



**The International Table Tennis Federation**

# **Statutes**

## **2025**

**(effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025)**

The ITTF encourages the reproduction of information from the Statutes provided that the source is mentioned.

The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), founded in 1926, is the world governing body of the sport of table tennis, with 227 member Associations in the world.

The ITTF supervises the staging of the 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 worldwide.

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

#### **Publication of the ITTF Statutes<sup>1</sup> :**

First edition	1927
Further editions	1928, 1930, 1932, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1951, 1954, 1956, 1959, 1967, 1975, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
Fifty-third edition	2025 (1 <sup>st</sup> January 2025)

#### **Published by:**

The International Table Tennis Federation  
Avenue de Rhodanie 54  
1007 Lausanne  
Switzerland

<sup>1</sup> As per the ITTF 2022 AGM decision, the document known as "Handbook" between 1926 and 2022 is now called "Statutes".

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## ITTF website (ITTF.com)

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The current ITTF Statutes are available in their entirety on the ITTF website for printing or downloading. Please consider the environment before printing it.

## **GENERAL DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION RULES**

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### **Part I: Introduction**

This Chapter contains the definitions of commonly used terms in the Statutes and the rules for interpreting the Statutes.

The provisions in this Chapter apply generally to the Statutes unless otherwise stated in any Chapter.

### **Part II: GENERAL DEFINITIONS**

In the Statutes, terms starting with capital letters shall have the following meaning unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

Term	Means
Absolute Majority	a majority (more than 50%) of the total number of persons entitled to vote, including those absent and those present but not voting or are abstaining.
AGM	the annual general meeting and the supreme governing body of the ITTF, as further described in Article 1.37.1., and any such reference shall apply to the EGM.
Associated Organisation	any organisation affiliated with the ITTF under Part II of the Constitution, including any Association and any Continental Federation.
Association (or Member Association)	any member association of the ITTF, as eligible, recognised and admitted by the ITTF under Part II, Division 1 of the Constitution.
Athlete (or Player)	any person who competes in Table Tennis and who is affiliated to an Association, Continental Federation, any other Associated Organisation, or otherwise recognised by the ITTF.
Athlete Support Personnel (or ASP)	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 Associated Organisation affiliated with Athlete.
CAS	the Court of Arbitration for Sport, an independent arbitration institution seated in Lausanne, Switzerland.
CEO	the Chief Executive Officer of the ITTF, as further described in Article 1.86.
Chair	the chairperson or such other person appointed or elected to lead their respective body.
CHF	the currency of Swiss Francs.
Constitution	the ITTF Constitution, being Chapter 1 of the Statutes.
Continental Federation	any organisation officially representing the Associations in a continent, as as eligible, recognised and admitted by the ITTF under Article 1.20.
Continental President	the person elected by their respective Continental Federation as its President.

Term	Means
Deputy President	the EVP member who is designated as the Deputy President of the ITTF.
EGM	any extraordinary general meeting of the ITTF, as further described in Article 1.52.
Executive Board	the executive body of the ITTF, as further described in Article 1.60.1.
Executive Vice-President (or EVP)	any elected member of the Executive Board who holds a designation of "Executive Vice-President".
Statutes	the ITTF Statutes, including the Constitution, the Laws, and all the Rules and Regulations.
Honorary President	any past President of the ITTF who is designated as an "Honorary President", as further described in Article 1.70.3.
Integrity Board	the ITTF Integrity Board, which is the supervising body of the Integrity Unit, as further described in Article 1.76.1.
Integrity Unit	the ITTF Integrity Unit, which is the operationally independent unit of the ITTF, as further described in Article 1.68.
IOC	the International Olympic Committee, which is the international governing body responsible for the Olympic Movement, including the Olympic Games.
IPC	the International Paralympic Committee, which is the international governing body responsible for the Paralympic Movement, including the Paralympic Games.
ITTF	the International Table Tennis Federation, the world governing body of Table Tennis, including any of its subsidiaries.
ITTF Council	the legislative body of the ITTF, as further described in Article 1.53.1.
ITTF Foundation	the ITTF Foundation, the subsidiary of ITTF responsible for carrying out the corporate social responsibilities of ITTF, including any of its subsidiaries.
ITTF Group	the collective reference to the ITTF, the ITTF Foundation, WTT, such other entities so designated, and any of their subsidiaries.
ITTF Sanctioned Event	all events so designated by the Executive Board and published on the calendar from time to time and include events licensed to or authorised by the WTT or by the Foundation.
ITTF Summit	the series of meetings and official activities generally held in conjunction with the WTTC Finals, as determined from time to time by the Executive Board, including the AGM, the ITTF Council meeting, and such other meetings of Committees, Commissions and such other official bodies of ITTF.
ITTF Tribunal	the ITTF Tribunal, which is the primary judicial body of the ITTF, further described in Article 1.66.
Laws	the Laws of Table Tennis, being Chapter 2 of the Statutes.
Official	any person who is elected or appointed to a position (whether as an independent or otherwise) in which they represent their respective organisation, including the ITTF Council members, Executive Board members, Continental Council members, the

Term	Means
	ITTF Tribunal members, Integrity Board members, Honorary Presidents, President Advisory Committee members, members of Committees and Commissions, and Commissioners.
Para Table Tennis (or PTT)	the sport of Para Table Tennis, as modified and organised under its respective Rules and Regulations.
President	the elected President of the ITTF.
Regulation	a set of regulations subsidiary to the Constitution, as amended from time to time by the ITTF Council, which forms an integral part of the Statutes.
Rule	a set of principles, directions, standards or procedures subsidiary to the Constitution, as amended from time to time by the ITTF Council, which forms an integral part of the Statutes.
Secretary General	the Secretary General of the ITTF, as further described in Article 1.85.5.
Secretariat	the secretariat of the Executive Board, acting on behalf of the ITTF.
Simple Majority	a majority (more than 50%) of persons taking part in the vote, not counting abstentions.
Table Tennis	the sport of table tennis (including in any authorised modified form) governed by the ITTF and organised in accordance with the Laws or such other Rule or Regulation derived under the Statutes.
Table Tennis Party	any one of the following: (a) the ITTF; (b) any Association; (c) any Continental Federation; (d) any other Associated Organisation; (e) the ITTF Foundation; (f) WTT; and (g) any of the aforesaid parties' Officials, decision-making persons, honorary members, officers, employees, services providers, delegated third parties, Athletes, ASP, and such other persons involved in the aforesaid parties' operations.
Territory	any self-governing geographical area of the world, which is autonomous in the control of sport, and as recognised as such by the IOC or the ITTF.
Two-Thirds Majority	two-thirds majority of persons taking part in the vote, not counting abstentions.
USD	the currency of United States Dollars.
WADA	the World Anti-Doping Agency, the international organisation founded by the IOC to combat doping in sports.
Working Group	any group of persons appointed by the AGM or Executive Board to perform one or more specific project, which are not Committees or Commissions.

Term	Means
World Title Event (or World Title Competition)	the collective reference of the WTTC Finals, the WVC, the WYC, the WPTTC, and such other similar tier events as designated by the Executive Board.
WPTTC	the event currently known as “ITTF World Para Table Tennis Championships” (and howsoever renamed thereafter).
WTT	World Table Tennis Pte. Ltd., the subsidiary of the ITTF responsible for exploiting the commercial rights of the ITTF, including any of its subsidiaries.
WTTC	the collective reference to the series of events consisting of the WTTC Finals and all WTTC Stage Events (or howsoever reformatted thereafter).
WTTC Finals	the event currently known as “ITTF World Table Tennis Championships Finals” (or howsoever renamed thereafter), whether in individuals, teams, or such other competition format, but excluding all WTTC Stage Events.
WTTC Stage Event	any event designated as an event in one of the stages (whether regional, continental, inter-continental, or such other stage) leading up to the WTTC Finals.
WMC	the event currently known as “ITTF World Master Championships” (and howsoever renamed thereafter).
WYC	the event currently known as “ITTF World Youth Championships” (and howsoever renamed thereafter).

### Part III: INTERPRETATION RULES

#### 0.1. General Provisions

- 0.1.1. Any heading, sub-heading, or table of content used is for convenience only and shall not be deemed to be part of the substance of the Statutes or to affect in any way the language of the provisions to which it refers.
- 0.1.2. Schedules, annexes and appendices to any part of the Statutes form an integral part of the Statutes, but if any inconsistency arise between any provision in the main body of the Statutes and the content of the schedules, annexes or appendices, the provision in the main body of the Statutes will prevail.
- 0.1.3. If any provision in the Statutes is held to be invalid, unenforceable or illegal for any reason, it shall be deemed to be deleted and the remainder of the Statutes shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.
- 0.1.4. In any inconsistency arises between the Constitution and any other part of the Statutes, the Constitution will prevail.
- 0.1.5. Notwithstanding the official languages of ITTF, if any part of the Statutes is translated and any inconsistency arises between the English version and the translated version, the English version will prevail.
- 0.1.6. Any irregularity, omission, or such other deviation in the procedures taken by an Official, officer or such other authorised representative of ITTF shall not invalidate any finding, procedure or decision, unless it is shown to render that finding, procedure or decision unreliable or that such deviation was made in bad faith.
- 0.1.7. If any provision under the Statute confers any power or imposes any duty on an office holder, nothing prevents such office holder from delegating such power or duty to a suitable person, unless otherwise stated.

## **0.2. Manner of Interpretation**

- 0.2.1.** As the Statutes apply internationally, they are to be interpreted primarily with reference to generally accepted principles of international sport law and established sport jurisprudence (including that of the ITTF Tribunal and CAS), to the largest extent possible. Subject to the foregoing, the Statutes is governed by and interpreted according to the laws of Switzerland (excluding its conflict of laws rules).
- 0.2.2.** The provisions in the Statutes shall be interpreted in a manner that protects and advances their respective purposes. If any matter arises that is not addressed in any part of the Statutes or any ambiguity arises, it shall be addressed objectively in a purposive manner.

## **0.3. References to Terms**

- 0.3.1.** Any references to Chapters, Articles, Clauses, Paragraphs, Schedules, Annexes and Appendices refer to the chapters, articles, clauses, paragraphs, schedules, annexes and appendices of the relevant part of the Statutes, unless otherwise stated.
- 0.3.2.** Any words used regardless of the number and gender specifically used, shall be deemed and construed to include any other number, singular or plural, and any other gender, masculine, feminine or neuter, as the context requires.
- 0.3.3.** Any words following the terms “including”, “include”, “in particular”, “such as”, “for example”, or any similar expression shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words, description, definition, phrase or term preceding those terms.
- 0.3.4.** Any reference to a provision in the Statutes includes any of its modification as amended from time to time.
- 0.3.5.** Any reference to an agreement includes that agreement as amended or novated from time to time.
- 0.3.6.** Any reference to “written”, “in writing” or such similar terms includes email.
- 0.3.7.** Any reference to a person includes natural persons, corporate bodies, and unincorporated bodies (whether or not having separate legal personality), and also includes the legal personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns of such person.

## **0.4. References to Time**

- 0.4.1.** Any unspecified expression of time refers to Central European Time.
- 0.4.2.** Any reference to a “day” means any day of the week and is not limited to working days, unless otherwise stated.
- 0.4.3.** Official holidays and non-working days are included in the calculation of deadlines, except where they would be the last day of any stated deadline and in such cases, the last day of that deadline will be the next day that is not an official holiday or non-working day.

## **0.5. Notices**

- 0.5.1.** Subject to any other stated requirement, any notice to be given under the Statutes shall be deemed to have been sufficiently given if it is made in writing and delivered to the person to whom notice must be given (the “Recipient”):
- 0.5.2.** by courier, to the published physical address of the Recipient; or
- 0.5.3.** by electronic mail, to the published email address of the Recipient.

# 1 CONSTITUTION

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## ITTF CONSTITUTION

### Part I: General Provisions

#### 1.1. CITATION

1.1.1. This Chapter may be cited as the ITTF Constitution.

#### 1.2. DEFINITIONS

1.2.1. In this Constitution, terms starting with capital letters shall have the following meaning unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

Term	Means
Advised Change	any change to any Proposition or Resolution which the Secretariat advises under the review process described in Article 1.44.
Continental Representative	any person as stated in Article 1.54.1.5.
Delegate	any person as stated in Article 1.39.
ITTF Group	the collective reference to the ITTF, the ITTF Foundation, WTT, such other entities so designated, and any of their subsidiaries.
Objectives	the objectives as stated in Article 1.5.
Proposer	any person who has duly submitted any Proposition or Resolution and who has the right to do so.
Principles	the principles as stated in Article 1.4.
Proposition	any proposed change to the Statutes to be put before the AGM or the ITTF Council, as applicable.
Qualified Proposal	any Proposition or Resolution which remains unchanged following any Advised Change given, as further described in Article 1.44.
Resolution	any proposed act to be taken, which are not Propositions, to be put before the AGM or the ITTF Council, as applicable.
Trustee	any person as stated in Article 1.98.

#### 1.3. NAME AND LEGAL STATUS

1.3.1. The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) is a not-for-profit association governed by Article 60 ff. of the Swiss Civil Code.  
1.3.2. The ITTF is the sole international governing body of Table Tennis, as recognised by the IOC.

#### 1.4. PRINCIPLES

1.4.1. The Principles of the ITTF shall be to:  
1.4.1.1. operate with general unity of action, mutual respect of Associated Organisations in their dealings with one another, and non-discrimination against Associated

- Organisations or individuals on racial, political, religious, gender, or other grounds;
- 1.4.1.2. provide a sport and work environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity;
  - 1.4.1.3. ensure that each individual has the right to participate and work in an environment which promotes equal opportunities and prohibits discriminatory practices;
  - 1.4.1.4. provide a sport environment free of harassment on any basis without exception and in accordance with the Statutes;
  - 1.4.1.5. safeguard the environment and manage resources through its practices in hosting events and in managing its operations;
  - 1.4.1.6. observe the general and fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, the IPC Handbook, the World Anti-Doping Code, and their applicable subsidiary regulations, and no provision of this Constitution shall be deemed to conflict with or derogate from those principles; and
  - 1.4.1.7. cooperate with the IOC, IPC, Association of Summer Olympic International Federations, Global Association of International Sports Federations, and other organisations that recognise it as the controlling and governing authority for Table Tennis throughout the world.

## **1.5. OBJECTIVES**

- 1.5.1. The Objectives of the ITTF shall be to:
  - 1.5.1.1. uphold the principles of the ITTF and develop the spirit of friendship and mutual assistance among Associated Organisations and Athletes;
  - 1.5.1.2. regulate relations between Associated Organisations and between Associated Organisations and other organisations;
  - 1.5.1.3. seek continual improvement in the technical standard of Table Tennis and in the extent of participation in Table Tennis throughout the world;
  - 1.5.1.4. foster friendly sporting competition and eliminate unfair and unsporting practices, such as match manipulation, irregular and illegal betting, doping, and use of illegal equipment to enhance performance;
  - 1.5.1.5. establish, publish, and enforce the Statutes;
  - 1.5.1.6. promote and supervise World Title Events, Table Tennis competitions at the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and ITTF continental title Table Tennis competitions;
  - 1.5.1.7. endeavour to increase participation at all levels, enhance the popularity of Table Tennis, develop new sources of revenue, and manage Table Tennis through a systematic planning process;
  - 1.5.1.8. encourage Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel, and Officials to present Table Tennis positively in the best ways so as to enhance its image;
  - 1.5.1.9. promote gender-parity, diversity, and equity in all levels of table tennis;
  - 1.5.1.10. promote Para Table Tennis;
  - 1.5.1.11. advocate for the physical and mental health of Athletes and Officials;
  - 1.5.1.12. represent Table Tennis before the IOC, the IPC, and other international organisations;
  - 1.5.1.13. direct, develop, regulate, control, and govern any and all virtual or electronic Table Tennis activities and competitions under all forms worldwide and organise World Title Events of which it is the sole holder and owner; and
  - 1.5.1.14. promote and respect the Athletes' Rights and Responsibilities Declaration.

## **1.6. POWERS**

- 1.6.1. The ITTF has all powers of a legal person and may do all acts necessary, desirable, or conducive to advance its Objectives.

## Part II: Associated Organisations

### *Division 1: Members*

#### **1.7. ASSOCIATIONS**

- 1.7.1. The members of the ITTF shall be Associations which are eligible, recognised and admitted in accordance with the Statutes.
- 1.7.2. Associations shall not be regarded as agents of the ITTF and shall not hold themselves out as such.

#### **1.8. ELIGIBILITY**

- 1.8.1. To be considered for membership in the ITTF, any organisation seeking admission as an Association shall demonstrate that:
  - 1.8.1.1. it is recognised as the sole governing body for Table Tennis in its Territory;
  - 1.8.1.2. it is incorporated as a legal entity in accordance with the law applicable to its Territory;
  - 1.8.1.3. it is financially solvent; and,
  - 1.8.1.4. it satisfies such other requirements as set out in the Statutes.
- 1.8.2. Notwithstanding Article 1.8.1., where one or more Associations or organisations represent Table Tennis in only part of a Territory, the Association or organisation representing Table Tennis in any other part of that Territory may apply for membership, provided that:
  - 1.8.2.1. its separateness is due to circumstances outside of Table Tennis and of its affiliated Athletes;
  - 1.8.2.2. the jurisdiction it claims is clearly limited, in title and constitution, to the Territory in which it controls Table Tennis; and
  - 1.8.2.3. it is otherwise qualified for membership.
- 1.8.3. If an application is made under Article 1.8.2., the views of any Association from the Territory shall be considered and under no circumstance shall two Associations be recognised as exercising authority over the same Territory.
- 1.8.4. Any organisation located outside any Territory 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 that Association's control, but approval of the attachment shall be reviewed at each AGM and shall not be renewed indefinitely.

#### **1.9. ADMISSION**

- 1.9.1. Applications for membership shall be made in a form approved by the Executive Board and shall be submitted within 6 calendar months of the AGM at which the application is to be considered, except applications from former Associations.
- 1.9.2. Any application from any former Association may be accepted with immediate effect at the discretion of the Executive Board, without meeting the time limit stated in Article 1.9.1., and any such acceptance shall be ratified at the next AGM.
- 1.9.3. The Executive Board shall review all applications on behalf of the AGM and make recommendations on acceptance.
- 1.9.4. Applications for membership shall be considered at the AGM stated in Article 1.9.1., and shall be accepted with a Two-Thirds Majority of votes.
- 1.9.5. Where there is a Continental Federation in the continent in which the applicant organisation resides, the views of that Continental Federation shall be considered in reviewing that application for membership.
- 1.9.6. In the consideration of applications for a combined membership by Associations formerly in separate memberships, or for separate membership by Associations which were formerly components of an Association which has divided, or for recognition of changes in the Territory, the views of the organisations concerned and any circumstances outside their control shall be considered, and secession in

- other circumstances is not encouraged.
- 1.9.7. Any election to be an Association shall not be implicated by the political, diplomatic, or national status of the Territory concerned, but shall only consider the conduct of Table Tennis therein.
- 1.9.8. Any organisation eligible for membership of the ITTF but having yet to apply for membership may, with the consent of the ITTF Council, be included in the appropriate Continental Federation for a period not exceeding 1 year, which is renewable at each AGM.
- 1.9.9. Any athlete of an organisation stated under Article 1.9.8., shall have the rights of an Athlete but only in the continent concerned.

#### **1.10. ASSOCIATION'S RIGHTS**

- 1.10.1. Each Association shall have the following rights, subject to the Statutes:
  - 1.10.1.1. to appoint up to 2 Delegates to take part in the AGM in which each Association has one vote cast;
  - 1.10.1.2. to submit Propositions and Resolutions for consideration for inclusion in the agenda of the AGM or the ITTF Council meeting;
  - 1.10.1.3. to nominate candidates for election or appointment within the ITTF according to the applicable Rules and Regulations;
  - 1.10.1.4. to enter Athletes to participate in ITTF Sanctioned Events according to the applicable Rules and Regulations of such events;
  - 1.10.1.5. to nominate qualified match officials to officiate in ITTF Sanctioned Events according to the applicable Rules and Regulations of such events;
  - 1.10.1.6. to host ITTF Sanctioned Events according to the applicable Rules and Regulations of such events;
  - 1.10.1.7. to be a member of a relevant Continental Federation;
  - 1.10.1.8. to take part in and benefit from the ITTF's assistance, development, and educational programmes organised directly or through the Continental Federations; and
  - 1.10.1.9. to exercise all other rights conferred under the Statutes.

#### **1.11. ASSOCIATION'S OBLIGATIONS**

- 1.11.1. Each Association shall have the following obligations:
  - 1.11.1.1. to fully comply with the Statutes and all decisions taken in accordance therewith;
  - 1.11.1.2. to administer, promote, and develop Table Tennis in its Territory according to the Principles and Objectives;
  - 1.11.1.3. to adopt statutes (including its constitution and subsidiary regulations) which comply with the Statutes;
  - 1.11.1.4. to immediately notify the ITTF about any major change concerning it, such as its constitution or regulations, its President or Secretary General, its address or contact details, and provide such other information required under the Statutes;
  - 1.11.1.5. to ensure that their own members comply with the Statutes;
  - 1.11.1.6. to maintain its eligibility as an Association;
  - 1.11.1.7. to promptly pay the subscription fee to the ITTF;
  - 1.11.1.8. to democratically elect or appoint its Officials to its highest executive body; and
  - 1.11.1.9. to compete in at least one ITTF Sanctioned Event per year.

#### **1.12. GOVERNANCE OF ASSOCIATIONS**

- 1.12.1. In accordance with Article 1.11.1.3., each Association's statutes must comply with the principles of good governance and shall contain at least provisions relating to the following matters:
  - 1.12.1.1. to be neutral and prohibit discrimination in matters of race, religion, politics, and gender;

- 1.12.1.2. to be independent and avoid any form of political interference;
  - 1.12.1.3. to ensure all relevant stakeholders comply with the Statutes;
  - 1.12.1.4. to ensure all relevant stakeholders recognise and exclusively submit to the jurisdiction and authority of the ITTF Tribunal and such other judicial powers recognised by the ITTF;
  - 1.12.1.5. to regulate matters relating to Table Tennis competitions and sports integrity in the Territory;
  - 1.12.1.6. to define the responsibilities of the decision-making bodies; and
  - 1.12.1.7. to democratically elect or appoint suitable candidates to its executive body.
- 1.12.2. The Association shall provide the Secretariat with a copy of its statutes and with details of any subsequent changes within 3 calendar months from the meeting at which they are made, or upon request by the ITTF.
- 1.12.3. If any inconsistency arises between the statutes of an Association and the Statutes, the Statutes will prevail to the extent of that inconsistency.
- 1.12.4. The ITTF may intervene in the governance or management of an Association in a manner the Executive Board considers appropriate if in its opinion, after enquiry and having provided a reasonable opportunity for the Association to be heard, and if approved by the Executive Board, the Association:
- 1.12.4.1. is having significant governance, administration, operational, or financial difficulties;
  - 1.12.4.2. ceases to meet one or more of the requirements specified in Article 1.8.1.;
  - 1.12.4.3. is subject to any action or proceedings to dissolve it;
  - 1.12.4.4. is involved in any conflict which prevents it from operating effectively; or
  - 1.12.4.5. is otherwise unable to fulfil its purposes.

### **1.13. CONTINENTAL FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP**

- 1.13.1. Parts of an Association which lie wholly within a continent which is different from the continent reflected in its address according to the ITTF's directory may, with the permission of the ITTF Council and the consent of their Association, be affiliated to the Continental Federation in whose area they lie for the purposes of competing in and promoting Table Tennis.
- 1.13.2. Associations lying wholly outside but adjacent to the continent concerned may similarly be affiliated to the Continental Federation of that continent, with the consent of the ITTF Council and the Continental Federation of which they are a member for the purposes of competing in and promoting Table Tennis.

### **1.14. SUBSCRIPTION FEE**

- 1.14.1. Each Association shall pay an annual subscription fee as determined by the AGM.
- 1.14.2. The first subscription fee shall be paid with the application for membership and subsequent subscriptions shall be due on 1st January of each year.
- 1.14.3. An Association shall be in arrears if it has not paid its subscription fee by 31st December of the year in which it is due.
- 1.14.4. Any Association which fails to pay its subscription fee for 3 successive years shall automatically be suspended from membership and it shall not be liable for subscription fee during the period of suspension.
- 1.14.5. Any Association suspended under Article 1.14.4., may have its suspension lifted on part or full payment of the subscription fees due, at the discretion of the Executive Board.

### **1.15. WITHDRAWAL**

- 1.15.1. Any Association wishing to withdraw from the ITTF shall give notice in writing to the Secretariat, stating the reason for withdrawal, proposed date of withdrawal and all efforts that have been made towards retaining membership.
- 1.15.2. Prior to any withdrawal, the Association seeking withdrawal and the ITTF shall first engage in either direct or mediated discussion with the view of having that

- Association retaining membership.
- 1.15.3. Any withdrawal may take effect at any time from the receipt of the notice given under Article 1.15.1., until the 31st of December of the same year, but the Association shall be liable for the subscription fee due for that year.

#### **1.16. SUSPENSION AND OTHER SANCTIONS BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- 1.16.1. The Executive Board may decide by Two-Thirds Majority provisionally suspend or otherwise sanction any Association in the manner prescribed under the Statutes for a specified period if, in the Executive Board's opinion:
- 1.16.1.1. that Association is in serious, repeated, or continuous breach of the Statutes or any decision of the AGM, ITTF Council, Executive Board, or ITTF Tribunal;
- 1.16.1.2. that Association ceases to meet any of the requirements under Article 1.8.1.; or
- 1.16.1.3. that Association acts in a manner contrary to any of the Principles.
- 1.16.2. If any suspension is issued under Article 1.16.1., that suspension shall be for a period and on such terms decided by the Executive Board until the next AGM.
- 1.16.3. Before sanctioning an Association under Article 1.16.1., the Executive Board shall:
- 1.16.3.1. notify the Association in writing of its intention to sanction that Association, including any proposed period of the suspension, such other terms of the sanction, and its reasons; and
- 1.16.3.2. give the Association at least 21 days to respond to the intended sanction, unless the Executive Board considers there is urgency, in which case this period may be reduced as it deems fit.
- 1.16.4. The Executive Board may decide by Two-Thirds Majority to revoke the sanction under Article 1.16.1., whether on application by the Association or on its own decision, if it is satisfied that the grounds for sanctions imposed no longer apply.
- 1.16.5. The sanctioned Association may apply to the ITTF Tribunal to review the Executive Board's decision-making process under Article 1.16.1.
- 1.16.6. Article 1.16 is in addition to and does not limit any other powers that exist under the Statutes to suspend, remove, or otherwise sanction any Association.

#### **1.17. SUSPENSION, EXPULSION AND OTHER SANCTIONS BY AGM**

- 1.17.1. The AGM may decide by Two-Thirds Majority suspend, expel, or otherwise sanction an Association in the manner prescribed under the Statutes for a specified period if:
- 1.17.1.1. the Executive Board recommends any such sanction following any sanction issued by the Executive Board under Article 1.16.1.;
- 1.17.1.2. the AGM considers that any one or more of the grounds set out in Article 1.16.1., apply; or
- 1.17.1.3. any sanction imposed by the Executive Board is not met to the satisfaction of the AGM.
- 1.17.2. If any suspension is issued under Article 1.17.1., the suspension shall be for a period (including indefinitely) and on such terms decided by the AGM, subject to the satisfaction of any sanction imposed by the AGM.
- 1.17.3. Before sanctioning an Association under Article 1.17.1., the Association shall be:
- 1.17.3.1. notified in writing at least 30 days before the relevant AGM about the intention to sanction that Association, including any proposed period of the suspension, such other terms of the sanction, and its reasons; and,
- 1.17.3.2. be given the opportunity to be heard at the relevant AGM.
- 1.17.4. The AGM may:
- 1.17.4.1. revoke the sanction under Article 1.17.1., whether on application by the Association or on its own decision if it is satisfied that the grounds for sanctions imposed no longer apply; or
- 1.17.4.2. impose any additional sanction.
- 1.17.5. Article 1.17. is in addition to and does not limit any other powers that exist under the Statutes to suspend, remove, or otherwise sanction any Association.

**1.18. CONSEQUENCES OF SUSPENSION, EXPULSION OR WITHDRAWAL**

- 1.18.1. Any suspended, expelled or withdrawn Association shall immediately:
- 1.18.1.1. be suspended from its Continental Federation, if it was suspended; or cease to be a member of its Continental Federation, if it withdrew or was expelled;
  - 1.18.1.2. forfeit and not be entitled to any right, entitlement, or benefit which it would otherwise have under the Statutes as an Association, in particular those stated under Article 1.10., except where an ITTF Sanctioned Event has been approved for the suspended, expelled, or withdrawn Association, the Executive Board may establish a relevant body to oversee the organisation of the such event and under such terms it imposes;
  - 1.18.1.3. not identify itself as a member of the ITTF or its Continental Federation; and
  - 1.18.1.4. not use any intellectual property relating to the ITTF, its Continental Federation, or any of their affiliates.
- 1.18.2. Any Official of any suspended, expelled or withdrawn Association shall immediately:
- 1.18.2.1. cease to hold any office within the ITTF, its Continental Federation, or any other Association; and
  - 1.18.2.2. forfeit and not be entitled to any right, entitlement, or benefit which they would otherwise have under the Statutes, including representation, participation, or involvement in any capacity in any ITTF Sanctioned Event, meeting, or such other activity of the ITTF, its Continental Federation, or any other Association.
- 1.18.3. The Executive Board may permit Athletes affiliated with the suspended, expelled, or withdrawn Association to compete in Table Tennis events under the flag of the ITTF or such other neutral identifiers pursuant to Article 1.61.1.13 and in accordance with Article 3.8.7.
- 1.18.4. Under urgent or exceptional situations, the Executive Board may permit as such under Article 1.18.3., until the next AGM, during which the AGM may ratify or revoke such permission.

*Division 2: Continental Federations***1.19. CONTINENTAL FEDERATIONS**

- 1.19.1. There shall be five Continental Federations, one each from the geographical regions of Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania.
- 1.19.2. Continental Federations shall be supported and encouraged by the ITTF, which shall cooperate with them in all matters, provided that the statutes of the Continental Federation comply with the Statutes.
- 1.19.3. Continental Federations shall not be regarded as agents of the ITTF and shall not hold themselves out as such.

**1.20. AFFILIATION WITH THE ITTF**

- 1.20.1. The Continental Federations shall be affiliated to the ITTF according to established criteria, prescribed by the ITTF Council following a proposal from the Continental Council.
- 1.20.2. A Continental Federation's affiliation with the ITTF shall renew every 4 years, in the year after the Olympic Games, subject to entering into a specific strategic quadrennial agreement with the ITTF.
- 1.20.3. The affiliation of the Continental Federations has the following goals:
- 1.20.3.1. to increase cooperation in events and marketing as well to develop Table Tennis cooperatively;
  - 1.20.3.2. to formalise the status of Continental Federations within the Statutes;
  - 1.20.3.3. to qualify for development funding in accordance with the agreement stated under Article 1.20.2.; and
  - 1.20.3.4. to link continental events to the World Title Events to reinforce greater marketing value and ensuring the participation of the top Athletes.

**1.21. CONTINENTAL FEDERATIONS' RIGHTS**

- 1.21.1. Each Continental Federation shall have the following rights, subject to the Statutes:
- 1.21.1.1. to submit Propositions and Resolutions for consideration for inclusion in the agenda of the AGM or the ITTF Council meeting;
  - 1.21.1.2. to be allowed to use the ITTF's name or logo as part of its trading name or corporate identity, upon request and subject to the Executive Board's approval;
  - 1.21.1.3. to have its Continental President be a member of the ITTF Council and the Continental Council;
  - 1.21.1.4. to have its championship title competition recognised as the sole continental title championships for that continent; and
  - 1.21.1.5. to exercise all other rights conferred under the Statutes.

**1.22. CONTINENTAL FEDERATIONS' OBLIGATIONS**

- 1.22.1. Each Continental Federation shall have the following obligations:
- 1.22.1.1. to have its membership open to the applicable Associations whose Territory is situated within its continent except where, for reasons outside the control of Table Tennis, an Association is not accepted as a member of its appropriate Continental Federation and in such case, such Association shall have the right to appeal to the ITTF to assist it in securing membership or failing that, an affiliation to another adjacent Continental Federation;
  - 1.22.1.2. to open its championship title competition only to the Athletes of its member Associations and any attached organisations, subject to applicable rules and regulations of such event;
  - 1.22.1.3. to organise Table Tennis competitions in its continent;
  - 1.22.1.4. to ensure that its Continental President and other key Officials are democratically elected or appointed in accordance with its statutes;
  - 1.22.1.5. to fully comply with the Statutes and all decisions taken in accordance therewith;
  - 1.22.1.6. to administer, promote and develop Table Tennis in its continent according to the Principles and Objectives;
  - 1.22.1.7. to adopt statutes (including its constitution and subsidiary regulations) which comply with the Statutes;
  - 1.22.1.8. to immediately notify the ITTF about any major change concerning it, such as its constitution or regulations, its President or Secretary General, its address or contact details, and provide such other information required under the Statutes; and
  - 1.22.1.9. to ensure that its own members to comply with the Statutes.

**1.23. GOVERNANCE OF CONTINENTAL CONFEDERATIONS**

- 1.23.1. In accordance with Article 1.22.1.7., each Continental Federation's statutes must comply with the principles of good governance, and shall contain, at a minimum, provisions relating to the following matters:
- 1.23.1.1. to be neutral and prohibit discrimination in matters of race, religion, politics, and gender;
  - 1.23.1.2. to be independent and avoid any form of political interference;
  - 1.23.1.3. to ensure all relevant stakeholders comply with the Statutes;
  - 1.23.1.4. to ensure all relevant stakeholders recognise and exclusively submits to the jurisdiction and authority of the ITTF Tribunal and such other judicial powers recognised by the ITTF;
  - 1.23.1.5. to regulate matters relating Table Tennis competitions and sport integrity in its continent;
  - 1.23.1.6. to define the responsibilities of the decision-making bodies; and
  - 1.23.1.7. to democratically elect or appoint suitable candidates to its executive body.

- 1.23.2. The Continental Federation shall provide the Secretariat with a copy of its statutes and with details of any subsequent changes within 3 calendar months from the meeting at which they are made, or upon request by the ITTF.
- 1.23.3. If any inconsistency arises between the statutes of a Continental Federation and the Statutes, the Statutes will prevail to the extent of that inconsistency.
- 1.23.4. The ITTF may intervene in the governance or management of a Continental Federation in a manner the Executive Board considers appropriate if in its opinion, after enquiry and having provided a reasonable opportunity for the Association to be heard, and if approved by the Executive Board, the Association:
  - 1.23.4.1. is having significant governance, administration, operational or financial difficulties;
  - 1.23.4.2. is subject to any action or proceedings to dissolve it;
  - 1.23.4.3. is involved in any conflict which prevents it from operating effectively; or
  - 1.23.4.4. is otherwise unable to fulfil its purposes.

#### **1.24. SANCTIONS ETC. AND CORRESPONDING CONSEQUENCES**

- 1.24.1. Articles 1.16 and 1.17 on suspension, expulsion, and such other sanctions which apply to Associations shall apply correspondingly to Continental Federations, with any necessary amendment deemed to have been made to take account of the different context.
- 1.24.2. Article 1.18 on consequences of suspension, expulsion, and withdrawal which apply to Associations shall apply correspondingly to Continental Federations, with any necessary amendment deemed to have been made to take account of the different context.

#### *Division 3: ITTF Foundation*

##### **1.25. ROLE**

- 1.25.1. The ITTF Foundation is the corporate social responsibility entity, a subsidiary of the ITTF, and a part of the ITTF Group.

##### **1.26. ITTF FOUNDATION'S RIGHTS**

- 1.26.1. The ITTF Foundation shall have the following rights:
  - 1.26.1.1. to identify itself as stated under Article 1.25.1.;
  - 1.26.1.2. to set up one or more subsidiaries as necessary to meet its obligations under Article 1.27.;
  - 1.26.1.3. to submit Propositions and Resolutions for consideration for inclusion in the agenda of the AGM or the ITTF Council meeting;
  - 1.26.1.4. appoint one or more representatives to attend the AGM; and
  - 1.26.1.5. to exercise all other rights conferred under the Statutes.

##### **1.27. ITTF FOUNDATION'S OBLIGATIONS**

- 1.27.1. The ITTF Foundation shall have the following obligations:
  - 1.27.1.1. to ensure that its statutes are not inconsistent with the Statutes;
  - 1.27.1.2. to maintain its status as a legal entity in the territory where it is incorporated;
  - 1.27.1.3. to promote and ensure the accessibility of Table Tennis; and
  - 1.27.1.4. to organise events, carry out activities, or otherwise use Table Tennis to promote peace, solidarity, health, diplomacy, community development, and such other social good.

#### *Division 4: World Table Tennis*

##### **1.28. ROLE**

- 1.28.1. WTT is the commercial rights entity, a for-profit subsidiary of the ITTF, and a part of the ITTF Group.

**1.29. WTT'S RIGHTS**

- 1.29.1. WTT shall have the following rights:
  - 1.29.1.1. to identify itself as stated under Article 1.28.1.;
  - 1.29.1.2. to exercise all rights, entitlements, benefits granted under the licence agreement with the ITTF;
  - 1.29.1.3. to set up one or more subsidiaries as necessary to meet its obligations under Article 1.30.;
  - 1.29.1.4. to appoint one or more representatives to attend the AGM;
  - 1.29.1.5. to submit Propositions and Resolutions for consideration for inclusion in the agenda of the AGM or the ITTF Council meeting; and
  - 1.29.1.6. to exercise all other rights conferred under the Statutes.

**1.30. WTT'S OBLIGATIONS**

- 1.30.1. WTT shall have the following obligations:
  - 1.30.1.1. to ensure that its statutes are not inconsistent with the Statutes;
  - 1.30.1.2. to maintain its status as a legal entity in the territory where it is incorporated;
  - 1.30.1.3. to exploit the licensed commercial rights in accordance with the licence agreement and such other agreements granted by the ITTF;
  - 1.30.1.4. to promote and maintain the commercial sustainability of the licensed events; to enhance, promote, professionalise, and develop the prestige and image of Table Tennis; and
  - 1.30.1.5. to drive the growth of Table Tennis by developing the areas of top Athlete participation and prize money, broadcast production and content distribution, event production, presentation and fan experience, marketing and promotion, tournament hosting and event operations, competition format, calendar and structure, and Athlete management.

*Division 5: Other Associated Organisations***1.31. OTHER GROUPS OF ASSOCIATIONS**

- 1.31.1. A group of Associations shall, in principle, include those that share common objectives, such as 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.
- 1.31.2. Each recognised group of Associations shall have the right to organise specific competitions open to all the Associations of that group, provided that the Statutes are observed in respect of play with unaffiliated organisations.
- 1.31.3. Each recognised group of Associations shall have the following obligations:
  - 1.31.3.1. to fully comply with the Statutes and all decisions taken in accordance therewith;
  - 1.31.3.2. to administer, promote, and develop Table Tennis according to the Principles and Objectives;
  - 1.31.3.3. to adopt statutes which comply with the Statutes;
  - 1.31.3.4. to immediately notify the ITTF about any major change concerning it, such as its constitution or regulations, its President or Secretary General, its address or contact details, and provide such other information required under the Statutes;
  - 1.31.3.5. to ensure that its own members to comply with the Statutes; and
  - 1.31.3.6. to comply with any other prescribed requirements.

*Division 6: Authority of Associations***1.32. MEMBERSHIP AND REPRESENTATION**

- 1.32.1. An Athlete shall be regarded as resident in a Territory if their ordinary or main

- residence or base is in that Territory but residence shall not be solely determined based on duration stayed in that Territory.
- 1.32.2. Before accepting an Athlete into membership, an Association shall satisfy itself that such Athlete is or intends to be resident in its Territory and it shall not retain them if they terminate such residence.
  - 1.32.3. Unless notified of any suspension or expulsion, Associations shall be entitled to regard any Athlete or organisation resident in the Territory of an Association and known to have been affiliated to it as eligible for participation.
  - 1.32.4. Except after a genuine change of residence, no Association may make a resident in a Territory controlled by another Association a member or representative of itself without the prior permission of that other Association.
  - 1.32.5. Any dispute under Article 1.32., shall be referred to the Executive Board.

### **1.33. EXTENT OF AUTHORITY**

- 1.33.1. In administering and interpreting its own regulations and decisions, an Association shall have authority over:
  - 1.33.1.1. Athletes residing in its Territory, while they are in that Territory or in any other Territory;
  - 1.33.1.2. visiting Athletes, while they are in its Territory, except as provided in Article 1.34.1.; and
  - 1.33.1.3. Athletes 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.

### **1.34. VISITING ATHLETES**

- 1.34.1. If a visiting Athlete is officially representing their Association or the ITTF in a Masters event pursuant to an invitation by the visited Association, the visited Association has no right to impose any penalty on that Athlete.
  - 1.34.1.1. The responsible management committee shall have authority over the conduct of the competition, but no subsequent penalty may be imposed on a visiting Athlete for any offence committed in connection with that competition.
  - 1.34.1.2. The visited Association may protest to the visiting Athlete's Association or the ITTF in Masters events about any offence, but the visiting Athlete's Association shall retain sole authority over them and the right to impose any penalty.
- 1.34.2. If a visiting Athlete participates in Table Tennis activities other than as an official representative of their Association, whether their visit is pursuant to an invitation by the visited Association, they shall be subject also to the authority of the visited Association, which shall have the right to impose any penalty for any offence committed in connection with such activities.
  - 1.34.2.1. No such penalty may come into operation until at least 1 calendar month after its notification with an account of all the circumstances to the visiting Athlete's Association.
  - 1.34.2.2. If the visiting Athlete's Association makes no appeal within 1 calendar month of being notified, the penalty may be imposed.
  - 1.34.2.3. If an appeal is submitted within 1 calendar month, the matter shall be referred to the Executive Board and the penalty may not come into operation before the appeal has been decided.

### **1.35. PAYMENTS TO PLAYERS**

- 1.35.1. Except when acting under the direct instruction of their Association as its representative, an Athlete may accept any payment, reward, benefit, or allowances for playing in any competition other than the Olympic and Paralympic Games, or for exhibition or coaching.
- 1.35.2. Subject to Article 1.35.1., each Association shall have absolute discretion to

determine and regulate its own policy for any payment, reward, benefit, or allowance in respect of Athletes and events under its jurisdiction.

*Division 7: Unaffiliated Players and Organisations*

**1.36. OBJECT OF REGULATION**

- 1.36.1. The object of this Part II, Division 7 is to regulate, but not to prevent, play between affiliated and unaffiliated Athletes.
- 1.36.2. Without limiting Article 1.61.1.13, only teams and Athletes nominated by Associations may participate in World Title Events and continental championship events, but otherwise such Athlete will, when not contrary to the Statutes or to the interests of the ITTF or of the Associations, generally be permitted, provided that due application is made.
- 1.36.3. An Athlete affiliated to an Association shall not take part in any competition, exhibition, or coaching:
  - 1.36.3.1. 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 or the ITTF in Masters events;
  - 1.36.3.2. in a territory not having an Association or whose governing organisation is not affiliated to the ITTF, except with the permission of the Executive Board, unless the ITTF Council has previously given permission for the governing organisation to be included temporarily in the appropriate Continental Federation pending an application for membership; and
  - 1.36.3.3. organised by an unaffiliated body, unless permission for the event has been given by the Executive Board, except as provided in Article 1.36.7.
- 1.36.4. The Association controlling the Territory in which a player is resident shall be responsible for ensuring that they comply with Article 1.36.3.
- 1.36.5. A player resident in a Territory which has no Association or whose governing organisation is not affiliated to the ITTF shall not take part in any competition, exhibition, or coaching in the territory of any Association, except with the permission of the Executive Board, unless the ITTF Council has previously given permission for the governing organisation to be included temporarily in the appropriate Continental Federation pending an application for membership.
- 1.36.6. The Executive Board may permit any Table Tennis event to be organised by an unaffiliated body provided that:
  - 1.36.6.1. the organising body has undertaken to comply with the applicable ITTF Regulations;
  - 1.36.6.2. the organising body has undertaken not to include any affiliated Athlete in the event, except with their Association's consent;
  - 1.36.6.3. the organising body has undertaken not to include unaffiliated Athlete in the event, except with the Executive Board's consent;
  - 1.36.6.4. the application to organise that event is supported by the Association, if any, controlling the Territory in which the event is to take place; and
  - 1.36.6.5. the supporting Association has accepted responsibility for ensuring that the organising body observes the requirements Article 1.36.6.
- 1.36.7. Where an Association is prepared to accept responsibility for the conduct of any event organised in its Territory by an unaffiliated organisation, no special permission is required, but that Association shall notify the Secretariat, which will advise all other Associations that the event is in order.
- 1.36.8. Where no organising Association is available, the ITTF Executive Board may allocate any event to any unaffiliated body which shall cooperate with the Association controlling the event's Territory.

## Part III: Bodies

### *Division 1: General Meetings*

#### **1.37. ROLE AND COMPOSITION**

- 1.37.1. The AGM is the supreme governing body of the ITTF and consists of the assembled representatives of the Associations.

#### **1.38. POWERS**

- 1.38.1. The AGM has the powers set out in the Statutes, in particular to:
- 1.38.1.1. amend this Constitution and the Laws;
  - 1.38.1.2. elect, suspend, or remove the President and the Executive Vice-Presidents (including the Deputy President);
  - 1.38.1.3. ratify, suspend, or remove any Continental President or Continental Representative;
  - 1.38.1.4. appoint, suspend, or remove the ITTF Tribunal members;
  - 1.38.1.5. appoint, suspend, or remove, 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 Board;
  - 1.38.1.6. revoke any granted honorary titles;
  - 1.38.1.7. award or revoke the hosting of the WTTC Finals;
  - 1.38.1.8. determine the subscription fee for Associations;
  - 1.38.1.9. delegate any of its powers to the ITTF Council or to the Executive Board, on the request of at least one-quarter (1/4) of the Associations not in arrears;
  - 1.38.1.10. ratify the work done by the ITTF Council and the Executive Board since the last AGM; and
  - 1.38.1.11. deal with any matter normally delegated to another ITTF body or decided upon by this body.

#### **1.39. DELEGATES**

- 1.39.1. Each Association may appoint 2 Delegates to represent it at the AGM.
- 1.39.2. Each Delegate shall either be a citizen of their appointing Association, as evidenced by their passport, or shall have their main residence in the Territory controlled by their appointing Association for no less than 12 months before the relevant AGM. Delegates belonging to the same state unity, with the same kind of national passport, must have their main residence for at least 12 months before the relevant AGM in the Territory controlled by their appointing Association.
- 1.39.3. The Executive Board may grant exceptions to Article 1.39.2., on a case-by-case basis under special circumstances.
- 1.39.4. 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 Executive Board members according to the guidelines approved by the Executive Board.

#### **1.40. ATTENDANCE**

- 1.40.1. The Delegates may attend the AGM with the right to speak and vote.
- 1.40.2. The Executive Board members, ITTF Council members, ITTF senior staff, Honorary Presidents, Personal Honorary Members and President's Advisory Commission members may attend the AGM with the right to speak but not to vote.
- 1.40.3. All members of Committees and Commissions may attend the AGM as observers, without the right to speak or vote, unless they represent an Association.
- 1.40.4. The ITTF Tribunal Chair, Committee Chairs, Commission Chairs, Commissioners, as expert advisers, may attend the AGM with the right to speak but not to vote.
- 1.40.5. The AGM Chair may allow any appropriate guest to attend and speak at the AGM,

- under any special circumstance.
- 1.40.6. No representation by proxy or letter (or other written means) is permitted.

**1.41. PLACE, DATE, AND TIME**

- 1.41.1. An AGM shall generally be held as part of the ITTF Summit, after and proximate to the last competition day of the WTTC Finals, and in exceptional circumstances at such other place, date, and time as the Executive Board may determine.
- 1.41.2. An AGM can be convened remotely (wholly or partly) if considered appropriate.

**1.42. NOTICE OF AGM**

- 1.42.1. The notice of the AGM, giving details of the place, date and time and the business to be transacted, shall be sent by post, e-mail, or such other appropriate means to:
- 1.42.1.1. each Association;
- 1.42.1.2. the Executive Board members;
- 1.42.1.3. the ITTF Council members;
- 1.42.1.4. the ITTF senior staff;
- 1.42.1.5. the Honorary Presidents;
- 1.42.1.6. the Personal Honorary Members;
- 1.42.1.7. the President's Advisory Commission members;
- 1.42.1.8. the Chairs of Committees, Commissions, the ITTF Tribunal, and the Integrity Board; and
- 1.42.1.9. the Commissioners.
- 1.42.2. The notice of the AGM shall be sent within 2 calendar months of the AGM.

**1.43. NOTICE OF BUSINESS**

- 1.43.1. Details in writing of Propositions and Resolutions to be considered at an AGM must reach the Secretariat within 4 calendar months of the AGM.
- 1.43.2. The notice of the actual deadline for the receipt of business, Propositions, and Resolutions shall be sent to all persons entitled to propose such matters by the Secretariat within 6 calendar months of the AGM.
- 1.43.3. Propositions and Resolutions, other than changes to this Constitution or the Laws, which are not duly submitted but which, in the opinion of the Executive Board, relate to the business at hand or an emergency may be admitted by a Two-Thirds Majority vote at the AGM.

**1.44. REVIEW OF PROPOSITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

- 1.44.1. Upon receiving any submitted Proposition or Resolution, the Secretariat shall review such document with the assistance of any relevant and qualified person and notify the Proposer of any Advised Change within 14 days of the deadline to submit Propositions and Resolutions.
- 1.44.2. The Secretariat shall notify the Proposer of any Advised Change under Article 1.44.1.:
- 1.44.2.1. if, in its opinion, the reviewed Proposition or Resolution meets one or more grounds stated in Article 1.44.8.; or
- 1.44.2.2. for any other appropriate reason.
- 1.44.3. Upon receiving any Advised Change, the Proposer may accept, refuse, or clarify any Advised Change (whether fully or partly) within 7 days after being notified under Article 1.44.1.
- 1.44.4. If any Advised Change is not accepted or the Proposer fails to respond to any Advised Change by the deadline stated in Article 1.44.3., that Proposition or Resolution shall be deemed a Qualified Proposal.
- 1.44.5. The Secretariat shall notify the Executive Board of all Qualified Proposals, stating the reasons for making the Advised Changes, and recommend whether the Executive Board should refuse to include any Qualified Proposal in the agenda of

- the AGM.
- 1.44.6. Upon being notified under Article 1.44.5., the Executive Board shall consider all Qualified Proposals with the Secretariat's recommendations and any other submitted Proposition or Resolution.
- 1.44.7. If the Executive Board decides not to include any Qualified Proposal or any other submitted Proposition or Resolution in the agenda of the AGM, whether by being satisfied with the Secretariat's recommendation or for such other reasonable basis, the Secretariat shall notify the relevant Proposer of the Executive Board's decision and stating the reasons for such decision within 3 calendar months of the AGM.
- 1.44.8. The Executive Board may refuse to include any Proposition or Resolution in the agenda of the AGM, if, in its opinion, the Proposition or Resolution:
- 1.44.8.1. is incomprehensible;
  - 1.44.8.2. is substantively lacking in rationale or otherwise made in bad faith;
  - 1.44.8.3. is likely to have the effect of reversing a decision taken at the immediately preceding AGM; or
  - 1.44.8.4. is likely to substantially prejudice the interest of the ITTF or Table Tennis, whether financially, reputationally, or in such other manner.
- 1.44.9. Any Proposer who is not satisfied with the Executive Board's decision under Article 1.44.7., may apply to the ITTF Tribunal for a review of the Executive Board's decision-making process.

