

● **WTF** ● **World Tenniquoits Federation** ●
...doing one's best for the sport with the ring.

Secretary General

Reinhard Plog

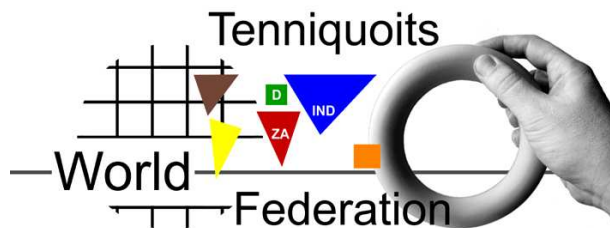
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2nd Regular General Meeting (World Tenniquoits Federation)

Place: Sporthalle Oberwerth, Koblenz (Germany)

Time/Date: 5th and 6th of August 2010

Participants:

Hein van der Lith (WTF Executive Vice-President), Reinhard Plog (WTF Secretary General), Syed Nuruzzaman (WTF Regional Vice-President Bangladesh), Axel Runkel (WTF Regional Vice-President Germany), Abrie Pienaar (WTF Regional Vice-President South Africa), Marilu Pekelman (WTF Regional Vice-President Brazil).

Additional representatives of the delegations: S. Ravi (India), Johan Ferreira (South Africa), Timo Hufnagel (Germany) at the 5th of August and Tobias Höfelmayr (Germany) at the 6th of August, Viviane Pekelman (Brazil), Krystyna Aniol-Strzyzewska (Poland) and Ivan Koltun (Belarus).

Honorary members/Founders WTF: Dr. Prakash Nandurkar (India), B.S. Nagaraj (India) and Evert Potgieter (South Africa). Guests: Wlodzimierz Starosta (Poland), Anton Stasch (Poland), Andrej Konan (Belarus) and Rosana Aguiar (Brazil).

The General meeting was chaired by WTF Secretary General Reinhard Plog.

a) The minutes of the previous GM

The committee disclaimed to read the minutes from 2006.

b) The report of the EC

Reinhard Plog complained that no mentionable actions came from side of the EC members WTF President Venugopal and WTF Executive Vice-President Hein van der Lith during the last 4 years. Moreover he reported about the WTF preparations for the 2nd World Championships in Germany. All the preparing work from side of the WTF for this event has been done from the desk of the Secretary General.

Hein van der Lith admitted that there was no support from side of other members of the WTF EC and promised to change this for the coming periods definitely. All other participants agreed with him to support WTF actions in future with full power.

c) The details of application for membership to be decided at the GM

USA: Michael Abiodun from USA strongly intended to found a federation and to apply for membership. Due to some troubles he did not achieve to found a federation right in time. Because of this and some other internal problems he rejected to participate with his team at the championships in Germany. This information was submitted at the first day of the championships by email to Secretary General Reinhard Plog. The WTF still hopes that Michael will achieve his goal to establish Tenniquoits in USA and will be capable to become member within the coming period.

Sri Lanca: B.S. Nagaraj explained that possibly Sri Lanca will be an option to become a member of the WTF in future. Tenniquoits is played frequently in schools in Sri Lanca. They don't have a federation, but as the case may be, with support from India a federation could be founded in future.

Singapore: A visit to Singapore by representatives of the Tennikoit Federation of India in order to perform a demonstration of Tenniquoits was not successful in order to create deeper interest from side of relevant persons/organisations in Singapore.

d) The details of cessation from membership to be approved at the GM

Nepal: The committee decided to cease the membership of Nepal. Nepal does not answer to emails since more than four years and did not pay member fees since they became member of the WTF. The federation in Nepal seems to be not active any more.

Argentina: Argentina does not answer to emails any more since about two years. Before WTF is going to cease the membership of Argentina, Viviane Pekelman from Brazil will try to contact relevant persons in Argentina in order to reactivate them and to become active again.

e) Modification of current Rules and Playing Modes

1. Modification of court sizes for alternating doubles (Proposal: Modification to same size as singles-courts)

Decision: The General Meeting decided with 9 (Yes) to 6 (No) votes by hand signal that the court size of the men- and women-doubles has to be reduced. In future the court for the men- and women-doubles must have the same size like the singles-court.

