1 CONSTITUTION

1.1 NAME

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

1.2 COMPOSITION

1.2.1 The ITTF shall consist of the affiliated table tennis organisations, referred to elsewhere in the Rules as "Associations", governing the sport in accordance with the principles of the ITTF in any territory generally regarded as constituting a national, historical or other unity.

1.2.2 The ITTF is a not-for-profit organisation governed by Article 60 and its derivatives of the Swiss Civil Code; it is endowed with legal status and its members, officers and employees shall not be responsible for its debts.

1.2.3 Associations shall not be regarded as agents of the ITTF.

1.3 PRINCIPLES

1.3.1 The principles of the ITTF shall be general unity of action, mutual respect of Associations in their dealings with one another and the inadmissibility of discrimination against Associations or individuals on racial, political, religious or other grounds.

1.3.2 The ITTF is committed to providing a sport and work environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Each individual has the right to participate and work in an environment, which promotes equal opportunities and prohibits discriminatory practices.

1.3.3 The ITTF is committed to providing a sport environment free of harassment on any basis without exception.

1.3.3.1 The Executive Committee shall impose appropriate disciplinary sanctions from warnings to exclusions from all kind of activity in the ITTF, when a complaint of harassment has been substantiated. The same disciplinary sanctions shall be imposed if a false accusation has been substantiated.

1.3.4 The ITTF shall observe the general and fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter and no provision of this Constitution shall be deemed to conflict with or derogate from those principles.

1.3.5 The ITTF shall co-operate with the IOC, ASOIF, GAISF, IPC, and other organisations that recognise it as the controlling and governing authority for table tennis throughout the world.

1.4 OBJECTS

1.4.1 The objects of the ITTF shall be:

1.4.1.1 to uphold the principles of the ITTF and to develop the spirit of friendship and mutual assistance among Associations and players;

1.4.1.2 to regulate relations between Associations and between Associations and other organisations;

1.4.1.3 to seek continual improvement in the technical standard of table tennis and in the extent of participation in the sport throughout the world;

1.4.1.4 to foster friendly sporting competition and to eliminate unfair and unsporting practices such as the use of drugs to enhance performance;

1.4.1.5 to establish and maintain the Laws of Table Tennis and the Regulations for International Competitions;

1.4.1.6 to publish the standard text, which shall be the English text, of the Rules, consisting of the Constitution, the Laws and the Regulations;

1.4.1.7 to encourage the publication of the Rules in other languages and to check the accuracy of such publications;

1.4.1.8 to promote and to supervise World and Olympic title competitions;

1.4.1.9 to employ the funds of the ITTF as may be expedient in the interests of international table tennis;

1.4.1.10 to endeavour to increase participation at all levels, to enhance the popularity of the sport, to develop new sources of revenue, and to manage the sport through a systematic planning process;

1.4.1.11 to encourage players, coaches and officials to present the sport positively in the best ways so as to enhance its image.

1.4.1.12 to encourage and to support the promotion of women in sport at all levels and to ensure significant representation of women in ITTF Committees, Commissions and Working Groups.

1.5 MANAGEMENT

1.5.1 The governing body of the ITTF shall be the **General Meeting**, consisting of the assembled representatives of Associations.

1.5.1.1 Each Association shall be entitled to 2 representatives, referred to elsewhere in this Constitution as “delegates” at a General Meeting.

1.5.1.2 There shall be an Annual General Meeting, referred to elsewhere in this Constitution as **“AGM”.**

1.5.2 Between AGMs the work of the ITTF shall be managed, in accordance with policy decided by the AGM, by a **Board of Directors**, referred to elsewhere in this Constitution as “Board”, to which the AGM may delegate any of its

powers.

1.5.2.1 The Board shall consist of the President, Executive Vice-Presidents, Presidents of Continental Federations or their appointees and 32 Continental representatives.

1.5.2.2 Chairmen of Committees and Commissions shall be invited to attend the AGM and the Board of Directors meetings as expert advisers without voting privileges.

1.5.2.3 The Board shall meet as required during the period of the AGM but shall otherwise conduct its business by correspondence.

1.5.3 An **Executive Committee** shall have power to deal with all current or urgent business, reporting to the Board at its next meeting.

1.5.3.1 The Executive Committee shall consist of the President and 8 Executive Vice-Presidents of which one shall be nominated by the President as Deputy President and another one shall be responsible for finance.

1.5.3.2 The Executive Committee shall meet during the period of the AGM and otherwise when convened by the President.

1.5.3.3 The Executive Committee shall determine the terms of reference for all committees, commissions, working groups or panels that the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee may establish from time to time.

1.6 ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENT

1.6.1 All members of the Board, the President and Executive Vice-Presidents shall be elected at an AGM held in the year following the year of the Olympic Games and shall serve for a four-year term, but shall be eligible for re-election.

1.6.2 The number of Continental representatives shall be proportional to the number of its member Associations not in arrears (1.16.3.3) in that Continent and shall not exceed 32.

1.6.3 The AGM shall appoint, in odd numbered years, the full members of Committees and Commissions, on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee.

1.6.4 The Board shall appoint, in odd numbered years, the Chairmen of Committees and Commissions, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

1.6.5 The President may appoint a President's Advisory Council to advise him on various matters. Members of the President's Advisory Council shall be invited to attend the AGM as observers.

1.7 VACANCIES

1.7.1 If the President resigns or is unable to continue in office he shall be replaced by the Deputy President and the post of Deputy President shall be assumed by the Executive Vice-President having the longest continuous period of service, who shall not be replaced.

1.7.2 A vacancy arising in the post of Deputy President shall be filled by the Executive Vice-President having the longest continuous period of service, who shall not be replaced.

1.7.3 A vacancy arising in the posts of Executive Vice-Presidents shall be filled by simple majority vote at a Board meeting.

1.7.4 Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Board may be filled by simple majority vote at a Board meeting, but no temporary substitute shall be permitted to attend a Board meeting or to conduct Board business in place of a member absent or indisposed.

1.8 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1.8.1 The agenda for a Board meeting shall be sent to all its members not later than 1 calendar month before the date of the meeting.

1.8.2 At its meeting the Board shall review all propositions and resolutions submitted to the Board and, where appropriate, refer them for consideration by Committees.

1.8.3 The Chairman at a Board meeting shall be the President, or, in his absence, the Deputy President; if both are absent the members present shall elect one of their members as Chairman for that meeting.

1.8.4 Every question at a Board meeting shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast; if there is an equality of votes the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

1.8.5 Voting shall be by a show of hands, a roll call or a ballot, as decided by the meeting on a proposition by the Chairman.

1.8.6 The ITTF shall pay a proportion of the travel costs of its members attending Board meetings, the proportion being decided from time to time by the Executive Committee.

1.9 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC COMMISSION

1.9.1 The Commission shall consist of the members of the Executive Committee, Presidents of Continental Federations or their appointees, the Chairman of the Para Table Tennis Division or his appointee and a representative of the organising committee of the next Olympic Games.

1.9.2 The Commission shall be responsible for:

1.9.2.1 planning, control and supervision of the table tennis events in the Olympic

Games and the Paralympic Games;

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

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

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

1.9.2.5 appointing a Jury, Technical Representatives and all officials for the table tennis events;

1.9.2.6 ensuring that the table tennis events at Olympic and Paralympic Games comply with the letter and the spirit of the Olympic Charter;

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

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

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

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

1.10 DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINENTAL COUNCIL

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

1.10.2 The Development and Continental Council shall propose development programme initiatives and future development orientations of the ITTF in co-operation with Continental Federations. The Development and Continental Council will also discuss all other matters of common interest to the Continental Federations and the ITTF.

1.10.3 The Development and Continental Council shall meet at the same occasion as the Olympics Commission.

1.11 COMMITTEES

1.11.1 The number of persons serving on each Committee shall be determined by the Board a year before the nomination of Committee members.

1.11.2 Committees shall normally meet during the period of the AGM and shall otherwise conduct their business by correspondence.

1.11.3 A Committee may set up sub-committees of its members to deal with specific areas of work; any reports or recommendations of such sub-committees shall

be subject to endorsement by the full Committee before publication or submission to the AGM or the Board.

1.11.4 Each Committee shall take interest in Continental and Regional Federations' activities in their various fields and shall advise the Federations through the ITTF Executive Committee on ideas for further development.

1.11.5 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 Chairman of that Committee shall be considered to have agreed to any resulting recommendation submitted in the name of the Committee.

1.11.6 The Chairman of each Committee shall submit to the Board an annual report and to the Executive Committee a semi-annual report of the activities of the Committee, drawing attention to any recommendations that the Committee wishes to make; acceptance of the report shall not automatically imply acceptance of such recommendations.

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

1.11.8 All members of Committees shall be entitled to attend General Meetings but without vote unless representing an Association.

1.11.9 As far as possible all Committee and Commission meetings shall be opened to AGM delegates to attend as observers.

1.11.10 The Nominations Committee shall be composed of 8 members including the Chairman, with an Executive Vice-President and all Presidents of Continental Federations as ex-officio members.

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

1.12 ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE

1.12.1 Nominations for President, Executive Vice-Presidents and members of the Board or Committees may be made only with the consent of the Association of which the nominee is a member; if the consent is revoked after the nominee has been appointed he may be removed from his post only by a 2/3 majority vote of the Board.

1.12.2 No more than 1 person from an Association shall be nominated for the

Executive Committee and no one shall be nominated for more than 1 post of the Executive Committee.

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

1.12.4 A member of an Association that is in arrears (1.16.3.3) shall not be eligible for election.

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

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

1.12.7 No member of the Executive Committee shall serve on a Committee without the specific permission of the Board.

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

1.12.8.1 shall not be eligible as a member of the Executive Committee

1.12.8.2 may serve on a Committee or otherwise represent an Association but shall withdraw from a meeting or abstain from voting on an issue if so requested by a majority of the meeting that he is attending.

1.13 OTHER APPOINTMENTS

1.13.1 The Board shall appoint:

1.13.1.1 an **Athletes' Commission** to advise the Board on the development of table tennis, consisting of 1 representative nominated by each Continent and 2 former players nominated by the Executive Committee.

1.13.1.2 a **Calendar Working Group** to authorise the dates of World and Continental title competitions, Open International Championships and other ITTF-promoted competitions; its decisions shall be subject to appeal to the Executive Committee, whose decision shall be final.

1.13.1.3 a **Junior Commission** to advise the Board on Junior matters and to co-ordinate international junior programmes including the World junior Championships. The Junior Commission shall meet annually at the World Junior Championships.

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

1.14 MANAGEMENT STAFF

1.14.1 The Executive Committee shall appoint management staff on agreed terms and conditions and in accordance with the management plan approved by the

Board from time to time.

1.14.2 An Executive Director shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall be responsible for the direction and supervision of the ITTF's Head Office.

1.14.3 ITTF staff members are to be appointed by the Executive Director to serve as coordinator of each Committee.

1.15 ADMINISTRATION

1.15.1 Office

1.15.1.1 The Head Office of the ITTF shall be in a place appointed by resolution of the AGM or, in emergency, of the Board.

1.15.2 Languages

1.15.2.1 The correspondence and proceedings of the ITTF shall be conducted in English or in such languages convenient for appropriate tasks and within the resources of the ITTF as may be determined from time to time by the Board, having particular regard to Arabic, French, German, Russian and Spanish.

1.15.2.2 All languages of ITTF members are equally official and representatives shall be entitled to address meetings of the ITTF in their own language, subject to their provision of interpretation into one of the working languages fixed for use at that meeting.

1.15.3 Publications

1.15.3.1 The ITTF shall from time to time publish an official Handbook and other guidance documents in English; 10 copies of each such publication shall be supplied free to each Association.

1.15.3.2 The ITTF shall publish an official Bulletin and shall supply a copy of each issue free to each Association.

1.15.3.3 Each Association shall appoint a representative, notifying his name and address to the Secretariat, to co-operate with the latter in the supply of news.

1.15.3.4 A copy of each issue of each official journal shall be sent by the publishing Association to the Secretariat and to every other Association that supplies the publishing Association with an address for that purpose.

1.16 FINANCE

1.16.1 Accounts

1.16.1.1 The financial year of the ITTF shall end on 31st December.

1.16.1.2 The Executive Vice-President responsible for finance shall ensure that an annual statement of accounts be prepared, which shall be audited by

professional auditors, and that a yearly and quadrennial estimate of income and expenditure be presented.

1.16.1.3 The bank accounts of the ITTF shall be held at banks appointed by resolution of the Board on recommendation by the Executive Committee.

1.16.2 Trustees

1.16.2.1 The President, Deputy President and Executive Vice-Presidents shall be Trustees for the purpose of purchasing, selling, leasing or otherwise dealing with any freehold or leasehold property or other assets required by the AGM or the Board for the purposes of the ITTF.

1.16.2.2 The Trustees shall be authorised to use the funds of the ITTF in the purchase of such property and assets and shall stand possessed thereof and of the proceeds of sale thereof upon trust for the ITTF in such manner as the Board may from time to time direct.

1.16.2.3 The Trustees shall comply with any laws, statutes and requirements of the countries in which such trust property may be situated which relate to the purchase, sale and management of such property and the duties of Trustees in connection therewith.

1.16.2.4 The Trustees and their estates and effects shall be fully indemnified by the ITTF against all personal risk and expense arising as a result of their appointment as Trustees.

1.16.2.5 The Trustees shall cease to act in such capacity upon ceasing to hold office as President, Deputy President or Executive Vice-Presidents.

1.16.2.6 A Minute signed by the President and a member of the Management Staff shall be conclusive evidence of a decision of the Board.

1.16.3 Subscriptions

1.16.3.1 Each Association shall pay an annual subscription of US$ 150 or the equivalent in Swiss Francs.

1.16.3.2 The first subscription shall be paid with the application for membership and subsequent subscriptions shall be due on 1st January of each year.

1.16.3.3 An Association shall be **in arrears** if its subscription has not been paid by 31st December of the year in which it is due.

1.17 MEMBERSHIP

1.17.1 Eligibility

1.17.1.1 Any organisation representing table tennis in a territory and observing the principles of the ITTF may be elected a member but it shall be recognised as representative only of the territory in which it controls and governs the sport.

1.17.1.2 Where one or more Associations represent table tennis in only part of an area generally regarded as constituting a unity, an Association representing the sport in any other part of the same unity may apply for membership, provided that

1.17.1.2.1 its separateness is due to circumstances outside the sport and of the players concerned;

1.17.1.2.2 the jurisdiction it claims is clearly limited, in title and constitution, to the territory in which it controls the sport;

1.17.1.2.3 it is otherwise qualified for membership.

1.17.1.3 In the consideration of such an application, the views of any Association already in membership from the same unity shall be taken into account and in no circumstances shall two Associations be recognised as exercising authority over the same territory.

1.17.1.4 An organisation located outside the territory of any Association may be granted temporary attachment to an Association for the purpose of receiving aid in development and competition; the extended territory shall be regarded as being within the member's control, but approval of the attachment shall be reviewed at each AGM and shall not be renewed indefinitely.

1.17.2 Application and Election

1.17.2.1 Applications for membership shall be made on a form approved by the Board.

1.17.2.2 All applications shall be submitted not later than 6 calendar months before the date of the General Meeting at which the application is to be considered.

1.17.2.3 The Executive Council shall review all applications on behalf of the Board and make recommendations on acceptance.

1.17.2.4 Applications for membership shall be considered by the next AGM and shall be accepted if they receive at least 2/3 of the votes cast. In the consideration of an application in respect of an area for which there is a recognised Continental Federation, the views of that Federation shall be taken into account.

1.17.2.5 In the consideration of applications for combined membership by Associations formerly in separate membership, or for separate membership by Associations which were formerly components of an Association which has divided, or for recognition of changes in the territory in which an Association controls the sport, the views of the organisations concerned and any circumstances outside their control shall be taken into account; secession in other circumstances is not to be encouraged.

1.17.2.6 The representatives of an Association elected to membership at a General Meeting shall be entitled to attend the meeting and to vote after election.

1.17.2.7 Election and membership of an Association shall not carry any implications in

respect of the political, diplomatic or national status of the area concerned, but only to its conduct of table tennis therein.

1.17.3 Suspension and Termination

1.17.3.1 An Association wishing to resign from the ITTF shall give notice in writing to the Secretariat; the resignation may take effect at any time from the receipt of such notice until the 31st December of the same year but the Association shall be liable for the subscription due for that year.

1.17.3.2 An Association which fails to pay its subscription for 3 successive years shall automatically be suspended from membership; it shall not be liable for subscriptions during the period of suspension and may be re-admitted to membership on payment of part or all of the subscriptions previously due, at the discretion of the Board.

1.17.3.3 An Association that is suspended from membership shall not be entitled to nominate or enter players for any event held under the jurisdiction of the ITTF nor to attend or be represented at a General Meeting.

1.17.3.4 An Association which seriously and persistently fails to maintain the principles or to respect the Constitution and decisions of the ITTF may be censured, fined, suspended or expelled by a General Meeting; a suspension may be cancelled only by a General Meeting or, in emergency, by a 3/4 majority of the votes cast at a Board meeting.

1.17.4 Personal Honorary Membership

1.17.4.1 An official who has given long, outstanding service to the ITTF may, on retirement, be appointed a Personal Honorary Member for his lifetime by the AGM on a recommendation by the Board.

1.17.4.2 Personal Honorary Members shall be entitled to attend World Championships, with free hospitality, and to attend General Meetings with the right to speak but not to vote.

1.18 ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

1.18.1 Continental Federations

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

1.18.1.2 Each Continental Federation shall provide the Secretariat with a copy of its Constitution and with details of any subsequent changes not later than 3 calendar months after the meeting at which they are made.

1.18.1.3 Membership of the Continental Federation shall be open to Associations whose address in the ITTF Directory is situated within the appropriate Continental area except where, for reasons outside the control of sport, an Association is not acceptable to its appropriate Continental Federation; in such circumstances, which shall not necessarily prevent recognition of the Continental Federation concerned, the Association failing to secure membership shall have the right to appeal to the ITTF to assist in securing membership or, failing that, attachment to another adjacent Continental Federation.

1.18.1.4 Organisations eligible for membership of the ITTF but not yet having applied for membership may, with the consent of the Board, be included in the appropriate Continental Federation for a period not exceeding 1 year but renewable by each AGM; the players of such an organisation shall enjoy the privileges of players of a member Association but only in the Continent concerned.

1.18.1.5 Parts of an Association which lie wholly within a Continental area other than that in which the address of that Association in the ITTF Directory is situated may, with the permission of the Board and the consent of their Association, be attached to the Continental Federation in whose area they lie for the purpose of competition and the encouragement of table tennis; with the same permission and for the same purposes, Associations lying wholly outside but adjacent to the Continental area concerned may similarly be attached, with the consent of the Federation of the Continent of which they form a part.

1.18.1.6 The championship title competitions of a Continental Federation shall be open only to the players of its member and attached Associations and the ITTF shall recognise such competitions as the sole Continental title championships for that Continent.

1.18.2 Other Regional Groups

1.18.2.1 Associations may group themselves into non-Continental regional organisations for the purpose of competition provided that, where the competition is for a regional title, the event is open to all Associations in the region and that the Constitution is observed in respect of play with unaffiliated organisations or players.

1.19 GENERAL MEETINGS

1.19.1 Place and Time

1.19.1.1 An AGM shall be held at the place, and during the period, of the World Championships or, if the World Championships is not held at the due time, at such other place and date as the Board may determine.

1.19.1.2 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) shall be convened within 10 weeks

of receipt by the Secretariat of a requisition in writing submitted by not less than 1/4 of the Associations not in arrears (1.16.3.3), representing at least 2 Continents.

1.19.2 Notice of Meeting

1.19.2.1 Notice of the meeting, giving details of the place, date and time and the business to be transacted, together with a proxy form, shall be sent by post to each Association; the person and address to which the notice is sent shall be as last notified by each Association to the Secretariat.

1.19.2.2 For an AGM the notice shall be sent not later than 2 calendar months before the date of the meeting.

1.19.2.3 For an EGM the notice shall be sent not later than 1 calendar month before the date of the meeting.

1.19.3 Notice of Business

1.19.3.1 Details in writing of business to be dealt with at an AGM must reach the Secretariat not later than 3 calendar months before the date of the meeting.

1.19.3.2 Notice of the actual closing date in each year for the receipt of business and propositions shall be sent to all Associations by the Secretariat not later than 6 calendar months before the date of the meeting.

1.19.3.3 Business and propositions, other than changes to the Constitution or the Laws, of which due notice has not been given but which, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, relate to the business in hand without introducing a new principle or relate to an emergency may be admitted by a vote in favour of 2/3 of the votes cast at the AGM.

1.19.3.4 The requisition for an EGM shall specify the business for which the meeting is to be convened and no other business except the confirmation of the Minutes of the previous General Meeting shall be transacted at such a meeting.

