[Comment to Article 5.6.1: Violations of Article 5.2.1 may be established only by Sample analysis performed by a laboratory accredited or otherwise approved by WADA. Violations of other Articles may be established using analytical results from other laboratories so long as the results are reliable.]*

### 5.6.2 **Purpose of Analysis of Samples**

5.6.2.1 *Samples* shall be analysed to detect *Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods* and other substances as may be directed by *WADA* pursuant to the Monitoring Program described in Article 4.5 of the *Code*; or to assist ITTF in profiling relevant parameters in an *Athlete's* urine, blood or other matrix, including DNA or genomic profiling; or for any other legitimate anti-doping purpose. *Samples* may be collected and stored for future analysis.

*[Comment to Article 5.6.2.1: For example, relevant profile information could be used to direct Target Testing or to support an anti-doping rule violation proceeding under Article 5.2.2 or both.]*

5.6.2.2 ITTF shall ask laboratories to analyse *Samples* in conformity with Article 6.4 of the *Code* and Article 4.7 of the *International Standards for Testing and Investigations*.

### 5.6.3 Research on *Samples*

No *Sample* may be used for research without the *Athlete's* written consent. *Samples* used for purposes other than Article 5.6.2 shall have any means of identification removed such that they cannot be traced back to a particular *Athlete*.

### 5.6.4 Standards for *Sample* Analysis and Reporting

Laboratories shall analyse *Samples* and report results in conformity with the *International Standard* for Laboratories. To ensure effective *Testing*, the Technical Document referenced at Article 5.4.1 of the *Code* will establish risk assessment-based *Sample* analysis menus appropriate for particular sports and sport disciplines, and laboratories shall analyse *Samples* in conformity with those menus, except as follows:

- 5.6.4.1 ITTF may request that laboratories analyse its *Samples* using more extensive menus than those described in the Technical Document.
- 5.6.4.2 ITTF may request that laboratories analyse its *Samples* using less extensive menus than those described in the Technical Document only if it has satisfied WADA that, because of the particular circumstances of its sport, as set out in its Test Distribution Plan, less extensive analysis would be appropriate.
- 5.6.4.3 As provided in the *International Standard for Laboratories*, laboratories at their own initiative and expense may analyse *Samples* for *Prohibited Substances* or *Prohibited Methods* not included on the *Sample* analysis menu described in the Technical Document or specified by the *Testing* authority. Results from any such analysis shall be reported and have the same validity and consequence as any other analytical result.

[Comment to Article 5.6.4: The objective of this Article is to extend the principle of “intelligent Testing” to the *Sample* analysis menu so as to detect doping most effectively and efficiently. It is recognised that the resources available to fight doping are limited and that increasing the *Sample* analysis menu may, in some sports and countries, reduce the number of *Samples* which can be analysed.]

### 5.6.5 Further Analysis of *Samples*

Any *Sample* may be stored and subsequently subjected to further analysis for the purposes described in Article 5.6.2: (a) by WADA at any time; and/or (b) by ITTF at any time before both the A and B *Sample* analytical results (or A *Sample* result where B *Sample* analysis has been waived or will not be performed) have been communicated by ITTF to the *Athlete* as the asserted basis of an Article 5.2.1 anti-doping rule violation. Such further analysis of *Samples* shall conform to the requirements of the *International Standard* for Laboratories and the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.

## **5.7 RESULTS MANAGEMENT**

### **5.7.1 Responsibility for Conducting Results Management**

**5.7.1.1** The circumstances in which ITTF shall take responsibility for conducting results management in respect of anti-doping rule violations involving *Athletes* and other *Persons* under its jurisdiction shall be determined by reference to and in accordance with Article 7 of the *Code*.

**5.7.1.2** ITTF Anti-Doping Manager or his/her delegate, or, as may be requested by ITTF, an ad-hoc Doping Review Panel (which may include the ITTF Anti-Doping Manager or his/her delegate) appointed by the ITTF CEO, consisting of a Chair and at least two other members with experience in anti-doping and/or investigations, shall conduct the review discussed in Articles 5.7.2, 5.7.3, 5.7.4, 5.7.5, 5.7.6 and 5.7.7 of any potential violations of these Anti-Doping Rules.

### **5.7.2 Review of Adverse Analytical Findings from Tests Initiated by ITTF**

Results management in respect of the results of tests initiated by ITTF (including tests performed by *WADA* pursuant to agreement with ITTF) shall proceed as follows:

**5.7.2.1** The results from all analyses must be sent to ITTF in encoded form, in a report signed by an authorised representative of the laboratory. All communication must be conducted in confidentiality and in conformity with *ADAMS*.

**5.7.2.2** Upon receipt of an *Adverse Analytical Finding*, ITTF shall conduct a review to determine whether: (a) an applicable *TUE* has been granted or will be granted as provided in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*, or (b) there is any apparent departure from the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* or *International Standard for Laboratories* that caused the *Adverse Analytical Finding*.

**5.7.2.3** If the review of an *Adverse Analytical Finding* under Article 5.7.2.2 reveals an applicable *TUE* or departure from the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* or the *International Standard for Laboratories* that caused the *Atypical Finding*, the entire test shall be considered negative and the *Athlete*, the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organisation* and *WADA* shall be so informed.

### **5.7.3 Notification After Review Regarding Adverse Analytical Findings**

**5.7.3.1** If the review of an *Adverse Analytical Finding* under Article 5.7.2.2 does not reveal an applicable *TUE* or entitlement to a *TUE* as provided in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions* or departure from the *International Standard for Testing and Investigation* or the *International Standard for Laboratories* that caused the *Adverse Analytical Finding*, ITTF shall promptly notify the *Athlete*, and simultaneously the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organisation* and *WADA*, in the manner set out in Article 5.14.1 of: (a) the *Adverse Analytical Finding*; (b) the anti-doping rule violated; (c) the

*Athlete's* right promptly to request the analysis of the B Sample or, failing such request, that the B Sample analysis may be deemed waived; (d) the scheduled date, time and place for the B Sample analysis if the *Athlete* or ITTF chooses to request an analysis of the B Sample; (e) the opportunity for the *Athlete* and/or the *Athlete's* representative to attend the B Sample opening and analysis in accordance with the *International Standard for Laboratories* if such analysis is requested; and (f) the *Athlete's* right to request copies of the A and B Sample laboratory documentation package which includes information as required by the *International Standard for Laboratories*. If ITTF decides not to bring forward the *Adverse Analytical Finding* as an anti-doping rule violation, it shall so notify the *Athlete*, the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organisation* and WADA.

**5.7.3.2** Where requested by the *Athlete* or ITTF, arrangements shall be made to analyse the B Sample in accordance with the *International Standard for Laboratories*. An *Athlete* may accept the A Sample analytical results by waiving the requirement for B Sample analysis. ITTF may nonetheless elect to proceed with the B Sample analysis.

**5.7.3.3** The *Athlete* and/or his or her representative shall be allowed to be present at the analysis of the B Sample. Also a representative of ITTF as well as the *Athlete's National Association* shall be allowed to be present.

**5.7.3.4** If the B Sample analysis does not confirm the A Sample analysis, then (unless ITTF takes the case forward as an anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.2.2) the entire test shall be considered negative and the *Athlete*, his or her *National Anti-Doping Organisation*, and WADA shall be so informed.

**5.7.3.5** If the B Sample analysis confirms the A Sample analysis, the findings shall be reported to the *Athlete*, his or her *National Anti-Doping Organisation* and to WADA.

#### **5.7.4 Review of Atypical Findings**

**5.7.4.1** As provided in the *International Standard for Laboratories*, in certain circumstances laboratories are directed to report the presence of *Prohibited Substances* that may also be produced endogenously as *Atypical Findings* i.e. as findings that are subject to further investigation.

**5.7.4.2** Upon receipt of an *Atypical Finding* ITTF shall conduct a review to determine whether: (a) an applicable TUE has been granted or will be granted as provided in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*, or (b) there is any apparent departure from the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* or *International Standard for Laboratories* that caused the *Atypical Analytical Finding*.

**5.7.4.3** If the review of an *Atypical Finding* under Article 5.7.4.2 reveals an applicable TUE or departure from the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* or the *International Standard for Laboratories* that caused the *Atypical Finding*, the entire test

shall be considered negative and the *Athlete*, his or her *National Anti-Doping Organisation*, and WADA shall be so informed.

**5.7.4.4** If the review does not reveal an applicable TUE or departure from the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* or the *International Standard for Laboratories* that caused the *Atypical Finding*, ITTF shall conduct the required investigation or cause it to be conducted. After the investigation is completed either the *Atypical Finding* will be brought forward as an *Adverse Analytical Finding* in accordance with Article 5.7.3.1 or else the *Athlete*, the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organisation* and WADA shall be notified that the *Atypical Finding* will not be brought forward as an *Adverse Analytical Finding*.

**5.7.4.5** ITTF will not provide notice of an *Atypical Finding* until it has completed its investigation and has decided whether it will bring the *Atypical Finding* forward as an *Adverse Analytical Finding* unless one of the following circumstances exists:

**5.7.4.5.1** If ITTF determines the B *Sample* should be analysed prior to the conclusion of its investigation, it may conduct the B *Sample* analysis after notifying the *Athlete*, with such notice to include a description of the *Atypical Finding* and the information described in Article 5.7.3.1 (d) to (f).

**5.7.4.5.2** If ITTF is asked by (a) a *Major Event Organisation* shortly before one of its *International Events* or (b) a sports organisation responsible for meeting an imminent deadline for selecting team members for an *International Event*, to disclose whether any *Athlete* identified on a list provided by the *Major Event Organisation* or sports organisation has a pending *Atypical Finding*, ITTF shall so advise the *Major Event Organisation* or sports organisation after first providing notice of the *Atypical Finding* to the *Athlete*.

### **5.7.5 Review of Atypical Passport Findings and Adverse Passport Findings**

Review of Atypical Passport Findings and *Adverse Passport Findings* shall take place as provided in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* and *International Standard for Laboratories*. At such time as ITTF is satisfied that an anti-doping rule violation has occurred, it shall promptly give the *Athlete* (and simultaneously the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organisation* and WADA) notice of the anti-doping rule violation asserted and the basis of that assertion.

### **5.7.6 Review of Whereabouts Failures**

**5.7.6.1** ITTF shall review potential *Filing Failures* and *Missed Tests* as defined in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*, in respect of *Athletes* who file their whereabouts information with ITTF in accordance with Annex I to the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*. At such time as ITTF is satisfied that an Article 5.2.4 anti-doping rule violation has occurred, it shall promptly give the *Athlete* (and simultaneously the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organisation* and WADA) notice that it is asserting a violation of Article 5.2.4 and the basis for that assertion.

### **5.7.7 Review of Other Anti-Doping Rule Violations Not Covered by Articles 5.7.2–5.7.6**

ITTF shall conduct any follow-up investigation required into a possible anti-doping rule violation not covered by Articles 5.7.2-5.7.6. At such time as ITTF is satisfied that an anti-doping rule violation has occurred, it shall promptly give the *Athlete* or other *Person* (and simultaneously the *Athlete's* or other *Person's National Anti-Doping Organisation* and *WADA*) notice of the anti-doping rule violation asserted and the basis of that assertion.

### **5.7.8 Identification of Prior Anti-Doping Rule Violations**

Before giving an *Athlete* or other *Person* notice of an asserted anti-doping rule violation as provided above, ITTF shall refer to *ADAMS* and contact *WADA* and other relevant *Anti-Doping Organisations* to determine whether any prior anti-doping rule violation exists.

### **5.7.9 Provisional Suspensions**

#### **5.7.9.1 Mandatory Provisional Suspensions**

If analysis of an *A Sample* has resulted in an *Adverse Analytical Finding* for a *Prohibited Substance* that is not a *Specified Substance* or for a *Prohibited Method*, and a review in accordance with Article 5.7.2.2 does not reveal an applicable *TUE* or departure from the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* or the *International Standard for Laboratories* that caused the *Adverse Analytical Finding*, a *Provisional Suspension* shall be imposed upon or promptly after the notification described in Articles 5.7.2, 5.7.3 and 5.7.5.

#### **5.7.9.2 Optional Provisional Suspension**

In case of an *Adverse Analytical Finding* for a *Specified Substance* or a *Contaminated Product*, or in the case of any other anti-doping rule violations not covered by Article 5.7.9.1, ITTF may impose a *Provisional Suspension* on the *Athlete* or other *Person* against whom the anti-doping rule violation is asserted at any time after the review and notification described in Articles 5.7.2–5.7.7 and prior to the final hearing as described in Article 5.8.

**5.7.9.3** Where a *Provisional Suspension* is imposed, pursuant to Article 5.7.9.1 or Article 5.7.9.2, the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall be given either (a) an opportunity for a *Provisional Hearing* either before or on a timely basis after imposition of the *Provisional Suspension*; or (b) an opportunity for an expedited final hearing in accordance with Article 5.8 on a timely basis after imposition of the *Provisional Suspension*. Furthermore, the *Athlete* or other *Person* has a right to appeal from the *Provisional Suspensions* in accordance with 5.13.2.

- 5.7.9.3.1 The *Provisional Suspension* may be lifted if the *Athlete* or other *Person* demonstrates to the hearing panel that the violation is likely to have involved a *Contaminated Product*. The hearing panel's decision not to lift a *Provisional Suspension* on account of the *Athlete's* or other *Person's* assertion regarding a *Contaminated Product* shall not be appealable.
- 5.7.9.3.2 At a *Provisional Hearing*, the *Provisional Suspension* shall be imposed (or shall not be lifted) unless the *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes that: (a) the assertion of an anti-doping rule violation has no reasonable prospect of being upheld, e.g. because of a patent flaw in the case against the *Athlete* or other *Person*; or (b) the *Athlete* or other *Person* has a strong arguable case that he or she bears *No Fault or Negligence* for the anti-doping rule violation(s) asserted, so that any period of *Ineligibility* that might otherwise be imposed for such a violation is likely to be completely eliminated by application of Article 5.10.4; or (c) some other facts exist that make it clearly unfair, in all of the circumstances, to impose a *Provisional Suspension* prior to a final hearing in accordance with Article 5.8. This ground is to be construed narrowly, and applied only in truly exceptional circumstances. For example, the fact that the *Provisional Suspension* would prevent the *Athlete* or other *Person* participating in a particular *Competition* or *Event* shall not qualify as exceptional circumstances for these purposes.
- 5.7.9.4 If a *Provisional Suspension* is imposed based on an *A Sample Adverse Analytical Finding* and any subsequent *B Sample* analysis does not confirm the *A Sample* analysis, then the *Athlete* shall not be subject to any further *Provisional Suspension* on account of a violation of Article 5.2.1. In circumstances where the *Athlete* (or the *Athlete's* team as provided in the rules of ITTF) has been removed from a *Competition* based on a violation of Article 5.2.1 and the subsequent *B Sample* analysis does not confirm the *A Sample* finding, then if it is still possible for the *Athlete* or team to be reinserted, without otherwise affecting the *Competition*, the *Athlete* or team may continue to take part in the *Competition*. In addition, the *Athlete* or team may thereafter take part in other *Competitions* in the same *Event*.
- 5.7.9.5 In all cases where an *Athlete* or other *Person* has been notified of an anti-doping rule violation but a *Provisional Suspension* has not been imposed on him or her, the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall be offered the opportunity to accept a *Provisional Suspension* voluntarily pending the resolution of the matter.

[Comment to Article 5.7.9: *Athletes and other Persons shall receive credit for a Provisional Suspension against any period of Ineligibility which is ultimately imposed as provided in Article 5.10.11.3 and 10.11.4.*]

## 5.7.10 Resolution Without a Hearing

- 5.7.10.1** An *Athlete* or other *Person* against whom an anti-doping rule violation is asserted may admit that violation at any time, waive a hearing, and accept the *Consequences* that are mandated by these Anti-Doping Rules or (where some discretion as to sanction exists under these Anti-Doping Rules) that have been offered by ITTF.
- 5.7.10.2** Alternatively, if the *Athlete* or other *Person* against whom an anti-doping rule violation is asserted fails to dispute that assertion within the deadline specified in the notice sent by ITTF asserting the violation, then he or she shall be deemed to have admitted the violation, to have waived a hearing, and to have accepted the *Consequences* that are mandated by these Anti-Doping Rules or (where some discretion as to sanction exists under these Anti-Doping Rules) that have been offered by ITTF.
- 5.7.10.3** In cases where Article 5.7.10.1 or Article 5.7.10.2 applies, a hearing before a hearing panel shall not be required. Instead ITTF shall promptly issue a written decision confirming the commission of the anti-doping rule violation and the *Consequences* imposed as a result, and setting out the full reasons for any period of *Ineligibility* imposed, including (if applicable) a justification for why the maximum potential period of *Ineligibility* was not imposed. ITTF shall send copies of that decision to other *Anti-Doping Organisations* with a right to appeal under Article 5.13.2.3, and shall Publicly Disclose that decision in accordance with Article 5.14.3.2.

## 5.7.11 Notification of Results Management Decisions

In all cases where ITTF has asserted the commission of an anti-doping rule violation, withdrawn the assertion of an anti-doping rule violation, imposed a *Provisional Suspension*, or agreed with an *Athlete* or other *Person* to the imposition of a sanction without a hearing, ITTF shall give notice thereof in accordance with Article 5.14.2.1 to other *Anti-Doping Organisations* with a right to appeal under Article 5.13.2.3.

## 5.7.12 Retirement from Sport

If an *Athlete* or other *Person* retires while ITTF is conducting the results management process, ITTF retains jurisdiction to complete its results management process. If an *Athlete* or other *Person* retires before any results management process has begun and ITTF would have had results management authority over the *Athlete* or other *Person* at the time the *Athlete* or other *Person* committed an anti-doping rule violation, ITTF has authority to conduct results management in respect of that anti-doping rule violation.

*[Comment to Article 5.7.12 Conduct by an Athlete or other Person before the Athlete or other Person was subject to the jurisdiction of any Anti-Doping Organisation would not constitute an anti-doping rule violation but could be a legitimate basis for denying the Athlete or other Person membership in a sports organisation.]*

## 5.8 RIGHT TO A FAIR HEARING

### 5.8.1 Principles for a Fair Hearing

**5.8.1.1** When ITTF sends a notice to an *Athlete* or other *Person* asserting an anti-doping rule violation and the *Athlete* or other *Person* does not waive a hearing in accordance with Article 5.7.10.1 or 5.7.10.2, then the case shall be referred to the ITTF doping hearing panel for hearing and adjudication.

**5.8.1.2** Hearings shall be scheduled and completed within a reasonable time. Hearings held in connection with *Events* may be conducted by an expedited process as permitted by the rules of the relevant *Anti-Doping Organisation* and the hearing panel.

[Comment to Article 5.8.1.2: For example, a hearing could be expedited on the eve of a major *Event* where the resolution of the anti-doping rule violation is necessary to determine the *Athlete's* eligibility to participate in the *Event*, or during an *Event* where the resolution of the case will affect the validity of the *Athlete's* results or continued participation in the *Event*.]

**5.8.1.3** The ITTF doping hearing panel shall determine the procedure to be followed at the hearing.

**5.8.1.4** WADA and the *National Association* of the *Athlete* or other *Person* may attend the hearing as observers. In any event, ITTF shall keep WADA fully apprised as to the status of pending cases and the result of all hearings.

**5.8.1.5** The ITTF doping hearing panel shall act in a fair and impartial manner towards all parties at all times.

### 5.8.2 Decisions

**5.8.2.1** At the end of the hearing, or on a timely basis thereafter, the ITTF doping hearing panel shall issue a written decision that includes the full reasons for the decision and for any period of *Ineligibility* imposed, including (if applicable) a justification for why the maximum potential *Consequences* were not imposed.

**5.8.2.2** The decision may be appealed to the CAS as provided in Article 5.13. Copies of the decision shall be provided to the *Athlete* or other *Person* and to other *Anti-Doping Organisations* with a right to appeal under Article 5.13.2.3.

**5.8.2.3** If no appeal is brought against the decision, then (a) if the decision is that an anti-doping rule violation was committed, the decision shall be *Publicly Disclosed* as provided in Article 5.14.3.2; but (b) if the decision is that no anti-doping rule violation was committed, then the decision shall only be *Publicly Disclosed* with the consent of the *Athlete* or other *Person* who is the subject of the decision. ITTF shall use reasonable efforts to obtain such consent, and if consent is obtained, shall *Publicly Disclose* the decision in its entirety or in such redacted form as the *Athlete* or other

Person may approve. The principles contained at Article 5.14.3.6 shall be applied in cases involving a *Minor*.

### 5.8.3 Single Hearing Before CAS

Cases asserting anti-doping rule violations may be heard directly at CAS, with no requirement for a prior hearing, with the consent of the *Athlete*, ITTF, WADA, and any other *Anti-Doping Organisation* that would have had a right to appeal a first instance hearing decision to CAS.

*[Comment to Article 5.8.3: Where all of the parties identified in this Article are satisfied that their interests will be adequately protected in a single hearing, there is no need to incur the extra expense of two hearings. An Anti-Doping Organisation that wants to participate in the CAS hearing as a party or as an observer may condition its approval of a single hearing on being granted that right.]*

## 5.9 AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION OF INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

An anti-doping rule violation in *Individual Sports* in connection with an *In-Competition* test automatically leads to *Disqualification* of the result obtained in that *Competition* with all resulting consequences, including forfeiture of any titles, medals, computer ranking points and prizes.

*[Comment to Article 5.9: In sports which are not Team Sports but where awards are given to teams, Disqualification or other disciplinary action against the team when one or more team members have committed an anti-doping rule violation shall be as provided in the applicable rules of ITTF.]*

## 5.10 SANCTIONS ON INDIVIDUALS

### 5.10.1 *Disqualification* of Results in the *Event* during which an Anti-Doping Rule Violation Occurs

An anti-doping rule violation occurring during or in connection with an *Event* may, upon the decision of the ruling body of the *Event*, lead to *Disqualification* of all of the *Athlete's* individual results obtained in that *Event* with all *Consequences*, including forfeiture of all titles, medals, computer ranking points and prizes, except as provided in Article 5.10.1.1.

*[Comment to Article 5.10.1: Whereas Article 5.9 Disqualifies the result in a single Competition in which the Athlete tested positive (e.g. the individual event), this Article may lead to Disqualification of all results in all events during the Event. Factors to be included in considering whether to Disqualify other results in an Event might include, for example, the severity of the Athlete's anti-doping rule violation and whether the Athlete tested negative in the other Competitions.]*

**5.10.1.1** If the *Athlete* establishes that he or she bears *No Fault or Negligence* for the violation, the *Athlete's* individual results in the other *Competitions* shall not be *Disqualified* unless the *Athlete's* results in *Competitions* other than the *Competition* in which the

anti-doping rule violation occurred were likely to have been affected by the *Athlete's* anti-doping rule violation.

### **5.10.2 *Ineligibility for Presence, Use or Attempted Use, or Possession of Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods***

The period of *Ineligibility* imposed for a violation of Article 5.2.1, Article 5.2.2 or Article 5.2.6 shall be as follows subject to potential reduction of suspension of sanction pursuant to Articles 5.10.4, 5.10.5 or Article 5.10.6:

**5.10.2.1** The period of *Ineligibility* shall be four (4) years where:

**5.10.2.1.1** The anti-doping rule violation does not involve a *Specified Substance*, unless the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish that the anti-doping rule violation was not intentional.

**5.10.2.1.2** The anti-doping rule violation involves a *Specified Substance* and ITTF can establish that the anti-doping rule violation was intentional.

**5.10.2.2** If Article 10.2.1 does not apply, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be two (2) years.

**5.10.2.3** As used in Articles 5.10.2 and 5.10.3, the term “intentional” is meant to identify those *Athletes* who cheat. The term therefore requires that the *Athlete* or other *Person* engaged in conduct which he or she knew constituted an anti-doping rule violation or knew that there was a significant risk that the conduct might constitute or result in an anti-doping rule violation and manifestly disregarded that risk. An anti-doping rule violation resulting from an *Adverse Analytical Finding* for a substance which is only prohibited *In-Competition* shall be rebuttably presumed to be not intentional if the substance is a *Specified Substance* and the *Athlete* can establish that the *Prohibited Substance* was *Used Out-of-Competition*. An anti-doping rule violation resulting from an *Adverse Analytical Finding* for a substance which is only prohibited *In-Competition* shall not be considered intentional if the substance is not a *Specified Substance* and the *Athlete* can establish that the *Prohibited Substance* was *Used Out-of-Competition* in a context unrelated to sport performance.

### **5.10.3 *Ineligibility for Other Anti-Doping Rule Violations***

The period of *Ineligibility* for anti-doping rule violations other than as provided in Article 5.10.2 shall be as follows unless Articles 5.10.5 or 5.10.6 are applicable:

**5.10.3.1** For violations of Article 5.2.3 or Article 5.2.5, the *Ineligibility* period shall be four (4) years unless, in the case of failing to submit to *Sample* collection, the *Athlete* can establish that the commission of the anti-doping rule violation was not intentional (as defined in Article 5.10.2.3) in which case the period of *Ineligibility* shall be two (2) years.

**5.10.3.2** For violations of Article 5.2.4, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be two (2) years, subject to reduction down to a minimum of one (1) year, depending on the *Athlete's* degree of *Fault*. The flexibility between two (2) years and one (1) year of *Ineligibility* in this Article is not available to *Athletes* where a pattern of last-minute whereabouts changes of other conduct raises a serious suspicion that the *Athlete* was trying to avoid being available for *Testing*.