#### **1.45. DEADLINES**

- 1.45.1. Notwithstanding any deadline set out regarding the AGM, the Executive Board may vary such deadline under urgent or exceptional circumstances.

#### **1.46. AGENDA**

- 1.46.1. The agenda for an AGM shall include:
- 1.46.1.1. the appointment of a Chair;
  - 1.46.1.2. a roll call of the Associations present;
  - 1.46.1.3. any appointment of scrutineers;
  - 1.46.1.4. any confirmation of the Minutes of the previous AGM;
  - 1.46.1.5. any consideration of applications for membership;
  - 1.46.1.6. the receipt of the Strategic Plan of the ITTF and the Annual General Report, including reports from the Executive Board members, Continental Presidents, Continental Council, Audit and Finance Committee, Chairs of the Permanent Committees, ITTF Tribunal, Integrity Board, CEO, and Secretary General;
  - 1.46.1.7. 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 the ITTF's auditors;
  - 1.46.1.8. the consideration of Propositions and Resolutions and the reports of the Committees or Commissions that have studied them;
  - 1.46.1.9. if applicable, the election of the President and Executive Vice-Presidents;
  - 1.46.1.10. if applicable, the appointment the members of the applicable Committees, Commissions, and the ITTF Tribunal;
  - 1.46.1.11. any consideration of arrangements for future WTTC Finals;
  - 1.46.1.12. the ratification of the work done by the ITTF Council and the Executive Board since the last AGM;
  - 1.46.1.13. any announcement of the place and date of the next AGM; and
  - 1.46.1.14. the consideration of any other business.

#### **1.47. SPEAKING AT THE AGM**

- 1.47.1. The AGM Chair shall decide how many speakers will be permitted to speak on each Proposition and Resolution.
- 1.47.2. No speaker may speak more than once for each Proposition and Resolution, except that the Proposer shall have the right of reply.

- 1.47.3. Notwithstanding Article 1.47.1., the AGM Chair may, at their discretion, allow a speaker to speak more than once to answer a query arising from their original statement.
- 1.47.4. When the AGM decides that the vote shall be taken on any Proposition or Resolution, it shall be voted on immediately, without further discussion, except the motion "that the question now be put" or any words to that effect.
- 1.47.5. A motion once decided may not be rediscussed and revoted, unless the AGM Chair is satisfied that not doing so may significantly prejudice the interest of the ITTF.
- 1.47.6. Any motion to challenge the AGM Chair's decision under Article 1.47.5. must be made in good faith and be taken immediately after that decision.

#### **1.48. VOTING AT THE AGM**

- 1.48.1. Each Association present not in arrears shall have 1 vote.
- 1.48.2. Questions shall be decided by a Simple Majority vote except:
  - 1.48.2.1. any change to this Constitution, suspension or expulsion from membership, Propositions and Resolutions under Article 1.43.3, and revocation of the award of the WTTC Finals require a Two-Thirds Majority vote;
  - 1.48.2.2. any change to the Laws requires a three-quarter majority of the votes cast; and
  - 1.48.2.3. the dissolution of the ITTF requires a four-fifth majority of the votes cast.
- 1.48.3. If there is an equality of votes on any administrative or financial matter the AGM Chair shall have a casting vote. If there is an equality of votes on any other matter, that motion shall fail, and the AGM shall proceed with the next business.
- 1.48.4. Voting other than in elections shall be by a show of hands, electronic or online means, roll call, or secret ballot, as decided by the AGM on a proposition by the AGM Chair.
- 1.48.5. Each Continental President shall nominate 2 persons from their continent, for approval by the AGM, to form a list of scrutineers.
- 1.48.6. 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.

#### **1.49. ELECTIONS**

- 1.49.1. Where there are more candidates for a position than the number of vacancies, if a Simple Majority is not reached, additional ballots will be required. In such a case, the candidate obtaining the lowest number of votes will be eliminated.
- 1.49.2. If there is a tie for the lowest number of votes, a further vote shall be held to determine who amongst them will be eliminated.
- 1.49.3. Consecutive ballots will be taken until the election is decided.
- 1.49.4. At an election, any ballot paper shall be considered valid only if the number of votes cast on this ballot tallies with the number of vacancies.

#### **1.50. MINUTES AND DOCUMENTS**

- 1.50.1. Minutes and relevant documents shall be kept for the AGM and published in an appropriate manner.
- 1.50.2. The Secretariat may make any minor correction it deems necessary to the publication version of any notices and relevant papers relating to the AGM, such as correction to grammatical, formatting, organisation, and references.

#### **1.51. IRREGULARITY**

- 1.51.1. Any irregularity, error or omission in notices, agendas and relevant papers for an AGM and any other connected error shall not invalidate the AGM or prevent the AGM from considering its business, provided that:
  - 1.51.1.1. the AGM Chair determines in their discretion that it is still appropriate for the AGM to proceed despite the irregularity, error, or omission; or

- 1.51.1.2. a motion to proceed is put to the AGM to proceed and is carried by a Two-Thirds Majority.

### **1.52. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

- 1.52.1. An EGM may be convened either by a Resolution at the previous AGM or 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, or in exceptional circumstances, by decision of the Executive Board.
- 1.52.2. The notice for any EGM shall be sent within 1 calendar month of the EGM.
- 1.52.3. The requisition for an EGM shall specify the business for which the EGM is to be convened and no other business, except the confirmation of the minutes of the previous AGM or EGM will be conducted at that EGM.
- 1.52.4. The provisions that apply to the AGM will apply to the EGM correspondingly, unless otherwise stated in the Statutes (i.e., with any amendments deemed to have been made that are necessary to take account of the different context).
- 1.52.5. Any references to the term “AGM” in the Statutes shall be taken to include “EGM”

#### *Division 2: ITTF Council*

### **1.53. ROLE**

- 1.53.1. The ITTF Council is a legislative authority of the ITTF empowered to deal with all ITTF Regulations, except this Constitution and the Laws, amongst other responsibilities stated under this Constitution.

### **1.54. COMPOSITION**

- 1.54.1. Subject to this Article 1.54, the ITTF Council consists of:
- 1.54.1.1. the President;
- 1.54.1.2. the Executive Vice-Presidents;
- 1.54.1.3. the Athletes' Commission Chairs or their appointee;
- 1.54.1.4. the Continental Presidents; and
- 1.54.1.5. up to 32 Continental Representatives elected or appointed by each Continental Federation and ratified by the AGM.
- 1.54.2. Any Continental Federation whose Continental President is also an Executive Board member may appoint another member of their highest executive body to the ITTF Council, subject to ratification by the AGM.
- 1.54.3. IOC members being Athletes or Officials of any Association or any Continental Federation shall become ex officio ITTF Council members.
- 1.54.4. The number of Continental Representatives for each Continental Federation shall:
- 1.54.4.1. be proportionate to the number of the Associations that are members of that Continental Federation and not in arrears; and
- 1.54.4.2. shall not exceed 32.
- 1.54.5. Continental Representatives shall each be from a different Association.
- 1.54.6. If the AGM does not ratify the appointment of any Continental Representative, that person shall not be an ITTF Council member and such position on the ITTF Council will remain vacant until the next AGM, where the relevant Continental Federation may nominate another suitable person duly elected or appointed for that AGM's consideration.

### **1.55. POWERS**

- 1.55.1. The ITTF Council has the powers set out in the Statutes, in particular to:
- 1.55.1.1. receive and consider reports from Commissioners, and Commissions;
- 1.55.1.2. appoint the Chairs of Permanent Committees and Commissions in odd numbered years and on the recommendation of the Executive Board, except the Chair of the Nominations Committee who shall be appointed by the Executive Board in even numbered years and the Athletes' Commission Chairs

- 1.55.1.3. who shall be elected by the Athletes' Commission;
- 1.55.1.4. appoint the members of the Audit and Finance Committee;
- 1.55.1.5. appoint all the members of the Integrity Board with voting rights;
- 1.55.1.6. consider Propositions and Resolutions regarding ITTF Rules and Regulations, other than this Constitution and Laws;
- 1.55.1.7. award or revoke the hosting of the WJTTC, WPTTC, and WVTTC;
- 1.55.1.8. approve the technical standards and protocols of the Equipment Manuals of the ITTF;
- 1.55.1.9. determine the number of full and corresponding members of each Committee; and
- 1.55.1.9. delegate any of its powers to the Executive Board.

**1.56. RIGHT TO ATTEND ITTF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- 1.56.1. The ITTF Tribunal Chair, the ITTF Integrity Board Chair, the Chairs of Committees and Commissions, and the Commissioners, may attend the ITTF Council meetings as expert advisers, without the right to vote but with the right to speak.

**1.57. PLACE AND DATE OF ITTF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- 1.57.1. The ITTF Council shall generally meet during the ITTF Summit, after and proximate to the last competition day of the WTTC Finals, and in exceptional circumstances, at such place and date as the Executive Board may determine.
- 1.57.2. The ITTF Council shall otherwise conduct its business by correspondence (including through electronic or online means).
- 1.57.3. Any ITTF Council meeting may be convened remotely (wholly or partly) if considered appropriate.

**1.58. ITTF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- 1.58.1. The agenda for the ITTF Council meeting shall be sent to all its members within 1 calendar month of such meeting.
- 1.58.2. At its meeting, the ITTF Council shall review all Propositions and Resolutions submitted to it following the review process stated under Article 1.44. (with the necessary changes to suit the context of the ITTF Council meeting) and, where appropriate, refer them for consideration by Committees.
- 1.58.3. The Chair of the ITTF Council meeting shall be the President or in their absence, the Deputy President. If both are absent, the ITTF Council members present shall elect one of their members as Chair for that meeting.
- 1.58.4. Every question at an ITTF Council meeting shall be decided by a Simple Majority and if there is an equality of votes, the Chair shall have a casting vote.
- 1.58.5. Voting shall be by a show of hands, electronic or online means, roll call, or ballot, as decided by the ITTF Council meeting on a proposition by the Chair.
- 1.58.6. The ITTF may pay a proportion of the travel costs of the ITTF Council members attending ITTF Council meetings, the proportion being decided from time to time by the Executive Board.
- 1.58.7. Proposers may be invited to speak in the same way as stated under Article 1.47.
- 1.58.8. A written motion that is signed or consented to by electronic mail or other generally acceptable electronic communication means by a Simple Majority will be valid as if it had been passed at an ITTF Council meeting. Any such motion may be made up of several documents in substantially similar form, each signed or consented to by one or more ITTF Council members.

*Division 3: Executive Board***1.59. ROLE**

1.59.1. The Executive Board is the executive body of the ITTF.

**1.60. COMPOSITION**

1.60.1. The Executive Board consists of:

1.60.1.1. the President;

1.60.1.2. 8 Executive Vice-Presidents of which one shall be designated by the President as Deputy President and another one shall be designated to be responsible for finances;

1.60.1.3. 2 members from the Athletes' Commission from different genders; and

1.60.1.4. any IOC member connected to Table Tennis may be an ex-officio member by a decision of the Executive Board.

**1.61. POWERS**

1.61.1. The Executive Board has the powers set out in the Statutes, and in particular to:

1.61.1.1. appoint the CEO;

1.61.1.2. appoint the Chair of the Nominations Committee, Commissioners, and members of Working Groups and such other bodies not appointed by the AGM or ITTF Council;

1.61.1.3. award or revoke the hosting of the Continental Para Championships;

1.61.1.4. determine the terms of reference for all Committees, Commissions, Working Groups, and such other body as established from time to time;

1.61.1.5. approve any major internal organisation rules and documents of the ITTF, including policies, guidelines, and notices;

1.61.1.6. approve the ITTF strategic plan to be submitted to the AGM;

1.61.1.7. approve the opening and closing bank accounts of the ITTF and appoint their signatories;

1.61.1.8. employ the funds of the ITTF as may be expedient in the interest of Table Tennis;

1.61.1.9. approve the remuneration of the President or any elected Official, if applicable and in such case, such decisions shall be minuted with specific mention of the names and amounts and shall be reflected in the annual statement of the accounts;

1.61.1.10. review all applications for new membership and make recommendations on acceptance;

1.61.1.11. submit Propositions and Resolutions to the AGM or to the ITTF Council;

1.61.1.12. define the use of the ITTF name and logo;

1.61.1.13. authorise Athletes to compete neutrally and without affiliation to any Association (or any other Associated Organisation, as the case may be);

1.61.1.14. impose sanctions in accordance with the Statutes;

1.61.1.15. notwithstanding any other provisions within the Statutes, decide on all other current or urgent business in exceptional circumstances which cannot be decided by the appropriate body promptly, and take all actions and make all orders it deems necessary;

1.61.1.16. decide on any matter not reserved to another body by the Statutes or applicable law; and

1.61.1.17. assume all powers which are not expressly attributed to another body within the ITTF.

1.61.2. The powers vested in the Executive Board shall be exercised by way of a Simple Majority vote by the Executive Board.

1.61.3. Despite Article 1.61.2, unless otherwise expressly provided under this Constitution, the Executive Board may delegate any of its powers to any of its members or other persons within ITTF expressly or impliedly, and any such delegation of power may be revoked (fully or partially) by the Executive Board at any time.

**1.62. DUTIES**

- 1.62.1. The Executive Board members shall always:
  - 1.62.1.1. promote the principles of the ITTF and advance its objectives;
  - 1.62.1.2. act in good faith and carry out their responsibilities in the best interests of the ITTF and the Associations as a whole;
  - 1.62.1.3. comply, and ensure that the ITTF complies with applicable laws, the Statutes, and decisions of any judicial body;
  - 1.62.1.4. not engage in any act of dishonesty, gross misconduct, or wilful neglect of duty;
  - 1.62.1.5. not do anything (by act or omission) that is likely to bring the ITTF or Table Tennis into disrepute or that is contrary to the best interests of the ITTF or Table Tennis;
  - 1.62.1.6. exercise care, diligence and skill that any reasonable Executive Board member would exercise in the same circumstances;
  - 1.62.1.7. disclose to the Executive Board and the Integrity Unit the nature and extent of any interest that they have (or any person connected with them has) in a transaction or proposed transaction of or involving the ITTF as soon as they become aware of such interest or such transaction and refrain from making an opinion and voting on any connected resolution;
  - 1.62.1.8. maintain confidentiality as to the communications and affairs of the Executive Board and confidential information (except as needed to be disclosed through its meeting minutes) and not disclose it to any other person, unless for the benefit of the ITTF, as agreed by the Executive Board, or as required by law or the Statutes; and
  - 1.62.1.9. make reasonable efforts to attend and actively participate in all Executive Board meetings.

**1.63. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS OUTSIDE MEETINGS**

- 1.63.1. The Executive Board shall meet during the period of the WTTC Finals and otherwise when convened by the President or by a Simple Majority vote.
- 1.63.2. The quorum for any Executive Board meeting shall be more than 50% of the members of the Executive Board then in office and entitled to vote.
- 1.63.3. Executive Board meetings may be conducted remotely through, without limitation, telephone or videoconference.
- 1.63.4. Each Executive Board member present and entitled to vote shall have one vote, provided that any Executive Board member having a conflict of interest on any motion shall not vote on that motion.
- 1.63.5. Unless otherwise specified in this Constitution, motions of the Executive Board require a Simple Majority of its members then in office and entitled to vote to be passed. In the event of an equality of votes, the President will have the casting vote.
- 1.63.6. Motions of the Executive Board may be passed by correspondence, without conducting any physical or remote meeting, and the use of electronic mail and other generally acceptable electronic communication means is permissible for such purposes.
- 1.63.7. A written motion that is signed or consented to by electronic mail or other generally acceptable electronic communication means by a Simple Majority will be valid as if it had been passed at an Executive Board meeting. Any such motion may be made up of several documents in substantially similar form, each signed or consented to by one or more Executive Board members.
- 1.63.8. Unless specified otherwise above, the Executive Board may regulate the conduct of its meetings and all other matters concerning its meetings through its terms of reference or relevant document.

**1.64. VACANCIES IN THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- 1.64.1. If the President resigns or is unable to continue in office, they shall be replaced by the Deputy President.
- 1.64.2. The President may remove the designation of the Deputy President and the Executive Vice-President for Finances, provided that:
  - 1.64.2.1. the removal is not made in bad faith;
  - 1.64.2.2. written notice of the intended removal of designation, including the reasons for such removal; and
  - 1.64.2.3. that Deputy President or the Executive Vice-President for Finances has the opportunity to present their case to the President within a reasonable period (not less than 48 hours).
- 1.64.3. The President's decision under Article 1.64.2 may be reviewed by the ITTF Tribunal on application by the affected Deputy President or Executive Vice-President for Finances.
- 1.64.4. Any vacancy arising in the role of Deputy President or in the Executive Vice-President for Finances shall be filled by an Executive Vice-President as appointed by the President.
- 1.64.5. Any vacancy arising in the posts of any Executive Vice-Presidents during the first 3 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.
- 1.64.6. If one of the Athletes' Commission Chair roles is vacant, it shall be filled by one of the Deputy Chairs elected by the Athletes' Commission.

**1.65. SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

- 1.65.1. The Executive Board may, by Two-Thirds Majority, pass a motion to suspend any Executive Board member, subject to such terms it deems appropriate, if that member:
  - 1.65.1.1. is charged with commission of a criminal or a disciplinary offence, such as violation of the ITTF Code of Ethics or breach of the rules of an Association or Associated Organisation and in the Executive Board's reasonable opinion, there is a real risk that the integrity of the Table Tennis or public confidence could be seriously undermined; or
  - 1.65.1.2. is, in the Executive Board's reasonable opinion, in breach of one or more of their duties under Article 1.62.
- 1.65.2. If a suspension pursuant to Article 1.65.1 is imposed, such suspension will remain in place pending the outcome of such charges before the ITTF Tribunal or such other judicial body.
- 1.65.3. The Executive Board may by Two-Thirds Majority pass a motion to remove any Executive Board member before the end of their term of office, subject to such terms it deems appropriate, if that member:
  - 1.65.3.1. is clearly, in the Executive Board's reasonable opinion, in serious, repeated, or continuous breach of one or more of their duties under Article 1.62; or
  - 1.65.3.2. fails to meet the terms imposed by the Executive Board for lifting a suspension imposed under Article 1.65.1.
- 1.65.4. Before suspending or removing any Executive Board member pursuant to Article 1.65, the Executive Board shall provide that member with:
  - 1.65.4.1. written notice of the proposed suspension or removal, including the reasons for such proposal; and
  - 1.65.4.2. the opportunity to present their case to the Executive Board within a reasonable period (not less than 48 hours).
- 1.65.5. Any Executive Board member who is suspended or removed pursuant to Article 1.65 shall automatically be suspended or removed (as applicable) from any position which they hold ex officio in relation to their membership in the Executive Board.
- 1.65.6. This Article 1.65 is in addition to and does not limit any other powers that exist under the Statutes to suspend or remove any Executive Board member from office.

- 1.65.7. Any Executive Board member who is suspended or removed pursuant to Article 1.65 may appeal such suspension or removal to the ITTF Tribunal.

*Division 4: ITTF Tribunal*

**1.66. ROLE AND COMPOSITION**

- 1.66.1. The ITTF Tribunal is the primary judicial body of the ITTF and is composed of up to 8 members.
- 1.66.2. The ITTF Tribunal shall have a Chair, a Deputy Chair, and up to 6 other members.

**1.67. ITTF TRIBUNAL REGULATIONS**

- 1.67.1. The organisation of the ITTF Tribunal and the procedures before it shall be regulated through the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

*Division 5: Integrity Unit*

**1.68. ROLE, COMPOSITION, AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

- 1.68.1. The ITTF Integrity Unit is an operationally independent unit of the ITTF with the following responsibilities:
- 1.68.1.1. to investigate and prosecute infringement of the matters relating to compliance, discipline and integrity before the ITTF Tribunal or such other competent and recognised judicial body;
- 1.68.1.2. to educate Table Tennis Parties on integrity matters; and
- 1.68.1.3. to otherwise protect and uphold the integrity of Table Tennis.
- 1.68.2. The Integrity Unit shall be supervised by the Integrity Board and shall consist of the Head of Integrity and such other officers necessary for the Integrity Unit to carry out its responsibilities.
- 1.68.3. The Integrity Unit shall be directly accountable to the AGM.

**1.69. ITTF INTEGRITY REGULATIONS**

- 1.69.1. The Integrity Unit shall be organised, carry out its duties, and exercise its powers in accordance with the ITTF Integrity Regulations.

*Division 6: Honorary Positions*

**1.70. BACKGROUND CHECKS**

- 1.70.1. To obtain or maintain their honorary positions under this Part III, Division 6, any individuals may be subject to annual checks, including the completion of conflict-of-interest declarations, and remain available for background checks as required by the Integrity Unit.
- 1.70.2. If any individual seeking to obtain or maintain their honorary position fail to comply with Article 1.70.1, the Integrity Unit may take further actions pursuant to the ITTF Integrity Regulations.

**1.70.3. HONORARY PRESIDENT**

- 1.70.3.1. 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 Board from time to time.
- 1.70.3.2. This title can be revoked by a Simple Majority vote of the AGM or by a decision of the ITTF Tribunal.

**1.70.4. PERSONAL HONORARY MEMBERSHIP**

- 1.70.4.1. A person who has given long, outstanding service to the ITTF may, on retirement, be appointed a Personal Honorary Member for their lifetime by the

- AGM on a recommendation by the ITTF Council.
- 1.70.4.2. Personal Honorary Members shall be entitled to attend the WTTC Finals, with free hospitality, and to attend the AGM with the right to speak but not to vote. Personal Honorary Membership can be revoked by decision of the ITTF Tribunal.

*Division 7: Committees, Commissions, etc.*

### **1.71. PERMANENT COMMITTEES**

- 1.71.1. The Equipment Committee, Nominations Committee, Para Table Tennis Committee, Rules Committee, Sports Science and Medical Committee, Sustainability Committee, Umpires and Referees Committee, and Masters Committee are permanent Committees.
- 1.71.2. The number of persons serving as full and corresponding members on each Committee shall be determined by the ITTF Council a year before the nomination of Committee members.
- 1.71.3. Committees shall generally meet during the period of the AGM and shall otherwise conduct their business by correspondence.
- 1.71.4. Any Committee may set up sub-committees of its members to deal with specific areas of work and 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 ITTF Council.
- 1.71.5. Each Committee shall consider activities of Continental Federations (and any of their regional bodies) in their respective fields and shall advise the Continental Federations (and any of their regional bodies) through the Executive Board on ideas for further development.
- 1.71.6. 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.
- 1.71.7. The Chair of each Committee shall submit to the ITTF Council an annual report of the activities of their Committee, drawing attention to any recommendation that that Committee wishes to make, but any acceptance of such report shall not be deemed as acceptance of any recommendation made thereunder.
- 1.71.8. A Committee may act on behalf of the ITTF Council, but the extent and duration of this authority shall be specified by the ITTF Council and shall be reviewed by the next ITTF Council meeting.

### **1.72. ATHLETES' COMMISSION**

- 1.72.1. The Athletes' Commission shall be composed of:
- 1.72.1.1. 10 elected members;
- 1.72.1.2. any number of existing IOC Athletes' Commission members from Table Tennis; and
- 1.72.1.3. up to 2 appointed members to ensure diversity.

### **1.73. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

- 1.73.1. The Nominations Committee shall be composed of at least 6 members determined and appointed by the Executive Board including:
- 1.73.1.1. individuals from nominations received from Associations in even numbered years;
- 1.73.1.2. one Executive Vice-President;
- 1.73.1.3. all Continental Presidents; and
- 1.73.1.4. such other person that the Executive Board deems qualified.
- 1.73.2. The Nominations Committee shall:
- 1.73.2.1. verify the qualification and validity of nominations for office according to the ITTF Electoral and Appointment Regulations;
- 1.73.2.2. supervise the allocation of nominees to Committees, Commissions, and such

- other key positions; and  
1.73.2.3. recommend to the AGM or the ITTF Council the composition of Committees, Commissions, and such other key bodies.

#### **1.74. AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- 1.74.1. The Audit and Finance Committee shall be composed of at least 3 independent members plus one ITTF Council member appointed by the ITTF Council, the Executive Vice-President in charge of Finances and one ITTF management staff (without voting rights).  
1.74.2. The terms of office of the Audit and Finance Committee shall coincide with that of the Executive Board.

#### **1.75. SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE**

- 1.75.1. The Sustainability Committee shall be composed of at least 6 members including:  
1.75.1.1. one representative from each continent appointed by the ITTF Council; and  
1.75.1.2. at least one independent individual appointed by the Executive Committee.  
1.75.2. The terms of office of the Sustainability Committee shall coincide with that of the Executive Board.

#### **1.76. INTEGRITY BOARD**

- 1.76.1. The Integrity Board shall be composed of at least 3 independent members (each with voting rights) appointed by the ITTF Council, one member of the ITTF Executive Board (without voting rights) and the ITTF Head of Integrity (without voting rights).

#### **1.77. CONTINENTAL COUNCIL**

- 1.77.1. The Continental Council is a body appointed by the Executive Board to address key issues concerning the Olympic and Paralympic Games, World Title Events, and continental affairs.  
1.77.2. The Continental Council shall consist of the members of the Executive Board and the Continental Presidents (or their appointed representative).  
1.77.3. The Continental Council shall have the following duties:  
1.77.3.1. plan, control, and supervise Table Tennis events in the Olympic and Paralympic Games;  
1.77.3.2. co-opt and call upon relevant technical experts, representatives for the PTT Committee, and the Olympic and Paralympic Games organisers to join one or more Continental Council meetings on an as-needed basis, as decided by the Executive Board;  
1.77.3.3. liaise with the IOC, IPC, National Olympic and Paralympic Committees, and Associations on all matters concerning Olympic and Paralympic competitions;  
1.77.3.4. enforce the eligibility Regulations and affirm the eligibility of Athletes for Olympic and Paralympic events;  
1.77.3.5. appoint juries, technical representatives, and all match officials for the Olympic and Paralympic Table Tennis events;  
1.77.3.6. 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;  
1.77.3.7. initiate and review proposals for the Table Tennis events at the Olympic and Paralympic Games;  
1.77.3.8. provide input and strategic guidance related to the building of the international calendar of events;  
1.77.3.9. draft and submit of proposals for qualifying systems and pathways for entry into Olympic and Paralympic and World Title Events applying to all Continental Federations and designated qualification pathways;  
1.77.3.10. co-opt and call relevant technical experts, representatives of major World Title Events organisers to join one or more Continental Council meetings as

- requested by the Executive Board;
- 1.77.3.11. propose development programmes and high-performance related initiatives to support the future overall development orientations of the ITTF, giving specific consideration to the promotion of gender equity, youth development and Associations' rights and duties in cooperation with Continental Federations; and
- 1.77.3.12. discuss all other matters of common interest to the Continental Federations and the ITTF.
- 1.77.4. The Continental Council shall meet on a set yearly schedule approved by the Executive Board and at other times when convened by the President.
- 1.77.5. One or more ITTF management staff, as appointed by the President, shall attend all meetings of the Continental Council and shall draft its minutes and reports.
- 1.77.6. The meetings of the Continental shall be minuted with a yearly report submitted to the AGM.

**1.78. TECHNICAL COMMISSIONER**

- 1.78.1. The Technical Commissioner shall be appointed by the Executive Board.
- 1.78.2. One technical representative who is not from the same continent as the Technical Commissioner may be nominated by each Continental Federation and appointed by the Executive Board.
- 1.78.3. The term of office of the Technical Commissioner and the technical representatives shall coincide with that of the Executive Board.

**1.79. GENDER AND DIVERSITY COMMISSIONER**

- 1.79.1. The Gender and Diversity Commissioner shall be appointed by the Executive Board.
- 1.79.2. One gender and diversity representative who is not from the same continent as the Gender and Diversity Commissioner may be nominated by each Continental Federation and appointed by the Executive Board.
- 1.79.3. The term of office of the Gender and Diversity Commissioner and the gender and diversity representatives shall coincide with that of the Executive Board.

**1.80. YOUTH COMMISSIONER**

- 1.80.1. The Youth Commissioner shall be appointed by the Executive Board.
- 1.80.2. One youth representative who is not from the same continent as the Youth Commissioner may be nominated by each Continental Federation and appointed by the Executive Board.
- 1.80.3. The term of office of the Youth Commissioner and the youth representatives shall coincide with that of the Executive Board.

**1.81. PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMISSION**

- 1.81.1. The President may appoint a President's Advisory Commission to advise them on various matters.
- 1.81.2. Members of the President's Advisory Commission shall be invited to attend the AGM as observers, and they will have a set of privileges decided by the Executive Board from time to time.
- 1.81.3. The term of office of the President's Advisory Commission shall coincide with that of the Executive Board.

**1.82. OTHER APPOINTMENTS**

- 1.82.1. The Executive Board may appoint other Commissions, Commissioners, Working Groups, or such other bodies as needed from time to time.

**1.83. GOVERNANCE OF COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS ETC.**

- 1.83.1. Unless provided under the Statutes, Committees, Commissions, Commissioners, Working Groups, and such other similar bodies shall be governed by their respective

- terms of reference or such other relevant document, as determined by the Executive Board.
- 1.83.2. Provided that sufficient female nominations are made for a Committee or Commission, at least 25% of the number of full members of that Committee or Commission shall be selected out of female nominees.
- 1.84. APPLICATION OF ELECTORAL AND APPOINTMENT REGULATIONS**
- 1.84.1. The election or appointment of individuals to the ITTF Council, Executive Board, Committees, Commissions, Integrity Board, ITTF Tribunal or such other key bodies or key individual roles (such as Commissioners) are subject to such terms as specified in the ITTF Electoral and Appointment Regulations.

*Division 8: Executive Staff*

- 1.85. MANAGEMENT STAFF**
- 1.85.1. The Executive Board shall appoint management staff on agreed terms and conditions and in accordance with the management plan approved by the ITTF Council from time to time.
- 1.85.2. The CEO shall be appointed by the Executive Board and shall be responsible for the direction and supervision of the ITTF's professional structure and programmes.
- 1.85.3. The CEO shall appoint a staff member to serve as coordinator of each Committee.
- 1.85.4. The CEO shall employ such other staff as are deemed necessary following the Executive Board's approval, taking into consideration the ITTF annual budget and according to the ITTF's open recruitment policy.
- 1.85.5. The Secretary General shall be responsible for carrying out the duties of the Secretariat, including:
- 1.85.5.1. publishing the English standard text of the Statutes;
- 1.85.5.2. encouraging the publication of the Statutes in other languages and to check the accuracy of such publications; and
- 1.85.5.3. be responsible for the publication of any notices and relevant papers relating to key meetings as required by the Executive Board.

**Part IV: Governance**

*Division 1: Eligibility for Office*

- 1.86. NOMINATIONS**
- 1.86.1. Nominations for President, Executive Vice-Presidents, and members of the ITTF Council or Committees may be made only by the Association of which the nominee is a member or Official;
- 1.86.2. If the nomination under Article 1.86.1 is withdrawn after the nominee has been elected or appointed, they may be removed from their post only by a Two-Thirds Majority vote of the body entitled to elect or appoint them, unless otherwise stated in the Statutes.
- 1.86.3. Nominations for President, Executive Vice-Presidents, members of the ITTF Council and Committees should be made by 90 days before the date of the AGM where the elections or appointments are to be held.
- 1.86.4. No more than 1 person from an Association may be nominated for the Executive Board and no person may be nominated for more than 1 post of the Executive Board.
- 1.86.5. A nominee of an Association that is in arrears shall not be eligible for election or appointment.

**1.87. LIMITATIONS ON OFFICE**

- 1.87.1. All ITTF Council members (including Executive Board members) shall serve for a 4-year term and shall be eligible for appointment not more than twice in the same role.

- After 3 full terms, any member shall have one term of waiting period before being eligible to be elected or appointed for the same role.
- 1.87.2. No person may serve at the same time as a member of more than one Committee and no more than 4 such posts may be occupied by Officials nominated by one Association.
- 1.87.3. No member of the Executive Board may serve on a permanent committee.
- 1.87.4. Any person connected in any way with the manufacture, sale, or endorsement of Table Tennis equipment or with consultation on such equipment:
- 1.87.4.1. shall not be eligible as a member of the Executive Board, except any Athletes' Commission Chair; but
- 1.87.4.2. 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 members of the meeting that they are attending.

*Division 2: Disputes and Appeals*

**1.88. JUDICIAL BODIES OF THE ITTF**

- 1.88.1. The following bodies shall have judicial powers:
- 1.88.1.1. the ITTF Tribunal;
- 1.88.1.2. the AGM;
- 1.88.1.3. the ITTF Protest Panel and the Board of Appeal of Classification of the IPC for PTT Classifications matters; and
- 1.88.1.4. the CAS, to the extent provided under the Statutes.

**1.89. DECISIONS AND APPEALS**

- 1.89.1. Unless otherwise expressly stated, final decisions made by the ITTF under the Statutes may be appealed exclusively to the ITTF Tribunal which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.
- 1.89.2. Any appeals of the ITTF Tribunal's decision to the CAS shall be in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.
- 1.89.3. The CAS shall have no jurisdiction to decide any case or hear any appeal concerning PTT Classification matters.

*Division 4: Conflict of Interest*

**1.90. DUTY TO DECLARE AND AVOID CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- 1.90.1. Table Tennis Parties shall avoid any conflict of interest (as defined in the ITTF Code of Ethics). Any type of conflict of interest shall be declared, and each person shall take action to remove him/herself from the situation where a conflict may arise.
- 1.90.2. The ITTF Conflict 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 ITTF and its business.

*Division 5: Changes to Rules*

**1.91. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO STATUTE**

- 1.91.1. Any proposed change to any Statute may be submitted as a Proposition to:
- 1.91.1.1. the AGM or the ITTF Council by Associations, the Executive Board, Continental Federations, ITTF Foundation, WTT, Committees, Commissions, the ITTF Integrity Unit, and the ITTF Tribunal; and
- 1.91.1.2. to the AGM by the ITTF Council.

**1.92. POWERS TO AMEND STATUTES**

- 1.92.1. Any amendment to this Constitution or the Laws may be made only by the AGM.
- 1.92.1.1. Any amendment to any Rules or Regulations may be made only at an ITTF

Council meeting, except any amendments to the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules (or any other Regulations), which can be made also by the Executive Board, if necessary, to maintain compliance with the requirements of the WADA (or such other international sport governing body to which the ITTF is a member to).

- 1.92.1.2. Details of all rule change Propositions shall be published in the agenda of the meeting at which they are to be considered.

**1.93. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHANGE TO STATUTE**

- 1.93.1. The effective date of each change to the Statutes shall be specified.  
1.93.2. If there is no effective date is stated for any change to the Statutes, the change shall take effect from 1st January of the following year after a decision is taken, except that the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules (or any other Regulations) shall take effect on such date directed by the WADA (or such other international sport governing body to which the ITTF is a member to) and/or approved by the Executive Board.

*Division 6: Savings Provision*

**1.94. RESIDUAL POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- 1.94.1. Where a matter arises for which provision has not been made in the Statutes, in accordance with Articles 1.61.1.16 and 1.61.1.17 the Executive Board may provide for the matter as it deems appropriate.

**Part V: Administrative Matters**

*Division 1: Administration*

**1.95. OFFICE**

- 1.95.1. The Head Office of the ITTF shall be proposed by the Executive Board and shall be in a place appointed by resolution of the AGM or in exceptional circumstances, of the ITTF Council.

**1.96. LANGUAGES**

- 1.96.1. 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 ITTF Council, having particular regard to Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish.  
1.96.2. 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.

*Division 2: Financial Provisions*

**1.97. ACCOUNTS**

- 1.97.1. The financial year of the ITTF shall be from 1st January to 31st December.  
1.97.2. The Executive Vice-President for Finances 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.  
1.97.3. The bank accounts of the ITTF shall be held at banks appointed by resolution of the Executive Board.  
1.97.4. The power of signature on the ITTF bank accounts shall be restricted to the Trustees and the ITTF operational staff and decided by the Executive Board. Individual signatures on any ITTF bank account shall be avoided.

**1.98. TRUSTEES**

- 1.98.1. 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 ITTF Council for the purposes of the ITTF.
- 1.98.2. The Secretary General shall be Trustee for the purpose of registration and management in the city of Lausanne, the Chamber of Commerce of the Canton de Vaud, and the Swiss Federal Administration, with joint power of signature with any of the individuals listed in 1.98.1
- 1.98.3. 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 ITTF Council may from time to time direct.
- 1.98.4. 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.
- 1.98.5. The Trustees and their estates and effects shall be fully indemnified by the ITTF against all personal risk and expense arising due to their appointment as Trustees, subject to the Statutes.
- 1.98.6. The Trustees shall cease to act in such capacity upon ceasing to hold office as President, Deputy President, Executive Vice-President, or Secretary General.
- 1.98.7. A set of minutes signed by the President and a member of the management staff shall be conclusive evidence of a decision of any ITTF body.

*Division 3: Dissolution***1.99. DISSOLUTION**

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

## **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 plastic 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 pimpled rubber, with pimples outwards having a total thickness including adhesive of less than 2.05mm, or sandwich rubber, with pimples inwards or outwards, having a total thickness including adhesive of less than 4.05mm, subject to any margin of tolerance specified in the relevant technical equipment document.
- 2.4.3.1 *Ordinary pimpled 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 pimpled rubber, the thickness of the pimpled rubber not being more than 2.0mm.
- 2.4.4 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. Material suitable to shape a handle for holding the racket may be added on.
- 2.4.5 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.
- 2.4.6 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, black on one side, and of a bright colour clearly distinguishable from black and from the colour of the ball 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 as well as helpful or protective fittings 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.

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- 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;

2.9.1.2 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 more than once 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.
- 2.13.5 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 Executive Board shall have power to authorise the organiser of an open tournament to adopt temporary law variations.
- 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 ITTF Council 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 Board 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 ITTF Council; practical instructions and implementation procedures may be issued as Handbooks or Guides by the Executive Board. 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 ITTF Council by the Equipment Committee; an approval or authorisation may be suspended by the Executive Board at any time and subsequently the approval or authorisation may be withdrawn by the ITTF Council.
- 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 pimpled 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.
- 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 shall wear shirt and shorts or skirt of types authorised by their Association. Players competing in these competitions shall have the player's name on the back of the shirt.

#### **3.2.3 Playing Conditions**

- 3.2.3.1 The playing space shall be of any shape, as long as the minimum size is defined by a rectangle not less than 14m long, 7m wide and 5m high, but the 4 corners may be covered by surrounds; for wheelchair events, the playing space may be reduced, but shall not be less than 8m long and 6m wide; for Masters events, the playing space may be reduced, but shall not be less than 10m long and 5m 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, which shall be a minimum of 50cm and a maximum of 100 cm in height, all of the same dark background colour, but corners may be left open.
- 3.2.3.3.1 If LEDs (Light emitting diodes) and similar devices are used on surrounds, these shall not be so bright as to disturb players during the match and shall not change when the ball is in play.
- 3.2.3.4 In World, Olympic and Paralympic titles events as well as in other major events, the light intensity should be at least 1800 Lux EV (vertical) and 2000

- Lux EH (horizontal) uniformly over the playing surface and playing area and at least 1000 Lux over tables in the warm-up and practice hall.
- 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 other ITTF 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 Board on recommendation of the Equipment Committee and Umpires and Referees Committee, to ensure that rackets abide by all ITTF regulations including, but not limited to, flatness, racket covering thickness, even thickness and continuity of layers, and presence of harmful or volatile substances.
- 3.2.4.2.2 Normally, the racket control test shall be carried out before the match. After-match tests shall only be conducted, where the racket was not submitted on time for a before-match test or for tests or inspections that could not be performed before the match.
- 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 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 Board 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 ITTF Tribunal 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; however, for competitions not explicitly organised for players under 18 years of age, the ITTF may allow advertisements or markings for non-distilled alcoholic drinks on equipment and fittings in or next to the playing area, provided the local law permits.
- 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 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.
  - 3.2.5.7 There may be 2 temporary 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 be a logo, wordmark or other icons.
  - 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>; if such numbers are not used there may be additional temporary advertisements for tournament sponsors within a total area of 100 cm<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 Youth competitions, shall be subject to in-competition testing by the ITTF, the player's Member Association and any other Anti-Doping Organisation responsible for testing at a competition in which they participate.

### **3.2.7 Table Tennis Review**

3.2.7.1 An electronic table tennis review system (TTR) may be used, and it will come into effect when an appeal is made by a player against a decision of a responsible match official on a question of fact. TTR will provide a replay of the circumstances leading to a decision subject to a review, with the final decision to the appeal made by a TTR official.

## **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, Stroke Counter and Table Tennis Review (TTR) official**

- 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;
  - 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 When Table Tennis Review (TTR) is in operation, a decision made by either the umpire or assistant umpire may be overruled by the TTR official.
- 3.3.2.9 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 When Table Tennis Review (TTR) is in operation, an appeal may be made to the TTR official against a decision of a responsible match official on a question of fact, and the decision of the TTR official shall be final.
- 3.3.3.4 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.
- 3.3.3.5 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.
- 3.3.3.6 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.
- 3.3.3.7 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.
- 3.3.3.8 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 ITTF Council 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.
  - 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 a team 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 team 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.
- 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 the ITTF Integrity Unit.
- 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 The ITTF Integrity Unit may take further action for any serious, repeated or continuous violation of any provision under Article 3.5.2 and seek an imposition of one or more sanctions pursuant to the ITTF Integrity Regulations or the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

### **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 Member Association is also expected to discipline this person.
- 3.5.3.4 The ITTF Integrity Unit may take further action for any serious, repeated or continuous violation of any provision under Article 3.5.3 and seek an imposition of one or more sanctions pursuant to the ITTF Integrity Regulations or the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

## **3.6 DRAW FOR KNOCKOUT 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;
  - 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 of a tournament are from Associations belonging to the same Continental Federation the latest list published by that Federation shall take precedence, unless otherwise specified in the prospectus;
  - 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 according to 3.6.3.3 and 3.6.3.4 unless otherwise stated in the specific regulations for such particular event or group of events.

- 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 Remaining entries shall be separated only in groups and in the first round of the qualification draw for knockouts and the main draw, but not in further rounds.
- 3.6.3.5 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.
- 3.6.3.6 A mixed doubles pair consisting of players from different Associations shall be considered a pair of the Association to which the man belongs.
- 3.6.3.7 Alternatively, any doubles pair consisting of players from different Associations may be considered a pair of both of these Associations.
- 3.6.3.8 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 3.6.3.3-4.

#### **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 Except for Masters events, 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 Member 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 Member 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 events shall be under 19 and under 15 in age on 31st December immediately before the calendar year in which the competition takes place. The following age limits are recommended for corresponding events in other youth competitions: U21, U19, U17, U15, U13, U11.

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.

- 3.7.5.3 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 (1 doubles and 4 singles).

- 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) doubles B & C v Y & Z
    - 2) A v X
    - 3) C v Z

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

3.7.7.4 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 the organising Association shall publish details of the results via electronic means.

**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, or as otherwise specified in event hosting agreements.
- 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 (1.3.1) 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 authority (1.33) 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 Pursuant to Article 1.61.1.13, the Executive Board may authorise any Athlete to compete in events organised, authorised, or recognised by the ITTF, WTT and the ITTF Foundation, Olympic and Paralympic Games, and other Multi-Sport Events, as agreed with the respective organisations under the ITTF name, flag, and/or any other neutral identifier for special reasons, such as refugee status of the Athlete, the suspension of the related Association, etc., subject to such conditions and in such manner as the Executive Board deems fit.
- 3.8.8 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.
- 3.8.9 Any appeal on a question of eligibility shall be referred to an Eligibility Commission, consisting of the Executive Board, 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 term "World Championships", refers to all the stages of the World Championships; Regional (where applicable for each Continent), Continental, Inter-continental (only applicable for team events) and Finals.
- 4.1.1.2 The closing date for applications to stage Championships shall be specified by the Executive Board and notified to all Associations, giving at least 6 months' notice.
- 4.1.1.3 All applications for the Championships Finals shall be considered by the Executive Board and shall be submitted to the AGM, together with the report of the Selection Committee, if applicable.
- 4.1.1.4 Where necessary, the AGM or the Executive Board 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 Finals, the option may be revoked by a 2/3 majority vote at an AGM prior to the Championships; between AGMs the ITTF Council shall have power to transfer the Championships Finals 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 ITTF Council.
- 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 Board, the ITTF Council and the Continental Council, full members of committees and the Technical and Gender Commissioners;

- 4.1.2.2.4 up to 3 Doping Control Supervisors appointed by the ITTF;
  - 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;
    - 4.1.2.10.3 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 ITTF Council for the Championships.
  - 4.1.2.11 During the Championships Organisers shall make available promptly to members of the ITTF Executive Board, ITTF Council 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) shall be eligible to qualify and enter teams or individual players in the Championships Finals provided that the Association has entered players or teams in the earlier stages. The only non-mandatory event is the Regional Stage, and according to each Continent.
- 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.
- 4.1.3.5 Any Athlete who is authorised by the Executive Board and meets the terms stipulated under Article 3.8.7 shall be deemed eligible to compete in the WTTC Finals, subject to Article 4.1 and any other applicable provisions under the Statutes and related documents.
- 4.1.3.6 The eligibility regulations apply to all stages of the World Championships, Regional, Continental, Inter-continental and Finals.  
Exceptionally, if the Regional or Continental stages have their own eligibility requirements, these may continue in force until before the 2024 World Championships start, but players not fulfilling the Championships eligibility will not be eligible to continue in the following stages (Inter-continental and Finals).

### **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 ITTF Council 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 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 be a statement itself, 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.
- 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 Rules and the Umpires' and Referees' Committee, 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 they may nominate to attend in their place another member of their Committee, who shall have the right to speak and to vote; if the Technical Commissioner is unable to attend a meeting of the Jury, he may nominate a substitute, 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 Finals shall include men's team and women's team events; while in odd numbered years the Championships Finals 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

ITTF Council, on the recommendation of the Technical Commissioner and the Competition Department.

- 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:
  - 4.1.9.5.1 128 places in the first round of a singles and not more than 64 places in the first round of a men's, women's and mixed doubles event, unless otherwise authorised by the Executive Board.
  - 4.1.9.5.2 40 places in each of the men's and women's team events, unless otherwise authorised by the Executive Board.
- 4.1.9.6 Each Association shall be entitled to qualify maximum 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 3 men and 3 women in each singles event, 4 players for men's doubles, 4 players for women's doubles and 2 men and 2 women for mixed doubles regardless of ranking. For Singles if by ranking they are entitled for additional 1 or 2 players then 4.1.9.6 applies.
- 4.1.9.7 Players of the same Association shall be separated only 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:
  - 4.1.13.3.1 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 YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **4.2.1 Authority for Organisation**

- 4.2.1.1 The title "World Youth Championships", referred to in this Section as "Championships", shall be bestowed by the ITTF Council 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 Board 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 Board 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 Board 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 ITTF Council 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 Youth Championships, as modified or supplemented by any directives authorised by the ITTF Council.

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 Board and the Junior Commissioner;

4.2.2.2.5 up to 2 Doping Control Supervisors appointed by the ITTF;

4.2.2.2.6 up to 2 ITTF Committee or Commission Chairs nominated by the Executive Board;

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;
  - 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 ITTF Council for the Championships.
- 4.2.2.9 During the Championships Organisers shall make available promptly to members of the ITTF Executive Board, ITTF Council 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 under 19 and under 15 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 Youth Championships except that a player having participated already in World Junior/Youth Championships shall retain his or her eligibility.
- 4.2.3.7 Any Athlete who is authorised by the Executive Board and meets the terms stipulated under Article 3.8.7 shall be deemed eligible to compete in the WYC, subject to Article 4.2 and any other applicable provisions under the Statutes and related documents.

**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 ITTF Council 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 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.
- 4.2.5.5 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.
- 4.2.9.2 The system of play and the system of qualification in the team and individual events, shall be decided by the ITTF Council, on the recommendation of the Junior Commissioner, Technical Commissioner, and the Competition Department, 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 Board 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.

4.3.6.4 Any Athlete who is authorised by the Executive Board and meets the terms stipulated under Article 3.8.7 shall be deemed eligible to compete in the World Cup, subject to Article 4.3 and any other applicable provisions under the Statutes and related documents.

#### **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 MIXED TEAM CUP**

#### **4.4.1 Composition**

- 4.4.1.1 A World Mixed Team Cup shall be staged on an annual basis or 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.
- 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 Board 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.

4.4.6.4 Any Athlete who is authorised by the Executive Board and meets the terms stipulated under Article 3.8.7 shall be deemed eligible to compete in the World Team Cup, subject to Article 4.4 and any other applicable provisions under the Statutes and related documents.

**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.
- 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.
  - 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 Any Athlete authorised by the Executive Board and meets the terms stipulated under Article 3.8.7 shall be deemed eligible to compete in the Olympic Games, subject to Article 4.5 and any other applicable provisions under the Statutes, Olympic Charter, and related documents.
- 4.5.1.6 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, mixed doubles, 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 ITTF Council, on the recommendation of the Continental Council, and all Associations shall be notified in accordance with the schedule set by the IOC.
- 4.5.2.3 Players of the same Association shall be separated according to 3.6.3.1 and 3.6.3.3 only in preliminary rounds but not in further rounds.