1.19.4 Procedure

1.19.4.1 The agenda for an AGM shall include:

1.19.4.1.1 the appointment of a Chairman;

1.19.4.1.2 a roll call of the Associations present or represented by proxies (1.19.7);

1.19.4.1.3 the appointment of scrutineers;

1.19.4.1.4 the confirmation of the Minutes of the previous General Meeting;

1.19.4.1.5 the consideration of applications for membership;

1.19.4.1.6 the receipt of reports from President, Deputy President, Executive Vice-Presidents and Presidents of Continental Federations which, with the possible exception of that from the President, shall be given in writing;

1.19.4.1.7 the receipt of reports from Committees and the Olympics Commission;

1.19.4.1.8 the receipt of the audited statement of accounts for the previous year;

1.19.4.1.9 the consideration of propositions and the reports of any Committees that have studied them;

1.19.4.1.10 when appropriate, the election of President, Executive Vice-Presidents and appointment of Auditors;

1.19.4.1.11 the consideration of arrangements for future World Championships.

1.19.4.2 No speaker shall speak more than once on a proposition except that the proposer shall have the right of reply and that the Chairman may, at his discretion, allow a speaker to speak more than once to answer a query arising from his original speech.

1.19.4.3 The Chairman shall decide how many speakers will be permitted to speak on a proposition and when the vote shall be taken, except that a motion "that the question now be put" shall be voted on immediately, without further discussion; if such a motion is carried the proposition or any amendment before the meeting shall then be voted on immediately, without further discussion, subject to the right of reply by the mover of the substantive proposition.

1.19.4.4 A question once decided may not be reverted to for re-discussion and re-vote unless the Chairman rules, as a matter of urgency, that a case has been made for supposing that the decision taken may jeopardise the whole welfare of the ITTF; a motion to challenge the Chairman's ruling that the matter is not of sufficient urgency to justify reconsideration must be taken whenever it is moved.

1.19.5 Voting

1.19.5.1 Each Association not in arrears (1.16.3.3) shall have 1 vote.

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

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

1.19.5.2.2 expulsions from membership and changes to the Laws of Table Tennis require a 3/4 majority of the votes cast;

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

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

1.19.5.4 Voting other than in elections shall be by roll call in alphabetical order of Associations, starting with a name drawn at random, except where the

Chairman is satisfied after a show of hands that such procedure is not necessary.

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

1.19.5.6 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.

1.19.6 Elections

1.19.6.1 Where there are more candidates for a post or posts than the number of vacancies there shall be a ballot, which shall be won by the candidate or candidates obtaining the highest numbers of votes.

1.19.6.2 If there is an equality of votes in the first ballot there shall be a second ballot among those equal; if there is still an equality of votes preference shall be given to the appointment of a representative of an Association which is otherwise not represented and, where this is not decisive, the outcome shall be determined by lot.

1.19.7 Proxies

1.19.7.1 If an Association wishes to appoint as a proxy, another Association or a member of the Board, to represent it at a General Meeting, notice of the appointment must reach the Secretariat not later than 3 days before the date of the meeting.

1.19.7.2 No Association shall give a proxy to another Association where the territories over which both exercise authority form part of the same state unity.

1.19.7.3 No Association shall hold more than 1 proxy on behalf of other Associations.

1.19.7.4 A Board member may hold 1 proxy on behalf of another association but may not hold a proxy as an Association delegate at the same time.

1.20 CHANGES TO RULES

1.20.1 Rule change propositions and resolutions may be submitted to the AGM or the Board by Associations, the Executive Committee, the Executive Board, Continental Federations, Committees and Commissions and to the AGM by the Board.

1.20.2 Rule change propositions to be considered at an AGM or a Board meeting must reach the Secretariat not later than 3 months before the date of the meeting.

1.20.3 Amendments to the Constitution and the Laws of Table Tennis shall be made only at a General Meeting; amendments to other Regulations shall be made only at a meeting of the Board held immediately after the AGM.

1.20.4 Details of all rule change proposals shall be published in the agenda of the meeting at which they are to be considered.

1.20.5 Unless specifically decided otherwise changes shall take effect from the first day of the next playing season, which in the northern hemisphere shall be 1st September, except that

1.20.5.1 changes affecting finance shall take effect from the first day of the next ITTF financial year;

1.20.5.2 changes affecting equipment shall take effect from 1st September in the year following the year in which the change is made.

1.21 JURISDICTION OF ASSOCIATIONS

1.21.1 Membership and Representation

1.21.1.1 A player shall be regarded as resident in a territory if his normal or main residence or base is in that territory; residence shall not be determined by continuity or by duration.

1.21.1.2 Before accepting a player into membership an Association shall satisfy itself that he is or intends to be resident in its territory and it shall not retain him if he terminates such residence.

1.21.1.3 Unless notified of any suspension or expulsion, Associations shall be entitled to regard any player or organisation resident in the territory of an Association and known to have been affiliated to it as eligible for participation.

1.21.1.4 No Association shall make a resident in a territory controlled by another Association or, except after a genuine change of residence, a member of another Association, a member or representative of itself without the prior permission of the other Association, except as provided in 1.21.1.5.

1.21.1.5 An Association may nominate as its representative at a General Meeting a resident of the territory in which the meeting takes place, provided that he has never been a member of another Association; such a nominee may be admitted as a representative by majority vote at the General Meeting for which he is nominated.

1.21.1.6 Any dispute under these regulations shall be referred to the Board.

1.21.2 Extent of Jurisdiction

1.21.2.1 In administering and interpreting its own regulations and decisions an Association shall exercise jurisdiction over:

1.21.2.1.1 players resident in its territory, while they are in that territory or in any other territory;

1.21.2.1.2 visiting players, while they are in its territory, except as provided in 1.21.3.1;

1.21.2.1.3 players representing it in a competition who are normally resident in the territory of another Association, but only while they are taking part in that competition;

1.21.2.1.4 a resident of a territory in which a General Meeting takes place who is acting as its representative at the General Meeting, as provided in 1.21.1.5.

1.21.3 Visiting Players

1.21.3.1 If a visiting player is officially representing his Association as a result of an invitation by the visited Association, the visited Association shall acquire no rights of penalty.

1.21.3.1.1 The responsible management committee shall have jurisdiction over the conduct of the competition but no subsequent penalty shall be imposed on a visiting player for any offence committed in connection with that competition.

1.21.3.1.2 The visited Association may protest to the visiting player's Association about such an offence, but his own Association shall retain sole jurisdiction over him and the right to impose a penalty.

1.21.3.2 If a visiting player participates in table tennis activities other than as an official representative of his Association, whether or not his visit is the result of an invitation by the visited Association, he shall be subject also to the jurisdiction of the visited Association, which shall have the right to impose a penalty for any offence committed in connection with such activities.

1.21.3.2.1 No such penalty shall come into operation until at least 1 calendar month after its notification with an account of all the circumstances, to the visiting player's Association.

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

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

1.21.4 Payments to Players

1.21.4.1 Except when acting under the direct instructions of his Association as its representative, a player may accept payment, reward, benefit or allowances for playing in any competition other than Olympic Games, or for exhibition or coaching, providing that he has previously obtained permission:

1.21.4.1.1 for the payment of such expenses, from the Association in whose area the event is to take place and

1.21.4.1.2 for the receipt of such expenses, from the Association having jurisdiction

over him.

1.21.4.2 Subject to any over-riding provisions of 1.21.4.1, each Association shall have absolute discretion to determine and regulate its own policy for payments, rewards, benefits and allowances in respect of players and events under its jurisdiction.

1.22 UNAFFILIATED PLAYERS AND ORGANISATIONS

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

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

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

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

1.22.2.3 organised by an unaffiliated body, unless permission for the event has been given by the Executive Committee, except as provided in 1.22.6.

1.22.3 The Association controlling the territory in which a player is resident shall be responsible for ensuring that he complies with the requirements of 1.22.2.

1.22.4 A player resident in a territory which has no governing organisation or whose governing organisation is not affiliated to the ITTF shall not take part in any competition, exhibition or coaching in the territory of an Association, except with the permission of the Executive Committee, unless the Board has previously given permission for the governing organisation to be included temporarily in the appropriate Continental Federation pending an application for membership.

1.22.5 The Executive Committee may give permission for a table tennis competition to be organised by an unaffiliated body provided that

1.22.5.1 the organising body has undertaken to comply with the appropriate ITTF regulations;

1.22.5.2 the organising body has undertaken not to include affiliated players in the event unless their Associations have given permission;

1.22.5.3 the organising body has undertaken not to include unaffiliated players in the event unless the Executive Committee has given permission;

1.22.5.4 the application to organise the event is supported by the Association, if any, controlling the territory in which the competition is to take place;

1.22.5.5 the supporting Association has accepted responsibility for ensuring that the organising body observes the requirements of 1.22.5.1-3.

1.22.6 Where an Association is prepared to accept responsibility for the conduct of an event organised in its territory by an unaffiliated organisation no special permission is required, but the Association shall notify the Secretariat, which will advise all other Associations that the event is in order.

1.23 DISSOLUTION

1.23.1 The ITTF shall not be dissolved other than at a General Meeting specially convened for the purpose.

1.23.2 The balance of funds in hand at the time of dissolution shall be divided equally among the Associations not at that time in arrears (1.16.3.3).

2 THE LAWS OF TABLE TENNIS

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 as close as possible to the supporting posts.

2.3 THE BALL

2.3.1 The ball shall be spherical, with a diameter of 40mm.

2.3.2 The ball shall weigh 2.7g.

2.3.3 The ball shall be made of celluloid or similar plastics material and shall be white or orange, and matt.

2.4 THE RACKET

2.4.1 The racket may be of any size, shape or weight but the blade shall be flat and rigid.

2.4.2 At least 85% of the blade by thickness shall be of natural wood; an adhesive layer within the blade may be reinforced with fibrous material such as carbon fibre, glass fibre or compressed paper, but shall not be thicker than 7.5% of the total thickness or 0.35mm, whichever is the smaller.

2.4.3 A side of the blade used for striking the ball shall be covered with either ordinary pimpled rubber, with pimples outwards having a total thickness including adhesive of not more than 2.0mm, or sandwich rubber, with pimples inwards or outwards, having a total thickness including adhesive of not more than 4.0mm.

2.4.3.1 *Ordinary 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 sq. cm and not more than 30 per sq. cm.

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 covering material shall extend up to but not beyond the limits of the blade, except that the part nearest the handle and gripped by the fingers may be left uncovered or covered with any material.

2.4.5 The blade, any layer within the blade and any layer of covering material or adhesive on a side used for striking the ball shall be continuous and of even thickness.

2.4.6 The surface of the covering material on a side of the blade, or of a side of the blade if it is left uncovered, shall be matt, bright red on one side and black on the other.

2.4.7 The racket covering shall be used without any physical, chemical or other treatment.

2.4.7.1 Slight deviations from continuity of surface or uniformity of colour due to accidental damage or wear may be allowed provided that they do not significantly change the characteristics of the surface.

2.4.8 At the start of a match and whenever he changes his racket during a match a player shall show his opponent and the umpire the racket he is about to use and shall allow them to examine it.

2.5 DEFINITIONS

2.5.1 A *rally* is the period during which the ball is in play.

2.5.2 The ball is *in play* from the last moment at which it is stationary on the palm of the free hand before being intentionally projected in service until the rally is decided as a let or a point.

2.5.3 A *let* is a rally of which the result is not scored.

2.5.4 A *point* is a rally of which the result is scored.

2.5.5 The *racket hand* is the hand carrying the racket.

2.5.6 The *free hand* is the hand not carrying the racket; the *free arm* is the arm of the free hand.

2.5.7 A player *strikes* the ball if he touches it in play with his racket, held in the hand, or with his racket hand below the wrist.

2.5.8 A player *obstructs* the ball if he, or anything he wears or carries, touches it in play when it is above or travelling towards the playing surface, not having touched his court since last being struck by his 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 was wearing or carrying, other than the ball, at the start of the rally.

2.5.14 The ball shall be regarded as passing *over or around* the net assembly if it passes anywhere other than between the net and the net post or between the net and the playing surface.

2.5.15 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 court and then, after passing over or around the net assembly, 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 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 complies with the requirements for a correct service.

2.6.6.1 If either the umpire or the assistant umpire is doubtful of the legality of a service they may, on the first occasion in a match, interrupt play and warn the server.

2.6.6.2 Any subsequent service of doubtful legality of that player or his doubles partner will result in a point to the receiver.

2.6.6.3 Whenever there is a clear failure to comply with the requirements for a correct service, no warning shall be given and the receiver shall score a point.

2.6.7 Exceptionally, the umpire may relax the requirements for a correct service where he 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 passes over or around the net assembly and 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, 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 When two players who are in wheelchairs due to a physical disability are a pair playing doubles, 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. However, no part of a player's wheelchair shall protrude beyond the imaginary extension of the centre line of the table. If it does, the umpire shall award the point to the opposing pair.

2.9 A LET

2.9.1 The rally shall be a let

2.9.1.1 if in service the ball, in passing over or around the net assembly, touches it, provided the service is otherwise correct or the ball is obstructed by the receiver or his 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 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 due to a physical disability and in service the ball, provided that the service is otherwise correct,

2.9.1.5.1 leaves the receiver's court after touching it 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 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 court or beyond his end line without touching his court, after being struck by an opponent;

2.10.1.5 if an opponent obstructs the ball;

2.10.1.6 if an opponent strikes the ball twice successively;

2.10.1.7 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;

2.10.1.8 if an opponent, or anything an opponent wears or carries, moves the playing surface;

2.10.1.9 if an opponent, or anything an opponent wears or carries, touches the net assembly;

2.10.1.10 if an opponent's free hand touches the playing surface;

2.10.1.11 if a doubles opponent strikes the ball out of the sequence established by the first server and first receiver;

2.10.1.12 as provided under the expedite system (2.15.2).

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 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 where both players or pairs have scored at least 9 points, the expedite system shall come into operation if a game is unfinished after 10 minutes' play or at any earlier time at the request of both players or pairs.

2.15.1.1 If the ball is in play when the time limit is reached, play shall be interrupted by the umpire and shall resume with service by the player who served in the rally that was interrupted.

2.15.1.2 If the ball is not in play when the time limit is reached, play shall resume with service by the player who received in the immediately preceding rally.

2.15.2 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 returns the receiver shall score a point.

2.15.3 Once introduced, the expedite system shall remain in operation until the end of the match.

3 REGULATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

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 and Olympic title competitions, open tournaments and, unless otherwise agreed by the participating Associations, to international matches.

3.1.2.2 The Board of Directors shall have power to authorise the organiser of an open tournament to adopt experimental law variations specified by the Executive Committee.

3.1.2.3 The Regulations for International Competitions shall apply to

3.1.2.3.1 World and Olympic title competitions, unless otherwise authorised by the Board of Directors and notified in advance to the participating Associations;

3.1.2.3.2 Continental title competitions, unless otherwise authorised by the appropriate Continental Federation and notified in advance to the participating Associations;

3.1.2.3.3 Open International Championships (3.7.1.2), unless otherwise authorised by the Executive Committee and notified in advance to the participants in accordance with 3.1.2.4;

3.1.2.3.4 open tournaments, except as provided in 3.1.2.4.

3.1.2.4 Where an open tournament does not comply with any of these regulations the nature and extent of the variation shall be specified in the entry form; completion and submission of an entry form shall be regarded as signifying acceptance of the conditions of the competition, including such variations.

3.1.2.5 The Laws and Regulations are recommended for all international competitions but, provided that the Constitution is observed, international restricted and invitation tournaments and recognised international competitions organised by unaffiliated bodies may be held under rules laid down by the organising authority.

3.1.2.6 The Laws and the Regulations for International Competitions shall be presumed to apply unless variations have been agreed in advance or are made clear in the published rules of the competition.

3.1.2.7 Detailed explanations and interpretations of regulations, including equipment specifications, shall be published as Technical Leaflets authorised by the Board of Directors and in Handbooks for Match Officials and Tournament Referees.

3.2 EQUIPMENT AND PLAYING CONDITIONS

3.2.1 Approved and Authorised Equipment

3.2.1.1 The approval and authorisation of playing equipment shall be conducted on behalf of the Board of Directors by the Equipment Committee; approval or authorisation may be withdrawn by the Board of Directors at any time if its continuation is found to be detrimental to the sport.

3.2.1.2 The entry form or prospectus for an open tournament shall specify the brands and colours of table, net assembly and ball to be used; the choice of equipment shall be as laid down by the Association in whose territory the competition is held, selected from brands and types currently approved by the ITTF.

3.2.1.3 The covering material on a side of the blade used for striking the ball shall be of a brand and type currently authorised by the ITTF and shall be attached to the blade so that the supplier and brand names and the ITTF logo plus the ITTF number (when applied) are clearly visible near the edge of the striking surface.

Lists of all approved and authorised equipment and materials are maintained by the ITTF Office and details are available on the ITTF web site.

3.2.2 Playing Clothing

3.2.2.1 Playing clothing shall normally 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 track suit, 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 Association or, in club matches, his club, and advertisements in accordance with the provisions of 3.2.5.10; 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^2.

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 Any question of the legality or acceptability of playing clothing shall be decided by the referee.

3.2.2.8 The players of a team taking part in a team match, and players of the same Association forming a doubles pair in a World or Olympic Title Competition, shall be dressed uniformly, with the possible exception of socks, shoes and the number, size, colour and design of advertisements on clothing. Players of the same Association forming a doubles pair in other international competitions may wear clothes of different manufacturers, if the basic colours are the same and their National Association authorises this procedure.

3.2.2.9 Opposing players and pairs shall wear shirts that are of sufficiently different colours to enable them to be easily distinguished by spectators.

3.2.2.10 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.

3.2.2.11 Players competing in a World or Olympic title competition or Open International Championships shall wear shirt and shorts or skirt of types authorised by their Association.

3.2.3 Playing Conditions

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

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, umpires tables and chairs, score indicators, towel and ball boxes, printed numbers identifying the table,

surrounds, floor mats, boards on the surrounds indicating the names of players or Associations.

3.2.3.3 The playing area shall be enclosed by surrounds about 75cm high, all of the same dark background colour, separating it from adjacent playing areas and from spectators.

3.2.3.4 In World and Olympic title competitions the light intensity, measured at the height of the playing surface, shall be at least 1000 lux uniformly over the whole of the playing surface and at least 500 lux elsewhere in the playing area; in other competitions the intensity shall be at least 600 lux uniformly over the playing surface and at least 400 lux elsewhere in the playing area.

3.2.3.5 Where several tables are in use, the lighting level shall be the same for all of them, and the level of background lighting in the playing hall shall not be greater than the lowest level in the playing area.

3.2.3.6 The light source shall not be less than 5m above the floor.

3.2.3.7 The background shall be generally dark and shall not contain bright light sources or daylight through uncovered windows or other apertures.

3.2.3.8 The flooring shall not be light-coloured, brightly reflecting or slippery and its surface shall not be of brick, ceramics, concrete or stone; in World and Olympic title competitions the flooring shall be of wood or of a brand and type of rollable synthetic material authorised by the ITTF.

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 and Olympic events as well as at a select number of ITTF Pro Tour and Junior Circuit events and may be established at Continental and Regional competitions. The Racket Control centre will test rackets, according to the policy and procedure established by the Executive Committee on recommendation from the Equipment Committee, to ensure that rackets abide by all ITTF regulations including, but not limited to, racket covering thickness, flatness and presence of harmful volatile substances. Rackets that do not pass the Racket Control test cannot be used in the above listed competitions and the player will be liable to penalties according to the policy and procedure in place at the time.

3.2.4.3 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 the whole establishment in the playing building and the ground where the playing building stands, which contains the doorway, the parking lot and related facilities.

3.2.5 Advertisements

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

3.2.5.2 At Olympic Games advertisement on playing equipment, on playing clothing and on umpires' clothing shall be according to IOC regulations.

3.2.5.3 Fluorescent or luminescent colours shall not be used anywhere in the playing area.

3.2.5.4 Lettering or symbols on the inside of surrounds shall not include white or orange nor more than two colours and shall be contained within a height of 40cm; it is recommended that they be in a slightly darker or slightly lighter shade of the background colour.

3.2.5.5 Markings on flooring shall not include white or orange; it is recommended that they be in slightly darker or slightly lighter shade of the background colour.

3.2.5.6 There may be up to 4 advertisements on the floor of the playing area, 1 at each end and 1 at each side of the table, each contained within an area of 2.5m2; they shall not be less than 1m from the surrounds and those at the ends shall not be more than 2m from the surrounds.

3.2.5.7 There may be 1 temporary advertisement on each half of each side of the tabletop and 1 on each end, clearly separated from any permanent advertisements and each contained within a total length of 60cm; they shall not be for other table tennis equipment suppliers.