The decision was taken after a comprehensive discussion, which weighted all advantages and disadvantages in comparison with the proposal from Reinhard Plog to raise the net onto 1.70 or 1.75 m.

2. Amendment of rule 9.3 (Proposal: 3 Minutes break for all injuries, not only in case of appearing blood)

Decision: The General Meeting decided with full amount of votes by hand signal to accept the above stated amendment.

Remark: The referee has to wear a watch in order to manage the situation independently from the competition desk.

3. Amendment of rule 15.12 (Proposal: To allow turnaround but with one high throw after turning around)

Decision: The General Meeting decided to allow the turnaround with full amount of votes by hand signal. In case the turnaround was done fluidly and without a breach of rule 15.11 (Steps) it is also allowed to play an offensive/attacking shot after a turnaround.

Remark: After a comprehensive discussion it was agreed in common that the old turnaround regulation causes a deceleration of the game. It is faster to complete a turnaround than to return and change the movement back again.

4. Amendment of rule-section 8: Change from time limited matches to set-system. (Proposal: Each set should last to 21 points and must be won by two rings difference. To win a match, two won sets are needed. In case both players reach 30 points at one and the same set, only one ring difference is needed to win the set. Change of court sides after one player or team has reached 10 points)

Decision: The General Meeting refused the above stated proposal with full amount of votes by hand signal.

Remark: B.S. Nagaraj expressed that the Indian federation thinks about to change their set-system to a time limited system with two half-times like implemented at WTF rule-set.

5. Amendment of rule 15.11 (Proposal: Players shall not be allowed to delay the ring and shall release the ring immediately without taking steps. Players shall not be allowed to take the movement more than the pivoting steps)

Decision: It is not necessary to amend this rule in generally or to add new rules according this matter, because the number of allowed steps is already well regulated within the rule 15.11 and clear to all participants. Also the delay rule is already well regulated. Only one slight change to rule 15.11.1 is necessary, because it contains an unintended mistake. Allowed are two steps. Before the completion of the third step (contact to the floor), the ring has to be released already. Therefore the rule 15.11.1 has to be amended into the following way: "In case the player touches the floor with both feet during the reception of the ring, it is not allowed to complete subsequently one step before the ring leaves the hand for the throw. A step represents a floor contact with one foot and could be a lunge or a simple touch."

Reinhard Plog demonstrated the step regulation by a physical demonstration to the participants. All agree with his explanations and demonstrations.

6. Amendment of rule 18.1 (Proposal: All matches should be alternative in doubles and mixed doubles)

Decision: The General Meeting decided that each member federation should arrange a mixed-tournament per year till 2014 in order to test the alternating mixed-doubles. A decision to the above stated proposal was not taken.

The demonstration match of an Indian team, playing against a German couple does not lead to a final decision to accept the alternating mixed-doubles.

7. Implementation of a new rule: A ring without spin is dead and a foul

Decision: The General Meeting refused the above stated proposal with all votes by hand signal.

All agreed with the opinion, that each ring has a minimum of rotation. It is not possible for the referee to decide which ring has enough rotation or spin and which ring has not enough rotation or spin in order to be penalized.

8. Amendment of rule-section 8: Each set should be played for 15 minutes. If the score is tie, the player, who takes more points at 5 played additional rings, will be the winner. Service has to be alternative at extra session

Decision: The General Meeting refused the above stated proposal with full amount of votes by hand signal.

f) The fixing of the annual sum of money payable to the WTF

The General Meeting decided that the founding members of the WTF (South Africa, Germany and India) should pay 250 USD per year. South Africa and Germany agreed already with this while B.S. Nagaraj (India) stated, that he has to get confirmation of the Indian national committee before he is allowed to accept this. His outstanding answer has to be submitted to the WTF till end of the year 2010.