### **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.
- 4.6.1.4 A player having participated already in the Paralympic Games shall retain his or her eligibility.
- 4.6.1.5 Any Athlete who is authorised by the Executive Board and meets the terms stipulated under Article 3.8.7 shall be deemed eligible to compete in the Paralympic Games, subject to Article 4.6 and any other applicable provisions under the Statutes, Olympic Charter, and related documents.
- 4.6.1.6 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 Continental Council.
- 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 ITTF Council, on the recommendation of the Continental Council, 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 Board 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 Board and notified to all Associations, giving at least 6 months' notice.
- 4.7.1.3 All applications shall be considered by the Executive Board 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 Board 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 Board 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 ITTF Council.

- 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 Board 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.
- 4.7.2.9 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 ITTF Council 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 Board, 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 (1.14.3) 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.
- 4.7.3.5 Any Athlete who is authorised by the Executive Board and meets the terms stipulated under Article 3.8.7 shall be deemed eligible to compete in the WPTTC, subject to Article 4.7 and any other applicable provisions under the Statutes and related documents.

#### **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 ITTF Council 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.

## **4.8 WORLD MASTER CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **4.8.1 Authority for Organisation**

- 4.8.1.1. The title "World Master Championships", referred to in this Section as "Championships", shall be bestowed by the ITTF Council on the championship events at a tournament organised by an Association entrusted with the task.
- 4.8.1.2. The Championship can be organised by other bodies than Associations (area associations, clubs, etc.) if they have the necessary facilities but, an organization outside of the Association must have its sanction. The Association will be the contract partner of the ITTF.
- 4.8.1.3. The closing date for applications to stage Championships shall be specified by the Executive Board and notified to all Associations, giving at least 6 months' notice.
- 4.8.1.4. All applications shall be considered by the Executive Board and shall be submitted to the ITTF Council, together with the report of the Selection Committee, if applicable, on venues for the occasion in question.
- 4.8.1.5. Where necessary, the ITTF Council or the Executive Board 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.
- 4.8.1.6. 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 majority vote at a ITTF Council meeting prior to the Championships; between ITTF Council meetings the Executive Board shall have power to transfer the Championships or to take any other appropriate action.

### **4.8.2. Responsibilities of Organisers**

- 4.8.2.1. 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 ITTF Council.
- 4.8.2.2. Expenses for two inspection visits – usually within 6 months after the presentations and again within 6 months before the start of the event – by two (2) ITTF Competition Department members (altogether travel expenses and hospitality costs for four persons) are to be met by the organisers. Should any further visits be necessary, details will be discussed and agreed upon with the organisers.

- 4.8.2.3 Organisers shall provide free internal transport (between the place of accommodation and the playing venue and between the hotel and the nearest international airport upon arrival and departure) and accommodation and meals from lunch on the day before the Championships begun until breakfast on the day after the Championships end for
- 4.8.2.3.1 ten (10) participants (preferably 5 men and 5 women) nominated by the Executive Board after consultation with the Masters Committee and the Swaythling Club International (SCI);
- 4.8.2.3.2 three (3) persons (mainly the Computer Experts and the ITTF Competition Manager) starting five (5) days prior to the event for organisational purposes;
- 4.8.2.3.3 seven (7) persons to be nominated by the SCI Executive Committee, starting three (3) days prior to the event;
- 4.8.2.3.4 all members of the ITTF Executive Board and the ITTF Masters Committee Chair;
- 4.8.2.3.5 International umpires and referees from other Associations invited in accordance with the ITTF Directives for Match Officials at World Title Competitions; and
- 4.8.2.3.6 up to four (4) members of the ITTF staff.
- 4.8.2.4 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.
- 4.8.2.5 Organisers shall provide free first aid/medical duty at the playing venue for all participants. All the participants are responsible for their physical and mental fitness and they must have their own health insurance against illness, accidents and injuries for the duration of the Championships.
- 4.8.2.6 Organisers shall provide the ITTF and the SCI with offices at the venue of the Championships and place at their disposal translation, computers, internet access, telephone and duplicating facilities
- 4.8.2.7 Organisers shall publish a prospectus giving the main details of the organisation of the Championships, including
- 4.8.2.7.1 the dates and place of the Championships;
- 4.8.2.7.2 the categories and events to be held;
- 4.8.2.7.3 the equipment to be used;
- 4.8.2.7.4 the procedure for entry, the entry fees and the undertakings required;
- 4.8.2.7.5 the date and place of the draw;
- 4.8.2.7.6 the dates of Jury meetings and social activities;
- 4.8.2.7.7 the extent of hospitality for technical officials; and
- 4.8.2.7.8 any directives authorised by the ITTF Council for the Championships.
- 4.8.2.8 During the Championships organisers shall make available promptly and regular public display of all results, including point scores.
- 4.8.2.8.1 Immediately after the Championships, the organisers shall present the final standings of the medallists in all age categories to the ITTF,

- together with photos of all medal awards to the players during the winners' ceremony.
- 4.8.2.8.2 All results shall be published on the official website for the event and on the ITTF official website.

### **4.8.3 Eligibility**

- 4.8.3.1 All individuals who are older than 40 years of age or who will be 40 years of age in the year of the Championships are eligible to participate.
- 4.8.3.2 Each competitor is allowed to participate in one singles and one doubles event. In the doubles, not necessarily in one's own age category but always in the category of the younger player in the partnership.
- 4.8.3.3 Any Athlete who is authorised by the Executive Board and meets the terms stipulated under Article 3.8.7 shall be deemed eligible to compete in the WVC, subject to Article 4.8 and any other applicable provisions under the Statutes and related documents.

### **4.8.4 Entry Fees**

- 4.8.4.1 The entry fee and the accompanying persons fee shall be decided by the ITTF Executive Board in conjunction with the selected Organiser.
- 4.8.4.2 No entry fee will be requested to the 10 invited participants listed in 4.8.2.3.1.
- 4.8.4.3 The entry fees shall be paid to the Organisers at the time of the entry.

### **4.8.5 Qualification**

- 4.8.5.1 The Championships will be held in two stages: the qualifying competition and the competition proper. An optional consolation event will be held for players not qualified for the competition proper.
- 4.8.5.2 The qualifying competition will be played on the first days of the Championships, in groups. The first and second placed in each group will qualify for the competition proper. The others will have the option to play the consolation event.
- 4.8.5.3 If fewer than 6 players or pairs are entered in one age category the Competition Manager may decide to play a "round robin" in only one group. The exact system will be published before the start of the competition.
- 4.8.5.4 The competition proper and the consolation event will be played according to the knock-out system.

### **4.8.6 Entry Obligations**

- 4.8.6.1 The on-line entry form shall contain statements committing the participants to the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules, requesting the acceptance of the ITTF Racket Control Regulations and confirming their availability to compete against all other individuals participating at the Championships.
- 4.8.6.2 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 entered, and they shall not withdraw except for reasons of illness or injury.

- 4.8.6.3 By entering the event, players agree to abide by all ITTF rules and regulations.

All entered individual players agree to be under the auspices of the ITTF and its agents in all matters concerning television coverage, video, internet web casting, motion picture coverage, and photographic coverage of any kind. Participants release all rights, or rights held by their agents or sponsors, in all matters relating to television and web casting coverage, video and motion picture coverage, and photographic coverage of any kind. A participant's refusal of above listed coverage may be subject to suspension or dismissal from the competition.

### **4.8.7 Jury**

- 4.8.7.1 The Jury shall consist of 3 representatives: the chair of the ITTF Masters Committee, as chair of the Jury, a representative of the Organising Committee and a representative of the ITTF Competition Department.
- 4.8.7.2 The referee or his/her deputy will be invited to attend the Jury meetings with the right to speak but not to vote.
- 4.8.7.3 The Jury shall have the power to decide any question of appeal within the jurisdiction of a tournament management committee.
- 4.8.7.4 Appeals can be lodged against the decision of the referees only and they have to be submitted in writing immediately after the completion of the match.
- 4.8.7.5 No member of the Jury can take part in the tournament as a player.

### **4.8.8 Events**

- 4.8.8.1 The Championships shall include at least men's and women's singles and men's and women's doubles events.
- 4.8.8.2 Each event shall have the following categories of age:
- 40 to 44 years (+40),
  - 45 to 49 years (+45),
  - 50 to 54 years (+50),
  - 55 to 59 years (+55),
  - 60 to 64 years (+60),
  - 65 to 69 years (+65),
  - 70 to 74 years (+70),
  - 75 to 79 years (+75),
  - 80 to 84 years (+80),
  - 85 to 89 years (+85)
  - 90 and over (+90)

4.8.8.3 If fewer than four players enter any one event, the Competition Manager has the right to either cancel the event or introduce a reasonable alternative for all concerned. Players have to be informed regarding any alterations/cancellations as soon as possible.

**4.8.9      Default**

4.8.9.1 Each participant is obliged to compete at the table and time set by the competition schedule.

4.8.9.2 Each participant is responsible for keeping her/himself informed when and where to play.

**4.8.10     Doping Control**

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

**4.8.11     Awards and Presentations**

4.8.11.1 In all the events the winners shall receive gold medals, the losing finalists silver medals and the losers of the semi-finals bronze medals.

4.8.11.2 If there is only one group in the qualifying competition of an age category and no matches scheduled for the competition proper, medals will be presented to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed players/pairs of the respective group, according to the final standing of the group.

4.8.11.3 Winners and runners-up of the consolation event shall receive a small souvenir and a certificate with their names inscribed thereon.

**4.8.12     Commercial Rights**

4.8.12.1 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:

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

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

4.8.12.1.3 ticketing, hospitality and other concession rights; and

4.8.12.1.4 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.

4.8.12.2 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 parties from time to time.

4.8.12.3 All the participants at the Championships (officials, players, delegates and other affiliates) shall:

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

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- 4.8.12.3.1 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
- 4.8.12.3.2 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 a participant and no third party shall be entitled to do so.

# 5 ANTI-DOPING RULES

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## INTRODUCTION

### Preface

These Anti-Doping Rules are adopted and implemented in accordance with ITTF's responsibilities under the *Code*, and in furtherance of ITTF's continuing efforts to eradicate doping in sport.

These Anti-Doping Rules are sport rules governing the conditions under which sport is played. Aimed at enforcing anti-doping rules in a global and harmonized manner, they are distinct in nature from criminal and civil laws. They are not intended to be subject to or limited by any national requirements and legal standards applicable to criminal or civil proceedings, although they are intended to be applied in a manner which respects the principles of proportionality and human rights. 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, which implement 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 and ensure fair sport.

As provided in the *Code*, ITTF shall be responsible for conducting all aspects of *Doping Control*. Any aspect of *Doping Control* or anti-doping *Education* may be delegated by ITTF to a *Delegated Third Party*, such as the International Testing Agency (ITA), however, ITTF shall require the *Delegated Third Party* to perform such aspects in compliance with the *Code*, *International Standards*, and these Anti-Doping Rules. ITTF has delegated its adjudication responsibilities and parts of the *Results Management* to the CAS Anti-Doping Division.

When ITTF has delegated its responsibilities to implement part or all of *Doping Control* to the ITA or to other *Delegated Third Party*, any reference to ITTF in these Rules should be intended as a reference to the ITA or to the other *Delegated Third Party*, where applicable and within the context of the aforementioned delegation. ITTF shall always remain fully responsible for ensuring that any delegated aspects are performed in compliance with the *Code*.

Italicized terms in these Anti-Doping Rules are defined terms in Appendix 1.

Unless otherwise specified, references to Articles are references to Articles of these Anti-Doping Rules.

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

Anti-doping programs are founded on the intrinsic value of sport. This intrinsic value is often referred to as "the spirit of sport": the ethical pursuit of human excellence through the dedicated perfection of each Athlete's natural talents.

Anti-doping programs seek to protect the health of Athletes and to provide the opportunity for Athletes to pursue human excellence without the Use of *Prohibited Substances* and Methods.

Anti-doping programs seek to maintain the integrity of sport in terms of respect for rules, other competitors, fair competition, a level playing field, and the value of clean sport to the world.

The spirit of sport is the celebration of the human spirit, body and mind. It is the essence of Olympism and is reflected in the values we find in and through sport, including:

- Health
- Ethics, fair play and honesty
- Athletes' rights as set forth in the *Code*
- 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

The spirit of sport is expressed in how we play true.

Doping is fundamentally contrary to the spirit of sport.

### **Scope of these Anti-Doping Rules**

These Anti-Doping Rules shall apply to:

- (a) ITTF, including its board members, directors, officers and specified employees, and Delegated Third Parties and their employees, who are involved in any aspect of *Doping Control*;
- (b) Continental and Regional Federations recognized by the ITTF, including their including its board members, directors, officers and specified employees, and Delegated Third Parties and their employees, who are involved in any aspect of *Doping Control*;
- (c) each of its *Member Associations*, including their board members, directors, officers and specified employees, and Delegated Third Parties and their employees, who are involved in any aspect of *Doping Control*;
- (d) the following Athletes, *Athlete Support Personnel* and other Persons:
  - i. all Athletes and *Athlete Support Personnel* who are members of ITTF, or of any *Member Association*, or of any member or affiliate organization of any *Member Association* (including any clubs, teams, associations, or leagues);
  - ii. all Athletes and *Athlete Support Personnel* who participate in such capacity in *Events*, *Competitions* and other activities organized, convened, authorized or recognized by ITTF, or any *Member Association*, or by any member or affiliate organization of any *Member Association* (including any clubs, teams, associations, or leagues), wherever held;
  - iii. any other Athlete or *Athlete Support Personnel* or other Person who, by virtue of an accreditation, a license or other contractual arrangement, or otherwise, is subject to the authority of ITTF, or of any *Member Association*, or of any

- member or affiliate organization of any *Member Association* (including any clubs, teams, associations, or leagues), for purposes of anti-doping; and
- iv. Athletes who are not regular members of ITTF or of one of its *Member Associations* but who want to be eligible to compete in a particular *International Event*.

Each of the abovementioned Persons is deemed, as a condition of his or her participation or involvement in the sport, to have agreed to and be bound by these Anti-Doping Rules, and to have submitted to the authority of ITTF to enforce these Anti-Doping Rules, including any *Consequences* for the breach thereof, 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<sup>1</sup>.

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 the purposes of these Anti-Doping Rules, and, therefore, the specific provisions in these Anti-Doping Rules applicable to *International-Level Athletes* (e.g., *Testing, TUEs, whereabouts, and Results Management*) shall apply to such Athletes:

- (a) For each year, the first 250 Men and 200 Women in the January General List of ITTF World Ranking, available at ranking.ittf.com
- (b) For each year, the first 8 Men and 8 Women in each Class in the January Para Table Tennis rating, available on ipttc.org/rating.
- (c) All Athletes included in the ITTF *Registered Testing Pool* and any Testing Pool established by the ITTF.
- (d) Any other Athletes who, at any moment of the year, reach the top 100 in the General World Ranking, or the top 4 in the Para Table Tennis Ranking. The aforesaid rankings are published on ITTF's website.

## **ARTICLE 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 5.2.11 of these Anti-Doping Rules.

## **ARTICLE 5.2 ANTI-DOPING RULE VIOLATIONS**

The purpose of Article 5.2 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 have been violated.

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<sup>1</sup> [Comment: Where the Code requires a Person other than an Athlete or Athlete Support Person to be bound by the Code, such Person would of course not be subject to Sample collection or Testing, and would not be subject to an anti-doping rule violation under the Code for Use or Possession of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method. Rather, such Person would only be subject to discipline for a violation of Code Articles 2.5 (Tampering), 2.7 (Trafficking), 2.8 (Administration), 2.9 (Complicity), 2.10 (Prohibited Association) and 2.11 (Retaliation). Furthermore, such Person would be subject to the additional roles and responsibilities according to Code Article 21.3. Also, the obligation to require an employee to be bound by the Code is subject to applicable law.]

ITTF shall ensure that, as per Article 5.19 of these Anti-Doping Rules, any arrangements with their board members, directors, officers, and specified employees, as well as with the Delegated Third Parties and their employees – either employment, contractual or otherwise – have explicit provisions incorporated according to which such Persons are bound by, agree to comply with these Anti-Doping Rules, and agree on the ITTF's authority to solve the anti-doping cases.]

*Athletes or 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 Presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* in an *Athlete's Sample*
- 5.2.1.1 It is the *Athletes'* personal duty to ensure that no *Prohibited Substance* enters their bodies. *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 rule violation under Article 5.2.1.<sup>2</sup>
- 5.2.1.2 Sufficient proof of an anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.2.1 is established by any 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 A or B Sample* is split into two (2) parts and the analysis of the confirmation part of the split *Sample* confirms the presence of the *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* found in the first part of the split *Sample* or the *Athlete* waives analysis of the confirmation part of the split *Sample*.<sup>3</sup>
- 5.2.1.3 Excepting those substances for which a *Decision Limit* is specifically identified in the *Prohibited List* or a *Technical Document*, the presence of any reported 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*, *International Standards* or *Technical Documents* may establish special criteria for reporting or the evaluation of certain *Prohibited Substances*.
- 5.2.2 *Use* or *Attempted Use* by an *Athlete* of a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method*<sup>4</sup>
- 5.2.2.1 It is the *Athletes'* personal duty to ensure that no *Prohibited Substance* enters their bodies and that no *Prohibited Method* is *Used*. Accordingly, it is not

<sup>2</sup> [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.]

<sup>3</sup> [Comment to Article 5.2.1.2: The Anti-Doping Organization with Results Management responsibility may, at its discretion, choose to have the B Sample analysed even if the Athlete does not request the analysis of the B Sample.]

<sup>4</sup> [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, including data collected as part of the Athlete Biological Passport, 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 Organization provides a satisfactory explanation for the lack of confirmation in the other Sample.]

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.<sup>5</sup>

#### 5.2.3 Evading, Refusing or Failing to Submit to Sample Collection by an Athlete

*Evading Sample collection; or refusing or failing to submit to Sample collection without compelling justification after notification by a duly authorized Person.*<sup>6</sup>

#### 5.2.4 Whereabouts Failures by an Athlete

Any combination of three (3) missed tests and/or filing failures, as defined in the *International Standard for Results Management*, within a twelve (12) month period by an *Athlete* in a *Registered Testing Pool*.

- 5.2.5 *Tampering* or *Attempted Tampering* with any Part of *Doping Control* by an *Athlete* or *Other Person*

- 5.2.6 *Possession* of a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method* by an *Athlete* or *Athlete Support Person*

- 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 an *Athlete Support Person In-Competition* of any *Prohibited Substance* or any *Prohibited Method*, or *Possession* by an *Athlete Support Person 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 Person* establishes that the *Possession* is consistent with a *TUE* granted to an *Athlete* in accordance with Article 5.4.4 or other acceptable justification.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> [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.]

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* is a violation of Article 5.2.1 regardless of when that substance might have been administered.)]

<sup>6</sup> [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.]

<sup>7</sup> [Comment to Articles 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 5.2.6.1 and 5.2.6.2: Acceptable justification may include, for example, (a) an Athlete or a team doctor carrying *Prohibited Substances* or *Prohibited Methods* for dealing with acute and emergency situations (e.g., an epinephrine auto-injector), or

- 5.2.7 *Trafficking or Attempted Trafficking in any Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method by an Athlete or Other Person*
- 5.2.8 *Administration or Attempted Administration by an Athlete or Other Person 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 or Attempted Complicity by an Athlete or Other Person*

Assisting, encouraging, aiding, abetting, conspiring, covering up or any other type of intentional complicity or *Attempted* complicity involving an anti-doping rule violation, *Attempted* anti-doping rule violation or violation of Article 5.10.14.1 by another Person.<sup>8</sup>

#### 5.2.10 Prohibited Association by an Athlete or Other Person

- 5.2.10.1 Association by an Athlete or other Person subject to the authority of an Anti-Doping Organization in a professional or sport-related capacity with any Athlete Support Person who:
  - 5.2.10.1.1 If subject to the authority of an Anti-Doping Organization, is serving a period of *Ineligibility*; or
  - 5.2.10.1.2 If not subject to the authority of an Anti-Doping Organization 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 (6) years from the criminal, professional or disciplinary decision or the duration of the criminal, disciplinary or professional sanction imposed; or
  - 5.2.10.1.3 Is serving as a front or intermediary for an individual described in Article 5.2.10.1.1 or 5.2.10.1.2.
- 5.2.10.2 To establish a violation of Article 5.2.10, an Anti-Doping Organization must establish that the Athlete or other Person knew of the Athlete Support Person's disqualifying status.

The burden shall be on the Athlete or other Person to establish that any association with an Athlete Support Person described in Article 5.2.10.1.1 or 5.2.10.1.2 is not in a professional or sport-related capacity and/or that such association could not have been reasonably avoided.

*Anti-Doping Organizations* that are aware of Athlete Support Personnel who meet the criteria described in Article 5.2.10.1.1, 5.2.10.1.2, or 5.2.10.1.3 shall submit that information to WADA.<sup>9</sup>

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(b) an Athlete Possessing a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method for therapeutic reasons shortly prior to applying for and receiving a determination on a TUE.]

<sup>8</sup> [Comment to Article 5.2.9: Complicity or Attempted Complicity may include either physical or psychological assistance.]

<sup>9</sup> [Comment to Article 5.2.10: 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. This also prohibits association with any other Athlete who is acting as a coach or Athlete Support Person while serving a period of Ineligibility. 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

**5.2.11 Acts by an Athlete or Other Person to Discourage or Retaliate Against Reporting to Authorities**

Where such conduct does not otherwise constitute a violation of Article 5.2.5:

- 5.2.11.1 Any act which threatens or seeks to intimidate another Person with the intent of discouraging the Person from the good-faith reporting of information that relates to an alleged anti-doping rule violation or alleged non-compliance with the Code to WADA, an Anti-Doping Organization, law enforcement, regulatory or professional disciplinary body, hearing body or Person conducting an investigation for WADA or an Anti-Doping Organization.
- 5.2.11.2 Retaliation against a Person who, in good faith, has provided evidence or information that relates to an alleged anti-doping rule violation or alleged non-compliance with the Code to WADA, an Anti-Doping Organization, law enforcement, regulatory or professional disciplinary body, hearing body or Person conducting an investigation for WADA or an Anti-Doping Organization.

For purposes of Article 5.2.11, retaliation, threatening and intimidation include an act taken against such Person either because the act lacks a good faith basis or is a disproportionate response.<sup>10</sup>

## **ARTICLE 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 Anti-Doping 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, except as provided in Articles 5.3.2.2 and 5.3.2.3, the standard of proof shall be by a balance of probability.<sup>11</sup>

### **5.3.2 Methods of Establishing Facts and Presumptions**

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*analysis; or allowing the Athlete Support Person to serve as an agent or representative. Prohibited association need not involve any form of compensation.*

*While Article 5.2.10 does not require the Anti-Doping Organization to notify the Athlete or other Person about the Athlete Support Person's disqualifying status, such notice, if provided, would be important evidence to establish that the Athlete or other Person knew about the disqualifying status of the Athlete Support Person.]*

<sup>10</sup> *[Comment to Article 5.2.11.2: This Article is intended to protect Persons who make good faith reports, and does not protect Persons who knowingly make false reports.]*

*[Comment to Article 5.2.11.2: Retaliation would include, for example, actions that threaten the physical or mental well-being or economic interests of the reporting Persons, their families or associates. Retaliation would not include an Anti-Doping Organization asserting in good faith an anti-doping rule violation against the reporting Person. For purposes of Article 5.2.11, a report is not made in good faith where the Person making the report knows the report to be false.]*

<sup>11</sup> *[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.]*

Facts related to anti-doping rule violations may be established by any reliable means, including admissions.<sup>12</sup> The following rules of proof shall be applicable in doping cases:

- 5.3.2.1 Analytical methods or *Decision Limits* approved by WADA after consultation within the relevant scientific community or which have been the subject of peer review are presumed to be scientifically valid. Any Athlete or other Person seeking to challenge whether the conditions for such presumption have been met or 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. The initial hearing body, appellate body or CAS, on its own initiative, may also inform WADA of any such challenge. Within ten (10) days of WADA's receipt of such notice and the case file related to such challenge, WADA shall also have the right to intervene as a party, appear as amicus curiae or otherwise provide evidence in such proceeding. In cases before CAS, at WADA's request, the CAS panel shall appoint an appropriate scientific expert to assist the panel in its evaluation of the challenge.<sup>13</sup>
- 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*.<sup>14</sup>
- 5.3.2.3 Departures from any other *International Standard* or other anti-doping rule or policy set forth in the Code or these Anti-Doping Rules shall not invalidate analytical results or other evidence of an anti-doping rule violation, and shall not constitute a defense to an anti-doping rule violation;<sup>15</sup> provided, however,

<sup>12</sup> [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, such as data from the Athlete Biological Passport.]

<sup>13</sup> [Comment to Article 5.3.2.1: For certain Prohibited Substances, WADA may instruct WADA-accredited laboratories not to report Samples as an Adverse Analytical Finding if the estimated concentration of the Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers is below a Minimum Reporting Level. WADA's decision in determining that Minimum Reporting Level or in determining which Prohibited Substances should be subject to Minimum Reporting Levels shall not be subject to challenge. Further, the laboratory's estimated concentration of such Prohibited Substance in a Sample may only be an estimate. In no event shall the possibility that the exact concentration of the Prohibited Substance in the Sample may be below the Minimum Reporting Level constitute a defence to an anti-doping rule violation based on the presence of that Prohibited Substance in the Sample.]

<sup>14</sup> [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. Thus, once the Athlete or other Person establishes the departure by a balance of probability, the Athlete or other Person's burden on causation is the somewhat lower standard of proof – "could reasonably have caused." If the Athlete or other Person satisfies these standards, 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.]

<sup>15</sup> [Comment to Article 5.3.2.3: Departures from an International Standard or other rule unrelated to Sample collection or handling, Adverse Passport Finding, or Athlete notification relating to whereabouts failure or B Sample opening – e.g., the International Standards for Education, Data Privacy or TUEs – may result in compliance proceedings by WADA but are not a defence in an anti-doping rule violation proceeding and are not relevant on the issue of whether the Athlete committed an anti-doping rule violation.]

if the *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes that a departure from one of the specific *International Standard* provisions listed below could reasonably have caused an anti-doping rule violation based on an *Adverse Analytical Finding* or whereabouts failure, then ITTF shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding* or the whereabouts failure:

- (i) a departure from the *International Standard* for Testing and Investigations related to Sample collection or Sample handling which could reasonably have caused an anti-doping rule violation based on an *Adverse Analytical Finding*, in which case ITTF shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding*;
- (ii) a departure from the *International Standard* for *Results Management* or *International Standard* for Testing and Investigations related to an *Adverse Passport Finding* which could reasonably have caused an anti-doping rule violation, in which case ITTF shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the anti-doping rule violation;
- (iii) a departure from the *International Standard* for *Results Management* related to the requirement to provide notice to the *Athlete* of the B Sample opening which could reasonably have caused an anti-doping rule violation based on an *Adverse Analytical Finding*, in which case ITTF shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding*;<sup>16</sup>
- (iv) a departure from the *International Standard* for *Results Management* related to *Athlete* notification which could reasonably have caused an anti-doping rule violation based on a whereabouts failure, in which case ITTF shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the whereabouts failure.

- 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

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*Similarly, ITTF's violation of the document referenced in Article 20.7.7 of the Code shall not constitute a defence to an anti-doping rule violation.]*

<sup>16</sup> [Comment to Article 5.3.2.3 (iii): ITTF would meet its burden to establish that such departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding* by showing that, for example, the B Sample opening and analysis were observed by an independent witness and no irregularities were observed.]

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.

## **ARTICLE 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.

Unless provided otherwise in the *Prohibited List* or a revision, the *Prohibited List* and revisions shall go into effect under these Anti-Doping Rules three (3) months after publication by WADA, without requiring any further action by ITTF or its *Member Associations*. All *Athletes* and other *Persons* 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 *Athletes* and other *Persons* to familiarize themselves with the most up-to-date version of the *Prohibited List* and all revisions thereto.

ITTF shall provide its *Member Associations* with the most recent version of the *Prohibited List*. Each *Member Association* shall in turn ensure that its members, and the constituents of its members, are also provided with the most recent version of the *Prohibited List*.<sup>17</sup>

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

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

The *Prohibited List* shall identify those *Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods* which are prohibited as doping at all times (both *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition*) because of their potential to enhance performance in future *Competitions* or their masking potential, and those substances and methods which are prohibited *In-Competition* only. The *Prohibited List* may be expanded by WADA for a particular sport. *Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods* may be included in the *Prohibited List* by general category (e.g., anabolic agents) or by specific reference to a particular substance or method.<sup>18</sup>

#### **5.4.2.2 Specified Substances or Specified Methods**

For purposes of the application of Article 5.10, all *Prohibited Substances* shall be *Specified Substances* except as identified on the *Prohibited List*. No *Prohibited Method* shall be a *Specified Method* unless it is specifically identified as a *Specified Method* on the *Prohibited List*.<sup>19</sup>

#### **5.4.2.3 Substances of Abuse**

<sup>17</sup> [Comment to Article 5.4.1: The current *Prohibited List* is available on WADA's website at <https://www.wada-ama.org>. The *Prohibited List* will be revised and published on an expedited basis whenever the need arises. However, for the sake of predictability, a new *Prohibited List* will be published every year whether or not changes have been made.]

<sup>18</sup> [Comment to Article 5.4.2.1: Out-of-Competition Use of a substance which is only prohibited *In-Competition* is not an anti-doping rule violation unless an Adverse Analytical Finding for the substance or its Metabolites or Markers is reported for a Sample collected *In-Competition*.]

<sup>19</sup> [Comment to Article 5.4.2.2: The *Specified Substances* and *Methods* identified in Article 5.4.2.2 should not in any way be considered less important or less dangerous than other doping substances or methods. Rather, they are simply substances and methods which are more likely to have been consumed or used by an Athlete for a purpose other than the enhancement of sport performance.]

For purposes of applying Article 5.10, Substances of Abuse shall include those *Prohibited Substances* which are specifically identified as Substances of Abuse on the *Prohibited List* because they are frequently abused in society outside of the context of sport.

#### 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*, the classification of a substance as prohibited at all times or *In-Competition* only, the classification of a substance or method as a *Specified Substance*, *Specified Method* or *Substance of Abuse* is final and shall not be subject to any challenge by an *Athlete* or other *Person* including, but not limited to, any challenge 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 Exemptions ("TUEs")

- 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 *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 *TUE Applications*
- 5.4.4.2.1 Athletes who are not *International-Level Athletes* shall apply to their *National Anti-Doping Organization* for a *TUE*. If the *National Anti-Doping Organization* denies the application, the *Athlete* may appeal exclusively to the national-level appeal body described in Article 5.13.2.2.
- 5.4.4.2.2 Athletes who are *International-Level Athletes* shall apply to ITTF.
- 5.4.4.3 *TUE Recognition*<sup>20</sup>
- 5.4.4.3.1 Where the *Athlete* already has a *TUE* granted by their *National Anti-Doping Organization* pursuant to Article 4.4 of the *Code* for the substance or method in question and provided that such *TUE* has been reported in accordance with Article 5.5 of the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*, ITTF will automatically recognize it for purposes of international-level *Competition* without the need to review the relevant clinical information.
- 5.4.4.3.2 If ITTF chooses to test an *Athlete* who is not an *International-Level Athlete*, ITTF must recognize a *TUE* granted to that *Athlete* by their *National Anti-Doping Organization* unless the *Athlete* is required to apply for recognition of the *TUE* pursuant to Articles 5.8 and 7.0 of the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*.

<sup>20</sup> [Comment to Article 5.4.4.3: If ITTF refuses to recognize a *TUE* granted by a *National Anti-Doping Organization* 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.]

[Comment to Article 5.4.4.3: ITTF may agree with a *National Anti-Doping Organization* that the *National Anti-Doping Organization* will consider *TUE* applications on behalf of ITTF.]

5.4.4.4 *TUE Application Process*<sup>21</sup>

- 5.4.4.4.1 If the *Athlete* does not already have a *TUE* granted by their *National Anti-Doping Organization* for the substance or method in question, the *Athlete* must apply directly to ITTF.
- 5.4.4.4.2 An application to ITTF for grant or recognition of a *TUE* must be made as soon as possible, save where Articles 4.1 or 4.3 of the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions* apply. The application shall be made in accordance with Article 6 of the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions* as posted on ITTF's website.
- 5.4.4.4.3 ITTF shall establish a *Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee* ("TUEC") to consider applications for the grant or recognition of *TUEs* in accordance with Article 5.4.4.4.3(a)-(d) below:
- (a) The TUEC shall consist of a minimum of five (5) members with experience in the care and treatment of *Athletes* and sound knowledge of clinical, sports and exercise medicine.
  - (b) Before serving as a member of the TUEC, each member must sign a conflict of interest and confidentiality declaration. The appointed members shall not be employees of ITTF.
  - (c) When an application to ITTF for the grant or recognition of a *TUE* is made, three (3) members (which may include the Chair) shall be appointed to consider the application.
  - (d) Before considering a *TUE* application, each member shall disclose any circumstances likely to affect their impartiality with respect to the *Athlete* making the application. If a member is unwilling or unable to assess the *Athlete's TUE* application, for any reason, a replacement or a new TUEC shall be appointed (e.g., from the pool of members appointed under point (a) above). The Chair cannot serve as a member of the TUEC if there are any circumstances which are likely to affect the impartiality of the *TUE* decision.
- 5.4.4.4.4 The TUEC shall promptly evaluate and decide upon the application in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions* and usually (i.e., unless exceptional circumstances apply) within no more than twenty-one (21) days of receipt of a complete application. Where the application is made in a reasonable time prior to an *Event*, the TUEC must use its best endeavours to issue its decision before the start of the *Event*.
- 5.4.4.4.5 The TUEC decision shall be the final decision of ITTF and may be appealed in accordance with Article 5.4.4.7. ITTF TUEC decision shall be notified in writing to the *Athlete*, and to WADA and other Anti-Doping Organizations in

<sup>21</sup> [Comment to Article 5.4.4.4: The submission of falsified documents to a TUEC or ITTF, offering or accepting a bribe to a Person to perform or fail to perform an act, procuring false testimony from any witness, or committing any other fraudulent act or any other similar intentional interference or Attempted interference with any aspect of the TUE process shall result in a charge of Tampering or Attempted Tampering under Article 5.2.5.]

An Athlete should not assume that their application for the grant or recognition of 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.]

accordance with the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*. It shall also promptly be reported into ADAMS.

**5.4.4.4.6** If ITTF (or the *National Anti-Doping Organization*, where it has agreed to consider the application on behalf of ITTF) denies the *Athlete's* application, it must notify the *Athlete* promptly, with reasons. If ITTF grants the *Athlete's* application, it must notify not only the *Athlete* but also their *National Anti-Doping Organization*. If the *National Anti-Doping Organization* considers that the *TUE* granted by ITTF does not meet the criteria set out in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*, it has twenty-one (21) days from such notification to refer the matter to *WADA* for review in accordance with Article 5.4.4.7.

If the *National Anti-Doping Organization* refers the matter to *WADA* for review, 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 Organization* does not refer the matter to *WADA* for review, the *TUE* granted by ITTF becomes valid for national-level *Competition* as well when the twenty-one (21) day review deadline expires.

**5.4.4.5** Retroactive *TUE* Applications

If ITTF chooses to collect a Sample from an *Athlete* who is not an *International-Level Athlete* or a *National-Level Athlete*, and that *Athlete* is Using a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* for therapeutic reasons, ITTF must permit that *Athlete* to apply for a retroactive *TUE*.

**5.4.4.6** Expiration, Withdrawal or Reversal of a *TUE*

**5.4.4.6.1** 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) will be withdrawn if the *Athlete* does not promptly comply with any requirements or conditions imposed by the TUEC upon grant of the *TUE*; (c) may be withdrawn by the TUEC if it is subsequently determined that the criteria for grant of a *TUE* are not in fact met; or (d) may be reversed on review by *WADA* or on appeal.

**5.4.4.6.2** In such event, the *Athlete* shall not be subject to any *Consequences* based on their *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, withdrawal, or reversal of the *TUE*. The review pursuant to Article 5.1.1.1 of the *International Standard for Results Management* of an *Adverse Analytical Finding*, reported shortly after the *TUE* expiry, withdrawal or reversal, 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.

**5.4.4.7** Reviews and Appeals of *TUE* Decisions

**5.4.4.7.1** *WADA* must review ITTF's decision not to recognize a *TUE* granted by the *National Anti-Doping Organization* that is referred to *WADA* by the *Athlete* or the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organization*. In addition, *WADA* must review ITTF's decision to grant a *TUE* that is referred to *WADA* by the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organization*. *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.<sup>22</sup>

- 5.4.4.7.2 Any *TUE* decision by ITTF (or by a 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 Organization, exclusively to CAS.<sup>23</sup>
- 5.4.4.7.3 A decision by WADA to reverse a *TUE* decision may be appealed by the Athlete, the National Anti-Doping Organization and/or ITTF, exclusively to CAS.
- 5.4.4.7.4 A failure to render a decision within a reasonable time on a properly submitted application for grant/recognition of a *TUE* or for review of a *TUE* decision shall be considered a denial of the application thus triggering the applicable rights of review/appeal.

## **ARTICLE 5.5 TESTING AND INVESTIGATIONS**

### 5.5.1 Purpose of Testing and Investigations<sup>24</sup>

- 5.5.1.1 Testing and investigations may be undertaken for any anti-doping purpose. They shall be conducted in conformity with the provisions of the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* and the eventual specific protocols of ITTF supplementing that *International Standard*.
- 5.5.1.2 Testing shall be undertaken to obtain analytical evidence as to whether the Athlete has violated Article 5.2.1 (Presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* in an Athlete's Sample) or Article 5.2.2 (*Use* or *Attempted Use* by an Athlete of a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method*).

### 5.5.2 Authority to Test

- 5.5.2.1 Subject to the limitations for *Event Testing* set out in Article 5.3, ITTF shall have *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition* Testing authority over all Athletes specified in the Introduction to these Anti-Doping Rules (Section "Scope of these Anti-Doping Rules").
- 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.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>22</sup> [Comment to Article 5.4.4.7.1: WADA shall be entitled to charge a fee to cover the costs of: (a) any review it is required to conduct in accordance with Article 5.4.4.7; and (b) any review it chooses to conduct, where the decision being reviewed is reversed.]

<sup>23</sup> [Comment to Article 5.4.4.7.2: In such cases, the decision being appealed is the 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 time 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.]

<sup>24</sup> [Comment to Article 5.5.1: Where Testing is conducted for anti-doping purposes, the analytical results and data may be used for other legitimate purposes under the Anti-Doping Organization's rules. See, e.g., Comment to Article 23.2.2 of the Code.]

<sup>25</sup> [Comment to Article 5.5.2.2: ITTF may obtain additional authority to conduct Testing by means of bilateral or multilateral agreements with other Signatories. Unless the Athlete has identified a sixty (60) minute Testing window between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00

- 5.5.2.3 *WADA shall have In-Competition and Out-of-Competition Testing authority as set out in Article 20.7.10 of the Code.*
- 5.5.2.4 If ITTF delegates or contracts any part of Testing to a *National Anti-Doping Organization* directly or through a *Member Association*, that *National Anti-Doping Organization* may collect additional Samples or direct the laboratory to perform additional types of analysis at the *National Anti-Doping Organization'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 otherwise provided below, only a single organization shall have authority to conduct Testing at *Event Venues* during an *Event Period*. At *International Events*, ITTF (or other international organization which is the ruling body for an *Event*) shall have authority to conduct Testing. At *National Events*, the *National Anti-Doping Organization* of that country shall have authority to conduct Testing. At the request of ITTF (or other international organization which is the ruling body for an *Event*), any Testing during the *Event Period* outside of the *Event Venues* shall be coordinated with ITTF (or the relevant ruling body of the *Event*).
- 5.5.3.2 If an Anti-Doping Organization, which would otherwise have Testing authority but is not responsible for initiating and directing Testing at an *Event*, desires to conduct Testing of Athletes at the *Event Venues* during the *Event Period*, the Anti-Doping Organization shall first confer with ITTF (or other international organization which is the ruling body of the *Event*) to obtain permission to conduct and coordinate such Testing. If the Anti-Doping Organization is not satisfied with the response from ITTF (or other international organization which is the ruling body of the *Event*), the Anti-Doping Organization may, in accordance with the procedures described in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*, ask *WADA* for permission to conduct Testing and to determine how to coordinate such Testing. *WADA* shall not grant approval for such Testing before consulting with and informing ITTF (or other international organization which is the ruling body for the *Event*). *WADA*'s decision shall be final and not subject to appeal. Unless otherwise provided in the authorization 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 Organization initiating the test unless provided otherwise in the rules of the ruling body of the *Event*.<sup>26</sup>

### 5.5.4 Testing Requirements

- 5.5.4.1 ITTF shall conduct test distribution planning and Testing as required by the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.

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a.m., or has otherwise consented to Testing during that period, ITTF will not test an Athlete during that period unless it has a serious and specific suspicion that the Athlete may be engaged in doping. A challenge to whether ITTF had sufficient suspicion for Testing during this time period shall not be a defence to an anti-doping rule violation based on such test or attempted test.]

<sup>26</sup> [Comment to Article 5.5.3.2: Before giving approval to a National Anti-Doping Organization to initiate and conduct Testing at an International Event, WADA shall consult with the international organization which is the ruling body for the Event. Before giving approval to an International Federation to initiate and conduct Testing at a National Event, WADA shall consult with the National Anti-Doping Organization of the country where the Event takes place. The Anti-Doping Organization "initiating and directing Testing" may, if it chooses, enter into agreements with a Delegated Third Party to which it delegates responsibility for Sample collection or other aspects of the Doping Control process.]

- 5.5.4.2 Where reasonably feasible, Testing shall be coordinated through *ADAMS* in order to maximize the effectiveness of the combined Testing effort and to avoid unnecessary repetitive *Testing*.
- 5.5.5 *Athlete Whereabouts Information*
- 5.5.5.1 ITTF shall establish a *Registered Testing Pool* of those *Athletes* who are required to provide whereabouts information in the manner specified in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations* and who shall be subject to *Consequences* for Article 5.2.4 violations as provided in Article 5.10.3.2. ITTF shall coordinate with *National Anti-Doping Organizations* to identify such Athletes and to collect their whereabouts information.
- 5.5.5.2 ITTF shall make available through *ADAMS* a list which identifies those Athletes included in its *Registered Testing Pool* by name. ITTF shall regularly review and update as necessary its criteria for including Athletes in its *Registered Testing Pool*, and shall periodically (but not less than quarterly) review the list of Athletes in its *Registered Testing Pool* to ensure that each listed Athlete continues to meet the relevant criteria. Athletes shall be notified before they are included in the *Registered Testing Pool* and when they are removed from that pool. The notification shall contain the information set out in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.
- 5.5.5.3 Where an Athlete is included in an international *Registered Testing Pool* by ITTF and in a national *Registered Testing Pool* by their *National Anti-Doping Organization*, the *National Anti-Doping Organization* and ITTF shall agree between themselves which of them shall accept that Athlete's whereabouts filings; in no case shall an Athlete be required to make whereabouts filings to more than one of them.
- 5.5.5.4 In accordance with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*, each Athlete in the *Registered Testing Pool* shall do the following: (a) advise ITTF of his/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 himself or herself available for *Testing* at such whereabouts.
- 5.5.5.5 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 Annex B of the *International Standard for Results Management*, where the conditions set forth in Annex B are met.
- 5.5.5.6 An Athlete in ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* shall continue to be subject to the obligation to comply with the whereabouts requirements set in 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) ITTF has informed him or her that he or she no longer satisfies the criteria for inclusion in ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool*.
- 5.5.5.7 Whereabouts information provided by an Athlete while in the *Registered Testing Pool* will be accessible through *ADAMS* to WADA and to other *Anti-Doping Organizations* having authority to test that Athlete as provided in Article 5.5.2. Whereabouts information shall be maintained in strict confidence at all times; it shall be used exclusively for purposes of planning, coordinating or conducting *Doping Control*, providing information relevant to the *Athlete*

*Biological Passport* or other analytical results, to support an investigation into a potential anti-doping rule violation, or to support proceedings alleging an anti-doping rule violation; and shall be destroyed after it is no longer relevant for these purposes in accordance with the *International Standard* for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information.

- 5.5.5.8 ITTF may, in accordance with the *International Standard* for Testing and Investigations, collect whereabouts information from Athletes who are not included within a *Registered Testing Pool*. If it chooses to do so, an Athlete's failure to provide requested whereabouts information on or before the date required by ITTF or the Athlete's failure to provide accurate whereabouts information may result in consequences defined in Article 5.5.5.12 below.
- 5.5.5.9 In accordance with the *International Standard* for Testing and Investigations, ITTF may establish a *Testing Pool*, which includes Athletes who are subject to less stringent whereabouts requirements than Athletes included in ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool*.
- 5.5.5.10 ITTF shall notify Athletes before they are included in the *Testing Pool* and when they are removed. Such notification shall include the whereabouts requirements and the consequences that apply in case of non-compliance, as indicated in Articles 5.5.5.11 and 5.5.5.12.
- 5.5.5.11 Athletes included in the *Testing Pool* shall provide ITTF at least with the following whereabouts information so that they may be located and subjected to *Testing*:
  - (a) An overnight address;
  - (b) *Competition / Event* schedule; and
  - (c) Regular training activities.
 Such whereabouts information should be filed in *ADAMS* to enable better *Testing* coordination with other *Anti-Doping Organizations*.
- 5.5.5.12 An Athlete's failure to provide whereabouts information on or before the date required by ITTF or the Athlete's failure to provide accurate whereabouts information might result in ITTF elevating the Athlete to ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* and additional appropriate and proportionate non-Code Article 5.2.4 consequences, established by ITTF if any.

#### 5.5.6 Retired Athletes Returning to *Competition*

- 5.5.6.1 If an *International-Level Athlete* or *National-Level Athlete* in ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* retires and then wishes to return to active participation in sport, the Athlete shall not compete in *International Events* or *National Events* until the Athlete has made himself or herself available for *Testing*, by giving six (6) months prior written notice to ITTF and their *National Anti-Doping Organization*.
 

WADA, in consultation with ITTF and the Athlete's *National Anti-Doping Organization*, may grant an exemption to the six (6) month written notice rule

where the strict application of that rule would be unfair to the *Athlete*. This decision may be appealed under Article 5.13.<sup>27</sup>

Any competitive results obtained in violation of this Article 5.6.1 shall be Disqualified unless the *Athlete* can establish that he or she could not have reasonably known that this was an *International Event* or a *National Event*.

- 5.5.6.2 If an *Athlete* retires from sport while subject to a period of *Ineligibility*, the *Athlete* must notify the *Anti-Doping Organization* that imposed the period of *Ineligibility* in writing of such retirement. If the *Athlete* then wishes to return to active competition in sport, the *Athlete* shall not compete in *International Events* or *National Events* until the *Athlete* has made himself or herself available for *Testing* by giving six (6) 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 (6) months) to ITTF and to their *National Anti-Doping Organization*.

#### 5.5.7 *Independent Observer Program*

ITTF and the organizing committees for ITTF's *Events*, as well as the *Member Associations* and the organizing committees for *National Events*, shall authorize and facilitate the *Independent Observer Program* at such *Events*.

### **ARTICLE 5.6 ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES**

Samples shall be analysed in accordance with the following principles:

#### 5.6.1 Use of Accredited, Approved Laboratories and Other Laboratories

- 5.6.1.1 For purposes of directly establishing an *Adverse Analytical Finding* under Article 5.2.1, Samples shall be analysed only in *WADA*-accredited laboratories or laboratories otherwise approved by *WADA*. The choice of the *WADA*-accredited or *WADA*-approved laboratory used for the Sample analysis shall be determined exclusively by ITTF.<sup>28</sup>
- 5.6.1.2 As provided in Article 5.3.2, facts related to anti-doping rule violations may be established by any reliable means. This would include, for example, reliable laboratory or other forensic testing conducted outside of *WADA*-accredited or approved laboratories.

#### 5.6.2 Purpose of Analysis of Samples and Data

Samples and related analytical data or *Doping Control* information shall be analysed to detect *Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods* identified on the *Prohibited List* and other substances as may be directed by *WADA* pursuant to the monitoring program described in Article 5.4.5 of the *Code*, or to assist ITTF in profiling relevant parameters in an *Athlete*'s urine, blood or other matrix, including for DNA or genomic profiling, or for any other legitimate anti-doping purpose.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>27</sup> [Comment to Article 5.5.6.1: *WADA* has developed a protocol and exemption application form that Athletes must use to make such requests, and a decision template that the International Federations must use. Both documents are available on *WADA*'s website at <https://www.wada-ama.org>.]

<sup>28</sup> [Comment to Article 5.6.1: Violations of Article 5.2.1 may be established only by Sample analysis performed by a *WADA*-accredited laboratory or another laboratory approved by *WADA*. Violations of other Articles may be established using analytical results from other laboratories so long as the results are reliable.]

<sup>29</sup> [Comment to Article 5.6.2: For example, relevant Doping Control-related information could be used to direct Target Testing or to support an anti-doping rule violation proceeding under Article 5.2.2, or both.]

### 5.6.3 Research on Samples and Data

Samples, related analytical data and *Doping Control* information may be used for anti-doping research purposes, although no Sample may be used for research without the *Athlete's* written consent. Samples and related analytical data or *Doping Control* information used for research purposes shall first be processed in such a manner as to prevent Samples and related analytical data or *Doping Control* information being traced back to a particular *Athlete*. Any research involving Samples and related analytical data or *Doping Control* information shall adhere to the principles set out in Article 19 of the *Code*.<sup>30</sup>

### 5.6.4 Standards for Sample Analysis and Reporting

In accordance with Article 6.4 of the *Code*, ITTF shall ask laboratories to analyse Samples in conformity with the *International Standard for Laboratories* and Article 4.7 of the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.

Laboratories at their own initiative and expense may analyse Samples for *Prohibited Substances* or *Prohibited Methods* not included on the standard Sample analysis menu, or as requested by ITTF. Results from any such analysis shall be reported to ITTF and have the same validity and *Consequences* as any other analytical result.<sup>31</sup>

### 5.6.5 Further Analysis of a Sample Prior to or During *Results Management* or Hearing Process

There shall be no limitation on the authority of a laboratory to conduct repeat or additional analysis on a Sample prior to the time ITTF notifies an *Athlete* that the Sample is the basis for an Article 5.2.1 anti-doping rule violation charge. If after such notification ITTF wishes to conduct additional analysis on that Sample, it may do so with the consent of the *Athlete* or approval from a hearing body.