**5.10.3.3** For violations of Articles 5.2.7 or 5.2.8, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be at a minimum four (4) years up to a lifetime *Ineligibility* depending on the severity of the violation. An Article 5.2.7 or 5.2.8 violation involving a *Minor* shall be considered a particularly serious violation and, if committed by *Athlete Support Personnel* for violations other than for *Specified Substances* shall result in a lifetime *Ineligibility* for *Athlete Support Personnel*. In addition, significant violations of Articles 5.2.7 or 5.2.8 which may also violate non-sport laws and regulations, shall be reported to the competent administrative, professional or judicial authorities.

*[Comment to Article 5.10.3.3: Those who are involved in doping Athletes or covering up doping should be subject to sanctions which are more severe than the Athletes who test positive. Since the authority of sport organisations is generally limited to Ineligibility for accreditation, membership and other sport benefits, reporting Athlete Support Personnel to competent authorities is an important step in the deterrence of doping.]*

**5.10.3.4** For violations of Article 5.2.9, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be a minimum of two (2) years, up to four years, depending on the seriousness of the violation.

**5.10.3.5** For violations of Article 5.2.10, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be two (2) years, subject to reduction down to a minimum of one (1) year depending on the *Athlete* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault* and other circumstances of the case.

*[Comment to Article 5.10.3.5: Where the "other Person" referenced in Article 5.2.10 is an entity and not an individual, that entity may be disciplined as provided in Article 5.12.]*

#### **5.10.4 Elimination or Reduction of Period of *Ineligibility* where there is *No Fault or Negligence***

If an *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes in an individual case that he or she bears *No Fault or Negligence*, then the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* shall be eliminated.

*[Comment to 5.10.4: This Article and Article 5.10.5.2 apply only to the imposition of sanctions; they are not applicable to the determination of whether an anti-doping rule violation has occurred.]*

*They will only apply in exceptional circumstances, for example where an Athlete could prove that, despite all due care, he or she was sabotaged by a competitor. Conversely, No Fault or Negligence would not apply in the following circumstances: (a) a positive test resulting from a mislabeled or contaminated vitamin or nutritional supplement (Athletes are responsible for what they ingest (Article 5.2.1.1) and have been warned against the possibility of supplement contamination); (b) the Administration of a Prohibited Substance by the Athlete's personal physician or trainer without disclosure to the Athlete (Athletes are responsible for their choice of medical*

personnel and for advising medical personnel that they cannot be given any Prohibited Substance); and (c) sabotage of the Athlete's food or drink by a spouse, coach or other Person within the Athlete's circle of associates (Athletes are responsible for what they ingest and for the conduct of those Persons to whom they entrust access to their food and drink). However, depending on the unique facts of a particular case, any of the referenced illustrations could result in a reduced sanction under Article 5.10.5 based on No Significant Fault or Negligence].

### **5.10.5 Reduction of the Period of Ineligibility based No Significant Fault or Negligence**

#### **5.10.5.1 Reduction of Sanctions for Specified Substances or Contaminated Products for Violations of Articles 5.2.1, 5.2.2 or 5.2.6**

##### **5.10.5.1.1 Specified Substances**

Where the anti-doping rule violation involves a *Specified Substance*, and the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish *No Significant Fault or Negligence*, then the period of *Ineligibility* shall be, at minimum, a reprimand and no period of *Ineligibility* and at a maximum, two (2) years of *Ineligibility* depending on the *Athlete's* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault*.

##### **5.10.5.1.2 Contaminated Products**

In cases where the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish *No Significant Fault or Negligence* and that the detected *Prohibited Substance* came from a *Contaminated Product*, then the period of *Ineligibility* shall be, at a minimum, a reprimand and no period of *Ineligibility*, and at a maximum, two (2) years *Ineligibility*, depending on the *Athlete's* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault*.

[Comment to Article 5.10.5.1.2: In assessing that Athlete's degree of Fault, it would, for example, be favorable for the Athlete if the Athlete had declared the product which was subsequently determined to be Contaminated on his or her Doping Control form.]

#### **5.10.5.2 Application of No Significant Fault or Negligence beyond the Application of Article 5.10.5.1**

If an *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes in an individual case where Article 5.10.5.1 is not applicable that he or she bears *No Significant Fault or Negligence*, then, subject to further reduction or elimination as provided in Article 5.10.6, the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* may be reduced based on the *Athlete* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault*, but the reduced period of *Ineligibility* may not be less than one-half of the period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable. If the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* is a lifetime, the reduced period under this Article may be no less than eight (8) years.

[Comment to Article 5.10.5.2: Article 5.10.5.2 may be applied to any anti-doping rule violation except those Articles where intent is an element of the anti-doping rule violation (e.g., Articles 5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.8 or 5.2.9) or an element of a particular sanction (e.g., Article 5.10.2.1) or a range of *Ineligibility* is already provided in an Article based on the *Athlete* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault*.]

## 5.10.6 Elimination, Reduction, or Suspension of Period of *Ineligibility* or other *Consequences* for Reasons Other than *Fault*

### 5.10.6.1 *Substantial Assistance* in Discovering or Establishing Anti-Doping Rule Violations

#### 5.10.6.1.1 ITTF may, prior to a final appellate decision under Article 5.13 or the expiration of the time to appeal, suspend a part of the period of *Ineligibility* imposed in an individual case in which it has results management authority where the *Athlete* or other *Person* has provided *Substantial Assistance* to an *Anti-Doping Organisation*, criminal authority or professional disciplinary body which results in (i) the *Anti-Doping Organisation* discovering or bringing forward an anti-doping rule violation by another *Person* or (ii) which results in a criminal or disciplinary body discovering or bringing forward a criminal offence or the breach of professional rules committed by another *Person* and the information provided by the *Person* providing *Substantial Assistance* is made available to ITTF.

After a final appellate decision under Article 5.13 or the expiration of time to appeal, ITTF may only suspend a part of the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* with the approval of *WADA*. The extent to which the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* may be suspended shall be based on the seriousness of the anti-doping rule violation committed by the *Athlete* or other *Person* and the significance of the *Substantial Assistance* provided by the *Athlete* or other *Person* to the effort to eliminate doping in sport. No more than three-quarters of the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* may be suspended. If the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* is a lifetime, the non-suspended period under this Article must be no less than eight (8) years. If the *Athlete* or other *Person* fails to continue to cooperate and to provide the complete and credible *Substantial Assistance* upon which a suspension of the period of *Ineligibility* was based, ITTF shall reinstate the original period of *Ineligibility*. If ITTF decides to reinstate a suspended period of *Ineligibility* or decides not to reinstate a suspended period of *Ineligibility*, that decision may be appealed by any *Person* entitled to appeal under Article 5.13.

#### 5.10.6.1.2 To encourage further *Athletes* and other *Persons* to provide *Substantial Assistance* to *Anti-Doping Organisations*, at the request of ITTF or at the request of the *Athlete* or other *Person* who has (or has been asserted to have) committed an anti-doping rule violation, *WADA* may agree at any stage of the results management process, including after a final appellate decision under Article 5.13, to what it considers to be an appropriate suspension of the otherwise-applicable period of *Ineligibility* and other *Consequences*. In exceptional circumstances, *WADA* may agree to suspensions of the period of *Ineligibility* and other *Consequences* for *Substantial Assistance* greater than those otherwise provided in this Article, or even no period of *Ineligibility*, and/or no return of prize money or payment of fines or costs. *WADA*'s approval shall be subject to reinstatement of sanction, as otherwise provided in this Article. Notwithstanding Article 5.13, *WADA*'s decisions in the context of this Article may not be appealed by any other *Anti-Doping Organisation*.

**5.10.6.1.3** If ITTF suspends any part of an otherwise applicable sanction because of *Substantial Assistance*, then notice providing justification for the decision shall be provided to the other *Anti-Doping Organisations* with a right to appeal under Article 5.13.2.3 as provided in Article 5.14.2. In unique circumstances where WADA determines that it would be in the best interest of anti-doping, WADA may authorise ITTF to enter into appropriate confidentiality agreements limiting or delaying the disclosure of the *Substantial Assistance* agreement or the nature of *Substantial Assistance* being provided.

*[Comment to Article 5.10.6.1: The cooperation of Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel and other Persons who acknowledge their mistakes and are willing to bring other anti-doping rule violations to light is important to clean sport.]*

*This is the only circumstance under the Code where the suspension of an otherwise applicable period of Ineligibility is authorised.]*

### **5.10.6.2** Admission of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation in the Absence of other Evidence

Where an *Athlete* or other *Person* voluntarily admits the commission of an anti-doping rule violation before having received notice of a *Sample* collection which could establish an anti-doping rule violation (or, in the case of an anti-doping rule violation other than Article 5.2.1, before receiving first notice of the admitted violation pursuant to Article 5.7) and that admission is the only reliable evidence of the violation at the time of admission, then the period of *Ineligibility* may be reduced, but not below one-half of the period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable.

*[Comment to Article 5.10.6.2: This Article is intended to apply when an Athlete or other Person comes forward and admits to an anti-doping rule violation in circumstances where no Anti-Doping Organisation is aware that an anti-doping rule violation might have been committed. It is not intended to apply to circumstances where the admission occurs after the Athlete or other Person knows he or she is about to be caught. The amount by which Ineligibility is reduced should be based on the likelihood that the Athlete or other Person would have been caught had he or she not come forward voluntarily.]*

### **5.10.6.3** Prompt admission of an anti-doping rule violation after being confronted with a violation sanctionable under Article 5.10.2.1 or 5.10.3.1

An *Athlete* or other *Person* potentially subject to a four-year sanction under Article 10.2.1 or 10.3.1 (for evading or refusing *Sample Collection* or tampering with *Sample Collection*), by promptly admitting the asserted anti-doping rule violation after being confronted by ITTF, and also upon the approval and at the discretion of both WADA and ITTF, may receive a reduction in the period of *Ineligibility* down to a minimum of two (2) years, depending on the severity of the violation and the *Athlete* or other *Person's* degree of *Fault*.

### **5.10.6.4** Where an *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes entitlement to reduction in sanction under more than one provision of Articles 5.10.4, 5.10.5 or 5.10.6

Before applying any reduction or suspension under Articles 5.10.6, the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* shall be determined in accordance with Articles 5.10.2, 5.10.3, 5.10.4 and 5.10.5. If the *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes entitlement to a reduction or suspension of the period of *Ineligibility* under Articles 5.10.6, then the period of *Ineligibility* may be reduced or suspended, but not below one-fourth of the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility*.

[Comment to Article 5.10.6.4: The appropriate sanction is determined in a sequence of four steps. First, the hearing panel determines which of the basic sanctions (Article 5.10.2, 5.10.3, 5.10.4 or 5.10.5) applies to the particular anti-doping rule violation. Second step, if the basic sanction provides for a range of sanction, the hearing panel must determine the applicable sanction within that range according to the *Athlete* or other *Person*'s degree of Fault. In a third step, the hearing panel establishes whether there is a basis for elimination or reduction of the sanction (Articles 5.10.5.1 through 5.10.5.4). Note, however, not all grounds for elimination, suspension or reduction of the sanction. Finally, the hearing panel decides on the commencement of the period of *Ineligibility* under Article 5.10.11. Several examples of how Article 5.10 is to be applied are found in Appendix 2.]

## 5.10.7 Multiple Violations

**5.10.7.1** For an *Athlete* or other *Person*'s second anti-doping rule violation, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be the greater of:

- (a) six months;
- (b) one-half of the period of *Ineligibility* imposed for the first anti-doping rule violation without taking into account any reduction under Article 5.10.6; or
- (c) twice the period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable to the second anti-doping rule violation treated as if it were a first violation, without taking into account any reduction under Article 5.10.6.

The period of *Ineligibility* established above may then be further reduced by the application of Article 5.10.6.

**5.10.7.2** A third anti-doping rule violation will always result in a lifetime period of *Ineligibility*, except if the third violation fulfills the condition for elimination or reduction of the period of *Ineligibility* under Article 5.10.4 or 5.10.5 or involves a violation of Article 5.2.4. In these particular cases, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be from eight (8) years to lifetime *Ineligibility*.

**5.10.7.3** An anti-doping rule violation for which an *Athlete* or other *Person* has established *No Fault or Negligence* shall not be considered a violation for purposes of this Article.

## 5.10.7.4 Additional Rules for Certain Potential Multiple Violations

**5.10.7.4.1** For purposes of imposing sanctions under Article 5.10.7, an anti-doping rule violation will only be considered a second violation if ITTF can establish that the *Athlete* or other *Person* committed the second anti-doping rule violation after the *Athlete* or other *Person* received notice pursuant to Article 5.7, or after ITTF made

reasonable efforts to give notice, of the first anti-doping rule violation; if ITTF cannot establish this, the violations shall be considered together as one single first violation, and the sanction imposed shall be based on the violation that carries the more severe sanction.

**5.10.7.4.2** If, after the imposition of a sanction for first anti-doping rule violation, ITTF discovers facts involving an anti-doping rule violation by the *Athlete* or other *Person* which occurred prior to notification regarding the first violation, then ITTF shall impose an additional sanction based on the sanction that could have been imposed if the two violations would have been adjudicated at the same time. Results in all *Competitions* dating back to the earlier anti-doping rule violation will be *Disqualified* as provided in Article 5.10.8.

**5.10.7.5** Multiple Anti-Doping Rule Violations during a Ten-Year Period

For purposes of Article 5.10.7, each anti-doping rule violation must take place within the same ten (10) year period in order to be considered multiple violations.

**5.10.8** ***Disqualification of Results in Competitions Subsequent to Sample Collection or Commission of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation***

In addition to the automatic *Disqualification* of the results in the *Competition* which produced the positive *Sample* under Article 5.9, all other competitive results of the *Athlete* obtained from the date a positive *Sample* was collected (whether *In-Competition* or *Out-of-Competition*), or other anti-doping rule violation occurred, through the commencement of any *Provisional Suspension* or *Ineligibility* period, shall, unless fairness requires otherwise, be *Disqualified* with all of the resulting consequences including forfeiture of any medals, points and prizes.

*[Comment to Article 5.10.8: Nothing in these Anti-Doping Rules precludes clean Athletes or other Persons who have been damaged by the actions of a Person who has committed an anti-doping rule violation from pursuing any right which they would otherwise have to seek damages from such Person.]*

**5.10.9** **Allocation of CAS Cost Awards and Forfeited Prize Money**

The priority for repayment of CAS cost awards and forfeited prize money shall be: first, payment of costs awarded by CAS; second, reallocation of forfeited prize money to other *Athletes*; and third, reimbursement of the expenses of ITTF.

**5.10.10** **Financial Consequences**

Where an *Athlete* or other *Person* commits an anti-doping rule violation, ITTF may, in its discretion and subject to the principle of proportionality, elect to (a) recover from the *Athlete* or other *Person* costs associated with the anti-doping rule violation, regardless of the period of *Ineligibility* imposed and/or (b) fine the *Athlete* or other *Person* in an amount up to \$500.00 US Dollars, only in cases where the maximum period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable has already been imposed.

The imposition of a financial sanction or ITTF's recovery of costs shall not be considered a basis for reducing the *Ineligibility* or other sanction which would otherwise be applicable under these Anti-Doping Rules or the *Code*.

### 5.10.11 Commencement of *Ineligibility*

Except as provided below, the period of *Ineligibility* shall start on the date of the final hearing decision providing for *Ineligibility* or, if the hearing is waived, or there is no hearing, on the date *Ineligibility* is accepted or otherwise imposed.

#### 5.10.11.1 Delays Not Attributable to the *Athlete* or other *Person*

Where there have been substantial delays in the hearing process or other aspects of *Doping Control* not attributable to the *Athlete* or other *Person*, ITTF may start the period of *Ineligibility* at an earlier date commencing as early as the date of *Sample* collection or the date on which another anti-doping rule violation last occurred. All competitive results achieved during the period of *Ineligibility*, including retroactive *Ineligibility*, shall be *Disqualified*.

[Comment to Article 5.10.11.1: In cases of anti-doping rule violations other than under Article 5.2.1, the time required for an Anti-Doping Organisation to discover and develop facts sufficient to establish an anti-doping rule violation may be lengthy, particularly where the *Athlete* or other *Person* has taken affirmative action to avoid detection. In these circumstances, the flexibility provided in this Article to start the sanction at an earlier date should not be used.]

#### 5.10.11.2 Timely Admission

Where the *Athlete* or other *Person* promptly (which, in all events, for an *Athlete* means before the *Athlete* competes again) admits the anti-doping rule violation after being confronted with the anti-doping rule violation by ITTF, the period of *Ineligibility* may start as early as the date of *Sample* collection or the date on which another anti-doping rule violation last occurred. In each case, however, where this Article is applied, the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall serve at least one-half of the period of *Ineligibility* going forward from the date the *Athlete* or other *Person* accepted the imposition of a sanction, the date of a hearing decision imposing a sanction, or the date the sanction is otherwise imposed.

This Article shall not apply where the period of *Ineligibility* has already been reduced under Article 5.10.6.3.

#### 5.10.11.3 Credit for *Provisional Suspension* or Period of *Ineligibility* Served

5.10.11.3.1 If a *Provisional Suspension* is imposed and respected by the *Athlete* or other *Person*, then the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall receive a credit for such period of *Provisional Suspension* against any period of *Ineligibility* which may ultimately be imposed. If a period of *Ineligibility* is served pursuant to a decision that is subsequently appealed, then the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall receive a credit for

such period of *Ineligibility* served against any period of *Ineligibility* which may ultimately be imposed on appeal.

**5.10.11.4** If an *Athlete* or other *Person* voluntarily accepts a *Provisional Suspension* in writing from ITTF and thereafter respects the *Provisional Suspension*, the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall receive a credit for such period of voluntary *Provisional Suspension* against any period of *Ineligibility* which may ultimately be imposed. A copy of the *Athlete* or other *Person's* voluntary acceptance of a *Provisional Suspension* shall be provided promptly to each party entitled to receive notice of an asserted anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.14.1.

[Comment to Article 5.10.11.3.2: An *Athlete's* voluntary acceptance of a *Provisional Suspension* is not an admission by the *Athlete* and shall not be used in any way as to draw an adverse inference against the *Athlete*.]

**5.10.11.3.5** No credit against a period of *Ineligibility* shall be given for any time period before the effective date of the *Provisional Suspension* or voluntary *Provisional Suspension* regardless of whether the *Athlete* elected not to compete or was suspended by his or her team.

**5.10.11.3.6** In *Team Sports*, where a period of *Ineligibility* is imposed upon a *Team*, unless fairness requires otherwise, the period of *Ineligibility* shall start on the date of the final hearing decision providing for *Ineligibility* or, if the hearing is waived, on the date *Ineligibility* is accepted or otherwise imposed. Any period of *Team Provisional Suspension* (whether imposed or voluntarily accepted) shall be credited against the total period of *Ineligibility* to be served.

[Comment to Article 5.10.11: 5.10.11 makes clear that delays not attributable to the *Athlete*, timely admission by the *Athlete* and *Provisional Suspension* are the only justifications for starting the period of *Ineligibility* earlier than the date of the hearing decision.]

### **5.10.12 Status During *Ineligibility***

#### **5.10.12.1 Prohibition against Participation during *Ineligibility***

No *Athlete* or other *Person* (including *Athlete Support Personnel*) who has been declared *Ineligible* may, during the period of *Ineligibility*, participate in any capacity in a Competition or activity (other than authorised anti-doping education or rehabilitation programs) authorised or organised by ITTF or any *National Association* or a club or other member organisation of ITTF or any *National Association*, or in *Competitions* authorised or organised by any professional league or any international or national level *Event* organisation or any elite or national-level sporting activity funded by a governmental agency.

An *Athlete* or other *Person* subject to a period of *Ineligibility* longer than four (4) years may, after completing four (4) years of the period of *Ineligibility*, participate as an *Athlete* in local sport events not sanctioned or otherwise under the jurisdiction of a *Code Signatory* or member of a *Code Signatory*, but only so long as the local sport event is

not at a level that could otherwise qualify such *Athlete* or other *Person* directly or indirectly to compete in (or accumulate points toward) a national championship or *International Event* and does not involve the *Athlete* or other *Person* working in any capacity with *Minors*.

An *Athlete* or other *Person* subject to a period of *Ineligibility* shall remain subject to *Testing*.

[Comment to Article 5.10.12.1: For example, subject to Article 5.10.12.2 below an *Ineligible Athlete* cannot participate in a training camp, exhibition or practice organised by his or her National Association or a club which is a member of that National Association or which is funded by a governmental agency. Further, an *Ineligible Athlete* may not compete in a non-Signatory professional league (e.g., the National Hockey League, the National Basketball Association, etc.), Events organised by a non-Signatory *International Event* organisation or a non-Signatory national-level event organisation without triggering the Consequences set forth in Article 5.10.12.3. The term “activity” also includes, for example, administrative activities, such as serving as an official, director, officer, employee or volunteer of the organisation described in this Article. *Ineligibility* imposed in one sport will also be recognised by other sports (see Article 5.15.1).]

### 5.10.12.2 Return to Training

As an exception to Article 5.10.12.1, an *Athlete* may return to train with a team or to use the facilities of a club or other member organisation of ITTF’s member organisation during the shorter of (a) the last two (2) months of the *Athlete*’s period of *Ineligibility* or (b) the last one-quarter of the period of *Ineligibility* imposed.

[Comment to Article 5.10.12.2: In many Team Sports and some individual sports (e.g., ski jumping and gymnastics), an *Athlete* cannot effectively train on his or her own so as to be ready to compete at the end of the *Athlete*’s period of *Ineligibility*. During the training period described in this Article, an *Ineligible Athlete* may not compete or engage in any activity described in Article 5.10.12.1 other than training.]

### 5.10.12.3 Violation of the Prohibition of Participation during *Ineligibility*

Where an *Athlete* or other *Person* who has been declared *Ineligible* violates the prohibition against participation during *Ineligibility* described in Article 5.10.12.1, the results of such participation shall be *Disqualified* and a new period of *Ineligibility* equal in length up to the original period of *Ineligibility* shall be added to the end of the original period of *Ineligibility*. The new period of *Ineligibility* may be adjusted based on the *Athlete* or other *Person*’s degree of *Fault* and other circumstances of the case. The determination of whether an *Athlete* or other *Person* has violated the prohibition against participation, and whether an adjustment is appropriate, shall be made by ITTF. This decision may be appealed under Article 5.13.

Where an *Athlete Support Person* or other *Person* assists a *Person* in violating the prohibition against participation during *Ineligibility*, ITTF shall impose sanctions for a violation of Article 5.2.9 for such assistance.

### 5.10.12.4 Withholding of Financial Support during *Ineligibility*

In addition, for any anti-doping rule violation not involving a reduced sanction as described in Article 5.10.4 or 5.10.5, some or all sport-related financial support or other sport-related benefits received by such *Person* will be withheld by ITTF and its *National Associations*.

### 5.10.13 Automatic Publication of Sanction

A mandatory part of each sanction shall include automatic publication, as provided in Article 5.14.3.

*[Comment to Article 5.10: Harmonisation of sanctions has been one of the most discussed and debated areas of anti-doping. Harmonisation means that the same rules and criteria are applied to assess the unique facts of each case. Arguments against requiring harmonisation of sanctions are based on differences between sports including, for example, the following: in some sports the Athletes are professionals making a sizable income from the sport and in others the Athletes are true amateurs; in those sports where an Athlete's career is short, a standard period of Ineligibility has a much more significant effect on the Athlete than in sports where careers are traditionally much longer. A primary argument in favour of harmonisation is that it is simply not right that two Athletes from the same country who test positive for the same Prohibited Substance under similar circumstances should receive different sanctions only because they participate in different sports. In addition, flexibility in sanctioning has often been viewed as an unacceptable opportunity for some sporting organisations to be more lenient with dopers. The lack of harmonisation of sanctions has also frequently been the source of jurisdictional conflicts between International Federations and National Anti-Doping Organisations.]*

## 5.11 CONSEQUENCES TO TEAMS

5.11.1 Where one member of a team (outside of *Team Sports*) has been notified of an anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.7 in connection with an *Event*, the ruling body for the *Event* shall conduct appropriate *Target Testing* of all members of the team during the *Event Period*.

### 5.11.2 Consequences for Teams

5.11.2.1 An anti-doping rule violation committed by a member of a team in connection with an *In-Competition* test automatically leads to *Disqualification* of the result obtained by the team in that *Competition* with all resulting consequences for the team and its members, including forfeiture of any medals, points and prizes.

5.11.2.2 An anti-doping rule violation committed by a member of a team occurring during or in connection with an *Event* may lead to *Disqualification* of all of the results obtained by the team in that *Event* with all consequences for the team and its members, including forfeiture of all medals, points and prizes, except as provided in Article 5.11.2.3.

5.11.2.3 Where an *Athlete* who is a member of a doubles pair or a team committed an anti-doping rule violation during or in connection with one *Competition* in an *Event*, if the other

member(s) of the doubles pair or the team establish(es) that he/she/they bear *No Fault or Negligence* for that violation, the results of the team in any other *Competition(s)* in that *Event* shall not be *Disqualified* unless the results of the team in the *Competition(s)* other than the *Competition* in which the anti-doping rule violation occurred were likely to have been affected by the *Athlete's* anti-doping rule violation.