All other members agreed to pay 50 USD per year like in the years before. All agreed and confirmed that in future the annual fee has to be paid unrequested right in time till end of March of the respective year without a reminder from the WTF.

It was agreed in common that the WTF needs more money in order to be capable to pay for medals and certificates of World Championships and to assure a smooth and proper running of its office.

In future it was not acceptable that the host of the World Championships has to pay for medals and certificates (like 2006 India and 2010 Germany did). This is the duty of the WTF.

g) The report according to the financial situation of the WTF

This topic has been forgotten at the General Meeting and will be handled at the next General Meeting or provided as separate information at beginning of 2011 after the closing of the financial year 2010.

h) The release of relevant representatives of the WTF

All relevant representatives have been released for the elapsed period.

i) Elections: President, Vice-President, Secretary General, and as the case may be additional Vice-Presidents

The following persons are elected/reelected with full amount of votes by the General Meeting:

President WTF: Hein van der Lith (South Africa).
Executive Vice-President WTF: M.V.M. Velmurugan (India).
Secretary General WTF: Reinhard Plog (Germany).
Regional Vice-President WTF Poland: Anton Stasch.
Regional Vice-President WTF Belarus: Ivan Koltun.
Regional Vice-President WTF Germany: Axel Runkel.
Regional Vice-President WTF India: B.S. Nagaraj.
Regional Vice-President WTF Bangladesh: Syed Nuruzzaman.
Regional Vice-President WTF South Africa: Abrie Pienaar.
Regional Vice-President WTF Brazil: Marilu Pekelman.

Evert Potgieter (South Africa) suggested to change the statutes in order that a member of the Executive Committee could be reelected several times and the term of office is not restricted onto 8 years (two periods). The Indian federation explained that for such a change of the statutes they have to get the agreement of their national committee, which may need up to six month.

j) Appointment of Honorary members

Mr. Heinz Mueller (Germany) has been elected as honorary member with full amount of votes by hand signal.

k) Miscellaneous

1. Allotment of World-Championships 2014

The 3rd World Championships will be hosted in 2014 by the member federation South Africa. The representatives of South Africa gave their obliging confirmation at the General Meeting.

2. Allotment of World-Championships 2018

Member federations are called up to make proposals and to clarify, if they could host the World Championships 2018. A host for 2018 could not be fixed at this General Meeting.

3. Implementation of European and Asian Championships

The conduction of European and Asian Championships has been refused because of currently not enough member federations.

4. Expansion of international events between two WC

The participating member federations expressed their strong will to arrange more events between two World Championships. The improvement of the sport Tenniquoits is strictly related to the frequency of meetings and events of its members (players and officials). Member federations are called up to arrange more test matches, Triangular Championships or international tournaments during a four years time span.

5. Establishing of a Technical Committee

Decision: The General Meeting decided to form a Technical Committee, which is handling the improvement and development of the ITR (International Tenniquoits Rules) and IPM (International Playing Modes). The Technical Committee is entrusted with the further development of the International Tenniquoits Rules (ITR) and International Playing Modes (IPM), the preparation of amendments of the ITR and IPM and the submission of the exact wording of potential amendments to be decided by the EC. Moreover the Technical Committee should prepare common agreements before the decision has to be taken at the General Meeting. The Technical Committee is composed by 3 persons minimum and 5 persons maximum.

Each member federation is called up to suggest 1 person till 1st of October 2010.

6. Establishing of a Referee-Board

Decision: The General Meeting decided to form a Referee Board. The Referee Board is entrusted with the training and coordination of referees in cooperation with the organiser of international Tenniquoits events (especially at World Championships).

Moreover the Referee Board has to take care for a proper scheduling of referees at the World Championships and a proper execution of the rule-set at international competitions. The Referee Board is composed by 3 persons minimum and 5 persons maximum.

Each member federation is called up to suggest 1 person till 1st of October 2010.

7. Misuse of documents

Due to an incident according misused documents at a South African embassy, federations and their responsible representatives have to take care that official documents don't get into hands of private or unauthorized persons. It is recommended to use pdf-documents generally. Moreover relevant embassies should be informed and prepared right in time, when a member federation hosts an international event.