### 5.6.6 Further Analysis of a Sample After it has been Reported as Negative or has Otherwise not Resulted in an Anti-Doping Rule Violation Charge

After a laboratory has reported a Sample as negative, or the Sample has not otherwise resulted in an anti-doping rule violation charge, it may be stored and subjected to further analyses for the purpose of Article 5.6.2 at any time exclusively at the direction of either the *Anti-Doping Organization* that initiated and directed Sample collection or *WADA*. Any other *Anti-Doping Organization* with authority to test the *Athlete* that wishes to conduct further analysis on a stored Sample may do so with the permission of the *Anti-Doping Organization* that initiated and directed Sample collection or *WADA*, and shall be responsible for any follow-up *Results Management*. Any Sample storage or further analysis initiated by *WADA* or another *Anti-Doping Organization* shall be at *WADA's* or that organization's expense. Further analysis of Samples shall conform with the requirements of the *International Standard for Laboratories*.

<sup>30</sup> [Comment to Article 5.6.3: As is the case in most medical or scientific contexts, use of Samples and related information for quality assurance, quality improvement, method improvement and development or to establish reference populations is not considered research. Samples and related information used for such permitted non-research purposes must also first be processed in such a manner as to prevent them from being traced back to the particular Athlete, having due regard to the principles set out in Article 19 of the *Code*, as well as the requirements of the *International Standard for Laboratories* and *International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information*.]

<sup>31</sup> [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 most effectively and efficiently detect doping. It is recognized 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.]

### 5.6.7 Split of A or B Sample

Where *WADA*, an *Anti-Doping Organization* with *Results Management* authority, and/or a *WADA*-accredited laboratory (with approval from *WADA* or the *Anti-Doping Organization* with *Results Management* authority) wishes to split an A or B Sample for the purpose of using the first part of the split Sample for an A Sample analysis and the second part of the split Sample for confirmation, then the procedures set forth in the *International Standard for Laboratories* shall be followed.

### 5.6.8 WADA's Right to Take Possession of Samples and Data

*WADA* may, in its sole discretion at any time, with or without prior notice, take physical possession of any Sample and related analytical data or information in the possession of a laboratory or *Anti-Doping Organization*. Upon request by *WADA*, the laboratory or *Anti-Doping Organization* in possession of the Sample or data shall immediately grant access to and enable *WADA* to take physical possession of the Sample or data. If *WADA* has not provided prior notice to the laboratory or *Anti-Doping Organization* before taking possession of a Sample or data, it shall provide such notice to the laboratory and each *Anti-Doping Organization* whose Samples or data have been taken by *WADA* within a reasonable time after taking possession. After analysis and any investigation of a seized Sample or data, *WADA* may direct another *Anti-Doping Organization* with authority to test the *Athlete* to assume *Results Management* responsibility for the Sample or data if a potential anti-doping rule violation is discovered.<sup>32</sup>

## ARTICLE 5.7        **RESULTS MANAGEMENT: RESPONSIBILITY, INITIAL REVIEW, NOTICE AND PROVISIONAL SUSPENSIONS**

*Results Management* under these Anti-Doping Rules establishes a process designed to resolve anti-doping rule violation matters in a fair, expeditious and efficient manner.

### 5.7.1 Responsibility for Conducting *Results Management*

- 5.7.1.1 Except as otherwise provided in Articles 5.6.6, 5.6.8 and Code Article 5.7.1, *Results Management* shall be the responsibility of, and shall be governed by, the procedural rules of the *Anti-Doping Organization* that initiated and directed Sample collection (or, if no Sample collection is involved, the *Anti-Doping Organization* which first provides notice to an *Athlete* or other *Person* of a potential anti-doping rule violation and then diligently pursues that anti-doping rule violation).
- 5.7.1.2 In circumstances where the rules of a National *Anti-Doping Organization* do not give the National *Anti-Doping Organization* authority over an *Athlete* or other *Person* who is not a national, resident, license holder, or member of a sport organization of that country, or the National *Anti-Doping Organization* declines to exercise such authority, *Results Management* shall be conducted

<sup>32</sup> [Comment to Article 5.6.8: Resistance or refusal to *WADA* taking physical possession of Samples or data could constitute *Tampering, Complicity* or an act of non-compliance as provided in the *International Standard for Code Compliance by Signatories*, and could also constitute a violation of the *International Standard for Laboratories*. Where necessary, the laboratory and/or the *Anti-Doping Organization* shall assist *WADA* in ensuring that the seized Sample or data are not delayed in exiting the applicable country.]

*WADA* would not, of course, unilaterally take possession of Samples or analytical data without good cause related to a potential anti-doping rule violation, non-compliance by a Signatory or doping activities by another Person. However, the decision as to whether good cause exists is for *WADA* to make in its discretion and shall not be subject to challenge. In particular, whether there is good cause or not shall not be a defence against an anti-doping rule violation or its Consequences.]

by the applicable International Federation or by a third party with authority over the *Athlete* or other *Person* as directed by the rules of the applicable International Federation.

- 5.7.1.3 In the event the Major *Event* Organization assumes only limited *Results Management* responsibility relating to a Sample initiated and taken during an *Event* conducted by a Major *Event* Organization, or an anti-doping rule violation occurring during such *Event*, the case shall be referred by the Major *Event* Organization to the applicable International Federation for completion of *Results Management*.
- 5.7.1.4 *Results Management* in relation to a potential whereabouts failure (a filing failure or a missed test) shall be administered by ITTF or the National *Anti-Doping Organization* with whom the *Athlete* in question files whereabouts information, as provided in the *International Standard* for *Results Management*. If ITTF determines a filing failure or a missed test, it shall submit that information to WADA through ADAMS, where it will be made available to other relevant *Anti-Doping Organizations*.
- 5.7.1.5 Other 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 authority shall be determined by reference to and in accordance with Article 7 of the *Code*.
- 5.7.1.6 WADA may direct ITTF to conduct *Results Management* in particular circumstances. If ITTF refuses to conduct *Results Management* within a reasonable deadline set by WADA, such refusal shall be considered an act of non-compliance, and WADA may direct another *Anti-Doping Organization* with authority over the *Athlete* or other *Person*, that is willing to do so, to take *Results Management* responsibility in place of ITTF or, if there is no such *Anti-Doping Organization*, any other *Anti-Doping Organization* that is willing to do so. In such case, ITTF shall reimburse the costs and attorney's fees of conducting *Results Management* to the other *Anti-Doping Organization* designated by WADA, and a failure to reimburse costs and attorney's fees shall be considered an act of non-compliance.

#### 5.7.2 Review and Notification Regarding Potential Anti-Doping Rule Violations

ITTF shall carry out the review and notification with respect to any potential anti-doping rule violation in accordance with the *International Standard* for *Results Management*.

#### 5.7.3 Identification of Prior Anti-Doping Rule Violations

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

#### 5.7.4 Provisional Suspensions<sup>33</sup>

##### 5.7.4.1 Mandatory *Provisional Suspension* after an *Adverse Analytical Finding* or *Adverse Passport Finding*

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<sup>33</sup> [Comment to Article 5.7.4: Before a *Provisional Suspension* can be unilaterally imposed by ITTF, the internal review specified in these Anti-Doping Rules and the *International Standard* for *Results Management* must first be completed.]

If ITTF receives an *Adverse Analytical Finding* or an *Adverse Passport Finding* (upon completion of the *Adverse Passport Finding* review process) for a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method* that is not a *Specified Substance* or a *Specified Method*, ITTF shall impose a *Provisional Suspension* on the *Athlete* promptly upon or after the review and notification required by Article 5.7.2.

A mandatory *Provisional Suspension* may be eliminated if: (i) the *Athlete* demonstrates to the CAS Anti-Doping Division (CAS ADD) that the violation is likely to have involved a *Contaminated Product*, or (ii) the violation involves a *Substance of Abuse* and the *Athlete* establishes entitlement to a reduced period of *Ineligibility* under Article 5.10.2.4.1.

The CAS ADD's decision not to eliminate a mandatory *Provisional Suspension* on account of the *Athlete*'s assertion regarding a *Contaminated Product* shall not be appealable.

#### 5.7.4.2 Optional *Provisional Suspension* Based on an *Adverse Analytical Finding* for *Specified Substances*, *Specified Methods*, *Contaminated Products*, or Other Anti-Doping Rule Violations

ITTF may impose a *Provisional Suspension* for anti-doping rule violations not covered by Article 5.7.4.1 prior to the analysis of the *Athlete*'s B Sample or final hearing as described in Article 5.8.

An optional *Provisional Suspension* may be lifted at the discretion of ITTF at any time prior to the CAS ADD's decision under Article 5.8, unless provided otherwise in the *International Standard for Results Management*.

#### 5.7.4.3 Opportunity for Hearing or Appeal

Notwithstanding Articles 5.7.4.1 and 5.7.4.2, a *Provisional Suspension* may not be imposed unless the *Athlete* or other *Person* is given: (a) an opportunity for a *Provisional Hearing*, either before or on a timely basis after the imposition of the *Provisional Suspension*; or (b) an opportunity for an expedited hearing in accordance with Article 5.8 on a timely basis after the imposition of the *Provisional Suspension*.

The imposition of a *Provisional Suspension*, or the decision not to impose a *Provisional Suspension*, may be appealed in an expedited process in accordance with Article 5.13.2.

#### 5.7.4.4 Voluntary Acceptance of *Provisional Suspension*

*Athletes* on their own initiative may voluntarily accept a *Provisional Suspension* if done so prior to the later of: (i) the expiration of ten (10) days from the report of the B Sample (or waiver of the B Sample) or ten (10) days from the notice of any other anti-doping rule violation, or (ii) the date on which the *Athlete* first competes after such report or notice.

Other *Persons* on their own initiative may voluntarily accept a *Provisional Suspension* if done so within ten (10) days from the notice of the anti-doping rule violation.

Upon such voluntary acceptance, the *Provisional Suspension* shall have the full effect and be treated in the same manner as if the *Provisional Suspension* had been imposed under Article 5.7.4.1 or 5.7.4.2; provided, however, at any

time after voluntarily accepting a *Provisional Suspension*, the *Athlete* or other *Person* may withdraw such acceptance, in which event the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall not receive any credit for time previously served during the *Provisional Suspension*.

- 5.7.4.5 If a *Provisional Suspension* is imposed based on an A Sample *Adverse Analytical Finding* and a subsequent B Sample analysis (if requested by the *Athlete* or ITTF) 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 Doubles Pair* or *Athlete's team*) has been removed from an *Event* 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 *Doubles Pair* or team to be reinserted, without otherwise affecting the *Event*, the *Athlete* or *Doubles Pair* or team may continue to take part in the *Event*.

#### 5.7.5 Results Management Decisions

*Results Management* decisions or adjudications by ITTF must not purport to be limited to a particular geographic area or the ITTF's sport and shall address and determine without limitation the following issues: (i) whether an anti-doping rule violation was committed or a *Provisional Suspension* should be imposed, the factual basis for such determination, and the specific Articles that have been violated, and (ii) all *Consequences* flowing from the anti-doping rule violation(s), including applicable *Disqualifications* under Articles 5.9 and 5.10.10, any forfeiture of medals or prizes, any period of *Ineligibility* (and the date it begins to run) and any *Financial Consequences*.<sup>34</sup>

#### 5.7.6 Notification of Results Management Decisions

ITTF shall notify *Athletes*, other *Persons*, *Signatories* and WADA of *Results Management* decisions as provided in Article 5.14.2 and in the *International Standard for Results Management*.

#### 5.7.7 Retirement from Sport<sup>35</sup>

If an *Athlete* or other *Person* retires while the ITTF's *Results Management* process is underway, ITTF retains authority 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*.

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<sup>34</sup> [Comment to Article 5.7.5: *Results Management* decisions include *Provisional Suspensions*.

Each decision by ITTF should address whether an anti-doping rule violation was committed and all *Consequences* flowing from the violation, including any *Disqualifications* other than *Disqualification* under Article 5.10.1 (which is left to the ruling body for an *Event*). Pursuant to Article 5.15, such decision and its imposition of *Consequences* shall have automatic effect in every sport in every country. For example, for a determination that an *Athlete* committed an anti-doping rule violation based on an *Adverse Analytical Finding* for a Sample taken *In-Competition*, the *Athlete's results obtained in the Competition* would be *Disqualified* under Article 5.9 and all other competitive results obtained by the *Athlete* from the date the Sample was collected through the duration of the period of *Ineligibility* are also *Disqualified* under Article 5.10.10; if the *Adverse Analytical Finding* resulted from *Testing at an Event*, it would be the *Major Event Organization's responsibility* to decide whether the *Athlete's other individual results in the Event prior to Sample collection* are also *Disqualified* under Article 5.10.1.]

<sup>35</sup> [Comment to Article 5.7.7: Conduct by an *Athlete* or other *Person* before the *Athlete* or other *Person* was subject to the authority of any Anti-Doping Organization 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 organization.]

## **ARTICLE 5.8        RESULTS MANAGEMENT: RIGHT TO A FAIR HEARING AND NOTICE OF HEARING DECISION**

For any *Person* who is asserted to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, ITTF shall provide a fair hearing within a reasonable time by a fair, impartial and Operationally Independent hearing panel in compliance with the *Code* and the *International Standard for Results Management*.

### 5.8.1 Fair Hearings

#### 5.8.1.1 Fair, Impartial and Operationally Independent Hearing Panel

ITTF has delegated its Article 5.8 responsibilities (first instance hearings, waiver of hearings and decisions) to the CAS Anti-Doping Division (CAS ADD) as an appropriate independent forum. The procedural rules of the arbitration shall be governed by the rules of the CAS ADD. CAS ADD will always ensure that the *Athlete* or other *Person* is provided with a fair hearing within a reasonable time by a fair, impartial and Operationally Independent hearing panel in compliance with the *Code* and the *International Standard for Results Management*.

#### 5.8.1.2 Hearing Process

5.8.1.2.1 When ITTF sends a notice to an *Athlete* or other *Person* notifying them of a potential anti-doping rule violation, and the *Athlete* or other *Person* does not waive a hearing in accordance with Article 5.8.3.1 or Article 5.8.3.2, then the case shall be referred to CAS ADD for hearing and adjudication, which shall be conducted in accordance with its procedural rules and the principles described in Articles 8 and 9 of the *International Standard for Results Management*.

5.8.1.2.2 Hearings held in connection with *Events* in respect to *Athletes* and other *Persons* who are subject to these Anti-Doping Rules may be conducted by an expedited process where permitted by CAS ADD.<sup>36</sup>

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

#### 5.8.2 Notice of Decisions

5.8.2.1 At the end of the hearing, or promptly thereafter, CAS ADD shall issue a written decision that conforms with Article 9 of the *International Standard for Results Management* and which includes the full reasons for the decision, the period of *Ineligibility* imposed, the *Disqualification* of results under Article 5.10.10 and, if applicable, a justification for why the greatest potential *Consequences* were not imposed.

5.8.2.2 ITTF shall notify that decision to the *Athlete* or other *Person* and to other *Anti-Doping Organizations* with a right to appeal under Article 5.13.2.3, and shall promptly report it into ADAMS. The decision may be appealed as provided in Article 5.13.

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<sup>36</sup> [Comment to Article 5.8.1.2.4: 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.]

### 5.8.3 Waiver of Hearing

- 5.8.3.1 An *Athlete* or other *Person* against whom an anti-doping violation is asserted may waive a hearing expressly and agree with the *Consequences* proposed by ITTF.
- 5.8.3.2 However, if the *Athlete* or other *Person* against whom an anti-doping rule violation is asserted fails to dispute that assertion within twenty (20) days or the deadline otherwise specified in the notice sent by the ITTF asserting the violation, then they shall be deemed to have waived a hearing, to have admitted the violation, and to have accepted the proposed *Consequences*.
- 5.8.3.3 In cases where Article 5.8.3.1 or 5.8.3.2 applies, a hearing before CAS ADD shall not be required. Instead ITTF shall promptly issue a written decision that conforms with Article 9 of the *International Standard for Results Management* and which includes the full reasons for the decision, the period of *Ineligibility* imposed, the *Disqualification* of results under Article 5.10.10 and, if applicable, a justification for why the greatest potential *Consequences* were not imposed.
- 5.8.3.4 ITTF shall notify that decision to the *Athlete* or other *Person* and to other *Anti-Doping Organizations* with a right to appeal under Article 5.13.2.3, and shall promptly report it into ADAMS. ITTF shall *Publicly Disclose* that decision in accordance with Article 5.14.3.2.

### 5.8.4 Single Hearing Before CAS

Anti-doping rule violations asserted against *International-Level Athletes*, *National-Level Athletes* or other *Persons* may, with the consent of the *Athlete* or other *Person*, ITTF (where it has *Results Management* responsibility in accordance with Article 5.7) and WADA, be heard in a single hearing directly at CAS.<sup>37</sup>

## ARTICLE 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 medals, points and prizes.<sup>38</sup>

## ARTICLE 5.10 SANCTIONS ON INDIVIDUALS

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

<sup>37</sup> [Comment to Article 5.8.4: An Anti-Doping Organization may participate in the CAS hearing as an observer. Nothing set out in Article 5.8.4 precludes the Athlete or other Person and ITTF (where it has Results Management responsibility) to waive their right to appeal by agreement. Such waiver, however, only binds the parties to such agreement and not any other entity with a right of appeal under the Code.]

<sup>38</sup> [Comment to Article 5.9: For Team Sports, any awards received by individual players will be Disqualified. However, Disqualification of the team will be as provided in Article 5.11. 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 the International Federation.]

- 5.10.1.1 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 medals, points and prizes, except as provided in Article 5.10.1.2.
- Factors to be included in considering whether to Disqualify other results in an *Event* might include, for example, the seriousness of the *Athlete's* anti-doping rule violation and whether the *Athlete* tested negative in the other *Competitions*.<sup>39</sup>
- 5.10.1.2 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 a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method*
- The period of *Ineligibility* for a violation of Article 5.2.1, 5.2.2 or 5.2.6 shall be as follows, subject to potential elimination, reduction or suspension pursuant to Article 5.10.5, 5.10.6 or 5.10.7:
- 5.10.2.1 The period of *Ineligibility*, subject to Article 5.10.2.4, shall be four (4) years where:
- 5.10.2.1.1 The anti-doping rule violation does not involve a *Specified Substance* or a *Specified Method*, unless the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish that the anti-doping rule violation was not intentional.<sup>40</sup>
- 5.10.2.1.2 The anti-doping rule violation involves a *Specified Substance* or a *Specified Method* and ITTF can establish that the anti-doping rule violation was intentional.
- 5.10.2.2 If Article 5.10.2.1 does not apply, subject to Article 5.10.2.4.1, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be two (2) years.
- 5.10.2.3 As used in Article 5.10.2, the term "intentional" is meant to identify those *Athletes* or other *Persons* who engage in conduct which they 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

<sup>39</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.1.1: Whereas Article 5.9 Disqualifies the result in a single Competition in which the Athlete tested positive (e.g., the Men's Singles), this Article may lead to Disqualification of all results in all competitions during the Event (e.g., the World Championships).]

<sup>40</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.2.1.1: While it is theoretically possible for an Athlete or other Person to establish that the anti-doping rule violation was not intentional without showing how the Prohibited Substance entered one's system, it is highly unlikely that in a doping case under Article 5.2.1 an Athlete will be successful in proving that the Athlete acted unintentionally without establishing the source of the Prohibited Substance.]

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.<sup>41</sup>

- 5.10.2.4 Notwithstanding any other provision in Article 5.10.2, where the anti-doping rule violation involves a *Substance of Abuse*:
- 5.10.2.4.1 If the Athlete can establish that any ingestion or *Use* occurred *Out-of-Competition* and was unrelated to sport performance, then the period of *Ineligibility* shall be three (3) months *Ineligibility*.

In addition, the period of *Ineligibility* calculated under this Article 5.10.2.4.1 may be reduced to one (1) month if the Athlete or other Person satisfactorily completes a *Substance of Abuse* treatment program approved by ITTF. The period of *Ineligibility* established in this Article 5.10.2.4.1 is not subject to any reduction based on any provision in Article 5.10.6.<sup>42</sup>

- 5.10.2.4.2 If the ingestion, *Use* or *Possession* occurred *In-Competition*, and the Athlete can establish that the context of the ingestion, *Use* or *Possession* was unrelated to sport performance, then the ingestion, *Use* or *Possession* shall not be considered intentional for purposes of Article 5.10.2.1 and shall not provide a basis for a finding of *Aggravating Circumstances* under Article 5.10.4.

### 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 Article 5.10.6 or 5.10.7 are applicable:

- 5.10.3.1 For violations of Article 5.2.3 or 5.2.5, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be four (4) years except: (i) in the case of failing to submit to Sample collection, if the Athlete can establish that the commission of the anti-doping rule violation was not intentional, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be two (2) years; (ii) in all other cases, if the Athlete or other Person can establish exceptional circumstances that justify a reduction of the period of *Ineligibility*, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be in a range from two (2) years to four (4) years depending on the Athlete or other Person’s degree of *Fault*; or (iii) in a case involving a *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete*, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be in a range between a maximum of two (2) years and, at a minimum, a reprimand and no period of *Ineligibility*, depending on the *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete*’s degree of *Fault*.
- 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 or other conduct raises a serious suspicion that the Athlete was trying to avoid being available for *Testing*.

<sup>41</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.2.3: Article 5.10.2.3 provides a special definition of “intentional” which is to be applied solely for purposes of Article 5.10.2.]

<sup>42</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.2.4.1: The determinations as to whether the treatment program is approved and whether the Athlete or other Person has satisfactorily completed the program shall be made in the sole discretion of ITTF. This Article is intended to give ITTF the leeway to apply their own judgment to identify and approve legitimate and reputable, as opposed to “sham”, treatment programs. It is anticipated, however, that the characteristics of legitimate treatment programs may vary widely and change over time such that it would not be practical for WADA to develop mandatory criteria for acceptable treatment programs.]

- 5.10.3.3 For violations of Article 5.2.7 or 5.2.8, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be a minimum of four (4) years up to lifetime *Ineligibility*, depending on the seriousness of the violation. An Article 5.2.7 or Article 5.2.8 violation involving a *Protected Person* shall be considered a particularly serious violation and, if committed by *Athlete Support Personnel* for violations other than for *Specified Substances*, shall result in lifetime *Ineligibility* for *Athlete Support Personnel*. In addition, significant violations of Article 5.2.7 or 5.2.8 which may also violate non-sporting laws and regulations, shall be reported to the competent administrative, professional or judicial authorities.<sup>43</sup>
- 5.10.3.4 For violations of Article 5.2.9, the period of *Ineligibility* imposed shall be a minimum of two (2) years, up to lifetime *Ineligibility*, 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.<sup>44</sup>
- 5.10.3.6 For violations of Article 5.2.11, the period of *Ineligibility* shall be a minimum of two (2) years, up to lifetime *Ineligibility*, depending on the seriousness of the violation by the *Athlete* or other *Person*.<sup>45</sup>
- 5.10.4 *Aggravating Circumstances* which may Increase the Period of *Ineligibility*  
If ITTF establishes in an individual case involving an anti-doping rule violation other than violations under Article 5.2.7 (*Trafficking* or *Attempted Trafficking*), 5.2.8 (*Administration* or *Attempted Administration*), 5.2.9 (*Complicity*) or 5.2.11 (*Acts by an Athlete or Other Person to Discourage or Retaliate Against Reporting*) that *Aggravating Circumstances* are present which justify the imposition of a period of *Ineligibility* greater than the standard sanction, then the period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable shall be increased by an additional period of *Ineligibility* of up to two (2) years depending on the seriousness of the violation and the nature of the *Aggravating Circumstances*, unless the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish that he or she did not knowingly commit the anti-doping rule violation.<sup>46</sup>

#### 5.10.5 Elimination of the Period of *Ineligibility* where there is *No Fault or Negligence*

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<sup>43</sup> [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 organizations 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.]

<sup>44</sup> [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.]

<sup>45</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.3.6: Conduct that is found to violate both Article 5.2.5 (*Tampering*) and Article 5.2.11 (*Acts by an Athlete or Other Person to Discourage or Retaliate Against Reporting to Authorities*) shall be sanctioned based on the violation that carries the more severe sanction.]

<sup>46</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.4: Violations under Articles 5.2.7 (*Trafficking* or *Attempted Trafficking*), 5.2.8 (*Administration* or *Attempted Administration*), 5.2.9 (*Complicity* or *Attempted Complicity*) and 5.2.11 (*Acts by an Athlete or Other Person to Discourage or Retaliate Against Reporting to Authorities*) are not included in the application of Article 5.10.4 because the sanctions for these violations already build in sufficient discretion up to a lifetime ban to allow consideration of any *Aggravating Circumstance*.]

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.<sup>47</sup>

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

##### 5.10.6.1 Reduction of Sanctions in Particular Circumstances for Violations of Article 5.2.1, 5.2.2 or 5.2.6.

All reductions under Article 5.10.6.1 are mutually exclusive and not cumulative.

###### 5.10.6.1.1 Specified Substances or Specified Methods

Where the anti-doping rule violation involves a *Specified Substance* (other than a *Substance of Abuse*) or *Specified Method*, and the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish *No Significant Fault or Negligence*, then the period of *Ineligibility* shall be, at a 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*.

###### 5.10.6.1.2 Contaminated Products

In cases where the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish both *No Significant Fault or Negligence* and that the detected *Prohibited Substance* (other than a *Substance of Abuse*) 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* or other *Person*'s degree of *Fault*.<sup>48</sup>

###### 5.10.6.1.3 Protected Persons or Recreational Athletes

Where the anti-doping rule violation not involving a *Substance of Abuse* is committed by a *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete*, and the *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete* can establish *No Significant Fault or Negligence*, then the period of *Ineligibility* shall be, at a minimum, a reprimand

<sup>47</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.5: This Article and Article 5.10.6.2 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 mislabelled or contaminated vitamin or nutritional supplement (Athletes are responsible for what they ingest (Article 5.2.1) 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 5.10.6 based on No Significant Fault or Negligence.]

<sup>48</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.6.1.2: In order to receive the benefit of this Article, the Athlete or other Person must establish not only that the detected Prohibited Substance came from a Contaminated Product, but must also separately establish No Significant Fault or Negligence. It should be further noted that Athletes are on notice that they take nutritional supplements at their own risk. The sanction reduction based on No Significant Fault or Negligence has rarely been applied in Contaminated Product cases unless the Athlete has exercised a high level of caution before taking the Contaminated Product. In assessing whether the Athlete can establish the source of the Prohibited Substance, it would, for example, be significant for purposes of establishing whether the Athlete actually Used the Contaminated Product, whether the Athlete had declared the product which was subsequently determined to be contaminated on the Doping Control form.]

This Article should not be extended beyond products that have gone through some process of manufacturing. Where an Adverse Analytical Finding results from environment contamination of a "non-product" such as tap water or lake water in circumstances where no reasonable person would expect any risk of an anti-doping rule violation, typically there would be No Fault or Negligence under Article 5.10.5.]

and no period of *Ineligibility*, and at a maximum, two (2) years *Ineligibility*, depending on the *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete*'s degree of *Fault*.

**5.10.6.2 Application of *No Significant Fault or Negligence* beyond the Application of Article 5.10.6.1**

If an *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes in an individual case where Article 5.10.6.1 is not applicable that he or she bears *No Significant Fault or Negligence*, then, subject to further reduction or elimination as provided in Article 5.10.7, 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.<sup>49</sup>

**5.10.7 Elimination, Reduction, or Suspension of Period of *Ineligibility* or Other Consequences for Reasons Other than *Fault***

**5.10.7.1 *Substantial Assistance* in Discovering or Establishing *Code Violations*<sup>50</sup>**

**5.10.7.1.1** ITTF may, prior to an appellate decision under Article 5.13 or the expiration of the time to appeal, suspend a part of the *Consequences* (other than *Disqualification* and mandatory Public Disclosure) imposed in an individual case where the *Athlete* or other *Person* has provided *Substantial Assistance* to an *Anti-Doping Organization*, criminal authority or professional disciplinary body which results in: (i) the *Anti-Doping Organization* 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 offense 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 or other *Anti-Doping Organization* with *Results Management* responsibility; or (iii) which results in WADA initiating a proceeding against a Signatory, WADA-accredited laboratory, or *Athlete* passport management unit (as defined in the *International Standard Laboratories*) for non-compliance with the *Code*, *International Standard* or *Technical Document*; or (iv) with the approval by WADA, which results in a criminal or disciplinary body bringing forward a criminal offense or the breach of professional or sport rules arising out of a sport integrity violation other than doping. After an appellate decision under Article 5.13 or the expiration of time to appeal, ITTF may only suspend a part of the otherwise applicable *Consequences* 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, non-compliance with the *Code* and/or sport integrity violations. No more than three-quarters of the otherwise applicable period of

<sup>49</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.6.2: Article 5.10.6.2 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., Article 5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.8, 5.2.9 or 5.2.11) 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*.]

<sup>50</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.7.1: 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.]

*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. For purposes of this paragraph, the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* shall not include any period of *Ineligibility* that could be added under Article 5.10.9.3.2 of these Anti-Doping Rules.

If so requested by an *Athlete* or other *Person* who seeks to provide *Substantial Assistance*, ITTF shall allow the *Athlete* or other *Person* to provide the information to it subject to a *Without Prejudice Agreement*.

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 *Consequences* was based, ITTF shall reinstate the original *Consequences*. If ITTF decides to reinstate suspended *Consequences* or decides not to reinstate suspended *Consequences*, that decision may be appealed by any *Person* entitled to appeal under Article 5.13.

**5.10.7.1.2** To further encourage *Athletes* and other *Persons* to provide *Substantial Assistance* to *Anti-Doping Organizations*, 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, or other violation of the *Code*, WADA may agree at any stage of the *Results Management* process, including after an 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*, no mandatory Public Disclosure and/or no return of prize money or payment of fines or costs. WADA's approval shall be subject to reinstatement of *Consequences*, as otherwise provided in this Article. Notwithstanding Article 5.13, WADA's decisions in the context of this Article 5.10.7.1.2 may not be appealed.

**5.10.7.1.3** 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 Organizations* 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 authorize 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.

**5.10.7.2** 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.<sup>51</sup>

<sup>51</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.7.2: 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 Organization is aware that an anti-doping rule violation might have been

**5.10.7.3 Application of Multiple Grounds for Reduction of a Sanction**

Where an *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes entitlement to reduction in sanction under more than one provision of Article 5.10.5, 5.10.6 or 5.10.7, before applying any reduction or suspension under Article 5.10.7, the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* shall be determined in accordance with Articles 5.10.2, 5.10.3, 5.10.5, and 5.10.6. If the *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes entitlement to a reduction or suspension of the period of *Ineligibility* under Article 5.10.7, then the period of *Ineligibility* may be reduced or suspended, but not below one-fourth of the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility*.

**5.10.8 Results Management Agreements**

**5.10.8.1 One (1) Year Reduction for Certain Anti-Doping Rule Violations Based on Early Admission and Acceptance of Sanction**

Where an *Athlete* or other *Person*, after being notified by ITTF of a potential anti-doping rule violation that carries an asserted period of *Ineligibility* of four (4) or more years (including any period of *Ineligibility* asserted under Article 5.10.4), admits the violation and accepts the asserted period of *Ineligibility* no later than twenty (20) days after receiving notice of an anti-doping rule violation charge, the *Athlete* or other *Person* may receive a one (1) year reduction in the period of *Ineligibility* asserted by ITTF. Where the *Athlete* or other *Person* receives the one (1) year reduction in the asserted period of *Ineligibility* under this Article 5.10.8.1, no further reduction in the asserted period of *Ineligibility* shall be allowed under any other Article.<sup>52</sup>

**5.10.8.2 Case Resolution Agreement**

Where the *Athlete* or other *Person* admits an anti-doping rule violation after being confronted with the anti-doping rule violation by ITTF and agrees to *Consequences* acceptable to ITTF and *WADA*, at their sole discretion, then: (a) the *Athlete* or other *Person* may receive a reduction in the period of *Ineligibility* based on an assessment by ITTF and *WADA* of the application of Articles 5.10.1 through 5.10.7 to the asserted anti-doping rule violation, the seriousness of the violation, the *Athlete* or other *Person*'s degree of *Fault* and how promptly the *Athlete* or other *Person* admitted the violation; and (b) 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 agreed-upon period of *Ineligibility* going forward from the earlier of the date the *Athlete* or other *Person* accepted the imposition of a sanction or a *Provisional Suspension* which was subsequently respected by the *Athlete* or other *Person*. The decision by *WADA* and ITTF to enter or not enter into a case resolution agreement, and the amount of the reduction to,

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*committed. It is not intended to apply to circumstances where the admission occurs after the Athlete or other Person believes 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.]*

<sup>52</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.8.1: For example, if ITTF alleges that an Athlete has violated Article 5.2.1 for Use of an anabolic steroid and asserts the applicable period of Ineligibility is four (4) years, then the Athlete may unilaterally reduce the period of Ineligibility to three (3) years by admitting the violation and accepting the three (3) year period of Ineligibility within the time specified in this Article, with no further reduction allowed. This resolves the case without any need for a hearing.]

and the starting date of, the period of *Ineligibility* are not matters for determination or review by a hearing body and are not subject to appeal under Article 5.13.

If so requested by an *Athlete* or other *Person* who seeks to enter into a case resolution agreement under this Article, ITTF shall allow the *Athlete* or other *Person* to discuss an admission of the anti-doping rule violation with it subject to a *Without Prejudice Agreement*.<sup>53</sup>

#### 5.10.9 Multiple Violations

##### 5.10.9.1 Second or Third Anti-Doping Rule Violation

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

- (a) A six (6) month period of *Ineligibility*; or
- (b) A period of *Ineligibility* in the range between:

- (i) the sum of the period of *Ineligibility* imposed for the first anti-doping rule violation plus the period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable to the second anti-doping rule violation treated as if it were a first violation, and
- (ii) twice the period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable to the second anti-doping rule violation treated as if it were a first violation.

The period of *Ineligibility* within this range shall be determined based on the entirety of the circumstances and the *Athlete* or other *Person*'s degree of *Fault* with respect to the second violation.

5.10.9.1.2 A third anti-doping rule violation will always result in a lifetime period of *Ineligibility*, except if the third violation fulfils the condition for elimination or reduction of the period of *Ineligibility* under Article 5.10.5 or 5.10.6, 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*.

5.10.9.1.3 The period of *Ineligibility* established in Articles 5.10.9.1.1 and 5.10.9.1.2 may then be further reduced by the application of Article 5.10.7.

5.10.9.2 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 5.10.9. In addition, an anti-doping rule violation sanctioned under Article 5.10.2.4.1 shall not be considered a violation for purposes of Article 5.10.9.

##### 5.10.9.3 Additional Rules for Certain Potential Multiple Violations

5.10.9.3.1 For purposes of imposing sanctions under Article 5.10.9, except as provided in Articles 5.10.9.3.2 and 5.10.9.3.3, an anti-doping rule violation will only be considered a second violation if ITTF can establish that the *Athlete* or other *Person* committed the additional 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

<sup>53</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.8: Any mitigating or aggravating factors set forth in this Article 5.10 shall be considered in arriving at the Consequences set forth in the case resolution agreement, and shall not be applicable beyond the terms of that agreement.]

carries the more severe sanction, including the application of *Aggravating Circumstances*. Results in all *Competitions* dating back to the earlier anti-doping rule violation will be Disqualified as provided in Article 5.10.10.<sup>54</sup>

- 5.10.9.3.2 If ITTF establishes that an *Athlete* or other *Person* committed an additional anti-doping rule violation prior to notification, and that the additional violation occurred twelve (12) months or more before or after the first-noticed violation, then the period of *Ineligibility* for the additional violation shall be calculated as if the additional violation were a stand-alone first violation and this period of *Ineligibility* is served consecutively, rather than concurrently, with the period of *Ineligibility* imposed for the earlier-noticed violation. Where this Article 5.10.9.3.2 applies, the violations taken together shall constitute a single violation for purposes of Article 5.10.9.1.
- 5.10.9.3.3 If ITTF establishes that an *Athlete* or other *Person* committed a violation of Article 5.2.5 in connection with the *Doping Control* process for an underlying asserted anti-doping rule violation, the violation of Article 5.2.5 shall be treated as a stand-alone first violation and the period of *Ineligibility* for such violation shall be served consecutively, rather than concurrently, with the period of *Ineligibility*, if any, imposed for the underlying anti-doping rule violation. Where this Article 5.10.9.3.3 is applied, the violations taken together shall constitute a single violation for purposes of Article 5.10.9.1.
- 5.10.9.3.4 If ITTF establishes that a *Person* has committed a second or third anti-doping rule violation during a period of *Ineligibility*, the periods of *Ineligibility* for the multiple violations shall run consecutively, rather than concurrently.
- 5.10.9.4 Multiple Anti-Doping Rule Violations during Ten (10) Year Period  
For purposes of Article 5.10.9, each anti-doping rule violation must take place within the same ten (10) year period in order to be considered multiple violations.
- 5.10.10 *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.<sup>55</sup>
- 5.10.11 Forfeited Prize Money  
If ITTF recovers prize money forfeited as a result of an anti-doping rule violation, it shall take reasonable measures to allocate and distribute this prize

<sup>54</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.9.3.1: The same rule applies where, after the imposition of a sanction, ITTF discovers facts involving an anti-doping rule violation that occurred prior to notification for a first anti-doping rule violation – e.g., ITTF shall impose a sanction based on the sanction that could have been imposed if the two (2) violations had been adjudicated at the same time, including the application of Aggravating Circumstances.]

<sup>55</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.10: 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.]

money to the *Athletes* who would have been entitled to it had the forfeiting *Athlete* not competed.<sup>56</sup>

#### 5.10.12 *Financial Consequences*

- 5.10.12.1 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 two thousand (2,000.00) U.S. Dollars, only in cases where the maximum period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable has already been imposed.
- 5.10.12.2 The imposition of a financial sanction or the 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.

#### 5.10.13 Commencement of *Ineligibility* Period

Where an *Athlete* is already serving a period of *Ineligibility* for an anti-doping rule violation, any new period of *Ineligibility* shall commence on the first day after the current period of *Ineligibility* has been served. Otherwise, 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.

#### 5.10.13.1 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*, and the *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish that such delays are not attributable to the *Athlete* or other *Person*, ITTF or CAS ADD, if applicable, 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.<sup>57</sup>

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

- 5.10.13.2.1 If a *Provisional Suspension* is 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 the *Athlete* or other *Person* does not respect a *Provisional Suspension*, then the *Athlete* or other *Person* shall receive no credit for any period of *Provisional Suspension* served. 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.

<sup>56</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.11: This Article is not intended to impose an affirmative duty on ITTF to take any action to collect forfeited prize money. If ITTF elects not to take any action to collect forfeited prize money, it may assign its right to recover such money to the Athlete(s) who should have otherwise received the money. "Reasonable measures to allocate and distribute this prize money" could include using collected forfeited prize money as agreed upon by ITTF and its Athletes.]

<sup>57</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.13.1: In cases of anti-doping rule violations other than under Article 5.2.1, the time required for an Anti-Doping Organization 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.]

- 5.10.13.2.2 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.<sup>58</sup>
- 5.10.13.2.3 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 a team.

5.10.14 Status During *Ineligibility* or *Provisional Suspension*

- 5.10.14.1 Prohibition Against Participation During *Ineligibility* or *Provisional Suspension*
- No *Athlete* or other *Person* who has been declared Ineligible or is subject to a *Provisional Suspension* may, during a period of *Ineligibility* or *Provisional Suspension*, participate in any capacity in a *Competition* or activity (other than authorized anti-doping *Education* or rehabilitation programs) authorized or organized by any Signatory, Signatory's member organization, or a club or other member organization of a Signatory's member organization, or in *Competitions* authorized or organized by any professional league or any international- or national-level *Event* organization 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 authority 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 *Protected Persons*.

An *Athlete* or other *Person* subject to a period of *Ineligibility* shall remain subject to *Testing* and any requirement by ITTF to provide whereabouts information.<sup>59</sup>

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<sup>58</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.13.2.2: An Athlete's voluntary acceptance of a Provisional Suspension is not an admission by the Athlete and shall not be used in any way to draw an adverse inference against the Athlete.]

<sup>59</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.14.1: For example, subject to Article 5.10.14.2 below, Ineligible Athletes cannot participate in a training camp, exhibition or practice organized by their Member Association or a club which is a member of that Member Association or which is funded by a governmental agency. Further, an Ineligible Athlete may not compete in a non-Signatory professional league, Events organized by a non-Signatory International Event organization or a non-Signatory national-level Event organization without triggering the Consequences set forth in Article 5.10.14.3. The term "activity" also includes, for example, administrative activities, such as serving as an official, director, officer, employee, or volunteer of the organization described in this Article. Ineligibility imposed in one sport shall also be recognized by other sports (see Article 5.15.1, Automatic Binding Effect of Decisions). An Athlete or other Person serving a period of Ineligibility is prohibited from coaching or serving as an Athlete Support Person in any other capacity at any time during the period of Ineligibility, and doing so could also result in a violation of Article 5.2.10 by another Athlete. Any performance standard accomplished during a period of Ineligibility shall not be recognized by ITTF or its Member Associations for any purpose.]

**5.10.14.2 Return to Training**

As an exception to Article 5.10.14.1, an *Athlete* may return to train with a team or to use the facilities of a club or other member organization of ITTF's or other Signatory's member organization during the shorter of: (1) the last two months of the *Athlete*'s period of *Ineligibility*, or (2) the last one-quarter of the period of *Ineligibility* imposed.<sup>60</sup>

**5.10.14.3 Violation of the Prohibition of Participation During *Ineligibility* or *Provisional Suspension***

Where an *Athlete* or other *Person* who has been declared Ineligible violates the prohibition against participation during *Ineligibility* described in Article 5.10.14.1, the results of such participation shall be Disqualified and a new period of *Ineligibility* equal in length to the original period of *Ineligibility* shall be added to the end of the original period of *Ineligibility*. The new period of *Ineligibility*, including a reprimand and no 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 the *Anti-Doping Organization* whose *Results Management* led to the imposition of the initial period of *Ineligibility*. This decision may be appealed under Article 5.13.

An *Athlete* or other *Person* who violates the prohibition against participation during a *Provisional Suspension* described in Article 5.10.14.1 shall receive no credit for any period of *Provisional Suspension* served and the results of such participation shall be Disqualified.

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

**5.10.14.4 Withholding of Financial Support during *Ineligibility***

In addition, for any anti-doping rule violation not involving a reduced sanction as described in Article 5.10.5 or 5.10.6, some or all sport-related financial support or other sport-related benefits received by such *Person* will be withheld by ITTF and its *Member Associations*.

**5.10.15 Automatic Publication of Sanction**

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

## **ARTICLE 5.11 CONSEQUENCES TO TEAMS**

**5.11.1 Testing of Teams**

Where one (1) member of a team or *Doubles Pair* (outside of *Team Sports*) has been notified of an anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.7 in connection with an *Event*,

<sup>60</sup> [Comment to Article 5.10.14.2: In many *Team Sports* and some individual sports, Athletes cannot effectively train on their 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 5.10.14.1 other than training.]

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 or *Doubles Pair* 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 or *Doubles Pair* 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 or *Doubles Pair* occurring during or in connection with an *Event* may lead to *Disqualification* of all of the results obtained by the team or *Doubles Pair* in that *Event* with all *Consequences* for the team or *Doubles Pair* 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 team or *Doubles Pair* committed an anti-doping rule violation during or in connection with one (1) *Competition* in an *Event*, if the other member(s) of the team or *Doubles Pair* establish(es) that he or she/they bear(s) *No Fault* or *Negligence* for that violation, the results of the team or *Doubles Pair* in any other *Competition(s)* in that *Event* shall not be Disqualified unless the results of the team or *Doubles Pair* 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.

### **ARTICLE 5.12 SANCTIONS BY ITTF AGAINST OTHER SPORTING BODIES**

When ITTF becomes aware that a *Member Association* or any other sporting body over which it has authority has failed to comply with, implement, uphold, and enforce these Anti-Doping Rules within that organization's or body's area of competence, ITTF has the authority and may take the following additional disciplinary actions:

- 5.12.1 Exclude all, or some group of, members of that organization or body from specified future *Events* or all *Events* conducted within a specified period of time.
- 5.12.2 Take additional disciplinary actions with respect to that organization's or body's recognition, the eligibility of their members to participate in ITTF's activities, and/or fine that organization or body based on the following:
  - 5.12.2.1 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 that organization or body during a twelve (12) month period. In such event: (a) all or some group of members of that organization or body may be banned from participation in any ITTF activities for a period of up to two (2) years and/or (b) that organization or body may be fined in an amount up to fifty thousand (50,000.00) U.S. Dollars.
  - 5.12.2.2 Four (4) or more violations of these Anti-Doping Rules (other than violations involving Article 5.2.4) are committed in addition to the violations described in Article 5.12.2.1 by *Athletes* or other *Persons* affiliated with that organization or body during a twelve (12) month period. In such event, that organization or body may be suspended for a period of up to four (4) years.

- 5.12.2.3 More than one *Athlete* or other *Person* affiliated with that organization or body commits an anti-doping rule violation during an *International Event*. In such event, that organization or body may be fined in an amount up to twenty thousand (20,000.00) U.S. Dollars.
- 5.12.2.4 That organization or body has failed to make diligent efforts to keep ITTF informed about an *Athlete's* whereabouts after receiving a request for that information from ITTF. In such event, that organization or body may be fined in an amount up to five thousand (5,000.00) U.S. Dollars per *Athlete*, in addition to reimbursement of all of the ITTF costs incurred in *Testing* that organization's or body's *Athletes*.
- 5.12.3 Withhold some or all funding or other financial and non-financial support to that organization or body.
- 5.12.4 Oblige that organization or body 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 organization or body.

## **ARTICLE 5.13        RESULTS MANAGEMENT: APPEALS<sup>61</sup>**

### **5.13.1 Decisions Subject to Appeal**

Decisions made under the *Code* or these Anti-Doping Rules may be appealed as set forth below in Articles 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.

#### **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. Any party to the appeal may submit evidence, legal arguments and claims that were not raised in the first instance hearing so long as they arise from the same cause of action or same general facts or circumstances raised or addressed in the first instance hearing.<sup>62</sup>

#### **5.13.1.2 CAS Shall Not Defer to the Findings BeingAppealed**

In making its decision, CAS shall not give deference to the discretion exercised by the body whose decision is being appealed.<sup>63</sup>

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

<sup>61</sup> [Comment to Article 5.13: The object of the *Code* is to have anti-doping matters resolved through fair and transparent internal processes with a final appeal. Anti-doping decisions by Anti-Doping Organizations are made transparent in Article 5.14. Specified Persons and organizations, including WADA, are then given the opportunity to appeal those decisions. Note that the definition of interested Persons and organizations with a right to appeal under Article 5.13 does not include Athletes, or their federations, who might benefit from having another competitor Disqualified.]

<sup>62</sup> [Comment to Article 5.13.1.1: The revised language is not intended to make a substantive change to the 2015 *Code*, but rather for clarification. For example, where an Athlete was charged in the first instance hearing only with Tampering but the same conduct could also constitute Complicity, an appealing party could pursue both Tampering and Complicity charges against the Athlete in the appeal.]

<sup>63</sup> [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.]

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 ITTF's process.<sup>64</sup>

### 5.13.2 Appeals from Decisions Regarding Anti-Doping Rule Violations, Consequences, Provisional Suspensions, Implementation of Decisions and Authority

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 5.5.6.1; a decision by *WADA* assigning *Results Management* under Article 5.7.1 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 in accordance with the *International Standard for Results Management*; a decision to impose, or lift, a *Provisional Suspension* as a result of a *Provisional Hearing*; ITTF's failure to comply with Article 5.7.4; a decision that ITTF lacks authority to rule on an alleged anti-doping rule violation or its *Consequences*; a decision to suspend, or not suspend, *Consequences* or to reinstate, or not reinstate, *Consequences* under Article 5.10.7.1; failure to comply with Articles 5.7.1.4 and 5.7.1.5 of the *Code*; failure to comply with Article 5.10.8.1; a decision under Article 5.10.14.3; a decision by ITTF not to implement another *Anti-Doping Organization*'s decision under Article 5.15; and a decision under Article 27.3 of the *Code* may be appealed exclusively as provided in this Article 5.13.2.

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

In cases arising from participation in an *International Event* or in cases involving *International-Level Athletes*, the decision may be appealed exclusively to CAS.<sup>65</sup>

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

In cases where Article 5.13.2.1 is not applicable, the decision may be appealed to an appellate body, in accordance with rules adopted by the *National Anti-Doping Organization* having authority over the *Athlete* or other *Person*.

The rules for such appeal shall respect the following principles: a timely hearing; a fair, impartial, Operationally Independent and Institutionally Independent hearing panel; the right to be represented by counsel at the *Person*'s own expense; and a timely, written, reasoned decision.

If no such body as described above is in place and available at the time of the appeal, the decision may be appealed to CAS in accordance with the applicable procedural rules.

#### 5.13.2.3 Persons Entitled to Appeal

<sup>64</sup> [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 (e.g., the Managing Board), then *WADA* may bypass the remaining steps in ITTF's internal process and appeal directly to CAS.]

<sup>65</sup> [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.]

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

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 Organization* of the Person's country of residence or countries where the *Person* is a national or license 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 (f) WADA.

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

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 Organization'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 Organization* of the Person's country of residence or countries where the *Person* is a national or license 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 (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 Organization* whose decision is being appealed and the information shall be provided if CAS so directs.

#### 5.13.2.3.3 Duty to Notify

All parties to any CAS appeal must ensure that WADA and all other parties with a right to appeal have been given timely notice of the appeal.

#### 5.13.2.3.4 Appeal from Imposition of *Provisional Suspension*

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

#### 5.13.2.3.5 Appeal from Decisions under Article 5.12

Decisions by ITTF pursuant to Article 5.12 may be appealed exclusively to CAS by the *Member Association* or other body.

#### 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.<sup>66</sup>

### 5.13.3 Failure to Render a Timely Decision by ITTF

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 attorney fees in prosecuting the appeal shall be reimbursed to WADA by ITTF.<sup>67</sup>

### 5.13.4 Appeals Relating to TUEs

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

### 5.13.5 Notification of Appeal Decisions

ITTF shall promptly provide the appeal decision to the Athlete or other Person and to the other Anti-Doping Organizations that would have been entitled to appeal under Article 5.13.2.3 as provided under Article 5.14.2.

### 5.13.6 Time for Filing Appeals<sup>68</sup>

#### 5.13.6.1 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 the notice of the decision, such party/ies shall have the right to request a copy of the full case file pertaining to the decision from the Anti-Doping Organization that had Results Management authority;
- (b) If such a request is made within the fifteen (15) 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 (21) days after the last day on which any other party having a right to appeal could have appealed, or

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<sup>66</sup> [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 Organization appeals a decision after the Athlete's time for appeal has expired. This provision permits a full hearing for all parties.]