3.2.5.8 Advertisements on nets shall be in a slightly darker or slightly lighter shade of the background colour, shall not be within 3cm of the tape along the top edge and shall not obscure visibility through the mesh.

3.2.5.9 Advertisements on umpires' tables or other furniture inside the playing area shall be contained within a total area on any face of 750cm^2.

3.2.5.10 Advertisements on playing clothing shall be limited to

3.2.5.10.1 the maker's normal trademark, symbol or name contained within a total area of 24cm^2;

3.2.5.10.2 not more than 6 clearly separated advertisements, contained within a combined total area of 600 cm^2, on the front, side or shoulder of a shirt, with not more than 4 advertisements on the front ;

3.2.5.10.3 not more than 2 advertisements, contained within a total area of 400cm^2, on the back of a shirt;

3.2.5.10.4 not more than 2 advertisements, contained within a combined total area of 120 cm^2, only on the front and the sides of shorts or skirt.

3.2.5.11 Advertisements on players' numbers shall be contained within a total area of 100cm^2.

3.2.5.12 Advertisements on umpires' clothing shall be contained within a total area of 40cm^2.

3.2.5.13 There shall be no advertisements on players' clothing or numbers for tobacco goods, alcoholic drinks or harmful drugs.

3.2.6 Doping control

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

3.3 MATCH OFFICIALS

3.3.1 Referee

3.3.1.1 For each competition as a whole a referee shall be appointed and his 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 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 may replace a match official with another at any time, but he may not alter a decision already made by the replaced official on a question of fact within his jurisdiction.

3.3.1.6 Players shall be under the jurisdiction of the referee from the time at which they arrive at the playing venue until they leave it.

3.3.2 Umpire, Assistant Umpire and Stroke Counter

3.3.2.1 An umpire and an assistant umpire shall be appointed for each match.

3.3.2.2 The umpire shall sit or stand in line with the net and the assistant umpire shall sit directly facing him, 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.

3.3.2.4 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;

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 while passing over or around it;

3.3.2.5.3 decide that a player obstructs the ball;

3.3.2.5.4 decide that the conditions of play are disturbed in a way that may affect the outcome of the rally;

3.3.2.5.5 time the duration of the practice period, of play and of intervals.

3.3.2.6 Either the assistant umpire or a separate official may act as stroke counter, to count the strokes of the receiving player or pair when the expedite system is in operation;

3.3.2.7 A decision made by the assistant umpire in accordance with the provisions of 3.3.2.5 may not be overruled by the umpire.

3.3.2.8 Players shall be under the jurisdiction of the umpire from the time at which they arrive at the playing area until they leave it.

3.3.3 Appeals

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

3.3.3.2 No appeal may be made to the referee against a decision on a question of fact by the responsible match official or to the management committee on a question of interpretation of Laws or Regulations by the referee.

3.3.3.3 An appeal may be made to the referee against a decision of a match official on a question of interpretation of Laws or Regulations, and the decision of the referee shall be final.

3.3.3.4 An appeal may be made to the competition management committee against a decision of the referee on a question of tournament or match conduct not covered by the Laws or Regulations, and the decision of the management committee shall be final.

3.3.3.5 In an individual event an appeal may be made only by a player participating in the match in which the question has arisen; in a team event an appeal may be made only by the captain of a team participating in the match in which the question has arisen.

3.3.3.6 A question of interpretation of Laws or Regulations arising from the decision of a referee, or a question of tournament or match conduct arising from the decision of a competition management committee, may be submitted by the

player or team captain eligible to make an appeal, through his parent Association, for consideration by the ITTF Rules Committee.

3.3.3.7 The Rules Committee shall give a ruling as a guide for future decisions, and this ruling may also be made the subject of a protest by an Association to the Board of Directors or a General Meeting, but it shall not affect the finality of any decision already made by the responsible referee or management committee.

3.4 MATCH CONDUCT

3.4.1 Score Indication

3.4.1.1 The umpire shall call the score as soon as the ball is out of play at the completion of a rally, or as soon as is practicable thereafter.

3.4.1.1.1 In calling the score during a game the umpire shall call first the number of points scored by the player or pair due to serve in the next rally of the game and then the number of points scored by the opposing player or pair.

3.4.1.1.2 At the beginning of a game and when a change of server is due, the umpire shall point to the next server, and may also follow the score call with the next server's name.

3.4.1.1.3 At the end of a game the umpire shall name the winning player or pair and shall then 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.

3.4.1.2 In addition to calling the score the umpire may use hand signals to indicate his decisions.

3.4.1.2.1 When a point has been scored, he may raise his 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 may raise his hand above his 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 electrical 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 one of these balls, taken at random by the umpire.

3.4.2.1.2 If a ball has not been chosen before players come to the playing area, 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.

3.4.2.3 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 to the playing area or one which is handed to him in the playing area.

3.4.2.4 Unless otherwise authorised by the umpire, players shall leave their rackets on the table during intervals.

3.4.3 Practice

3.4.3.1 Players are entitled to practise on the match table for up to 2 minutes immediately before the start of a match but not during normal intervals; the specified practice period may be extended only with the permission of the referee.

3.4.3.2 During an emergency suspension of play the referee may allow players to practise on any table, including the match table.

3.4.3.3 Players shall be given reasonable opportunity to check and to familiarise themselves with any equipment which they are to use, but this shall not automatically entitle them to more than a few practice rallies before resuming play after the replacement of a damaged ball or racket.

3.4.4 Intervals

3.4.4.1 Play shall be continuous throughout an individual match except that any player is entitled to

3.4.4.1.1 an interval of up to 1 minute between successive games of an individual match;

3.4.4.1.2 brief intervals for towelling after every 6 points from the start of each game and at the change of ends in the last possible game of an individual match.

3.4.4.2 A player or pair may claim one time-out period of up to 1 minute during an individual match.

3.4.4.2.1 In an individual event the request for a time-out may be made by the player or pair or by the designated adviser; in a team event it may be made by the player or pair or by the team captain.

3.4.4.2.2 If a player or pair and an adviser or captain disagree whether a time-out is to be taken, the final decision shall be made by the player or pair in an individual event and by the captain in a team event.

3.4.4.2.3 The request for a time-out, which can be made only between rallies in a game, shall be indicated by making a "T" sign with the hands.

3.4.4.2.4 On receiving a valid request for a time-out the umpire shall suspend play and shall hold up a white card with the hand on the side of the player or pair who requested it; the white card or another appropriate marker shall be placed on the court of that player or pair.

3.4.4.2.5 The white card or marker shall be removed and play resumed as soon as the player or pair making the request is ready to continue or at the end of 1 minute, whichever is the sooner.

3.4.4.2.6 If a valid request for a time-out is made simultaneously by or on behalf of both players or pairs, play will resume when both players or pairs are ready or at the end of 1 minute, whichever is the sooner, and neither player or pair shall be entitled to another time-out during that individual match.

3.4.4.3 There shall be no intervals between successive individual matches of a team match except that a player who is required to play in successive matches may claim an interval of up to 5 minutes between those matches.

3.4.4.4 The referee may allow a suspension of play, of the shortest practical duration, and in no circumstances more than 10 minutes, if a player is temporarily incapacitated by an accident, provided that in the opinion of the referee the suspension is not likely to be unduly disadvantageous to the opposing player or pair.

3.4.4.5 A suspension shall not be allowed for a disability which was present or was reasonably to be expected at the beginning of the match, or where it is due to the normal stress of play; disability such as cramp or exhaustion, caused by the player's current state of fitness or by the manner in which play has proceeded, does not justify such an emergency suspension, which may be allowed only for incapacity resulting from an accident, such as injury caused by a fall.

3.4.4.6 If anyone in the playing area is bleeding, play shall be suspended immediately and shall not resume until that person has received medical treatment and all traces of blood have been removed from the playing area.

3.4.4.7 Players shall remain in or near the playing area throughout an individual match, except with the permission of the referee; during intervals between games and time-outs they shall remain within 3 metres of the playing area, under the supervision of the umpire.

3.5 DISCIPLINE

3.5.1 Advice

3.5.1.1 In a team event, players may receive advice from anyone.

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 advisors shall be treated as a unit; if an unauthorised person gives advice the umpire shall hold up a red card and send him away from the playing area.

3.5.1.3 Players may receive advice only during the intervals between games or during other authorised suspension of play, and not between the end of practice and the start of a match; if any authorised person gives advice at other times the umpire shall hold up a yellow card to warn him that any further such offence will result in his 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 away from the playing area, whether or not he 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 shall not be replaced by another adviser until the team match has ended; in an individual event he 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 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 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 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 does so he shall hold up a red card.

3.5.2.9 If a player is disqualified from 2 matches of a team or individual event he 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 Cases of very serious misbehaviour shall be reported to the offender's Association.

3.5.3 Good Presentation

3.5.3.1 Players, coaches and officials shall uphold the object of good presentation of the sport; in particular players have to do their utmost to win a match and shall not withdraw except for reasons of illness or injury.

3.5.3.2 Any player who deliberately fails to comply with these principles shall be disciplined by total or partial loss of prize money in prize events and/or by suspension from ITTF events.

3.5.3.3 In the event of complicity proven against any adviser or official the relevant national Association is also expected to discipline this person.

3.5.3.4 A Disciplinary Panel appointed by the Executive Committee, consisting of 4 members and a chairman, shall decide on whether an infringement committed and if necessary on appropriate sanctions; this Commission shall decide according to directives given by the Executive Committee.

3.5.3.5 An appeal against the Disciplinary Panel's decision may be made by the disciplined player, adviser or official within 15 days to the ITTF Executive Committee whose decision on the matter shall be final.

3.6 DRAW FOR KNOCK-OUT COMPETITIONS

3.6.1 Byes and Qualifiers

3.6.1.1 The number of places in the first round proper of a knockout event shall be a power of 2.

3.6.1.1.1 If there are fewer entries than places, the first round shall include enough byes to make up the required number.

3.6.1.1.2 If there are more entries than places, a qualifying competition shall be held such that the number of qualifiers and the number of direct entries together make up the required number.

3.6.1.2 Byes shall be distributed as evenly as possible throughout the first round, being placed first against seeded places, in seeding order.

3.6.1.3 Qualifiers shall be drawn as evenly as possible among the halves, quarters, eighths or sixteenths of the draw, as appropriate.

3.6.2 Seeding by Ranking

3.6.2.1 The highest ranked entries in an event shall be seeded so that they cannot meet before the closing rounds.

3.6.2.2 The number of entries to be seeded shall not exceed the number of entries in the 1st round proper of the event.

3.6.2.3 The entry ranked 1 shall be placed at the top of the first half of the draw and the entry ranked 2 at the bottom of the second half, but all other seeded entries shall be drawn among specified places in the draw, as follows:

3.6.2.3.1 the entries ranked 3 and 4 shall be drawn between the bottom of the first half of the draw and the top of the second half;

3.6.2.3.2 the entries ranked 5-8 shall be drawn among the bottom places of the odd-numbered quarters of the draw and the top places of the even-numbered quarters;

3.6.2.3.3 the entries ranked 9-16 shall be drawn among the bottom places of the odd-numbered eighths of the draw and the top places of the even-numbered eighths;

3.6.2.3.4 the entries ranked 17-32 shall be drawn among the bottom places of the odd-numbered sixteenths of the draw and the top places of the even-numbered sixteenths.

3.6.2.4 In a team knockout event only the highest ranked team from an Association shall be eligible for seeding by ranking.

3.6.2.5 Seeding by ranking shall follow the order of the latest ranking list published by the ITTF except that

3.6.2.5.1 where all the entries eligible for seeding are from Associations belonging to the same Continental Federation the latest list published by that Federation shall take precedence;

3.6.2.5.2 where all the entries eligible for seeding are from the same Association the latest list published by that Association shall take precedence.

3.6.3 Seeding by Association Nomination

3.6.3.1 Nominated players and pairs of the same Association shall, as far as possible, be separated so that they cannot meet before the closing rounds of an event.

3.6.3.2 Associations shall list their nominated players and pairs in descending order of playing strength, starting with any players included in the ranking list used for seeding, in the order of that list.

3.6.3.3 The entries ranked 1 and 2 shall be drawn into different halves and those ranked 3 and 4 into quarters other than those occupied by the first two.

3.6.3.4 The entries ranked 5-8 shall be drawn as evenly as possible into eighths other than those occupied by the first four.

3.6.3.5 The entries ranked 9-16 shall be drawn as evenly as possible into sixteenths other than those occupied by higher ranked players or pairs and so on, until all the entries have been allocated.

3.6.3.6 A men's or women's doubles pair consisting of players from different Associations shall be considered a pair of the Association of the player ranked higher in the World Ranking List, or, if neither player is in this list, in the appropriate Continental Ranking List; if neither player is included in a World or Continental Ranking List, the pair shall be considered a member of the Association whose team is ranked higher in the appropriate World Team Ranking List.

3.6.3.7 A mixed doubles pair consisting of players from different Associations shall be considered a pair of the Association to which the man belongs.

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

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

3.6.4 Alterations

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

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

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

3.6.4.4 A player shall not be deleted from the draw without his permission, unless he is disqualified; such permission must be given either by the player if he is present or, if he is absent, by his 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 In any season, an Association may nominate one senior, one junior and one veterans' open tournament which it organises as its Senior, Junior or Veterans' Open International Championships.

3.7.1.3 A player may compete in such Open International Championships only with the permission of his Association, but such permission shall not be unreasonably withheld.

3.7.1.4 A player may not take part in a restricted or invitation tournament without the permission of his Association, unless general permission has been given by the ITTF or, where all the players concerned are from the same Continent, by the appropriate Continental Federation.

3.7.1.5 A player or team may not take part in an international competition if he/it is suspended by his/its Association or Continental Federation.

3.7.1.6 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.

3.7.2.2 A visiting Association shall be entitled to nominate at least one representative to the management committee of any international match in which it is taking part.

3.7.3 Entries

3.7.3.1 Entry forms for Open International Championships shall be sent to all Associations not later than 2 calendar months before the start of the competition and not later than 1 calendar month before the date for the close of entries.

3.7.3.2 All entries nominated by Associations for open tournaments shall be accepted but the organisers shall have power to allocate entries to a qualifying competition; in deciding this allocation they shall take account of the relevant ITTF and Continental ranking lists and of any ranking order of entries specified by the nominating Association.

3.7.4 Events

3.7.4.1 Open International Championships shall include men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles and women's doubles and may include mixed doubles and international team events for teams representing Associations.

3.7.4.2 In world title competitions, players in youth, junior and cadet events must be under 21, under 18 and under 15 respectively on 31st December immediately before the calendar year in which the competition takes place; these age limits are recommended for corresponding events in other competitions.

3.7.4.3 It is recommended that team matches at Open International Championships be played according to one of the systems specified in 3.7.6; the entry form or prospectus shall show which system has been chosen.

3.7.4.4 Individual events proper shall be played on a knockout basis, but team events and qualifying rounds of individual events may be played on either a knockout or a group basis.

3.7.5 Group Competitions

3.7.5.1 In a group, or "round robin", competition, all members of the group shall compete against each other and shall gain 2 match points for a win, 1 for a loss in a played match and 0 for a loss in an unplayed or unfinished match; the ranking order shall be determined primarily by the number of match points gained. If a player is defaulted after the completion of a match for any reason, he 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 In the qualifying stages of World, Olympic and Open International Championships players shall be drawn into groups and assigned group positions in descending order of their current world ranking, taking account as far as possible of separation by Association.

3.7.5.6 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

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

3.7.6.3.1 A team shall consist of 2, 3 or 4 players; each player shall compete in a maximum of 2 individual matches.

3.7.6.3.2 The order of play shall be

1) A v X
2) B v Y
3) doubles C & A or B v Z & X or Y
4) B or A v Z
5) C v Y or X

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

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

3.7.6.4.2 The order of play shall be

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

3.7.6.5 Best of 9 Matches (9 singles)

3.7.6.5.1 A team shall consist of 3 players.

3.7.6.5.2 The order of play shall be

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

3.7.7 Team Match Procedure

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

3.7.7.2 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 representative, assigning a letter to each singles player.

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

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

3.7.8 Results

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

3.7.9 Television

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

3.7.9.2 Participation in an international event presumes the consent of the Association controlling the visiting players to the televising of that event; in

World, Continental or Olympic 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.

3.8 INTERNATIONAL ELIGIBILITY

3.8.1 Eligibility in Olympic title competitions is regulated separately by 4.5.1 and 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 accepted to be nominated by this Association and subsequently participates in a competition listed in 3.1.2.3 other than individual events at Open International Championships.

3.8.3 A player is eligible to represent an Association only if he 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 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 is born in or has his 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 will represent.

3.8.4 A player is eligible to represent a Continental Federation (1.17.1) in an event of continental teams only if he is eligible to represent a member Association of this Continental Federation according to 3.8.3.

3.8.5 A player shall not represent different Associations within a period of 3 years.

3.8.6 An Association may nominate a player under its jurisdiction (1.20) to enter any individual events of Open International Championships; such nomination may be indicated in result lists and ITTF publications but does not affect the eligibility of this player according to 3.8.2.

3.8.7 A player or his Association shall, if so requested by the referee, provide documentary evidence of his eligibility and his passport.

3.8.8 Any appeal on a question of eligibility shall be referred to an Eligibility Commission, consisting of the Executive Committee, the chairman of the Rules Committee, the chairman of the Ranking Committee and the chairman of the Athletes' Commission, whose decision shall be final.

4 REGULATIONS FOR WORLD AND OLYMPIC TITLE COMPETITIONS

(Additional to Regulations for International Competitions)

4.1 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

4.1.1 Authority for Organisation

4.1.1.1 The title "World Championships", referred to in this Section as "Championships", shall be bestowed by the AGM on the championship events at a tournament organised by an Association entrusted with the task.

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

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

4.1.1.4 Where necessary, the AGM or the Executive Committee may ask one or more members of the appropriate Committee to visit the country of an Association applying for the right to organise the Championships to satisfy themselves as to the adequacy of the proposed playing and other arrangements; the cost of such visits shall be borne by that Association.

4.1.1.5 If, after an option has been granted, circumstances change in such a way as to be likely to prejudice the satisfactory conduct of the Championships, the option may be revoked by a 2/3 majority vote at an AGM prior to the Championships; between AGMs the Board of Directors shall have power to transfer the Championships or to take any other appropriate action.

4.1.2 Responsibilities of Organisers

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

4.1.2.2 Organisers shall provide accommodation and meals from the evening before the Championships begin until the morning after the Championships end for

4.1.2.2.1 not more than 3 men and 3 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 ITTF Executive Council, the Board of Directors and the Olympics Commission and full members of Committees;

4.1.2.2.4 up to 4 members of the Doping Control Panel appointed by the Sports Science Committee;

4.1.2.2.5 up to 3 members of the Calendar Working Group;

4.1.2.2.6 up to 8 members of the Athletes' Commission;

4.1.2.2.7 Personal Honorary Members;

4.1.2.2.8 International Umpires and Referees from other Associations invited in accordance with directives issued by the ITTF;

4.1.2.2.9 up to 3 members of the ITTF staff.

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 Board of Directors for the Championships.

4.1.2.11 During the Championships Organisers shall make available promptly to members of the ITTF Executive Committee, Board of Directors members and team 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.

4.1.3 Eligibility

4.1.3.1 Only an Association which is not in arrears (1.15.3.3) shall be eligible to enter teams or individual players in the Championships.

4.1.3.2 In addition to provisions of 3.8 players being eligible to represent an association other than the one they intend to represent, shall register with the ITTF, through this new association.

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;

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.

4.1.3.4 Players being 21 years of age or older will not be registered with the ITTF and will not be eligible to represent a new association at World Championships.

4.1.4 Entry Fees and Levy

4.1.4.1 The entry fees shall be US $100 for each entry in a team event, US $50 for each pair in a doubles event and US $25 for each entry in a singles event.

4.1.4.2 The entry fees shall be paid to the organisers at the time of entry and shall be shared equally between the organisers and the ITTF.

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

4.1.5 Submission of Entries

4.1.5.1 The intention to enter teams or players shall be notified to the ITTF in a preliminary notification form provided by the Secretariat; the closing date for

the receipt of this form shall be not later than 4 calendar months before the start of the Championships.

4.1.5.2 Entries shall be submitted on forms distributed, together with the prospectus, by the Secretariat.

4.1.5.3 One set of these entry forms shall be returned 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.

4.1.5.4 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 by the organisers, if notified by a representative of the nominating Association, at any time up to the day before the draw.

4.1.6.2 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.

4.1.6.3 As soon as he 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 deputy, or confirm any change already notified, on a form provided for the purpose.

4.1.6.4 A request for modification of an entry cannot be considered unless it is made or confirmed by the representative of an Association immediately on arrival, other than a request based on the subsequent absence, illness or injury of one player of a doubles pair, which shall be made as soon as the contingency arises.