## 5.12 SANCTIONS AND COSTS ASSESSED AGAINST SPORTING BODIES

- 5.12.1** ITTF Executive Committee has the authority to withhold some or all funding or other non financial support to *National Associations* that are not in compliance with these Anti-Doping Rules.
- 5.12.2** *National Associations* shall be obliged to reimburse ITTF for all costs (including but not limited to laboratory fees, hearing expenses and travel) related to a violation of these Anti-Doping Rules committed by an *Athlete* or other *Person* affiliated with that *National Association*.
- 5.12.3** ITTF may elect to take additional disciplinary action against *National Associations* with respect to recognition, the eligibility of its officials and *Athletes* to participate in *International Events* and fined based on the following:
- 5.12.3.1** Four (4) or more violations of these Anti-Doping Rules (other than violations involving Article 5.2.4) are committed by *Athletes* or other *Persons* affiliated with a *National Association* within a 12-month period in testing conducted by ITTF or *Anti-Doping Organisations* other than the *National Association* or its *National Anti-Doping Organisation*. In such event ITTF may in its discretion elect to: (a) ban all officials from that *National Association* from participation in any ITTF activities for a period of up to two (2) years and/or (b) fine the *National Federation* in an amount up to US\$500.00. (For purposes of this Rule, any fine paid pursuant to Rule 5.12.3.2 shall be credited against any fine assessed.)
- 5.12.3.1.1** If four (4) or more violations of these Anti-Doping Rules (other than violations involving Articles 5.2.4) are committed in addition to the violations described in Article 5.12.3.1 by *Athletes* or other *Persons* affiliated with a *National Association* within a 12-month period in *Testing* conducted by ITTF or *Anti-Doping Organisations* other than the *National Association* or its *National Anti-Doping Organisation*, then ITTF may suspend that *National Association's* membership for a period of up to four (4) years.
- 5.12.3.2** More than one *Athlete* or other *Person* from a *National Association* commits an *Anti-Doping Rule* violation during an *International Event*. In such event ITTF may fine that *National Association* in an amount up to US\$500.00.
- 5.12.3.3** A *National Association* has failed to make diligent efforts to keep the ITTF informed about an *Athlete's* whereabouts after receiving a request for that information from ITTF. In such event ITTF may fine the *National Association* in an amount up to

US\$500.00 per *Athlete* in addition to all of ITTF's costs incurred in *Testing* that *National Association's Athletes*.

### 5.13 APPEALS

#### 5.13.1 Decisions Subject to Appeal

Decisions made under these Anti-Doping Rules may be appealed as set forth below in Article 5.13.2 through 5.13.7 or as otherwise provided in these Anti-Doping Rules, the *Code* or the *International Standards*. Such decisions shall remain in effect while under appeal unless the appellate body orders otherwise. Before an appeal is commenced, any post-decision review provided in the *Anti-Doping Organisation's* rules must be exhausted provided that such review respects the principles set forth in Article 5.13.2.2 below (except as provided in Article 5.13.1.3).

##### 5.13.1.1 Scope of Review Not Limited

The scope of review on appeal includes all issues relevant to the matter and is expressly not limited to the issues or scope of review before the initial decision maker.

##### 5.13.1.2 CAS Shall Not Defer to the Findings Being Appealed

In making its decision, CAS need not give deference to the discretion exercised by the body whose decision is being appealed.

*[Comment to Article 5.13.1.2: CAS proceedings are de novo. Prior proceedings do not limit the evidence or carry weight in the hearing before CAS.]*

##### 5.13.1.3 WADA Not Required to Exhaust Internal Remedies

Where WADA has a right to appeal under Article 5.13 and no other party has appealed a final decision within ITTF's process, WADA may appeal such decision directly to CAS without having to exhaust other remedies in the ITTF's process.

*[Comment to Article 5.13.1.3: Where a decision has been rendered before the final stage of ITTF's process (for example, a first hearing) and no party elects to appeal that decision to the next level of ITTF's process, then WADA may bypass the remaining steps in ITTF's internal process and appeal directly to CAS.]*

#### 5.13.2 Appeals from Decisions Regarding *Anti-Doping Rule Violations, Consequences, Provisional Suspensions, Recognition of Decisions and Jurisdiction*

A decision that an anti-doping rule violation was committed, a decision imposing *Consequences* or not imposing *Consequences* for an anti-doping rule violation, or a decision that no anti-doping rule violation was committed; a decision that an anti-doping rule violation proceeding cannot go forward for procedural reasons (including, for example, prescription); a decision by WADA not to grant an exception to the six (6)

months' notice requirement for a retired *Athlete* to return to *Competition* under Article 5.5.7.1; a decision by WADA assigning results management under Article 7.1 of the *Code*; a decision by ITTF not to bring forward an *Adverse Analytical Finding* or an *Atypical Finding* as an anti-doping rule violation, or a decision not to go forward with an anti-doping rule violation after an investigation under Article 5.7.7; a decision to impose a *Provisional Suspension* as a result of a *Provisional Hearing* or for ITTF's failure to comply with Article 5.7.9; a decision that ITTF lacks jurisdiction to rule on an alleged anti-doping rule violation or its *Consequences*; a decision to suspend, or not suspend, a period of *Ineligibility* or to reinstate, or not reinstate, a suspended period of *Ineligibility* under Article 5.10.6.1; a decision under Article 5.10.12.3; and a decision by ITTF not to recognise another *Anti-Doping Organisation's* decision under Article 5.15 may be appealed exclusively as provided in Articles 5.13.2 through 5.13.7.

#### 5.13.2.1 Appeals Involving *International-Level Athletes* or *International Events*

In cases arising from competition in an *International Event* or in cases involving *International-Level Athletes*, the decision may be appealed exclusively to CAS in accordance with the provisions applicable before such court.

[Comment to Article 5.13.2.1: CAS decisions are final and binding except for any review required by law applicable to the annulment or enforcement of arbitral awards.]

#### 5.13.2.2 Appeals Involving Other *Athletes* or *Persons*

In cases where Article 5.13.2.1 is not applicable, the decision may be appealed to a national-level appeal body, being an independent and impartial body established in accordance with rules adopted by the *National Anti-Doping Organisation* having jurisdiction over the *Athlete* or other *Person*. The rules for such an appeal shall respect the following principles: a timely hearing, a fair and impartial hearing panel; the right to be represented by counsel at the *Person's* own expense; and a timely, written, reasoned decision. If the *National Anti-Doping Organisation* has not established such a body, the decision may be appealed to CAS in accordance with the provisions applicable before such court.

#### 5.13.2.3 *Persons* Entitled to Appeal

In cases under Article 5.13.2.1, the following parties shall have the right to appeal to CAS: (a) the *Athlete* or other *Person* who is the subject of the decision being appealed; (b) the other party to the case in which the decision was rendered; (c) ITTF; (d) the *National Anti-Doping Organisation* of the *Person's* country of residence or countries where the *Person* is a national or licence holder; (e) the International Olympic Committee or International Paralympic Committee, as applicable, where the decision may have an effect in relation to the Olympic Games or Paralympic Games, including decisions affecting eligibility for the Olympic Games or Paralympic Games; and (e) WADA.

In cases under Article 5.13.2.2, the parties having the right to appeal to the national-level appeal body shall be as provided in the *National Anti-Doping Organisation's* rules but, at a minimum, shall include the following parties: (a) the *Athlete* or other *Person* who is the subject of the decision being appealed; (b) the other party to the case in which the decision was rendered; (c) ITTF; (d) the *National Anti-Doping Organisation* of the *Person's* country of residence; (e) the International Olympic Committee or International Paralympic Committee, as applicable, where the decision may have an effect in relation to the Olympic Games or Paralympic Games, including decisions affecting eligibility for the Olympic Games or Paralympic Games; and (f) WADA. For cases under Article 5.13.2.2, WADA, the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee and ITTF shall also have the right to appeal to CAS with respect to the decision of the national-level appeal body. Any party filing an appeal shall be entitled to assistance from CAS to obtain all relevant information from the *Anti-Doping Organisation* whose decision is being appealed and the information shall be provided if CAS so directs.

Notwithstanding any other provision herein, the only *Person* who may appeal from a *Provisional Suspension* is the *Athlete* or other *Person* upon whom the *Provisional Suspension* is imposed.

### 5.13.2.4 Cross Appeals and other Subsequent Appeals Allowed

Cross appeals and other subsequent appeals by any respondent named in cases brought to CAS under the *Code* are specifically permitted. Any party with a right to appeal under this Article 5.13 must file a cross appeal or subsequent appeal at the latest with the party's answer.

*[Comment to Article 5.13.2.4: This provision is necessary because since 2011, CAS rules no longer permit an Athlete the right to cross appeal when an Anti-Doping Organisation appeals a decision after the Athlete's time for appeal has expired. This provision permits a full hearing for all parties.]*

### 5.13.3 Failure to Render a Timely Decision

Where, in a particular case, ITTF fails to render a decision with respect to whether an anti-doping rule violation was committed within a reasonable deadline set by WADA, WADA may elect to appeal directly to CAS as if ITTF had rendered a decision finding no anti-doping rule violation. If the CAS hearing panel determines that an anti-doping rule violation was committed and that WADA acted reasonably in electing to appeal directly to CAS, then WADA's costs and attorneys' fees in prosecuting the appeal shall be reimbursed to WADA by ITTF.

*[Comment to Article 5.13.3: Given the different circumstances of each anti-doping rule violation investigation and results management process, it is not feasible to establish a fixed time period for ITTF to render a decision before WADA may intervene by appealing directly to CAS. Before taking such action, however, WADA will consult ITTF and give ITTF an opportunity to explain why it has not yet rendered a decision.]*

#### **5.13.4 Appeals a relating to Therapeutic Use Exemptions**

TUE decisions may be appealed as provided in Article 5.4.4 above.

#### **5.13.5 Notification of Appeal Decisions**

Any *Anti-Doping Organisation* that is a party to an appeal shall promptly provide the appeal decision to the *Athlete* or other *Person* and to the other *Anti-Doping Organisations* that would have been entitled to appeal under Article 5.13.2.3 as provided under Article 5.14.2.

#### **5.13.6 Appeal from Decisions Pursuant to Article 5.12**

Decisions by ITTF pursuant to Article 5.12 may be appealed exclusively to CAS by the *National Association*.

#### **5.13.7 Time for Filing Appeals**

##### **5.13.7.1 Appeals to CAS**

The time to file an appeal to CAS shall be twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of the decision by the appealing party. The above notwithstanding, the following shall apply in connection with appeals filed by a party entitled to appeal but which was not a party to the proceedings that led to the decision being appealed:

- (a) Within fifteen (15) days from notice of the decision, such party/ies shall have the right to request a copy of the case file from the body that issued the decision;
- (b) If such a request is made within the fifteen-day period, then the party making such request shall have twenty-one (21) days from receipt of the file to file an appeal to CAS.

The above notwithstanding, the filing deadline for an appeal filed by WADA shall be the later of:

- (a) Twenty-one days after the last day on which any other party in the case could have appealed, or
- (b) Twenty-one days after WADA's receipt of the complete file relating to the decision.

##### **5.13.7.2 Appeals Under Article 5.13.2.2**

The time to file an appeal to an independent and impartial body established at national level in accordance with rules established by the *National Anti-Doping Organisation* shall be indicated by the same rules of the *National Anti-Doping Organisation*.

The above notwithstanding, the filing deadline for an appeal or intervention filed by *WADA* shall be the later of:

- (a) Twenty-one days after the last day on which any other party in the case could have appealed, or
- (b) Twenty-one days after *WADA*'s receipt of the complete file relating to the decision.

### **5.14 CONFIDENTIALITY AND REPORTING**

#### **5.14.1 Information Concerning *Adverse Analytical Findings*, *Atypical Findings*, and Other Asserted Anti-Doping Rule Violations**

##### **5.14.1.1 Notice of Anti-Doping Rule Violations to *Athletes* and other *Persons***

Notice to *Athletes* or other *Persons* of anti-doping rule violations asserted against them shall occur as provided under Articles 5.7 and 5.14 of these Anti-Doping Rules. Notice to an *Athlete* or other *Person* who is a member of a *National Association* may be accomplished by delivery of the notice to the *National Association*.

##### **5.14.1.2 Notice of Anti-Doping Rule Violations to *National Anti-Doping Organisations* and *WADA***

Notice of the assertion of an anti-doping rule violation to *National Anti-Doping Organisations* and *WADA* shall occur as provided under Articles 5.7 and 5.14 of these Anti-Doping Rules, simultaneously with the notice to the *Athlete* or other *Person*.

##### **5.14.1.3 Content of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation Notice**

Notification of an anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.2.1 shall include: the *Athlete's* name, country, sport and discipline within the sport, the *Athlete's* competitive level, whether the test was *In-Competition* or *Out-of-Competition*, the date of *Sample* collection, the analytical result reported by the laboratory, and other information as required by the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.

Notice of anti-doping rule violations other than under Article 5.2.1 shall include the rule violated and the basis of the asserted violation.

##### **5.14.1.4 Status Reports**

Except with respect to investigations which have not resulted in notice of an anti-doping rule violation pursuant to Article 5.14.1.1, *National Anti-Doping Organisations* and *WADA* shall be regularly updated on the status and findings of any review or proceedings conducted pursuant to Articles 5.7, 5.8 or 5.13 and shall be provided

with a prompt written reasoned explanation or decision explaining the resolution of the matter.

#### **5.14.1.5 Confidentiality**

The recipient organisations shall not disclose this information beyond those *Persons* with a need to know (which would include the appropriate personnel at the applicable *National Olympic Committee, National Association, and team in a Team Sport*) until ITTF has made *Public Disclosure* or has failed to make *Public Disclosure* as required in Article 5.14.3 below.

**5.14.1.6** ITTF shall ensure that information concerning *Adverse Analytical Findings, Atypical Findings*, and other asserted anti-doping rule violations remains confidential until such information is *Publicly Disclosed* in accordance with Article 5.14.3, and shall include provisions for the protection of such confidential information as well as for the investigation and disciplining of improper and/or unauthorised disclosure of such confidential information in any contract entered into between ITTF and any of its employees (whether permanent or otherwise), contractors, agents and consultants.

#### **5.14.2 Notice of Anti-Doping Rule Violation Decisions and Request for Files**

**5.14.2.1** Anti-doping rule violation decisions rendered pursuant to Articles 5.7.11, 5.8.2, 5.10.4, 5.10.5, 5.10.6, 5.10.12.3 or 5.13.5 shall include the full reasons for the decision, including, if applicable, a justification for why the maximum potential sanction was not imposed. Where the decision is not in English or French, ITTF shall provide a short English or French summary of the decision and the supporting reasons.

**5.14.2.2** An *Anti-Doping Organisation* having a right to appeal a decision received pursuant to Article 5.14.2.1 may, within fifteen (15) days of receipt, request a copy of the full case file pertaining to the decision.

#### **5.14.3 Public Disclosure**

**5.14.3.1** The identity of any *Athlete* or other *Person* who is asserted by ITTF to have committed an anti-doping rule violation may be *Publicly Disclosed* by ITTF only after notice has been provided to the *Athlete* or other *Person* in accordance with Articles 5.7.3 through 5.7.7, and simultaneously to WADA and the *National Anti-Doping Organisation of the Athlete* or other *Person* in accordance with Article 5.14.1.2.

**5.14.3.2** No later than twenty (20) days after it has been determined in a final appellate decision under Articles 5.13.2.1 or 5.13.2.2, or such appeal has been waived, or a hearing in accordance with Article 5.8 has been waived, or the assertion of an anti-doping rule violation has not been timely challenged, ITTF must *Publicly Report* the disposition of the matter, including the sport, the anti-doping rule violated, the name of the *Athlete* or other *Person* committing the violation, the *Prohibited Substance* or

*Prohibited Method* involved (if any) and the *Consequences* imposed. ITTF must also *Publicly Report* within twenty (20) days the results of final appeal decisions concerning anti-doping rule violations, including the information described above.

- 5.14.3.3** In any case where it is determined, after a hearing or appeal, that the *Athlete* or other *Person* did not commit an anti-doping rule violation, the decision may be *Publicly Disclosed* only with the consent of the *Athlete* or other *Person* who is the subject of the decision. ITTF shall use reasonable efforts to obtain such consent. If consent is obtained, ITTF shall *Publicly Disclose* the decision in its entirety or in such redacted form as the *Athlete* or other *Person* may approve.
- 5.14.3.4** Publication shall be accomplished at a minimum by placing the required information on ITTF's website or publishing it through other means and leaving the information up for the longer of one (1) month or the duration of any period of *Ineligibility*.
- 5.14.3.5** Neither ITTF, nor its *National Associations*, nor any official of either body, shall publicly comment on the specific facts of any pending case (as opposed to general description of process and science) except in response to public comments attributed to the *Athlete* or other *Person* against whom an anti-doping rule violation is asserted, or their representatives.
- 5.14.3.6** The mandatory *Public Reporting* required in 5.14.3.2 shall not be required where the *Athlete* or other *Person* who has been found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation is a *Minor*. Any optional *Public Reporting* in a case involving a *Minor* shall be proportionate to the facts and circumstances of the case.

### **5.14.4 Statistical Reporting**

ITTF shall publish at least annually a general statistical report of its Doping Control activities with a copy to WADA. ITTF may also publish reports showing the name of each *Athlete* tested and the date of each *Testing*.

### **5.14.5 Doping Control Information Clearinghouse**

To facilitate coordinated Test Distribution Planning and to avoid unnecessary duplication in *Testing* by the various *Anti-Doping Organisations*, ITTF shall report all *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition* tests on such *Athletes* to the WADA clearinghouse, using ADAMS, as soon as possible after such tests have been conducted. This information will be made accessible, where appropriate and in accordance with the applicable rules, to the *Athlete*, the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organisation* and any other *Anti-Doping Organisations* with *Testing* authority over the *Athlete*.

### **5.14.6 Data Privacy**

- 5.14.6.1** ITTF may collect, store, process or disclose personal information relating to *Athletes* and other *Persons* where necessary and appropriate to conduct their anti-doping activities under the *Code*, the *International Standards* (including specifically the

*International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information*) and these Anti-Doping Rules.

**5.14.6.2** Any *Participant* who submits information including personal data to any *Person* in accordance with these Anti-Doping Rules shall be deemed to have agreed, pursuant to applicable data protection laws and otherwise, that such information may be collected, processed, disclosed and used by such *Person* for the purposes of the implementation of these Rules, in accordance with the *International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information* and otherwise as required to implement these Anti-Doping Rules.

## **5.15 APPLICATION AND RECOGNITION OF DECISIONS**

**5.15.1** Subject to the right to appeal provided in Article 5.13, the *Testing*, and hearing results or other final adjudications of any *Signatory* to the *Code* which are consistent with the *Code* and are within that *Signatory's* authority shall be applicable worldwide and shall be recognised and respected by ITTF and its *National Associations*.

*[Comment to Article 5.15.1: The extent of recognition of TUE decisions of other Anti-Doping Organisations shall be determined by Article 5.4.4 and the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions.]*

**5.15.2** ITTF and its *National Associations* shall recognise measures taken by other bodies which have not accepted the *Code* if the rules of those bodies are otherwise consistent with the *Code*.

*[Comment to Article 5.15.2: Where the decision of a body that has not accepted the Code is in some respects Code compliant and in other respects not Code compliant, ITTF and its National Associations should attempt to apply the decision in harmony with the principles of the Code. For example, if in a process consistent with the Code a non-Signatory has found an Athlete to have committed an anti-doping rule violation on account of the presence of a Prohibited Substance in his or her body but the period of Ineligibility applied is shorter than the period provided for in these Anti-Doping Rules, then ITTF shall recognise the finding of an anti-doping rule violation and may conduct a hearing consistent with Article 5.8 to determine whether the longer period of Ineligibility provided in the Code should be imposed.]*

**5.15.3** Subject to the right to appeal provided in Article 5.13, any decision of ITTF regarding a violation of these Anti-Doping Rules shall be recognised by all *National Associations*, which shall take all necessary action to render such decision effective.

## **5.16 INCORPORATION OF ITTF ANTI-DOPING RULES AND OBLIGATIONS OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

**5.16.1** All *National Associations* and their members shall comply with these Anti-Doping Rules. All *National Associations* and other members shall include in their regulations the provisions necessary to ensure that ITTF may enforce these Rules directly as against *Athletes* under their anti-doping jurisdiction (including *National-Level Athletes*). These Anti-Doping Rules shall also be incorporated either directly or by

reference into each *National Association's* rules so that the *National Association* may enforce them itself directly as against *Athletes* under its anti-doping jurisdiction (including *National-Level Athletes*).

- 5.16.2** All *National Associations* shall establish rules requiring all *Athletes* and each *Athlete Support Personnel* who participates as coach, trainer, manager, team staff, official, medical or paramedical personnel in a *Competition* or activity authorised or organised by a *National Association* or one of its member organisations to agree to be bound by these Anti-Doping Rules and to submit to ITTF's results management authority under these Anti-Doping Rules as a condition of such participation.
- 5.16.3** All *National Associations* shall report any information suggesting or relating to an anti-doping rule violation to ITTF and to their *National Anti-Doping Organisations*, and shall cooperate with investigations conducted by any *Anti-Doping Organisation* with authority to conduct the investigation.
- 5.16.4** All *National Associations* shall have disciplinary rules in place to prevent *Athlete Support Personnel* who are *Using Prohibited Substances* or *Prohibited Methods* without valid justification from providing support to *Athletes* under the jurisdiction of ITTF or the *National Association*.
- 5.16.5** All *National Associations* shall be required to conduct anti-doping education in coordination with their *National Anti-Doping Organisations*.

### **5.17 STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS**

No anti-doping rule violation proceeding may be commenced against an *Athlete* or other *Person* unless she or she has been notified of the anti-doping rule violation as provided in Article 5.7, or notification has been reasonably attempted, within ten (10) years from the date the violation asserted to have occurred.

### **5.18 ITTF COMPLIANCE REPORTS TO WADA**

ITTF will report to *WADA* on ITTF's compliance with the *Code* in accordance with Article 23.5.2 of the *Code*.

## 5.19 EDUCATION

ITTF shall plan, implement, evaluate and monitor information, education and prevention programs for doping-free sport on at least the issues listed at Article 18.2 of the *Code*, and shall support active participation by *Athletes* and *Athlete Support Personnel* in such programs.

## 5.20 AMENDMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF ANTI-DOPING RULES

- 5.20.1** These Anti-Doping Rules may be amended from time to time by the ITTF Board of Directors but upon publication of any changes to the WADA Code, the Executive Committee shall amend these Rules and report such amendments to the Board of Directors for ratification.
- 5.20.2** These Anti-Doping Rules shall be interpreted as an independent and autonomous text and not by reference to existing law or statutes.
- 5.20.3** The headings used for the various Parts and Articles of these Anti-Doping Rules are for convenience only and shall not be deemed part of the substance of these Anti-Doping Rules or to affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.
- 5.20.4** The *Code* and the *International Standards* shall be considered integral parts of these Anti-Doping Rules and shall prevail in case of conflict.
- 5.20.5** These Anti-Doping Rules have been adopted pursuant to the applicable provisions of the *Code* and shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with applicable provisions of the *Code*. The Introduction shall be considered an integral part of these Anti-Doping Rules.
- 5.20.6** The comments annotating various provisions of the *Code* and these Anti-Doping Rules shall be used to interpret these Anti-Doping Rules.
- 5.20.7** These Anti-Doping Rules shall come into full force and effect on 1 January 2015 (the “Effective Date”). They shall not apply retroactively to matters pending before the Effective Date; provided, however, that:
- 5.20.7.1** Anti-doping rule violations taking place prior to the Effective Date count as “first violations” or “second violations” for purposes of determining sanctions under Article 5.10 for violations taking place after the Effective Date.
- 5.20.7.2** The retrospective period in which prior violations can be considered for purposes of multiple violations under Article 5.10.7.5 and the statute of limitations set forth in Article 5.17 are procedural rules and should be applied retroactively; provided, however, that Article 5.17 shall only be applied retroactively if the statute of limitations period has not already expired by the Effective Date. Otherwise, with respect to any

anti-doping rule violation case which is pending as of the Effective Date and any anti-doping rule violation case brought after the Effective Date based on an anti-doping rule violation that occurred prior to the Effective Date, the case shall be governed by the substantive Anti-Doping Rules in effect at the time of the alleged anti-doping rule violation occurred, unless the panel hearing the case determines the principle of “*lex mitior*” appropriately applies under the circumstances of the case.

5.20.7.3 Any Article 5.2.4 whereabouts failure (whether a *Filing Failure* or a *Missed Test*, as those terms are defined in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* prior to the Effective Date shall be carried forward and may be relied upon, prior to expiry, in accordance with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigation*, but it shall be deemed to have expired twelve (12) months after it occurred.

5.20.7.4 With respect to cases where a final decision finding an anti-doping rule violation has been rendered prior to the Effective Date, but the *Athlete* or other *Person* is still serving the period of *Ineligibility* may apply to the *Anti-Doping Organisation* which had results management responsibility for the anti-doping rule violation to consider a reduction in the period of *Ineligibility* in light of these Anti-Doping Rules. Such application must be made before the period of *Ineligibility* has expired. The decision rendered may be appealed pursuant to Article 5.13.2. These Anti-Doping Rules shall have no application to any case where a final decision finding an anti-doping rule violation has been rendered and the period of *Ineligibility* has expired.

5.20.7.5 For purposes of assessing the period of *Ineligibility* for a second violation under Article 5.10.7.1, where the sanction for the first violation was determined based on rules in force prior to the Effective Date, the period of *Ineligibility* which would have been assessed for that first violation had these Anti-Doping Rules been applicable, shall be applied.

## 5.21 INTERPRETATION OF THE CODE

5.21.1 The official text of the *Code* shall be maintained by *WADA* and shall be published in English and French. In the event of any conflict between the English and French versions, the English version shall prevail.