<sup>67</sup> [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 with ITTF and give ITTF an opportunity to explain why it has not yet rendered a decision.]

<sup>68</sup> [Comment to Article 5.13.6: Whether governed by CAS rules or these Anti-Doping Rules, a party's deadline to appeal does not begin running until receipt of the decision. For that reason, there can be no expiration of a party's right to appeal if the party has not received the decision.]

(b) Twenty-one (21) days after *WADA*'s receipt of the complete file relating to the decision.

**5.13.6.2 Appeals Under Article 5.13.2.2**

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

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

- (a) Twenty-one (21) days after the last day on which any other party having a right to appeal could have appealed, or
- (b) Twenty-one (21) days after *WADA*'s receipt of the complete file relating to the decision.

**ARTICLE 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.

If at any point during *Results Management* up until the anti-doping rule violation charge, ITTF decides not to move forward with a matter, it must notify the *Athlete* or other *Person*, (provided that the *Athlete* or other *Person* had been already informed of the ongoing *Results Management*).

Notice shall be delivered or emailed to *Athletes* or other *Persons*. *Athletes* and other *Persons* shall be deemed to be validly notified if any notifications or notices under these Anti-Doping Rules are delivered to their *Member Association*. It shall be the responsibility of the *Member Association* to notify the *Athlete* or other *Person*. If the notification takes place via a *Member Association*, the *Member Association* shall confirm to the ITTF that they have delivered the notification to the *Athlete* or other *Person*.

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

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

If at any point during *Results Management* up until the anti-doping rule violation charge, ITTF decides not to move forward with a matter, it must give notice (with reasons) to the *Anti-Doping Organizations* with a right of appeal under Article 5.13.2.3.

Notice shall be delivered or emailed.

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

Notification of an anti-doping rule violation shall include: the *Athlete's* or other *Person'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* and *International Standard for Results Management*.

Notification of anti-doping rule violations other than under Article 5.2.1 shall also 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 a notice of an anti-doping rule violation pursuant to Article 5.14.1.1, the *Athlete's* or other *Person's National Anti-Doping Organization* and *WADA* shall be regularly updated on the status and findings of any review or proceedings conducted pursuant to Article 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 organizations 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, Member Association*, until ITTF has made Public Disclosure as permitted by Article 5.14.3).

#### 5.14.1.6 Protection of Confidential Information by an Employee or Agent of the ITTF

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. ITTF shall ensure that its employees (whether permanent or otherwise), contractors, agents, consultants, and Delegated Third Parties are subject to fully enforceable contractual duty of confidentiality and to fully enforceable procedures for the investigation and disciplining of improper and/or unauthorized disclosure of such confidential information.

### 5.14.2 Notice of Anti-Doping Rule Violation or violations of *Ineligibility* or *Provisional Suspension* Decisions and Request for Files

#### 5.14.2.1 Anti-doping rule violation decisions or decisions related to violations of *Ineligibility* or *Provisional Suspension* rendered pursuant to Article 5.7.6, 5.8.2, 5.10.5, 5.10.6, 5.10.7, 5.10.14.3 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 an English or French summary of the decision and the supporting reasons.

#### 5.14.2.2 An *Anti-Doping Organization* 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 After notice has been provided to the *Athlete* or other *Person* in accordance with the *International Standard for Results Management*, and to the applicable *Anti-Doping Organizations* in accordance with Article 5.14.1.2, the identity of

any *Athlete* or other *Person* who is notified of a potential anti-doping rule violation, the *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* and the nature of the violation involved, and whether the *Athlete* or other *Person* is subject to a *Provisional Suspension* may be *Publicly Disclosed* by ITTF.

- 5.14.3.2 No later than twenty (20) days after it has been determined in an appellate decision under Article 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 otherwise been timely challenged, or the matter has been resolved under Article 5.10.8, or a new period of *Ineligibility*, or reprimand, has been imposed under Article 5.10.14.3, ITTF must *Publicly Disclose* the disposition of the anti-doping 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 Disclose* within twenty (20) days the results of appellate decisions concerning anti-doping rule violations, including the information described above.<sup>69</sup>
- 5.14.3.3 After an anti-doping rule violation has been determined to have been committed in an appellate decision under Article 5.13.2.1 or 5.13.2.2 or such appeal has been waived, or in a hearing in accordance with Article 5.8 or where such hearing has been waived, or the assertion of an anti-doping rule violation has not otherwise been timely challenged, or the matter has been resolved under Article 5.10.8, ITTF may make public such determination or decision and may comment publicly on the matter.
- 5.14.3.4 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 fact that the decision has been appealed may be *Publicly Disclosed*. However, the decision itself and the underlying facts may not be *Publicly Disclosed* except 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.
- 5.14.3.5 Publication shall be accomplished at a minimum by placing the required information on the ITTF's website and leaving the information up for the longer of one (1) month or the duration of any period of *Ineligibility*.
- 5.14.3.6 Except as provided in Articles 5.14.3.1 and 5.14.3.3, no *Anti-Doping Organization*, *Member Association*, or *WADA*-accredited laboratory, or any official of any such 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, or based on information provided by, the *Athlete*, other *Person* or their entourage or other representatives.
- 5.14.3.7 The mandatory Public Disclosure required in Article 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*, *Protected Person* or

<sup>69</sup> [Comment to Article 5.14.3.2: Where Public Disclosure as required by Article 5.14.3.2 would result in a breach of other applicable laws, ITTF's failure to make the Public Disclosure will not result in a determination of non-compliance with Code as set forth in Article 4.1 of the International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information.]

*Recreational Athlete.* Any optional Public Disclosure in a case involving a *Minor, Protected Person or Recreational Athlete* shall be proportionate to the facts and circumstances of the case.

#### 5.14.4 Statistical Reporting

ITTF shall, at least annually, publish publicly a general statistical report of its *Doping Control* activities, with a copy provided 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 Database and Monitoring of Compliance

To enable *WADA* to perform its compliance monitoring role and to ensure the effective use of resources and sharing of applicable *Doping Control* information among *Anti-Doping Organizations*, ITTF shall report to *WADA* through *ADAMS Doping Control*-related information, including, in particular:

- (a) *Athlete Biological Passport* data for *International-Level Athletes* and *National-Level Athletes*,
- (b) Whereabouts information for *Athletes* including those in *Registered Testing Pools*,
- (c) *TUE* decisions, and
- (d) *Results Management* decisions,

as required under the applicable *International Standard(s)*.

#### 5.14.5.1

To facilitate coordinated test distribution planning, avoid unnecessary duplication in *Testing* by various *Anti-Doping Organizations*, and to ensure that *Athlete Biological Passport* profiles are updated, ITTF shall report all *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition* tests to *WADA* by entering the *Doping Control* forms into *ADAMS* in accordance with the requirements and timelines contained in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.

#### 5.14.5.2

To facilitate *WADA*'s oversight and appeal rights for *TUEs*, ITTF shall report all *TUE* applications, decisions and supporting documentation using *ADAMS* in accordance with the requirements and timelines contained in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*.

#### 5.14.5.3

To facilitate *WADA*'s oversight and appeal rights for *Results Management*, ITTF shall report the following information into *ADAMS* in accordance with the requirements and timelines outlined in the *International Standard for Results Management*: (a) notifications of anti-doping rule violations and related decisions for *Adverse Analytical Findings*; (b) notifications and related decisions for other anti-doping rule violations that are not *Adverse Analytical Findings*; (c) whereabouts failures; and (d) any decision imposing, lifting or reinstating a *Provisional Suspension*.

#### 5.14.5.4

The information described in this Article will be made accessible, where appropriate and in accordance with the applicable rules, to the *Athlete*, the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organization*, and any other *Anti-Doping Organizations* 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 its *Anti-Doping Activities* under the *Code*, the *International Standards* (including specifically the *International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information*), these *Anti-Doping Rules*, and in compliance with applicable law.
- 5.14.6.2 Without limiting the foregoing, ITTF shall:
- (a) Only process personal information in accordance with a valid legal ground;
  - (b) Notify any *Participant* or *Person* subject to these *Anti-Doping Rules*, in a manner and form that complies with applicable laws and the *International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information*, that their personal information may be processed by ITTF and other *Persons* for the purpose of the implementation of these *Anti-Doping Rules*;
  - (c) Ensure that any third-party agents (including any *Delegated Third Party*) with whom ITTF shares the personal information of any *Participant* or *Person* is subject to appropriate technical and contractual controls to protect the confidentiality and privacy of such information.

#### 5.14.7 Means of Notice

- 5.14.7.1 Any notice given under these *Anti-Doping Rules* shall be deemed to have been duly given as follows:
- (a) if delivered personally by hand against receipt, on the date of delivery;
  - (b) if sent by registered post with acknowledgment of receipt or equivalent, on the date mentioned on the receipt (in accordance with local law);
  - (c) if sent by email, on the day after the email is sent, provided that ITTF must first ensure that the email address known for the recipient (*Athlete* or other *Person*) is valid and current, such as by verifying that it is the email address directly provided by the *Athlete* or other *Person* (e.g. through the DCF related to the Sample that is the subject of the notification or any other recent correspondence), or via the *Athlete* or other *Person*'s member federation. ITTF shall also request a delivery receipt when sending the email and, if possible, and depending on the recipient email, a "read receipt".

### **ARTICLE 5.15 IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS**

#### 5.15.1 Automatic Binding Effect of Decisions by Signatory *Anti-Doping Organizations*

- 5.15.1.1 A decision of an anti-doping rule violation made by a Signatory *Anti-Doping Organization*, an appellate body (Article 13.2.2 of the *Code*) or CAS shall, after the parties to the proceeding are notified, automatically be binding beyond the parties to the proceeding upon ITTF and its *Member Associations*, as well as every Signatory in every sport with the effects described below:
- 5.15.1.1.1 A decision by any of the above-described bodies imposing a *Provisional Suspension* (after a *Provisional Hearing* has occurred or the *Athlete* or other *Person* has either accepted the *Provisional Suspension* or has waived the right to a *Provisional Hearing*, expedited hearing or expedited appeal offered in

accordance with Article 5.7.4.3) automatically prohibits the *Athlete* or other *Person* from participation (as described in Article 5.10.14.1) in all sports within the authority of any Signatory during the *Provisional Suspension*.

- 5.15.1.1.2 A decision by any of the above-described bodies imposing a period of *Ineligibility* (after a hearing has occurred or been waived) automatically prohibits the *Athlete* or other *Person* from participation (as described in Article 5.10.14.1) in all sports within the authority of any Signatory for the period of *Ineligibility*.
- 5.15.1.1.3 A decision by any of the above-described bodies accepting an anti-doping rule violation automatically binds all *Signatories*.
- 5.15.1.1.4 A decision by any of the above-described bodies to Disqualify results under Article 5.10.10 for a specified period automatically Disqualifies all results obtained within the authority of any Signatory during the specified period.
- 5.15.1.2 ITTF and its *Member Associations* shall recognize and implement a decision and its effects as required by Article 5.15.1.1, without any further action required, on the earlier of the date ITTF receives actual notice of the decision or the date the decision is placed into *ADAMS*.
- 5.15.1.3 A decision by an *Anti-Doping Organization*, a national appellate body or CAS to suspend, or lift, *Consequences* shall be binding upon ITTF and its *Member Associations* without any further action required, on the earlier of the date ITTF receives actual notice of the decision or the date the decision is placed into *ADAMS*.
- 5.15.1.4 Notwithstanding any provision in Article 5.15.1.1, however, a decision of an anti-doping rule violation by a Major *Event Organization* made in an expedited process during an *Event* shall not be binding on ITTF or its *Member Associations* unless the rules of the Major *Event Organization* provide the *Athlete* or other *Person* with an opportunity to an appeal under non-expedited procedures.<sup>70</sup>
- 5.15.2 Implementation of Other Decisions by *Anti-Doping Organizations*  
ITTF and its *Member Associations* may decide to implement other anti-doping decisions rendered by *Anti-Doping Organizations* not described in Article 5.15.1.1 above, such as a *Provisional Suspension* prior to a *Provisional Hearing* or acceptance by the *Athlete* or other *Person*.<sup>71</sup>
- 5.15.3 Implementation of Decisions by Body that is not a Signatory

<sup>70</sup> [Comment to Article 5.15.1.4: By way of example, where the rules of the Major Event Organization give the Athlete or other Person the option of choosing an expedited CAS appeal or a CAS appeal under normal CAS procedure, the final decision or adjudication by the Major Event Organization is binding on other Signatories regardless of whether the Athlete or other Person chooses the expedited appeal option.]

<sup>71</sup> [Comment to Articles 5.15.1 and 5.15.2: Anti-Doping Organization decisions under Article 5.15.1 are implemented automatically by other Signatories without the requirement of any decision or further action on the Signatories' part. For example, when a National Anti-Doping Organization decides to Provisionally Suspend an Athlete, that decision is given automatic effect at the International Federation level. To be clear, the "decision" is the one made by the National Anti-Doping Organization, there is not a separate decision to be made by the International Federation. Thus, any claim by the Athlete that the Provisional Suspension was improperly imposed can only be asserted against the National Anti-Doping Organization. Implementation of Anti-Doping Organizations' decisions under Article 5.15.2 is subject to each Signatory's discretion. A Signatory's implementation of a decision under Article 5.15.1 or Article 5.15.2 is not appealable separately from any appeal of the underlying decision. The extent of recognition of TUE decisions of other Anti-Doping Organizations shall be determined by Article 5.4.4 and the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions.]

An anti-doping decision by a body that is not a Signatory to the *Code* shall be implemented by ITTF and its *Member Associations*, if ITTF finds that the decision purports to be within the authority of that body and the anti-doping rules of that body are otherwise consistent with the *Code*.<sup>72</sup>

## **ARTICLE 5.16 STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS**

No anti-doping rule violation proceeding may be commenced against an *Athlete* or other *Person* unless he 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 is asserted to have occurred.

## **ARTICLE 5.17 EDUCATION**

- 5.17.1 ITTF shall plan, implement, evaluate and promote *Education* in line with the requirements of Article 18.2 of the *Code* and the *International Standard for Education*.
- 5.17.2 All Athletes included in the ITTF Registered Testing Pool and athletes returning from a sanction must within four (4) months from the notification of their inclusion successfully complete an Anti-Doping Education course designated by the ITTF or equivalent provided by the individual athlete's *National Anti-Doping Organisation* and register such completion with the ITTF Integrity Unit ([integrity@ittf.com](mailto:integrity@ittf.com)). The ITTF shall monitor the suitability of the *National Anti-Doping Organisation*'s course to ensure it complies with the requirements of the *Code* and International Standard for Education. In case the ITTF determines the Anti-Doping Education course delivered by the *National Anti-Doping Organisation* does not satisfy the requirements of the *Code* and International Standard for Education, the ITTF shall request the Athlete to undergo the Anti-Doping Education course designated by ITTF and may extend the time limit to complete the program. Each Athlete shall be personally responsible for complying with this obligation. Any Athlete who has not met this requirement by the set deadline shall be ineligible to compete in any *International Event* until successful completion of the course and its registration with the ITTF Integrity Unit.
- 5.17.3 ITTF may decide to request that any *Athlete* complete *Educational* activities before and/or during their participation in an *Event* (e.g.: World Youth Championships) as a condition of such participation. The list of *Events* for which an *Athlete* will be required to complete *Educational* activities as a condition of participation will be published on ITTF's website.
- 5.17.4 Failure by the *Athlete* to complete *Educational* activities as requested by ITTF may result in the imposition of sanction under ITTF's

<sup>72</sup> [Comment to Article 5.15.3: 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, other Signatories and Member 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 the *Athlete*'s body but the period of Ineligibility applied is shorter than the period provided for in the *Code*, then ITTF and all other Signatories should recognize the finding of an anti-doping rule violation and the *Athlete*'s National Anti-Doping Organization should conduct a hearing consistent with Article 5.8 to determine whether the longer period of Ineligibility provided in the *Code* should be imposed. ITTF or other Signatory's implementation of a decision, or their decision not to implement a decision under Article 5.15.3, is appealable under Article 5.13.]

disciplinary rules, unless the *Athlete* provides to ITTF a justification for such failure, which shall be assessed by ITTF Integrity Unit on a case-by-case basis.

## **ARTICLE 5.18 ADDITIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS**

- 5.18.1 All *Member Associations* and their members shall comply with the *Code*, *International Standards*, and these Anti-Doping Rules. All *Member Associations* and other members shall include in their policies, rules and programs the provisions necessary to ensure that ITTF may enforce these Anti-Doping Rules (including carrying out *Testing*) directly in respect of *Athletes* (including *National-Level Athletes*) and other *Persons* under their anti-doping authority as specified in the Introduction to these Anti-Doping Rules (Section “Scope of these Anti-Doping Rules”).
- 5.18.2 Each *Member Association* shall incorporate these Anti-Doping Rules either directly or by reference into its governing documents, constitution and/or rules as part of the rules of sport that bind their members so that the *Member Association* may enforce them itself directly in respect of *Athletes* (including *National-Level Athletes*) and other *Persons* under its anti-doping authority.
- 5.18.3 By adopting these Anti-Doping Rules and incorporating them into their governing documents and rules of sport, *Member Associations* shall cooperate with and support ITTF in that function. They shall also recognize, abide by and implement the decisions made pursuant to these Anti-Doping Rules, including the decisions imposing sanctions on *Persons* under their authority.
- 5.18.4 All *Member Associations* shall take appropriate action to enforce compliance with the *Code*, *International Standards*, and these Anti-Doping Rules by inter alia:
- (i) conducting *Testing* only under the documented authority of ITTF and using their *National Anti-Doping Organization* or other Sample collection authority to collect Samples in compliance with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*;
  - (ii) recognizing the authority of the *National Anti-Doping Organization* in their country in accordance with Article 5.2.1 of the *Code* and assisting as appropriate with the *National Anti-Doping Organization*’s implementation of the national *Testing* program for their sport;
  - (iii) analysing all Samples collected using a *WADA*-accredited or *WADA*-approved laboratory in accordance with Article 5.6.1; and
  - (iv) ensuring that any national level anti-doping rule violation cases discovered by *Member Associations* are adjudicated by an Operationally Independent hearing panel in accordance with Article 5.8.1 and the *International Standard for Results Management*.
- 5.18.5 All *Member Associations* shall establish rules requiring all *Athletes* preparing for or participating in a *Competition* or activity authorized or organized by a *Member*

*Association or one of its member organizations, and all Athlete Support Personnel associated with such Athletes, to agree to be bound by these Anti-Doping Rules and to submit to the Results Management authority of the Anti-Doping Organization in conformity with the Code as a condition of such participation.*

5.18.6 All Member Associations shall report any information suggesting or relating to an anti-doping rule violation to ITTF and to their National Anti-Doping Organizations and shall cooperate with investigations conducted by any Anti-Doping Organization with authority to conduct the investigation.

5.18.7 All Member 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 authority of ITTF or the Member Association.

5.18.8 All Member Associations shall conduct anti-doping Education in coordination with their National Anti-Doping Organizations.

## **ARTICLE 5.19 ADDITIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ITTF**

5.19.1 In addition to the roles and responsibilities described in Article 20.3 of the Code for International Federations, ITTF shall report to WADA on ITTF's compliance with the Code and the International Standards in accordance with Article 24.1.2 of the Code.

5.19.2 Subject to applicable law, and in accordance with Article 20.3.4 of the Code, all ITTF board members, directors, officers, employees and those of appointed Delegated Third Parties who are involved in any aspect of Doping Control, must sign a form provided by ITTF, agreeing to be bound by these Anti-Doping Rules as Persons in conformity with the Code for direct and intentional misconduct.

5.19.3 Subject to applicable law, and in accordance with Article 20.3.5 of the Code, any ITTF employee who is involved in Doping Control (other than authorized anti-doping Education or rehabilitation programs) must sign a statement provided by ITTF confirming that they are not Provisionally Suspended or serving a period of Ineligibility and have not been directly or intentionally engaged in conduct within the previous six (6) years which would have constituted a violation of anti-doping rules if Code-compliant rules had been applicable to them.

## **ARTICLE 5.20 ADDITIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ATHLETES**

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

5.20.2 To be available for Sample collection at all times.<sup>73</sup>

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

5.20.4 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.

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<sup>73</sup> [Comment to Article 5.20.2: 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.]

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

5.20.6 To cooperate with *Anti-Doping Organizations* investigating anti-doping rule violations.

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

5.20.7 To disclose the identity of their *Athlete Support Personnel* upon request by ITTF or a *Member Association*, or any other *Anti-Doping Organization* with authority over the *Athlete*.

5.20.8 Offensive conduct towards a *Doping Control* official or other *Person* involved in *Doping Control* by an *Athlete*, which does not otherwise constitute *Tampering*, may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.

## **ARTICLE 5.21 ADDITIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ATHLETE SUPPORT PERSONNEL**

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

5.21.2 To cooperate with the *Athlete Testing* program.

5.21.3 To use their influence on *Athlete* values and behaviour to foster anti-doping attitudes.

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

5.21.5 To cooperate with *Anti-Doping Organizations* investigating anti-doping rule violations.

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

5.21.6 *Athlete Support Personnel* shall not *Use* or *Possess* any *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* without valid justification.

Any such *Use* or *Possession* may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.

5.21.7 Offensive conduct towards a *Doping Control* official or other *Person* involved in *Doping Control* by *Athlete Support Personnel*, which does not otherwise constitute *Tampering*, may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.

## **ARTICLE 5.22 ADDITIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF OTHER PERSONS SUBJECT TO THESE ANTI-DOPING RULES**

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

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

5.22.3 To cooperate with *Anti-Doping Organizations* investigating anti-doping rule violations.

Failure by any other *Person* subject to these Anti-Doping Rules to cooperate in full with *Anti-Doping Organizations* investigating anti-doping rule violations may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.

5.22.4 Not to *Use* or *Possess* any *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* without valid justification.

5.22.5 Offensive conduct towards a *Doping Control* official or other *Person* involved in *Doping Control* by a *Person*, which does not otherwise constitute *Tampering*, may result in a charge of misconduct under ITTF's disciplinary rules.

## **ARTICLE 5.23      INTERPRETATION OF THE CODE**

5.23.1 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.

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

5.23.3 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.

5.23.4 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.

5.23.5 Where the term "days" is used in the *Code* or an *International Standard*, it shall mean calendar days unless otherwise specified.

5.23.6 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.

5.23.7 The Purpose, Scope and Organization of the World Anti-Doping Program and the *Code* and Appendix 1, Definitions, and Appendix 2, Examples of the Application of Article 10, shall be considered integral parts of the *Code*.

## **ARTICLE 5.24      FINAL PROVISIONS**

5.24.1 Where the term "days" is used in these Anti-Doping Rules, it shall mean calendar days unless otherwise specified.

5.24.2 These Anti-Doping Rules shall be interpreted as an independent and autonomous text and not by reference to existing law or statutes.

5.24.3 These Anti-Doping Rules have been adopted pursuant to the applicable provisions of the *Code* and the *International Standards* and shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with applicable provisions of the *Code* and the *International Standards*. The *Code* and the *International Standards* shall be considered integral parts of these Anti-Doping Rules and shall prevail in case of conflict.

5.24.4 The Introduction and Appendix 1 shall be considered integral parts of these Anti-Doping Rules.

- 5.24.5 The comments annotating various provisions of these Anti-Doping Rules shall be used to interpret these Anti-Doping Rules.
- 5.24.6 These Anti-Doping Rules shall enter into force on 1 January 2021 (the "Effective Date"). They repeal previous versions of ITTF's Anti-Doping Rules.
- 5.24.7 These Anti-Doping Rules shall not apply retroactively to matters pending before the Effective Date. However:
- 5.24.7.1 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.
- 5.24.7.2 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 which occurred prior to the Effective Date, shall be governed by the substantive anti-doping rules in effect at the time the alleged anti-doping rule violation occurred, and not by the substantive anti-doping rules set out in these Anti-Doping Rules, unless the panel hearing the case determines the principle of "lex mitior" appropriately applies under the circumstances of the case. For these purposes, the retrospective periods in which prior violations can be considered for purposes of multiple violations under Article 5.10.9.4 and the statute of limitations set forth in Article 5.16 are procedural rules, not substantive rules, and should be applied retroactively along with all of the other procedural rules in these Anti-Doping Rules (provided, however, that Article 5.16 shall only be applied retroactively if the statute of limitation period has not already expired by the Effective Date).
- 5.24.7.3 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 Results Management*) prior to the Effective Date shall be carried forward and may be relied upon, prior to expiry, in accordance with the *International Standard for Results Management*, but it shall be deemed to have expired twelve (12) months after it occurred.
- 5.24.7.4 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* as of the Effective Date, the *Athlete* or other *Person* may apply to ITTF or other *Anti-Doping Organization* 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.
- 5.24.7.5 For purposes of assessing the period of *Ineligibility* for a second violation under Article 5.10.9.1, 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.<sup>74</sup>

- 5.24.7.6 Changes to the *Prohibited List* and *Technical Documents* relating to substances or methods on the *Prohibited List* shall not, unless they specifically provide otherwise, be applied retroactively. As an exception, however, when a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method* has been removed from the *Prohibited List*, an *Athlete* or other *Person* currently serving a period of *Ineligibility* on account of the formerly *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* may apply to ITTF or other *Anti-Doping Organization* which had *Results Management* responsibility for the anti-doping rule violation to consider a reduction in the period of *Ineligibility* in light of the removal of the substance or method from the *Prohibited List*.

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<sup>74</sup> [Comment to Article 5.24.7.5: Other than the situation described in Article 5.24.7.5, where a final decision finding an anti-doping rule violation has been rendered prior to the Effective Date and the period of Ineligibility imposed has been completely served, these Anti-Doping Rules may not be used to re-characterize the prior violation.]

**APPENDIX 1: DEFINITIONS<sup>75</sup>**

**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 laboratory that, consistent with the *International Standard* for Laboratories, establishes in a *Sample* the presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* or evidence of the *Use* of a *Prohibited Method*.

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

**Aggravating Circumstances:** Circumstances involving, or actions by, an *Athlete* or other *Person* which may justify the imposition of a period of *Ineligibility* greater than the standard sanction. Such circumstances and actions shall include, but are not limited to: the *Athlete* or other *Person* *Used* or *Possessed* multiple *Prohibited Substances* or *Prohibited Methods*, *Used* or *Possessed* a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* on multiple occasions or committed multiple other anti-doping rule violations; a normal individual would be likely to enjoy the performance-enhancing effects of the anti-doping rule violation(s) beyond the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility*; the *Athlete* or *Person* engaged in deceptive or obstructive conduct to avoid the detection or adjudication of an anti-doping rule violation; or the *Athlete* or other *Person* engaged in *Tampering* during *Results Management*. For the avoidance of doubt, the examples of circumstances and conduct described herein are not exclusive and other similar circumstances or conduct may also justify the imposition of a longer period of *Ineligibility*.

**Anti-Doping Activities:** Anti-doping *Education* and information, test distribution planning, maintenance of a *Registered Testing Pool*, managing *Athlete Biological Passports*, conducting *Testing*, organizing analysis of *Samples*, gathering of intelligence and conduct of investigations, processing of *TUE* applications, *Results Management*, monitoring and enforcing compliance with any *Consequences* imposed, and all other activities related to anti-doping to be carried out by or on behalf of an *Anti-Doping Organization*, as set out in the *Code* and/or the *International Standards*.

**Anti-Doping Organization:** *WADA* or a *Signatory* that is responsible for adopting rules for initiating, implementing or enforcing any part of the *Doping Control* process. This includes,

<sup>75</sup> [Comment to Definitions: Defined terms shall include their plural and possessive forms, as well as those terms used as other parts of speech.]

for example, the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, other *Major Event Organizations* that conduct *Testing* at their *Events*, International Federations, and *National Anti-Doping Organizations*.

**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 Organization*). An *Anti-Doping Organization* 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 Organization* 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 Organization* has elected to exercise its authority to test and who competes below the international or national level, then the *Consequences* set forth in the *Code* must be applied. For purposes of Article 5.2.8 and Article 5.2.9 and for purposes of anti-doping information and *Education*, any *Person* who participates in sport under the authority of any *Signatory*, government, or other sports organization accepting the *Code* is an *Athlete*.<sup>76</sup>

**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*.

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

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

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

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<sup>76</sup> [Comment to Athlete: Individuals who participate in sport may fall in one of five categories: 1) International-Level Athlete, 2) National-Level Athlete, 3) individuals who are not International- or National-Level Athletes but over whom the International Federation or National Anti-Doping Organization has chosen to exercise authority, 4) Recreational Athlete, and 5) individuals over whom no International Federation or National Anti-Doping Organization has, or has chosen to, exercise authority. 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 Organizations.]

**Competition:** A single race, match, game or singular sport contest. For example, a basketball game or the finals of the Olympic 100-meter race 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 ITTF. A *Competition* is an event for Singles, Doubles Pairs or Teams.

**Continental and Regional Federations:** Groups of ITTF Member Associations recognized by the ITTF to which the ITTF can delegate the organization of certain Continental or Regional events.

**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, 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 5.10.14; (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 financial sanction imposed for an anti-doping rule violation or to recover costs associated with an anti-doping rule violation; and (e) Public Disclosure means the dissemination or distribution of information to the general public or Persons beyond those Persons entitled to earlier notification in accordance with Article 5.14. Teams in Team Sports may also be subject to Consequences as provided in Article 5.11.

**Contaminated Product:** A product that contains a Prohibited Substance that is not disclosed on the product label or in information available in a reasonable Internet search.

**Decision Limit:** The value of the result for a threshold substance in a Sample, above which an Adverse Analytical Finding shall be reported, as defined in the International Standard for Laboratories.

**Delegated Third Party:** Any Person to which ITTF delegates any aspect of Doping Control or anti-doping Education programs including, but not limited to, third parties or other Anti-Doping Organizations that conduct Sample collection or other Doping Control services or anti-doping Educational programs for ITTF, or individuals serving as independent contractors who perform Doping Control services for ITTF (e.g., non-employee Doping Control officers or chaperones). This definition does not include CAS.

**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 and the enforcement of Consequences, including all steps and processes in between, including but not limited to Testing, investigations, whereabouts, TUEs, Sample collection and handling, laboratory analysis, Results Management, and investigations or proceedings relating to violations of Article 5.10.14 (Status During Ineligibility or Provisional Suspension).

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

**Education:** The process of learning to instill values and develop behaviors that foster and protect the spirit of sport, and to prevent intentional and unintentional doping.

**Event:** A series of individual *Competitions* conducted together under one ruling body (e.g., the Olympic Games, 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, the *Event Period* is considered the period which starts at 11:59 p.m. of the day before the *Event* and finishes at 11:59 p.m. of the day on which the *Event* ends.

**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 (including official training), facilities and public areas.

**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's* 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 *Protected Person*, 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 behaviour. 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 a career, or the timing of the sporting calendar, would not be relevant factors to be considered in reducing the period of *Ineligibility* under Article 5.10.6.1 or 5.10.6.2.<sup>77</sup>

**Financial Consequences:** See *Consequences of Anti-Doping Rule Violations* above.

**In-Competition:** The period commencing at 11:59 p.m. on the day 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*.<sup>78</sup>

**Independent Observer Program:** A team of observers and/or auditors, under the supervision of WADA, who observe and provide guidance on the *Doping Control* process prior to or during certain *Events* and report on their observations as part of WADA's compliance monitoring program.

**Individual Sport:** Any sport that is not a *Team Sport*.

**Ineligibility:** See *Consequences of Anti-Doping Rule Violations* above.

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<sup>77</sup> [Comment to *Fault*: 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 5.10.6.2, 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.]

<sup>78</sup> [Comment to *In-Competition*: Having a universally accepted definition for *In-Competition* provides greater harmonization among Athletes across all sports, eliminates or reduces confusion among Athletes about the relevant timeframe for *In-Competition Testing*, avoids inadvertent Adverse Analytical Findings in between Competitions during an *Event* and assists in preventing any potential performance enhancement benefits from substances prohibited *Out-of-Competition* being carried over to the *Competition period*.]

*Institutional Independence:* Hearing panels on appeal shall be fully independent institutionally from the *Anti-Doping Organization* responsible for *Results Management*. They must therefore not in any way be administered by, connected or subject to the *Anti-Doping Organization* responsible for *Results Management*.

*International Event:* An *Event* or *Competition* where the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, an International Federation, a *Major Event Organization*, or another international sport organization is the ruling body for the *Event* or appoints the technical officials for the *Event*.

*International-Level Athlete:* Athletes who compete 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 Scope section of the Introduction to these Anti-Doping Rules.<sup>79</sup>

*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 Organizations:* The continental associations of *National Olympic Committees* and other international multi-sport organizations 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.

*Minimum Reporting Level:* The estimated concentration of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolite(s)* or *Marker(s)* in a *Sample* below which WADA-accredited laboratories should not report that *Sample* as an *Adverse Analytical Finding*.

*Minor:* A natural *Person* who has not reached the age of eighteen (18) years.

*National Anti-Doping Organization:* 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.

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<sup>79</sup> [Comment to *International-Level Athlete*: Consistent with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*, ITTF 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*.]

*National Event:* A sport *Event* or *Competition* involving *International-* or *National-Level Athletes* that is not an *International Event*.

*Member Association:* A national or regional entity which is a member of or is recognized by ITTF as the entity governing ITTF's sport in that nation or region.

*National-Level Athlete:* *Athletes* who compete in sport at the national level, as defined by each *National Anti-Doping Organization*, consistent with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.

*National Olympic Committee:* The organization recognized 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 *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete*, for any violation of Article 5.2.1, the *Athlete* must also establish how the *Prohibited Substance* entered the *Athlete*'s system.

*No Significant Fault or Negligence:* The *Athlete* or other *Person*'s establishing that any *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 *Protected Person* or *Recreational Athlete*, for any violation of Article 5.2.1, the *Athlete* must also establish how the *Prohibited Substance* entered the *Athlete*'s system.

*Operational Independence:* This means that (1) board members, staff members, commission members, consultants and officials of the *Anti-Doping Organization* with responsibility for *Results Management* or its affiliates (e.g., member federation or confederation), as well as any *Person* involved in the investigation and pre-adjudication of the matter cannot be appointed as members and/or clerks (to the extent that such clerk is involved in the deliberation process and/or drafting of any decision) of hearing panels of that *Anti-Doping Organization* with responsibility for *Results Management* and (2) hearing panels shall be in a position to conduct the hearing and decision-making process without interference from the *Anti-Doping Organization* or any third party. The objective is to ensure that members of the hearing panel or individuals otherwise involved in the decision of the hearing panel, are not involved in the investigation of, or decisions to proceed with, the case.

*Out-of-Competition:* Any period which is not *In-Competition*.

*Participant:* Any *Athlete* or *Athlete Support Person*.

*Person:* A natural *Person* or an organization 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 Organization*. 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.<sup>80</sup>

*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*.

*Protected Person:* An *Athlete* or other natural *Person* who at the time of the anti-doping rule violation: (i) has not reached the age of sixteen (16) years; (ii) has not reached the age of eighteen (18) years and is not included in any *Registered Testing Pool* and has never competed in any *International Event* in an open category; or (iii) for reasons other than age has been determined to lack legal capacity under applicable national legislation.<sup>81</sup>

*Provisional Hearing:* For purposes of Article 5.7.4.3, 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.<sup>82</sup>

*Provisional Suspension:* See *Consequences of Anti-Doping Rule Violations* above.

*Publicly Disclose:* See *Consequences of Anti-Doping Rule Violations* above.

*Recreational Athlete:* A natural *Person* who is so defined by the relevant *National Anti-Doping Organization*; provided, however, the term shall not include any *Person* who, within the five (5) years prior to committing any anti-doping rule violation, has been an *International-Level Athlete* (as defined by each International Federation consistent with the

<sup>80</sup> [Comment to *Possession*: Under this definition, anabolic steroids found in an Athlete's car would constitute a violation unless the Athlete establishes that someone else used the car; in that event, ITTF must establish that, even though the Athlete did not have exclusive control over the car, the Athlete knew about the anabolic steroids and intended to have control over them. Similarly, in the example of anabolic steroids found in a home medicine cabinet under the joint control of an Athlete and spouse, ITTF must establish that the Athlete knew the anabolic steroids were in the cabinet and that the Athlete intended to exercise control over them. 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.]

<sup>81</sup> [Comment to *Protected Person*: The Code treats *Protected Persons* differently than other *Athletes* or *Persons* in certain circumstances based on the understanding that, below a certain age or intellectual capacity, an Athlete or other Person may not possess the mental capacity to understand and appreciate the prohibitions against conduct contained in the Code. This would include, for example, a *Paralympic Athlete* with a documented lack of legal capacity due to an intellectual impairment. The term "open category" is meant to exclude competition that is limited to junior or age group categories.]

<sup>82</sup> [Comment to *Provisional Hearing*: 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 5.7.4.3, is a full hearing on the merits conducted on an expedited time schedule.]

*International Standard for Testing and Investigations*) or *National-Level Athlete* (as defined by each *National Anti-Doping Organization* consistent with the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*), has represented any country in an *International Event* in an open category or has been included within any *Registered Testing Pool* or other whereabouts information pool maintained by any International Federation or *National Anti-Doping Organization*.<sup>83</sup>

*Regional Anti-Doping Organization*: 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 Organizations*, who are subject to focused *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition Testing* as part of that International Federation's or *National Anti-Doping Organization's* test distribution plan and therefore are required to provide whereabouts information as provided in Article 5.5.5 and the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.

*Results Management*: The process encompassing the timeframe between notification as per Article 5 of the *International Standard for Results Management*, or in certain cases (e.g., *Atypical Finding*, *Athlete Biological Passport*, whereabouts failure), such pre-notification steps expressly provided for in Article 5 of the *International Standard for Results Management*, through the charge until the final resolution of the matter, including the end of the hearing process at first instance or on appeal (if an appeal was lodged).

*Sample or Specimen*: Any biological material collected for the purposes of *Doping Control*.<sup>84</sup>

*Signatories*: Those entities accepting the *Code* and agreeing to implement the *Code*, as provided in Article 23 of the *Code*.

*Specified Method*: See Article 5.4.2.2.

*Specified Substance*: 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 Organization* in order to establish an anti-doping rule violation.

*Substance of Abuse*: See Article 5.4.2.3.

*Substantial Assistance*: For purposes of Article 5.10.7.1, a *Person* providing *Substantial Assistance* must: (1) fully disclose in a signed written statement or recorded interview all information he or she possesses in relation to anti-doping rule violations or other proceeding described in Article 5.10.7.1.1, and (2) fully cooperate with the investigation and adjudication

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<sup>83</sup> [Comment to Recreational Athlete: The term “open category” is meant to exclude competition that is limited to junior or age group categories.]

<sup>84</sup> [Comment to Sample or Specimen: 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.]

of any case or matter related to that information, including, for example, presenting testimony at a hearing if requested to do so by an *Anti-Doping Organization* or hearing panel. Further, the information provided must be credible and must comprise an important part of any case or proceeding which is initiated or, if no case or proceeding is initiated, must have provided a sufficient basis on which a case or proceeding could have been brought.

**Tampering:** Intentional 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, offering or accepting a bribe to perform or fail to perform an act, preventing the collection of a *Sample*, affecting or making impossible the analysis of a *Sample*, falsifying documents submitted to an *Anti-Doping Organization* or *TUE* committee or hearing panel, procuring false testimony from witnesses, committing any other fraudulent act upon the *Anti-Doping Organization* or hearing body to affect *Results Management* or the imposition of *Consequences*, and any other similar intentional interference or *Attempted* interference with any aspect of *Doping Control*.<sup>85</sup>

**Target Testing:** Selection of specific *Athletes* for *Testing* based on criteria set forth in the *International Standard for Testing and Investigations*.

**Team Sport:** A sport in which the substitution of players is permitted during a *Competition*.

**Technical Document:** A document adopted and published by *WADA* from time to time containing mandatory technical requirements on specific anti-doping topics as set forth in an *International Standard*.

**Testing:** The parts of the *Doping Control* process involving test distribution planning, *Sample* collection, *Sample* handling, and *Sample* transport to the laboratory.

**Testing Pool:** The tier below the *Registered Testing Pool* which includes *Athletes* from whom some whereabouts information is required in order to locate and *Test* the *Athlete Out-of-Competition*.

**Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE):** A *Therapeutic Use Exemption* allows an *Athlete* with a medical condition to *Use a Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*, but only if the conditions set out in Article 5.4.4 and the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions* are met.

**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 Person* or any other *Person* subject to the authority of an *Anti-Doping Organization* 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

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<sup>85</sup> [Comment to Tampering: 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, altering a Sample by the addition of a foreign substance, or intimidating or attempting to intimidate a potential witness or a witness who has provided testimony or information in the Doping Control process. Tampering includes misconduct which occurs during the Results Management process. See Article 10.9.3.3. However, actions taken as part of a Person's legitimate defence to an anti-doping rule violation charge shall not be considered Tampering. 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 organizations.]

such *Prohibited Substances* are not intended for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or are intended to enhance sport performance.

*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 utilization, application, ingestion, injection or consumption by any means whatsoever of any *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*.

*WADA:* The World Anti-Doping Agency.

*Without Prejudice Agreement:* For purposes of Articles 5.10.7.1.1 and 5.10.8.2, a written agreement between an *Anti-Doping Organization* and an *Athlete* or other *Person* that allows the *Athlete* or other *Person* to provide information to the *Anti-Doping Organization* in a defined time-limited setting with the understanding that, if an agreement for *Substantial Assistance* or a case resolution agreement is not finalized, the information provided by the *Athlete* or other *Person* in this particular setting may not be used by the *Anti-Doping Organization* against the *Athlete* or other *Person* in any *Results Management* proceeding under the *Code*, and that the information provided by the *Anti-Doping Organization* in this particular setting may not be used by the *Athlete* or other *Person* against the *Anti-Doping Organization* in any *Results Management* proceeding under the *Code*. Such an agreement shall not preclude the *Anti-Doping Organization*, *Athlete* or other *Person* from using any information or evidence gathered from any source other than during the specific time-limited setting described in the agreement.

# **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**

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 Associated Organisations, and their officials, decision-making bodies, honorary members, officers, employees, services providers, delegated third parties and their employees, Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel and such other persons involved in their operations 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 Sanctioned Events and their officials, throughout the existence of each such Committee.

The Associated Organisations 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 **Duty of care, diligence, integrity, etc.:** The Table Tennis Parties shall use due care and diligence in fulfilling their mission. At all times, they shall act with the highest degree of integrity, and particularly when taking decisions, they shall act with impartiality, objectivity, independence and professionalism.
- 6.2.1.1 **Prohibition against acts likely to cause disrepute:** The Table Tennis Parties shall not act in a manner likely to tarnish the reputation, name or goodwill of the ITTF or the sport of table tennis.
- 6.2.1.2 **Prohibition against defamatory statements:** The Table Tennis Parties shall not knowingly or recklessly cause any statement to be made or distributed, whether orally or in written, that is of a defamatory nature towards ITTF, the sport of table tennis, or any other Table Tennis Party.
- 6.2.1.3 **Prohibition against falsehood:** The Table Tennis Parties shall not knowingly or recklessly cause any false statements to be made in respect of ITTF, the sport of table tennis, or any other Table Tennis Parties.
- 6.2.1.4 **Prohibition against forgery and falsification:** The Table Tennis Parties shall not forge any document, falsify any authentic document, or knowingly or recklessly use a forged or falsified document.
- 6.2.1.5 **Prohibition against abuse of authority:** Individuals of Table Tennis Parties shall not abuse their position in any way, especially in seeking to take advantage of their position for aims or gains that benefit themselves or any persons or entities related or associated to them.
- 6.2.1.6 Violation of any provision within this Article shall be sanctioned with a fine of up to CHF 20,000 and/or a ban on taking part in any table tennis-related activity for a maximum of two years. For violations committed by an individual, sanctions shall be increased accordingly if the individual holds a high position in table tennis. Particularly, for a breach of Article 6.2.1.3, any interested Table Tennis Party may seek a declaration from the ITTF Tribunal (and on an expedited basis, if deemed appropriate by the ITTF Tribunal) that the subject statement is false and/or that the subject material contains a false statement of fact, without limiting any other order that the ITTF Tribunal may grant.

- 6.2.2 **Prohibition against fraudulent and corrupt conduct:** The Table Tennis Parties shall refrain from any act involving fraud or corruption, in particular any unlawful conduct specified in Article 6.9.
- 6.2.2.1 **Prohibition against concealed benefit or service:** The Table Tennis Parties shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit, accept, promise or offer any form of remuneration or commission, nor any concealed benefit, advantage or service of any nature, connected with ITTF Sanctioned Events, except by contractual agreements with the Organizing Committees of these events, or any activities connected with any Table Tennis Party.
- 6.2.2.2 **Permissible gifts of nominal value:** The Table Tennis Parties may only accept or give tokens of appreciation or friendship of a nominal value, in accordance with prevailing local customs.
- 6.2.2.3 **Hospitality services:** The Table Tennis Parties may only accept or provide hospitality services if such services are comparable with acceptable past practices.
- 6.2.2.4 **Prohibition against misappropriation of funds:** The Table Tennis Parties shall not misappropriate funds of the ITTF, ITTF Member Associations, Affiliated Organisations, or any of their leagues or clubs, whether directly or indirectly through, or in conjunction with, third parties or otherwise unlawfully enrich themselves at the expense of the aforementioned persons.
- 6.2.2.5 Violation of any provision within this Article shall be sanctioned with a fine of at least CHF 5,000 and/or a ban on taking part in any table tennis-related activity for any number of years, including a lifetime ban. Any amount unduly received or given shall be included in the calculation of the fine. The sanction shall be increased accordingly where the person holds a high position in table tennis, as well as in relation to the relevance and amount of the advantage received.
- 6.2.3 **Prohibition against conflict of interest when performing duties:** The Table Tennis Parties shall refrain from performing their duties (in particular, preparing or participating in the taking of a decision) in situations in which a conflict of interest (whether actual, perceived or potential) may affect such performance.
- 6.2.3.1 A potential conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest arises when the opinion or decision of a person, acting alone or within an organisation, could 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.
- 6.2.3.2 An actual conflict of interest occurs when a person, acting alone or within an organisation, expresses an opinion or participates to a decision while this person is 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. An actual conflict of interest may occur irrespective of whether or not the person has declared the relevant interests.

- 6.2.3.3 **Duty to declare before taking office:** Before being elected, appointed, employed or contracted, individuals of Table Tennis Parties shall declare any relations and interests that could lead to any conflict of interest in the context of their prospective activities.
- 6.2.3.4 **Ongoing duty to declare:** During their course of duties, if any individual of Table Tennis Parties who knows or reasonably ought to know that any conflict of interest may affect the performance of their duties, they shall promptly declare the relevant relation and interest to the relevant Table Tennis Party.
- 6.2.3.4.1 For any individual who is an official, decision-making body, honorary member, officer, employee or services provider of ITTF, ITTF Foundation or WTT, such declaration shall be made to the ITTF Integrity Unit.
- 6.2.3.5 A presumption of conflict of interest shall arise in respect of any person who is a Table Tennis Party if:
- 6.2.3.5.1 they 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;
  - 6.2.3.5.2 their 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; or
  - 6.2.3.5.3 they take part in the management of, are a member or sharehold of, or otherwise are closely related to any company, partnership, association or other legal entity particularly interested in the outcome of the matter.
- 6.2.3.6 Disqualifications, directions to remove oneself from a conflict of interest or such other restrictions may be imposed by the ITTF Integrity Unit and such decision by the ITTF Integrity Unit may be appealed to the ITTF Tribunal.
- 6.2.3.7 Violation of any provision within this Article shall be sanctioned with a fine of up to CHF 10,000 and/or a ban on taking part in any table tennis-related activity for a maximum of two years. For violations committed by an individual, sanctions shall be increased accordingly if the individual holds a high position in table tennis.

6.2.4 **General duties:** The Table Tennis Parties shall be aware of the importance of their duties and concomitant obligations and responsibilities. In particular:

- 6.2.4.1 **Duty of neutrality:** In dealings with government institutions, national and international organisations, associations and groupings, the Table Tennis Parties shall remain politically neutral, in accordance with the principles and objectives applicable to them, and act in a manner compatible with their function and integrity.
- 6.2.4.2 **Duty of loyalty:** Individuals of the Table Tennis Parties shall have a fiduciary duty to their respective organisations.
- 6.2.4.3 **Duty of diligence and good faith:** In discharging their duties, elected and appointed officials of the Table Tennis Parties shall do so in good faith and be familiarised with and abide by the Statutes, the terms of reference of the

body they were elected or appointed to and such other relevant document as may be amended from time to time.

- 6.2.4.4 **Duty of confidentiality:** The Table Tennis Parties shall hold confidential information in confidence and not divulge them unlawfully and confidential information shall include information that is stated in writing or orally to be confidential and information that would be regarded as confidential by a reasonable person.
- 6.2.4.5 **Duty to report:** The Table Tennis Parties who become aware of any violation of this Code of Ethics or any other rule or regulation of the ITTF Handbook or any related document shall promptly inform the ITTF Integrity Unit.
- 6.2.4.5.1 The Table Tennis Parties shall not make any report for personal gain or benefit, frivolously, maliciously, vexatiously, or otherwise in bad faith.
- 6.2.4.6 **Duty to cooperate:** The Table Tennis Parties shall fully assist and cooperate with honesty, confidentiality, and in good faith with the ITTF Integrity Unit at all times, regardless of whether they are involved in a particular matter as a party, as a witness, or in any other role.
- 6.2.4.6.1 For the purposes of Article 6.2.4.6, assistance and cooperation may include acts to: (a) clarify facts, (b) provide oral or written testimony, (c) submit information, documents, devices, or other material or items, and (d) disclose any other details deemed necessary by the ITTF Integrity Unit.
- 6.2.4.6.2 The Table Tennis Parties shall not intentionally, knowingly or recklessly obstruct, evade, prevent, or otherwise interfere with any investigation, intelligence gathering, or disciplinary proceeding, including: (a) concealling any material fact, (b) make any materially false or misleading statement or representation, (c) or submitting any materially false or misleading information or material.
- 6.2.4.6.3 The Table Tennis Parties shall not harass, intimidate, threaten or retaliate against any person for any reason related to that person's assistance to or cooperation with the ITTF Integrity Unit.
- 6.2.4.7 **Duty to account:** The Table Tennis Parties shall be accountable to other organs within their organisation for their individual and collective decisions as defined in the applicable rules and terms of reference for the body they represent.
- 6.2.4.7.1 Elected officials of the Table Tennis Parties shall ensure that appropriate records, such as financial documents and minutes of meetings are properly kept.
- 6.2.4.8 Violation of any provision within this Article shall be sanctioned with a fine of up to CHF 10,000 and/or a ban on taking part in any table tennis-related activity for a maximum of two years. For violations committed by an individual, sanctions shall be increased accordingly if the individual holds a high position in table tennis.