4.1.6.5 All alterations that are authorised shall be notified immediately to team captains and, where appropriate, to Association representatives.

4.1.7 Entry Obligations

4.1.7.1 The entry form shall contain a statement, to be signed by a responsible representative of the nominating Association on behalf of all its nominated players and captains, that they understand and accept the conditions of the

Championships and that they are prepared to compete against all other teams and individuals participating; no entry shall be valid unless accompanied by this declaration.

4.1.7.2 In individual events all entrants are accepted as individual competitors; they shall be bound to do their utmost to win the events for which they are entered, irrespective of whether other entrants from the same Association have been accepted to take part, and they shall not withdraw except for reasons of illness or injury.

4.1.8 Jury

4.1.8.1 The Jury shall consist of the Technical Committee, the Chairmen of the Ranking and Rules Committees, a representative of the Umpires&Referees Committee, the Championships Director (or his equivalent), 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 either the Chairman of the Ranking Committee or the Chairman of the Rules Committee is unable to attend a meeting of the Jury he may nominate to attend in his place another member of his Committee, who shall have the right to speak and to vote.

4.1.8.3 The Chairman of the Jury shall be appointed by the Technical Committee.

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 Committee and the Jury shall meet again only when convened by that Committee to consider appeals against its administrative decisions or decisions of the referee.

4.1.9 Events

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

4.1.9.2 In doubles events, both players shall be from the same Association.

4.1.9.3 The system of play in team and individual events and its implementation date shall be decided by the Board of Directors, on the recommendation of the Technical Committee.

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

4.1.9.5 There shall not be more than 128 places in the first round proper of a singles and mixed doubles event nor more than 64 places in the first round proper of a men's and women's doubles event, unless otherwise authorised by the Executive Committee.

4.1.9.6 Each Association shall be entitled to at least a set number of entries in each singles event, but additional entries may be allowed to the organising Association and to other Associations with players near the top of the ranking list current 3 calendar months before the Championships; the number of entries permitted to each Association and the basis on which entries may be assigned to a qualifying competition shall be authorised by the Board of Directors and notified to all Associations not later than 6 calendar months before the start of the Championships.

4.1.9.7 Each Association shall be entitled to 5 entries in each singles event, with 1 additional entry in the appropriate event for each place held by its player in the first 10 places of the first issue of the ITTF world ranking list in the year of the Championships, up to 7 players in each individual event.

4.1.9.7.1 The host Association may enter up to 7 pairs in the mixed doubles and 7 players in each other individual event.

4.1.9.7.2 Different players may be entered in each doubles event. However, the number of players entered in doubles must not exceed the number of players entered in the corresponding singles. In mixed doubles the number of pairs entered must not exceed the number of players nominated in the men's or women's singles, whichever is the lower.

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

4.1.10 Default

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

4.1.10.2 A team may begin, continue and complete a team match only with the full complement of players specified for the event, except that the referee may, at his discretion, allow a team to play with one player absent or an individual match to be omitted from the sequence where he 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 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 controls 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, but 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 ITTF.

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 Television

4.1.13.1 The right to televise the Championships shall be vested in the ITTF, which shall receive a levy on any fees paid of US$32,000 or 20% of the fees, whichever is the greater, unless otherwise agreed by the Executive Committee.

4.2 WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

4.2.1 Authority for Organisation

4.2.1.1 The title "World Junior Championships", referred to in this Section as "Championships", shall be bestowed by the AGM on the championship events at a tournament organised by an Association entrusted with the task.

4.2.1.2 The closing date for applications to stage Championships shall be specified by the Executive Committee and notified to all Associations, giving at least 6 months' notice; applications shall be accepted only for the next 2 Championships.

4.2.1.3 All applications shall be considered by the Executive Committee and shall be submitted to the Board, together with details on venues for the occasion in question.

4.2.1.4 Where necessary, the Board or the Executive Committee may ask one member of the Junior Commission to visit the country of an Association applying for the right to organise the Championships to satisfy themselves as to the adequacy of the proposed playing and other arrangements; the cost of such visits shall be borne by that Association.

4.2.1.5 If, after an option has been granted, circumstances change in such a way as to be likely to prejudice the satisfactory conduct of the Championships, the option may be revoked by a 2/3 majority vote at the AGM preceding the Championships; between AGMs the Board of Directors shall have power to transfer the Championships or to take any other appropriate action.

4.2.2 Responsibilities of Organisers

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

4.2.2.2 Organisers shall provide accommodation and meals from the evening before the Championships begin until the morning after the Championships end for

4.2.2.2.1 not more than 2 boys players nominated by an Association eligible for the boys team event;

4.2.2.2.2 not more than 2 girls players nominated by an Association eligible for the girls team event;

4.2.2.2.3 not more than 1 coach of an Association participating in 1 or 2 team events;

4.2.2.2.4 members of the ITTF Executive Committee and the Junior Commission;

4.2.2.2.5 up to 2 members of the Doping Control Panel appointed by the Sports Science Committee;

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

4.2.2.2.7 International Umpires and Referees from other Associations invited in accordance with directives issued by the ITTF;

4.2.2.2.8 up to 3 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, and to request its national authorities to waive visa charges for all participants.

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 Board of Directors for the Championships.

4.2.2.9 During the Championships Organisers shall make available promptly to members of the ITTF Executive Committee, Board of Directors members and team captains details of results, including points scores; as soon as possible after the completion of the Championships Organisers shall

publish the complete results, including points scores, and circulate them to all Associations.

4.2.3 Eligibility

4.2.3.1 Only an Association which is not in arrears (1.16.3.3) shall be eligible to enter teams or individual players in the Championships.

4.2.3.2 The system of qualification for team and individual events shall be determined by the Board not later than 18 months before the start of the Championships.

4.2.3.3 All players shall be juniors according to 3.7.4.2.

4.2.3.4 In addition to provisions of 3.8 players being eligible to represent an association other than the one they intend to represent, shall register with the ITTF, through this new association.

4.2.3.5 Such player shall not represent the new association before

4.2.3.5.1 3 years after the date of registration, if the player is under the age of 15 when registered;

4.2.4 Entry Fees

4.2.4.1 The entry fees shall be $ 50 for each entry in a team event, $ 30 for each pair in a doubles event and $ 15 for each entry in a singles event.

4.2.4.2 The entry fees shall be paid to the organisers at the time of entry and shall be shared equally between the organisers and the ITTF.

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

4.2.5 Qualification and Entries

4.2.5.1 The intention of an Association qualified to enter teams or players shall be notified to the organisers and the ITTF in a preliminary notification form provided by the Secretariat; the closing date for the receipt of this form shall be not later than 4 calendar months before the start of the Championships.

4.2.5.2 Entries shall be submitted on forms distributed, together with the prospectus, by the Secretariat.

4.2.5.3 Two sets of these entry forms shall be returned to the organisers and one set to the Secretariat; the closing date for the receipt of these forms shall be not later than 2 calendar months before the start of the Championships.

4.2.5.4 An Association may nominate up to 4 qualified boys and up to 4 qualified girls players.

4.2.5.5 An Association shall rank its nominated players and pairs in order of playing strength, which shall be consistent with their current ranking in the World Junior Ranking List.

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

4.2.6 Modification of Entries

4.2.6.1 The nominating Association may change the composition of a team by notifying the organisers up to the time of the Jury meeting preceding the Championships, but in no circumstances after the start of the event.

4.2.6.2 As soon as he 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 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 Chairmen of the ITTF Junior Commission, the Chairmen of the ITTF Ranking and Rules Committees, a representative of the

Umpires & Referees Committee, the ITTF Junior Program Manager, the ITTF Competition Manager, the Championships Director (or his 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 either the Chairman of the Ranking Committee or the Chairman of the Rules Committee is unable to attend a meeting of the Jury he may nominate to attend in his place another member of his Committee, who shall have the right to speak and to vote.

4.2.8.3 The Chairman of the Jury shall be appointed by the Chairmen of the ITTF Junior Commission or in his absence by the ITTF Junior Program Manager.

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 Commission and the Jury shall meet again only when convened by that Commission to consider appeals against its administrative decisions or decisions of the referee.

4.2.9 Events

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

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

4.2.9.2 The system of play in the team and individual events, in groups and stages, shall be decided by the Board of Directors, on the recommendation of the Junior Commission, 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 discretion, allow a team to play with one player absent or an individual

match to be omitted from the sequence where he 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 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 controls 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 Television

4.2.13.1 The right to televise the Championships shall be vested in the ITTF.

4.3 WORLD CUP

4.3.1 Composition

4.3.1.1 Separate World Cup Tournaments for men and women will be held annually and each will be a singles competition.

4.3.1.2 The participants will consist of the current holder of the World Cup, the World Champion, the champion player or the strongest current player from each of the 6 continents, 1 player from the host Association, the top 8 players from the World Ranking List and 2 "wild card" selections. The number of players may be modified by the Executive Committee from time to time.

4.3.1.3 There shall not be more than 2 players from an Association unless a third is invited as a "wild card" selection. If the World Champion and the World Cup title holder is the same player, or the host Association has a player qualified as title holder or from the World Ranking, the available invitation place goes to the next highest eligible player on the World Ranking List.

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

4.3.5 Playing System

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

4.3.6 Eligibility

4.3.6.1 In addition to provisions of 3.8 players being eligible to represent an association other than the one they intend to represent, shall register with the ITTF, through this new association.

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;

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.

4.3.6.3 Players being 21 years of age or older will not be registered with the ITTF and will not be eligible to represent a new association at the World Cup.

4.4 WORLD TEAM CUP

4.4.1 Composition

4.4.1.1 The World Team Cup Tournament consisting of a men's and a women's team event will be held each odd numbered year.

4.4.1.2 In each event the 12 participating teams representing national associations will consist of the teams placing 1 to 7 at the preceding World Team Championships, a team of the host Association and 4 teams from Continental Federations not otherwise represented at the event.

4.4.1.3 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.

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

4.4.5 Playing System

4.4.5.1 The 4 teams from Continental Federations not qualified by their ranking at the preceding World Team Championships shall compete in an "Intercontinental Cup" played on round-robin.

4.4.5.2 The winner of the "Intercontinental Cup" shall play a play-off match against the lowest seeded of the other 8 teams, other than the host association's team. The winner of this play-off match shall promote to the event proper which shall be played on straight knock-out.

4.4.5.3 Seeding shall be done according to the last available Team World Ranking.

4.4.5.4 All team matches shall be played on the Olympic System with a maximum of 4 singles and 1 doubles according to 3.7.6.3.

4.4.5.5 All individual matches of a team match shall be the best of 5 games.

4.4.5.6 The playing system may be modified by the Executive Committee on the recommendation of the Competition Department. Any changes to the playing system will be informed to the participating associations in the prospectus at the time of issuance of the invitation to participate.

4.4.6 Eligibility

4.4.6.1 In addition to provisions of 3.8 players being eligible to represent an association other than the one they intend to represent, shall register with the ITTF, through this new association.

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;

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.

4.4.6.3 Players being 21 years of age or older will not be registered with the ITTF and will not be eligible to represent a new association at the World Team Cup.

4.5 OLYMPICS 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.

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 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 meets the conditions set forth in 4.5.1.3.3.

4.5.1.3.3 A player who has represented one country in the Olympic Games, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognised by the ITTF and who has changed his nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in the Olympic Games to represent his new country provided that at least 3 years have passed since the player last represented his former country.

4.5.1.3.4 The 3-years-period mentioned in 4.5.1.3.3 may be reduced or even cancelled, with the agreement of the NOCs concerned and the ITTF Executive Committee, by the IOC Executive Board, which takes into account the circumstances of each case.

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 belongs or belonged. However, he may, if he prefers, choose to

represent his country or be entered in the Olympic Games by his new NOC if one exists. This particular choice may be made only once.

4.5.1.4 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 Olympics competition shall include at least men's singles, women's singles, men's team and women's team events.

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

4.5.3 Doping Control

4.5.3.1 Doping control shall be carried out in accordance with IOC rules.

5 ITTF ANTI-DOPING RULES

INTRODUCTION

Preface

At the ITTF Executive Committee meeting held in Paris (France) on 10 and 11 October 2008 the ITTF accepted the revised (2009) World Anti-Doping Code (the "*Code*"). At the ITTF Board of Directors meeting held on 2nd May 2009 in Yokohama, the ITTF accepted these revised Anti-doping Rules. These Anti-Doping Rules are adopted and implemented in conformance with the ITTF's responsibilities under the *Code*, and are in furtherance of the ITTF's continuing efforts to eradicate doping in the sport of Table Tennis.

Anti-Doping Rules, like *Competition* rules, are sport rules governing the conditions under which sport is played. *Athletes* and other *Persons* accept these rules as a condition of participation and shall be bound by them. These sport-specific rules and procedures, aimed at enforcing anti-doping principles in a global and harmonised manner, are distinct in nature and, therefore, not intended to be subject to, or limited by any national requirements and legal standards applicable to criminal proceedings or employment matters. 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 the anti-doping rules in the *Code* and the fact that these rules represent the consensus of a broad spectrum of stakeholders around the world with an interest in fair sport.

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

Anti-doping programs seek to preserve what is intrinsically valuable about sport. This intrinsic value is often referred to as "the spirit of sport"; it is the essence of Olympism; it is how we play true. The spirit of sport is the celebration of the human spirit, body and mind, and is characterised by the following values:

- Ethics, fair play and honesty
- Health
- Excellence in performance
- Character and education
- Fun and joy
- Teamwork

- Dedication and commitment
- Respect for rules and laws
- Respect for self and other participants
- Courage
- Community and solidarity

Doping is fundamentally contrary to the spirit of sport.

Scope

These Anti-Doping Rules shall apply to the ITTF, each *National Association* of the ITTF, and each *Participant* in the activities of the ITTF or any of its *National Association*s by virtue of the *Participant's* membership, accreditation, or participation in the ITTF, its *National Associations*, or their activities or *Events*.

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

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

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 5.2.8 of these Anti-Doping Rules.

5.2 ANTI-DOPING RULE VIOLATIONS

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

The following constitute anti-doping rule violations:

[Comment to Article 5.2: The purpose of Article 5.2 is to specify the circumstances and conduct which constitute violations of anti-doping rules. Hearings in doping cases will proceed based on the assertion that one or more of these specific rules has been violated.]

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

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

[Comment to Article 5.2.1.1: For purposes of anti-doping violations involving the presence of a Prohibited Substance (or its Metabolites or Markers), the ITTF's Anti-Doping Rules adopt the rule of strict liability which was found in the Olympic Movement Anti-Doping Code ("OMADC") and the vast majority of pre-Code anti-doping rules. Under the strict liability principle, an Athlete is responsible, and an anti-doping rule violation occurs, whenever a Prohibited Substance is found in an Athlete's Sample. The violation occurs whether or not the Athlete intentionally or unintentionally used a Prohibited Substance or was negligent or otherwise at fault. If the positive Sample came from an In-Competition test, then the results of that Competition are automatically invalidated (Article 5.9 (Automatic Disqualification of Individual Results)). However, the Athlete then has the possibility to avoid or reduce sanctions if the Athlete can demonstrate that he or she was not at fault or significant fault (Article 5.10.5 (Elimination or Reduction of Period of Ineligibility Based on Exceptional Circumstances)) or in certain circumstances did not intend to enhance his or her sport performance (Article 5.10.4 (Elimination or Reduction of the Period of Ineligibility for Specified Substances under Specific Circumstances)).

The strict liability rule for the finding of a Prohibited Substance in an Athlete's Sample, with a possibility that sanctions may be modified based on specified criteria, provides a reasonable balance between effective anti-doping enforcement for the benefit of all "clean" Athletes and fairness in the exceptional circumstance where a Prohibited Substance entered an Athlete's system through No Fault or Negligence or No Significant Fault or Negligence on the Athlete's part. It is important to emphasise that while the determination of whether the anti-doping rule has been violated is based on strict liability, the imposition of a fixed period of Ineligibility is not automatic. The strict liability principle set forth in the ITTF's Anti-Doping Rules has been consistently upheld in the decisions of CAS.]

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

[Comment to Article 5.2.1.2: The ITTF may in its discretion choose to have the B Sample analyzed even if the Athlete does not request the analysis of the B Sample.]

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

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

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

[Comment to Article 5.2.2: As noted in Article 5.3 (Proof of Doping), 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. Unlike the proof required to establish an anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.2.1, Use or Attempted Use may also be established by other reliable means such as admissions by the Athlete, witness statements, documentary evidence, conclusions drawn from longitudinal profiling, or other analytical information which does not otherwise satisfy all the requirements to establish "Presence" of a Prohibited Substance under Article 5.2.1. For example, Use may be established based upon reliable analytical data from the analysis of an A Sample (without confirmation from an analysis of a B Sample) or from the analysis of a B Sample alone where the ITTF provides a satisfactory explanation for the lack of confirmation in the other Sample.]

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

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

[Comment to Article 5.2.2.2: Demonstrating the "Attempted Use" of a Prohibited Substance 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 will be a violation of Article 5.2.1 (Presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers) regardless of when that substance might have been administered.)]

5.2.3 Refusing or failing without compelling justification to submit to *Sample* collection after notification as authorised in these Anti-Doping Rules, or otherwise evading *Sample* collection.

[Comment to Article 5.2.3: Failure or refusal to submit to Sample collection after notification was prohibited in almost all pre-Code anti-doping rules. This Article expands the typical pre-Code rule to include "otherwise evading Sample collection" as prohibited conduct. Thus, for example, it would be an anti-doping rule violation if it were established that an Athlete was hiding from a Doping Control official to evade notification or Testing. A violation of "refusing or failing to submit to Sample collection" may be based on either intentional or negligent conduct of the Athlete, while "evading" Sample collection contemplates intentional conduct by the Athlete.]

5.2.4 Violation of applicable requirements regarding *Athlete* availability for *Out-of-Competition Testing* set out in the *International Standard* for *Testing*, including failure to file whereabouts information in accordance with Article 11.3 of the *International Standard* for Testing (a **"Filing Failure"**) and failure to be available for Testing at the declared whereabouts in accordance with Article 11.4 of the *International Standard* for *Testing* (a **"Missed Test"**). Any combination of three Missed Tests and/or Filing Failures committed within an eighteen-month period, as declared by the ITTF or any other Anti-Doping Organization with jurisdiction over an Athlete, shall constitute an anti-doping rule violation.

[Comment to Article 5.2.4: Separate whereabouts filing failures and missed tests declared under the rules of the ITTF or any other Anti-Doping Organization with authority to declare whereabouts filing failures and missed tests in accordance with the International Standard for Testing shall be combined in applying this Article. In appropriate circumstances, missed tests or filing failures may also constitute an anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.2.3 or Article 5.2.5.]

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

[Comment to Article 5.2.5: This Article prohibits conduct which subverts the Doping Control process but which would not otherwise be included in the definition of Prohibited Methods. For example, altering identification numbers on a Doping Control form during Testing, breaking the B Bottle at the time of B Sample analysis or providing fraudulent information to the ITTF.]

5.2.6 *Possession* of *Prohibited Substances* and *Methods*

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

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

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

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

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

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

of-Competition, or assisting, encouraging, aiding, abetting, covering up or any other type of complicity involving an anti-doping rule violation or any *Attempted* anti-doping rule violation.

[Comment to Article 5.2: The Code does not make it an anti-doping rule violation for an Athlete or other Person to work or associate with Athlete Support Personnel who are serving a period of Ineligibility.]

5.3 PROOF OF DOPING

5.3.1 Burdens and Standards of Proof

The ITTF and its *National Associations* shall have the burden of establishing that an anti-doping rule violation has occurred. The standard of proof shall be whether the ITTF or its *National Association* has established an anti-doping rule violation to the comfortable satisfaction of the hearing panel bearing in mind the seriousness of the allegation which is made. This standard of proof in all cases is greater than a mere balance of probability but less than proof beyond a reasonable doubt. Where these Rules place the burden of proof upon the *Athlete* or other *Person* alleged to have committed an anti-doping rule violation to rebut a presumption or establish specified facts or circumstances, the standard of proof shall be by a balance of probability, except as provided in Articles 5.10.4 and 5.10.6, where the *Athlete* must satisfy a higher burden of proof.

[Comment to Article 5.3.1: This standard of proof required to be met by the ITTF or its National Association is comparable to the standard which is applied in most countries to cases involving professional misconduct. It has also been widely applied by courts and hearing panels in doping cases. See, for example, the CAS decision in N., J., Y., W. v. FINA, CAS 98/208, 22 December 1998.]