5.21.2 The comments annotating various provisions of the *Code* shall be used to interpret the *Code*.

5.21.3 The *Code* shall be interpreted as an independent and autonomous text and not by reference to the existing law or statutes of the *Signatories* or governments.

5.21.4 The headings used for the various Parts and Articles of the *Code* are for convenience only and shall not be deemed part of the substance of the *Code* or to affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.

**5.21.5** The *Code* shall not apply retroactively to matters pending before the date the *Code* is accepted by a *Signatory* and implemented in its rules. However, pre-*Code* anti-doping rule violations would continue to count as "first violations" or "second violations" for purposes of determining sanctions under Article 5.10 for subsequent post-*Code* violations.

**5.21.6** The Purpose, Scope and Organisation of the World Anti-Doping Program and the *Code* and the *Code's* APPENDIX 1, DEFINITIONS and APPENDIX 2, EXAMPLES OF THE APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 5.10, shall be considered integral parts of the *Code*.

## **5.22 ADDITIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF *ATHLETES* AND OTHER *PERSONS***

### **5.22.1 Roles and Responsibilities of *Athletes***

**5.22.1.1** To be knowledgeable of and comply with these Anti-Doping Rules.

**5.22.1.2** To be available for *Sample* collection at all times.

*[Comment to Article 5.22.1.2: With due regard to an Athlete's human rights and privacy, legitimate anti-doping considerations sometimes require Sample collection late at night or early in the morning. For example, it is known that some Athletes use low doses of EPO during these hours so that it will be undetectable in the morning.]*

**5.22.1.3** To take responsibility, in the context of anti-doping, for what they ingest and *Use*.

**5.22.1.4** To inform medical personnel of their obligation not to *Use Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods* and to take responsibility to make sure that any medical treatment received does not violate these Anti-Doping Rules.

**5.22.1.5** To disclose to their *National Anti-Doping Organisation* and to ITTF any decision by a non-*Signatory* finding that the *Athlete* committed an anti-doping rule violation within the previous ten (10) years.

**5.22.1.6** To cooperate with *Anti-Doping Organisations* investigating anti-doping rule violations.

**5.22.1.7** Failure by any *Athlete* to cooperate in full with *Anti-Doping Organisations* investigating anti-doping rule violations may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.

### **5.22.2 Roles and Responsibilities of *Athlete Support Personnel***

**5.22.2.1** To be knowledgeable of and comply with these Anti-Doping Rules.

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- 5.22.2.2 To cooperate with the *Athlete Testing* program.
- 5.22.2.3 To use their influence on *Athlete* values and behavior to foster anti-doping attitudes.
- 5.22.2.4 To disclose to his or her *National Anti-Doping Organisation* and to ITTF any decision by a non-*Signatory* finding that he or she committed an anti-doping rule violation within the previous ten (10) years.
- 5.22.2.5 To cooperate with *Anti-Doping Organisations* investigating anti-doping rule violations.
- 5.22.2.6 Failure by any *Athlete Support Personnel* to cooperate in full with *Anti-Doping Organisations* investigating anti-doping rule violations may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.
- 5.22.2.7 *Athlete Support Personnel* shall not *Use* or *Possess* any *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* without valid justification.
- 5.22.2.8 *Use* or *Possession* of a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* by an *Athlete Support Personnel* without valid justification may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.

## APPENDIX 1 - DEFINITIONS

**ADAMS:** The Anti-Doping Administration and Management System is a Web-based database management tool for data entry, storage, sharing, and reporting designed to assist stakeholders and WADA in their anti-doping operations in conjunction with data protection legislation.

**Administration:** Providing, supplying, supervising, facilitating, or otherwise participating in the *Use or Attempted Use* by another *Person* of a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*. However, this definition shall not include the actions of bona fide medical personnel involving a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* used for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or other acceptable justification and shall not include actions involving *Prohibited Substances* which are not prohibited in *Out-of-Competition Testing* unless the circumstances as a whole demonstrate that such *Prohibited Substances* are not intended for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or are intended to enhance sport performance.

**Adverse Analytical Finding:** A report from a WADA-accredited laboratory or other WADA-approved entity that, consistent with the *International Standard for Laboratories* and related Technical Documents, identifies in a *Sample* the presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* (including elevated quantities of endogenous substances) or evidence of the *Use of a Prohibited Method*.

**Adverse Passport Finding:** A report as an *Adverse Passport Finding* as described in the applicable *International Standards*.

**Anti-Doping Organisation:** A *Signatory* that is responsible for adopting rules for initiating, implementing or enforcing any part of the *Doping Control* process. This includes, for example, the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, other *Major Event Organisations* that conduct *Testing* at their *Events*, WADA, International Federations, and *National Anti-Doping Organisations*.

**Athlete:** Any *Person* who competes in sport at the international level (as defined by each International Federation), or the national level (as defined by each *National Anti-Doping Organisation*). An *Anti-Doping Organisation* has discretion to apply anti-doping rules to an *Athlete* who is neither an *International-Level Athlete* nor a *National-Level Athlete*, and thus to bring them within the definition of "Athlete." In relation to *Athletes* who are neither *International-Level* nor *National-Level Athletes*, an *Anti-Doping Organisation* may elect to: conduct limited *Testing* or no *Testing* at all; analyse *Samples* for less than the full menu of *Prohibited Substances*; require limited or no whereabouts information; or not require advance *TUEs*. However, if an Article 5.2.1, 5.2.3 or 5.2.5 anti-doping rule violation is committed by any *Athlete* over whom an *Anti-Doping Organisation* has authority who competes below the international or national level, then the *Consequences* set forth in the *Code* (except Article 5.14.3.2) must be applied. For purposes of Article 5.2.8 and for purposes of anti-doping information and education, any *Person* who competes in sport under the authority of any *Signatory*, government, or other sports organisation accepting the *Code* is an *Athlete*.

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[Comment: This definition makes it clear that all International and National-Level athletes are subject to the anti-doping rules of the Code, with the precise definitions of international- and national-level sport to be set forth in the anti-doping rules of the International Federations and National Anti-Doping Organisations, respectively. The definition also allows each National Anti-Doping Organisation, if it chooses to do so, to expand its anti-doping control program beyond International or National-Level athletes to competitors at lower levels of Competition or to individuals who engage in fitness activities but do not compete at all. Thus, a National Anti-Doping Organisation could, for example, elect to test recreational-level competitors but not require advance TUEs. But an anti-doping rule violation involving an Adverse Analytical Finding or Tampering results in all of the Consequences provided for in the Code (with the exception of Article 5.14.3.2). The decision on whether Consequences apply to recreational-level Athletes who engage in fitness activities but never compete is left to the National Anti-Doping Organisation. In the same manner, a Major Event Organisation holding an Event only for masters-level competitors could elect to test the competitors but not analyse Samples for the full menu of Prohibited Substances. Competitors at all levels of Competition should receive the benefit of anti-doping information and education.]

**Athlete Biological Passport:** The program and methods of gathering and collating data as described in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* and *International Standard for Laboratories*.

**Athlete Support Personnel:** Any coach, trainer, manager, agent, team staff, official, medical, paramedical personnel, parent or any other *Person* working with, treating or assisting an *Athlete* participating in or preparing for sports *Competition*.

**Attempt:** Purposely engaging in conduct that constitutes a substantial step in a course of conduct planned to culminate in the commission of an anti-doping rule violation. Provided, however, there shall be no anti-doping rule violation based solely on an *Attempt* to commit a violation if the *Person* renounces the *Attempt* prior to it being discovered by a third party not involved in the *Attempt*.

**Atypical Finding:** A report from a WADA-accredited laboratory or other WADA-approved laboratory which requires further investigation as provided by the *International Standard for Laboratories* or related Technical Documents prior to the determination of an *Adverse Analytical Finding*.

**CAS:** The Court of Arbitration for Sport.

**Code:** The World Anti-Doping Code.

**Competition:** A single race, match, game or singular sport contest. For example, a basketball game or the finals of the Olympic 100-meter dash in athletics. For stage races and other sport contests where prizes are awarded on a daily or other interim basis the distinction between a *Competition* and an *Event* will be as provided in the rules of the applicable International Federation. [Competition is an individual, doubles or team event.]

**Consequences of anti-doping rule violations (Consequences):** An *Athlete's* or other *Person's* violation of an anti-doping rule may result in one or more of the following: (a) *Disqualification* means the *Athlete's* results in a particular *Competition* or *Event* are invalidated, with all resulting Consequences including forfeiture of any medals, computer ranking points and prizes; (b) *Ineligibility* means the *Athlete* or other *Person* is barred on account of an anti-doping rule violation for a specified period of time from participating in any *Competition* or other activity or funding as provided in Article 5.12.12; and (c) *Provisional Suspension* means the *Athlete* or

other *Person* is barred temporarily from participating in any *Competition* or activity prior to the final decision at a hearing conducted under Article 5.8; (d) *Financial Consequences* means a CAS cost award or a financial sanction imposed for an anti-doping rule violation or to recover costs associated with an anti-doping rule violation; and (e) *Public Disclosure or Reporting* means the disclosure of information related to anti-doping rule violations as provided in Article 5.14. *Teams* in *Team Sports* may also be subject to *Consequences* as provided in Article 5.11 of the *Code*.

*Disqualification*: See *Consequences of anti-doping rule violations*, above.

*Doping Control*: All steps and processes from Test Distribution Planning through to ultimate disposition of any appeal including all steps and processes in between such as provision of whereabouts information, *Sample* collection and handling, laboratory analysis, *TUE*'s, results management and hearings.

*Doubles Pair*: Set of two table tennis players associated to compete together according to the table tennis rules for doubles events.

*Event*: A series of individual *Competitions* conducted together under one ruling body (e.g., the Olympic Games, the ITTF World Championships, or Pan American Games).

*Event Period*: The time between the beginning and end of an *Event*, as established by the ruling body of the *Event*. For ITTF, it means from the day before the first day of the *Competition*, to the last day of the *Competition*, inclusive.

*Event Venues*: Those venues so designated by the ruling body for the *Event*. For ITTF, it means that part of the event building used for Table Tennis and its related activities, facilities and public area (as in 3.2.4.5).

*Fault*: *Fault* is any breach of duty or any lack of care appropriate to a particular situation. Factors to be taken into consideration in assessing an *Athlete* or other *Person*'s degree of *Fault* include, for example, the *Athlete*'s or other *Person*'s experience, whether the *Athlete* or other *Person* is a *Minor*, special considerations such as impairment, the degree of risk that should have been perceived by the *Athlete* and the level of care and investigation exercised by the *Athlete* in relation to what should have been the perceived level of risk. In assessing the *Athlete*'s or other *Person*'s degree of *Fault*, the circumstances considered must be specific and relevant to explain the *Athlete*'s or other *Person*'s departure from the expected standard of behavior. Thus, for example, the fact that an *Athlete* would lose the opportunity to earn large sums of money during a period of *Ineligibility*, or the fact that the *Athlete* only has a short time left in his or her career, or the timing of the sporting calendar, would not be relevant factors to be considered in reducing the period of *Ineligibility* under Article 5.10.5.1 or 5.10.5.2.

[*Comment*: The criteria for assessing an *Athlete*'s degree of *Fault* is the same under all *Articles* where *Fault* is to be considered. However, under Article 5.10.5.2, no reduction of sanction is appropriate unless, when the degree of *Fault* is assessed, the conclusion is that No Significant *Fault* or Negligence on the part of the *Athlete* or other *Person* was involved.]

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*In-Competition*: “*In-Competition*” means the period commencing twelve (12) hours before a *Competition* in which the *Athlete* is scheduled to participate through the end of such *Competition* and the *Sample* collection process related to such *Competition*.

[*Comment: An International Federation or ruling body for an Event may establish an “In-Competition” period that is different than the Event Period.*]

*Independent Observer Program*: A team of observers, under the supervision of WADA, who observe and provide guidance on the *Doping Control* process at certain *Events* and report on their observations.

*Individual Sport*: Any sport that is not a *Team Sport*.

*Ineligibility*: See *Consequences of Anti-Doping Rule Violations* above.

*International Event*: An *Event* or *Competition* where the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, an International Federation, a *Major Event Organisation*, or another international sport organisation is the ruling body for the *Event* or appoints the technical officials for the *Event*. *ITTF International Events can be downloaded on*

**<http://www.ittf.com/tournaments/>**

*International-Level Athlete*. *Athletes* who participate in sport at the international level, as defined by each International Federation, consistent with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*. For the sport of table tennis *International-Level Athletes* are defined as set out in the Introduction to these Anti-Doping Rules.

[*Comment: Consistent with the International Standard for Testing and Investigations, the International Federation is free to determine the criteria it will use to classify Athletes as International-Level Athletes, e.g. by ranking, by participation in particular International Events, by type of license, etc. However, it must publish those criteria in clear and concise form, so that Athletes are able to ascertain quickly and easily when they will become classified as International-Level Athletes. For example, if the criteria include participation in certain International Events, then the International Federation must publish a list of those International Events.*]

*International Standard*: A standard adopted by WADA in support of the *Code*. Compliance with an *International Standard* (as opposed to another alternative standard, practice or procedure) shall be sufficient to conclude that the procedures addressed by the *International Standard* were performed properly. *International Standards* shall include any Technical Documents issued pursuant to the *International Standard*.

*Major Event Organisations*: The continental associations of *National Olympic Committees* and other international multi-sport organisations that function as the ruling body for any continental, regional or other *International Event*.

*Marker*: A compound, group of compounds or biological variable(s) that indicates the *Use* of a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*.

*Metabolite*: Any substance produced by a biotransformation process.

*Minor.* A natural *Person* who has not reached the age of 18 years.

*National Anti-Doping Organisation.* The entity(ies) designated by each country as possessing the primary authority and responsibility to adopt and implement anti-doping rules, direct the collection of *Samples*, the management of test results, and the conduct of hearings at the national level. If this designation has not been made by the competent public authority(ies), the entity shall be the country's *National Olympic Committee* or its designee.

*National Association.* A national or regional entity which is a member of or is recognised by ITTF as the entity governing ITTF's sport in that nation or region.

*National Event.* A sport *Event* or *Competition* involving International- or National-Level *Athletes* that is not an *International Event*.

*National Olympic Committee:* The organisation recognised by the International Olympic Committee. The term *National Olympic Committee* shall also include the National Sport Confederation in those countries where the National Sport Confederation assumes typical *National Olympic Committee* responsibilities in the anti-doping area.

*No Fault or Negligence:* The *Athlete* or other *Person's* establishing that he or she did not know or suspect, and could not reasonably have known or suspected even with the exercise of utmost caution, that he or she had *Used* or been administered the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* or otherwise violated an anti-doping rule. Except in the case of a *Minor*, for any violation of Article 5.2.1, the *Athlete* must also establish how the *Prohibited Substance* entered his or her system.

*No Significant Fault or Negligence:* The *Athlete* or other *Person's* establishing that his or her *Fault* or *Negligence*, when viewed in the totality of the circumstances and taking into account the criteria for *No Fault or Negligence*, was not significant in relationship to the anti-doping rule violation. Except in the case of a *Minor*, for any violation of Article 5.2.1, the *Athlete* must also establish how the *Prohibited Substance* entered his or her system.

[*Comment: For Cannabinoids, an Athlete may establish No Significant Fault or Negligence by clearly demonstrating that the context of the Use was unrelated to sport performance.*]

*Out-of-Competition:* Any period which is not *In-Competition*.

*Participant:* Any *Athlete* or *Athlete Support Personnel*.

*Person:* A natural *Person* or an organisation or other entity.

*Possession:* The actual, physical possession, or the constructive possession (which shall be found only if the *Person* has exclusive control or intends to exercise control over the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* or the premises in which a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* exists); provided, however, that if the person does not have exclusive control over the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* or the premises in which a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* exists, constructive possession shall only be found if the person knew about

the presence of the *Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method* and intended to exercise control over it. Provided, however, there shall be no anti-doping rule violation based solely on possession if, prior to receiving notification of any kind that the *Person* has committed an anti-doping rule violation, the *Person* has taken concrete action demonstrating that the *Person* never intended to have possession and has renounced possession by explicitly declaring it to an *Anti-Doping Organisation*. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this definition, the purchase (including by any electronic or other means) of a *Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method* constitutes possession by the *Person* who makes the purchase.

*[Comment: Under this definition, steroids found in an Athlete's car would constitute a violation unless the Athlete establishes that someone else used the car; in that event, the Anti-Doping Organisation must establish that, even though the Athlete did not have exclusive control over the car, the Athlete knew about the steroids and intended to have control over the steroids. Similarly, in the example of steroids found in a home medicine cabinet under the joint control of an Athlete and spouse, the Anti-Doping Organisation must establish that the Athlete knew the steroids were in the cabinet and that the Athlete intended to exercise control over the steroids. The act of purchasing a Prohibited Substance alone constitutes Possession, even where, for example, the product does not arrive, is received by someone else, or is sent to a third party address.]*

*Prohibited List:* The List identifying the *Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods*.

*Prohibited Method:* Any method so described on the *Prohibited List*.

*Prohibited Substance:* Any substance, or class of substances, so described on the *Prohibited List*.

*Provisional Hearing:* For purposes of Article 5.7.9, an expedited abbreviated hearing occurring prior to a hearing under Article 5.8 that provides the *Athlete* with notice and an opportunity to be heard in either written or oral form.

*[Comment: A Provisional Hearing is only a preliminary proceeding which may not involve a full review of the facts of the case. Following a Provisional Hearing, the Athlete remains entitled to a subsequent full hearing on the merits of the case. By contrast, an "expedited hearing," as that term is used in Article 5.7.9, is a full hearing on the merits conducted on an expedited time schedule.]*

*Provisional Suspension:* See *Consequences* of anti-doping rule violations above.

*Publicly Disclose or Publicly Report:* See *Consequences* of anti-doping rule violations.

*Regional Anti-Doping Organisation:* A regional entity designated by member countries to coordinate and manage delegated areas of their national anti-doping programs, which may include the adoption and implementation of anti-doping rules, the planning and collection of *Samples*, the management of results, the review of *TUEs*, the conduct of hearings, and the conduct of educational programs at a regional level.

*Registered Testing Pool.* The pool of highest-priority *Athletes* established separately at the international level by International Federations and at the national level by *National Anti-Doping Organisation* who are subject to focused *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition Testing* as part of that International Federation's or *National Anti-Doping Organisation's* test distribution plan

and therefore are required to provide whereabouts information as provided in Article 5.6 of the Code and the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.

*Sample or Specimen:* Any biological material collected for the purposes of *Doping Control*.

[Comment: It has sometimes been claimed that the collection of blood Samples violates the tenets of certain religious or cultural groups. It has been determined that there is no basis for any such claim.]

*Signatories:* Those entities signing the Code and agreeing to comply with the Code, as provided in Article 23 of the Code.

*Specified Substances:* See Article 5.4.2.2.

*Strict Liability:* The rule which provides that under Article 5.2.1 and Article 5.2.2, it is not necessary that intent, *Fault*, negligence, or knowing *Use* on the *Athlete's* part be demonstrated by the Anti-Doping Organisation in order to establish an anti-doping rule violation.

*Substantial Assistance:* For purposes of Article 5.10.6.1, a *Person* providing *Substantial Assistance* must: (1) fully disclose in a signed written statement all information he or she possesses in relation to anti-doping rule violations, and (2) fully cooperate with the investigation and adjudication of any case related to that information, including, for example, presenting testimony at a hearing if requested to do so by an *Anti-Doping Organisation* or hearing panel. Further, the information provided must be credible and must comprise an important part of any case which is initiated or, if no case is initiated, must have provided a sufficient basis on which a case could have been brought.

*Table Tennis Team:* A group of 2 or more table tennis players associated as a unit for competing according to the table tennis rules for team events.

*Tampering:* Altering for an improper purpose or in an improper way; bringing improper influence to bear; interfering improperly; obstructing, misleading or engaging in any fraudulent conduct to alter results or prevent normal procedures from occurring.

*Target Testing:* Selection of specific *Athletes* for *Testing* based on criteria set forth in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.

*Testing:* The parts of the *Doping Control* process involving test distribution planning, *Sample* collection, *Sample* handling, and *Sample* transport to the laboratory.

*Trafficking:* Selling, giving, transporting, sending, delivering or distributing (or *Possessing* for any such purpose) a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* (either physically or by any electronic or other means) by an *Athlete*, *Athlete Support Personnel* or any other *Person* subject to the jurisdiction of an *Anti-Doping Organisation* to any third party; provided, however, this definition shall not include the actions of "bona fide" medical personnel involving a *Prohibited Substance* used for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or other acceptable justification, and shall not include actions involving *Prohibited Substances* which are not prohibited in *Out-of-Competition Testing* unless the circumstances as a whole demonstrate such *Prohibited*

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*Substances* are not intended for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or are intended to enhance sport performance.

*TUE*: Therapeutic Use Exemption as described in Article 5.4.4.

*UNESCO Convention*: The International Convention against Doping in Sport adopted by the 33<sup>rd</sup> session of the UNESCO General Conference on 19 October 2005 including any and all amendments adopted by the States Parties to the Convention and the Conference of Parties to the International Convention against Doping in Sport.

*Use*: The utilisation, application, ingestion, injection or consumption by any means whatsoever of any *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*.

*WADA*. The World Anti-Doping Agency.

**APPENDIX 2 - EXAMPLES OF THE APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 5.10****EXAMPLE 1**

Facts: An Adverse Analytical Finding results from the presence of an anabolic steroid in an In-Competition test (Article 5.2.1); the Athlete promptly admits the anti-doping rule violation; the Athlete establishes No Significant Fault or Negligence; and the Athlete provides Substantial Assistance.

Application of Consequences:

1. The starting point would be Article 5.10.2. Because the Athlete is deemed to have No Significant Fault that would be sufficient corroborating evidence (Articles 5.10.2.1.1 and 5.10.2.3) that the anti-doping rule violation was not intentional, the period of Ineligibility would thus be two years, not four years (Article 5.10.2.2).
2. In a second step, the panel would analyze whether the Fault-related reductions (Articles 5.10.4 and 5.10.5) apply. Based on No Significant Fault or Negligence (Article 5.10.5.2) since the anabolic steroid is not a Specified Substance, the applicable range of sanctions would be reduced to a range of two years to one year (minimum one-half of the two year sanction). The panel would then determine the applicable period of Ineligibility within this range based on the Athlete's degree of Fault. (Assume for purposes of illustration in this example that the panel would otherwise impose a period of Ineligibility of 16 months.)
3. In a third step, the panel would assess the possibility for suspension or reduction under Article 5.10.6 (reductions not related to Fault). In this case, only Article 5.10.6.1 (Substantial Assistance) applies. (Article 5.10.6.3, Prompt Admission, is not applicable because the period of Ineligibility is already below the two-year minimum set forth in Article 5.10.6.3.) Based on Substantial Assistance, the period of Ineligibility could be suspended by three-quarters of 16 months.\* The minimum period of Ineligibility would thus be four months. (Assume for purposes of illustration in this example that the panel suspends ten months and the period of Ineligibility would thus be six months.)
4. Under Article 5.10.11, the period of Ineligibility, in principle, starts on the date of the final hearing decision. However, because the Athlete promptly admitted the anti-doping rule violation, the period of Ineligibility could start as early as the date of Sample collection, but in any event the Athlete would have to serve at least one-half of the Ineligibility period (i.e., three months) after the date of the hearing decision (Article 5.10.11.2).
5. Since the Adverse Analytical Finding was committed in a Competition, the panel would have to automatically Disqualify the result obtained in that Competition (Article 5.9).
6. According to Article 5.10.8, all results obtained by the Athlete subsequent to the date of the Sample collection until the start of the period of Ineligibility would also be Disqualified unless fairness requires otherwise.

7. The information referred to in Article 5.14.3.2 must be Publicly Disclosed, unless the Athlete is a Minor, since this is a mandatory part of each sanction (Article 5.10.13).
8. The Athlete is not allowed to participate in any capacity in a Competition or other sport-related activity under the authority of any Signatory or its affiliates during the Athlete's period of Ineligibility (Article 5.10.12.1). However, the Athlete may return to train with a Team or to use the facilities of a club or other member organisation of a Signatory or its affiliates during the shorter of: (a) the last two months of the Athlete's period of Ineligibility, or (b) the last one-quarter of the period of Ineligibility imposed (Article 5.10.12.2). Thus, the Athlete would be allowed to return to training one and one-half months before the end of the period of Ineligibility.

### EXAMPLE 2

Facts: An Adverse Analytical Finding results from the presence of a stimulant which is a Specified Substance in an In-Competition Test (Article 5.2.1); the Anti-Doping Organisation is able to establish that the Athlete committed the anti-doping rule violation intentionally; the Athlete is not able to establish that the Prohibited Substance was used Out-of-Competition in a context unrelated to sport performance; the Athlete does not promptly admit the anti-doping rule violation as alleged; the Athlete does provide Substantial Assistance.

Application of Consequences:

1. The starting point would be Article 5.10.2. Because the Anti-Doping Organisation can establish that the anti-doping rule violation was committed intentionally and the Athlete is unable to establish that the substance was permitted Out-of-Competition and the use was unrelated to the Athlete's sport performance (Article 5.10.2.3), the period of Ineligibility would be four years (Article 5.10.2.1.2).
2. Because the violation was intentional, there is no room for a reduction based on Fault (no application of Article 5.10.4 and 5.10.5). Based on Substantial Assistance, the sanction could be suspended by up to three-quarters of the four years.\* The minimum period of Ineligibility would thus be one year.
3. Under Article 5.10.11, the period of Ineligibility would start on the date of the final hearing decision.
4. Since the Adverse Analytical Finding was committed in a Competition, the panel would automatically Disqualify the result obtained in the Competition.
5. According to Article 5.10.8, all results obtained by the Athlete subsequent to the date of Sample collection until the start of the period of Ineligibility would also be Disqualified unless fairness requires otherwise.
6. The information referred to in Article 5.14.3.2 must be Publicly Disclosed, unless the Athlete is a Minor, since this is a mandatory part of each sanction (Article 5.10.13).