- 6.2.5 **Prohibitions against attempts:** Any Table Tennis Party who attempt to commit any offence prohibited under this Code of Ethics or any other rule or regulation

of the Statutes or any related document, shall be sanctioned with such sanctions prescribed for that offence.

6.2.5.1 For the purposes of Article 6.2.5, an attempt means the taking of any substantial step towards the commission of an offence if it is likely to be viewed as an intention to commit the offence.

6.2.6 **Prohibitions against complicity:** Any Table Tennis Party who assist, encourage, aid, abet, conspire, cover up, or commit any other type of intentional complicity or attempted complicity of any offence prohibited under this Code of Ethics or any other rule or regulation of the Statutes or any related document, shall be sanctioned with such sanctions prescribed for that offence.

6.2.7 **Range and types of sanctions:** Breaches of this Code of Ethics or any other rule or regulation of the Statutes or any related document by any Table Tennis Party for which no penalty is expressly provided shall be liable to be sanctioned by one or more of the following sanctions:

- 6.2.7.1 censure, reprimand or warning as to future conduct;
- 6.2.7.2 fine of any amount;
- 6.2.7.3 compensation payment;
- 6.2.7.4 to perform certain acts or refrain from performing certain acts;
- 6.2.7.5 to participate or complete in any rehabilitation programme;
- 6.2.7.6 suspension or removal from office;
- 6.2.7.7 revocation of any award, title or other honour granted by ITTF;
- 6.2.7.8 disqualification of results and outcomes of such results, including a forfeiture of any related awards, titles, ranking points or prizes;
- 6.2.7.9 disqualification or expulsion from competitions or events; and
- 6.2.7.10 period of ineligibility or ban (which may be for life) from participating in any capacity in Table Tennis or in any activities organised, controlled, authorised, sanctioned, supported or recognised in any way by any Table Tennis Party.

### 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 Audit and 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 candidature procedures published by the ITTF, particularly regarding the selection of World Title hosts, the Regulations for World Title events, and the Electoral and Appointment Regulations.

#### **6.6 CONFIDENTIALITY**

- 6.6.1 The principle of confidentiality shall be strictly respected by the ITTF Integrity Unit in all its activities.

It must also be strictly respected by any person concerned with the activities of the ITTF Integrity Unit.

## **6.7 REPORTING OBLIGATION**

- 6.7.1 The Table Tennis Parties shall inform the ITTF Integrity Unit, in the strictest confidence and through the prescribed mechanisms related to a violation of the Code of Ethics.
- 6.7.2 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 ITTF Integrity Unit may set out the provisions for the implementation of the present Code in a set of Implementing Provisions, subject to the approval of the ITTF Council.
- 6.8.2 The ITTF Head of Integrity shall disseminate and implement the present Code.

## **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.

Associated Organisations 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 Member Association may be accomplished by delivery of the notice to the Member Association concerned. The Member 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 Table Tennis Parties 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 (abbreviated as “participant” in the provisions below).
- 6.9.1.2 It is the personal responsibility of every participant to make themselves 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 the ITTF Tribunal to hear and determine charges brought by the ITTF Integrity Unit and to the exclusive jurisdiction of CAS to determine any appeal from the ITTF Tribunal’s decision.
- 6.9.1.4 Each participant shall be bound by these rules until a date 6 months following their last participation or assistance in a competition. Each participant shall continue to be bound by these rules in respect of their 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 Article 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 Article 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 them or the sport into disrepute.

**6.9.2.3.3** Inducing, instructing, facilitating or encouraging a participant to commit a violation of Article 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 Article 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 their 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 Article 6.9.2 committed by a participant.
- 6.9.2.5.3 Failing to disclose to the ITTF Integrity Unit 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 Integrity Unit 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 Integrity Unit 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 Integrity Unit 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 Integrity Unit 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 Integrity Unit 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 Article 6.9.2 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 If any participant who is accused of committing a violation fails or refuses to attend the ITTF Tribunal hearing, whether in person or remotely, 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, the Hearing Panel may nevertheless proceed and deliver its decision.

**6.9.4 INVESTIGATIONS AND CHARGE**

- 6.9.4.1 Any allegation or suspicion of a violation of any provision under Article 6.9 shall be reported to the ITTF Integrity Unit for investigation and possible charge in accordance with the ITTF Integrity Regulations.

**6.9.5 RIGHT TO A FAIR HEARING**

- 6.9.5.1 Where the ITTF Integrity Unit 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 ITTF Tribunal.
- 6.9.5.2 The ITTF Tribunal shall be appointed by the ITTF in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

**6.9.6 SANCTIONS**

- 6.9.6.1 A violation of Article 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, in addition to possible sanctions under Article 6.9.7.3 as decided by the ITTF Tribunal.
- 6.9.6.2 If a member of a doubles pair or a team is found to have committed a violation under Article 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, in addition to possible sanctions under Article 6.9.7.3 by the ITTF Tribunal.
- 6.9.6.3 Ineligibility and Financial Sanctions
- 6.9.6.3.1 The Hearing Panel shall have discretion to impose a period of ineligibility on participants in accordance with the bands set out in Article 6.9.7.3.2. In imposing any period of ineligibility, the ITTF Tribunal shall be entitled to consider whether any aggravating and/or mitigating factors under Article 6.9.7.4 or the ITTF Tribunal Regulations should be taken into account.
- 6.9.6.3.2 The respective period of ineligibility for a violation set out in:
- Article 6.9.2.1 (betting), shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years;
- Article 6.9.2.2 (manipulation of results), shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years;
- Article 6.9.2.3 (corrupt conduct), shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years;
- Article 6.9.2.4 (misuse of inside information), shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years;
- Article 6.9.2.5 (other violations) shall be a minimum of two [2] years and a maximum of four [4] years.
- 6.9.6.3.3 The period of ineligibility shall commence on the date the decision of the ITTF Tribunal is published and shall end on date stated in the published decision. The ITTF Tribunal 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.
- 6.9.6.3.4 No participant shall participate in any capacity in any event or competition during their period of ineligibility as imposed by the ITTF Tribunal.
- 6.9.6.3.5 If a participant violates any prohibition on participation imposed in accordance with Article 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.
- 6.9.6.3.6 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.
- 6.9.6.3.7 In addition to the imposition of a period of ineligibility as set out above, the ITTF Tribunal 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 Article 6.9.2 and the fine shall be a minimum of CHF5,000.

#### **6.9.6.4 Aggravating and Mitigating Factors**

6.9.6.4.1 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.

6.9.6.4.2 Aggravating factors which may be considered by the ITTF Tribunal shall include (without limitation and where applicable):

6.9.6.4.2.1 failure to co-operate by the participant with any investigation or requests for information;

6.9.6.4.2.2 any previous violations by the participant;

6.9.6.4.2.3 the participant receiving or being due to receive a significant Benefit in connection with the violation;

6.9.6.4.2.4 the violation having or having the potential to affect the course or result of an event or competition;

6.9.6.4.2.5 the participant displaying a lack of remorse (including, for example, refusing to take part in anti-corruption educational programs organised by the ITTF); and

6.9.6.4.2.6 any other aggravating factor the ITTF Tribunal deems relevant.

6.9.6.4.3 Mitigating factors which may be considered by the Hearing Panel shall include (without limitation and where applicable):

6.9.6.4.3.1 co-operation by the participant with any investigation or requests for information;

6.9.6.4.3.2 a timely admission of guilt by the participant;

6.9.6.4.3.3 the participant's clean disciplinary record;

6.9.6.4.3.4 the youth or inexperience of the participant;

6.9.6.4.3.5 the violation not having affected or not having the potential to affect the course or result of an event or competition;

6.9.6.4.3.6 the participant displaying remorse (including, for example, agreeing to take part in anti-corruption educational programs organised by the ITTF; and

6.9.6.4.3.7 any other mitigating factor the ITTF Tribunal deems relevant.

#### **6.9.6.5 Reinstatement**

6.9.6.5.1 Once the period of the participant's ineligibility has expired, they will become automatically re-eligible to participate provided that they have

6.9.6.5.1.1 completed to the ITTF's or the ITTF Integrity Unit's reasonable satisfaction any official betting and anti-corruption education or rehabilitation programme that might be imposed on them

6.9.6.5.1.2 has satisfied, in full, any fine imposed under this rule and/or award of costs made against them by any tribunal and

6.9.6.5.1.3 has agreed to subject themselves to any reasonable and proportionate monitoring of their future activities as the ITTF or the ITTF Integrity Unit may reasonably consider necessary given the nature and scope of the violation that they have committed.

#### **6.9.7 APPEALS**

6.9.7.1 The following decisions made under these rules may be appealed either by the ITTF Integrity Unit or the participant who is the subject of the decision (as applicable) exclusively to CAS:

6.9.7.1.1 A decision that a charge of breach of Article 6.9.2 should be dismissed on procedural or jurisdictional grounds;

6.9.7.1.2 A decision that a violation of Article 6.9.2 has been committed;

6.9.7.1.3 A decision that a violation of Article 6.9.2 has not been committed;

6.9.7.1.4 A decision to impose a sanction, including a sanction that is not in accordance with these rules;

6.9.7.1.5 A decision not to impose a sanction;

6.9.7.1.6 Any other decision that is considered to be erroneous or procedurally unsound.

6.9.7.2 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.

6.9.7.3 Any decision and any sanctions imposed shall remain in effect while subject to the appeal process, unless CAS directs otherwise.

6.9.7.4 The decision of CAS shall be final and binding on all parties and on all Associated Organisations. No claim may be brought in any other court, tribunal or via any other dispute resolution procedure or mechanism.

#### **6.9.8 RECOGNITION OF DECISIONS**

6.9.8.1 It shall be a condition of membership and affiliation of the ITTF that all Associated Organisations 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.

6.9.8.2 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.

#### **6.9.9 AMENDMENTS AND INTERPRETATION**

6.9.9.1 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.

#### **6.10 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).

**APPENDIX****DEFINITIONS**

**"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.

**"Competition"** means an event or series of events conducted over one or more days under one ruling body (e.g., WTTC Finals).

**"Event"** means a single, race, match or contest.

**"Hearing Panel"** means a panel of the ITTF Tribunal formed in accordance with R8.25.6, which may comprise of a single ITTF Tribunal member.

**"Inside Information"** means any information relating to any competition or event that a participant possesses by virtue of their 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 Statutes.

**"Major Event Organisation"** means any international multi-sport organisation that acts as the ruling body for any continental, regional or other international competition.

**"Sanction"** means any sanction that the ITTF Tribunal has the right to impose.

**"Violation"** means a violation of these Rules.

# **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 behavioural 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. It is also prohibited by this ITTF Anti-Harassment Policy.
  - 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 of the ITTF, its member associations, its affiliated continental federations and its recognised groups of associations such regional organisation, including but not limited to their board members, directors, honorary members, officers, employees, service providers, delegated third parties and their employees, as well as all officials, players, players’ entourage and support personnel and any other 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, as well as the business, activities, and

events authorised, sanctioned, supported or otherwise recognised by ITTF. 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 creates 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 ITTF INTEGRITY UNIT**

7.5.1 The ITTF shall establish an Integrity Unit to deal with all matters related to Integrity, including Harassment complaints.

7.5.2 The ITTF Integrity Unit's role is to serve in a neutral, unbiased, independent capacity and to receive complaints, assist in informal resolution of complaints, maintain records and investigate and determine, at their sole discretion, whether to initiate proceedings before the ITTF Tribunal. In carrying out their duties under this policy, ITTF Integrity Unit officers shall be directly responsible to the ITTF Integrity Unit Chair.

7.5.3 The ITTF shall ensure that ITTF Integrity Unit 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 may seek the initial advice of the competition manager or an ITTF Integrity Unit officer.

7.6.2 The competition manager or ITTF Integrity Unit officer, as the case may be, shall inform the complainant of the process of filling a complaint, as determined by the ITTF Integrity Unit.

## **7.7 DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

7.7.1 Any person against whom a complaint of harassment is made out may be sanctioned by the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

7.7.2 For the purposes of this policy, retaliation against an individual 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,  
shall constitute an offence.

- 7.7.3 Any person against whom a complaint of retaliation is made out may be sanctioned by the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.
- 7.7.4 Any false accusations pursuant to the complaint knowingly made or is reasonably determine to likely be known by a complainant or anyone participating in any procedure under this policy shall constitute an offence.
- 7.7.5 Any person against whom a complaint of false accusation is made out may be sanctioned by the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

## **7.8 APPEALS**

- 7.8.1 An appeal of the ITTF Tribunal's decision may be made in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

## **7.9 RESPONSIBILITY**

- 7.9.1 The ITTF Integrity Unit is responsible for the implementation of this policy. In addition, the ITTF Integrity Unit is responsible for:
  - 7.9.1.1 discouraging and preventing harassment within the ITTF;
  - 7.9.1.2 investigating formal complaints of harassment in a sensitive, responsible, and timely manner;
  - 7.9.1.3 informing both complainants and respondents of the procedures contained in this policy and of their rights under this policy and the law; and
  - 7.9.1.5 appointing officers and providing the training and resources they need to fulfil their responsibilities under this policy.

# 8 ITTF TRIBUNAL REGULATIONS

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## Part I: Preliminary

### 8.1 CITATION AND COMMENCEMENT

These Regulations may be cited as the ITTF Tribunal Regulations and came into operation on 01 January 2021.

### 8.2 DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

8.2.1 In these ITTF Tribunal Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:

“**Administrative Fee**” has the meaning given to it in R8.24.2;

“**Absolute Majority**” means a majority (more than 50%) of the total number of persons entitled to vote, including those absent and those present but not voting;

“**Claimant**” means the party bringing a claim and for avoidance of doubt, includes the ITTF Integrity Unit or any of its authorised officers, including the Head of Integrity, or such other person authorised by the ITTF Integrity Unit;

“**Hearing Panel**” means a panel of the ITTF Tribunal formed in accordance with R8.25, which may comprise of a single ITTF Tribunal member;

“**ITTF Foundation**” means ITTF Foundation, a subsidiary of ITTF and the entity responsible for corporate social responsibility initiatives of ITTF, and includes any of its subsidiary.

“**ITTF Tribunal**” means the highest judicial body within ITTF to hear and decide cases at first instance or as an appellate body as set out in the ITTF Tribunal Regulations;

“**Mediation**” means a mediation process carried out in accordance with the Mediation Provisions;

“**Mediation Agreement**” means a written agreement by two or more Table Tennis Parties to refer the whole or part of a dispute which has arisen (or may arise) between them for Mediation, and as further described in Article 8.41.2;

“**Mediation Costs**” mean the costs, fees, and any other expenses of the ITTF Tribunal and the Mediator for the Mediation;

“**Mediation Provisions**” means the provisions under Part IV of these Regulations;

“**Mediator**” means a mediator who has accepted appointment, and remains validly appointed, following a nomination under Article 8.44.1 to act as one or more mediators in a Mediation;

“**Other Participant**” means in relation to a Mediation, any person who is neither the Mediator nor a party in the dispute, such as the Mediator’s assistant, any interpreter, or a material third party in the dispute;

**“Qualified Majority”** means two-thirds majority of persons taking part in the vote, not counting abstentions;

**“Regulations”** means these ITTF Tribunal Regulations;

**“Request for Proceedings”** has the meaning given to it in R8.24.1;

**“Related Document”** includes any rule or regulation connected to the ITTF Statutes, including the rules and regulations of WTT, ITTF Foundation, or any other Table Tennis Party relating to sport integrity;

**“Respondent”** means the party whom a claim is brought against;

**“Settlement Agreement”** means any agreement which settles one or more issues in dispute, as submitted for Mediation by the parties in dispute, and as further described in Article 8.49.2.4;

**“Simple Majority”** means a majority (more than 50%) of persons taking part in the vote, not counting abstentions;

**“WTT”** means World Table Tennis Private Limited, a subsidiary of ITTF and exclusive licensee of ITTF in respect of certain licensed ITTF events, pursuant to a master licence agreement, and includes any of its subsidiary.

8.2.2 These Regulations are adopted pursuant to the ITTF Statutes and shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with applicable provisions of the ITTF Statutes. In case of any conflict, the ITTF Constitution prevail over these Regulations.

8.2.3 The headings and sub-headings in these Regulations are for convenience only and shall not be deemed to be part of the substance of these Regulations or to affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.

8.2.4 Words used regardless of the number and gender specifically used, shall be deemed and construed to include any other number, singular or plural, and any other gender, masculine, feminine or neuter, as the context requires.

8.2.5 Any words following the terms “including”, “include”, “in particular”, “such as” or any similar expression shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words, description, definition, phrase or term preceding those terms.

8.2.6 If any provision of these Regulations is held to be invalid, unenforceable or illegal for any reason, it shall be deemed to be deleted and the remainder of these Regulations shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.

### 8.3 PURPOSE

8.3.1 The ITTF Tribunal is an independent judicial body of the ITTF established pursuant to Article 1.8.1.1.2 of the ITTF Constitution.

- 8.3.2 The ITTF Tribunal constitutes Hearing Panels to hear and decide cases at first instance or as an appellate body arising from the ITTF Statutes, in accordance with these ITTF Tribunal Regulations.
- 8.3.3 These ITTF Tribunal Regulations regulate the organisation and function of the ITTF Tribunal and describes the procedures to be followed before it regarding matters that it has jurisdiction over.

## **Part II: Organisation of the ITTF Tribunal**

### **8.4 MEMBERSHIP OF THE ITTF TRIBUNAL**

- 8.4.1 The membership of the ITTF Tribunal is determined in accordance with Article 1.8.2 of the ITTF Constitution.
- 8.4.2 The ITTF Tribunal membership as a whole shall be fluent in English and have expertise and experience in legal, governance, integrity, table tennis, competition, officiating, athlete safeguarding, anti-harassment and such other relevant areas in sport, and each member shall be:
  - 8.4.2.1 a qualified lawyer or former judicial office holder with substantial expertise and experience in legal issues affecting sport; or
  - 8.4.2.2 a person with substantial experience in legal, governance, integrity, table tennis, competition, officiating, athlete safeguarding, anti-harassment or such other relevant areas in sport.
- 8.4.3 An ITTF Tribunal member may be suspended or removed from office:
  - 8.4.3.1 by the ITTF Tribunal Chair if:
    - 8.4.3.1.1 that member is found to be not eligible under these ITTF Tribunal Regulations;
    - 8.4.3.1.2 that member is found to have been in serious breach of the ITTF Constitution or any other ITTF regulations, including the ITTF Code of Ethics;
    - 8.4.3.1.3 that member is unable or unwilling to perform their duties as an ITTF Tribunal member, has neglected their duties, or has engaged in any material misconduct;
  - 8.4.3.2 by the AGM or EGM, if:
    - 8.4.3.2.1 the person to be removed under R8.4.3.1 is the ITTF Tribunal Chair; or
    - 8.4.3.2.2 the AGM or EGM considers that the ITTF Tribunal Chair's decision made pursuant to R8.4.3.1 should be reviewed.
- 8.4.4 Before an ITTF Tribunal member is removed, that member shall be given reasonable written notice of the proposal by the ITTF Tribunal Chair, the AGM or EGM (as applicable) to remove them as an ITTF Tribunal member, the basis for such proposal and the relevant facts supporting such proposal. That member may respond to that proposal within 14 days of being notified in writing of the proposal and that member's response must be taken into account by such decision maker.

- 8.4.5 If an ITTF Tribunal member resigns, dies, or is removed from office, the position shall either:
- 8.4.5.1 remain vacant until the next AGM or EGM; or
  - 8.4.5.2 if the ITTF Tribunal Chair considers it necessary, the ITTF Council may appoint a replacement member to fill the vacancy on the ITTF Tribunal until the next AGM or EGM.
- 8.4.6 Each term of office of the ITTF Tribunal member shall be four years and the ITTF Tribunal Member may be appointed by the AGM or EGM for a maximum of eight consecutive years, subject to R8.38.1.
- 8.4.7 The ITTF Tribunal shall be allocated the necessary resources by ITTF to fulfil its functions.

## **8.5 ITTF TRIBUNAL CHAIR AND ITTF TRIBUNAL MEMBERS**

- 8.5.1 The ITTF Tribunal Chair must be a qualified lawyer who:
- 8.5.1.1 is fluent in English; and
  - 8.5.1.2 has at least ten years of professional legal experience in litigation or arbitration and in governance, integrity, table tennis, competition, officiating, athlete safeguarding, anti-harassment or such other relevant areas in sport.
- 8.5.2 The ITTF Tribunal Chair is responsible for matters including:
- 8.5.2.1 lead and represent the ITTF Tribunal in official matters within and outside of ITTF;
  - 8.5.2.2 propose resources necessary for the ITTF Tribunal to operate in accordance with these ITTF Tribunal Regulations;
  - 8.5.2.3 propose amendments to these ITTF Tribunal Regulations or any other part of the ITTF Statutes for the effective and efficient administration of justice within ITTF;
  - 8.5.2.4 perform or supervise the performance of operational tasks of the ITTF Tribunal;
  - 8.5.2.5 prepare annual reports of the ITTF Tribunal for the AGM or EGM;
  - 8.5.2.6 convene meetings ITTF Tribunal meetings, as they deem necessary;
  - 8.5.2.7 appoint a deputy to fulfil their responsibilities in their absence, as they deem necessary;
  - 8.5.2.8 manage the caseload of the ITTF Tribunal and assign (or reassign) cases to ITTF Tribunal members, according to their specific needs, such as subject-matter expertise;
  - 8.5.2.9 monitor the performance and conduct of the ITTF Tribunal members and investigate (or assist in the investigation of) complaints made against them, in accordance with the ITTF Statutes;
  - 8.5.2.10 work with the Secretariat and all other ITTF Tribunal members on all other matters necessary for the operation of the ITTF Tribunal;
  - 8.5.2.11 referring any dispute for Mediation in accordance with the Mediation Provisions;

and

8.5.2.12 assume the responsibilities of the ITTF Tribunal members, as set out in R8.5.3.

8.5.3 Each ITTF Tribunal member is responsible for the matters including:

- 8.5.3.1 read and be familiar with the documents submitted by the parties in each case;
- 8.5.3.2 ensure that parties who are not represented by counsel are able to present their cases and have it considered fully and fairly;
- 8.5.3.3 manage and conduct proceedings fairly, effectively and efficiently;
- 8.5.3.4 maintain impartiality throughout proceedings and take adequate notes;
- 8.5.3.5 deciding issues of fact, law and procedure that may arise in each case;
- 8.5.3.6 make orders and interim reliefs in each case, in accordance with these ITTF Tribunal Regulations;
- 8.5.3.7 write and issue decisions after deliberating on the parties' submissions;
- 8.5.3.8 keep abreast of developments within table tennis or sport in general, particularly in the areas of legal, governance, integrity, competition, officiating, athlete safeguarding, anti-harassment and such other relevant areas; and
- 8.5.3.9 from time to time serve on a Committee, Commission, Working Group or such other bodies of the ITTF, where services of a judicial member are required, particularly in cases of substantial public interest.

## **8.6 MEETINGS OF THE ITTF TRIBUNAL**

8.6.1 The ITTF Tribunal shall meet at least once a year and each ITTF Tribunal meeting shall be convened by the ITTF Tribunal Chair.

8.6.2 The ITTF Tribunal Chair shall set the agenda of the ITTF Tribunal meeting, taking into consideration any proposal regarding the agenda made by other ITTF Tribunal members.

8.6.3 The agenda of the ITTF Tribunal meeting shall be communicated to the ITTF Tribunal members prior to the ITTF Tribunal meeting in timely manner and whenever possible, at least 14 days before the date of the ITTF Tribunal meeting.

8.6.4 Any issue arising after the agenda of the ITTF Tribunal meeting has been communicated to the ITTF Tribunal members shall be resolved by a Qualified Majority.

8.6.5 The ITTF Tribunal meeting may be conducted remotely through, without limitation, telephone or videoconference, if requested by any ITTF Tribunal member.

## **8.7 QUORUM OF MEETINGS OF THE ITTF TRIBUNAL**

8.7.1 The quorum to pass resolutions in an ITTF Tribunal meeting is an Absolute Majority.

- 8.7.2 If any ITTF Tribunal meeting takes place without meeting the quorum, any Resolution proposed shall be:
  - 8.7.2.1 communicated to the ITTF Tribunal members within seven days of the date of the ITTF Tribunal meeting; and
  - 8.7.2.2 be voted on by the ITTF Tribunal members within a period specified by the ITTF Tribunal Chair.
- 8.7.3 If the total number of votes during the ITTF Tribunal meeting and after the ITTF Tribunal meeting pursuant R8.7.2 exceed the number required to form a quorum, the vote cast according to R8.7.2 will be deemed as having been validly cast at the ITTF Tribunal meeting.

## **8.8 VOTING AND RESOLUTIONS**

- 8.8.1 For an in-person meeting, the passing of resolutions by the ITTF Tribunal requires the approval of a Simple Majority of the ITTF Tribunal members physically present.
- 8.8.2 For a remote meeting, the passing of resolutions by the ITTF Tribunal requires the approval of an Absolute Majority of the ITTF Tribunal members.
- 8.8.3 The use of electronic mail and other generally acceptable electronic communication means is permissible for the purposes of passing a resolution by correspondence.

## **8.9 MINUTES OF ITTF TRIBUNAL MEETINGS**

- 8.9.1 The ITTF Tribunal shall keep minutes of its deliberations and resolutions at each ITTF Tribunal meeting.
- 8.9.2 The minutes shall contain:
  - 8.9.2.1 a summary of the deliberations;
  - 8.9.2.2 the proposed resolutions;
  - 8.9.2.3 the result of resolutions with the number of votes; and
  - 8.9.2.4 the declarations requested by any ITTF Tribunal member requests to be recorded.
- 8.9.3 The draft of the minutes shall be promptly communicated to the ITTF Tribunal members for their review and the approved minutes must be signed by the ITTF Tribunal Chair.

## **8.10 INDEMNITY**

8.10.1 No ITTF Tribunal member will be personally liable for any act or omission when carrying out their duties and exercising their powers or authorities in good faith.

## **8.11 EXPENSES**

8.11.1 The ITTF Tribunal members will receive compensation and reimbursement for their expenses incurred for their time spent on matters as members of a Hearing Panel and such payments shall not be deemed to compromise their independence and impartiality.

## **8.12 INDEPENDENCE**

8.12.1 No ITTF Tribunal member themselves and their immediate family members may:

- 8.12.1.1 hold any official function in ITTF, a member association of ITTF or an associated organisation of ITTF during their term of office as ITTF Tribunal member and for four years prior to their initial appointment to office.
- 8.12.1.2 Before assuming office, the ITTF Tribunal member shall first take an oath or affirm that they will discharge their judicial duties independently and impartially

## **8.13 CONFIDENTIALITY**

8.13.1 Unless otherwise set out in these ITTF Tribunal Regulations, the ITTF Tribunal's affairs and all proceedings before a Hearing Panel are confidential.

8.13.2 The ITTF Tribunal members shall ensure that information disclosed to them during the course of their duties remains confidential and not make any disclosure to any third party in breach of confidentiality.

## **Part III: Proceedings before the ITTF Tribunal**

### *Division 1 – General*

## **8.14 PRINCIPLES OF FAIR PROCEDURE**

8.14.1 The parties to the Proceedings have the right to a fair procedure and have their fundamental rights respected. In particular:

- 8.14.1.1 no ITTF Tribunal member who has a conflict of interest in a matter, according to the ITTF Code of Ethics, may be appointed to the Hearing Panel responsible for hearing and determining that matter;

- 8.14.1.2 the right of the person (whether legal or natural) charged to know what they are charged with;
- 8.14.1.3 the right to know the type of penalties which might be imposed;
- 8.14.1.4 the right to be heard, to present a defence, to produce evidence and to be assisted by counsel at their own expense; and
- 8.14.1.5 the right to appeal a decision of the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with R8.37.

## **8.15 JURISDICTION**

8.15.1 Subject to R8.15.2 and R8.15.3, the ITTF Tribunal shall have jurisdiction to hear and decide any alleged infringement of any article under the ITTF Constitution or any other rule or regulation of the ITTF Statutes and any Related Document except:

- 8.15.1.1 any provision under Chapter 5 of the ITTF Statutes (ITTF Anti-Doping Rules); and
- 8.15.1.2 any provision of the Classification Rules of ITTF Para Table Tennis.

8.15.2 The ITTF Tribunal has the original jurisdiction to hear and decide any alleged infringement of any provision or such other claims arising from any provision under Chapters 1, 2, 6 and 7 of the ITTF Statutes and any Related Document.

8.15.3 The ITTF Tribunal has the appellate jurisdiction to hear and decide any appeal of any decision made by the appropriate decision-making body on alleged infringements of any provision or such other claims arising from any provision under Chapters 1, 3, 4, 9, and 10 of the ITTF Statutes and any Related Document.

8.15.4 Where the ITTF Tribunal exercises its appellate jurisdiction pursuant to R8.15.3:

- 8.15.4.1 the provision of these ITTF Tribunal Regulations will apply in appeal proceedings before the ITTF Tribunal *mutatis mutandis*, unless they are inconsistent with or preempted by the provisions of R8.15;
- 8.15.4.2 unless otherwise specified in any provision of the ITTF Statutes, the Request for Proceedings of the appeal must be filed with the ITTF Tribunal no later than 21 days after the date that the appealing party receives the decision in question. This 21-day deadline to appeal may not be extended. The decision being appealed will remain in full force and effect pending determination of the appeal, unless the Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, if the Hearing Panel has yet to be formed) orders otherwise; and
- 8.15.4.3 the Hearing Panel has full power to hear the matter under appeal *de novo* and it will have all of the powers that the actual first instance decision-maker would have had under the applicable provision in the ITTF Statutes. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Hearing Panel may remit the matter to the first instance decision-maker for re-hearing, if it deems appropriate.

## **8.16 APPLICABLE LAW**

8.16.1 The decisions shall be based on:

- 8.16.1.1 primarily, on the ITTF Constitution, the Laws of Table Tennis, the other chapters of the ITTF Statutes, and the decisions of any competent ITTF body; and
- 8.16.1.2 subsidiarily, on Swiss law or such other law that the Hearing Panel deems applicable. In the latter case, the Hearing Panel shall give reasons for its decision.

## **8.17 SEAT**

8.17.1 The seat of the ITTF Tribunal and each Hearing Panel is Switzerland. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Hearing Panel Chair may decide to hold any hearing outside Switzerland in the appropriate circumstances.

## **8.18 LANGUAGE**

8.18.1 Proceedings before the Hearing Panel shall be conducted in English, unless otherwise mutually agreed by the parties and subject to the approval by the Chair of the ITTF Tribunal (the “language of the procedure”).

8.18.2 Any party wishing to rely on documents written in a language other than the language of the procedure must provide certified English translations at their own cost.

8.18.3 Any party who wishes or whose witness wishes to give oral evidence in a language other than the language of the procedure must bring an independent and competent translator to translate that evidence into English, at their own cost.

8.18.4 Notwithstanding R8.18.2 and R8.18.3, the Hearing Panel may in appropriate circumstances order a party to pay some or all the translation costs of the other party.

## **8.19 LEGAL REPRESENTATION**

8.19.1 In all proceedings before the Hearing Panel, each party is entitled, at their own expense, to be represented by legal counsel and/or other relevant representative(s), who may make submissions on their behalf.

## **8.20 NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS**

8.20.1 Any notice or other communication required to be given by a party pursuant to these ITTF Tribunal Regulations shall be made in writing and sent by courier or email.

8.20.2 Notices or other communications addressed to the ITTF Tribunal and/or the Hearing Panel shall be sent to:

8.20.2.1 ITTF Tribunal, MSI, Avenue de Rhodanie 54B, 2, 1007 Lausanne, Switzerland, if sent by courier; or

8.20.2.2 [tribunal@ittf.com](mailto:tribunal@ittf.com), if sent by email.

8.20.3 Notices or other communications addressed to a party to a proceeding may be sent to their last-known residence, place of business or email address or by any other reliable communication means, unless that party notifies the Hearing Panel Chair (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, if the Hearing Panel has yet to be formed) and all parties to that proceeding of a change to such address.

8.20.4 Notices or other communications to a person who is a member of a member association of ITTF or of an associated organisation of ITTF may be accomplished by delivering such notice or other communication to that member association of ITTF or that associated organisation of ITTF, respectively.

## **8.21 TIME LIMITS**

8.21.1 Unless otherwise set out in these ITTF Tribunal Regulations, any time period to be calculated under these ITTF Tribunal Regulations shall begin to run the day following the date of receipt of a notice or other communication.

8.21.2 The time limits fixed under these ITTF Tribunal Regulations are respected if the communications by the parties are sent before midnight, time of the location of their own domicile or, if represented, of the domicile of their main legal representative, on the last day on which such time limits expire.

8.21.3 Non-working days and official holidays are included in calculating time limits. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the last day of the time limit is an official holiday or a non-business day in the location from where the document is to be sent, the time limit shall expire at the end of the next working day.

8.21.4 Upon application on justified grounds and after consultation with the other party (or parties), the Hearing Panel Chair (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, if the Hearing Panel has yet to be formed) may extend any time limit provided in these ITTF Tribunal Regulations, except the 21-day deadline to appeal provided at Article 8.15.4.2, if the circumstances so warrant and provided that the time limit for which the extension is requested has not already expired.

## 8.22 INTERIM RELIEF

8.22.1 The Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, in cases before the Hearing Panel is appointed) is entitled to grant interim relief.

8.22.2 If a party applies for interim relief, the Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, in cases before the Hearing Panel is appointed) shall invite the other party to express a position within ten days or a shorter time limit, if circumstances so require, and following which, the Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, in cases before the Hearing Panel is appointed) shall determine whether it has *prima facie* jurisdiction.

8.22.3 If, pursuant to R8.22.1, the Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, in cases before the Hearing Panel is appointed) determines that it lacks *prima facie* jurisdiction, it shall terminate the proceedings.

8.22.4 In considering whether to pronounce interim relief, the Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, in cases before the Hearing Panel is appointed) shall consider whether the measure necessary to protect the applicant from irreparable harm, the likelihood of success on the merits of the claim, and whether the interests of the applicant outweigh those of the respondent.

## 8.23 LIMITATION PERIOD

8.23.1 Unless otherwise stated in of any rule or regulation of the ITTF Statutes or any Related Document, no proceedings may be commenced after the period of:

8.23.1.1 one year for claims based on any provision under Chapter 3 or Chapter 4 of the ITTF Statutes;

8.23.1.2 four years for all other proceedings.

8.23.2 The period stated in R8.23.1 commences:

8.23.2.1 from the date of the commission of the alleged infringement;

8.23.2.2 from the date of the most recent commission of the alleged infringement, if that infringement is recurrent;

8.23.2.3 from the date on which the alleged infringement had ended, if that infringement lasted for a period of time.

8.23.3 Where, in the case of any proceedings for which a period of limitation is stated in R8.23 and the basis of the claim is concealed by the fraud of the Respondent (or their representative), the period of limitation shall not commence until the Claimant has discovered the fraud or could have discovered it with reasonable diligence.

*Division 2 – Procedures*

## 8.24 COMMENCEMENT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

8.24.1 To request to commence the proceedings, unless the procedure is otherwise specified in the applicable regulation, the Claimant shall file a written request with the ITTF Tribunal, with a copy to the Respondent, containing:

- 8.24.1.1 the name and full address of the Respondent;
- 8.24.1.2 the contact details of the parties;
- 8.24.1.3 the alleged infringement, specifying the rule, regulation, or principle alleged to have been infringed;
- 8.24.1.4 a statement of the facts upon which such allegation is based and a statement of issue submitted for the Hearing Panel to determine;
- 8.24.1.5 all exhibits and specification of other evidence upon which the Claimant intends to rely; the Claimant shall specify the name(s) of any witnesses, including a brief summary of their expected testimony, and the name(s) of any experts, stating their area of expertise, the Claimant intends to call and state any other evidentiary measure which it requests; the witness statements, if any, shall be filed together with the request for proceedings, unless the Hearing Panel decides otherwise.
- 8.24.1.6 a copy of the provision in the ITTF Statutes or any other instrument conferring jurisdiction on the ITTF Tribunal to hear and determine the matter; and
- 8.24.1.7 any proposal regarding the conduct or venue of the proceedings, including whether any interim relief is requested; (the “**Request for Proceedings**”).

8.24.2 Upon filing its Request for Proceedings, the Claimant shall pay the non-refundable fee of USD1,000 (the “**Administrative Fee**”), in the manner determined by the ITTF Tribunal. This Article 8.24.2 shall not apply if the Claimant is the ITTF Integrity Unit or ITTF.

8.24.3 If the Claimant fails to pay the Administrative Fees in accordance to R8.24.2, the ITTF Tribunal may not proceed with the claim.

8.24.4 If the ITTF Tribunal Chair determines that the requirements set out in R8.24.1 and R8.24.2 are satisfied, they shall communicate to the Respondent the request to commence the proceedings and to file its answer (the “**Answer**”) to the request to commence the proceedings. The ITTF Tribunal Chair shall provide the parties with the link on ITTF’s website where the ITTF Tribunal Regulations may be accessed.

8.24.5 Unless the procedure is otherwise specified in the applicable regulation, the Respondent shall file its Answer with the ITTF Tribunal, with a copy to the Claimant, within a period determined by the ITTF Tribunal containing:

- 8.24.5.1 a copy of the Request for Proceedings;
- 8.24.5.2 its response admitting or denying the alleged infringement;
- 8.24.5.3 a statement of defence;

- 8.24.5.4 any defence of the ITTF Tribunal's lack of jurisdiction;
  - 8.24.5.5 any counterclaim; and
  - 8.24.5.6 all exhibits and specification of other evidence upon which the Respondent intends to rely; the Respondent shall specify the name(s) of any witnesses, including a brief summary of their expected testimony, and the name(s) of any experts, stating their area of expertise, it intends to call and state any other evidentiary measure which it requests. The witness statements, if any, shall be filed together with the Answer, unless the Hearing Panel decides otherwise.
- 8.24.6 If the Respondent does not file an Answer, the Hearing Panel may nevertheless proceed with the proceedings and deliver its decision.
- 8.24.7 The parties shall not be authorised to supplement or amend their requests or their argument, to produce new exhibits, or to specify further evidence on which they intend to rely after the submission of the Request for Proceedings and of the Answer.

## **8.25 FORMATION OF THE HEARING PANEL**

- 8.25.1 On the receipt of the Answer, the ITTF Tribunal Chair shall, at their sole discretion, appoint either one or three members of the ITTF Tribunal to hear and determine the alleged infringement set out in the Request for Proceedings as the Hearing Panel, subject to R8.25.3.
- 8.25.2 If the Hearing Panel consists of one ITTF Tribunal member, that member shall serve as the Hearing Panel Chair. If the Hearing Panel consists of three ITTF Tribunal Members, the ITTF Tribunal Chair shall nominate one of those three members as the Hearing Panel Chair.
- 8.25.3 No ITTF Tribunal member may sit on the Hearing Panel of the proceedings where:
  - 8.25.3.1 they have any personal connection or interest, whether directly or indirectly, with any party or witness;
  - 8.25.3.2 they have had any prior involvement with any matter or any facts arising in the proceedings (except if the involvement is a decision to impose an interim relief or a separate proceeding where some or all of the same facts are relevant);
  - 8.25.3.3 they have the same nationality as any party involved in the proceedings, unless agreed by the parties;
  - 8.25.3.4 they have a conflict of interest in any matter arising from the proceedings, according to the ITTF Code Ethics; or
  - 8.25.3.5 their independence or impartiality could reasonably be disputed (as determined by the ITTF Tribunal Chair).
- 8.25.4 Upon their appointment to a Hearing Panel, each Hearing Panel member shall within reasonable time provide a written declaration to the parties, disclosing any facts or circumstances they know that may lead to their independence or impartiality being doubted legitimately. If any such facts or circumstances arise after the written

declaration was made, the Hearing Panel member must provide an updated declaration to the parties. The Hearing Panel members' declarations shall be supplied to the parties.

## **8.26 OBJECTION TO A HEARING PANEL MEMBER**

8.26.1 Any party to the proceedings may object to the appointment of an ITTF Tribunal member to the Hearing Panel by notifying the ITTF Tribunal Chair the facts or circumstances giving rise to the objection within seven days of:

8.26.1.1 receiving the written declaration specified in R.8.25.4, or

8.26.1.2 otherwise being aware of the facts or circumstances leading to the objection.

8.26.2 A failure to make an objection according to R8.26.1 shall be deemed a waiver of that objection.

8.26.3 The ITTF Tribunal Chair shall rule on any objection made according to R8.26.1 and their ruling is final and not subject to any appeal.

## **8.27 REPLACEMENT OF A HEARING PANEL MEMBER**

8.27.1 If for any reason a Hearing Panel member is unable or unwilling to hear or continue hearing or to decide the proceeding, the ITTF Tribunal Chair may at their sole discretion appoint another ITTF Tribunal member to replace that member in that proceeding.

## **8.28 POWERS OF THE HEARING PANEL**

8.28.1 The Hearing Panel (and in urgent cases, prior to the formation of the Hearing Panel, the ITTF Tribunal Chair) has all powers necessary for, and incidental to, the discharge of its responsibilities, including the power, whether on the application of a party or on its own motion:

8.28.1.1 to order that certain dispositive issues be determined before any other issues in the proceedings;

8.28.1.2 to rule finally on its own jurisdiction;

8.28.1.3 to determine the proceedings either in a preliminary decision or a decision on the merits;

8.28.1.4 to determine whether the hearing (or any part thereof) should be conducted orally (whether in-person or remotely) or in writing;

8.28.1.5 to expedite or adjourn, postpone or suspend its proceedings, upon such terms as it will determine;

8.28.1.6 to extend or reduce any time limit specified in any regulation or by the ITTF Tribunal, except any appeal deadline or limitation period;

- 8.28.1.7 to consolidate the proceedings with other substantially similar or related proceedings and/or order that such proceedings be held concurrently;
- 8.28.1.8 to appoint independent experts to assist or advise it on specific issues, with the costs of such experts to be borne as directed by the Hearing Panel;
- 8.28.1.9 to order any party to make any property, document or other thing in its possession or under its control available for inspection by the ITTF Tribunal or any other party;
- 8.28.1.10 to allow third parties to intervene or be joined in the proceedings, to make all appropriate procedural directions in relation to such intervention or joinder, and thereafter to make a single final decision or separate decisions in respect of all parties;
- 8.28.1.11 to impose interim relief or other provision measures as it deems fit prior to its final determination;
- 8.28.1.12 to determine the manner in which it shall deliberate in order to make any determination related to the proceedings;
- 8.28.1.13 to make any other procedural direction or take any procedural step which it considers to be appropriate in pursuit of the efficient and proportionate management of the proceedings or any matter pending before it; and
- 8.28.1.14 to impose costs orders.

## **8.29 CONDUCT OF PROCEEDINGS**

- 8.29.1 As soon as practicable after the Hearing Panel has been convened to determine a matter, the Hearing Panel Chair will issue directions to the parties regarding the procedure and timetable to be followed in the proceedings. The directions will:
  - 8.29.1.1 specify whether the hearing will be conducted orally or in writing;
  - 8.29.1.2 fix the date, time and venue of the hearing, if the hearing is to be conducted orally;
  - 8.29.1.3 specify the schedule to exchange additional written submissions and evidence before the hearing; and
  - 8.29.1.4 make any appropriate order relating to the disclosure of relevant documents and/or other materials in the possession or control of any party.
- 8.29.2 If the Hearing Panel Chair deems appropriate, they may hear from the parties (whether in person, by telephone or video-conference, or any other generally acceptable electronic communication means) prior to issuing the directions pursuant to R8.29.1.

## **8.30 HEARINGS**

- 8.30.1 Where a hearing is directed, the Hearing Panel Chair direct, at their sole discretion, to hold the hearing in person, by telephone or videoconference.
- 8.30.2 All hearings will be conducted in a private and confidential manner, attended only by the parties to the proceedings and their representatives, witnesses and experts, and

permitted third parties (and their permitted representatives), unless the Hearing Panel directs otherwise for good cause.

8.30.3 Subject to R8.14, the Hearing Panel Chair has the sole discretion to decide the procedure to be followed at the hearing, which may include without limitation:

- 8.30.3.1 making an introduction of the Hearing Panel and each party to the proceedings (and their representatives, if applicable);
- 8.30.3.2 stating the purpose of the hearing;
- 8.30.3.3 stating the procedure of the hearing;
- 8.30.3.4 submitting on preliminary issues;
- 8.30.3.5 making of opening statements;
- 8.30.3.6 presenting of evidence;
- 8.30.3.7 calling of witnesses and/or experts; and
- 8.30.3.8 making of closing statements.

8.30.4 Should either party or both of them fail or refuse to attend the hearing, the Hearing Panel may nevertheless proceed and deliver its decision.

## **8.31 EVIDENCE**

8.31.1 The Hearing Panel has the power to decide on the admissibility, relevance and weight of any evidence and shall not be bound by any judicial or evidential rules in relation to such matters. Facts may be established by any reliable means.

8.31.2 Subject to R8.14, the Hearing Panel has the sole discretion in:

- 8.31.2.1 deciding whether to receive evidence from witnesses and/or experts in person, by telephone, by video conference, or in writing;
- 8.31.2.2 allowing, refusing or limiting any evidence or appearance of any witness and/or expert at the hearing;
- 8.31.2.3 questioning witnesses and/or experts; and
- 8.31.2.4 directing how a party may question witnesses and/or experts.

8.31.3 Subject to R8.31.2, the parties shall ensure the availability of the witnesses and/or experts whose statements and reports they have submitted before the hearing to be heard by the Hearing Panel and be responsible for the witnesses and/or experts' cost of attending the hearing.

8.31.4 If a witness who has been requested to attend the hearing fails to appear, any witness statement or declaration related to that witness will be disregarded, unless the Hearing Panel decides otherwise in exceptional circumstances.

8.31.5 Where a witness appears at the hearing, before providing testimony, they shall first take an oath or affirm that they are telling the truth, in a manner directed by the Hearing Panel.

8.31.6 Where a witness appears at the hearing, the Hearing Panel may allow direct examination of that witness, cross-examination of that witness, and re-examination of that witness regarding the matters on which they were cross-examined.

8.31.7 Where a witness appears at the hearing but refuses or fails to answer questions put to them, the Hearing Panel may draw adverse inference against the party offering the witness (or against that party, if the witness is the party) from the witness' refusal or failure to answer.

## **8.32 BURDEN OF PROOF**

8.32.1 Unless otherwise stated in the ITTF Statutes, the Claimant has the burden of proving that the Respondent committed the infringement(s) alleged in the claim.

## **8.33 STANDARD OF PROOF**

8.33.1 Unless otherwise stated in the ITTF Statutes, the standard of proof on all questions to be determined by the Hearing Panel is to the comfortable satisfaction of the Hearing Panel. This standard of proof is higher than a mere balance of probability but lower than proving beyond a reasonable doubt.

## **8.34 SANCTIONS**

8.34.1 If the Hearing Panel determines that an infringement of any article under the ITTF Constitution or any other rule or regulation of the ITTF Statutes or any Related Document has been committed, the Hearing Panel will impose the appropriate sanction(s) in accordance with R8.34.2, unless any specific sanction is provided set out in such rules or their associated documents for such infringement.

8.34.2 Taking into consideration the seriousness of the infringement, including the relevant aggravating factors in R8.34.3 and mitigating factors R8.34.4, the Hearing Panel has the power to impose any one or more of the following:

- 8.34.2.1 a censure, reprimand or warning as to future conduct;
- 8.34.2.2 a fine of any amount;
- 8.34.2.3 a compensation payment;
- 8.34.2.4 to perform certain acts or refrain from performing certain acts;
- 8.34.2.5 to participate or complete in any rehabilitation programme;
- 8.34.2.6 a suspension or removal from office;
- 8.34.2.7 a revocation of any award, title or other honour granted by ITTF;

- 8.34.2.8 a disqualification of results and outcomes of such results, including a forfeiture of any related awards, titles, ranking points or prizes;
- 8.34.2.9 a disqualification or expulsion from competitions or events; and,
- 8.34.2.10 a period of ineligibility (which may be for life) from participating in any capacity in Table Tennis or in any activities organised, controlled, authorised, sanctioned, supported or recognised in any way by ITTF, any member association of ITTF or any other associated organisation of ITTF, other than permitted rehabilitation programmes.

8.34.3 In relation to determining the seriousness of an infringement, the Hearing Panel shall consider relevant aggravating factors, including:

- 8.34.3.1 any record of previous infringement;
- 8.34.3.2 the holding of any leadership role within ITTF, any member association of ITTF or any other associated organisation of ITTF;
- 8.34.3.3 the vulnerability of a victim;
- 8.34.3.4 any substantial harm done or potentially done to the victim;
- 8.34.3.5 any substantial damage done or potentially done to the commercial value, integrity or reputation of ITTF, any member association of ITTF, any other associated organisation of ITTF or table tennis in general;
- 8.34.3.6 the failure to cooperate during investigations or the proceedings; and
- 8.34.3.7 the lack of remorse.

8.34.4 In relation to determining the seriousness of an infringement, the Hearing Panel shall consider relevant mitigating factors including:

- 8.34.4.1 the lack of any prior infringement;
- 8.34.4.2 the minor role played in the infringement;
- 8.34.4.3 the culpability of a victim;
- 8.34.4.4 no substantial harm was done or potentially done to the victim;
- 8.34.4.5 no substantial damage done or potentially done to the commercial value, integrity or reputation of ITTF, any member association of ITTF, any other associated organisation of ITTF and table tennis in general;
- 8.34.4.6 physical or mental illness of the infringing person;
- 8.34.4.7 prompt admission to the infringement;
- 8.34.4.8 any substantial cooperation that was provided during investigations or the proceedings; and
- 8.34.4.9 genuine remorse.

## **8.35 DECISION**

8.35.1 After the parties complete their submissions and all Hearing Panel members have deliberated, the Hearing Panel shall make its decision unanimously or by majority. No Hearing Panel member may abstain in making the decision. In the absence of majority, the Hearing Panel Chair will have the casting vote.

8.35.2 The Hearing Panel shall issue a written decision, dated and signed by the Hearing Panel Chair, after the hearing and as soon as reasonably practicable.

8.35.3 The Hearing Panel may issue the operative part of its decision before providing the reasoning. In such case, the decision is enforceable immediately upon communicating the operative part to the parties.

8.35.4 Unless otherwise stated in the ITTF Statutes or ordered by the ITTF Tribunal, the ITTF may publish the decision (whether the operative part and/or the reasonings) on its website or through other means it deems appropriate, after the decision (the operative part or the reasonings, as applicable) has been communicated to the parties.