5.3.2 Methods of Establishing Facts and Presumptions

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

[Comment to Article 5.3.2: For example, the ITTF or its National Association may establish an anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.2.2 (Use of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method) based on the Athlete's admissions, the credible testimony of third Persons, reliable documentary evidence, reliable analytical data from either an A or B Sample as provided in the Comments to

Article 5.2.2, or conclusions drawn from the profile of a series of the Athlete's blood or urine Samples.]

5.3.2.1 *WADA*-accredited laboratories 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* 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* occurred which could reasonably have caused the *Adverse Analytical Finding*, then the ITTF or its *National Association* shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding*.

[Comment to Article 5.3.2.1: The burden is on the Athlete or other Person to establish, by a balance of probability, a departure from the International Standard that could reasonably have caused the Adverse Analytical Finding. If the Athlete or other Person does so, the burden shifts to the ITTF or its National Association to prove to the comfortable satisfaction of the hearing panel that the departure did not cause the Adverse Analytical Finding.]

5.3.2.2 Departures from any other *International Standard* or other anti-doping rule or policy which did not cause an *Adverse Analytical Finding* or other anti-doping rule violation shall not invalidate such results. If the *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes that a departure from another *International Standard* or other anti-doping rule or policy which could reasonably have caused the *Adverse Analytical Finding* or other anti-doping rule violation occurred, then the ITTF or its *National Association* shall have the burden to establish that such a departure did not cause the *Adverse Analytical Finding* or the factual basis for the anti-doping rule violation.

5.3.2.3 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.

5.3.2.4 The hearing panel in a hearing on an anti-doping rule violation may draw an inference adverse to the *Athlete* or other *Person* who is asserted to have committed an anti-doping rule violation based on the *Athlete's* or

other *Person*'s refusal, after a request made in a reasonable time in advance of the hearing, to appear at the hearing (either in person or telephonically as directed by the tribunal) and to answer questions either from the hearing panel or from the *Anti-Doping Organization* asserting the anti-doping rule violation.

[Comment to Article 5.3.2.4: Drawing an adverse inference under these circumstances has been recognised in numerous CAS decisions.]

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*. The ITTF will make the current *Prohibited List* available to each *National Association*, and each *National Association* shall ensure that the current *Prohibited List* is available to its members and constituents.

[Comment to Article 5.4.1: The 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. The Prohibited List in force is available on WADA's website at www.wada-ama.org.The Prohibited List is an integral part of the International Convention against Doping in Sport. WADA will inform the Director-General of UNESCO of any change to the Prohibited List.]

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

5.4.2.1 *Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods*

Unless provided otherwise in the *Prohibited List* and/or a revision, the *Prohibited List* and revisions shall go into effect under these Anti-Doping Rules three months after publication of the *Prohibited List* by *WADA* without requiring any further action by the ITTF. As described in Article 4.2 of the *Code*, the ITTF may request that *WADA* expand the *Prohibited List*. As provided in the *Code*, *WADA* shall make the final decision on such requests by the ITTF.

[Comment to Article 5.4.2.1: There will be one Prohibited List. The substances which are prohibited at all times would include masking agents and those substances which, when Used in

training, may have long term performance enhancing effects such as anabolics. All substances and methods on the Prohibited List are prohibited In-Competition. Out-of-Competition Use (Article 5.2.2) 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 is reported for a Sample collected In-Competition (Article 5.2.1).

There will be only one document called the "Prohibited List." WADA may add additional substances or methods to the Prohibited List for particular sports (e.g. the inclusion of beta-blockers for shooting) but this will also be reflected on the single Prohibited List. A particular sport is not permitted to seek exemption from the basic list of Prohibited Substances (e.g. eliminating anabolics from the Prohibited List for "mind sports"). The premise of this decision is that there are certain basic doping agents which anyone who chooses to call himself or herself an Athlete should not take.]

5.4.2.2 Specified Substances

For purposes of the application of Article 5.10 (Sanctions on Individuals), all *Prohibited Substances* shall be "Specified Substances" except (a) substances in the classes of anabolic agents and hormones; and (b) those stimulants and hormone antagonists and modulators so identified on the *Prohibited List*. *Prohibited Methods* shall not be Specified Substances.

5.4.2.3 New Classes of *Prohibited Substances*

In the event *WADA* expands the *Prohibited List* by adding a new class of *Prohibited Substances* in accordance with Article 4.1 of the *Code*, *WADA*'s Executive Committee shall determine whether any or all *Prohibited Substances* within the new class of *Prohibited Substances* shall be considered Specified Substances under Article 5.4.2.2.

5.4.3 Criteria for Including Substances and Methods on the *Prohibited List*

As provided in Article 4.3.3 of the *Code*, *WADA's* determination of the *Prohibited Substances* and *Prohibited Methods* that will be included on the *Prohibited List* and the classification of substances into categories on the *Prohibited List* is final and shall not be subject to challenge by an *Athlete* or other *Person* based on an argument that the substance or method was not a masking agent or did not have the potential to enhance performance, represent a health risk or violate the spirit of sport.

[Comment to Article 5.4.3: The question of whether a substance meets the criteria in Article 5.4.3 (Criteria for Including Substances and Methods on the Prohibited List) in a particular case cannot be raised as a defense to an anti-doping rule violation. For example, it cannot be argued that the

Prohibited Substance detected would not have been performance enhancing in that particular sport. Rather, doping occurs when a substance on the Prohibited List is found in an Athlete's Sample. Similarly, it cannot be argued that a substance listed in the class of anabolic agents does not belong in that class.]

5.4.4 Therapeutic Use

5.4.4.1 *Athletes* with a documented medical condition requiring the use of a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method* must first obtain a TUE. The presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* (Article 5.2.1), *Use* or *Attempted Use* of a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method* (Article 5.2.2), *Possession* of *Prohibited Substances* or *Prohibited Methods* (Article 5.2.6) or administration of a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* (Article 5.2.8) consistent with the provisions of an applicable TUE issued pursuant to the *International Standard* for Therapeutic Use Exemptions shall not be considered an anti-doping rule violation.

5.4.4.2 Subject to Article 5.4.4.3, *Athletes* included by the ITTF in its *Registered Testing Pool* and other *Athletes* participating in any *International Event* must obtain a TUE from the ITTF (regardless of whether the *Athlete* previously has received a TUE at the national level). The application for a TUE must be made as soon as possible (in the case of an *Athlete* in the *Registered Testing Pool*, this would be when he/she is first notified of his/her inclusion in the pool) and in any event (save in emergency situations) no later than 21 days before the *Athlete's* participation in the *Event*.

5.4.4.3 The only exception to Article 5.4.4.2 is that, in accordance with Article 7.13 of the *International Standard* for Therapeutic Use Exemptions, *Athletes* not in the ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* who inhale Glucocorticosteroids and/or formoterol, salbutamol, salmeterol or terbutaline to treat asthma or one of its clinical variants do not need a TUE in advance of participating in an *International Event* unless so specified by the ITTF. Instead, if necessary, any such *Athlete* may apply for a Retroactive TUE after the *Event* in accordance with Article 7.13 of the *International Standard* for Therapeutic Use Exemptions and Article 5.7.1.3 of these Anti-Doping Rules.

5.4.4.4 TUE's granted by the ITTF shall be reported to the *Athlete's National Association* and to *WADA*. Other *Athletes* subject to *Testing* who need to use a *Prohibited Substance* or a *Prohibited Method* for therapeutic reasons must obtain a TUE from their *National Anti-Doping Organization* or other body designated by their *National Association*, as required under the rules of the *National Anti-Doping Organization*/other body. *National Associations* shall promptly report any such TUE's to the ITTF and *WADA*.

5.4.4.5 The ITTF Executive Committee shall appoint a panel of physicians to consider requests for TUE's (the **"TUE Panel"**). Upon the ITTF's receipt of a TUE request, the Chair of the TUE Panel shall appoint one or more members of the TUE Panel (which may include the Chair) to consider such request. The TUE Panel member(s) so designated shall promptly evaluate such request in accordance with the *International Standard* for Therapeutic Use Exemptions and render a decision on such request, which shall be the final decision of the ITTF

5.4.4.6 *WADA*, at the request of an *Athlete* or on its own initiation, may review the granting or denial of any TUE by the ITTF. If *WADA* determines that the granting or denial of a TUE did not comply with the *International Standard* for Therapeutic Use Exemptions in force at the time then *WADA* may reverse that decision. Decisions on TUE's are subject to further appeal as provided in Article 5.13.

5.5 *TESTING*

5.5.1 Authority to *Test*

All *Athletes* under the jurisdiction of a *National Association* shall be subject to *In-Competition Testing* by the ITTF, the *Athlete's National Association*, and any other *Anti-Doping Organization* responsible for *Testing* at a *Competition* or *Event* in which they participate. All *Athletes* under the jurisdiction of a *National Association*, including *Athletes* serving a period of ineligibility or a *Provisional Suspension*, shall also be subject to *Out-of-Competition Testing* at any time or place, with or without advance notice, by the ITTF, *WADA,* the *Athlete's National Association*, the *National Anti-Doping Organization* of any country where the Athlete is present, the IOC during the Olympic Games, and the IPC during Paralympic Games. *Target Testing* will be made a priority.

[Comment to Article 5.5.1: Target Testing is specified because random Testing, or even weighted random Testing, does not ensure that all of the appropriate Athletes will be tested (e.g., world-class

Athletes, Athletes whose performances have dramatically improved over a short period of time, Athletes whose coaches have had other Athletes test positive, etc.). Obviously, Target Testing must not be used for any purposes other than legitimate Doping Control. The Code makes it clear that Athletes have no right to expect that they will be tested only on a random basis. Similarly, it does not impose any reasonable suspicion or probable cause requirement for Target Testing]

5.5.2 Responsibility for ITTF *Testing*

The ITTF Anti-Doping Panel shall be responsible for drawing up a test distribution plan for the sport of Table Tennis in accordance with Article 4 of the *International Standard* for *Testing*, and for the implementation of that plan, including overseeing all *Testing* conducted by or on behalf of the ITTF. *Testing* may be conducted by members of the ITTF Anti-Doping Panel or by other qualified persons so authorised by the ITTF.

5.5.3 *Testing* Standards

Testing conducted by the ITTF and its *National Associations* shall be in substantial conformity with the *International Standard* for *Testing* in force at the time of *Testing*.

5.5.3.1 Blood (or other non-urine) *Samples* may be used to detect *Prohibited Substances* or *Prohibited Methods*, for screening procedure purposes, or for longitudinal hematological profiling ("the passport"). If the *Sample* is collected for screening only, it will have no consequences for the *Athlete* other than to identify him/her for a urine test under these anti-doping rules. In these circumstances, the ITTF may decide at its own discretion which blood parameters are to be measured in the screening *Sample* and what levels of those parameters will be used to indicate that an *Athlete* should be selected for a urine test. If however, the Sample is collected for longitudinal hematological profiling ("the passport"), it may be used for anti-doping purposes in accordance with Article 2.2 of the *Code.*

5.5.4 Coordination of *Testing*

ITTF and *National Associations* shall promptly report completed tests through the *WADA* clearinghouse to avoid unnecessary duplication in *Testing*.

5.5.5 *Athlete* Whereabouts Requirements

5.5.5.1 ITTF shall identify a *Registered Testing Pool* of those *Athletes* who are required to comply with the whereabouts requirements of the *International Standard* for *Testing*, and shall publish the criteria for *Athletes* to be included in this *Registered Testing Pool* as well as a list of the *Athletes* meeting those criteria for the period in question. The ITTF shall review and update as necessary its criteria for including *Athletes* in its *Registered Testing Pool*, and shall revise the membership of its *Registered Testing Pool* from time to time as appropriate in accordance with the set criteria. Each *Athlete* in the *Registered Testing Pool* (a) shall advise the ITTF of his/her whereabouts on a quarterly basis, in the manner set out in Article 11.3 of the *International Standard* for *Testing*; (b) shall update that information as necessary, in accordance with Article 11.4.2 of the *International Standard* for *Testing*, so that it remains accurate and complete at all times; and (c) shall make him/herself available for Testing at such whereabouts, in accordance with Article 11.4 of the *International Standard* for *Testing*.

[Comment to Article 5.5.5.1: The purpose of the ITTF Registered Testing Pool is to identify top-level International Athletes who the ITTF requires to provide whereabouts information to facilitate Out-of-Competition Testing by the ITTF and other Anti-Doping Organizations with jurisdiction over the Athletes. The ITTF will identify such Athletes in accordance with the requirements of Articles 4 and 11.2 of the International Standard for Testing.]

5.5.5.2 An *Athlete's* failure to advise the ITTF of his/her whereabouts shall be deemed a Filing Failure for purposes of Article 5.2.4 where the conditions of Article 11.3.5 of the *International Standard* for *Testing* are met.

5.5.5.3 An *Athlete's* failure to be available for Testing at his/her declared whereabouts shall be deemed a Missed Test for purposes of Article 5.2.4 where the conditions of Article 11.4.3 of the *International Standard* for *Testing* are met.

5.5.5.4 Each *National Association* shall also assist its *National Anti-Doping Organization* in establishing a national level *Registered Testing Pool* of top level national *Athletes* to whom the whereabouts requirements of the *International Standard* for *Testing* shall also apply. Where those *Athletes* are also in the ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool*, the ITTF and the *National Anti-Doping Organization* will agree (with the assistance of *WADA* if required) on which of them will take responsibility for receiving

whereabouts filings from the *Athlete* and sharing it with the other (and with other *Anti-Doping Organizations*) in accordance with Article 5.5.5.5.

5.5.5.5 Whereabouts information provided pursuant to Articles 5.5.5.1 and 5.5.5.4 shall be shared with *WADA* and other *Anti-Doping Organizations* having jurisdiction to test an *Athlete* in accordance with Articles 11.7.1(d) and 11.7.3(d) of the *International Standard* for *Testing*, including the strict condition that it be used only for *Doping Control* purposes.

5.5.6 Retirement and Return to Competition

5.5.6.1 An *Athlete* who has been identified by the ITTF for inclusion in the ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* shall continue to be subject to these Anti-Doping Rules, including the obligation to—comply with the whereabouts requirements of the *International Standard* for *Testing* unless and until the *Athlete* gives written notice to the ITTF that he or she has retired or until he or she no longer satisfies the criteria for inclusion in the ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* and has been so informed by the ITTF.

5.5.6.2 An *Athlete* who has given notice of retirement to the ITTF may not resume competing unless he or she notifies the ITTF at least six months before he or she expects to return to competition and makes him/herself available for unannounced *Out-of-Competition Testing*, including (if requested) complying with the whereabouts requirements of the *International Standard* for *Testing*, at any time during the period before actual return to competition.

5.5.6.3 *National Associations/National Anti-Doping Organizations* may establish similar requirements for retirement and returning to competition for *Athletes* in the national *Registered Testing Pool*.

5.5.7 Selection of *Athletes* to be *Tested*

5.5.7.1 At *International Events*, the ITTF Anti-Doping Panel shall determine the number of finishing placement tests, random tests and target tests to be performed.

5.5.7.2 At *National Events*, each *National Association* shall determine the number of Athletes selected for *Testing* in each *Competition* and the procedures for selecting the *Athletes* for *Testing*.

5.5.7.3 In addition to the selection procedures set forth in Articles 5.5.7.1 and 5.5.7.2 above, the Anti-Doping Panel at *International Events*, and the *National Association* at *National Events*, may also select *Athletes* for *Target Testing* so long as such *Target Testing* is not used for any purpose other than legitimate *Doping Control* purposes.

5.5.7.4 *Athletes* shall be selected for *Out-of-Competition Testing* by the ITTF Anti-Doping Panel and by *National Associations* through a process that substantially complies with the *International Standard* for *Testing* in force at the time of selection.

5.5.8 *National Associations* and the organizing committees for *National Association Events* shall provide access to *Independent Observers* at *Events* as directed by the ITTF.

5.6 ANALYSIS OF *SAMPLES*

Doping Control Samples collected under these Anti-Doping Rules shall be analyzed in accordance with the following principles:

5.6.1 Use of Approved Laboratories

ITTF shall send *Doping Control Samples* for analysis only to *WADA*-accredited laboratories or as otherwise approved by *WADA*. The choice of the *WADA*-accredited laboratory (or other laboratory or method approved by *WADA*) used for the *Sample* analysis shall be determined exclusively by the ITTF.

[Comment to Article 5.6.1: Violations of Article 5.2.1 (Presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers) may be established only by Sample analysis performed by a WADA-approved laboratory or another laboratory specifically authorised by WADA. Violations of other Articles may be established using analytical results from other laboratories so long as the results are reliable.]

5.6.2 Purpose of Collection and Analysis of *Samples*

Samples shall be analyzed 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 4.5 of the *Code* or to assist the ITTF in profiling relevant parameters in an *Athlete*'s urine, blood or other matrix, including DNA or genomic profiling, for anti-doping purposes.

[Comment to Article 5.6.2: For example, relevant profile information could be used to direct Target Testing or to support an anti-doping rule violation proceeding under Article 5.2.2 (Use of a Prohibited Substance), or both.]

5.6.3 Research on *Samples*

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

5.6.4 Standards for *Sample* Analysis and Reporting

Laboratories shall analyze *Doping Control Samples* and report results in conformity with the *International Standard* for Laboratories.

5.6.5 Retesting *Samples*

A *Sample* may be reanalyzed for the purposes described in Article 5.6.2 at any time exclusively at the direction of the ITTF or *WADA*. The circumstances and conditions for retesting *Samples* shall conform with the requirements of the *International Standard* for Laboratories.

[Comment to Article 5.6.5: Although this Article is new, Anti-Doping Organizations have always had the authority to reanalyze Samples. The International Standard for Laboratories or a new technical document which is made a part of the International Standard will harmonise the protocol for such retesting.]

5.7 RESULTS MANAGEMENT

5.7.1 Results Management for Tests Initiated by the ITTF

Results management for tests initiated by the ITTF (including tests performed by *WADA* pursuant to agreement with the ITTF) shall proceed as set forth below:

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

consistent with data privacy statutes and norms applicable to *WADA* and other organizations using it.

5.7.1.2 Upon receipt of an A *Sample Adverse Analytical Finding*, the ITTF Anti-Doping Administrator shall conduct a review to determine whether: (a) the *Adverse Analytical Finding* is consistent with an applicable TUE, or (b) there is any apparent departure from the *International Standard* for *Testing* or *International Standard* for Laboratories that caused the *Adverse Analytical Finding*.

5.7.1.3 In the following circumstances:

(a) The *Adverse Analytical Finding* is for a Glucocorticosteroid, formoterol, salbutamol, salmeterol or terbutaline; and

(b) The *Sample* in question was provided by an *Athlete* who is not in the ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool*, during his/her participation in an *International Event* for which (in accordance with Article 7.13 of the *International Standard* for Therapeutic Use Exemptions and Article 5.4.4.3 of these Anti-Doping Rules) the ITTF does not require a TUE for asthma medication in advance;

then, before the matter is referred to the ITTF Independent Review Panel under Article 5.7.1, the *Athlete* shall be given an opportunity to apply to the TUE Committee for a Retroactive TUE in accordance with Article 7.13 of the *International Standard* for Therapeutic Use Exemptions. The result of that application shall be forwarded to the ITTF Independent Review Panel for consideration in its review of the *Adverse Analytical Finding* under Article 5.7.1.2.

5.7.1.4 If the initial review of an *Adverse Analytical Finding* under Article 5.7.1.2 does not reveal an applicable TUE, or departure from the *International Standard* for *Testing* or the *International Standard* for Laboratories that caused the *Adverse Analytical Finding*, the ITTF shall promptly notify the *Athlete* of: (a) the *Adverse Analytical Finding*; (b) the anti-doping rule violated; (c) the *Athlete's* right to promptly request the analysis of the B *Sample* or, failing such request, that the B *Sample* analysis may be deemed waived; (d) the scheduled date, time and place for the B *Sample* analysis (which shall be within the time period specified in the *International Standard* for Laboratories) if the *Athlete* or the ITTF chooses to request an analysis of

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

5.7.1.5 Where requested by the *Athlete* or the ITTF, arrangements shall be made for *Testing* the B *Sample* within the time period specified in the *International Standard* for *Testing*. An *Athlete* may accept the A *Sample* analytical results by waiving the requirement for B *Sample* analysis. The ITTF may nonetheless elect to proceed with the B *Sample* analysis.

5.7.1.6 The *Athlete* and/or his representative shall be allowed to be present at the analysis of the B *Sample* within the time period specified in the *International Standard* for Laboratories. Also a representative of the *Athlete*'s *National Association* as well as a representative of the ITTF shall be allowed to be present.

5.7.1.7 If the B *Sample* proves negative, then (unless the ITTF takes the case forward as an anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.2.2) the entire test shall be considered negative and the *Athlete*, his *National Association*, and the ITTF shall be so informed.

5.7.1.8 If a *Prohibited Substance* or the *Use* of a *Prohibited Method* is identified, the findings shall be reported to the *Athlete*, his *National Association*, to the ITTF, and to *WADA*.