7. The Athlete is not allowed to participate in any capacity in a Competition or other sport-related activity under the authority of any Signatory or its affiliates during the Athlete's period of Ineligibility (Article 5.10.12.1). However, the Athlete may return to train with a Team or to use the facilities of a club or other member organisation of a Signatory or its affiliates during the shorter of: (a) the last two months of the Athlete's period of Ineligibility, or (b) the last one-quarter of the period of Ineligibility imposed (Article 5.10.12.2). Thus, the Athlete would be allowed to return to training two months before the end of the period of Ineligibility.

### EXAMPLE 3

Facts: An Adverse Analytical Finding results from the presence of an anabolic steroid in an Out-of-Competition Test (Article 5.2.1); the Athlete establishes that he had No Significant Fault or Negligence; the Athlete also establishes that the Adverse Analytical Finding was caused by a Contaminated Product.

Application of Consequences:

1. The starting point would be Article 5.10.2. Because the Athlete can establish through corroborating evidence that he did not commit the anti-doping rule violation intentionally—he had No Significant Fault in using a Contaminated Product (Article 5.10.2.1.1 and 5.10.2.3), the period of Ineligibility would be two years (Article 5.10.2.2).
2. In a second step, the panel would analyze the Fault-related possibilities for reductions (Articles 5.10.4 and 5.10.5). Since the Athlete can establish that the anti-doping rule violation was caused by a Contaminated Product and that he acted with No Significant Fault or Negligence based on Article 5.10.5.1.2, the applicable range for the period of Ineligibility would be reduced to a range of two years to a reprimand. The panel would determine the period of Ineligibility within this range, based on the Athlete's degree of Fault. (Assume for purposes of illustration in this example that the panel would otherwise impose a period of Ineligibility of four months.)
3. According to Article 5.10.8, all results obtained by the Athlete subsequent to the date of Sample collection until the start of the period of Ineligibility would be Disqualified unless fairness requires otherwise.
4. The information referred to in Article 5.14.3.2 must be Publicly Disclosed, unless the Athlete is a Minor, since this is a mandatory part of each sanction (Article 5.10.13).
5. The Athlete is not allowed to participate in any capacity in a Competition or other sport-related activity under the authority of any Signatory or its affiliates during the Athlete's period of Ineligibility (Article 5.10.12.1). However, the Athlete may return to train with a Team or to use the facilities of a club or other member organisation of a Signatory or its affiliates during the shorter of: (a) the last two months of the Athlete's period of Ineligibility, or (b) the last one-quarter of the period of Ineligibility imposed (Article 5.10.12.2). Thus, the Athlete would be allowed to return to training one month before the end of the period of Ineligibility.

### EXAMPLE 4

Facts: An Athlete who has never had an Adverse Analytical Finding or been confronted with an anti-doping rule violation spontaneously admits that he used an anabolic steroid to enhance his performance. The Athlete also provides Substantial Assistance.

Application of Consequences:

1. Since the violation was intentional, Article 5.10.2.1 would be applicable and the basic period of Ineligibility imposed would be four years.
2. There is no room for Fault-related reductions of the period of Ineligibility (no application of Articles 5.10.4 and 5.10.5).
3. Based on the Athlete's spontaneous admission (Article 5.10.6.2) alone, the period of Ineligibility could be reduced by up to one-half of the four years. Based on the Athlete's Substantial Assistance (Article 5.10.6.1) alone, the period of Ineligibility could be suspended up to three-quarters of the four years.\* Under Article 5.10.6.4, in considering the spontaneous admission and Substantial Assistance together, the most the sanction could be reduced or suspended would be up to three-quarters of the four years. The minimum period of Ineligibility would be one year.
4. The period of Ineligibility, in principle, starts on the day of the final hearing decision (Article 5.10.11). If the spontaneous admission is factored into the reduction of the period of Ineligibility, an early start of the period of Ineligibility under Article 5.10.11.2 would not be permitted. The provision seeks to prevent an Athlete from benefitting twice from the same set of circumstances. However, if the period of Ineligibility was suspended solely on the basis of Substantial Assistance, Article 5.10.11.2 may still be applied, and the period of Ineligibility started as early as the Athlete's last use of the anabolic steroid.
5. According to Article 10.8, all results obtained by the Athlete subsequent to the date of the anti-doping rule violation until the start of the period of Ineligibility would be Disqualified unless fairness requires otherwise.
6. The information referred to in Article 5.14.3.2 must be Publicly Disclosed, unless the Athlete is a Minor, since this is a mandatory part of each sanction (Article 5.10.13).
7. The Athlete is not allowed to participate in any capacity in a Competition or other sport-related activity under the authority of any Signatory or its affiliates during the Athlete's period of Ineligibility (Article 5.10.12.1). However, the Athlete may return to train with a Team or to use the facilities of a club or other member organisation of a Signatory or its affiliates during the shorter of: (a) the last two months of the Athlete's period of Ineligibility, or (b) the last one-quarter of the period of Ineligibility imposed (Article 5.10.12.2). Thus, the Athlete would be allowed to return to training two months before the end of the period of Ineligibility.

### EXAMPLE 5

**Facts:**

An Athlete Support Personnel helps to circumvent a period of Ineligibility imposed on an Athlete by entering him into a Competition under a false name. The Athlete Support Personnel comes forward with this anti-doping rule violation (Article 5.2.9) spontaneously before being notified of an anti-doping rule violation by an Anti-Doping Organisation.

**Application of Consequences:**

1. According to Article 5.10.3.4, the period of Ineligibility would be from two up to four years, depending on the seriousness of the violation. (Assume for purposes of illustration in this example that the panel would otherwise impose a period of Ineligibility of three years.)
2. There is no room for Fault-related reductions since intent is an element of the anti-doping rule violation in Article 5.2.9 (see comment to Article 5.10.5.2).
3. According to Article 5.10.6.2, provided that the admission is the only reliable evidence, the period of Ineligibility may be reduced down to one-half. (Assume for purposes of illustration in this example that the panel would impose a period of Ineligibility of 18 months.)
4. The information referred to in Article 5.14.3.2 must be Publicly Disclosed unless the Athlete Support Personnel is a Minor, since this is a mandatory part of each sanction (Article 5.10.13).

**EXAMPLE 6**

**Facts:** An Athlete was sanctioned for a first anti-doping rule violation with a period of Ineligibility of 14 months, of which four months were suspended because of Substantial Assistance. Now, the Athlete commits a second anti-doping rule violation resulting from the presence of a stimulant which is not a Specified Substance in an In-Competition Test (Article 5.2.1); the Athlete establishes No Significant Fault or Negligence; and the Athlete provided Substantial Assistance. If this were a first violation, the panel would sanction the Athlete with a period of Ineligibility of 16 months and suspend six months for Substantial Assistance.

**Application of Consequences:**

1. Article 5.10.7 is applicable to the second anti-doping rule violation because Article 5.10.7.4.1 and Article 5.10.7.5 apply.
2. Under Article 5.10.7.1, the period of Ineligibility would be the greater of:
  - (a) six months;
  - (b) one-half of the period of Ineligibility imposed for the first anti-doping rule violation without taking into account any reduction under Article 5.10.6 (in this example, that would equal one-half of 14 months, which is seven months); or
  - (c) two times the period of Ineligibility otherwise applicable to the second anti-doping rule violation treated as if it were a first violation, without taking into account any reduction

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under Article 5.10.6 (in this example, that would equal two times 16 months, which is 32 months).

Thus, the period of Ineligibility for the second violation would be the greater of (a), (b) and (c), which is a period of Ineligibility of 32 months.

3. In a next step, the panel would assess the possibility for suspension or reduction under Article 5.10.6 (non-Fault-related reductions). In the case of the second violation, only Article 5.10.6.1 (Substantial Assistance) applies. Based on Substantial Assistance, the period of Ineligibility could be suspended by three-quarters of 32 months.\* The minimum period of Ineligibility would thus be eight months. (Assume for purposes of illustration in this example that the panel suspends eight months of the period of Ineligibility for Substantial Assistance, thus reducing the period of Ineligibility imposed to two years.)
4. Since the Adverse Analytical Finding was committed in a Competition, the panel would automatically Disqualify the result obtained in the Competition.
5. According to Article 5.10.8, all results obtained by the Athlete subsequent to the date of Sample collection until the start of the period of Ineligibility would also be Disqualified unless fairness requires otherwise.
6. The information referred to in Article 5.14.3.2 must be Publicly Disclosed, unless the Athlete is a Minor, since this is a mandatory part of each sanction (Article 5.10.13).
7. The Athlete is not allowed to participate in any capacity in a Competition or other sport-related activity under the authority of any Signatory or its affiliates during the Athlete's period of Ineligibility (Article 5.10.12.1). However, the Athlete may return to train with a Team or to use the facilities of a club or other member organisation of a Signatory or its affiliates during the shorter of: (a) the last two months of the Athlete's period of Ineligibility, or (b) the last one-quarter of the period of Ineligibility imposed (Article 5.10.12.2). Thus, the Athlete would be allowed to return to training two months before the end of the period of Ineligibility

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\* Upon the approval of WADA in exceptional circumstances, the maximum suspension of the period of Ineligibility for Substantial Assistance may be greater than three-quarters, and reporting and publication may be delayed.

# 6 CODE OF ETHICS

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The Code of Ethics is based on the IOC Code of Ethics and aims to preserve the highest possible ethical values that govern the ITTF, its Officers and the entire ITTF Family.

## PREAMBLE

All members (National Associations), affiliated organisations (Continental Federations) as well as all officials, players, players' entourages and persons involved in the ITTF's operations (hereinafter "the Table Tennis parties") restate their commitment to the Olympic Charter and in particular its Fundamental Principles and reaffirm their loyalty to the Olympic ideal inspired by Pierre de Coubertin.

The Table Tennis parties undertake to disseminate the culture of ethics and integrity within their respective areas of competence and to serve as role models.

## Scope of application

The Table Tennis parties undertake to comply and ensure compliance with the Code of Ethics in the following circumstances:

- the ITTF, its administration, each of its members (National Associations), affiliated organisations (Continental Federations) and their officials, at all times and in all circumstances;
- all participants in ITTF Sanctioned Events;
- all members and their officials taking part in any type of candidature procedures of the ITTF, throughout the procedure in question; and
- the Organising Committees for the ITTF events and their officials, throughout the existence of each such Committee.

The members undertake to adopt, for their internal activities, a code of ethics based on the principles and rules of the Code of Ethics and the IOC Code of Ethics, or in a written declaration to adopt the Code of Ethics.

## 6.1 FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

- 6.1.1 Respect of the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play;
- 6.1.2 Respect of the principle of the universality and political neutrality of the Olympic Movement;
- 6.1.3 Maintaining harmonious relations with state authorities, while respecting the principle of autonomy as set out in the Olympic Charter;

- 6.1.4 Respect for international conventions on protecting human rights insofar as they ensure in particular:
- 6.1.4.1 respect for human dignity;
  - 6.1.4.2 rejection of discrimination of any kind on whatever grounds, be it race, colour, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status;
  - 6.1.4.3 rejection of all forms of harassment, be it physical, professional or sexual, and any physical or mental injuries;
- 6.1.5 Ensuring the participants' conditions of safety, well-being and medical care favourable to their physical and mental equilibrium.

### **6.2 INTEGRITY OF CONDUCT**

- 6.2.1 The Table Tennis parties must use due care and diligence in fulfilling their mission. At all times, they must act with the highest degree of integrity, and particularly when taking decisions, they must act with impartiality, objectivity, independence and professionalism.
- They must refrain from any act involving fraud or corruption. They must not act in a manner likely to tarnish the reputation of the ITTF.
- 6.2.2 The Table Tennis parties or their representatives must not, directly or indirectly, solicit, accept or offer any form of remuneration or commission, nor any concealed benefit or service of any nature, connected with the ITTF Sanctioned Events, except by contractual agreements with the Organizing Committees of these events.
- 6.2.3 Only tokens of consideration or friendship of nominal value, in accordance with prevailing local customs, may be given or accepted by the Table Tennis parties.
- Such tokens may not lead to the impartiality and integrity of the Table Tennis parties being called into question.
- Any other form of token, object or benefit constitutes a gift which may not be accepted by an individual, but must be passed on to the organisation of which the beneficiary is a member.
- 6.2.4 For hospitality shown to the Table Tennis parties, as well as those accompanying them, standards consistent with acceptable past practices must be respected.
- 6.2.5 The Table Tennis parties must refrain from placing themselves in any conflict of interests, and must respect the Rules Concerning Conflicts of Interests Affecting the Behaviour of Table Tennis parties. Namely: "A situation of a potential conflict of interests arises when the opinion or decision of a person, acting alone or within an organisation, in the framework of the activities of the physical or legal persons defined in article 1 above, may be reasonably considered as liable to be influenced by relations that the aforementioned person has, has had or is on the point of

having with another person or organisation that would be affected by the person's opinion or decision."

### **6.3 INTEGRITY OF COMPETITIONS**

- 6.3.1 The Table Tennis parties shall commit to combat all forms of cheating and shall continue to undertake all the necessary measures to ensure the integrity of sports competitions.
- 6.3.2 The Table Tennis parties must respect the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Code and of the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions.
- 6.3.3 All forms of participation in, or support for betting related to the ITTF Sanctioned Events, by participants or involved table tennis parties are prohibited.
- 6.3.4 Participants in the ITTF Sanctioned Events must not, by any manner whatsoever, manipulate the course or result of a competition, or any part thereof, in a manner contrary to sporting ethics, infringe the principle of fair play or show unsporting conduct.

### **6.4 GOOD GOVERNANCE AND RESOURCES**

- 6.4.1 The Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement, in particular transparency, responsibility and accountability, must be respected by all Table Tennis parties.
- 6.4.2 The income and expenditure of the Table Tennis parties must be recorded in their accounts in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. An independent auditor may check these accounts.
- 6.4.3 In cases where the ITTF gives financial support to Table Tennis parties:
  - 6.4.3.1 The use of these ITTF resources for table tennis purposes must be clearly demonstrated in the accounts; Note: Where the IOC provides targeted financial support to ITTF, Olympic resources must be used for Olympic purposes only.
  - 6.4.3.2 The accounts of the Table Tennis parties may be subjected to auditing by an expert designated by the Finance Committee.
- 6.4.4 The Table Tennis parties recognise the significant contribution that broadcasters, sponsors, partners and other supporters make to the development and prestige of Table Tennis throughout the world.

In order to preserve the integrity and neutrality of the various candidature procedures, the support and promotion of any of the candidatures by broadcasters, sponsors, partners and other supporters must be in a form consistent with the rules of sport and the principles defined in the Olympic Charter and the present Code.

The broadcasters, sponsors, partners and other supporters must not interfere in the running of the ITTF nor its events.

### **6.5 CANDIDATURES**

6.5.1 The Table Tennis parties shall respect the integrity of any candidature procedure initiated by the ITTF, in order to allow equal access to the promotion of each candidature and the refusal of any risk of conflict of interests.

6.5.2 The Table Tennis parties will respect the requirements of the various procedures published by the ITTF, particularly regarding the selection of World Title hosts, as well as the Regulations for World Title events.

### **6.6 CONFIDENTIALITY**

6.6.1 The principle of confidentiality shall be strictly respected by the Ethics Commission in all its activities.

It must also be strictly respected by any person concerned by the activities of the Ethics Commission.

### **6.7 REPORTING OBLIGATION**

6.7.1 The Table Tennis parties shall inform the Ethics Commission Officer, in the strictest confidentiality and by using the appropriate mechanisms of any information related to a violation of the Code of Ethics, with a view to possible referral to the Ethics Commission.

Any disclosure of information must not be for personal gain or benefit, nor be undertaken maliciously to damage the reputation of any person or organisation.

### **6.8 IMPLEMENTATION**

6.8.1 The Ethics Commission may set out the provisions for the implementation of the present Code in a set of Implementing Provisions, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

6.8.2 The Ethics Commission Officer is available to the Ethics Commission to disseminate and implement the present Code.

6.8.3 Directions Concerning the election of the President

6.8.3.1 The Ethics Commission, considering that

6.8.3.1.1 it is in the interest of the ITTF and the candidates for the presidency of this institution that, during the campaign (for which each candidate chooses the ways and methods that he/she intends to use), respect for the “universal fundamental ethical principles”, one of the foundations of Olympism, should prevail;

6.8.3.1.2 it is essential that, during this campaign, equality be observed between the candidates and an atmosphere of mutual respect prevail amongst them;

6.8.3.1.3 without calling into question the confidence that the candidates enjoy, the drafting and publication of directions derives from the need to ensure a degree of harmonisation in their conduct and to prevent any excesses, which their supporters might in good faith be led to commit;

### 6.8.3.2 General conduct of candidates

#### 6.8.3.2.1 **General conduct**

Each candidate may promote his/her candidature, subject to respecting the provisions of the present directions.

The promotion of a candidature shall be conducted with dignity and moderation.

The conduct of the candidates shall comply with the provisions of the Code of Ethics.

### 6.8.3.3 Relations with member associations

#### 6.8.3.3.1 **Candidature documentation**

Candidates may present to the national associations their plans and views as the future President, in the form of a written document, whatever the means used to distribute it.

A copy shall be submitted to the Ethics Commission officer.

#### 6.8.3.3.2 **Promotion**

The promotion of a candidature for the presidency may include any form of publicity, including the use of new media or social networks.

#### 6.8.3.3.3 **Trips**

Candidates shall limit the number of trips that they make specifically with a view to promoting their candidature in order to avoid excessive expenditure, a factor of inequality amongst the candidates.

#### 6.8.3.3.4 **Gifts - Benefits**

Candidates may in no case and under no pretext give presents, offer donations or gifts or grant advantages of whatever nature.

#### 6.8.3.3.5 **Promises**

No candidate may enter into any promise or undertaking to be performed, whatever the timing of such performance, for the direct

or indirect benefit of an Member Association, a group of Member Associations, an organisation, region or partner.

### 6.8.3.3.6 **Visits**

Visits to Member Associations organised specifically in connection with a candidature shall be reported to the Ethics Commission Officer.

## 6.8.3.4 Relations with other candidates

### 6.8.3.4.1 **Respect due to candidates**

Each candidate shall, in the framework of promoting his/her candidature, respect the other candidates, the Member Associations and the ITTF itself.

### 6.8.3.4.2 **Prejudice to a candidature**

A candidate may produce no spoken word, written text or representation of any nature likely to harm the image of another candidate or cause his/her prejudice.

### 6.8.3.4.3 **Understandings**

No understanding, coalition or collusion between candidates with the intent to influence the result of the vote is allowed.

## 6.8.3.5 Relations with the ITTF administration

### 6.8.3.5.1 **General relations**

The ITTF administration shall maintain a strict duty of neutrality at all times.

The members of the administration shall limit their relations with the candidates strictly to the content of their mission.

### 6.8.3.5.2 **Support**

No support or service in relation to a candidature may be requested from any member of the ITTF administration, from a department or other section of such administration.

### 6.8.3.5.3 **Concealed Promotion**

Concealed promotion in the form of technical meetings or other events is prohibited.

These may be added to the official calendar of events only with the approval of the Ethics Commission.

## 6.8.3.6 Breaches of the directions

6.8.3.6.1. **Competent body**

Any interested party shall bring any breach of these Directions to the attention of the Ethics Commission, which will undertake an inquiry.

6.8.3.6.2 **Sanctions**

6.8.3.6.2.1 If there is proof of a breach of these Directions, the Ethics Commission may make to the candidate in question:

6.8.3.6.2.1.1 observations, which could be made public,

6.8.3.6.2.1.2 or issue a warning, which will be automatically made public on the ITTF website.

6.8.3.6.2.2 In the event of a serious breach of these Directions, the case shall be referred to the Executive Committee for possible sanctions.

6.8.3.6.3 **Specific provisions**

Prior to examination, by the Nominations Committee, of a candidature for election as President, a candidate must declare any risks of conflicts of interests to the Ethics Commission Officer. The attention of the candidate may be drawn to any potential conflicts of interests identified. This does not exempt the candidate concerned from making subsequent declarations pursuant to the Rules Concerning Conflict of Interests.

## 6.8.4 Rules Concerning Conflicts of Interests Affecting the Behaviour of Table Tennis parties

6.8.4.1 These rules apply to the Table Tennis parties as defined by the Code of Ethics preamble.

6.8.4.2 Any persons within the ITTF shall be prohibited from participating in any interaction which could influence an outcome or decision relative to any specific matter, if

6.8.4.2.1 Such persons are interested personally or financially in the outcome of the matter or represent or previously in the selfsame matter represented any person who is thus interested

6.8.4.2.2 Such persons' husband or wife, any person related by blood or marriage in the direct line of ascent or descent or any other closely attached person, is particularly interested personally or financially in the outcome of the matter or represents any person who is thus interested.

6.8.4.2.3 Such persons take part in the management of or otherwise are closely related to any company, partnership, association or other

private legal entity particularly interested in the outcome of the matter.

6.8.4.2.4 Circumstances other than those referred in 1, 2 and 3 of this subsection are likely to lead to any doubt about such persons' impartiality.

6.8.4.3 No persons as referred to in 6.8.4.2.1, 6.8.4.2.2 and 6.8.4.2.3 shall be prohibited from acting,

6.8.4.3.1 if as a consequence of the nature or strength of their interest, of the nature of the matter, or of their functions in connection with consideration of the matter, no risk may be assumed to exist that the decision to be made may be affected by extraneous considerations.

6.8.4.3.2 relative to any specific matter shall be allowed to decide, to take part in deciding, or otherwise to assist in the consideration of the matter in question.

6.8.4.4 Any person as referred to above who has notice of circumstances as referred to in that subsection 6.8.4.2.1, 6.8.4.2.2 and 6.8.4.2.3 shall as soon as possible advise the Ethics Commission.

6.8.4.5 Disqualification shall be decided by the Ethics Commission.

6.8.4.6 Specific provisions

6.8.4.6.1 The person concerned shall not himself take part in considering or deciding his own status.

6.8.4.6.2 Any disqualification shall not prevent the person from participating in elections.

6.8.5 Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympics and Sports Movement (adopted directly from the IOC Code)

6.8.5.1 Vision, mission and strategy

6.8.5.1.1 The vision and overall goals of the organisations have to be clearly defined and communicated.

6.8.5.1.2 The mission should include:

6.8.5.1.2.1 development and promotion of sport through non-profit organisations

6.8.5.1.2.2 promotion of the values of sport,

6.8.5.1.2.3 organisation of competitions,

6.8.5.1.2.4 ensuring a fair sporting contest at all times,

6.8.5.1.2.5 protection of the members and particularly the athletes,

6.8.5.1.2.6 solidarity,

6.8.5.1.2.7 respect for the environment.

6.8.5.1.3 The strategy is to be aligned with the vision and regularly adapted to the environment. The strategy of sporting organisations should be elaborated at the highest level of the organisation.

6.8.5.2.1 Structures, regulations and democratic process

6.8.5.2.1 All sports organisations in the Olympic and Sports Movement should be based on the concept of membership within entities established in accordance with applicable laws.

The sports organisations should include as members legal or physical persons who constitute the organisation and contribute to form the will of the organisation.

The stakeholders of the organisation encompass all members who make up the organisation as well as all external entities who are involved and have a link, relation with or interest in the organisation.

6.8.5.2.2 All regulations of each organisation and governing body, including but not limited to, statute on institutions and other procedural regulations, should be clear, transparent, disclosed, publicised and made readily available.

Clear regulations allow understanding, predictability and facilitate good governance.

The procedure to modify or amend the regulations should also be clear and transparent.

6.8.5.2.3 Governing bodies

The size of the governing bodies should be adequate and consistent with the size of the sports organisations.

The tasks and responsibilities of the governing bodies should be clearly defined in the applicable regulations and should be adapted and reviewed as necessary.

Governing bodies should be entitled to create standing or ad hoc committees with specific responsibilities, in order to help them in their tasks.

The organisation should set out and adopt reliable and appropriate criteria for the election or appointment of members of the governing bodies so as to ensure a high level of competence, quality and good governance.

6.8.5.2.4 Representative governing bodies

Members of the organisation should be represented within the governing bodies, particularly women and athletes.

- Special care should be taken for protection and representation of minority groups.
- 6.8.5.2.5 Democratic processes, such as elections, should be governed by clear, transparent and fair rules.
- 6.8.5.2.6 Attributions of the respective bodies
- A clear allocation of responsibilities between the different bodies such as general assembly, executive body, committees or disciplinary bodies, should be determined.
- There should be a balance of power between the bodies responsible for the management, supervision and control of the sport organisations: principle of checks and balances.
- 6.8.5.2.7 Decision-making
- All members of the sports organisations shall have the right to express their opinion on the issues on the agenda through appropriate channels.
- Members shall have the right to vote and be able to exercise that right in appropriate form as defined in the regulations of the governing body.
- Decision-making bodies should be fully aware of all relevant information before taking a decision.
- Bodies of the organisation should meet on a regular basis taking into consideration their specific duties and obligations (e.g. the holding of an annual General Assembly is recommended).
- 6.8.5.2.8 Conflicts of interests
- As a general principle, members of any decision-making body should be independent in their decisions. No-one with a personal or business interest in the issue under discussion should be involved in the decision.
- Adequate procedures should be established in order to avoid any conflicts of interests.
- 6.8.5.2.9 Election or renewal of office-bearers on a regular basis
- The duration of the terms of office should be pre-determined in order to allow election/renewal of office-bearers on a regular basis. Access for new candidates should be encouraged.
- 6.8.5.2.10 Decisions and appeals
- Any member affected by a decision of a disciplinary nature taken by any sports organisation should be offered the possibility to submit an appeal to an independent body within the sport's jurisdictions.