8.35.5 The decision shall be final and binding on all parties, and may not be challenged or appealed except as set out in R8.37. The parties irrevocably waive their right to any other form of appeal or review by any court or judicial authority.

## **8.36 COSTS**

8.36.1 The Hearing Panel may, at its sole discretion, order any party to the proceedings to pay some or all of the costs of the proceedings, including any one or more of the following:

8.36.1.1 the costs of holding the hearing; and

8.36.1.2 the legal fees, the accommodation costs, travel costs or such other expenses incurred as a result of the proceedings for

8.36.1.2.1 the fees of the Hearing Panel members, as approved by the ITTF Executive Board;

8.36.1.2.2 any party to the proceedings;

8.36.1.2.3 any witness; and

8.36.1.2.4 any independent expert.

8.36.2 Without limiting the Hearing Panel's discretion as stated in R8.36.1, the Hearing Panel may award costs against a party for advancing any claim that is frivolous, vexatious, or entirely without merit.

## **8.37 APPEALS**

8.37.1 Subject to R8.37.2, the ITTF Tribunal's decision may be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sports ("CAS") by a party to the proceedings.

8.37.2 A preliminary or procedural ruling by Hearing Panel (or the ITTF Tribunal Chair, as applicable) may not be appealed, unless it amounts to a final resolution of the matter.

8.37.3 Appeals made pursuant to R8.37.1 shall

- 8.37.3.1 be filed no later than 21 days from the date of receiving the full decision by the appealing party;
  - 8.37.3.2 have International Table Tennis Federation as the appellant or respondent to the appeal;
  - 8.37.3.3 apply CAS' Code of Sports-related Arbitration (as published, modified and supplemented by CAS) and be governed by Swiss law; and
  - 8.37.3.4 be conducted in English, unless otherwise agreed by the parties.
- 8.37.4 Unless ordered otherwise by CAS, the appealed decision remains in full force and effect pending the determination of the appeal.
- 8.37.5 The decision of CAS is final and binding on all parties.

## **8.38 TRANSITORY PROVISIONS**

- 8.38.1 The term of office for the members of the inaugural ITTF Tribunal shall be two years or until an AGM or EGM appoints the members next ITTF Tribunal (whichever is earlier), and the members of the inaugural ITTF Tribunal shall be appointed by the ITTF Council.

## **Part IV: Mediation**

### *Division 1 – General*

## **8.39 GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- 8.39.1 Mediation is a flexible and informal process where the parties in dispute, guided by one or more impartial Mediator, negotiate in good faith to settle the whole or a part of the dispute in question. Such process involves one or more sessions aiming to:

- 8.39.1.1 identify the issues in dispute;
- 8.39.1.2 generate potential solutions;
- 8.39.1.3 facilitate open communication; and
- 8.39.1.4 establishing voluntary agreements.

- 8.39.2 In accordance with the principles of flexibility, informality, voluntariness, and good faith, the parties in dispute shall:

- 8.39.2.1 be entitled to vary any part of the Mediation procedure (except the provisions under Division 3 of this Part IV which are mandatory) as provided under these Mediation Provisions or apply any other procedure, subject to such parties' mutual agreement;
- 8.39.2.2 endeavour to settle the whole or a part of the dispute in question in good faith and voluntarily; and
- 8.39.2.3 uphold their confidentiality obligations under Article 8.47.

- 8.39.3 Mediation is available to resolve non-disciplinary disputes generally, provided that disciplinary-related disputes, such as those relating to any alleged breach of ITTF Code of Ethics, the ITTF Anti-Harassment Policy and Procedures, and the ITTF Electoral and Appointment Regulations, may be submitted for Mediation, subject to Article 8.40.2.

## **8.40 SCOPE OF APPLICATION**

8.40.1 Without limiting Articles 8.39.2.3 and subject to these Mediation Provisions, Mediation is available where:

- 8.40.1.1 the parties in dispute are Table Tennis Parties;
- 8.40.1.2 where the ITTF Tribunal has jurisdiction to hear the dispute; and
- 8.40.1.3 where a valid Mediation Agreement provides for Mediation.

8.40.2 Without limiting Article 8.39.2, any Mediation shall be governed according to these Mediation Provisions.

## **8.41 DISCIPLINARY-RELATED DISPUTES**

8.41.1 Any disciplinary-related dispute (wholly or partly) may be submitted for Mediation, provided that:

- 8.41.1.1 the parties in dispute mutually and expressly agrees in writing; and
  - 8.41.1.2 the ITTF Head of Integrity expressly agrees in writing, taking into consideration the underlying nature of such dispute, the interest of Table Tennis Parties and the public generally, and such other appropriate circumstances.
- 8.41.2 Where the ITTF Head of Integrity agrees in accordance with Article 8.41.1.1, the ITTF Head of Integrity may impose any condition to the Mediation it deems appropriate, such as it joining as a party to the disciplinary-related dispute.

## **8.42 FORM OF MEDIATION AGREEMENT**

8.42.1 The Mediation Agreement may take the form of a clause in a contract (including any reference to any document containing a clause for Mediation) or in the form of a separate agreement.

8.42.2 The Mediation Agreement must be in writing and is deemed to be in writing if its content is recorded in any form, whether the Mediation Agreement has been concluded orally, by conduct, or by other means.

8.42.3 The parties in dispute may use the sample form Mediation Agreement provided under Schedule 1 of these Regulations.

### *Division 2 – Mediation Procedures*

## **8.43 INITIATION AND COMMENCEMENT OF MEDIATION**

8.43.1 Mediation may be initiated by request to the ITTF Tribunal upon:

- 8.43.1.1 a voluntary request by any Table Tennis party in a dispute; or
- 8.43.1.2 a referral by the Secretariat, the ITTF Head of Integrity, or the ITTF Tribunal Chair.

8.43.2 Upon receiving a request under Article 8.43.1, the ITTF Tribunal Chair shall:

- 8.43.2.1 notify the parties in dispute of the Mediators available for Mediation and the process of nominating the Mediator in accordance with Article 8.44.1;
- 8.43.2.2 request for any relevant information relating to the dispute, including the identity and contact information of the parties and their representatives, and a brief description of the dispute;

8.43.2.3 notify the parties in dispute of any applicable Mediation Cost and their payment deadline; and

8.43.2.4 take any other relevant steps they deem appropriate.

8.43.3 Mediation is deemed to commence on the day on which the relevant Mediation Agreement is validly completed and received by the ITTF Tribunal and the payment of any applicable Mediation Cost, whichever is later.

#### **8.44 MEDIATORS AND APPOINTMENT**

8.44.1 The ITTF Tribunal shall issue a list of approved Mediators available for Mediation in accordance with the Mediation Provisions.

8.44.2 Parties in dispute may mutually agree to nominate one or more Mediators within five days of receiving the ITTF Tribunal Chair notice under Article 8.43.2, failing which the ITTF Tribunal Chair will nominate such Mediator after consulting the parties in dispute.

8.44.3 The Mediator nominated under Article 8.44.1 shall duly complete their relevant parts of Mediation Agreement if they agree to be appointed as the Mediator for that dispute.

8.44.4 The appointed Mediator's role shall be to assist the parties in dispute in their negotiations, with the aspiration of settling the dispute submitted for Mediation by reaching a mutual agreement. In this regard, the appointed Mediator may assist such parties by:

8.44.4.1 identifying the issues; and

8.44.4.2 facilitate discussion of the issues.

8.44.5 If any appointed Mediator is no longer accepted by the parties in dispute, withdraws from the Mediation or is otherwise unable to fulfil their duties, the parties in dispute may seek to appoint another Mediator in accordance with Article 8.44.1, provided that they mutually agree to continue with Mediation

8.44.6 Each appointed Mediator shall be impartial and independent of the parties in dispute during the Mediation and shall disclose any facts or circumstances which may reasonably conflict with their independence. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parties in dispute may mutually agree in writing to authorise any appointed Mediator to continue their appointment after acknowledging the Mediator's aforementioned disclosure.

#### **8.45 MEDIATION PROCESS**

8.45.1 The Mediation process shall be conducted in the manner as mutually agreed amongst the parties in dispute and the Mediator and in the absence of such an agreement, the Mediator shall proceed as they deem appropriate, considering the circumstances of the dispute, the wishes of the parties in dispute, and such other relevant considerations.

8.45.2 Following the commence of the Mediation, the Mediator shall:

8.45.2.1 hold an initial conference or otherwise communicate with the parties in dispute (collectively or separately) to discuss the manner in which the Mediation will proceed, including the timeline and key events in the Mediation;

8.45.2.2 call for and facilitate the exchange of information between the parties in dispute relevant for the Mediation, which may include a summary of their views and copies of material documents on which they rely;

8.45.2.3 arrange Mediation sessions where the parties in dispute may present their views and negotiate to attempt to settle the dispute, as facilitated by the Mediator; and

8.45.2.4 take such other steps as mutually agreed or otherwise deemed appropriate by the Mediator under Article 8.45.

## **8.46 PARTIES IN MEDIATION AND THIRD PARTIES**

8.46.1 The parties in dispute may be assisted by duly authorised representatives during the Mediation.

8.46.2 The parties in dispute and the Mediator intending to invite any Other Participant to participate any part of the Mediation shall notify one another of any such Other Participant with the relevant information, such as their names and roles in the Mediation, and obtain one another's mutual agreement.

### *Division 3 – Mandatory Mediation Provisions*

## **8.47 CONFIDENTIALITY**

8.47.1 The Parties in the Mediation shall undertake to keep the Mediation and any document and information disclosed thereunder confidential from any third party and shall not disclose to any third party any such document and information, unless required by law to do so or mutually agreed.

8.47.2 No record (whether physical or non-physical) of the Mediation session may be made, except the personal notes of the Mediator or the parties in dispute.

8.47.3 Unless required by applicable law, no Party in the Mediation may compel the Mediator to disclose any document or information or testify regarding the Mediation in any arbitral or judicial proceeding.

## **8.48 STAY OF PROCEEDINGS**

8.48.1 Where any party in dispute institutes any proceeding before the ITTF Tribunal, any arbitral body, or any court against any other party in dispute in respect of any issue in that dispute, any other party in that dispute may apply to the ITTF Tribunal, that arbitral body, and that court to stay the proceedings so far as the proceedings relate to that dispute under Mediation, in accordance with the applicable law.

8.48.2 In respect of the ITTF Tribunal, the Hearing Panel (and in cases prior to the formation of the Hearing Panel, the ITTF Tribunal Chair) hearing the application under Article 8.48 may make an order staying the proceeding so far as the proceeding relate to the dispute under Mediation and upon such terms as it deems fit, including making any interim or supplementary order for the purpose of preserving the rights of the parties in dispute.

## **8.49 TERMINATION OF MEDIATION**

8.49.1 Any party in dispute or the Mediator may terminate the Mediation at any time.

8.49.2 Without limiting Article 8.49, the Mediation shall be terminated:

8.49.2.1 by the valid conclusion of the Settlement Agreement;

8.49.2.2 if the Mediator states in writing that any further effort at the Mediation is unlikely to result in the formation of a Settlement Agreement, such as if they reasonably determine that any Party in the Mediation has breached a material term of the Mediation Agreement;

- 8.49.2.3 by a written statement of any party in dispute to the effect that the Mediation is terminated; or
- 8.49.2.4 where any Mediation Cost remains unpaid within the time limit fixed under Article 8.52.2.

## **8.50 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

- 8.50.1 Where one or more issues in dispute is settled through the Mediation, the settled issues shall be recorded in a Settlement Agreement.
- 8.50.2 The Settlement Agreement shall:
  - 8.50.2.1 be in writing and signed by all parties in dispute; and
  - 8.50.2.2 contains at least the following information:
    - 8.50.2.2.1 the name of each party in dispute;
    - 8.50.2.2.2 the date on which the Settlement Agreement is made; and
    - 8.50.2.2.3 the settlement terms reached by the parties in dispute through the Mediation.
- 8.50.3 The parties in dispute who have submitted any issue in dispute to Mediation and have reached a settlement in respect of such issue may use the sample form Settlement Agreement provided under Schedule 2 of these Regulations.

## **8.51 ENFORCEMENT OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

- 8.51.1 Where a Settlement Agreement has been made through a Mediation, any party to that Settlement Agreement or the Mediator conducting the Mediation may apply to the ITTF Tribunal court to record that Settlement Agreement as a decision of the ITTF Tribunal within 21 days of the date of that Settlement Agreement.
- 8.51.2 The ITTF Tribunal may refuse to record a Settlement Agreement as a decision of the ITTF Tribunal if:
  - 8.51.2.1 that Settlement Agreement is void or voidable due to incapacity, fraud, misrepresentation, duress, coercion, illegality, or any other ground for invalidating a contract;
  - 8.51.2.2 the subject matter of that Settlement Agreement is not capable of settlement;
  - 8.51.2.3 any term of that Settlement Agreement is not capable of enforcement as a decision of the ITTF Tribunal;
  - 8.51.2.4 that Settlement Agreement is not final or binding according to its terms;
  - 8.51.2.5 the terms of that Settlement Agreement are too incomprehensible to be capable of enforcement;
  - 8.51.2.6 there was any serious breach of the standards applicable to the Mediator or the Mediation without which breach any party in that dispute would not have entered into that Settlement Agreement, such as a failure by the Mediator to disclose circumstances that raise justifiable doubts as to their impartiality or independence which had a material impact or undue influence on any such party; or
  - 8.51.2.7 the recording of that Settlement Agreement as a decision of the ITTF Tribunal is contrary to public policy.
- 8.51.3 A Settlement Agreement that is recorded under this Article 8.50.3 as a decision of the ITTF Tribunal may be enforced in the same manner as a decision given or an order made by the ITTF Tribunal.

8.51.4 Any person to whom relief is sought pursuant to a decision of the ITTF Tribunal made under this Article 8.50.3 may apply to the Court of Arbitration for Sport within 21 of days on the date of enforcement to set aside that decision (wholly or partly) if they prove that decision ought not to have been made due to the unfulfillment of one or more grounds under Article 8.51.1.

## **8.52 FAILURE TO SETTLE**

8.52.1 Where a dispute has not been resolved by the Mediation or if the Mediation was terminated before the valid conclusion of a Settlement Agreement, any party to that dispute may have recourse to proceedings before the ITTF Tribunal (or such other competent body), subject to their applicable law.

8.52.2 In the event of a failure to resolve a dispute by Mediation, the Mediator may not be appointed to the hearing panel of subsequent proceedings concerning the parties involved in the same dispute, unless mutually agreed by all such parties and that Mediator.

## **8.53 MEDIATION COSTS**

8.53.1 The Mediation Costs shall be determined and published by the ITTF Tribunal from time to time.

8.53.2 Unless otherwise agreed by the parties in dispute, the Mediation Costs shall be shared equally amongst them and they shall be jointly and severally liable for the payment of all the Mediation Costs.

## **8.54 UNADDRESSED MATTERS**

8.54.1 Any matter not specifically provided for under these Mediation Provisions shall be decided by the Mediator (and in cases prior to the Appointment of the Mediator, the ITTF Tribunal Chair) in accordance with the principles of these Mediation Provisions.

## Schedule 1 – Sample Mediation Agreement

Parties in dispute wishing to submit such dispute for Mediation pursuant to the Mediation Provisions may adopt the sample mediation agreement below and provide the specific details, in particular in lieu of [placeholders] and considering {comments}.

### **MEDIATION AGREEMENT**

<b>Date</b>	{The month is recommended to be written in words rather than in digits due to avoid misinterpretation – e.g. 01 February 2023}	
<b>I. PARTIES</b>		
(1)	Name	
	Registration Number (if any)	
	Address	
	("Party A")	
(2)	Name	
	Registration Number (if any)	
	Address	
	("Party B")	
...		[Insert any additional Parties]
<b>II. BACKGROUND</b>		
(A)	The parties identified above (each a "Party" and collectively, the "Parties") wish to settle the Dispute (as defined below) in good faith through Mediation.	
(B)	Therefore, the Parties agree to submit the Dispute for Mediation through the ITTF Tribunal on such terms as follows.	
<b>III. KEY TERMS</b>		
1.	<b>Dispute</b>	{Describe the dispute(s) intended to be settled through Mediation clearly.}
2.	<b>Authorised Representatives</b>	<u>Party A</u> Name: Designation: Email address:  <u>Party B</u> Name: Designation: Email address:

		<u>[Any additional Parties]</u>
3.	<b>Mediator(s)</b>	Name: Email address:  <u>[Any additional Mediators]</u>
4.	<b>Other Participants</b>	<u>Participant 1</u> Name: Role: Mediator's Assistant Email address: <i>{If communications are required}</i>  <u>[Any additional Other Participants]</u>
5.	<b>Mode of Mediation</b>	[In-person / virtual / hybrid]
6.	<b>Date, Time, and Venue/Platform</b>	Date: <i>{The month is recommended to be written in words rather than in digits due to avoid misinterpretation – e.g. 01 February 2023}</i> Time: <i>{State time zone}</i> Venue (if in-person): Platform (if virtual):
7.	<b>Applicable Rules</b>	The Mediation Provisions as provided under the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.  <i>{Alternatively, insert other mediation rules to be applied or describe variation(s) to Mediation Provisions.}</i>
8.	<b>Failure to Settle</b>	If the Parties are unable to resolve the Dispute through Mediation during the period as set out above or otherwise mutually agreed, the Dispute shall be referred to and finally resolved by the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.  <i>{This provision provides for any unresolved dispute to be heard by the ITTF Tribunal.}</i>
<b>IV. Other Terms</b>		
9.	<b>General Principles</b>	The Parties acknowledge and agree that the general principles of flexibility, informality, voluntariness, and good faith (as stated under Article 8.39 of the ITTF Tribunal Regulations) shall apply to the present Mediation.
10.	<b>Confidentiality</b>	The Parties, the Mediator(s), and any Other Participant(s) further agree to comply with their confidentiality obligations (as stated under Article 8.47 of the ITTF Tribunal Regulations).

11.	<b>Stay of Proceedings</b>	The Parties agree that if any proceeding has been commenced against any Party before the ITTF Tribunal, any arbitral body, or any court in respect of any issue in the Dispute, such proceeding may be stayed so far as it is being submitted to the present Mediation, upon application to the ITTF Tribunal, that arbitral body, and that court, subject to the applicable law (and in the case of the ITTF Tribunal, Article 8.48.2 on the preservation of rights of the Parties).
12.	<b>Communications</b>	Any communication relating to the present Mediation may be directed to their respective Authorised Representatives, the Mediator(s), and any Other Participant(s) (if applicable) identified above.
13.	<b>Authority</b>	The Parties agree and warrant that they have duly appointed their respective Authorised Representatives to participate in the present Mediation and each of whom has full capacity and authority to take any action arising thereunder on their behalf (including discontinuing or settling the Mediation, submitting documents on their behalf, and receiving communications on their behalf).
14.	<b>Independence</b>	The Mediator(s) agree that they have complied with their obligations of independence (as stated under Article 8.44 of the ITTF Tribunal Regulations).
15.	<b>Definitions Interpretation</b> <b>and</b>	<p>Capitalised terms under this Mediation Agreement have the meanings as detailed in the respective paragraphs herein and shall otherwise have the definitions given to them under the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.</p> <p><i>{For example, “Authorised Representatives” are identified under paragraph 2 above and “Mediation Provisions” are defined under Article 8.1 of the ITTF Tribunal Regulations. However, if the Parties wish to apply mediation rules different from the Mediation Provisions, Parties should consider substituting “ITTF Tribunal Regulations” with applied mediation rules.}</i></p>

#### V. Acceptance

This Mediation Agreement is signed and accepted on the date stated at the top by:

<b>Party A</b>	<hr/> [Name] [Designation]
<b>Party B</b>	<hr/> [Name]

	[Designation]
[Insert any additional Parties]	
<b>Mediator</b>	 [Name]
[Insert any additional Mediators]	
<b>Other Participant</b>	 [Name] [Role]
[Insert any additional Other Participants]	

## Schedule 2 – Sample Settlement Agreement

Parties in dispute who have submitted any issue in dispute to Mediation wishing to record the settlement terms reached in respect of any such issue in dispute pursuant to the Mediation Provisions may adopt the sample settlement agreement below and provide the specific details, in particular in lieu of [placeholders] and considering {comments}.

### **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

<b>Case No.</b>	<i>[Insert any case reference number]</i>	
<b>Date</b>	{The month is recommended to be written in words rather than in digits due to avoid misinterpretation – e.g. 01 February 2023}	
<b>I. PARTIES</b>		
(1)	Name	
	Registration Number (if any)	
	Address	
		("Party A")
(2)	Name	
	Registration Number (if any)	
	Address	
		("Party B")
...		<i>[Insert any additional Parties]</i>
<b>II. BACKGROUND</b>		
(A)	The parties identified above (each a “Party” and collectively, the “Parties”) wish to settle the Dispute (as defined below) in good faith through Mediation.	
(B)	Follow one or more Mediation session, the Parties voluntarily agree to fully and finally settle the Dispute on such terms as follows.	
<b>III. KEY TERMS</b>		
1.	<b>Dispute</b>	{Describe clearly the dispute(s) that went through Mediation.}
2.	<b>Settlement Terms</b>	By voluntary agreement and in full and final settlement of claims (and any counterclaims) of the Dispute, the Parties hereby agree as follows:  {Describe the settlement terms clearly.}
3.	<b>Failure to Settle</b>	If the Parties are unable to resolve the Dispute through

		Mediation within the agreed period of [number of days], the Dispute shall be referred to and finally resolved by the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.  <i>{This provision provides for any unresolved dispute to be heard by the ITTF Tribunal.}</i>
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<b>IV. Other Terms</b>		
4.	<b>Confidentiality</b>	The Parties shall comply with their confidentiality obligations (as stated under Article 8.47 of the ITTF Tribunal Regulations).
5.	<b>Enforcement</b>	The Parties understand and agree to comply with this Settlement Agreement and that this Settlement Agreement may be recorded and enforced as a decision of the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with Article 8.51 of the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.
6.	<b>Definitions and Interpretation</b>	Capitalised terms under this Settlement Agreement have the meanings as detailed in the respective paragraphs herein and shall otherwise have the definitions given to them under the ITTF Tribunal Regulations. <i>{For example, “Dispute” is identified under paragraph 1 above and “Settlement Agreement” are defined under Article 8.1 of the ITTF Tribunal Regulations. However, if the Parties wish to apply mediation rules different from the Mediation Provisions, Parties should consider substituting “ITTF Tribunal Regulations” with applied mediation rules.}</i>

<b>V. Acceptance</b>	
This Settlement Agreement is signed and accepted on the date stated at the top by:	
<b>Party A</b>	<hr/> [Name] [Designation]
<b>Party B</b>	<hr/> [Name] [Designation]
[Insert any additional Parties]	

# **9 ITTF INTEGRITY REGULATIONS**

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## **Part I: Preliminary**

### **9.1 CITATION AND COMMENCEMENT**

9.1.1 These Regulations may be cited as the ITTF Integrity Regulations and shall come into operation on 05 December 2022.

### **9.2 DEFINITIONS**

9.2.1 The capitalised terms used in these Regulations are as defined in the ITTF Statutes or as follows, unless the context otherwise requires:

9.2.1.1 “**AGM**” means an annual general meeting of ITTF.

9.2.1.2 “**Alleged Person**” means the person or party who is suspected to have committed a violation of the Applicable Rules.

9.2.1.3 “**Applicable Rules**” has the meaning given to it in R9.4.2.

9.2.1.4 “**Appropriate Person**” has the meaning given to it in R9.24.1.

9.2.1.5 “**CAS**” means the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

9.2.1.6 “**EGM**” means an extraordinary general meeting of ITTF.

9.2.1.7 “**Independent Member**” means a member of the Integrity Board that meets the Independence Requirements and has voting rights.

9.2.1.8 “**Independence Requirements**” has the meaning given to it in R9.6.1.

9.2.1.9 “**Investigation Notice**” means a written demand to a Table Tennis Party for information relating to any potential breach of any Applicable Rule, as further described in R9.17.6.

9.2.1.10 “**ITTF Integrity Board**” means the supervising body of the ITTF Integrity Unit, consisting of the ITTF Integrity Board Members.

9.2.1.11 “**ITTF Integrity Board Members**” means the individuals listed at R9.5.2 in these Regulations, who make up the composition of the ITTF Integrity Board.

9.2.1.12 “**ITTF Integrity Officer**” means an employee(s) assigned to be part of the ITTF Integrity Unit, working under the instruction of the ITTF Head of Integrity, and any external specialist person or entity engaged by the ITTF Head of Integrity to perform a specific function for the ITTF Integrity Unit.

9.2.1.13 “**ITTF Statutes**” means the ITTF Statutes as published and amended from time to time.

9.2.1.14 “**ITTF Tribunal**” means the highest judicial body within ITTF to hear and decide cases at first instance or as an appellate body as set out in the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

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- 9.2.1.15 "**Prima Facie Case**" means any case of any breach of any Applicable Rule that the ITTF Head of Integrity considers sufficient to warrant investigation.
  - 9.2.1.16 "**Qualified Majority**" means two-thirds majority of persons taking part in the vote, not counting abstentions.
  - 9.2.1.17 "**Referral**" means a referral to an Appropriate Person to deal with a minor violation of any Applicable Rule, as further described in R9.24.1.
  - 9.2.1.18 "**Regulations**" means these ITTF Integrity Regulations.
  - 9.2.1.19 "**Report**" means a report made regarding any alleged breach of any Applicable Rule, as further described in R9.15.1.
  - 9.2.1.20 "**Simple Majority**" means majority (more than 50%) of persons taking part in the vote, not counting abstentions.
  - 9.2.1.21 "**Table Tennis Parties**" means the parties listed at R9.4.1 in these Regulations. Where reference is made to any one of the parties mentioned in R9.4.1 below, the said party may be referred to as "**Table Tennis Party**".

### 9.3 INTERPRETATION

- 9.3.1 These Regulations are adopted pursuant to the ITTF Statutes and shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with applicable provisions of the ITTF Statutes. In case of any conflict, the ITTF Constitution prevail over these Regulations.
- 9.3.2 The headings and sub-headings in these Regulations are for convenience only and shall not be deemed to be part of the substance of these Regulations or to affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.
- 9.3.3 Words used regardless of the number and gender specifically used, shall be deemed and construed to include any other number, singular or plural, and any other gender, masculine, feminine or neuter, as the context requires.
- 9.3.4 Any words following the terms "including", "include", "in particular", "such as" or any similar expression shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words, description, definition, phrase, or term preceding those terms.
- 9.3.5 If any provision of these Regulations is held to be invalid, unenforceable or illegal for any reason, it shall be deemed to be deleted and the remainder of these Regulations shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.
- 9.3.6 For the avoidance of doubt, these Regulations will not replace or in any way affect or alter ITTF's ability to pursue appropriate disciplinary action against ITTF employees, directors, consultant or such other staff ("**Staff**") under the

terms of any employment or consultancy contract with any ITTF Staff and/or pursuant to any of ITTF's employment rules or policies in force from time to time. Where conduct prohibited under the Applicable Rules and/or the ITTF Statutes also amounts to a breach of the terms of an ITTF Staff's employment or consultancy agreement with ITTF, ITTF (including the ITTF Integrity Unit with respect to ITTF Integrity Officers) will be entitled, at its absolute discretion, to elect to pursue disciplinary action against such Staff pursuant to the applicable employment or consultancy contract, and there is no requirement for any action to be taken under these Regulations.

- 9.3.7 Alleged Persons may also be subject to other rules that govern discipline or conduct and that the same conduct of such persons may constitute not only a violation of the Applicable Rules but also such other rules that may apply. For the avoidance of doubt:
  - 9.3.7.1 These Regulations and the Applicable Rules are not intended to limit the responsibilities of any person under such other rules; and
  - 9.3.7.2 Nothing in such other rules will be capable of removing, superseding or amending in any way the jurisdiction of the ITTF Tribunal to determine matters properly arising pursuant to these Regulations and the Applicable Rules.

#### **9.4 APPLICATION OF THESE REGULATIONS**

- 9.4.1 These Regulations shall apply to the following Table Tennis Parties (see ITTF Code of Ethics Preamble and Scope of Application):
  - 9.4.1.1 the ITTF, its administration, each of its members (Member Associations), affiliated organisations (Continental Federations and other groups of associations), World Table Tennis, and their officials, decision-making bodies, honorary members, officers, employees, services providers, delegated third parties and their employees, players, players' entourages and such other persons involved in their operations at all times and in all circumstances;
  - 9.4.1.2 all participants in ITTF Sanctioned Events;
  - 9.4.1.3 all members and their officials taking part in any type of candidature procedures of the ITTF, throughout the procedure in question;
  - 9.4.1.4 the Organising Committees for the ITTF events and their officials, throughout the existence of each such Committee; and
  - 9.4.1.5 any other persons who agree to be bound by the ITTF Statutes or these Regulations.
- 9.4.2 The ITTF Integrity Unit shall have the duties, powers, and authority as set out in these Regulations to investigate and prosecute alleged violations of:
  - 9.4.2.1 the rules and regulations under the ITTF Statutes, including the ITTF Constitution, the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules, ITTF Code of Ethics, the Anti-

- Harassment Policy and Procedures, the ITTF Electoral and Appointment Regulations; and
- 9.4.2.2 any such other rules and regulations relating to sport integrity connected to ITTF that any person agree to be bound by (collectively, the “**Applicable Rules**”).

## **Part II: Organisation of the ITTF Integrity Unit**

### **9.5 THE ITTF INTEGRITY BOARD**

- 9.5.1 The ITTF Integrity Board shall be the supervising body of the ITTF Integrity Unit and will be responsible for governing the ITTF Integrity Unit and ensuring that it carries out its roles and responsibilities in accordance with the ITTF Statutes and these Regulations.
- 9.5.2 The ITTF Integrity Board shall comprise of:
- 9.5.2.1 A maximum of five Independent Members, one of them being the ITTF Integrity Board Chair;
- 9.5.2.2 one ITTF Executive Board member (as determined by the ITTF Executive Board) to be a non-voting member of the ITTF Integrity Board; and
- 9.5.2.3 the ITTF Head of Integrity ex officio who will also be a non-voting member of the ITTF Integrity Board. If at any point, the position of ITTF Head of Integrity is vacant, their position on the ITTF Integrity Board will also be vacant.
- 9.5.3 The ITTF Integrity Board shall report directly to the AGM annually or as requested by the AGM or EGM.
- 9.5.4 The ITTF Integrity Board’s powers include the following:
- 9.5.4.1 approve and review any strategic plan, where implemented, for the ITTF Integrity Unit and regularly monitor progress against such strategic plan;
- 9.5.4.2 approve and amend policies and procedures for the operation of the ITTF Integrity Unit, in particular to ensure that it is operationally independent from the ITTF (provided that such policies and procedures are not inconsistent with the ITTF Constitution or ITTF Statutes);
- 9.5.4.3 appoint (including all terms and conditions of such appointment) and monitor the performance of the ITTF Head of Integrity and if necessary, terminate such appointment;
- 9.5.4.4 approve decisions of the ITTF Head of Integrity, including:
- 9.5.4.4.1 whether the ITTF Integrity Unit (in the name of ITTF) should bring proceedings for violations of the Applicable Rules;

- 9.5.4.4.2 whether the ITTF Integrity Unit (in the name of ITTF) should agree to the outcome of any proceedings with an Alleged Person or Respondent without reference to the ITTF Tribunal;
- 9.5.4.4.3 whether the ITTF Integrity Unit (in the name of ITTF) should appeal decisions of the ITTF Tribunal; and
- 9.5.4.4.4 whether the ITTF Integrity Unit (in the name of ITTF) should participate in any appeal or other proceeding before the CAS or any other forum to which ITTF is not a party;
- 9.5.4.5 identify and manage the risks arising in relation to the ITTF Integrity Unit and these Regulations;
- 9.5.4.6 approve and amend policies and procedures for the making of other decisions permitted or required of the ITTF Head of Integrity under these Regulations or the ITTF Statutes;
- 9.5.4.7 if requested by the ITTF Head of Integrity, make decisions permitted or required of the ITTF Head of Integrity as set out in the ITTF Statutes or these Regulations;
- 9.5.4.8 consider applications submitted by the ITTF Head of Integrity for a provisional suspension of an Alleged Person pending determination of the charge(s) and issue such provisional suspension if appropriate;
- 9.5.4.9 supervise the control of expenditure and prudently use the funding allocated to the ITTF Integrity Unit;
- 9.5.4.10 establish policies and procedures containing delegations or authority and limits of authority for the ITTF Head of Integrity and the ITTF Integrity Officers to ensure the necessary control of funds and expenditure of the ITTF Integrity Unit;
- 9.5.4.11 approve major transactions relating to the ITTF Integrity Unit in accordance with the limitations and applicable policies;
- 9.5.4.12 engage, contract or otherwise agree to obtain the assistance or advice of any person or organization to assist in carrying out the ITTF Integrity Unit's mandate;
- 9.5.4.13 consider and recommend to the ITTF Executive Board any amendments to the ITTF Statutes and these Regulations that are relevant to the mandate of the ITTF Integrity Unit and to uphold and maintain integrity within and outside of ITTF;
- 9.5.4.14 report to the AGM, EGM, or the ITTF Executive Board (as applicable) in accordance with the ITTF Statutes and these Regulations;
- 9.5.4.15 to do all things necessary to fulfil the mandate of the ITTF Integrity Unit as set out in Article 1.5.5 of the ITTF Constitution.

9.5 An Independent Member may be suspended or removed from office:

9.5.5.1 by the ITTF Integrity Board Chair if:

9.5.5.1.1 that member is found to be not eligible under these Regulations;

- 9.5.5.1.2 that member is found to have been in serious breach of the ITTF Statutes, these Regulations, or any other ITTF regulations, including the ITTF Code of Ethics; or
  - 9.5.5.1.3 that member is unable or unwilling to perform their duties as an ITTF Integrity Board member, has neglected their duties, or has engaged in any material misconduct;
  - 9.5.5.2 by the AGM or EGM, if:
    - 9.5.5.2.1 the person to be removed under R9.5.5 is the ITTF Tribunal Chair; or
    - 9.5.5.2.2 the AGM or EGM considers that the ITTF Tribunal Chair's decision made pursuant to R9.5.5.1 should be reviewed.
  - 9.5.6 Before an Independent Member is removed, that member shall be given reasonable written notice of the proposal by the ITTF Integrity Board Chair, the AGM or EGM (as applicable) to remove them as an ITTF Integrity Board member, the basis for such proposal and the relevant facts supporting such proposal. That member may respond to that proposal within 14 days of being notified in writing of the proposal and that member's response must be taken into account by such decision maker.
  - 9.5.7 If an Independent Member resigns, dies, or is removed from office, the position shall either:
    - 9.5.7.1 remain vacant until the next AGM or EGM; or
    - 9.5.7.2 if the ITTF Integrity Board Chair considers it necessary, the ITTF Council may appoint a replacement member to fill the vacancy on the ITTF Integrity Board until the next AGM or EGM.
- 9.6 ITTF INTEGRITY BOARD CHAIR AND INDEPENDENT ITTF INTEGRITY BOARD MEMBERS**
- 9.6.1 No ITTF Integrity Board Chair or Independent Member themselves and their immediate family members may, during their term of office as ITTF Integrity Board member and for four years prior to their initial appointment to office (collectively, the "Independence Requirements"):
    - 9.6.1.1 hold any official function in ITTF, a member association of ITTF or an associated organisation of ITTF; and
    - 9.6.1.2 have any material business relationship with ITTF, a member association of ITTF or an associated organisation of ITTF,
  - 9.6.2 Before assuming office, the ITTF Integrity Board Members shall first take an oath, an affirmation or otherwise make an undertaking that they will discharge their duties independently and impartially.
  - 9.6.3 The term of office of the Independent Members shall be four years and each Independent Member may be appointed by the ITTF Council for a maximum

of twelve consecutive years. This will not apply to the ITTF Head of Integrity, however, who will remain a member of the ITTF Integrity Board throughout.

- 9.6.4 The ITTF Integrity Board Chair must:
  - 9.6.4.1 be fluent in English; and
  - 9.6.4.2 have at least ten years of professional legal experience in sport and demonstrates substantial experience in sport governance, anti-doping, anti-match-manipulation, athlete safeguarding, anti-harassment or such other relevant areas in sport integrity.
  
- 9.6.5 The ITTF Integrity Board Chair shall be responsible for matters including:
  - 9.6.5.1 to lead and represent the ITTF Integrity Board in official matters within and outside of ITTF, together with the ITTF Head of Integrity, in accordance with the policies decided by the ITTF Integrity Board;
  - 9.6.5.2 To promote the ITTF Integrity Unit and liaise and co-operate with other sports organisations, public and private organisations and authorities and other stakeholders, including the media;
  - 9.6.5.3 To chair meetings of the ITTF Integrity Board and lead the work of the ITTF Integrity Board, including ensuring it implements good governance practices, functions effectively, acts within its powers and meets its obligations and responsibilities;
  - 9.6.5.4 To support, monitor and liaise with and to form a strong collaborative working relationship with the ITTF Head of Integrity;
  - 9.6.5.5 To authorise transactions and sign documentation binding the ITTF only (a) together with at least one other member of the ITTF Integrity Board; and (b) in accordance with decisions, policies and procedures decided by the ITTF Integrity Board, or as otherwise specified in these Regulations; and
  - 9.6.5.6 To suspend or remove of any other Independent Member pursuant to R9.5.5.1.
  
- 9.6.6 The Independent Members of the ITTF Integrity Board are required at all times to:
  - 9.6.6.1 act at all times in good faith and in the best interest of the ITTF Integrity Unit;
  - 9.6.6.2 exercise the powers of the ITTF Integrity Board for proper purposes;
  - 9.6.6.3 act and ensure that the ITTF Integrity Board acts in accordance with the ITTF Statutes, the Applicable Rules and these Regulations;
  - 9.6.6.4 make reasonable efforts to attend and actively participate in all ITTF Integrity Board meetings;
  - 9.6.6.5 maintain a reputation for high standards of business conduct;
  - 9.6.6.6 exercise the care, diligence and skill that any reasonable ITTF Integrity Board member would exercise in the same circumstances;

- 9.6.6.7 comply and do not publicly disagree with the ITTF Integrity Board's decisions, even if the Independent Member privately does not agree with them;
- 9.6.6.8 act and operate independently from the other organs of the ITTF, unless specified in these Regulations;
- 9.6.6.9 not agree to the ITTF Integrity Unit incurring any obligations unless they reasonably believe at that time that the ITTF Integrity Unit will be able to perform the obligations when it is required to do so;
- 9.6.6.10 except for the ITTF Integrity Board Chair, not speak or make statements publicly on behalf of the ITTF Integrity Board unless authorised to do so by the ITTF Integrity Board Chair or in accordance with delegated authority in writing from the ITTF Integrity Board;
- 9.6.6.11 disclose to the ITTF Integrity Board the nature and extent of any interest they may have in a transaction or proposed transaction of the ITTF Integrity Board as soon as they become aware of such interest or such transaction; and
- 9.6.6.12 participate in the annual review of the ITTF Integrity Board's performance in the manner decided by the ITTF Integrity Board.

## **9.7 THE ITTF HEAD OF INTEGRITY AND ITTF INTEGRITY OFFICER(S)**

- 9.7.1 The ITTF Head of Integrity shall be required to meet the Independence Requirements. The ITTF Head of Integrity is accountable to the ITTF Integrity Board alone.
- 9.7.2 The ITTF Head of Integrity shall lead and carry out the responsibilities of the ITTF Integrity Unit, as specified in Article 1.5.5.1 of the ITTF Constitution, and within such limitations and delegated authority as may be established by the ITTF Integrity Board.
- 9.7.3 The ITTF Head of Integrity shall be responsible for:
  - 9.7.3.1 Developing any ITTF Integrity Unit's strategic plan for the approval of the ITTF Integrity Board;
  - 9.7.3.2 Regularly reporting to the ITTF Integrity Board on progress against such plans;
  - 9.7.3.3 Defining and monitoring delegations of the authority of the ITTF Head of Integrity to the ITTF Integrity Officers;
  - 9.7.3.4 Controlling expenditure and allocating funding prudently in accordance with the approved budget;
  - 9.7.3.5 Subject to the prior approval of the ITTF Integrity Board in accordance with R9.5.4.4, making decisions to:
    - 9.7.3.5.1 whether the ITTF Integrity Unit (in the name of ITTF) should bring proceedings for violations of the Applicable Rules;

- 9.7.3.5.2 whether the ITTF Integrity Unit (in the name of ITTF) should agree to the outcome of any proceedings with the Alleged Person or Respondent without reference to the ITTF Tribunal;
  - 9.7.3.5.3 whether the ITTF Integrity Unit (in the name of ITTF) should appeal decisions of the ITTF Tribunal; and
  - 9.7.3.5.4 whether the ITTF Integrity Unit (in the name of ITTF) should participate in any appeal or other proceeding before the CAS or any other forum to which ITTF is not a party.
- 9.7.3.6 subject to any policies and procedures that may be adopted by the ITTF Integrity Board from time to time, making other decisions permitted or required by the ITTF Head of Integrity as set out in these Regulations or in the ITTF Statutes, including:
- 9.7.3.6.1 Conducting investigations in accordance with these Regulations;
  - 9.7.3.6.2 Imposing a provisional suspension pending determination of the charge(s); and
  - 9.7.3.6.3 Issuing Investigation Notices in accordance with R9.17.6 of these Regulations;
- 9.7.3.7 Refer any dispute for Mediation as defined in and in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations;
- 9.7.3.8 Consider any dispute for Mediation as defined in and in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations;
- 9.7.3.9 Reporting to the ITTF Integrity Board on all decisions made by the ITTF Head of Integrity in relation to R9.7.3.6, in such manner as the ITTF Integrity Board may require, and by no later than the time of its next meeting;
- 9.7.3.10 Requesting the ITTF Integrity Board to make any decision permitted or required of the ITTF Head of Integrity, whenever the ITTF Head of Integrity considers it necessary or appropriate for the ITTF Integrity Board to do so;
- 9.7.3.11 Convening ITTF Integrity Unit meetings, as and when necessary;
- 9.7.3.12 Managing the caseload of the ITTF Integrity Unit and assign (or reassign) cases to any ITTF Integrity Officer, according to their specific expertise and/or experience;
- 9.7.3.13 Engaging and/or monitoring the performance and conduct of the ITTF Integrity Officer(s) and investigate (or assist in the investigation of) complaints made against them, in accordance with the ITTF Statutes;
- 9.7.3.14 Working with the ITTF Integrity Officer(s) on all matters relevant and necessary for the operations of the ITTF Integrity Unit;
- 9.7.3.15 Supporting the ITTF Integrity Board Chair in engaging with external stakeholders of the ITTF;
- 9.7.3.16 Developing systems, policies and procedures for the effective functioning of the ITTF Integrity Unit;
- 9.7.3.17 Developing, reviewing and assessing new programmes, projects and innovations for the improvement of the ITTF Integrity Unit's performance, for approval by the ITTF Integrity Unit Board;

- 9.7.3.18 Supervising and approving all reporting to external bodies as necessary; and
  - 9.7.3.19 Ensuring compliance by the ITTF Integrity Unit with all applicable laws, the ITTF Statutes, and these Regulations.
- 9.7.4 The ITTF Head of Integrity shall be assisted by other ITTF Integrity Officer(s), pursuant to Article 1.5.5.2 of the ITTF Constitution, and the ITTF Head of Integrity may delegate to any of the ITTF Integrity Officer any powers and authority that the may be vested in the ITTF Head of Integrity.
- 9.7.5 If the ITTF Head of Integrity office is vacant, the ITTF Integrity Board shall appoint an ITTF Integrity Officer or an ITTF Integrity Board Member to temporarily assume that office until a new ITTF Head of Integrity is appointed.
- 9.7.5.1 No provision of these Regulations or the ITTF Statutes shall be prejudiced by the vacancy of the ITTF Head of Integrity office.

## **9.8 MEETINGS OF THE ITTF INTEGRITY BOARD**

- 9.8.1 The ITTF Integrity Board shall meet quarterly and each ITTF Integrity Board meeting shall be convened by the ITTF Integrity Board Chair.
- 9.8.2 The ITTF Integrity Board Chair shall set the agenda of the ITTF Integrity Board meetings, taking into consideration any proposal regarding the agenda made by other ITTF Integrity Board Members.
- 9.8.3 The agenda of the ITTF Integrity Board meetings shall be communicated to the ITTF Integrity Board Members prior to the ITTF Integrity Board meeting in a timely manner and whenever possible, at least 7 days before the date of the ITTF Integrity Board meeting.
- 9.8.4 If an integrity matter arises between the ITTF Integrity Board meetings, the ITTF Head of Integrity will inform the ITTF Integrity Board Chair and the latter will determine its urgency and the need to call for an extraordinary meeting of the ITTF Integrity Board, or whether it can be decided during the next scheduled meeting.
- 9.8.5 The ITTF Integrity Board meeting may be conducted remotely through, without limitation, telephone, videoconference, or any other generally acceptable electronic communication means, if requested by any ITTF Integrity Board Member. At least once a year, a meeting will be conducted in person.

## **9.9 QUORUM AND MEETINGS OF THE ITTF INTEGRITY BOARD**

- 9.9.1 The quorum for meetings of the ITTF Integrity Board shall be three (3), at least two of which being Independent Members.
- 9.9.2 If any ITTF Integrity Board meeting takes place without meeting the quorum, any resolution proposed shall be:
  - 9.9.2.1 communicated to the ITTF Integrity Board Members within seven days of the date of the ITTF Integrity Board meeting; and
  - 9.9.2.2 be voted on by the ITTF Integrity Board Members within a period specified by the ITTF Integrity Board Chair.
- 9.9.3 If the total number of votes during the ITTF Integrity Board meeting and pursuant to R9.9.2 exceed the number required to form a quorum, the vote cast according to R9.9.2 will be deemed as having been validly cast at the ITTF Integrity Board meeting.

## **9.10 VOTING AND RESOLUTIONS**

- 9.10.1 Decisions are passed by the ITTF Integrity Board when a Simple Majority of the board members vote in favour.
- 9.10.2 The use of electronic mail and other generally acceptable electronic communication means is permissible for the purposes of passing a resolution by correspondence.

## **9.11 MINUTES OF ITTF INTEGRITY BOARD MEETINGS**

- 9.11.1 The ITTF Integrity Board shall keep minutes of its deliberations and resolutions at each ITTF Integrity Board meeting. The ITTF Integrity Unit shall be responsible for taking the minutes during each meeting.
- 9.11.2 The minutes shall contain:
  - 9.11.2.1 the names and designations of persons attending;
  - 9.11.2.2 a summary of the deliberations;
  - 9.11.2.3 the proposed resolutions;
  - 9.11.2.4 the result of resolutions with the number of votes; and
  - 9.11.2.5 the declarations requested by any ITTF Integrity Board Member requests to be recorded.
- 9.11.3 The draft of the minutes shall be promptly communicated to the ITTF Integrity Board Members for their review and the approved minutes must be signed by the ITTF Integrity Board Chair.

**9.12 INDEMNITY**

- 9.12.1 No ITTF Integrity Board Member will be personally liable for any act or omission when carrying out their duties and exercising their powers or authorities in good faith.

**9.13 EXPENSES**

- 9.13.1 Where applicable, the ITTF Integrity Board Members will receive compensation and reimbursement for expenses incurred on matters of the ITTF and such payments shall not be deemed to compromise their independence and impartiality.

**9.14 CONFIDENTIALITY**

- 9.14.1 Unless otherwise set out in these Regulations, the ITTF Integrity Board's affairs are confidential.
- 9.14.2 The ITTF Integrity Board Members shall ensure that information disclosed to them during the course of their duties remains confidential and disclosures to any third party may be deemed as breach of confidentiality.

**Part III: Procedures of the ITTF Integrity Unit**

**9.15 REPORTING OBLIGATION, GATHERING AND SHARING INTELLIGENCE**

- 9.15.1 All Table Tennis Parties have an obligation to report, as soon as practicable, any act, thing or information which the person becomes aware of, which may constitute (on its own or with other information) a violation of any Applicable Rule, including any approach or request to engage in conduct that may constitute a violation of the Applicable Rules (“Report”).
- 9.15.2 Any such information shall be reported to the ITTF Head of Integrity or to the ITTF Integrity Unit in the manner deemed appropriate by the ITTF Head of Integrity.
- 9.15.3 If the ITTF Head of Integrity considers it appropriate to do so, the party filing a Report may be asked to provide further information in respect of the Report and the ITTF Integrity Unit may make other enquiries into the matters set out in the Report.

- 9.15.4 In addition to receiving Reports in accordance to R9.15.1 above, the ITTF Integrity Unit may put in place mechanisms to gather intelligence that may assist in assessing the compliance (or otherwise) of Table Tennis Parties with the Applicable Rules from all available sources, including law enforcement, other regulatory and disciplinary bodies, investigative journalists, members of the public, and third parties. In particular, the ITTF Integrity Unit may facilitate anonymous reporting by third parties where it considers appropriate and possible to do so.
- 9.15.5 The ITTF Integrity Unit may share intelligence that it holds about any Table Tennis Party with other appropriate authorities, including law enforcement and other regulatory and disciplinary bodies, where the ITTF Integrity Unit consider that such sharing is necessary in order to:
- 9.15.5.1 Effectively carry out an investigation or prosecution under these Regulations or to administer or enforce any matter falling under these Regulations;
  - 9.15.5.2 Protect the integrity of the ITTF, the Table Tennis Parties, or the sport of Table Tennis, generally;
  - 9.15.5.3 Prevent or detect crime or other offences or preserve the health or well-being of any person; or
  - 9.15.5.4 Fulfil any legal obligation of the ITTF or the ITTF Integrity Unit, including the obligation to demonstrate the ITTF Integrity Unit's compliance with the ITTF Statutes.
- 9.15.6 Any intelligence shared by the ITTF Integrity Unit shall be done so in accordance with applicable data protection laws and/or regulations.

## **9.16 PRIMA FACIE CASE**

- 9.16.1 The ITTF Head of Integrity shall first assess whether the Report relates to a likely breach of the Applicable Rules. They may appoint one or more persons to act on its behalf for this purpose.
- 9.16.2 If, upon review, the ITTF Head of Integrity considers the Report to be frivolous, vexatious, malicious, or otherwise an abuse of process, they may decide to take no further action. The ITTF Head of Integrity may take action against a malicious, frivolous, vexatious Report, if they consider that the filing is in of itself a violation of the ITTF Statutes.
- 9.16.3 If, upon review, the ITTF Head of Integrity considers the Report or a particular violation to be a minor violation, they may make a Referral pursuant to Rule R9.24.
- 9.16.4 If the Head of the Integrity Unit considers it appropriate to do so, they may ask any person filing a Report to provide further information or may make

other enquiries before a decision is taken as to whether a Prima Facie Case is established.