5.7.1.9 For apparent anti-doping rule violations that do not involve *Adverse Analytical Findings*, the ITTF shall conduct any necessary follow-up investigation and, at such time as it is satisfied that an anti-doping rule violation has occurred, it shall then promptly notify the *Athlete* of the anti-doping rule which appears to have been violated, and the basis of the violation.

5.7.2 Results Management for Atypical Findings

5.7.2.1 As provided in the *International Standards*, in certain circumstances laboratories are directed to report the presence of *Prohibited Substances* that may also be produced endogenously as *Atypical Findings* that should be investigated further.

5.7.2.2 If a laboratory reports an *Atypical Finding* in respect of a *Sample* collected from an *Athlete* by or on behalf of the ITTF, the ITTF Anti-Doping Administrator shall conduct a review to determine whether: (a) the *Atypical Finding* is consistent with an applicable TUE that has been granted as provided in the *International Standard* for Therapeutic Use Exemptions, or (b) there is any apparent departure from the *International Standard* for *Testing* or *International Standard* for Laboratories that caused the *Atypical Analytical Finding*.

5.7.2.3 If the initial review of an *Atypical Finding* under Article 5.7.2.2 reveals an applicable TUE or departure from the *International Standard* for *Testing* or the *International Standard* for Laboratories that caused the *Atypical Finding*, the entire test shall be considered negative and the *Athlete*, his *National Association*, and the ITTF shall be so informed.

5.7.2.4 If the initial review of an *Atypical Finding* under Article 5.7.2.2 does not reveal an applicable TUE or departure from the *International Standard* for *Testing* or the *International Standard* for Laboratories that caused the *Atypical Finding*, the ITTF shall conduct the follow-up investigation required by the *International Standards.* If, once that investigation is completed, it is concluded that the *Atypical Finding* should be considered an *Adverse Analytical Finding*, the ITTF shall pursue the matter in accordance with Article 5.7.1.3.

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

(a) If the ITTF determines the B *Sample* should be analyzed prior to the conclusion of its follow-up investigation, it may conduct the B *Sample* analysis after notifying the *Athlete*, with such notice to include a description of the *Atypical Finding* and the information described in Article 5.7.1.3(c) to (f).

(b) If the ITTF receives a request, either from a *Major Event Organization* shortly before one of its *International Events* or from a sports organization responsible for meeting an imminent deadline for selecting team members for an *International Event*, to disclose whether any *Athlete* identified on a list provided but the *Major Event Organization* or sports organization has a pending *Atypical Finding*, the ITTF shall so identify any such *Athlete* after first providing notice of the *Atypical Finding* to the *Athlete.*

5.7.3 Results Management for *Tests* Initiated During Other *International Events*

Results management and the conduct of hearings from a test by the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, or a Major Event Organization, shall be managed, as far as sanctions beyond Disqualification from the Event or the results of the Event, by the ITTF.

5.7.4 Results Management for *Tests* initiated by *National Associations*

Results management conducted by *National Associations* shall be consistent with the general principles for effective and fair results management which underlie the detailed provisions set forth in Article 5.7. Results of all *Doping Controls* shall be reported to the ITTF and to WADA within 14 days of the conclusion of the *National Association's* results management process. Any apparent anti-doping rule violation by an *Athlete* who is a member of that *National Association* shall be promptly referred to an appropriate hearing panel established pursuant to the rules of the *National Association* or national law. Apparent anti-doping rule violations by *Athletes* who are members of another *National Association* shall be referred to the *Athlete's National Association* for hearing.

5.7.5 Results Management for Whereabouts Violations

5.7.5.1 Results management in respect of an apparent *Filing Failure* by an *Athlete* in the ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* shall be conducted by the ITTF in accordance with Article 11.6.2 of the *International Standard* for *Testing* (unless it has been agreed in accordance with Article 5.5.5.4 that the *National Association* or *National Anti-Doping Organization* shall take such responsibility).

5.7.5.2 Results management in respect of an apparent Missed Test by an *Athlete* in the ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* as a result of an attempt to test the *Athlete* by or on behalf of the ITTF shall be conducted by the ITTF in accordance with Article 11.6.3 of the *International Standard* for Testing. Results management in respect of an apparent Missed Test by such *Athlete* as a result of an attempt to test the *Athlete* by or on behalf of another *Anti-Doping Organization* shall be conducted by that other *Anti-Doping Organization* in accordance with Article 11.7.6(c) of the *International Standard* for *Testing*.

5.7.5.3 Where, in any eighteen-month period, an *Athlete* in the ITTF's *Registered Testing Pool* is declared to have three Filing Failures, or three Missed Tests, or any combination of Filing Failures or Missed Tests adding up to three in total, whether under these Anti-Doping Rules or under the rules of any other *Anti-Doping Organization*, the ITTF shall bring them forward as an apparent anti-doping rule violation.

5.7.6 ***Provisional Suspensions***

5.7.6.1 If analysis of an A *Sample* has resulted in an *Adverse Analytical Finding* for a *Prohibited Substance* that is not a Specified Substance, and a review in accordance with Article 5.7.1.2 does not reveal an applicable TUE or departure from the *International Standard* for *Testing* or the *International Standard* for Laboratories that caused the *Adverse Analytical Finding*, the ITTF shall *Provisionally Suspend* the *Athlete* pending the hearing panel's determination of whether he/she has committed an anti-doping rule violation.

5.7.6.2 In any case not covered by Article 5.7.6.1 where the ITTF decides to take the matter forward as an apparent anti-doping rule violation in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this Article 5.7, the ITTF Executive Committee, after consultation with the ITTF Anti-Doping Administrator, may Provisionally Suspend the *Athlete* pending the hearing panel's determination of whether he/she has committed an anti-doping rule violation.

5.7.6.3 Where a *Provisional Suspension* is imposed, whether pursuant to Article 5.7.6.1 or Article 5.7.6.2, the *Athlete* shall be given either (a) an opportunity for a *Provisional Hearing* before imposition of the *Provisional Suspension* or on a timely basis after imposition of the *Provisional Suspension*; or (b) an opportunity for an expedited hearing in accordance with Article 5.8 (Right to a Fair Hearing) on a timely basis after imposition of a *Provisional*

Suspension. National Associations shall impose *Provisional Suspensions* in accordance with the principles set forth in this Article 5.7.6.

5.7.6.4 If a *Provisional Suspension* is imposed based on an *Adverse Analytical Finding* in respect of an A *Sample*, and any subsequent analysis of the B *Sample* analysis does not confirm the A *Sample* analysis, then the *Athlete* shall not be subject to any further *Provisional Suspension* on account of a violation of Article 2.1 of the *Code* (Presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers)*. In circumstances where the *Athlete* (or the *Athlete's* team as provided in the rules of the ITTF) has been removed from a *Competition* based on a violation of Article 5.2.1 and the subsequent B *Sample* analysis does not confirm the A *Sample* finding, if, without otherwise affecting the *Competition*, it is still possible for the *Athlete* or team to be reinserted, the *Athlete* or team may continue to take part in the *Competition*.

[Comment to Article 5.7.6: Before a Provisional Suspension can be unilaterally imposed by an Anti-Doping Organization, the internal review specified in the Code must first be completed. In addition, a Signatory imposing a Provisional Suspension is required to give the Athlete an opportunity for a Provisional Hearing either before or promptly after the imposition of the Provisional Suspension, or an expedited final hearing under Article 5.8 promptly after imposition of the Provisional Suspension. The Athlete has a right to appeal under Article 5.13.2.

In the rare circumstance where the B Sample analysis does not confirm the A Sample finding, the Athlete who had been provisionally suspended will be allowed, where circumstances permit, to participate in subsequent Competitions during the Event. Similarly, depending upon the relevant rules of the ITTF, if his/her team is still in Competition, the Athlete may be able to take part in future Competitions.

Athletes shall receive credit for a Provisional Suspension against any period of Ineligibility which is ultimately imposed as provided in Article 5.10.9.3.]

5.7.7 Retirement from Sport

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

[Comment to Article 5.7.7: Conduct by an Athlete or other Person before the Athlete or other Person was subject to the jurisdiction 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.]

5.8 RIGHT TO A FAIR HEARING

5.8.1 Hearings arising out of the ITTF *Testing* or *Tests* at *International Events*

5.8.1.1 The ITTF Executive Committee shall appoint a standing panel consisting of a Chair and four other experts with experience in anti-doping ("ITTF Doping Hearing Panel"). The Chair shall be a lawyer. Each panel member shall be otherwise independent of the ITTF. Each panel member shall serve a term of four years.

5.8.1.2 When it appears, following the Results Management process described in Article 5.7, that these Anti-Doping Rules have been violated in connection with the ITTF *Testing* or *Testing* at an *International Event* then the case shall be assigned to the ITTF Doping Hearing Panel for adjudication.

5.8.1.3 The Chair of the ITTF Doping Hearing Panel shall appoint three members from the panel (which may include the Chair) to hear each case. At least one appointed member shall be a lawyer. The appointed members shall have had no prior involvement with the case and shall not have the same nationality as the *Athlete* or other *Person* alleged to have violated these Anti-Doping Rules.

5.8.1.4 Hearings pursuant to this Article shall be completed expeditiously following the completion of the results management process described in Article 5.7. Hearings held in connection with *Events* may be conducted on an expedited basis.

5.8.1.5 The *National Association* of the *Athlete* or other *Person* alleged to have violated these Anti-Doping Rules may attend the hearing as an observer.

5.8.1.6 ITTF shall keep WADA fully apprised as to the status of pending cases and the result of all hearings.

5.8.1.7 An *Athlete* or other *Person* may forego a hearing by acknowledging the Anti-Doping Rule violation and accepting *Consequences* consistent with Articles 5.9 and 5.10 as proposed by the ITTF. The right to a hearing may be waived either expressly or by the *Athlete*'s or other *Person*'s failure to challenge the ITTF's assertion that an anti-doping rule violation has occurred within three (3) weeks. Where no hearing occurs, the ITTF shall submit to the persons described in Article 5.13.2.3 a reasoned decision explaining the action taken.

5.8.1.8 Decisions of the ITTF Doping Hearing Panel may be appealed to Court of Arbitration for Sport as provided in Article 5.13.

5.8.2 Hearings Arising Out of National *Testing*

5.8.2.1 When it appears, following the Results Management process described in Article 5.7, that these Anti-Doping Rules have been violated in connection with *Testing* other than in connection with the ITTF *Testing* or *Testing* at an *International Event*, the *Athlete* or other *Person* involved shall be brought before a disciplinary panel of the *Athlete* or other *Person's National Association* for a hearing to adjudicate whether a violation of these Anti-Doping Rules occurred and if so what *Consequences* should be imposed.

5.8.2.2 Hearings pursuant to this Article 5.8.2 shall be completed expeditiously and in all cases within three months of the completion of the Results Management process described in Article 5.7. Hearings held in connection with *Events* may be conducted by an expedited process. If the completion of the hearing is delayed beyond three months, the ITTF may elect to bring the case directly before the ITTF Doping Hearing Panel at the responsibility and at the expense of the *National Association*.

5.8.2.3 *National Associations* shall keep the ITTF and *WADA* fully apprised as to the status of pending cases and the results of all hearings.

5.8.2.4 ITTF and *WADA* shall have the right to attend hearings as an observer.

5.8.2.5 The *Athlete* or other *Person* may forego a hearing by acknowledging the violation of these Anti-Doping Rules and accepting *Consequences* consistent with Articles 5.9 and 5.10 as proposed by the *National Association*. The right to a hearing may be waived either expressly or by the *Athlete*'s or other *Person*'s failure to challenge the *National Association*'s assertion that an anti-doping rule violation has occurred within three (3) weeks. Where no hearing occurs, the *National Association* shall submit to the persons described in Article 5.13.2.3 a reasoned decision explaining the action taken.

5.8.2.6 Decisions by *National Associations*, whether as the result of a hearing or the *Athlete* or other *Person's* acceptance of *Consequences*, may be appealed as provided in Article 5.13.

5.8.2.7 Hearing decisions by the *National Association* shall not be subject to further administrative review at the national level except as provided in Article 5.13 or required by applicable national law.

5.8.3 **Principles for a Fair Hearing** All hearings pursuant to either Article 5.8.1 or 5.8.2 shall respect the following principles:

- a timely hearing;
- fair and impartial hearing panel;
- the right to be represented by counsel at the *Person*'s own expense;
- the right to be informed in a fair and timely manner of the asserted anti-doping rule violation;
- the right to respond to the asserted anti-doping rule violation and resulting *Consequences*;
- the right of each party to present evidence, including the right to call and question witnesses (subject to the hearing panel's discretion to accept testimony by telephone or written submission);
- the *Person*'s right to an interpreter at the hearing, with the hearing panel to determine the identity, and responsibility for the cost of the interpreter; and
- a timely, written, reasoned decision, specifically including an explanation of the reason(s) for any period of *Ineligibility*.

5.9 AUTOMATIC *DISQUALIFICATION* OF INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

A violation of these Anti-Doping Rules in *Individual Sports* in connection with an *In-Competition* test automatically leads to *Disqualification* of the result obtained in that *Competition* with all resulting consequences, including forfeiture of any titles, medals, points and prizes.

[Comment to Article 9: When an Athlete wins a gold medal with a Prohibited Substance in his or her system, that is unfair to the other Athletes in that Competition regardless of whether the gold medalist was at fault in any way. Only a "clean" Athlete should be allowed to benefit from his or her competitive results..

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 ITTF.]

5.10 SANCTIONS ON INDIVIDUALS

5.10.1 *Disqualification* of Results in *Event* During which an *Anti-Doping Rule* Violation Occurs

An *Anti-Doping Rule* violation occurring during or in connection with an *Event* may lead to *Disqualification* of all of the *Athlete's* individual results obtained in that *Event* with all consequences, including forfeiture of all titles, medals, points and prizes, except as provided in Article 5.10.1.1.

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

5.10.1.1 If the *Athlete* establishes that he or she bears *No Fault or Negligence* for the violation, the *Athlete's* individual results in the other *Competition* shall not be *Disqualified* unless the *Athlete's* results in *Competition* other than the *Competition* in which the anti-doping rule violation occurred were likely to have been affected by the *Athlete's* anti-doping rule violation.

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

The period of *Ineligibility* imposed for a violation of Article 5.2.1 (Presence of *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers*), Article 5.2.2 (*Use* or *Attempted Use* of *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*) or Article 5.2.6 (*Possession* of *Prohibited Substances* and *Methods*) shall be as follows, unless the conditions for eliminating or reducing the period of *Ineligibility*, as provided in Articles 5.10.4 and 5.10.5, or the conditions for increasing the period of *Ineligibility*, as provided in Article 5.10.6, are met:

First violation: Two (2) years' *Ineligibility*.

[Comment to Article 5.10.2: Harmonization of sanctions has been one of the most discussed and debated areas of anti-doping. Harmonization means that the same rules and criteria are applied to assess the unique facts of each case. Arguments against requiring harmonization of sanctions are based on differences between sports including, for example, the following: in some sports the Athletes are professionals making a sizable income from the sport and in others the Athletes are true amateurs; in those sports where an Athlete's career is short (e.g., artistic gymnastics) a two year Disqualification has a much

more significant effect on the Athlete than in sports where careers are traditionally much longer (e.g., equestrian and shooting); in Individual Sports, the Athlete is better able to maintain competitive skills through solitary practice during Disqualification than in other sports where practice as part of a team is more important. A primary argument in favor of harmonization is that it is simply not right that two Athletes from the same country who test positive for the same Prohibited Substance under similar circumstances should receive different sanctions only because they participate in different sports. In addition, flexibility in sanctioning has often been viewed as an unacceptable opportunity for some sporting bodies to be more lenient with dopers. The lack of harmonization of sanctions has also frequently been the source of jurisdictional conflicts between IFs and National Anti-Doping Organizations.]

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

The period of *Ineligibility* for violations of these Anti-Doping Rules other than as provided in Article 5.10.2 shall be as follows:

5.10.3.1 For violations of Article 5.2.3 (refusing or failing to submit to *Sample* collection) or Article 5.2.5 (*Tampering* with *Doping Control*), the *Ineligibility* period shall be two (2) years unless the conditions provided in Article 5.10.5, or the conditions provided in Article 5.10.6, are met.

5.10.3.2 For violations of Article 5.2.7 (*Trafficking*) or Article 5.2.8 (Administration of *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method*), the period of *Ineligibility* imposed shall be a minimum of four (4) years up to lifetime *Ineligibility* unless the conditions provided in Article 5.10.5 are met. An anti-doping rule violation involving a *Minor* shall be considered a particularly serious violation, and, if committed by *Athlete Support Personnel* for violations other than Specified Substances shall result in lifetime *Ineligibility* for such *Athlete Support Personnel*. In addition, significant violations of such Articles which also violate non-sporting laws and regulations, shall be reported to the competent administrative, professional or judicial authorities.

[Comment to Article 5.10.3.2: 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 credentials, membership and other sport benefits, reporting Athlete Support Personnel to competent authorities is an important step in the deterrence of doping.]

5.10.3.3 For violations of Article 5.2.4 (Filing Failures and/or Missed Tests), the period of *Ineligibility* shall be at a minimum one (1) year and at a maximum two (2) years based on the *Athlete*'s degree of fault.

[Comment to Article 5.10.3.3: The sanction under Article 5.10.3.3 shall be two years where all three filing failures or missed tests are inexcusable. Otherwise, the sanction shall be assessed in the range of two years to one year, based on the circumstances of the case.]

5.10.4 Elimination or Reduction of the Period of *Ineligibility* for Specified Substances under Specific Circumstances

Where an *Athlete* or other *Person* can establish how a Specified Substance entered his or her body or came into his or her possession and that such Specified Substance was not intended to enhance the *Athlete*'s sport performance or mask the use of a performance-enhancing substance, the period of *Ineligibility* found in Article 5.10.2 shall be replaced with the following:

First violation: At a minimum, a reprimand and no period of *Ineligibility* from future *Events*, and at a maximum, two (2) years of *Ineligibility*.

To justify any elimination or reduction, the *Athlete* or other *Person* must produce corroborating evidence in addition to his or her word which establishes to the comfortable satisfaction of the hearing panel the absence of an intent to enhance sport performance or mask the use of a performance enhancing substance. The *Athlete* or other *Person*'s degree of fault shall be the criterion considered in assessing any reduction of the period of *Ineligibility*.

[Comment to Article 5.10.4: Specified Substances as now defined in Article 5.4.2.2 are not necessarily less serious agents for purposes of sports doping than other Prohibited Substances (for example, a stimulant that is listed as a Specified Substance could be very effective to an Athlete in competition); for that reason, an Athlete who does not meet the criteria under this Article would receive a two-year period of Ineligibility and could receive up to a four-year period of Ineligibility under Article 5.10.6. However, there is a greater likelihood that Specified Substances, as opposed to other Prohibited Substances, could be susceptible to a credible, non-doping explanation.

This Article applies only in those cases where the hearing panel is comfortably satisfied by the objective circumstances of the case that the Athlete in taking a Prohibited Substance did not intend to enhance his or her sport performance. Examples of the type of objective circumstances which in combination might lead a hearing panel to be comfortably satisfied of no performance-enhancing intent would include: the fact that the nature of the Specified Substance or the timing of its ingestion would not have been beneficial to the Athlete; the Athlete's open Use or disclosure of his or her Use of the Specified Substance; and a contemporaneous medical records file substantiating the non-sport-related prescription for the Specified Substance. Generally, the greater the potential performance-enhancing benefit, the higher the burden on the Athlete to prove lack of an intent to enhance sport performance.

While the absence of intent to enhance sport performance must be established to the comfortable satisfaction of the hearing panel, the Athlete may establish how the Specified Substance entered the body by a balance of probability.

In assessing the Athlete's or other Person's degree of fault, the circumstances considered must be specific and relevant to explain the Athlete's or other Person's departure from the expected standard of behavior. Thus, for example, the fact that an Athlete would lose the opportunity to earn large sums of money during a period of Ineligibility or the fact that the Athlete only has a short time left in his or her career or the timing of the sporting calendar would not be relevant factors to be considered in reducing the period of Ineligibility under this Article. It is anticipated that the period of Ineligibility will be eliminated entirely in only the most exceptional cases.]

5.10.5 Elimination or Reduction of Period of *Ineligibility* Based on Exceptional Circumstances

5.10.5.1 *No Fault or Negligence*

If an *Athlete* establishes in an individual case that he or she bears *No Fault or Negligence*, the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* shall be eliminated. When a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Markers* or *Metabolites* is detected in an *Athlete's Sample* in violation of Article 5.2.1 (presence of *Prohibited Substance*), the *Athlete* must also establish how the *Prohibited Substance* entered his or her system in order to have the period of *Ineligibility* eliminated. In the event this Article is applied and the period of *Ineligibility* otherwise applicable is eliminated, the anti-doping rule violation shall not be considered a violation for the limited purpose of determining the period of *Ineligibility* for multiple violations under Article 5.10.7.