When decisions are taken against a member, special attention should be paid to the appropriate balance between transparency and protection of privacy.

### **6.8.5.3 Highest level of competence, integrity and ethical standards**

#### 6.8.5.3.1 Competence of the members of the executive body

Members of the executive body should be chosen on the basis of their ability, competence, quality, leadership capacity, integrity and experience.

The use of outside experts in specific fields should be considered when necessary.

#### 6.8.5.3.2 Power of signature

Good governance implies proper financial monitoring.

In order to avoid any abuse of powers of representation (in particular signing), adequate rules should be set up, approved and monitored at the highest level.

Precise, clear and transparent regulations should be established and applied, and effective controlling systems and checks and balances should be put in place.

As a general rule, individual signature should be avoided for binding obligations of an organisation.

#### 6.8.5.3.3 Internal management, communication and coordination

Good internal communication reinforces the efficiency of sporting organisations.

Good information flow inside sporting organisations ensures good understanding by membership of activities undertaken and allows managers to make timely and informed decisions.

Good working conditions and atmosphere as well as motivation and incentive policies are essential for the smooth functioning of the organisation.

#### 6.8.5.3.4 Risk management

A clear and adequate risk-management process should be put in place:

- 6.8.5.3.4.1 identification of potential risks for the sports organisations,
- 6.8.5.3.4.2 evaluation of risks,
- 6.8.5.3.4.3 control of risks,
- 6.8.5.3.4.4 monitoring of risks,

6.8.5.3.4.5 disclosure/transparency.

6.8.5.3.5 Appointment of the members of the management

Leadership is above management.

The majority of the members of management should be professional.

Candidates should have professional competency and an impeccable professional history.

The selection process should be based on objective criteria and should be set out clearly.

6.8.5.3.6 Code of Ethics and ethical issues

Develop, adapt and implement ethical principles and rules. Ethical rules should refer to and be inspired by the IOC Code of Ethics.

Monitor the implementation of ethical principles and rules.

### **6.8.5.4 Accountability, transparency and control**

6.8.5.4.1 All bodies, whether elected or appointed, shall be accountable to the members of the organisation and, in certain cases, to their stakeholders.

In particular, the executive body shall be accountable to the General Assembly of the organisation. Management shall be accountable to the executive body.

All employees shall be accountable to management.

6.8.5.4.2 Processes and mechanisms

Adequate standards and processes for accountability should be in place and available to all organisations, and consistently applied and monitored.

Clear and measurable objectives and targets must be set for the organisation, its boards, management and staff, including also appropriate tools for assessment.

6.8.5.4.3 Transparency and communication

Financial information should be disclosed gradually and in appropriate form to members, stakeholders and the public. Disclosure of financial information should be done on an annual basis.

The financial statements of sports organisations should be presented in a consistent way in order to be easily understood.

- 6.8.5.4.4 Financial matters applicable laws, rules, procedures and standards  
Accounts should be established in accordance with the applicable laws and “True and fair view” principle.  
The application of internationally recognised standards should be strongly encouraged in all sports organisations and required for an international body.  
For all organisations, annual financial statements are to be audited by independent and qualified auditors.  
Accountability and financial reports should be produced on a regular basis.  
Information about remuneration and financial arrangements of the governing bodies’ members should be part of the annual accounts.  
Clear rules regarding remuneration of the members of governing bodies and managers should be enforced. Remuneration procedures should be transparent and predictable.
- 6.8.5.4.5 Internal control system  
Internal control of the financial processes and operations should be established within the sports organisations.  
The adoption of a compliance system, document retention system and information security system should be encouraged.  
The structure of the internal control system should depend on the size and importance of the organisation. Audit committees should be appointed for large sports organisations.
- 6.8.5.4.6 Education and training  
There should be an induction programme for all new members of staff, volunteer officers and all board members.  
On-going education and training of executives, volunteers and employees should be integral to operations.  
The promotion of self-education and regular training within the sport organisations should be encouraged.

### **6.8.5.5 Solidarity and development**

#### 6.8.5.5.1 Distribution of resources

As a principle, financial resources which are proceeds of sport should be allocated to sport and in particular to its development after covering all necessary sports-related costs.

Financial revenues should be distributed in a fair and efficient manner. A fair distribution of the financial revenues contributes to having balanced and attractive competitions. A clear and transparent policy for the allocation of the financial revenues is essential.

#### 6.8.5.5.2 Equity

Resources should be distributed equitably. The equity in sport should be reinforced.

The right to participate in competitions should be encouraged and secured for those at an appropriate level for the athletes concerned.

The opportunity to organise large sports events should be open. The criteria for choosing venues for events should be fair and transparent.

#### 6.8.5.5.3 Development

The development of partnership relations between different sports organisations in developing countries should be encouraged. The expansion of sports facilities in developing countries should be promoted.

### **6.8.5.6 Athletes' involvement, participation and care**

#### 6.8.5.6.1 Right to participate and involvement of the athletes in the Olympic and Sports Movement and governing bodies

The right of athletes to participate in sports competitions at an appropriate level should be protected. Sports organisations must refrain from any discrimination.

The voice of the athletes should be heard in sporting organisations.

#### 6.8.5.6.2 Protection of athletes

Measures should be taken to prohibit exploitation of young athletes. Athletes should be protected from unscrupulous recruiters and agents.

Cooperation with the government of the countries concerned should be developed.

Codes of conduct should be signed by all sport organisations.

- 6.8.5.6.3 Health  
Sports organisation shall adopt rules for the protection of the athletes' health and to limit the risk of endangering the athletes' health (medical supervision, number of days of competition, pollution, etc.).
- 6.8.5.6.4 Fight against doping  
Sports organisations shall fight against doping and uphold anti-doping policy.  
Zero tolerance in the fight against doping should be encouraged in all sports organisations at all levels.  
Sports organisations shall protect the athletes from doping in particular through prevention and education.
- 6.8.5.6.5 Insurance  
Insurance in case of death or serious injury is to be recommended for all athletes and should be mandatory for young junior athletes.  
Whenever and wherever possible, athletes should be provided with social security coverage.  
Special insurance policies should be available for professional athletes.  
The organisers of sports events should obtain adequate insurance coverage.
- 6.8.5.6.6 Fairness and fair play  
Fairness and fair play are central elements of the competition. Fair play is the spirit of sport. The values of sport and friendship shall be promoted.
- 6.8.5.6.7 Athletes' education and career management  
Educational programmes, developing in particular "Sport and Studies" programmes, should be encouraged.  
Career management programmes should be promoted. Training professional athletes for new professional opportunities after their sports careers should be encouraged.

### **6.8.5.7 Harmonious relations with governments while preserving autonomy**

#### **6.8.5.7.1 Cooperation, coordination and consultation**

Sporting organisations should coordinate their actions with governments.

Cooperation with governments is an essential element in the framework of sporting activities.

Cooperation, coordination and consultation are the best way for sporting organisations to preserve their autonomy.

#### **6.8.5.7.2 Complementary mission**

Governments, constituents of the Olympic Movement, other sports organisations and stakeholders have a complementary mission and should work together towards the same goals.

#### **6.8.5.7.3 Maintain and preserve the autonomy of sport**

The right balance between governments, the Olympic Movement and sporting organisations should be ensured.

## **6.9 Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions**

The integrity of sport depends on the outcome of sporting events and competitions being based entirely on the competing merits of the participants involved. Any form of corruption that might undermine public confidence in the integrity of a sporting contest is fundamentally contrary to the spirit of sport and must be eradicated at all costs.

The ITTF has adopted these rules as a means of safeguarding the integrity of the sport of table tennis by (i) prohibiting any conduct that may impact improperly on the outcome of its events and competitions and (ii) establishing a mechanism of enforcement and sanction for those who, through their corrupt conduct, place the integrity of the sport at risk.

The ITTF is committed to taking all practical steps within its power to prevent corrupt practices undermining the integrity of the sport of table tennis. This commitment shall include:

- (a) raising awareness of these rules at all levels, including using existing and/or suitably adapted educational programmes and tools to provide information and educational materials to the widest possible target audience;
- (b) establishing the best means of monitoring sports betting at International Competitions under the jurisdiction of the ITTF, including monitoring any irregular betting patterns that may occur;
- (c) establishing the best means for the receipt of third party information on a confidential basis, for example, by establishing an information 'hot-line';

- (d) establishing and, where appropriate, making use of effective channels for the exchange of intelligence and information related to the investigation and/or prosecution of violations under these rules;
- (e) co-operating with competent national and international authorities where information in its possession may also amount to or evidence infringements of other applicable laws or regulations; and
- (f) exchanging information with partners in the Olympic and Paralympic Movement (through ASOIF, SportAccord, IOC, IPC or otherwise) on acknowledged areas of best practice in relation to combating corruption in sport.

National Associations and Continental Federations should put in place similar rules and regulations to safeguard the integrity of competitions held under their respective jurisdictions.

Notice under these rules to a participant who is under the jurisdiction of a National Association may be accomplished by delivery of the notice to the National Association concerned. The National Association shall be responsible for making immediate contact with the participant to whom the notice is applicable.

### **6.9.1 APPLICATION AND SCOPE**

- 6.9.1.1 These rules shall apply to all participants who participate or assist in an international competition and each participant shall be automatically bound by, and be required to comply with, these rules by virtue of such participation or assistance.
- 6.9.1.2 It is the personal responsibility of every participant to make himself or herself aware of these rules including, without limitation, what conduct constitutes a violation of the rules and to comply with those requirements. Participants should also be aware that conduct prohibited under these rules may also constitute a criminal offence and/or a breach of other applicable laws and regulations. Participants must comply with all applicable laws and regulations at all times.
- 6.9.1.3 Each participant submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of any hearing panel convened under these rules to hear and determine charges brought by the ITTF and to the exclusive jurisdiction of CAS to determine any appeal from a hearing panel decision.
- 6.9.1.4 Each participant shall be bound by these rules until a date 6 months following his or her last participation or assistance in a competition. Each participant shall continue to be bound by these rules in respect of his or her participation or assistance in competitions taking place prior to that date.

## **6.9.2 RULE VIOLATIONS**

The following conduct shall constitute a Violation of these Rules (in each case whether effected directly or indirectly):

### **6.9.2.1 Betting**

**6.9.2.1.1** Participation in, support for, or promotion of, any form of betting related to an event or competition including betting with another person on the result, progress, outcome, conduct or any other aspect of such an event or competition. This rule applies to any form of betting related to an event or competition in which the participant is directly participating or that is otherwise taking place in the participant's sport or that is taking place in another sport at an international competition hosted by a major event organisation in which the participant is participating.

**6.9.2.1.1** Inducing, instructing, facilitating or encouraging a participant to commit a violation of 6.9.2.1.

### **6.9.2.2 Manipulation of Results**

**6.9.2.2.1** Fixing or contriving in any way or otherwise improperly influencing, or being a party to fix or contrive in any way or otherwise improperly influence, the result, progress, outcome, conduct or any other aspect of an event or competition.

**6.9.2.2.2** Ensuring or seeking to ensure the occurrence of a particular incident in an event or competition which occurrence is to the participant's knowledge the subject of a bet and for which he or she or another person expects to receive or has received a benefit.

**6.9.2.2.3** Failing in return for a benefit (or the legitimate expectation of a benefit, irrespective of whether such benefit is in fact given or received) to perform to the best of one's abilities in an event or competition.

**6.9.2.2.4** Inducing, instructing, facilitating or encouraging a participant to commit a violation of 6.9.2.2.

### **6.9.2.3 Corrupt Conduct**

**6.9.2.3.1** Accepting, offering, agreeing to accept or offer, any bribe or other benefit (or the legitimate expectation of a benefit, irrespective of whether such benefit is in fact given or received) to fix or contrive in any way or otherwise to influence improperly the result, progress, outcome, conduct or any other aspect of an event or competition.

**6.9.2.3.2** Providing, offering, giving, requesting or receiving any gift or benefit (or the legitimate expectation of a benefit, irrespective of whether such benefit is in

fact given or received) in circumstances that the participant might reasonably have expected could bring him or her or the sport into disrepute.

- 6.9.2.3.3 Inducing, instructing, facilitating or encouraging a participant to commit a violation of 6.9.2.3

#### **6.9.2.4 Misuse of Inside Information**

- 6.8.5.2.4.4.1 Using inside information for betting purposes or otherwise in relation to betting.

- 6.8.5.2.4.4.2 Disclosing inside information to any person with or without benefit where the participant might reasonably be expected to know that its disclosure in such circumstances could be used in relation to betting.

- 6.8.5.2.4.4.3 Inducing, instructing, facilitating or encouraging a participant to commit a violation set out in 6.9.2.4.

#### **6.9.2.5 Other Violations**

- 6.9.2.5.1 Any attempt by a participant, or any agreement by a participant with any other person, to engage in conduct that would culminate in the commission of any violation of this Rule shall be treated as if a violation had been committed, whether or not such attempt or agreement in fact resulted in such violation. However, there shall be no violation under this rule where the participant renounces his or her attempt or agreement prior to it being discovered by a third party not involved in the attempt or agreement.

- 6.9.2.5.2 Knowingly assisting, covering up or otherwise being complicit in any acts or omissions of the type described in 6.2 committed by a participant.

- 6.9.2.5.3 Failing to disclose to the ITTF or other competent authority (without undue delay) full details of any approaches or invitations received by the participant to engage in conduct or incidents that would amount to a violation of this rule.

- 6.9.2.5.4 Failing to disclose to the ITTF or other competent authority (without undue delay) full details of any incident, fact or matter that comes to the attention of the participant that may evidence a violation under this rule by a third party, including (without limitation) approaches or invitations that have been received by any other party to engage in conduct that would amount to a violation of this rule;

- 6.9.2.5.5 Failing without compelling justification to cooperate with any reasonable investigation carried out by the ITTF or other competent authority in relation to a possible breach of this rule, including failing to provide any information and/or documentation requested by the ITTF or by the competent competition authority that may be relevant to such investigation.

- 6.9.2.6 The following are **not relevant to the determination of a violation of these rules**:

- 6.9.2.6.1 Whether or not the participant was participating, or a participant assisted by another participant was participating, in the specific event or competition;
- 6.9.2.6.2 The nature or outcome of any bet at issue;
- 6.9.2.6.3 The outcome of the event or competition on which the bet was made;
- 6.9.2.6.4 Whether or not the participant's efforts or performance (if any) in any event or competition at issue were (or could be expected to be) affected by the acts or omissions in question;
- 6.9.2.6.5 Whether or not the results in the event or competition at issue were (or could be expected to be) affected by the acts or omissions in question.

### **6.9.3 BURDEN AND STANDARD OF PROOF**

- 6.9.3.1 The ITTF or other prosecuting authority shall have the burden of proving that a violation has occurred under these rules. The standard of proof shall be whether the ITTF or other prosecuting authority has proved a violation to the comfortable satisfaction of the hearing panel, a standard which is greater than the mere balance of probability but less than proof beyond a reasonable doubt.
- 6.9.3.2 Where these rules place the burden of proof on the participant alleged to have committed a violation to prove facts or circumstances, the standard of proof shall be by a preponderance of the evidence.
- 6.9.3.3 The hearing panel shall not be bound by judicial rules governing the admissibility of evidence. Facts related to violations of rule 6.2 may be established by any reliable means, including but not limited to, admissions, evidence of third parties, witness statements, expert reports, documentary evidence and other analytical data or information.
- 6.9.3.4 The hearing panel shall have discretion to accept any facts established by a decision of a court or professional disciplinary tribunal of any competent jurisdiction which is not subject to a pending appeal as irrefutable evidence against the participant to whom the decision relates unless the participant establishes that the decision violated the principles of natural justice.
- 6.9.3.5 The hearing panel shall be entitled to draw an inference adverse against any participant who is accused of committing a violation if that participant fails to appear in front of the hearing panel if requested to do so a reasonable time in advance of the hearing, or fails to comply with any information request that has been submitted in accordance with these rules.

**6.9.4 INVESTIGATING A BREACH**

- 6.9.4.1 Any allegation or suspicion of a violation 6.2 shall be reported to the ITTF for investigation and possible charge in accordance with this rule. The ITTF may conduct an investigation into the activities of any participant that it believes may have committed a violation of these rules and may appoint one or more persons for this purpose. Such investigation may be conducted in conjunction with relevant competent national or international authorities (including criminal, administrative, professional and/or judicial authorities) and all participants must co-operate fully with such investigations. The ITTF shall have discretion, where it deems it appropriate, to stay its own investigation pending the outcome of investigations conducted by other competent authorities.
- 6.9.4.2 As part of any such investigation, if the ITTF reasonably suspects that a participant has committed a violation of these rules, it may make a written demand to such participant for information that is related to the alleged violation and/or require the attendance of such participant for interview, or a combination of the two. Any interview shall be at a time and place to be determined by the ITTF and the relevant participant shall be given reasonable notice in writing of the requirement to attend. Interviews shall be recorded and the participant shall be entitled to have legal counsel and an interpreter present.
- 6.9.4.3 By participation in a competition, each participant shall be deemed to have agreed for the purposes of applicable data protection laws and other laws, and for all other purposes, to have consented to the collection, processing, disclosure or any other use of information relating to his or her activities (including without limitation personal information) to the extent permitted under these rules and shall confirm such agreement in writing upon demand.

**6.9.5 ISSUING A NOTICE OF CHARGE**

- 6.9.5.1 Where following an investigation the ITTF determines that there is a case for the participant to answer under 6.9.2, the ITTF shall issue the participant with a written notice of charge setting out the following:
- 6.9.5.1.1 The specific violation(s) that the participant is alleged to have committed;
  - 6.9.5.1.2 The facts upon which such allegation(s) are based;
  - 6.9.5.1.3 The range of sanctions applicable under the rules for such violations;
  - 6.9.5.1.4 Details relating to the participant's response to the notice of charge within a specified deadline; and
  - 6.9.5.1.5 The participant's right to have the matter determined by a hearing.
- 6.9.5.2 The notice of charge shall also specify that, if the participant wishes to exercise his or her right to a hearing, he or she must submit a written request

for a hearing so that it is received by the ITTF as soon as possible but in any event within 14 days of receipt of the notice of charge. The request must state how the participant responds to the charge and must explain (in summary form) the basis for such response.

6.9.5.3 If the participant fails to file a written request for a hearing by the specified deadline, he or she shall be deemed to have:

6.9.5.3.1 waived his or her right to a hearing;

6.9.5.3.2 admitted that he or she has committed the violation(s) specified in the notice of charge; and

6.9.5.3.3 acceded to the range of applicable sanctions specified in the notice of charge.

6.9.5.4 Where the participant requests a hearing in accordance with 6.1, the matter shall proceed to a hearing in accordance with 6.3. Where the participant is deemed to have waived his or her right to a hearing and to have admitted the violation(s) in accordance with 6.2, any hearing held at the ITTF's discretion shall be limited to determining the applicable sanctions only.

6.9.5.5 In any case where the ITTF decides to charge a participant with a violation under these rules, the ITTF shall have discretion, in circumstances where it considers that the integrity of the sport could otherwise be seriously undermined, to provisionally suspend the participant pending the relevant tribunal's determination of whether the participant has committed a violation. A provisional suspension shall be effective from the date of notification to the participant in accordance with these rules. Alternatively, the participant may accept a voluntary suspension from competition provided that it is confirmed in writing to the ITTF. A voluntary suspension shall be effective only from the date of receipt of the participant's written confirmation of such to the ITTF.

6.9.5.6 A decision to impose a provisional suspension on a participant shall not be subject to appeal.

6.9.5.7 If a participant retires whilst a disciplinary procedure under these rules is underway, the ITTF shall retain jurisdiction to complete the relevant procedure. If the participant retires before any disciplinary procedure has begun, the ITTF shall nevertheless have jurisdiction to conduct the relevant procedure.

### **6.9.6 RIGHT TO A FAIR HEARING**

6.9.6.1 Where the ITTF alleges that a participant has committed a violation of these rules and the participant denies the allegation and/or disputes the sanctions to be imposed for such violation, then the matter shall be referred to a hearing before the hearing panel.

- 6.9.6.2 The hearing panel shall be appointed by the ITTF in accordance with the principles set out in 6.9.6.3 below, the members of the hearing panel shall have had no prior involvement with the case and shall not, unless otherwise agreed between the parties, be from the same country as the participant alleged to have violated these rules.
- 6.9.6.3 The hearing process shall respect the following principles: a timely hearing, a fair and impartial hearing panel, the right to be represented by counsel (at the participant's expense), the right to respond to the asserted anti-corruption rule violation and range of resulting sanction; the right of each party to present evidence, including the right to call and question witnesses (subject to the hearing panel's discretion to accept evidence by telephone or written submission), the participant's right to an interpreter at the hearing (with the hearing panel to determine the identity and responsibility for the cost of the interpreter) and a timely, written reasoned decision specifically including an explanation of the reason(s) for the sanction imposed.
- 6.9.6.4 Once the parties have made their submissions, the hearing panel shall determine whether a violation has been committed. Where the hearing panel determines that a violation has been committed and these rules specify a range of possible sanctions for such violation, the hearing panel shall also fix the appropriate sanction within that range after considering any submissions on the subject that the parties may wish to make.
- 6.9.6.5 The hearing panel shall issue a decision in writing, with reasons, as soon as possible after the conclusion of the hearing. The decision will set out and explain:
- 6.9.6.5.1 the hearing panel's findings as to whether any violation has been committed;
  - 6.9.6.5.2 the hearing panel's findings as to what sanctions, if any, are to be imposed;
  - 6.9.6.5.3 the date that any period of ineligibility shall commence; and
  - 6.9.6.5.4 the rights of appeal described in 6.9.8.
- 6.9.7 SANCTIONS**
- 6.9.7.1 A violation of 6.9.2 by an athlete occurring during or in connection with an event in which the athlete is participating shall lead to disqualification of the athlete and the annulment of all the athlete's results obtained in that event with all consequences, including forfeiture of all titles, medals, computer ranking points and prize and appearance money.
- 6.9.7.2 If a member of a doubles pair or a team is found to have committed a violation under 6.9.2, the doubles pair or the team shall be automatically disqualified

from the event in question and any title, medal, computer ranking points and prize shall be withdrawn.

### **6.9.7.3 Ineligibility and Financial Sanctions**

- 6.9.7.3.1 The hearing panel shall have discretion to impose a period of ineligibility on participants in accordance with the bands set out in 6.9.7.3.2. In imposing any period of ineligibility, the hearing panel shall be entitled to consider whether any aggravating and/or mitigating factors should be taken into account.
- 6.9.7.3.2 The respective period of ineligibility for a violation set out in:  
Rule 6.9.2.1 (betting), shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years;  
Rule 6.9.2.2 (manipulation of results), shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years;  
Rule 6.9.2.3 (corrupt conduct), shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years;  
Rule 6.9.2.4 (misuse of inside information), shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years;  
Rule 6.9.2.5 (other violations) shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years.
- 6.9.7.3.3 The period of ineligibility shall commence on the date the decision of the hearing panel is published and shall end on date stated in the published decision. The hearing panel may at its sole discretion reduce the period of ineligibility imposed by any period of provisional suspension already served by the participant prior to the decision being reached.
- 6.9.7.3.4 No participant shall participate in any capacity in any event or competition during his or her period of ineligibility as imposed by the hearing panel.
- 6.9.7.3.5 If a participant violates any prohibition on participation imposed in accordance with 6.9.7.3.2, such participant shall be disqualified immediately from the relevant event or competition and the period of ineligibility originally imposed in accordance with these rules shall recommence from the date of such violation.
- 6.9.7.3.6 These rules shall continue to apply to any ineligible participant and any violation committed during a period of ineligibility shall be treated as a distinct violation and separate proceedings shall be brought against the participant in accordance with these rules.
- 6.9.7.3.7 In addition to the imposition of a period of ineligibility as set out above, the hearing panel shall have discretion to impose a fine of up to a maximum amount of the value of any benefit received by the participant out of, or in relation to, the violation(s) of 6.9.2.

**6.9.7.4 Aggravating and Mitigating Factors**

- 6.9.7.4.1 In order to determine the appropriate sanction to be imposed in each case the hearing panel shall assess the relative seriousness of the violation, including identifying all relevant factors that it deems to aggravate or mitigate the nature of the violation committed.
- 6.9.7.4.2 Aggravating factors which may be considered by the hearing panel shall include (without limitation and where applicable):
- 6.9.7.4.2.1 failure to co-operate by the participant with any investigation or requests for information;
- 6.9.7.4.2.2 any previous violations by the participant;
- 6.9.7.4.2.3 the participant receiving or being due to receive a significant Benefit in connection with the violation;
- 6.9.7.4.2.4 the violation having or having the potential to affect the course or result of an event or competition;
- 6.9.7.4.2.5 the participant displaying a lack of remorse (including, for example, refusing to take part in anti-corruption educational programs organised by the ITTF); and
- 6.9.7.4.2.6 any other aggravating factor the hearing panel deems relevant.
- 6.9.7.4.3 Mitigating factors which may be considered by the hearing panel shall include (without limitation and where applicable):
- 6.9.7.4.3.1 co-operation by the participant with any investigation or requests for information;
- 6.9.7.4.3.2 a timely admission of guilt by the participant;
- 6.9.7.4.3.3 the participant's clean disciplinary record;
- 6.9.7.4.3.4 the youth or inexperience of the participant;
- 6.9.7.4.3.5 the violation not having affected or not having the potential to affect the course or result of an event or competition;
- 6.9.7.4.3.6 the participant displaying remorse (including, for example, agreeing to take part in anti-corruption educational programs organised by the ITTF); and
- 6.9.7.4.3.7 any other mitigating factor the hearing panel deems relevant.