- 9.16.5 If the evidence submitted with, or subsequent to, any Report is considered by the ITTF Head of Integrity to establish a Prima Facie Case, the ITTF Head of Integrity will cause an investigation to be commenced, unless in their view and in consultation with the Integrity Unit Board, there is a good reason not to cause an investigation to be commenced either immediately or at all.
- 9.16.6 In addition to information provided in a Report, the ITTF Head of Integrity may consider information that has come to their attention by whatever means to establish whether there is a Prima Facie Case, and in such circumstances, they shall initiate an investigation against the Alleged Person in accordance with these Regulations.
- 9.16.7 If the ITTF Head of Integrity determines that no Prima Facie Case is established, the ITTF Head of Integrity may at their discretion suspend or terminate case.
- 9.16.7.1 Grounds do not need to be given for the commencement or, suspension of an investigation for any alleged breach of any Applicable Rule. Such a decision shall not be subject to appeal.
- 9.16.7.2 In the case of a termination of an investigation, ground will be provided, it shall be treated as a final decision and therefore may be appealed in accordance with the ITTF Regulations.

## **9.17 INVESTIGATIONS**

- 9.17.1 After establishing a Prima Facie Case, the ITTF Head of Integrity shall conduct further investigations. They may appoint one or more persons to act on its behalf for this purpose.
- 9.17.2 The objective for each investigation is to gather information necessary to determine whether a Table Tennis Party has a case to answer for violation of the Applicable Rules (i.e. whether or not to bring a charge(s)). This includes gathering and recording all relevant information, developing that information into reliable and admissible evidence, and identifying and pursuing further lines of enquiry that may lead to the discovery of such evidence.
- 9.17.3 The ITTF Head of Integrity will conduct each investigation fairly, objectively and impartially.
- 9.17.3.1 The ITTF Head of Integrity will be open to and consider all possible outcomes at each key stage of the investigation, and will seek to gather not

- only available evidence of a violation but also any available evidence indicating that there is no case to answer.
- 9.17.3.2 The ITTF Head of Integrity shall fully document their conduct of investigations, the evaluation of information and evidence identified in the course of investigations, and the outcome of investigations.
- 9.17.4 The ITTF Head of Integrity will notify the Alleged Person of the investigation and of the possible violation(s) to which the investigation relates, and will give the Alleged Person an opportunity to make a written submission as part of the investigation. The ITTF Head of Integrity shall decide when this notification should be made.
- 9.17.5 Where it deems appropriate, the ITTF Head of Integrity may coordinate or stay its own investigation pending the outcome of investigations or prosecutions by other competent bodies, including law enforcement and/or other regulatory or disciplinary bodies.
- 9.17.6 Where the ITTF Head of Integrity suspects that an Alleged Person may have committed a violation of the Applicable Rules and/or a Table Tennis Party may have information about a potential violation of the Applicable Rules by an Alleged Person, it may make a written demand (an "**Investigation Notice**") for information relating to the potential violation.
- 9.17.6.1 The ITTF Head of Integrity may issue such Investigation Notice at any time after a Report has been filed, including during its initial investigation or at any point after a Notice of Charge has been issued.
- 9.17.6.2 If necessary, the ITTF Head of Integrity may issue more than one Investigation Notice in the same investigation.
- 9.17.7 As part of an Investigation Notice, the ITTF Head of Integrity may require the Alleged Person or Table Tennis Party to:
- 9.17.7.1 Attend before the ITTF Integrity Unit for an interview, or to answer any question, or to provide a written statement setting out their knowledge of any relevant facts and circumstances.
- 9.17.7.1.1 Any interview will take place at a time and place determined by the ITTF Head of Integrity, and the Alleged Person or Table Tennis Party will be given reasonable notice in writing of the requirement to attend.
- 9.17.7.1.2 Interviews may be recorded and/or transcribed;
- 9.17.7.1.3 The Alleged Person or Table Tennis Party will be entitled to have legal counsel and an interpreter present. For the Alleged Person this shall be at their own expense (subject to an application for financial assistance from the ITTF). For a Table Tennis Party, they shall bear the cost of legal counsel (subject to an application for financial assistance from the ITTF), whilst the ITTF shall provide an interpreter;
- 9.17.7.2 Provide (or procure to the best of their ability, the provision by a third party) for inspection, copying and/or downloading any records or files (whether

existing in hard copy or electronic format) that the ITTF Head of Integrity reasonably believes may contain relevant information (such as itemised telephone billing statements, bank statements, ledgers, cryptocurrency wallets, transaction histories for any money transfer service or e-wallet, Internet service records, notes, files, correspondence, emails, and text of SMS, Whatsapp, Telegram, WeChat or similar messages received and sent);

- 9.17.7.3 Provide (or procure to the best of their ability, the provision by a third party) for inspection, copying and/or downloading any electronic storage device that the ITTF Head of Integrity reasonably believes may contain relevant information (such as cloud-based servers, computers, hard drives, tapes, disks, mobile telephones, laptop computers, tablets, and other mobile storage devices);
  - 9.17.7.4 Provide full and unlimited access to their premises for the purpose of securing information, records, articles or things that are the subject of an Investigation Notice;
  - 9.17.7.5 Provide full and unlimited access to any social media accounts and data accessed via cloud services; and/or
  - 9.17.7.6 Provide passwords, login credentials and other identifying information required to access information that is the subject of an Investigation Notice.
- 
- 9.17.8 The Alleged Person or Table Tennis Party must cooperate promptly, truthfully, completely and in good faith with an Investigation Notice, including providing the information or access requested within the deadline specified in the Investigation Notice, at the Alleged Person's own cost.
  - 9.17.9 Where an Investigation Notice relates to any information, record, article or thing that the ITTF Head of Integrity reasonably believes is capable of being damaged, altered, destroyed or hidden (any electronic storage device or electronically stored information will be deemed to meet this criterion), then for the purposes of evidence preservation, the ITTF Head of Integrity may require the Alleged Person or Table Tennis Party to comply with the Investigation Notice immediately upon receipt of it. In such a case:
    - 9.17.9.1 The Alleged Person or Table Tennis Party must immediately comply with the Investigation Notice in full, including permitting the ITTF Head of Integrity to take immediate possession of, copy and/or download the information, record, article or thing;
    - 9.17.9.2 A refusal or failure by the Alleged Person or Table Tennis Party to comply immediately with the Investigation Notice may constitute an independent violation of these Regulations and the ITTF Code of Ethics; and
    - 9.17.9.3 Any attempted or actual damage, alteration, destruction or hiding of such information, record, article or thing upon receipt of or after the Investigation Notice will constitute an independent violation of these Regulations and the ITTF Code of Ethics.

- 9.17.10 If the Alleged Person or Table Tennis Party obstructs or delays an investigation in any manner, whether or not in relation to an Investigation Notice (for example; by providing false, misleading or incomplete information or documentation or by tampering or destroying any documentation or other information that may be relevant to the investigation), it may also constitute a violation of these Regulations and the ITTF Code of Ethics.
- 9.17.11 Where during the course of any investigation the ITTF Integrity Unit identifies any additional Alleged Person(s) that may also have violated any Applicable Rule, the investigation may be expanded to cover such potential violations as well, or a separate investigation may be commenced.

## **9.18 CONDUCT OF PROSECUTIONS BY THE ITTF INTEGRITY UNIT**

- 9.18.1 After conducting an investigation, the ITTF Head of Integrity shall determine whether the Alleged Person has a case to answer for violation of the Applicable Rules.
- 9.18.2 If the ITTF Head of Integrity determines that the Alleged Person has a case to answer for violation of the Applicable Rules, the ITTF Integrity Unit shall:
- 9.18.2.1 charge the Alleged Person with violation of the Applicable Rules;
- 9.18.2.2 present that charge before the ITTF Tribunal for hearing and determination; and
- 9.18.2.3 pursue and defend (as applicable) any application and/or appeal arising in relation to such proceedings.
- 9.18.3 If the ITTF Head of Integrity determines that the Alleged Person has no case to answer for violation of the Applicable Rules, the ITTF Head of Integrity may at their discretion suspend or terminate investigations relating to the Investigation Notice and/or the Alleged Person.
- 9.18.4 The ITTF Integrity Unit will discharge its rights and responsibilities in good faith in all cases, taking into account both at the point of determining whether to issue a Notice of Charge and throughout any proceedings that follow:
- 9.18.4.1 The likelihood of a charge being upheld (including considering the strength of any evidence relied upon, the merits of the ITTF Integrity Unit's case, and how the defence case is likely to affect the ITTF Integrity Unit's case); and
- 9.18.4.2 Whether bringing or continuing to pursue the charge is necessary and proportionate to the objectives of the imperatives underlying these Regulations.

- 9.18.5 The ITTF Integrity Unit will respect the duty of procedural fairness owed to the Alleged Person who has been charged with violation(s) of the Applicable Rules.
- 9.18.6 The suspension of a procedure by the ITTF Head of Integrity shall not last more than 12 months, except where R9.17.5 applies.

## 9.19 NOTICE OF CHARGE

- 9.19.1 If the ITTF Head of Integrity determines that the Alleged Person has a case to answer for violation of the Applicable Rules, the ITTF Integrity Unit will prepare and send a written notice of charge to the Alleged Person (“**Notice of Charge**”), which will contain the following information:
  - 9.19.1.1 The specific provision(s) of the Applicable Rules that the Alleged Person is alleged to have violated;
  - 9.19.1.2 The facts alleged in support of such charge(s);
  - 9.19.1.3 where applicable, the details of any provisional suspension imposed on the Alleged Person pursuant to R9.20 pending determination of the charge(s); and
  - 9.19.1.4 the sanction(s) that the ITTF Integrity Unit says should be imposed under the Applicable Rules if the charge(s) is/are upheld;
  - 9.19.1.5 the Alleged Person’s right:
    - 9.19.1.5.1 to admit the charge(s) and to accept the sanction(s) specified in the Notice of Charge;
    - 9.19.1.5.2 to admit the charge(s) but to dispute (or seek to mitigate) the sanction(s) specified in the Notice of Charge, and to have the matter of sanction(s) determined by the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with R9.28 if it cannot be agreed between the parties; or
    - 9.19.1.5.3 to dispute the charge(s) and to have the charge(s) determined (along with any sanctions, where a charge is upheld) by the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with the requirements of R9.23; and
  - 9.19.1.6 the deadline for the Alleged Person to provide a response to the charges (which shall be no fewer than 14 days from the date of receipt of the Notice of Charge by the Alleged Person).

## 9.20 PROVISIONAL ELIGIBILITY SUSPENSION

- 9.20.1 In any case where the ITTF Integrity Unit issues a Notice of Charge to the Alleged Person, the ITTF Head of Integrity may submit an application to the ITTF Integrity Board for a provisional suspension of the Alleged Person pending determination of the charge(s) after considering one or more of the following factors:

- 9.20.1.1 the likelihood that the integrity of the sport of Table Tennis will be undermined;
  - 9.20.1.2 the seriousness of the alleged violation(s);
  - 9.20.1.3 the necessity or desirability of the provisional suspension in facilitating the conduct of any investigation or proceeding by ITTF Integrity Unit or any other relevant body; and
  - 9.20.1.4 the potential prejudice to the Alleged Person in imposing provisional suspension.
- 9.20.2 The application by the ITTF Head of Integrity to the ITTF Integrity Board for a provisional suspension of the Alleged Person can may be submitted when the Notice of Charge is issued or at any time thereafter. The ITTF Head of Integrity may apply for a provisional eligibility suspension to be issued prior to this time where there is compelling evidence that the Alleged Person is a current and ongoing risk to a Table Tennis Party and/or the integrity of the sport of Table Tennis.
- 9.20.3 The provisional eligibility suspension will be effective from the date determined by the ITTF Integrity Board and it may be made public (including posting a notice on the ITTF's website) at any time after the effective date.
- 9.20.4 During the period of any provisional eligibility suspension, the Alleged Person may not participate in any capacity in any competition, programme or other activity authorised or organised by the ITTF or any Table Tennis Parties, and may not associate with other Alleged Persons.
- 9.20.5 An Alleged Person whose eligibility is provisionally suspended has the right to apply to the ITTF Tribunal for an order lifting or limiting the provisional eligibility suspension. The provisional eligibility suspension may be lifted or limited if the Alleged Person demonstrates to the satisfaction of the ITTF Tribunal that:
- 9.20.5.1 the facts alleged in support of the charge(s) do not give rise to a Prima Facie Case;
  - 9.20.5.2 the case against the Alleged Person has no reasonable prospect of success;
  - 9.20.5.3 there is no real risk that the integrity of the sport of Table Tennis would be undermined; or
  - 9.20.5.4 other facts exist that make it clearly unfair, in all circumstances of the case, to make the Alleged Person serve a provisional suspension prior to the determination of the charge(s) against the Alleged Person. This ground is to be construed strictly, and applied only in truly exceptional circumstances.
- 9.20.5.4.1 The fact that the provisional eligibility suspension would prevent the Alleged Person from participating in a particular Table Tennis competition or event or to stand or election or appointment will not qualify as exceptional circumstances for these purposes.

- 9.20.6 An Alleged Person whose eligibility is not provisionally suspended by the ITTF Integrity Unit may, at any time, notify the ITTF Integrity Unit that the Alleged Person will accept a voluntary provisional suspension pending determination of the charge(s). Such voluntary provisional eligibility suspension will come into effect only upon receipt by the ITTF Integrity Unit of written confirmation of the Alleged Person's acceptance of the provisional eligibility suspension. No adverse inference will be drawn from such acceptance.
- 9.20.7 A period of provisional eligibility suspension served by the Alleged Person may be credited against any final period of ineligibility imposed on the Alleged Person.

## **9.21 EXCLUSION ORDER**

- 9.21.1 Where the ITTF Integrity Unit has sufficient evidence and is satisfied that any person (including a person who is not a Table Tennis Party) has likely breached an Applicable Rule and may undermine the integrity of the sport of Table Tennis, the ITTF Integrity Unit may issue an order directing that person to be excluded from any Table Tennis Party's competition, event, or activity and the Table Tennis Parties shall comply with such order.

## **9.22 RESOLVING CHARGES WITHOUT A HEARING**

- 9.22.1 Where the Alleged Person:
- 9.22.1.1 Admits the charge(s) and accepts the sanction(s) specified in the Notice of Charge (or accepts other sanction(s) proposed by the ITTF Integrity Unit); or
- 9.22.1.2 Fails to respond by the deadline specified in the Notice of Charge (which will be deemed to amount to (a) a waiver of the Alleged Person's right to have the charge(s) and/or sanction(s) determined by the ITTF Tribunal; (b) an admission of the charge(s); and (c) an acceptance of the sanction(s) specified in the Notice of Charge), the ITTF Integrity Unit will issue a public notice confirming the violation(s) committed and the sanction(s) imposed, and that notice will take effect as if it were a final decision of the ITTF Tribunal made in accordance with R9.29. Alternatively, where they sees fit (such as where the ITTF Integrity Unit has specified a range of potential sanction(s) in the Notice of Charge), the ITTF Head of Integrity may refer the matter to the ITTF Tribunal to determine the sanction(s) to be imposed in accordance with R9.28.
- 9.22.2 Where the ITTF Integrity Unit considers it appropriate to do so (for example; to minimise the burden on resources, or to achieve an expeditious and proportionate outcome to a case), the ITTF Head of Integrity may agree

terms with an Alleged Person who has been charged with a violation of the Applicable Rules for disposition of the charge without a hearing.

- 9.22.2.1 Such disposition will include confirmation of the commission of the violation(s) charged and acceptance of the sanction(s) to be imposed under these Regulations.
- 9.22.2.2 Any such discussion between the ITTF Head of Integrity and the Alleged Person in relation to the possibility of an agreed sanction will take place on a “without prejudice” basis and in such a manner that they will not delay or in any other way interfere with the proceedings.

## 9.23 HEARING BEFORE ITTF TRIBUNAL

- 9.23.1 If the Alleged Person wishes to have a hearing before the ITTF Tribunal to contest liability and/or sanction, the Alleged Person must provide a written request for a hearing to the ITTF Integrity Unit that is received by the ITTF Integrity Unit within 14 days of the Alleged Person’s receipt of the Notice of Charge (or such longer period as may be specified in the Notice of Charge or as agreed by the ITTF Integrity Unit). The request for a hearing must explain how the Alleged Person responds to the charge(s) and set out (in summary form) the basis for such response.
- 9.23.2 The procedures and proceedings for a hearing before the ITTF Tribunal, including appeals, shall be as set out in the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

## 9.24 ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURE FOR MINOR VIOLATION

- 9.24.1 Notwithstanding the provisions of these Regulations, where the ITTF Head of Integrity considers, at their discretion, a particular violation to be a minor violation, rather than to follow the procedures set out above, the ITTF Head of Integrity may refer the case (a “**Referral**”) to the ITTF Tribunal Chair or another suitably qualified person (the “**Appropriate Person**”), to be dealt with in accordance with the following provisions of this R9.24.
- 9.24.2 The Referral will set out:
- 9.24.2.1 The name of the Alleged Person who is the subject of the Referral (the “**Respondent**”);
- 9.24.2.2 Full details of the alleged violation, including where, when and how it is alleged to have occurred;
- 9.24.2.3 The specific provisions of the Applicable Rules alleged to have been violated;
- 9.24.2.4 Details of any relevant evidence, including copies of any relevant documents; and
- 9.24.2.5 What sanctions proposed from the list of potential sanctions set out in R9.28.

- 9.24.3 The Appropriate Person will perform an inquisitorial function, investigating and determining the merits of the Referral.
- 9.24.4 Save where the ITTF Head of Integrity orders otherwise, all Referrals will be dealt with in writing, without any oral hearing.
- 9.24.5 The Appropriate Person will send a copy of the Referral to the Respondent, specifying a deadline within which the Respondent must file a written answer (the “**Answer**”) with the Appropriate Person, with a copy to the ITTF Integrity Unit. In the Answer, the Respondent may:
  - 9.24.5.1 Admit the charge(s) set out in the Referral and accept the sanction(s) sought in the Referral;
  - 9.24.5.2 Admit the charge(s) set out in the Referral but to seek to mitigate the sanction(s) proposed in the Referral; or
  - 9.24.5.3 Dispute the charge(s) and/or the proposed sanction(s), in which case the Respondent must set out in the Answer their response to each of the allegations made in the Referral, identify any defences that they wish to assert, set out the facts on which the defence(s) is/are based, and attach copies of any evidence upon which they wish to rely.
- 9.24.6 The Appropriate Person may undertake such investigations in relation to the Referral and/or the Answer as the Appropriate Person deems necessary, including consulting with persons with knowledge of the facts and/or appointing experts to advise on specific issues.
- 9.24.7 If upon investigation, the Appropriate Person identifies facts that suggest the sanctions set out in R9.24.10 may not be sufficient, given the conduct of the Alleged Person, the Appropriate Person may raise this with the ITTF Head of Integrity, who will then decide whether to maintain the Referral or else withdraw the Referral and pursue the matter in accordance with the ordinary procedures set out above.
- 9.24.8 The Appropriate Person is not bound by judicial rules governing the admissibility of evidence. Instead, facts may be established by any reliable means, including witness evidence, expert reports and documentary or video evidence.
- 9.24.9 The Appropriate Person will not uphold the charge(s) in a Referral unless satisfied that they are proven on the applicable standard of proof.
- 9.24.10 Where a charge in a Referral is upheld, the Appropriate Person will have the power to impose one or more of the following sanctions:
  - 9.24.10.1 A caution or reprimand, or an oral or written warning;

- 9.24.10.2 Removal from a competition;
  - 9.24.10.3 Removal from a venue;
  - 9.24.10.4 Removal of accreditation;
  - 9.24.10.5 A fine of not more than CHF 5,000; and
  - 9.24.10.6 A ban on taking part in any table tennis-related activity of not more than three months.
- 9.24.11 The Appropriate Person will issue a reasoned decision in writing to the ITTF Integrity Unit and the Respondent, stating why the charge has or has not been upheld, and (if applicable) what sanctions are imposed.
- 9.24.12 The ITTF Integrity Unit will bear the costs incurred by the Appropriate Person in resolving the case. The Respondent will bear their own cost they incurred in relation to the Referral. Neither party may shift its cost to the other party.
- 9.24.13 There is no right to appeal from decisions of the Appropriate Person.

## **9.25 TRANSFER OF CASES FROM/TO ITTF MEMBERS, ETC.**

- 9.25.1 In the event that any ITTF Member Association or, affiliated organisation, undertakes any investigation or proceeding against a Table Tennis Party and the ITTF Integrity Unit reasonably deems that such investigation and/or proceeding is not conducted in a satisfactory manner, the ITTF Integrity Unit may direct for such investigation or proceeding to be transferred to the ITTF Integrity Unit.
- 9.25.2 Where the ITTF Integrity Unit makes a direction pursuant to R9.25.1, the relevant ITTF Member Association or, affiliated organisation, or World Table Tennis shall take all necessary steps to effect the transfer of investigation and/or proceeding promptly and to assist the ITTF Integrity Unit in conducting the investigation and/or proceeding efficiently, including providing the ITTF Integrity Unit access to or copies of relevant documents, records, articles, and such other information.
- 9.25.3 Where the ITTF Integrity Unit receives a complaint which is purely national in nature (i.e. has no cross-border element to it), then it may direct the relevant ITTF Member Association or affiliated organisation to conduct the investigation. If the ITTF Integrity Unit does so, the ITTF Member Association or affiliated organisation must provide regular updates to the ITTF Integrity Unit on the progress of the investigation.

## **9.26 CONFIDENTIALITY OF ITTF INTEGRITY UNIT PROCEDURES**

- 9.26.1 Except in exceptional circumstances where the ITTF Integrity Unit reasonably deems it necessary for the purposes of protecting the integrity of Table Tennis and/or any of Table Tennis Party (for example in circumstances where there is significant damaging and/or incorrect media speculation), the ITTF Integrity Unit shall not publicly identify any Alleged Person until they have been formally charged, at which point the ITTF Integrity Unit shall be entitled to publicly announce the name of the Alleged Person charged and the offences with which they have been charged. Thereafter, the ITTF Integrity Unit shall not comment publicly on the specific facts of a pending case, except in response to public comments made by (or on behalf of) the Alleged Person or their representatives or where otherwise necessary to preserve the public's confidence in the ability of the ITTF Integrity Unit to fight corruption in Table Tennis.
- 9.26.2 Without prejudice to any form of privilege available in respect of any such publication, the ITTF Integrity Unit shall be entitled to publish as it thinks fit and through whatever channel, reports of any proceedings pursuant to these Regulations, or any written decision of the ITTF Tribunal or any other recognised judicial body (in full or in a redacted form), whether or not it reflects adversely on the character or conduct of any Alleged Person. The Alleged Person shall be deemed to have provided their full and irrevocable consent to such publication.

## **9.27 PROTECTION OF THREATENED PERSONS**

- 9.27.1 The ITTF Integrity Unit shall take reasonable and proportionate measures at its discretion to protect any Table Tennis Party who has a honest and reasonable belief that there is a serious threat to their life or safety, or to the life or safety of another person.

## **9.28 SANCTIONS**

- 9.28.1 Where the ITTF Tribunal decides that a violation of the Applicable Rules has been established, it may impose such sanction(s) as it deems appropriate in accordance with the Applicable Rules, in particular R8.35 of the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.
- 9.28.2 Where the ITTF Tribunal determines that an appropriate sanction is not prescribed in the ITTF Tribunal Regulations, the ITTF Statutes or the ITTF Constitution, the ITTF Tribunal shall have the power to impose any sanction(s) as it deems appropriate and which commensurates with the violation of the Applicable Rules, taking into consideration the Applicable Rules, in particular R8.35 of the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

## **9.29 DECISIONS**

- 9.29.1 The ITTF Tribunal's decision shall be rendered in accordance with R8.36 of the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

## **9.30 APPEALS**

- 9.30.1 The ITTF Integrity Unit and the Alleged Person will each have the right to appeal decisions of the ITTF Tribunal in accordance with R8.38 of the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.
- 9.30.2 In accordance with R16.7.2, decisions to terminate an investigation can be appealed to the ITTF Tribunal.

## **9.31 COMMUNICATIONS**

- 9.31.1 Communications to the ITTF Integrity Unit may be by email to [integrity@ittf.com](mailto:integrity@ittf.com) or by mail to a stipulated address.
- 9.31.2 Notices or other communications to a person who is a member of a member association of ITTF or of an associated organisation of ITTF may be accomplished by delivering such notice or other communication to that member association of ITTF or that associated organisation of ITTF, respectively.

## **9.32 TIME LIMITS**

- 9.32.1 Unless otherwise set out in these Regulations, any time period to be calculated under these Regulations shall begin to run the day following the date of receipt of a notice or other communication.
- 9.32.2 The time limits fixed under these Regulations are respected if the communications by the parties are sent before midnight, time of the location of their own domicile or, if represented, of the domicile of their main legal representative, on the last day on which such time limits expire.
- 9.32.3 Non-working days and official holidays are included in calculating time limits. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the last day of the time limit is an official holiday or a non-business day in the location from where the document is to be sent, the time limit shall expire at the end of the next working day.

- 9.32.4 For the purposes of these Regulations, a “working day” means any day other than (i) Saturday or Sunday, or (ii) any day that is an official holiday in Lausanne, Switzerland.
- 9.32.5 Upon application on justified grounds and after consultation with the other party (or parties), the ITTF Head of Integrity may extend any time limit provided in these Regulations, if the circumstances so warrant.

### **9.33 LIMITATION PERIOD**

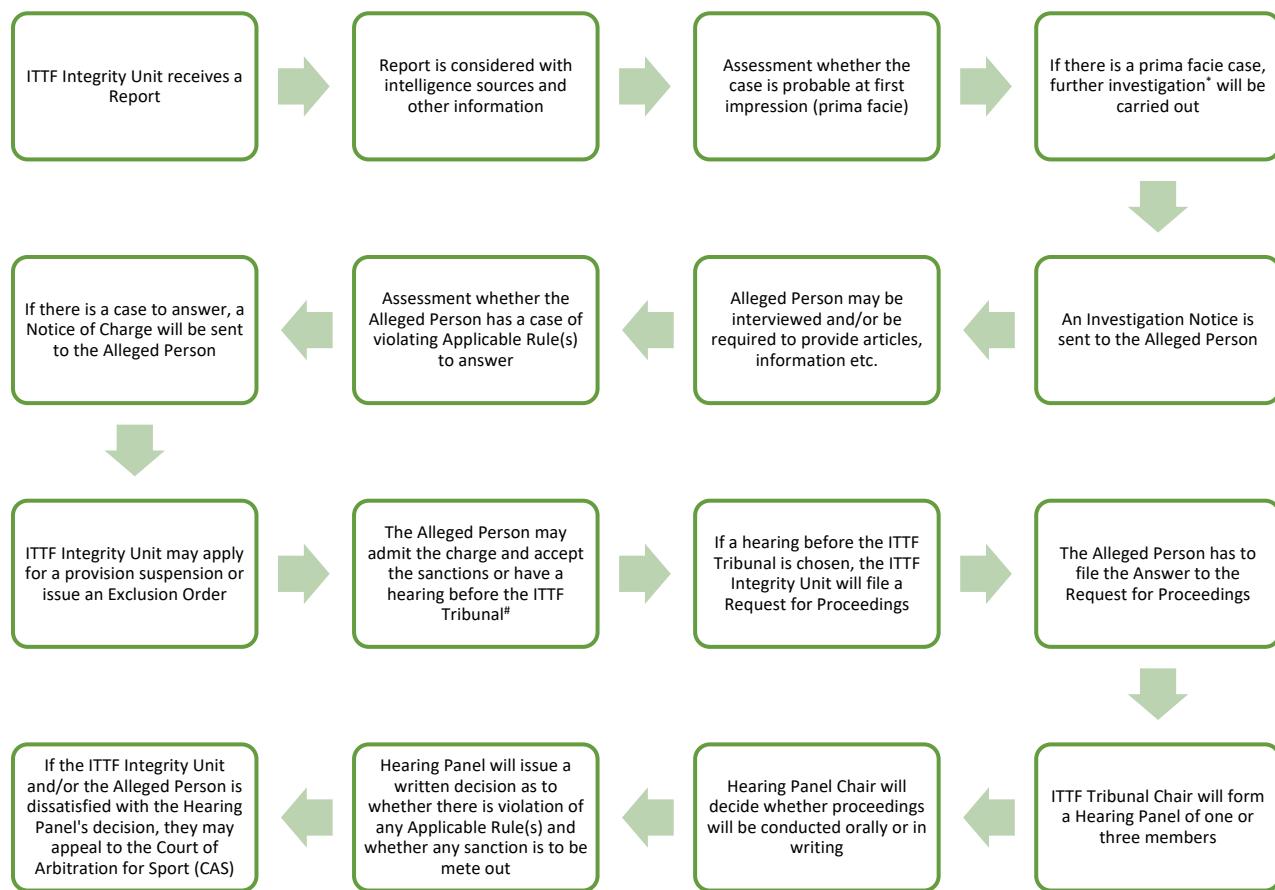
- 9.33.1 Unless expressly specified in the relevant Applicable Rule, there shall be no limitation period to investigate or prosecute any potential violation of any Applicable Rule or these Regulations.
- 9.33.2 Where a limitation period is stated in the relevant Applicable Rule,
- 9.33.2.1 the limitation period commences:
- 9.33.2.1.1 from the date of the commission of the alleged violation;
- 9.33.2.1.2 from the date of the most recent commission of the alleged violation, if that infringement is recurrent; or
- 9.33.2.1.3 from the date on which the alleged violation had ended, if that infringement lasted for a period of time; and
- 9.33.2.2 Where, in the case of any alleged violation is concealed by the fraud or deceitful behaviour of the Alleged Person or Respondent (or their representative), the limitation period shall not commence until the fraud or deceitful behaviour was discovered or could have discovered it with reasonable diligence.
- 9.33.3 For avoidance of doubt, this R9.33.3 prevails over the R8.24 of the ITTF Tribunal Regulations in the event of conflict.

### **9.34 BREACHES**

- 9.34.1 A refusal or failure by any party to comply with any provision of Part III of these Regulations will constitute an independent violation of these Regulations.
- 9.34.2 Violation of any provision of Part III of these Regulations shall be sanctioned with a fine of up to CHF 20,000 and/or a ban on taking part in any table tennis-related activity for a maximum of two years, subject to the application of aggravating and mitigating factors.
- 9.34.2.1 For violations committed by an individual, sanctions shall be increased accordingly if the individual holds a high position in table tennis.

## Annex 1 – Key Procedures of the ITTF Integrity Unit

For reference, the general key procedures of the ITTF Integrity Unit are highlighted as follows.



\* The ITTF Head of Integrity may instead refer a case to an appropriate person for a simplified proceeding if it deems that the potential violation in question is a Minor Violation – see R9.16.3 and R9.24.

<sup>#</sup> The ITTF Tribunal's jurisdiction excludes hearing para table tennis matters (to be heard before the IPC Board of Appeal of Classification) and anti-doping rule violations (to be heard before the CAS Anti-Doping Division) – see R8.16 of ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

# **10 ITTF ELECTORAL AND APPOINTMENT REGULATIONS**

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## **Part I: Introduction**

The Executive Board, ITTF Council, the Integrity Board, the Audit and Finance Committee, the ITTF Tribunal, and various Permanent Committees are key bodies in the worldwide governance of table tennis.

These Regulations are developed in accordance with the Statutes and the principles of good governance and adopted to govern the Election Process and Appointment Process of these bodies.

## **Part II: Application and Governing Principles**

### **10.1 APPLICATION OF THESE REGULATIONS**

10.1.1 These Regulations shall be enforced towards the Election Process (Executive Board and ITTF Council) and Appointment Process (Integrity Board, Audit and Finance Committee and Permanent Committees) and shall apply to the Nominations Committee, Executive Board, ITTF Council, Integrity Board, Audit and Finance Committee, the ITTF Tribunal, Permanent Committees, Nominating Associations, each member of the foregoing bodies, Candidates, Existing Officials, ITTF staff, and such other persons who agree to be or are otherwise bound by these Regulations (“Covered Persons”).

### **10.2 PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE ELECTION PROCESS AND APPOINTMENT PROCESS**

10.2.1 The Election Process and Appointment Process are governed by these Regulations and the Statutes.

10.2.2 Candidates must meet the requirements as set out in these Regulations and the Statutes.

10.2.3 Interference in the outcome of any Election or Appointment for any Key Position is not permitted.

**10.3 GENERAL OBLIGATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT**

- 10.3.1 Candidates for Election are entitled to promote their candidacy, subject to these Regulations and the Statutes. Candidates for Appointment shall not engage in any promotion.
- 10.3.2 Candidates shall respect “universal fundamental ethical principles”, being one of the foundations of Olympism, act fairly and in good faith, and respect and observe equality amongst the other Candidates, ITTF, and Associated Organisations.
- 10.3.3 Candidates shall not act in a way likely to tarnish the reputation of ITTF, its Associated Organisations, or the sport of table tennis, or to bring ITTF, its Associated Organisations, or otherwise breach these Regulations or the Statutes. In particular, each Candidate shall not harm or do anything likely to harm the image of another Candidate or cause any prejudice to them.
- 10.3.4 The candidacy of all Candidates is subject to them being Eligible, satisfying the requirements of these Regulations and the Statutes, and adhering to the directives, guidelines, or such other documents issued by the Nominations Committee.

**Part III: Supervision of the Election and Appointment**

**10.4 SUPERVISING BODY**

- 10.4.1 The Nominations Committee shall be the responsible body to oversee and supervise each part of the Election Process and Appointment Process in accordance with these Regulations and the Statutes .
- 10.4.2 The Nominations Committee shall operate and carry out its duties, responsibilities, and obligations in accordance with these Regulations, its terms of reference, and the Statutes and shall have and exercise all powers and authority necessary to carry out its duties, responsibilities, and obligations as set out in these Regulations.
- 10.4.3 The Nominations Committee shall be responsible for Vetting a Candidate to be Appointed or Elected to a Key Position.
- 10.4.4 The Nominations Committee may issue directives, guidelines, or such other documents to govern the Election Process and the Appointment Process.

- 10.4.5 Subject to Article 10.26, decisions made by the Nominations Committee will be final and binding.

## **Part IV: Application Process**

### **10.5 APPLICATION**

- 10.5.1 A Nominating Association (for the Elections of Executive Board and ITTF Council Members and for Appointments for Permanent Committees) or the Candidate (for the Appointment to the Integrity Board, the Audit and Finance Committee, or the ITTF Tribunal), shall submit an Application by completing any prescribed nomination form or application form (as applicable) in which shall include the following information:
- 10.5.1.1 The Candidate's name, date of birth and office address;
  - 10.5.1.2 The Candidate's contact number and email address;
  - 10.5.1.3 A copy of the Candidate's curriculum vitae;
  - 10.5.1.4 A copy of the Candidate's Declaration Form;
  - 10.5.1.5 The Key Position for which the Candidate is applying; and
  - 10.5.1.6 A declaration that the Application is true, accurate and complete and that the Nominating Association or Candidate (as applicable), understands and accepts the Vetting Process, the Election Process or the Appointment Process (as applicable) and agree to be bound by these Regulations.

### **10.6 DECLARATION FORM**

- 10.6.1 The Candidate shall provide the necessary information and shall further complete any prescribed Declaration Form to represent and warrant that any and all information provided by the Candidate in the Application is true, accurate and complete.
- 10.6.2 Any such Declaration Form shall form part of the Application as a supporting document.

### **10.7 SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION**

- 10.7.1 Each Nominating Association (for Key Positions on the Executive Board, the ITTF Council, or Permanent Committees) or Candidates (for Key Positions on the Integrity Board, the Audit and Finance Committee, or the ITTF Tribunal) (as applicable) shall submit its Application in the prescribed manner and form by the stipulated deadline.

## **10.8 VETTING PROCESS**

- 10.8.1 The Vetting Process shall apply to each Candidate and towards each Application submitted in accordance with this Article 10.8.
- 10.8.2 The Nominations Committee shall screen the Candidate by way of their Application to determine their Eligibility to be Elected or Appointed to a Key Position in accordance with Article 10.10.
- 10.8.3 The Candidate and the Nominating Association (if applicable) shall ensure that any and all information in his Application and Declaration Form is up-to-date.
- 10.8.4 The Candidate shall ensure that they remain Eligible, to the best of their knowledge, for an Election or Appointment to a Key Position:
  - 10.8.4.1 If it is to the knowledge of the Candidate that they are no longer, or unlikely to be, Eligible, the Candidate shall immediately notify the Nominations Committee in writing of such knowledge.
- 10.8.5 The Nominations Committee shall submit to the AGM a report, setting out any rejection of Application due to an incomplete Application or a failure to meet the Eligibility Requirements.

## **10.9 PUBLICATION OF LIST OF CANDIDATES**

The Nominations Committee shall publicly make available the final list of Candidates upon completing the Vetting Process.

## **10.10 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- 10.10.1 All Candidates must be determined as Eligible for recommendation and Election or Appointment to a Key Position to the full satisfaction of the Nominations Committee.
- 10.10.2 In addition to any other applicable provision of the Statutes, the eligibility criteria to which the Nominations Committee shall observe and ensure that a Candidate must satisfy are as follows:
  - 10.10.2.1 Is at least 18 years old or has attained the age of majority in the country of their citizenship (whichever is higher);

- 10.10.2.2 Is able to work collaboratively within a diverse group of individuals;
- 10.10.2.3 Is able to work with integrity, objectivity, openness, honesty, and selflessness;
- 10.10.2.4 Is able to meet the standards expected and required of an Official in the relevant Key Position;
- 10.10.2.5 Is physically and mentally fit and able to perform the duties and obligations of an Official in the relevant Key Position;
- 10.10.2.6 Is of good character and reputation;
- 10.10.2.7 Does not have an interest in any Associated Organisation, which is not stated in the Declaration Form;
- 10.10.2.8 Is not an undischarged bankrupt or is not subject to any condition not yet fulfilled or order under bankruptcy law any jurisdiction;
- 10.10.2.9 Is not barred from being a director of a company in any jurisdiction;
- 10.10.2.10 Is not convicted of any offence by a term of imprisonment of two or more years (whether or not a term of imprisonment is imposed), unless that person has obtained a pardon or served the sentence imposed upon them;
- 10.10.2.11 Has not been subject to an order that they lack competence to manage their own affairs;
- 10.10.2.12 Is not serving a period of ineligibility or suspension for a breach of any legislation, rules and regulations pertaining to any sport by the ITTF Tribunal, the Court of Arbitration for Sport, a court of law, or such other competent judicial body;
- 10.10.2.13 Has not been removed from office for a breach of any legislation, rules and regulations pertaining to any sport by the ITTF Tribunal, the Court of Arbitration for Sport, a court of law, or such other competent judicial body; and
- 10.10.2.14 Is not prohibited from holding the relevant Key Position under any other circumstances provided by law, these Regulations, or the Statutes.

## **Part V: Restrictions on Promotion and Prohibition of Gifts etc.**

### **10.11 RESTRICTIONS ON CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENTS**

- 10.11.1 Candidates for Appointments shall not engage in any promotion of their candidacy.
- 10.11.2 Articles 10.12 to 10.14 shall not apply to Candidates for Appointments.

### **10.12 SPECIFIC OBLIGATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION**

- 10.12.1 In addition to Article 10.3, Candidates for Election shall ensure that their promotion of their candidacy adheres to the regulations set out in this Part V.

### **10.13 PROMOTION AND PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS**

- 10.13.1 Candidates shall ensure that the content and presentation of all materials produced by or on behalf of them to promote their candidacy (including any manifestos) must be fair, honest, conducted with dignity and moderation, and respectful of other Candidates, ITTF, its Associated Organisations, and the sport of table tennis.
- 10.13.2 Candidates may make public statements (including future plans and views), give interviews or issue written materials to promote their candidacy, provided that they shall not:
  - 10.13.2.1 pay journalists or such other persons affiliated with the media to promote their Candidacies; and
  - 10.13.2.2 not produce, or permit the production of any promotional material (including any manifestos), which harms or is likely to harm the image or reputation of another Candidate, ITTF, any Associated Organisation, or the sport of table tennis.
- 10.13.3 Candidates may engage the services of a public relations firm or public relations consultant, provided that Article 10.13.2 is adhered to.
- 10.13.4 Candidates may make a reasonable amount of promotional trips to promote their candidature but shall exercise discretion and avoid excessive expenditure to observe the principle of equality amongst Candidates.
- 10.13.5 If any Candidate makes any trip stated under Article 10.13.4, they shall promptly provide the details of such trip to the Nominations Committee prior to such trip and provide any relevant information requested by the Nominations Committee or the Integrity Unit (as applicable).

### **10.14 FUNDING**

- 10.14.1 Candidates shall declare, as part of their Application, all funding for their campaign coming from third parties, including donations and fundraising. Where the Candidate purely finance their campaign personally, such declaration is not required.

### **10.15 GIFTS, ETC.**

- 10.15.1 Candidates shall not offer or give any gift, donation, advantage, or benefit of any nature or value to any Member Association (or its representative) that is entitled to vote in the Election or Appointment.

- 10.15.2 Despite Article 10.15.1, it is permissible for exchanges of tokens of courtesy to be given if they are of nominal value, in that they have insignificant or no commercial value.
- 10.15.3 Candidates shall not offer any assistance of any kind (whether financial or otherwise) to any Member Association (or its representative) or any other person to enable them to attend the Election or Appointment.

#### **10.16 PROMISES, ETC.**

- 10.16.1 Candidates shall not enter into any promise or undertaking to act either as an Official or personally for the advantage or benefit of a Associated Organisation, or individual within any such body.
- 10.16.2 Candidates shall not enter into any promise or undertaking with any person that is likely to affect the Candidate's freedom of decision or action, or otherwise bind the Candidate, if Elected or Appointed.
- 10.16.3 Candidates shall not solicit or accept any advantage or benefit of any nature intended to influence decisions within their authority once Elected or Appointed, or which may reasonably be perceived as intending to have that effect.

#### **10.17 COLLUSION**

- 10.17.1 Candidates shall not engage in any act, collaboration or collusion by or between Candidates and Associated Organisations with the intent or knowledge to defraud or manipulate the result of the Election or Appointment.

#### **10.18 ASSISTANCE FROM STAFF**

- 10.18.1 Unless in the ordinary course of duties as an Existing Official, Candidates shall not solicit or receive individual or special support or services from ITTF staff (including any consultants, agents or advisors) to assist with the conduct of their candidacy.
- 10.18.2 Despite Article 10.18.1, it is permissible for general administrative support and services to be provided to ensure that the Election or Appointment is conducted in a fair, open and consistent manner.

## **10.19 BREACH OF A REGULATION UNDER THIS PART**

- 10.19.1 Without limiting the application of these Regulations or any other provision of the Statutes, the breach of any Regulation under this Part V shall be construed to be a breach of the relevant provision under Article 6.2 of the Statutes.

## **Part VI: Election Day Procedures**

### **10.20 APPLICATION OF THE STATUTES**

- 10.20.1 Without affecting the general application of the Statutes, pursuant to Article 1.49 of the Statutes:
- 10.20.1.1 Where there are more Candidates or options for a post or posts than the number of vacancies, as long as a Simple Majority is not reached, additional ballots will be required. In this case, the Candidate or option obtaining the smallest number of votes shall be eliminated;
- 10.20.1.2 If there is a tie for the lowest number of votes, a further vote shall be held amongst them to determine who is eliminated;
- 10.20.1.3 Consecutive ballots will be organised until the Election is decided; and
- 10.20.1.4 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.

### **10.21 CANDIDATES' PRESENTATION**

- 10.21.1 Each Candidate for the Key Position of the President shall given an opportunity to make a presentation on the Election day or the day before for approximately 10 minutes and under similar conditions, prior to the voting procedure.
- 10.21.2 Each Candidate for the Key Position of an Executive Vice-President shall given an opportunity to make a presentation on the Election day or the day before for approximately 5 minutes and under similar conditions, prior to the voting procedure.
- 10.21.3 The AGM Chair may give any direction necessary for the expediency and fairness of each Candidate presentation.

### **10.22 VOTING PROCEDURE**

- 10.22.1 Member Association (or its representative) that is entitled to vote in the Election shall cast their vote in the manner set out in Article 1.48 of the Statutes and as follows.

- 10.22.2 Votes to elect Candidates to each Key Position shall be cast by secret ballot and may be done in person or electronically, in the manner prescribed or directed by the AGM Chair.
- 10.22.3 The voting procedure shall be overseen by scrutineers approved according to Article 1.48.5-of the Statutes.

## **10.23 ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS OF ELECTIONS**

The AGM Chair shall verify the results of the voting procedure and announce the result of the Election of each Key Position.

## **10.24 RETENTION AND DESTRUCTION OF BALLOTS**

- 10.24.1 After the Election has been completed, the ballots (whether physical or electronic votes) shall be retained for a period of one month and after which, the Nominations Committee shall call for, oversee, and confirm the destruction of the ballots.

## **Part VII: Breaches and Appeals**

### **10.25 SUSPECTED BREACH**

- 10.25.1 Covered Persons shall be promptly report any suspected breach of these Regulations to the Nominations Committee:
  - 10.25.1.1 Any suspected breach of any Regulation under Part V must be reported within 24 hours following discovery of the circumstances.
  - 10.25.1.2 Any suspected breach of any other Part of these Regulations must be reported within 30 days following discovery of the circumstances.
- 10.25.2 Upon receiving a report of any suspected breach, the Nominations Committee shall promptly:
  - 10.25.2.1 review the report for any alleged breach of these Regulations;
  - 10.25.2.2 the Candidate in question accordingly; and
  - 10.25.2.3 provide the Candidate with an opportunity to respond to the alleged breach within a period that the Nominations Committee deems appropriate, taking into consideration the proximity of the Election.
- 10.25.3 The Nominations Committee shall provide the relevant Candidate with a written decision as to the alleged breach of the Regulations as soon as practicable.

- 10.25.4 Where a report of an alleged breach of these Regulations is made after the Election, the Nomination Committee shall refer the matter to the Integrity Unit.

## **10.26 APPEAL**

Any Covered Person may appeal the decision of the Nominations Committee to the ITTF Tribunal in accordance to the ITTF Tribunal Regulations.

## **10.27 JURISDICTION OF THE ITTF TRIBUNAL**

- 10.27.1 The ITTF Tribunal shall have the jurisdiction to hear and decide in accordance with the ITTF Tribunal Regulations:
- 10.27.1.1 any suspected breach of these Regulations, as described in Article 10.25; and
- 10.27.1.2 any appeal of the decision of the Nominations Committee, as described in Article 10.26.

## **Part VIII: General Terms**

### **10.28 CITATION AND COMMENCEMENT**

These Regulations may be cited as the ITTF Electoral and Appointment Regulations and shall come into operation on 25 November 2021.

### **10.29 DEFINITIONS**

- 10.29.1 The capitalised terms used in these Regulations are as defined in the Statutes or as follows, unless the context otherwise requires:
- 10.29.1.1 “**Application**” means an application for a determination to be Appointed or Elected to a Key Position, which shall include the Letters of Recommendation and Declaration Form.
- 10.29.1.2 “**Appointment**”, “**Appointment Process**”, and “to appoint” means the process by which Candidates undergo to be appointed or stand to be appointed to a Key Position of the Permanent Committees, the Integrity Board, the Audit and Finance Committee, or the ITTF Tribunal and includes the Vetting Process .
- 10.29.1.3 “**Candidate**” means any person, which shall include any Existing Official, who has applied for an Appointment or Election to a Key Position to be determined by the Nominations Committee.
- 10.29.1.4 “**Covered Person**” means each person as defined in R10.1.

- 10.29.1.5 “**Declaration Form**” means the declaration form that shall be submitted in support of an Application.
- 10.29.1.6 “**Election**”, “**Election Process**”, and “to elect” mean the process by which Candidates undergo to be elected or stand to be elected to the Key Position of the Executive Board or ITTF Council and includes the Vetting Process.
- 10.29.1.7 “**Election Day**” means each day during the Election when votes are cast to Elect Eligible Candidates to any Key Position.
- 10.29.1.8 “**Eligibility**” and “**Eligible**” mean that the Candidate has satisfied the Eligibility Requirements.
- 10.29.1.9 “**Eligibility Requirements**” means the requirements for a Candidate to satisfy to be Eligible.
- 10.29.1.10 “**Existing Official**” means an Official holding the present Key Position in view of the upcoming Appointment or Election.
- 10.29.1.11 “**Key Position**” means the key position of an Official.
- 10.29.1.12 “**Nominating Association**” means any ITTF Member Association that nominates a Candidate.
- 10.29.1.13 “**Official**” means a key position within ITTF in either the Executive Board, the ITTF Council, Integrity Board, Audit and Finance Committee or any Permanent Committee.
- 10.29.1.14 “**Regulations**” means these ITTF Electoral and Appointment Regulations.
- 10.29.1.15 “**Referee**” means an individual preparing and recommending a Candidate by way of a Recommendation.
- 10.29.1.16 “**Vetting**”, “**Vetting Process**” and “to vet” mean the process by which the Nominations Committee screens and recommends a Candidate to be Eligible for Appointment or Election.

## **10.30 INTERPRETATION**

- 10.30.1 These Regulations are adopted pursuant to the Statutes and shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with applicable provisions of the Statutes. In case of any conflict, the ITTF Constitution prevail over these Regulations.
- 10.30.2 A “Candidate” shall include any and all Existing Officials intending to be re-Elected or re-Appointed to his respective existing Key Positions, and the Application process shall be applicable to such Existing Officials.
- 10.30.3 A “Candidate” shall include any potential Candidate if their Nominating Association (for the Key Positions of the Executive Board, the ITTF Council, or any Permanent Committee) or themselves (for the Key Positions of the Integrity Board, the Audit and Finance Committee, or the ITTF Tribunal) has submitted an Application or that they have conducted themselves in a

manner reasonably understood that they are a Candidate, whether or not the Vetting Process or Election Process has been completed.

- 10.30.4 A “Nominating Association” shall include any potential Nominating Association if it has submitted an Application or that it has conducted itself in a manner reasonably understood that it is a Nominating Association, whether or not the Vetting Process or Election Process has been completed.
- 10.30.5 References to “Integrity Board” shall only apply to the positions of Independent Members of the Integrity Board, as defined in the ITTF Integrity Regulations.

# **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 Member Association, 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 Association 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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