5.10.5.2 *No Significant Fault or Negligence*

If an *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes in an individual case that he or she bears *No Significant Fault or Negligence,* then the period of *Ineligibility* may be reduced, 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 section may be no less than 8 years. When a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Markers* or *Metabolites* is detected in an *Athlete's Sample* in violation of Article 5.2.1 (Presence of *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers*), the *Athlete* must also establish how the *Prohibited Substance* entered his or her system in order to have the period of *Ineligibility* reduced.

[Comment to Articles 5.10.5.1 and 5.10.5.2: The ITTF's Anti-Doping Rules provide for the possible reduction or elimination of the period of Ineligibility in the unique circumstance where the Athlete can establish that he or she had No Fault or Negligence, or No Significant Fault or Negligence, in connection with the violation. This approach is consistent with basic principles of human rights and provides a balance between those Anti-Doping Organizations that argue for a much narrower exception, or none at all, and those that would reduce a two year suspension based on a range of other factors even when the Athlete was admittedly at fault. These Articles apply only to the imposition of sanctions; they are not applicable to the determination of whether an anti-doping rule violation has occurred. Article 5.10.5.2 may be applied to any anti-doping violation even though it will be especially difficult to meet the criteria for a reduction for those anti-doping rule violations where knowledge is an element of the violation.

Articles 5.10.5.1 and 5.10.5.2 are meant to have an impact only in cases where the circumstances are truly exceptional and not in the vast majority of cases.

To illustrate the operation of Article 5.10.5.1, an example where No Fault or Negligence would result in the total elimination of a sanction is where an Athlete could prove that, despite all due care, he or she was sabotaged by a competitor. Conversely, a sanction could not be completely eliminated on the basis of No Fault or Negligence in the following circumstances: (a) a positive test resulting from a mislabeled or contaminated vitamin or nutritional supplement (Athletes are responsible for what they ingest (Article 5.2.1.1) and have been warned against the possibility of supplement contamination); (b) the administration of a Prohibited Substance by the Athlete's personal physician or trainer without disclosure to the Athlete (Athletes are responsible for their choice of medical personnel and for advising medical personnel that they cannot be given any Prohibited Substance); and (c) sabotage of the Athlete's food or drink by a spouse, coach or other person within the Athlete's circle of associates (Athletes are responsible for what they ingest and for the conduct of those persons to whom they entrust access to their food and drink). However, depending on the unique facts of a particular case, any of the referenced illustrations could result in a reduced sanction based on No Significant Fault or Negligence. (For example, reduction may well be appropriate in illustration (a) if the Athlete clearly establishes that the cause of the positive test was contamination in a common multiple vitamin purchased from a source with no connection to Prohibited Substances and the Athlete exercised care in not taking other nutritional supplements.)

For purposes of assessing the Athlete or other Person's fault under Articles 5.10.5.1 and 5.10.5.2, the evidence considered must be specific and relevant to explain the Athlete or other Person's departure from the expected standard of behavior. Thus, for example the fact that an Athlete would lose the opportunity to earn large sums of money during a period of Ineligibility or the fact that the Athlete only has a short time left in his or her career or the timing of the sporting calendar would not be relevant factors to be considered in reducing the period of Ineligibility under this Article.

While minors are not given special treatment per se in determining the applicable sanction, certainly youth and lack of experience are relevant factors to be assessed in determining the Athlete or other Person's fault under Article 5.10.5.2, as well as Articles 5.10.4 and 5.10.5.1.

Article 5.10.5.2 should not be applied in cases where Articles 5.10.3.3 or 5.10.4 apply, as those Articles already take into consideration the Athlete or other Person's degree of fault for purposes of establishing the applicable period of Ineligibility.]

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

The ITTF Executive Committee may, prior to a final appellate decision under Article 5.13 or the expiration of the time to appeal, suspend a part of the period of *Ineligibility* imposed in an individual case where the *Athlete* or other *Person* has provided *Substantial Assistance* to an *Anti-Doping Organization*, criminal authority or professional disciplinary body which results in the *Anti-Doping Organization* discovering or establishing an anti-doping rule violation by another *Person* or which results in a criminal or disciplinary body discovering or establishing a criminal offense or the breach of professional rules by another *Person*. After a final appellate decision under Article 5.13 or the expiration of time to appeal, the ITTF may only suspend a part of the applicable period of *Ineligibility* with the approval of *WADA*. The extent to which the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* may be suspended shall be based on the seriousness of the anti-doping rule violation committed by the *Athlete* or other *Person* and the significance of the *Substantial Assistance* provided by the *Athlete* or other *Person* to the effort to eliminate doping in sport. No more than three-quarters of the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* may be suspended. If the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* is a lifetime, the non-suspended period under this Article must be no less than 8 years. If the ITTF suspends any part of the period of *Ineligibility* under this Article, it shall promptly provide a written justification for its decision to each *Anti-Doping Organization* having a right to appeal the decision. If the ITTF subsequently reinstates any part of the suspended period of *Ineligibility* because the *Athlete* or other *Person* has failed to provide the *Substantial Assistance* which was anticipated, the *Athlete* or other *Person* may appeal the reinstatement pursuant to Article 5.13.2.

[Comment to Article 5.10.5.3: 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.

Factors to be considered in assessing the importance of the Substantial Assistance would include, for example, the number of individuals implicated, the status of those individuals in the sport, whether a scheme involving Trafficking under Article 5.2.7 or administration under Article 5.2.8 is involved and whether the violation involved a substance or method which is not readily detectible in Testing. The maximum suspension of the Ineligibility period shall only be applied in very exceptional cases. An additional factor to be considered in connection with the seriousness of the anti-doping rule violation is any performance-enhancing benefit which the Person providing Substantial Assistance may be likely to still enjoy. As a general matter, the earlier in the results management process the Substantial Assistance is provided, the greater the percentage of the period of Ineligibility may be suspended.

If the Athlete or other Person who is asserted to have committed an anti-doping rule violation claims entitlement to a suspended period of Ineligibility under this Article in connection with the Athlete or other Person's waiver of a hearing under Article 5.8.3 (Waiver of Hearing), the ITTF shall determine whether a suspension of a portion of the period of Ineligibility is appropriate under this Article. If the Athlete or other Person claims entitlement to a suspended period of Ineligibility before the conclusion of a hearing under Article 5.8 on the anti-doping rule violation, the hearing panel shall determine whether a suspension of a portion of the period of Ineligibility is appropriate under this Article at the same time the hearing panel decides whether the Athlete or other Person has committed an anti-doping rule violation. If a portion of the period of Ineligibility is suspended, the decision shall explain the basis for concluding the information provided was credible and was important to discovering or proving the anti-doping rule violation or other offense. If the Athlete or other Person claims entitlement to a suspended period of Ineligibility after a final decision finding an anti-doping rule violation has been rendered and is not subject to appeal under Article 5.13, but the Athlete or other Person is still serving the period of Ineligibility, the Athlete or other Person may apply to the ITTF to consider a suspension in the period of Ineligibility under this Article. Any such suspension of the period of Ineligibility shall require the approval of WADA. If any condition upon which the suspension of a period of Ineligibility is based is not fulfilled, the ITTF shall reinstate the period of Ineligibility which would otherwise be applicable. Decisions rendered by the ITTF under this Article may be appealed pursuant Article 5.13.2.

This is the only circumstance under the ITTF's Anti-Doping Rules where the suspension of an otherwise applicable period of Ineligibility is authorised.]

5.10.5.4 Admission of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation in the Absence of Other Evidence

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

[Comment to Article 5.10.5.4: 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 committed. It is not intended to apply to circumstances where the admission occurs after the Athlete or other Person knows he or she is about to be caught.]

5.10.5.5 Where an *Athlete* or Other *Person* Establishes Entitlement to Reduction in Sanction under More than One Provision of this Article

Before applying any reductions under Articles 5.10.5.2, 5.10.5.3 or 5.10.5.4, the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* shall be determined in accordance with

Articles 5.10.2, 5.10.3, 5.10.4 and 5.10.6. If the *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes entitlement to a reduction or suspension of the period of *Ineligibility* under two or more of Articles 5.10.5.2, 5.10.5.3 or 5.10.5.4, then the period of *Ineligibility* may be reduced or suspended, but not below one-quarter of the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility*.

[Comment to Article 5.10.5.5: The appropriate sanction is determined in a sequence of four steps. First, the hearing panel determines which of the basic sanctions (Article 5.10.2, Article 5.10.3, Article 5.10.4 or Article 5.10.6) applies to the particular anti-doping rule violation. In a second step, the hearing panel establishes whether there is a basis for elimination or reduction of the sanction (Articles 5.10.5.1 through 5.10.5.4). Note, however, not all grounds for elimination or reduction may be combined with the provisions on basic sanctions. For example, Article 5.10.5.2 does not apply in cases involving Articles 5.10.3.3 or 5.10.4, since the hearing panel, under Articles 5.10.3.3 and 5.10.4, will already have determined the period of Ineligibility based on the Athlete or other Person's degree of fault. In a third step, the hearing panel determines under Article 5.10.5.5 whether the Athlete or other Person is entitled to a reduction under more than one provision of Article 5.10.5. Finally, the hearing panel decides on the commencement of the period of Ineligibility under Article 5.10.9. The following four examples demonstrate the proper sequence of analysis:

Example 1.

Facts: An Adverse Analytical Finding involves the presence of an anabolic steroid; the Athlete promptly admits the anti-doping rule violation as alleged; the Athlete establishes No Significant Fault (Article 5.10.5.2); and the Athlete provides important Substantial Assistance (Article 5.10.5.3).

Application of Article 5.10:

1. The basic sanction would be two years under Article 5.10.2. (Aggravating circumstances (Article 5.10.6) would not be considered because the Athlete promptly admitted the violation. Article 5.10.4 would not apply because a steroid is not a Specified Substance.)

2. Based on No Significant Fault alone, the sanction could be reduced up to one-half of the two years. Based on Substantial Assistance alone, the sanction could be reduced up to three-quarters of the two years.

3. Under Article 5.10.5.5, in considering the possible reduction for No Significant Fault and Substantial Assistance together, the most the sanction could be reduced is up to three-quarters of the two years. Thus, the minimum sanction would be a six-month period of Ineligibility.

4. Under Article 5.10.9.2, because the Athlete promptly admitted the anti-doping rule violation, the period of Ineligibility could start as early as the date of Sample collection, but in any event the Athlete would have to serve at least one-half of the Ineligibility period (minimum three months) after the date of the hearing decision.

Example 2.

Facts: An Adverse Analytical Finding involves the presence of an anabolic steroid; aggravating circumstances exist and the Athlete is unable to establish that he did not knowingly commit the anti-doping rule violation; the Athlete does not promptly admit the anti-doping rule violation as alleged; but the Athlete does provide important Substantial Assistance (Article 5.10.5.3).

Application of Article 5.10:

1. The basic sanction would be between two and four years Ineligibility as provided in Article 5.10.6.

2. Based on Substantial Assistance, the sanction could be reduced up to three-quarters of the maximum four years.

3. Article 5.10.5.5 does not apply.

4. Under Article 5.10.9.2, the period of Ineligibility would start on the date of the hearing decision.

Example 3.

Facts: An Adverse Analytical Finding involves the presence of a Specified Substance; the Athlete establishes how the Specified Substance entered his body and that he had no intent to enhance his sport performance; the Athlete establishes that he had very little fault; and the Athlete provides important Substantial Assistance (Article 5.10.5.3).

Application of Article 5.10:

1. Because the Adverse Analytical Finding involved a Specified Substance and the Athlete has satisfied the other conditions of Article 5.10.4, the basic sanction would fall in the range between a reprimand and two years Ineligibility. The hearing panel would assess the Athlete's fault in imposing a sanction within that range. (Assume for illustration in this example that the panel would otherwise impose a period of Ineligibility of eight months.)

2. Based on Substantial Assistance, the sanction could be reduced up to three-quarters of the eight months. (No less than two months.) [No Significant Fault (Article 5.10.2) would not be applicable because the Athlete's degree of fault was already taken into consideration in establishing the eight-month period of Ineligibility in step 1.]

3. Article 5.10.5.5 does not apply.

4. Under Article 5.9.2, because the Athlete promptly admitted the anti-doping rule violation, the period of Ineligibility could start as early as the date of Sample collection, but in any event, the Athlete would have to serve at least half of the Ineligibility period after the date of the hearing decision. (Minimum one month.)

Example 4.

Facts: An Athlete who has never had an Adverse Analytical Finding or been confronted with an anti-doping rule violation spontaneously admits that he intentionally used multiple Prohibited Substances to enhance his performance. The Athlete also provides important Substantial Assistance (Article 5.10.5.3).

Application of Article 5.10:

1. While the intentional Use of multiple Prohibited Substances to enhance performance would normally warrant consideration of aggravating circumstances (Article 5.10.6), the Athlete's spontaneous admission means that Article 5.10.6 would not apply. The fact that the Athlete's Use of Prohibited Substances was intended to enhance performance would also eliminate the application of Article 5.10.4 regardless of whether the Prohibited Substances Used were Specified Substances. Thus, Article 5.10.2 would be applicable and the basic period of Ineligibility imposed would be two years.

2. Based on the Athlete's spontaneous admissions (Article 5.10.5.4) alone, the period of Ineligibility could be reduced up to one-half of the two years. Based on the Athlete's Substantial Assistance (Article 5.10.5.3) alone, the period of Ineligibility could be reduced up to three-quarters of the two years.

3. Under Article 5.10.5.5, in considering the spontaneous admission and Substantial Assistance together, the most the sanction could be reduced would be up to three-quarters of the two years. (The minimum period of Ineligibility would be six months.)

4. If Article 5.10.5.4 was considered by the hearing panel in arriving at the minimum six month period of Ineligibility at step 3, the period of Ineligibility would start on the date the hearing panel imposed the sanction. If, however, the hearing panel did not consider the application of Article 5.10.5.4 in reducing the period of Ineligibility in step 3, then under Article 5.10.9.2, the commencement of the period of Ineligibility could be started as early as the date the anti-doping rule violation was committed, provided that at least half of that period (minimum of three months) would have to be served after the date of the hearing decision.]

5.10.6 Aggravating Circumstances Which May Increase the Period of Ineligibility

If the ITTF establishes in an individual case involving an anti-doping rule violation other than violations under Article 5.2.7 (Trafficking) and 5.2.8 (Administration) 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 up to a maximum of four years unless the *Athlete* or other *Person* can prove to the comfortable satisfaction of the hearing panel that he did not knowingly violate the anti-doping rule.

An *Athlete* or other *Person* can avoid the application of this Article by admitting the anti-doping rule violation as asserted promptly after being confronted with the anti-doping rule violation by the ITTF.

[Comment to Article 5.10.6: Examples of aggravating circumstances which may justify the imposition of a period of Ineligibility greater than the standard sanction are: the Athlete or other Person committed the anti-doping rule violation as part of a doping plan or scheme, either individually or involving a conspiracy or common enterprise to commit anti-doping rule violations; the Athlete or other Person used or possessed multiple Prohibited Substances or Prohibited Methods or used or possessed a Prohibited Substance or

Prohibited Method on multiple occasions; 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 obstructing conduct to avoid the detection or adjudication of an anti-doping rule violation.

For the avoidance of doubt, the examples of aggravating circumstances described in this Comment to Article 5.10.6 are not exclusive and other aggravating factors may also justify the imposition of a longer period of Ineligibility. Violations under Article 5.2.7 (Trafficking or Attempted Trafficking) and 5.2.8 (Administration or Attempted Administration) are not included in the application of Article 5.10.6 because the sanctions for these violations (from four years to lifetime Ineligibility) already build in sufficient discretion to allow consideration of any aggravating circumstance.]

5.10.7 Multiple Violations

5.10.7.1 Second Anti-Doping Rule Violation

For an *Athlete's* or other *Person*'s first anti-doping rule violation, the period of *Ineligibility* is set forth in Articles 5.10.2 and 5.10.3 (subject to elimination, reduction or suspension under Articles 5.10.4 or 5.10.5, or to an increase under Article 5.10.6). For a second anti-doping rule violation the period of Ineligibility shall be within the range set forth in the table below.

Second Violation First Violation	**RS**	**FFMT**	**NSF**	**St**	**AS**	**TRA**
RS	1-4	2-4	2-4	4-6	8-10	10-life
FFMT	1-4	4-8	4-8	6-8	10-life	life
NSF	1-4	4-8	4-8	6-8	10-life	life
St	2-4	6-8	6-8	8-life	life	life
AS	4-5	10-life	10-life	life	life	life
TRA	8-life	life	Life	life	life	life

Definitions for purposes of the second anti-doping rule violation table:

RS (Reduced sanction for Specified Substance under Article 5.10.4): The anti-doping rule violation was or should be sanctioned by a reduced sanction under Article 5.10.4 because it involved a Specified Substance and the other conditions under Article 5.10.4 were met.

FFMT (Filing Failures and/or Missed Tests): The anti-doping rule violation was or should be sanctioned under Article 5.10.3.3 (Filing Failures and/or Missed Tests).

NSF (Reduced sanction for *No Significant Fault* or *Negligence*): The anti-doping rule violation was or should be sanctioned by a reduced sanction under Article 5.10.5.2 because *No Significant Fault* or *Negligence* under Article 5.10.5.2 was proved by the *Athlete*.

St (Standard sanction under Articles 5.10.2 or 5.10.3.1): The anti-doping rule violation was or should be sanctioned by the standard sanction of two years under Article 5.10.2 or 5.10.3.1.

AS (Aggravated sanction): The anti-doping rule violation was or should be sanctioned by an aggravated sanction under Article 5.10.6 because the *Anti-Doping Organization* established the conditions set forth under Article 5.10.6.

TRA (*Trafficking* or *Attempted Trafficking* and administration or *Attempted* administration): The anti-doping rule violation was or should be sanctioned by a sanction under Article 5.10.3.2.

[Comment to Article 5.10.7.1: The table is applied by locating the Athlete or other Person's first anti-doping rule violation in the left-hand column and then moving across the table to the right to the column representing the second violation. By way of example, assume an Athlete receives the standard period of Ineligibility for a first violation under Article 5.10.2 and then commits a second violation for which he receives a reduced sanction for a Specified Substance under Article 5.10.4. The table is used to determine the period of Ineligibility for the second violation. The table is applied to this example by starting in the left-hand column and going down to the fourth row which is "St" for standard sanction, then moving across the table to the first column which is "RS" for reduced sanction for a Specified Substance, thus resulting in a 2-4 year range for the period of Ineligibility for the second violation. The Athlete or other Person's degree of fault shall be the criterion considered in assessing a period of Ineligibility within the applicable range.]

[Comment to Article 5.10.7.1 RS Definition: See Article 25.4 of the Code with respect to application of Article 5.10.7.1 to pre-Code anti-doping rule violations.]

5.10.7.2 Application of Articles 5.10.5.3 and 5.10.5.4 to Second Anti-Doping Rule Violation

Where an *Athlete* or other *Person* who commits a second anti-doping rule violation establishes entitlement to suspension or reduction of a portion of the period of *Ineligibility* under Article 5.10.5.3 or Article 5.10.5.4, the hearing panel shall first determine the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility* within the range established in the table in Article 5.10.7.1, and then apply the appropriate

suspension or reduction of the period of *Ineligibility*. The remaining period of *Ineligibility*, after applying any suspension or reduction under Articles 5.10.5.3 and 5.10.5.4, must be at least one-fourth of the otherwise applicable period of *Ineligibility*.

5.10.7.3 Third Anti-Doping Rule Violation

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

5.10.7.4 Additional Rules for Certain Potential Multiple Violations

- For purposes of imposing sanctions under Article 5.10.7, an anti-doping rule violation will only be considered a second violation if the ITTF (or its *National Association*) can establish that the *Athlete* or other *Person* committed the second anti-doping rule violation after the *Athlete* or other *Person* received notice pursuant to Article 5.7 (Results Management), or after the ITTF (or its *National Association*) made reasonable efforts to give notice, of the first anti-doping rule violation; if the ITTF (or its *National Association*) cannot establish this, the violations shall be considered together as one single first violation, and the sanction imposed shall be based on the violation that carries the more severe sanction; however, the occurrence of multiple violations may be considered as a factor in determining Aggravating Circumstances (Article 5.10.6).