**6.9.7.5 Reinstatement**

- 6.9.7.5.1 Once the period of the participant's ineligibility has expired, he or she will become automatically re-eligible to participate provided that he or she has
- 6.9.7.5.1.1 completed to the ITTF's reasonable satisfaction any official betting and anti-corruption education or rehabilitation programme that might be imposed on him or her

6.9.7.5.1.2 has satisfied, in full, any fine imposed under this rule and/or award of costs made against him or her by any tribunal and

6.9.7.5.1.3 has agreed to subject himself/herself to any reasonable and proportionate monitoring of his or her future activities as the ITTF may reasonably consider necessary given the nature and scope of the violation that he or she has committed.

### **6.9.8 APPEALS**

6.9.8.1 The following decisions made under these rules may be appealed either by the ITTF or the participant who is the subject of the decision (as applicable) exclusively to CAS:

6.9.8.1.1 A decision that a charge of breach of 6.9.2 should be dismissed on procedural or jurisdictional grounds;

6.9.8.1.2 A decision that a violation of 6.9.2 has been committed;

6.9.8.1.3 A decision that a violation of 6.9.2 has not been committed;

6.9.8.1.4 A decision to impose a sanction, including a sanction that is not in accordance with these rules;

6.9.8.1.5 A decision not to impose a sanction;

6.9.8.1.6 Any other decision that is considered to be erroneous or procedurally unsound.

6.9.8.2 The time for filing an appeal to CAS shall be twenty-one days (21) from the date of receipt of the decision by the appealing party.

6.9.8.3 Any decision and any sanctions imposed shall remain in effect while subject to the appeal process, unless CAS directs otherwise.

6.9.8.4 The decision of CAS shall be final and binding on all parties and on all National Associations and Continental Federations and there shall be no right of appeal from the CAS decision. No claim may be brought in any other court, tribunal or via any other dispute resolution procedure or mechanism.

### **6.9.9 RECOGNITION OF DECISIONS**

6.9.9.1 It shall be a condition of membership and affiliation of the ITTF that all National Associations and Continental Federations shall comply with, recognise and take all necessary and reasonable steps within their powers to enforce and give effect to these rules and to all decisions and sanctions imposed hereunder.

6.9.9.2 Final decisions of a major event organisation in relation to a participant that are within the major event organisation's jurisdiction and based on the same or similar illegal betting and anti-corruption rules as these rules shall be

recognised and respected by the ITTF upon receipt of notice of the same. Any disciplinary process, so far as determining a participant's sanction beyond the sanction imposed by the major event organisation is concerned, shall be determined by the ITTF in accordance with these rules.

#### **6.9.10 STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS**

6.9.10.1 No action may be commenced under these rules against a participant for a violation of these rules unless such action is commenced within eight (8) years from the date on which the violation occurred.

6.9.10.2 Subject to 6.9.10.1 above, the ITTF may temporarily suspend any investigations under the rules to avoid prejudice to and/or to give precedence to, investigations conducted by the relevant authorities into the same or related matters.

#### **6.9.11 AMENDMENTS AND INTERPRETATION**

6.9.11.1 Betting and anti-corruption rules are, by their nature, competition rules governing the conditions under which the sport of table tennis is to be held. They are not intended to be subjected to or limited by the requirements and legal standards applicable to criminal proceedings or employment matters. The policies and standards set out in these rules as a basis for the fight against corruption in the sport of table tennis represent a broad consensus of those with an interest in fair sport and should be respected by all courts and not by reference to existing law or statutes.

6.9.11.2 The headings and sub-headings in these rules are for convenience only and shall not be deemed to be part of the substance of these rules or to affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.

6.9.11.3 The definitions in Appendix 1 shall be considered an integral part of these rules.

6.9.11.4 If any rule or provision of these rules is held to be invalid, unenforceable or illegal for any reason, it shall be deemed to be deleted and the rules shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.

#### **6.10 Extension of the Code of Ethics' Applicability**

The organisations cited in chapter 1 (Constitution) may decide to apply the Code of Ethics to themselves and/or to their members (natural or legal persons).

### **6.11 Ethics Commission**

#### 6.11.1 Composition and organisation

6.11.1.1 The Ethics Commission is independent; it is composed of three members among whom there must be:

6.11.1.1.1 a member of the Executive Committee

6.11.1.1.2 a member of the Athletes Commission

6.11.1.1.3 the Chair of the Rules Committee, who will act as Chair of the Ethic Commission

6.11.1.1.4 and one officer, a staff member as secretary to the Commission who shall have speaking rights but no voting rights

6.11.1.2 The members, shall be appointed by the Board of Directors upon recommendation of the nomination committee.

6.11.1.3 The Ethics Commission meets when convened by its Chair, at least once a year.

6.11.1.4 The required quorum for any recommendation decision is constituted if all three members are present. Each member will do whatever they can to be present at the meetings and participate in them. Teleconference meetings may be held.

6.11.1.5 The administrative organisation of the Ethics Commission, and support to it, are overseen by the Ethics Commission Officer.

#### 6.11.2 Terms of reference of the commission

6.11.2.1 In the framework of the competence as defined in Rule 22.1 of the Olympic Charter, the terms of reference of the Ethics Commission are:

6.11.2.1.1 to define and update a framework of ethical principles, including a Code of Ethics, based upon the values and principles enshrined in the Olympic Charter, of which the said Code forms an integral part;

6.11.2.1.2 to investigate complaints raised in relation to the non-respect of such ethical principles, including breaches of the Code of Ethics and, if necessary, propose sanctions to the Executive Committee.

6.11.2.2 The Ethics Commission presents an annual report on its activities to the AGM. This report will be published.

#### 6.11.3 Conflict of interest

6.11.3.1 Members of the Ethics Commission shall not take any measure nor exercise any influence in relation to a matter where any conflict of interests or any other conflict exists or is perceived to exist.

Consequently a reserve pool of members (one each from the Executive Committee, the Athletes Commission, and the Rules Committee) shall be appointed by the Board of Directors based upon recommendations by the Nominations Committee.

#### 6.11.4 Terms of appointment of commission members

6.11.4.1 The duration of the term of appointment of an Ethics Commission member is four years. Such term is renewable.

6.11.4.2 The term of an Ethics Commission member takes effect on the day of his/her election by the Board of Directors (BoD).

6.11.4.3 In the event of death, resignation or inability of a member to perform his or her functions, the member shall be replaced. In such a case, or cases of urgency, the Executive Committee may designate a replacement member for the remaining period until the next BoD meeting.

6.11.4.4 In the event of a breach of the present Regulations, an Ethics Commission member may be removed from office only by a specific vote by the BoD, the member concerned being heard by the Executive Committee.

#### 6.11.5 Transitional provisions

6.11.5.1 During the 2017 World Championships in Düsseldorf, the inaugural members of the Ethics Commission shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.

#### 6.11.6 General provisions

6.11.6.1 These Rules apply to all cases brought before the Ethics Commission.

6.11.6.2 The proceedings opened through application of these Rules of Procedure are confidential. All the parties concerned undertake not to divulge to third parties any of the facts or other information linked to the proceedings.

#### 6.11.7 Procedure for analysing complaints, denunciations or acts

6.11.7.1 All complaints or denunciations received by the Ethics Commission, and all acts brought to its attention which might constitute a breach of the ethical

principles of the Olympic Charter, the Code of Ethics or its implementing provisions are analysed by the Ethics Commission.

Such analysis will address the likelihood of a breach of the ethical principles of the Olympic Charter, the Code of Ethics or its implementing provisions, and the jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission.

6.11.7.2 A complainant may request that his/her identity not be revealed and that all precautions be taken so that his/her identity is protected.

6.11.7.3 The Ethics Commission Officer informs the person who is the subject of a complaint or denunciation. Such person may submit their first observations if they deem it necessary to do so.

If the subject of the complaint or denunciation is a corporate body, the Ethics Commission Officer will inform its representative, who may submit their first observations if they deem it necessary to do so.

6.11.7.4 With a view to facilitating the analysis of the likelihood of a breach and to writing a referral report for the Ethics Commission, the Ethics Commission Officer may:

6.11.7.4.1 consult all the relevant documents;

6.11.7.4.2 ask to be provided with all the relevant documents and the written observations of the person concerned, in particular with regard to the evidence;

6.11.7.4.3 seek the advice of any relevant expertise;

6.11.7.4.4 travel to the place concerned if this may facilitate an understanding of the facts; and

6.11.7.4.5 hear the person concerned. In such cases, the interview will be recorded and a copy of the recording given to the person concerned.

6.11.7.5 If the likelihood of a breach of the ethical principles of the Olympic Charter, the Code of Ethics or its implementing provisions and of the competence of the Ethics Commission is established, the Ethics Commission Officer will officially forward the complaint to the Chair of the Ethics Commission with the complete file, including the referral report.

6.11.7.6 In the event that the likelihood of a breach of the ethical principles of the Olympic Charter, the Code of Ethics or its implementing provisions and of the competence of the Ethics Commission is not established, the Ethics Commission Officer will record this accordingly in a specific report. This specific report will be an agenda item at each meeting of the Ethics Commission.

The person behind the complaint or denunciation will be informed of this decision, and may ask the Chair of the Ethics Commission to re-examine the file if the analysis by the Ethics Commission Officer has not determined that the file should be referred to the Ethics Commission.

#### 6.11.8 Referral and procedure before the Ethics Commission

6.11.8.1 Referral to the Ethics Commission is made in writing by the Ethics Commission Officer, based on the referral report, and including the complete file.

The Ethics Commission Officer may assist the Chair of the Ethics Commission, at his/her request, with any additional information and/or support.

6.11.8.2 The Ethics Commission takes note of the referral report, the complete file and the various written observations made by the person concerned.

6.11.8.3 The Chair of the Ethics Commission may appoint one of the Commission members as a rapporteur. The Chair may delegate to the rapporteur all or part of the measures provided under article 14 below, in particular hearing the person concerned. The rapporteur then presents their report to the Ethics Commission.

6.11.8.4 The person concerned may exercise his/her right to be heard by the Ethics Commission or its rapporteur, either through written observations or orally, during an interview for which the circumstances will be decided by the Commission or its rapporteur. Such interviews will be recorded and a copy of the recording given to the person concerned.

6.11.8.5 When conducting an investigation, the Ethics Commission or its rapporteur may take any other appropriate measures, including:

6.11.8.5.1 asking for written information or documents from the parties concerned;

6.11.8.5.2 deciding to hear witnesses at its own discretion or at the request of the parties concerned;

6.11.8.5.3 travelling to the place concerned, or sending one of its members, or delegating a person to go there if it deems that such action may clarify the proceedings under way;

6.11.8.5.4 appointing one or more experts tasked with assisting it on one or more points, and establishing the scope of their terms of reference and remuneration within the limits of its operating budget.

The person concerned will have to fully cooperate with the Ethics Commission or the rapporteur, in particular by communicating any information or document judged necessary by the Commission for the investigation and formulation of its recommendations. Any lack of cooperation will be taken into account when assessing the situation.

6.11.8.6 The Ethics Commission freely assesses the evidence.

The Ethics Commission may take a decision regarding any provisional measures, as provided by article 6.11.8.9 below.

Regarding the measures or sanctions against the person concerned, the Ethics Commission makes recommendation to the ITTF Executive Committee which takes a decision, pursuant to Rule 22 of the Olympic Charter and as provided by article 6.11.9.1 below.

6.11.8.7 The Ethics Commission deliberates in camera and takes the decisions of provisional measures or the recommendations of measures or sanctions it deems appropriate.

The Commission's deliberations are led by the Chair. The Chair may ask the Ethics Commission Officer to attend the deliberations as an observer. The Chair may also ask the CEO to answer questions on the referral report.

The Commission's decisions of provisional measures and/or recommendations are taken by a simple majority of the members present. The required quorum is constituted if all three members are present.

Voting takes place by secret ballot if the Chair of the Commission so decides, or if a majority of the members present request it. Voting by proxy is not allowed.

If necessary, the members may take part in the deliberations via telephone or video conference. In certain circumstances, the Commission members may be consulted by circulating the documents.

All deliberations and votes are confidential.

6.11.8.8 Within the framework of the Olympic Charter, the Ethics Commission may, during an investigation and after having heard the person concerned, take a decision regarding provisional measures, in particular with regard to provisional suspension of all or part of the rights, prerogatives and functions deriving from such person or organisation's membership or status.

This decision of provisional measures, including the reasons, takes the form of a written decision signed by the Chair of the Commission.

The Ethics Commission Officer informs the person concerned of any decisions and the reasons regarding provisional measures and shall

forward to the President the decision on provisional measures for the Executive Committee's information.

The decision on provisional measures may be made public.

The provisional measure will be taken into consideration by the Ethics Commission when assessing the recommendations for the measures or sanctions to be made to the Executive Committee.

- 6.11.8.9 The Ethics Commission recommends to the Executive Committee the measures or sanctions provided under Rule 59 of the Olympic Charter or any other appropriate measures, in particular those provided by one of the implementing provisions of the Code of Ethics.

Such recommendation takes the form of a written decision signed by the Chair of the Commission.

The Ethics Commission Officer forwards the Ethics Commission's final recommendations to the President for referral to the Executive Committee.

The recommendations remain confidential.

At the same time, the Ethics Commission Officer informs the person concerned of such transmission, and, if the Ethics Commission recommends any sanction or measure, of the evidence against them and the reasons given by the Ethics Commission.

#### 6.11.9 Procedure before the Executive Committee following a recommendation by the Ethics Commission

- 6.11.9.1 The person concerned is invited to exercise their right to be heard by the Executive Committee, if they so wish, in the form of written observations, which must be submitted by the deadline established by the ITTF.

- 6.11.9.2 The Executive Committee will decide on the basis of the Ethics Commission's recommendations and the written observations from the person concerned.

If necessary, the President may ask the Chair of the Ethics Commission or the Ethics Commission Officer for any explanations.

Before a decision by the Executive Committee, the President may return the file to the Ethics Commission Officer or the Ethics Commission if new elements emerge.

- 6.11.9.3 The decision by the Executive Committee is immediately notified to the person concerned.

6.11.9.4 The Ethics Commission's recommendations may be published on the web site after notification of the decision by the Executive Committee to the person concerned. Any appeal process would be external, at the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

### 6.12 **Scope**

The present Directives become effective as of July 1, 2017.

**APPENDIX****DEFINITIONS**

**"Athlete"** means any athlete who participates or is selected to participate in an event or competition;

**"Athlete Support Personnel"** means any coach, trainer, manager, athlete representative, agent, team staff member, official, medical or para-medical personnel, family member or any other person employed by or working with an athlete or the athlete's National Association participating in a competition.

**"Benefit"** means the direct or indirect receipt or provision (as relevant) of money or money's worth (other than prize money and/or contractual payments to be made under endorsement, sponsorship or other contracts);

**"Bet"** means a wager of money or any other form of financial speculation;

**"Betting"** means making, accepting, or laying a bet and shall include, without limitation, activities commonly referred to as sports betting such as fixed and running odds, totalisator/toto games, live betting, betting exchange, spread betting and other games offered by sports betting operators;

**"CAS"** means the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland;

**"Competition"** means an event or series of events conducted over one or more days under one ruling body (e.g., World Championships).

**"Event"** means a single, race, match or contest.

**"Hearing Panel"** means the panel appointed by the ITTF to perform the functions assigned to it in these rules.

**"Inside Information"** means any information relating to any competition or event that a participant possesses by virtue of his or her position within the sport. Such information includes, but is not limited to, factual information regarding the competitors, the conditions, tactical considerations or any other aspect of the competition or event, but **does not include** such information that is already published or a matter of public record, readily acquired by an interested member of the public or disclosed according to the rules and regulations governing the relevant competition or event;

**"International Competition"** means any competition mentioned in clause 3.1.2.3 of the ITTF Handbook.

**"ITTF Sanctioned Events"** means all events so designated by the Executive Committee and published on the calendar from time to time.

**"National Association"** means the member of the ITTF to which a participant under these rules is affiliated directly or through a club or another body affiliated to the member.

**"Major Event Organisation"** means any international multi-sport organisation that acts as the ruling body for any continental, regional or other international competition.

**"Participant"** means any athlete, athlete support personnel, umpire, referee, delegate, commissioner, jury of appeal member, competition official, National Association team or delegation member and any other accredited person;

**"Person"** shall include natural persons, bodies corporate and unincorporated associations and partnerships (whether or not any of them have separate legal personality);

**"Sanction"** means any sanction that the hearing panel has the right to impose in accordance with 6.7; and

**"Violation"** means a violation of these Rules as set out in 6.9.2.

# 7 ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURES

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*As an international body, the ITTF brings together members from different cultures, backgrounds and experiences. Harassment is perceived differently in different cultures. However, the ITTF is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment based on respect and members must be sensitive to the different cultures and behavioral norms that make up the ITTF community.*

The ITTF recognises that not all persons experiencing harassment will make a formal complaint, but this does not reduce the need to create a supportive environment in which all can achieve their full potential.

The term “complainant” refers to the person who experiences harassment. The term “respondent” refers to the person against whom a complaint is made.

## 7.1 POLICY STATEMENT

7.1.1 The ITTF is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Each individual has the right to participate and work in an environment which promotes equal opportunities and prohibits discriminatory practices. The ITTF hereby restates its commitment to the Olympic Charter and in particular its Fundamental Principles.

7.1.1.1 Harassment is a form of discrimination. Harassment is prohibited by human rights legislation and is considered unlawful in many States of the world.

7.1.1.2 The ITTF is committed to providing a sport environment free of harassment on any basis without exception.

## 7.2 APPLICATION OF THE POLICY

7.2.1 This policy applies to all members (Associations and continental federations) as well as all officials, players, players’ entourage and persons involved in the ITTF’s operations.

7.2.2 This policy applies to harassment which may occur during the course of all ITTF business, activities, and events. It also applies to harassment between individuals associated with the ITTF but outside the ITTF business, activities, and events when such harassment adversely affects relationships within the ITTF work and sport environment.

7.2.3 Notwithstanding this policy, every person who experiences harassment has the right to pursue legal recourse, even when steps are being taken under this policy.

### **7.3 DEFINITIONS**

- 7.3.1 Psychological and/or physical harassment takes many forms but can generally be defined as, persistent comment, conduct, or gesture directed toward an individual or group of individuals, which is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, malicious, degrading, offensive or abusive. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with an individual's performance, damaging his or her reputation, dignity and morale and can create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.
- 7.3.2 For the purposes of this policy, any form of harassment is defined as unwelcome, often persistent, attention. It may include particularly, but not limited to, discrimination or harassment on the basis of gender, religious background, race:
- 7.3.2.1 Written or verbal abuse or threats
  - 7.3.2.2 Inappropriately oriented comments
  - 7.3.2.3 Jokes, lewd comments or innuendoes
  - 7.3.2.4 Taunts about body, dress, marital status or sexuality
  - 7.3.2.5 Shouting and/or bullying
  - 7.3.2.6 Ridiculing or undermining performance or self-respect
  - 7.3.2.7 Sexual, homophobic, racial or other discriminatory graffiti
  - 7.3.2.8 Practical jokes
  - 7.3.2.9 Intimidating remarks, invitations or familiarity
  - 7.3.2.10 Physical contact, fondling, pinching or kissing
  - 7.3.2.11 Vandalism
  - 7.3.2.12 Offensive phone calls or photos

### **7.4 CONFIDENTIALITY**

- 7.4.1 The ITTF understands that it can be difficult to come forward with a complaint of harassment and that it can be equally difficult to be wrongly accused or convicted of harassment. The ITTF recognises the interests of all parties concerned in keeping the matter confidential.
- 7.4.2 Therefore, the ITTF shall not disclose to outside parties the name of the complainant, the circumstances giving rise to a complaint, or the name of the respondent unless such disclosure is required by a disciplinary, legal or other remedial process.

### **7.5 PANEL OF HARASSMENT OFFICERS**

- 7.5.1 The ITTF shall appoint at least two persons, who are themselves officials or employees of the organisation, to serve as harassment officers under this policy, provided that no member of the Executive Committee is appointed.
- 7.5.2 The role of harassment officers is to serve in a neutral, unbiased, independent capacity and to receive complaints, assist in informal resolution of complaints, maintain records and investigate and advise on the steps to be taken in case of formal written complaints. In carrying out their duties under this policy, harassment officers shall be directly responsible to the Executive Committee.

- 7.5.3 The ITTF shall ensure that harassment officers receive appropriate training and support for carrying out their responsibilities under this policy.

## **7.6 COMPLAINT PROCEDURE**

- 7.6.1 A person who experiences harassment is encouraged to seek the initial advice of the competition manager or a harassment officer.
- 7.6.2 The competition manager or harassment officer, as the case may be, shall inform the complainant of:
- 7.6.2.1 the options for pursuing an informal resolution of his or her complaint which are:
- 7.6.2.1.1 **mediation** where the harassment officer (or officers) will deal directly with the respondent in order to find a suitable solution.
- 7.6.2.1.2 **arbitration** where the harassment officer (or officers) will hear the complainant and the respondent and facilitate a suitable solution.
- 7.6.2.1.3 the **right to lay a formal written complaint** under this policy when an informal resolution is inappropriate or not possible.
- 7.6.3 If a formal complaint is laid, the harassment officer (officers), within 15 days of receiving the formal written complaint, shall submit a report to the Executive Committee with the recommendation of further action/s to be taken.

## **7.7 DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

- 7.7.1 Any person against whom a complaint of harassment is substantiated may be severely disciplined based on the findings and recommendations made by the harassment officers.
- 7.7.2 For the purposes of this policy, retaliation against an individual will not be tolerated for having:
- 7.7.2.1 filed a complaint under this policy; or
- 7.7.2.2 participated in any procedure under this policy; or
- 7.7.2.3 been associated with a person who filed a complaint or participated in any procedure under this policy.
- 7.7.3 False accusations will be viewed very seriously and disciplinary action will be recommended against individuals who bring such false charges.
- 7.7.4 The Executive Committee can impose appropriate disciplinary sanctions from warnings, to fines, to suspension and expulsion when a complaint of harassment has been substantiated. The same disciplinary sanctions can be imposed if a false accusation has been substantiated.

## **7.8 APPEALS**

- 7.8.1 Both the complainant and respondent shall have the right to appeal the decision. A notice of intention to appeal, along with grounds for the appeal, must be provided to the Executive Committee within 14 days of the complainant or respondent receiving the formal notification of the outcome of the case.

7.8.2 The Executive Committee shall forward the appeal to the Court of Arbitration of Sport.

### **7.9 REPORTING TO HARASSMENT OFFICERS**

7.9.1 Every member of the ITTF has a responsibility to play a part in ensuring that the sport environment is free from harassment.

7.9.2 The ITTF encourages all incidents of harassment to be reported, regardless of who the offender may be.

### **7.10 RESPONSIBILITY**

7.10.1 The Executive Committee is responsible for the implementation of this policy. In addition, the Executive Committee is responsible for:

7.10.1.1 discouraging and preventing harassment within the ITTF;

7.10.1.2 investigating formal complaints of harassment in a sensitive, responsible, and timely manner;

7.10.1.3 imposing appropriate disciplinary or corrective measures when a complaint of harassment has been substantiated based on the findings of the harassment officers, regardless of the position or authority of the offender;

7.10.1.4 providing advice to persons who experience harassment;

7.10.1.5 doing its utmost to support and assist any employee or member of the ITTF who experiences harassment by someone who is not an employee or member of the ITTF;

7.10.1.6 making all individuals involved in the ITTF aware of the problem of all forms of harassment, and of the procedures contained in this policy;

7.10.1.7 informing both complainants and respondents of the procedures contained in this policy and of their rights under this policy and the law;

7.10.1.8 regularly reviewing the terms of this policy to ensure that they adequately meet the organisation's legal obligations and public policy objectives;

7.10.1.9 appointing officers and providing the training and resources they need to fulfil their responsibilities under this policy;

7.10.1.10 rehabilitate publicly, persons who have been victims of harassment or who have been victims of a false accusation.

# DIRECTIVES FOR MATCH OFFICIALS AT WORLD TITLE COMPETITIONS AND ITTF SANCTIONED EVENTS

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## *Definitions*

**World Title competitions** include – but are not limited to – the table tennis competition at the Quadrennial Summer Olympic, World Olympic Qualifications and Youth Olympic Games, the Quadrennial Summer Paralympic Games, the World Team Championships, the World Individual Championships, the World Junior Championships, the World Para Table Tennis Individual Championships, the World Para Table Tennis Team Championships, the Men’s World Cup, the Women’s World Cup, the World Team Cup, and other events so designated by the ITTF Executive Committee.

**World Tour events** include all events according to the ITTF calendar marked as World Tour and Platinum Event but excluding Challenge events.

**ITTF Sanctioned events** include all events so designated by the ITTF Executive Committee and published on the ITTF calendar from time to time.