8. Affiliation of the WTF to other sport head organisation (World Games)

All members agreed that the WTF should try to become member of the World Games Association. The World Games Association only accepts sport federations, which contain 40 national member federations minimum. Moreover only federation, which conducted 10 General Meetings are eligible to be accepted by the World Games Association.

Decision: The General Meeting decided to arrange one General Meeting per year. The annual meeting outside the World Championships could be done by using technical means like internet etcetera.

9. Discussion: Unification of International Ringo Federation (IRF) and World Tenniquoits Federation (WTF), Interim solution till 2014 (Foundation of unified Association in 2014 at WC)

The unification of Ringo and Tenniquoits should be prepared by the EC of the WTF and relevant representatives of the International Ringo Federation (IRF). The unification is possible at the World Championships 2014 in South Africa earliest. For that the IRF and the WTF have to provide a written confirmation from their relevant committees, that their specific federation is willed to unify to one common organisation.

Remark: Due to some open discussions it becomes necessary to create an accurate roadmap to achieve this goal. This roadmap is intended to be developed by Reinhard Plog (Secretary General WTF), Hein van der Lith (President WTF) and Wlodzimierz Starosta (President IRF). The next opportunity for further preparing conversation might be the coming Challenge Cup 2011, which ought to be in Poland.

10. Expansion of official disciplines (Mixed, Men-Doubles, Women-Doubles)

Decision: The General Meeting decided that the disciplines mixed-doubles, men-doubles and women-doubles are official disciplines at the next and all following World Championships.

11. Expansion of delegation members to 8 players each sex and 2nd referee

Decision: The General Meeting decided that delegations are allowed to take up to 8 men-players and up to 8 women-players to the next and all following World Championships.

Remark: With the expansion of official disciplines it has become necessary to expand the amount of players of a delegation. Only with this a proper competition without overstressing the players is guaranteed.

Players have opportunity to recover and coaches have more opportunities to select players or to replace injured players during the World Championships. The expansion from 12 to 16 players maximum is optionally not mandatory.

The expansion of a delegation does not affect the regulation that a team for the World Championships for Teams has to consist of 5 men-players and 5 women-players.

12. Implementation of Ringo as international competition in 2014

Ringo will be part of the World Championships 2014 in South Africa with one discipline. South Africa, Brazil, Germany, Poland and Belarus confirmed to participate at this discipline.

The Ringo discipline is played as an international championship at the 3rd World Championships 2014. It has a comparable status like the disciplines Men-Doubles and Women Doubles (Free Style) at the 2nd World Championships 2010 in Germany.

Remark: Poland and Belarus should decide which kind of Ringo discipline is going to be played in South Africa 2014 and submit this decision to the WTF within the next two years at latest.

13. Documentation/report of National Championships towards the WTF

Each federation is obliged to submit unrequested the full results of the national championships towards the WTF within an adequately time span. This information is necessary for updating the WTF World Ranking-list, because national champions and runner ups will gain points for the WTF Ranking-list.

14. Slight changes of rules (because of mistakes) 15.11.1

Some rules contain slight mistakes according spelling or unclear terminology. These mistakes will be eliminated during the process of amending the ITR for the coming edition. One example is rule No. 15.11.1., which has been explained at topic e) 5.

15. Implementation of referee training day at next WC

Because of problems according a sufficient level of the referee quality it obviously becomes necessary to hold a training day for referees before the competitions of the World Championships will start.

Remark: This matter shall become a task for the new implemented Referee Board. The improvement of the referees for the next World Championships has to be handled with priority. Faults like steps, downward shots or delay have to be penalized from each referee in the same way and as stated in the rule-set of the WTF.

16. Adoption of WTF rule set to National rules within 3 years

The General Meeting does not take a decision for the above stated topic, but each member federation is called up to adopt the WTF rules for the national rule-set.

Reinhard Plog
Secretary General – WTF
Oer-Erkenschwick (Germany), 9th of September 2010