**Host** – Host Organising Committee, Host Association, Host Governing Body.

**URC** – The ITTF Umpires’ and Referees’ Committee; the Chair of the ITTF Umpires’ and Referees’ Committee; any of the designated officials of the ITTF Umpires’ and Referees’ Committee.

**IR** – ITTF certified International Referee.

**IR(A)** – ITTF International Referee Advanced – very competent referees identified by URC who have undertaken, or are undertaking, a suitable training and evaluation program. Any reference to IR also includes IR(A).

**IR(C)** – ITTF Certified International Referee – an individual who has passed the referee examination, but with insufficient English ability; can officiate as a referee or deputy referee in countries where their language is spoken.

**NR** – National Referee – an individual who has successfully completed their Association internal referee certification program, or the ITTF certified National Referee’s Course.

**IU** – ITTF certified International Umpire - also referred to as White Badge (WB).

**Blue Badge IU (BB)** – ITTF International Umpire who has attended an Advanced Umpire Training course, passed an Advanced Rules Exam and fulfilled all other requirements under the Blue Badge Umpires Programme.

**Blue Badge in Progress IU (BBiP)** – ITTF International Umpire who has attended an Advanced Umpire Training course, passed an Advanced Rules Exam but is yet to fulfil all requirements under the Blue Badge Umpires Programme.

**NU** – National Umpire – an individual who has successfully completed their Association's highest internal umpire certification program, or the ITTF certified National Umpire's Course.

**Match officials** – include referees, umpires, evaluators, course conductors and umpires' coordinator.

### **Number of Referees**

Number of Referees = Referee plus 2 deputy referees for one playing hall of 16 tables or less. For each additional hall or if a playing hall has more than 16 tables then an additional deputy referee is necessary. These numbers may need to be increased for World Championships, especially for qualification days where local IRs or NRs may be used. For events with 4 or fewer tables only 1 deputy referee is required.

If considered warranted 4 referees could be used for one hall of less than 16 tables, especially if the event lasts 4 days or longer.

### **Number of Umpires**

All events are divided into different stages:

Qualification, Main Draw and Final Days (last two days of an event)

Each stage requires a different number of umpires. The number of umpires depends on the tables in use for each stage.

Umpires are only present for the stage for which they are selected.

### ***Following minimum number of umpires are necessary:***

#### **World Title Competitions:**

Qualification and Main draw (with more than 2 tables): Number of tables x 4 + 4

Main draw with 2 tables: Number of tables x 4

Final days with 1 table: 6

#### **World Tour Events:**

Qualification: Number of tables x 2 + 2 – at least one umpire per table is required

Main draw: Number of tables x 4

Final days (1 table): 6

#### **Other ITTF Sanctioned Events:**

Qualification: Number of tables x 2 + 2 – at least one umpire per table is required

Main draw: Number of tables x 4

### Nomination, Acceptance and Declination of Match Officials

All Referee and Umpire nominations must also be accepted – or declined – by the Association of the nominee.

Age will not be a consideration in the selections of Referees and Umpires.

### Referees & Deputy Referees

Subject	World Title competitions	World Tour events	ITTF Sanctioned events
Referee	Must be an active IR(A).	Must be an active IR.	Must be an active IR or IR(C).
Deputy Referee(s)	Must be active IRs (except for the qualification days in World Championships).	Must be active IRs.	At least half must be active IRs or IR(C)s with no more than one NR.
Selection of Referees	By the URC in co-operation with the Host.	By the Host in co-operation with the URC for all IRs.  URC has the option to appoint one of the deputy referees.	By the Host in co-operation with the URC for all IRs.  By the Host for one NR.
Language	The Referee and all Deputy Referees must be able to communicate in English.	The Referee and all Deputy Referees must be able to communicate in English.	The Referee and all Deputy Referees should be able to communicate in English or any language that is common to the players, umpires, referees and Host.  It is the responsibility of the Host to make sure that an interpreter is available for the Referee and Deputy Referees if any of them are unable to communicate in English.
Referee mix	At least two-thirds of the Referees shall be from Associations other than the Host (except for the qualification days in World Championships).	At least one-third of the Referees shall be from Associations other than the Host.	At least one-third of the Referees shall be from Associations other than the Host.

## Directives for Match Officials at World Title Competitions and ITTF Sanctioned Events

Referee	<p>The URC will nominate a very competent, qualified and knowledgeable IR(A) with prior experience at major events as the Referee. To ensure neutrality in all aspects of the competition, the IR will not be from the Host in World Title competitions.</p>	<p>The Host will nominate for approval by the URC preferably a qualified and experienced IR from either the Host or from the same continent as the Host.</p> <p>If there are no qualified or experienced IRs from the same continent as the Host, the Host will nominate a qualified and experienced IR from another continent for approval by the URC.</p>	<p>The Host will nominate for approval by the URC preferably a qualified and experienced IR or IR(C) from either the Host or from the same continent as the Host.</p> <p>If there are no qualified or experienced IRs from the same continent as the Host, the Host will nominate a qualified and experienced IR from another continent for approval by the URC.</p>
Deputy Referees	<p>The URC will nominate additional numbers of qualified and experienced IRs as required, ensuring that either the Referee or one of the Deputy Referees will be from the Host and one from the Host of the next same World Title event – if already designated.</p>	<p>The first Deputy Referee must be an active IR from an Association other than the Host. The Host will inform the URC about the recommended IR at least 4 months before the event.</p> <p>Subsequent Deputy Referees must be active IRs, either from the Host or from another Association.</p>	<p>The first Deputy Referee must be an IR or IR(C) from an Association other than the Host. The Host will inform the URC about the recommended IR at least 4 months before the event.</p> <p>The second Deputy Referee can be an IR, IR(C) or NR from the Host or an IR or IR(C) from another Association.</p> <p>Subsequent Deputy Referees can be IRs or IR(C)s from any continent or one NR from the Host.</p>

## Umpires & Assistant Umpires

Subject	World Title competitions	World Tour events	ITTF Sanctioned events
Umpires	<p>Olympic Games:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All umpires and assistant umpires required for the event must be Blue Badge IUs.</li> </ul> <p>Youth Olympic Games:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All umpires and assistant umpires required for the event must be IUs or umpires selected based on separate training program of the URC. At least 30% of the umpires must be Blue Badge IUs.</li> </ul> <p>Paralympic Games:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All umpires and assistant umpires required for the event must be IUs. Umpires selected by the URC must be Blue Badge IUs.</li> </ul> <p>Other World Title competitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least 75% of the total number of umpires required for the event must be IUs.</li> </ul> <p>NUs can be used for matches at the early stages of the competition (preferably as Assistant Umpires) and may not be used for matches in quarterfinals, semi-finals and finals.</p>	<p>Platinum events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All umpires and assistant umpires required for the main draw must be BB or BBiP IUs.</li> <li>• WB and NUs can be used for matches at the qualification stages of the competition</li> </ul> <p>Other World Tour events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 75% of the total number of umpires required for the event must be IUs.</li> <li>• NUs can be used for qualification matches and matches at the early stages of the main draw (preferably as Assistant Umpires) and may not be used for matches in quarterfinals, semi-finals and finals.</li> </ul>	<p>At least 50% of the total number of umpires required for the event must be IUs.</p>
Foreign IUs	<p>Olympic Games:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There should be only one IU from each Association, with the exception of the Host. Up to 1/6 of the total umpires from the Host.</li> </ul> <p>Youth Olympic Games:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 50% of the umpires for the main draw shall be from Associations other than the Host, representing at least five Associations and two continents</li> </ul>	<p>At least 25% of the umpires shall be from Associations other than the Host, representing at least three Associations.</p>

Directives for Match Officials at World Title Competitions and ITTF Sanctioned Events

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least 50% of the umpires shall be from Associations other than the Host.</li> </ul> <p>Paralympic Games:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There should be only one IU from each Association with the exception of the Host. Up to 33% of the total umpires may be selected by the Host.</li> </ul> <p>World Championships, World Junior Championships, World Olympic Qualifications and World Para Table Tennis Championships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least 50% of the umpires shall be from Associations other than the Host.</li> </ul> <p>Other World Title competitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least 30% of the umpires shall be from Associations other than the Host, representing at least five Associations and including at least three IUs from continents other than the Host.</li> </ul> <p>If the total number of umpires on hand does not support such allocation, then a proportional distribution of qualified IUs based on geographical diversity would be suggested by the URC.</p>		
<p>Invitations and Selection of Umpires</p>	<p>Olympic Games:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The URC will directly select all foreign IUs, and the Host will select</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Host association of an event may nominate up to 8 home BB umpires for the main</li> </ul>	<p>The Host will select the Associations to invite and define the criteria – without specifying any names -</p>

## Directives for Match Officials at World Title Competitions and ITTF Sanctioned Events

<p>their umpires. All must be Blue Badge IUs.</p> <p>Youth Olympic Games:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The URC will directly select all foreign IUs, and the Host will select their umpires.</li> </ul> <p>Paralympic Games:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The URC will directly select all foreign IUs. All must be Blue Badge IUs. The Host will select up to 33% of the total umpires.</li> </ul> <p>World Championships, World Junior Championships, World Olympic Qualifications, World Para Individual and World Para Teams Table Tennis Championships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The URC will invite Associations to nominate any IU meeting a URC defined set of criteria and any other criteria set by each Association's internal selection process.</li> <li>• The URC will select all foreign IUs in cooperation with the Host.</li> <li>• URC nominations for each stage will be based on a blend of the levels of IU certification, recent IU activities, personal evaluations and results on written exams, as well as gender and geographic distributions; and for</li> </ul>	<p>draw and up to two home BB umpires for the Final days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the Host association of an event has less than 4 BB home umpires, they can nominate additional White Badge Umpires to have at least four home umpires for the Main Draw.</li> <li>• The URC will invite Associations to nominate any IU meeting a URC defined set of criteria and any other criteria set by each Association's internal selection process for the main draw/final days.</li> <li>• The URC will select all foreign IUs in cooperation with the Host.</li> <li>• URC nominations for each stage will be based on a blend of the levels of IU certification, recent IU activities, personal evaluations and results on written exams, as well as gender and geographic distributions.</li> <li>• The Host will invite and nominate all domestic IUs and NUs for the qualification days.</li> </ul>	<p>which each nominated IU must meet in order to be accepted by the Host.</p> <p>The Host will invite all NUs and define the criteria that each NU must meet in order to be accepted by the Host.</p> <p>The URC will have the option to nominate up to 25% of the total number of foreign umpires in order to provide training and evaluation opportunities for selected IUs to meet global ITTF objectives as well as worldwide geographical diversity.</p> <p>The URC will inform the Host of the target Associations to be invited at least two months in advance in implementing this option.</p>
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## Directives for Match Officials at World Title Competitions and ITTF Sanctioned Events

	<p>junior events, special considerations may be given to more recently qualified officials.</p> <p>The Host will nominate all domestic IUs and NUs, and in cooperation with the URC, define the criteria that each must meet in order to be accepted by the Host.</p>		
<p>Hospitality</p>	<p>All visiting match officials shall be provided with free accommodation, meals and local transport on the same basis and to the same standard as visiting players starting the evening before their first working day and finishing with breakfast after their last working day.</p> <p><b>Daily allowance:</b> <b>Referee:</b> 100 USD or the equivalent for each day of the competition and two days for the preparation before the event</p> <p><b>Deputy Referee:</b> 100 USD or the equivalent for each day of the competition and one day for the preparation before the event</p> <p><b>Umpires:</b> Blue Badge umpires shall receive a daily allowance of 100 USD or equivalent for each working day in the main draw and 60 USD or equivalent for each working day in the qualification stage. Other umpires shall receive a minimum allowance of 30 USD or equivalent for each working day.</p>	<p>All visiting match officials shall be provided with free accommodation, meals and local transport on the same basis and to the same standard as visiting players starting the evening before their first working day and finishing with breakfast after their last working day.</p> <p><b>Daily allowance:</b> <b>Referee:</b> 100 USD or the equivalent for each day of the competition and two days for the preparation before the event</p> <p><b>Deputy Referee:</b> 100 USD or the equivalent for each day of the competition and one day for the preparation before the event</p> <p><b>Umpires:</b> Blue Badge umpires shall receive a daily allowance of 100 USD or equivalent for each working day in the main draw and 60 USD or equivalent for each working day in the qualification stage. Other umpires nominated by the organisers shall receive a minimum allowance of 30 USD or equivalent for each working day.</p>	<p>The Host defines all of the criteria for visiting match officials hospitality, and must clearly include them in the invitation letter to other Associations.</p> <p>Any omissions on the standard of hospitality that will be provided are presumed to be at a level equal to – or better than – the level for World Title competitions.</p> <p>All visiting match officials shall be provided with a minimum allowance of 30 USD or the equivalent for each day of the competition. Referee will receive 2 more days for the preparation before the event. Deputy referees will receive one more day for the preparation before the event</p> <p>The allowance should be paid to the match officials by the second day of the tournament.</p> <p>The Host will pay the lowest cost reasonable economy airfare of the referee and deputy referees.</p>

## Directives for Match Officials at World Title Competitions and ITTF Sanctioned Events

	<p>The allowance should be paid to the match officials by the second day of the tournament.</p> <p>The Host will pay the lowest cost reasonable economy airfare of the referee, deputy referees and Final Day Umpires</p>	<p>The allowance should be paid to the match officials by the second day of the tournament.</p> <p>The Host will pay the lowest cost reasonable economy airfare of the referee, deputy referees and Final Day Umpires</p>	
<p>Other Match Officials</p>	<p>The URC may invite certified ITTF course conductors and/or evaluators to conduct training and evaluations for umpires before or during the event. The URC may also appoint an Umpires Coordinator for the proper governance of the match officials and competition procedures. Evaluations will not take place when only 1 table is in use.</p> <p>The Host will provide an office/workplace with computer and internet access for Umpires Coordinator near the field of play.</p> <p>All other match officials shall be provided with free accommodation, meals and local transport on the same basis and to the same standard as visiting players starting the evening before their first working day and finishing with breakfast after their last working day.</p>	<p>The URC may invite certified ITTF course conductors and/or evaluators to conduct training and evaluations for umpires before or during the event. Evaluations will not take place when only 1 table is in use.</p> <p>The Host will provide an office/workplace with computer and internet access for the URC course conductors/evaluators near the field of play.</p> <p>All other match officials shall be provided with free accommodation, meals and local transport on the same basis and to the same standard as visiting players starting the evening before their first working day and finishing with breakfast after their last working day.</p>	<p>The URC may invite certified ITTF course conductors and/or evaluators to conduct training and evaluations for umpires before or during the event.</p> <p>The Host will provide an office/workplace with computer and internet access for the URC course conductors/evaluators near the field of play.</p> <p>All other match officials shall be provided with free accommodation, meals and local transport on the same basis and to the same standard as visiting players starting the evening before their first working day and finishing with breakfast after their last working day.</p>

## Directives for Match Officials at World Title Competitions and ITTF Sanctioned Events

Field of play procedure	The Host will implement the current ITTF field of play procedure as defined in the latest version of the ITTF Handbook for Match Officials.	The Host will implement the current ITTF field of play procedure as defined in the latest version of the ITTF Handbook for Match Officials.	The Host may implement the current ITTF field of play procedure as defined in the latest version of the ITTF Handbook for Match Officials.
Duty day	Umpires shall receive at least a 20-minute break every three hours on duty.	Umpires shall receive at least a 20-minute break every three hours on duty.	Umpires shall be on duty for no more than 8 hours in a day and shall receive at least a 20-minute break every three hours on duty.
Umpire Uniform	IUs from the same Association shall be dressed alike or in the recommended ITTF IU uniform.		
Acknowledgment	The names and Associations of all match officials shall be included in the official programme.  In staged matches the names of the umpires for each match shall be announced.		
Changing and Storage area for Officials	The Host shall provide a secure changing and storage area near the field of play for all match officials to maintain their personal belongings while on duty.		

*To achieve ITTF objectives, special consideration should be given to the selection of women for the positions of referee and umpire at all World, Olympic and Paralympic events.*

*The URC has the discretion to waive certain requirements for ITTF sanctioned junior events and the Competition Program may waive certain requirements for PTT events.*

*The URC, in consultation with the Competition Program, has the discretion to override any of these Directives in exceptional circumstances.*

*Effective: 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019*

# CODE OF CONDUCT ON SPORTS BETTING FOR PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS

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This Code of Conduct sets out the guiding principles for all table tennis players and officials (technical, team and administrative) on the issues surrounding the integrity of sport and betting.

## Guiding Principles

1. Be Smart: know the rules
2. Be Safe: never bet on table tennis
3. Be Careful: never share sensitive information
4. Be Clean: never fix an event
5. Be Open: tell someone if you are approached

### 1. Be Smart: know the rules

Find out the sports betting integrity rules of the ITTF and your national federation, team, club, Athletes' Commission, competition and your country's laws, before the start of each season so that you are aware of the ITTF's most recent position regarding betting. Many sports and countries either have or are developing regulations on sports betting and you need to be aware of these – even if you do not bet. If you break the rules, you will be caught and risk severe punishment including a potential lifetime ban from table tennis and even being subject to a criminal investigation.

### 2. Be Safe: never bet on table tennis

Never bet on yourself, your opponent or table tennis. If you, or anyone in your entourage (coach, family members, etc), bet on you, your opponent or table tennis, you risk being severely sanctioned. It is best to play safe and never bet on any events within table tennis including:

- never betting or gambling on your own matches or any competitions (including betting on yourself or your team to win, lose or draw as well as any of the different side-bets);
- never instructing, encouraging or facilitating any other party to bet on table tennis;
- never ensuring the occurrence of a particular incident, which is the subject of a bet and for which you expect to receive or have received any reward;
- never giving or receiving any gift, payment or other benefit in circumstances that might reasonably be expected to bring you or table tennis into disrepute.

### 3. Be Careful: never share sensitive information

As a player or official you will have access to information that is not available to the general public, such as knowing that a star player is injured or that the coach is putting out a weakened side. This is considered sensitive, privileged or inside information. This

information could be sought by people who would then use that knowledge to secure an unfair advantage and make a financial gain.

There is nothing wrong with you having sensitive information; it is what you do with it that matters. Most players know that they should not discuss important information with anyone outside of their club or coaching staff (with or without reward) where the player might reasonably be expected to know that its disclosure could be used in relation to betting. The same applies to officials.

#### **4. Be Clean: never fix an event**

Play and officiate fairly, honestly and never fix an event or part of an event. Whatever the reason, do not make any attempt to influence adversely the natural course of a table tennis event or part of an event. Sporting competitions must always be an honest test of skill and ability and the results must remain uncertain. Fixing an event, or part of an event goes against the rules and ethics of sport and when caught, you may receive a criminal prosecution and a lifetime ban from table tennis.

Do not put yourself at risk by following these simple principles:

- Always perform to the best of your abilities (play to your potential and umpire fairly).
- Never accept to fix a match. Say no immediately. Do not let yourself be manipulated - unscrupulous individuals might try to develop a relationship with you built on favours or fears that they will then try to exploit for their benefit in possibly fixing an event. This can include the offer of gifts, money or other support.
- Avoid addictions or running up debts as this may be a trigger for unscrupulous individuals to target you to fix competitions. Get help before things get out of control.

#### **5. Be Open: tell someone if you are approached**

If you hear something suspicious or if anyone approaches you to ask about fixing any part of a match then you should tell the Athletes' Commission, the ITTF (competition manager or referee), the Umpires and Referees Committee (if you are a technical official) or someone you trust straight away. If someone offers you money or favours for sensitive information then you should also tell the ITTF or Athletes' Commission. Any threats or suspicions of corrupt behaviour must always be reported. The police and national laws are there to protect you. Your club, your Federation or your Athletes' Commission will help. If in doubt as to who to contact, email: [integrity@ittf.com](mailto:integrity@ittf.com).

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# Annex 1 (changes from 2018)

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Paragraphs which have been introduced or significantly amended as a result of decisions made at the 2018 Annual General Meeting or the 2018 Board of Directors Meeting with immediate effect are shown as shaded\*. Deletions are shown as ~~strikethrough~~.

*\* With the exception of the new Constitution.*

- 3.2.5.5 There may be up to 4 ~~6~~ advertisements on the floor of the playing area; such markings
- 3.2.5.5.1 may be placed 4 ~~2~~ at each end, each contained within an area of 5m<sup>2</sup>, and 1 at each side of the table, each contained within an area of 2.5m<sup>2</sup>;
- 3.2.5.5.2 ~~shall not be less than 1m from the surrounds~~ at the end shall not be less than 3m from the table's end line next to the marking; ~~and those at the ends shall not be more than 2m from the surrounds;~~
- 4.1.3.2 In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the association corresponding to the new nationality shall register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.
- 4.1.3.3 Such player shall not represent the new Association before:
- 4.1.3.3.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;
- 4.1.3.3.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;
- 4.1.3.3.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.
- 4.1.3.3.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.
- ~~4.1.3.4 Players being 21 years of age or older will not be registered with the ITTF and will not be eligible to represent a new association at World Championships.~~
- 4.1.3.4 A Player having participated already in World Championships shall retain his or her eligibility.
- 4.2.3.4 In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the association corresponding to the new nationality shall

- register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.
- 4.2.3.5 Such player shall not represent the new Association before 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association.
- 4.2.3.6 Players being 15 years of age or older at the date of registration cannot represent their new Association at World Junior Championships except that
- 4.2.3.7 A player having participated already in World Junior Championships shall retain his or her eligibility.
- 4.3.6.1 In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the association corresponding to the new nationality shall register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.
- 4.3.6.2 Such player shall not represent the new Association before:
- 4.3.6.2.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;
- 4.3.6.2.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;
- 4.3.6.2.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.
- 4.3.6.2.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.
- ~~4.3.6.3 Players being 21 years of age or older will not be registered with the ITTF and will not be eligible to represent a new association at the World Cup.~~
- 4.3.6.3 A player having participated already in the World Cup shall retain his or her eligibility.
- 4.4.6.1 In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the association corresponding to the new nationality shall register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.
- 4.4.6.2 Such player shall not represent the new Association before
- 4.4.6.2.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;

4.4.6.2.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;

4.4.6.2.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.

4.4.6.2.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.

~~4.4.6.3 Players being 21 years of age or older will not be registered with the ITTF and will not be eligible to represent a new association at the World Team Cup.~~

4.4.6.3 A player having participated already in the World Team Cup shall retain his or her eligibility.

~~4.5.1.3.3 A player who has represented one country in the Olympic Games, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognised by the ITTF and who has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in the Olympic Games to represent his or her new country provided that at least 3 years have passed since the player last represented his or her former country.~~

In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the NOC of the new association in the Olympic Games shall register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.

~~4.5.1.3.4 The 3 years period mentioned in 4.5.1.3.3 may be reduced or even cancelled, with the agreement of the NOCs concerned and the ITTF Executive Committee, by the IOC Executive Board, which takes into account the circumstances of each case.~~

A player shall not represent the new NOC before:

4.5.1.3.4.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;

4.5.1.3.4.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;

4.5.1.3.4.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.

4.5.1.3.4.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.

4.5.1.3.5 If an associated state, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence, if a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of a change of border, or if a new NOC is recognised by the IOC, a player may continue to represent the country to which he or she

belongs or belonged. However, he or she may, if he or she prefers, choose to represent his or her country or be entered in the Olympic Games by his or her new NOC if one exists. This particular choice may be made only once.

4.5.1.4 A player having participated already in the Olympic Games shall retain his or her eligibility.

4.5.1.5 All disputes relating to the determination of the country which a player may represent in the Olympic Games and in particular issue specific requirements relating to nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of the player, including the duration of any waiting period, shall be resolved by the IOC Executive Board.

~~4.6.1.3.3 A player who has represented one country in the Paralympic Games, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognised by the ITTF and who has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in the Paralympic Games to represent his or her new country provided that at least 3 years have passed since the player last represented his or her former country.~~

In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the NPC of the new association shall register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.

~~4.6.1.3.4 The 3 year period mentioned in 4.5.1.3.3 may be reduced or even cancelled, with the agreement of the NPCs concerned and the ITTF Executive Committee, and subject to confirmation by the Chief Executive Officer of the IPC, taking into account the circumstances of each case.~~

A player shall not represent the new NPC before:

4.6.1.3.4.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;

4.6.1.3.4.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;

4.6.1.3.4.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.

4.6.1.3.4.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.

4.6.1.3.5 If an associated state, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence, if a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of a change of border, or if a new NPC is recognised by the IPC, a player may continue to represent the country to which he or she

belongs or belonged. However, he or she may, if he or she prefers, choose to represent his or her country or be entered in the Paralympic Games by his or her new NPC if one exists. This particular choice may be made only once.

4.6.1.4 A player having participated already in the Paralympic Games shall retain his or her eligibility.

~~4.7.3.2 Only players who meet the tournament credit, a minimum requirement for participation in events leading to qualification for the PTT Championships, and whose selection is confirmed by the PTT Division and the Association may enter the PTT Championships.~~

4.7.3.2 In addition to provisions of 3.8, players who have acquired a new nationality and wish to represent the association corresponding to the new nationality shall register with ITTF through this new Association. A player is considered as registered either from the date of ITTF player registration confirmation or from the date the player is granted his or her new nationality, whichever is earlier.

4.7.3.3 Such player shall not represent the new Association before:

4.7.3.3.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered, but only 1 year after the date of registration if the player has never represented another association;

4.7.3.3.2 5 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 18 but at least 15 years of age when registered;

4.7.3.3.3 7 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 21 but at least 18 years of age when registered.

4.7.3.3.4 9 years after the date of registration, if the player is at least 21 years old when registered.

4.7.3.4 A player having participated already in the World Para Table Tennis Championships shall retain his or her eligibility.