- If, after the resolution of a first anti-doping rule violation, the ITTF discovers facts involving an anti-doping rule violation by the *Athlete* or other *Person* which occurred prior to notification regarding the first violation, then the ITTF shall impose an additional sanction based on the sanction that could have been imposed if the two violations would have been adjudicated at the same time. Results in all *Competitions* dating back to the earlier anti-doping rule violation will be *Disqualified* as provided in Article 5.10.8. To avoid the possibility of a finding of Aggravating Circumstances (Article 5.10.6) on account of the earlier-in-time but later-discovered violation, the *Athlete* or other *Person* must voluntarily admit the earlier anti-doping rule violation on a timely basis after notice of the violation for which he or she is first charged. The same rule shall also apply when the ITTF

discovers facts involving another prior violation after the resolution of a second anti-doping rule violation.

[Comment to Article 5.10.7.4: In a hypothetical situation, an Athlete commits an anti-doping rule violation on January 1, 2008 which the ITTF does not discover until December 1, 2008. In the meantime, the Athlete commits another anti-doping rule violation on March 1, 2008 and the Athlete is notified of this violation by the ITTF on March 30, 2008 and a hearing panel rules on June 30, 2008 that the Athlete committed the March 1, 2008 anti-doping rule violation. The later-discovered violation which occurred on January 1, 2008 will provide the basis for Aggravating Circumstances because the Athlete did not voluntarily admit the violation in a timely basis after the Athlete received notification of the later violation on March 30, 2008.]

5.10.7.5 Multiple Anti-Doping Rule Violations during an Eight-Year Period

For purposes of Article 5.10.7, each anti-doping rule violation must take place within the same eight (8) year period in order to be considered multiple violations.

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

In addition to the automatic *Disqualification* of the results in the *Competition* which produced the positive *Sample* under Article 5.9 (Automatic *Disqualification* of Individual Results), all other competitive results 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.

5.10.8.1 As a condition of regaining eligibility after being found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, the *Athlete* must first repay all prize money forfeited under this Article.

5.10.8.2 Allocation of Forfeited Prize Money.
Forfeited prize money shall be reallocated to other *Athletes*.

[Comment to Article 10.8.2: Nothing in the ITTF's Anti-Doping Rules precludes clean Athletes or other Persons who have been damaged by the actions of a Person who has committed an anti-doping rule violation from pursuing any right which they would otherwise have to seek damages from such Person.]

5.10.9 Commencement of *Ineligibility* Period

Except as provided below, the period of *Ineligibility* shall start on the date of the hearing decision providing for *Ineligibility* or, if the hearing is waived, on the date *Ineligibility* is accepted or otherwise imposed.

5.10.9.1 Delays Not Attributable to the *Athlete* or other *Person*

Where there have been substantial delays in the hearing process or other aspects of *Doping Control* not attributable to the *Athlete* or other *Person*, the *ITTF* or *Anti-Doping Organization* imposing the sanction 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.

5.10.9.2 Timely Admission

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

[Comment to Article 5.10.9.2: This Article shall not apply where the period of Ineligibility already has been reduced under Article 5.10.5.4 (Admission of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation in the Absence of Other Evidence).]

5.10.9.3 If a *Provisional Suspension* is imposed and respected by the *Athlete*, then the *Athlete* shall receive a credit for such period of *Provisional Suspension* against any period of *Ineligibility* which may ultimately be imposed.

5.10.9.4 If an *Athlete* voluntarily accepts a *Provisional Suspension* in writing from the ITTF and thereafter refrains from competing, the *Athlete* 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*'s voluntary acceptance of a *Provisional Suspension* shall be provided promptly to each party entitled to receive notice of a potential anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.14.1.

[Comment to Article 5.10.9.4: An Athlete's voluntary acceptance of a Provisional Suspension is not an admission by the Athlete and shall not be used in any way as to draw an adverse inference against the Athlete.]

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

[Comment to Article 5.10.9: The text of Article 5.10.9 has been revised to make clear that delays not attributable to the Athlete, timely admission by the Athlete and Provisional Suspension are the only justifications for starting the period of Ineligibility earlier than the date of the hearing decision. This amendment corrects inconsistent interpretation and application of the previous text.]

5.10.10 Status During *Ineligibility*

5.10.10.1 Prohibition against Participation during *Ineligibility*

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

An *Athlete* or other *Person* subject to a period of *Ineligibility* longer than four years may, after completing four years of the period of *Ineligibility*, participate in local sport events in a sport other than sports subject to the jurisdictions of the ITTF and its *National Associations*, but only so long as the local sport event is not at a level that could otherwise qualify such *Person* directly or indirectly to compete in (or accumulate points toward) a national championship or *International Event*.

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

[Comment to Article 5.10.10.1: For example, an ineligible Athlete cannot participate in a training camp, exhibition or practice organised by his or her National Association or a club which is a member of that National Association. Further, an ineligible Athlete may not compete in a non-Signatory professional league (e.g., the National Hockey League, the National Basketball Association, etc.), Events organised by a non-Signatory International Event organization or a non-Signatory national-level event organization without

triggering the consequences set forth in Article 5.10.10.2. Sanctions in one sport will also be recognised by other sports (see Article 5.15).]

5.10.10.2 Violation of the Prohibition of Participation during *Ineligibility*

Where an *Athlete* or other *Person* who has been declared *Ineligible* violates the prohibition against participation during *Ineligibility* described in Article 5.10.10.1, the results of such participation shall be *Disqualified* and the period of *Ineligibility* which was originally imposed shall start over again as of the date of the violation. The new period of *Ineligibility* may be reduced under Article 5.10.5.2 if the *Athlete* or other *Person* establishes he or she bears *No Significant Fault or Negligence* for violating the prohibition against participation. The determination of whether an *Athlete* or other *Person* has violated the prohibition against participation, and whether a reduction under Article 5.10.5.2 is appropriate, shall be made by the ITTF.

[Comment to Article 5.10.10.2: If an Athlete or other Person is alleged to have violated the prohibition against participation during a period of Ineligibility, the ITTF shall determine whether the Athlete violated the prohibition and, if so, whether the Athlete or other Person has established grounds for a reduction in the restarted period of Ineligibility under Article 5.10.5.2. Decisions rendered by the ITTF under this Article may be appealed pursuant to Article 5.13.2.

Where an Athlete Support Personnel or other Person substantially assists an Athlete in violating the prohibition against participation during Ineligibility, the ITTF may appropriately impose sanctions under its own disciplinary rules for such assistance.]

5.10.10.3 Withholding of Financial Support during *Ineligibility*

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

5.10.11 Reinstatement *Testing*

As a condition to regaining eligibility at the end of a specified period of *Ineligibility*, an *Athlete* must, during any period of *Provisional Suspension* or *Ineligibility*, make him or herself available for *Out-of-Competition Testing* by the ITTF, the applicable *National Association*, and any other *Anti-Doping Organization* having *Testing* jurisdiction, and must comply with the whereabouts requirements of Article 11 of the *International Standard* for *Testing*. If an *Athlete* subject to a period of *Ineligibility*

retires from sport and is removed from *Out-of-Competition Testing* pools and later seeks reinstatement, the *Athlete* shall not be eligible for reinstatement until the *Athlete* has notified the ITTF and the applicable *National Association* and has been subject to *Out-of-Competition Testing* for a period of time equal to the longer of (a) the period set forth in Article 5.5.6 and (b) the period of *Ineligibility* remaining as of the date the *Athlete* had retired. During such remaining period of *Ineligibility*, a minimum of 2 tests must be conducted on the *Athlete* with at least three months between each test. The *National Association* shall be responsible for conducting the necessary tests, but tests by any *Anti-Doping Organization* may be used to satisfy the requirement. The results of such tests shall be reported to the ITTF. In addition, immediately prior to the end of the period of *Ineligibility*, an *Athlete* must undergo *Testing* by the ITTF for the *Prohibited Substance*s and *Methods* that are prohibited in *Out-of-Competition Testing*. Once the period of an *Athlete*'s *Ineligibility* has expired, and the *Athlete* has fulfilled the conditions of reinstatement, then the *Athlete* will become automatically re-eligible and no application by the *Athlete* or by the *Athlete's National Association* will then be necessary.

5.11 *CONSEQUENCES* TO TEAMS

5.11.1 If a member of a doubles pair or a team is found to have committed a violation of these Anti-Doping Rules during an *Event*, the doubles pair or the team shall be *Disqualified* from the *Event*, and any title, medal, points and prize shall be withdrawn.

5.12 SANCTIONS AND COSTS ASSESSED AGAINST *NATIONAL ASSOCIATION*S

5.12.1 The ITTF Executive Committee has the authority to withhold some or all funding or other non financial support to *National Associations* that are not in compliance with these Anti-Doping Rules.

5.12.2 ITTF may elect to take additional disciplinary action against National Associations with respect to recognition, the eligibility of its officials and athletes to participate in International Events.

5.13 APPEALS

5.13.1 Decisions Subject to Appeal

Decisions made under these Anti-Doping Rules may be appealed as set forth below in Article 5.13.2 through 5.13.4 or as otherwise provided in these Anti-Doping

Rules. Such decisions shall remain in effect while under appeal unless the appellate body orders otherwise. Before an appeal is commenced, any post-decision review authorised in these rules must be exhausted (except as provided in Article 5.13.1.1).

5.13.1.1 *WADA* Not Required to Exhaust Internal Remedies

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

[Comment to Article 5.13.1.1: Where a decision has been rendered before the final stage of the ITTF's process (for example, a first hearing) and no party elects to appeal that decision to the next level of the ITTF's process, then WADA may bypass the remaining steps in the ITTF's internal process and appeal directly to CAS.]

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

A decision that an anti-doping rule violation was committed, a decision 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 under Article 5.10.10.2 (prohibition of participation during *Ineligibility*); a decision that the ITTF or its *National Association* lacks jurisdiction to rule on an alleged anti-doping rule violation or its *Consequences*; a decision by any *National Association* not to bring forward an *Adverse Analytical Finding* or an *Atypical Finding* as an anti-doping rule violation, or a decision not to go forward with an anti-doping rule violation after an investigation under Article 5.7.4; and a decision to impose a *Provisional Suspension* as a result of a *Provisional Hearing* or otherwise in violation of Article 5.7.4 may be appealed exclusively as provided in this Article 5.13.2. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, the only *Person* that may appeal from a *Provisional Suspension* is the *Athlete* or other *Person* upon whom the *Provisional Suspension* is imposed.

5.13.2.1 Appeals Involving *International-Level Athletes*

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

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

5.13.2.2 Appeals Involving National-Level *Athletes*

In cases involving *Athletes* who do not have a right to appeal under Article 5.13.2.1, each *National Association* shall have in place an appeal procedure that respects the following principles: a timely hearing, a fair and impartial hearing panel; the right to be represented by a counsel at the person's expense; and a timely, written, reasoned decision. The ITTF's rights of appeal with respect to these cases are set forth in Article 5.13.2.3 below.

[Comment to Article 5.13.2.2: The ITTF may elect to comply with this Article by giving its national-level Athletes the right to appeal directly to CAS.]

5.13.2.3 *Persons* Entitled to Appeal

In cases under Article 5.13.2.1, the following parties shall have the right to appeal to CAS: (a) the *Athlete* or other *Person* who is the subject of the decision being appealed; (b) the other party to the case in which the decision was rendered; (c) the ITTF and any other *Anti-Doping Organization* under whose rules a sanction could have been imposed; (d) the International Olympic Committee or International Paralympic Committee, as applicable, where the decision may have an effect in relation to the Olympic Games or Paralympic Games, including decisions affecting eligibility for the Olympic Games or Paralympic Games; and (e) *WADA*. In cases under Article 5.13.2.2, the parties having the right to appeal to the national-level reviewing body shall be as provided in the *National Association'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) the ITTF; and (d) *WADA*. For cases under Article 5.13.2.2, *WADA* and the ITTF shall also have the right to appeal to CAS with respect to the decision of the national-level reviewing body.

5.13.3 Failure to Render a Timely Decision by the ITTF and its *National Associations*

Where, in a particular case, the ITTF or its *National Associations* fail 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 the ITTF or its *National Associations* had rendered a decision finding

no anti-doping rule violation. If the *CAS* panel determines that an anti-doping rule violation was committed and that *WADA* acted reasonably in electing to appeal directly to *CAS*, then *WADA*'s costs and attorneys fees in prosecuting the appeal shall be reimbursed to *WADA* by the ITTF or its *National Associations*.

[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 the ITTF to render a decision before WADA may intervene by appealing directly to CAS. Before taking such action, however, WADA will consult with the ITTF and give the ITTF an opportunity to explain why it has not yet rendered a decision. Nothing in this rule prohibits the ITTF from also having rules which authorise it to assume jurisdiction for matters in which the results management performed by one of its National Associations has been inappropriately delayed.]

5.13.4 Appeals from Decisions Granting or Denying a Therapeutic Use Exemption

Decisions by *WADA* reversing the grant or denial of a TUE may be appealed exclusively to CAS by the *Athlete*, the ITTF, or *National Anti-Doping Organization* or other body designated by a *National Association* which granted or denied the exemption. Decisions to deny TUE's, and which are not reversed by *WADA*, may be appealed by *International-Level Athletes* to CAS and by other *Athletes* to the national level reviewing body described in Article 5.13.2.2. If the national level reviewing body reverses the decision to deny a TUE, that decision may be appealed to CAS by *WADA*.

When the ITTF, *National Anti-Doping Organizations* or other bodies designated by *National Associations* fail to take action on a properly submitted TUE application within a reasonable time, their failure to decide may be considered a denial for purposes of the appeal rights provided in this Article.

5.13.5 Appeal from Decisions Pursuant to Article 5.12

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

5.13.6 Time for Filing Appeals

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 having lead to the decision subject to appeal:

a) Within ten (10) days from notice of the decision, such party/ies shall have the right to request from the body having issued the decision a copy of the file on which such body relied;

b) If such a request is made within the ten-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 or intervention filed by *WADA* shall be the later of:
(a) Twenty-one (21) days after the last day on which any other party in the case could have appealed, or
(b) Twenty-one (21) days after *WADA*'s receipt of the complete file relating to the decision.

5.14 *NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS'* INCORPORATION OF THE ITTF RULES, REPORTING AND RECOGNITION

5.14.1 Incorporation of the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules

All *National Association*s shall comply with these Anti-Doping Rules. These Anti-Doping Rules shall also be incorporated either directly or by reference into each *National Associations* Rules. All *National Association*s shall include in their regulations the procedural rules necessary to effectively implement these Anti-Doping Rules. The Rules of each *National Association* shall specifically provide that all *Athletes*, *Athlete Support Personnel* and other *Persons* under the jurisdiction of the *National Association* shall be bound by these Anti-Doping Rules.

5.14.2 Statistical Reporting

5.14.2.1 *National Association*s shall report to the ITTF at the end of every playing season (August 31) results of all *Doping Control*s within their jurisdiction sorted by *Athlete* and identifying each date on which the *Athlete* was tested, the entity conducting the test, and whether the test was *In-Competition* or *Out-of-Competition*. the ITTF may periodically publish *Testing* data received from *National Associations* as well as comparable data from *Testing* under the ITTF's jurisdiction.

5.14.2.2 The ITTF shall publish annually a general statistical report of its Doping Control activities during the calendar year with a copy provided to WADA.

5.14.3 *Doping Control* Information Clearinghouse

When a *National Association* has received an *Adverse Analytical Finding* on one of its *Athletes* it shall report the following information to the ITTF and *WADA* within fourteen (14) days of the process described in Article 5.7.1.2 and 5.7.1.3: the *Athlete's* name, country, and sport, whether the test was *In-Competition* or *Out-of-Competition,* the date of *Sample* collection and the analytical result reported by the laboratory. The *National Association* shall also regularly update the ITTF and *WADA* on the status and findings of any review or proceedings conducted pursuant to Article 5.7 *(Results Management)*, Article 5.8 *(Right to a Fair Hearing)* or Article 5.13 *(Appeals*), and comparable information shall be provided to the ITTF and *WADA* within 14 days of the notification described in Article 5.7.1.9, with respect to other violations of these Anti-Doping Rules. In any case in which the period of *Ineligibility* is eliminated under Article 5.10.5.1 (*No Fault or Negligence)* or reduced under Article 5.10.5.2 *(No Significant Fault or Negligence),* the ITTF and *WADA* shall be provided with a written reasoned decision explaining the basis for the elimination or reduction. Neither the ITTF nor *WADA* shall disclose this information beyond those persons within their organisations with a need to know until the *National Association* has made public disclosure or has failed to make public disclosure as required in Article 5.14.4 below.

5.14.4 Public Disclosure

5.14.4.1 Neither the ITTF nor its *National Association* shall publicly identify *Athletes* whose *Samples* have resulted in *Adverse Analytical Findings*, or who were alleged to have violated other Articles of these Anti-Doping Rules until it has been determined in a hearing in accordance with Article 5.8 that an anti-doping rule violation has occurred, or such hearing has been waived, or the assertion of an anti-doping rule violation has not been timely challenged. Once a violation of these Anti-Doping Rules has been established, it shall be publicly reported within 20 days. The ITTF or its *National Association* must also report within 20 days appeal decisions on an anti-doping rule violation. The ITTF or its *National Association* shall also, within the time period for publication, send all hearing and appeal decisions to *WADA*.

5.14.4.2 In any case where it is determined, after a hearing or appeal, that the *Athlete* or other *Person* did not commit an anti-doping rule violation, the decision may be disclosed publicly only with the consent of the *Athlete* or other *Person* who is the subject of the decision. The ITTF or its *National Association* 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.

5.14.4.3 Neither the ITTF nor its *National Association* or *WADA* accredited laboratory, or official of either, shall publicly comment on the specific facts of a pending case (as opposed to general description of process and science) except in response to public comments attributed to the *Athlete*, other *Person* or their representatives.

5.14.5 Recognition of Decisions by the ITTF and *National Associations*

Any decision of the ITTF or a *National Association* regarding a violation of these Anti-Doping Rules shall be recognised by all *National Association*s, which shall take all necessary action to render such results effective.

5.15 RECOGNITION OF DECISIONS BY OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Subject to the right to appeal provided in Article 5.13, the *Testing*, TUE's and hearing results or other final adjudications of any *Signatory* to the *Code* which are consistent with the *Code* and are within the *Signatory's* authority, shall be recognised and respected by the ITTF and its *National Associations*. The ITTF and its *National Associations* may recognise the same actions of other bodies which have not accepted the *Code* if the rules of those bodies are otherwise consistent with the *Code*.

[Comment to Article 5.15: 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, the ITTF or its National Association should attempt to apply the decision in harmony with the principles of the Code. For example, if in a process consistent with the Code a non-Signatory has found an Athlete to have committed an anti-doping rule violation on account of the presence of a Prohibited Substance in his body but the period of Ineligibility applied is shorter than the period provided for in the Code, then the ITTF or its National Association should recognise the finding of an anti-doping rule violation and they should conduct a hearing consistent with Article 5.8 to determine whether the longer period of Ineligibility provided in the Code should be imposed.]

5.16 STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

No action may be commenced under these Anti-Doping Rules against an *Athlete* or other *Person* for a violation of an anti-doping rule contained in these Anti-Doping Rules unless such action is commenced within eight years from the date the violation occurred.

5.17 THE ITTF COMPLIANCE REPORTS TO *WADA*

The ITTF will report to *WADA* on the ITTF's compliance with the *Code* every second year and shall explain reasons for any noncompliance.

5.18 AMENDMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF ANTI-DOPING RULES

5.18.1 These Anti-Doping Rules may be amended from time to time by the ITTF Board of Directors.

5.18.2 Except as provided in Article 5.18.5, these Anti-Doping Rules shall be interpreted as an independent and autonomous text and not by reference to existing law or statutes.

5.18.3 The headings used for the various Parts and Articles of these Anti-Doping Rules are for convenience only and shall not be deemed part of the substance of these Anti-Doping Rules or to affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.

5.18.4 The INTRODUCTION and the APPENDIX I DEFINITIONS shall be considered integral parts of these Anti-Doping Rules.

5.18.5 These Anti-Doping Rules have been adopted pursuant to the applicable provisions of the *Code* and shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with applicable provisions of the *Code*. The comments annotating various provisions of the *Code* may, where applicable, assist in the understanding and interpretation of these Anti-Doping Rules.

5.18.6 Notice to an *Athlete* or other *Person* who is a member of a *National Association* may be accomplished by delivery of the notice to the *National Association*.

5.18.7 These Anti-Doping Rules shall come into full force and effect on 1 January 2009 (the **"Effective Date"**). They shall not apply retrospectively to matters pending before the Effective Date; provided, however, that:

5.18.7.1 Any case pending prior to the Effective Date, or brought after the Effective Date based on an anti-doping rule violation that occurred prior to the Effective Date, shall be governed by the predecessor to these Anti-Doping Rules in force at the time of the anti-doping rule violation, subject to any application of the principle of lex mitior by the hearing panel determining the case.

5.18.7.2 Any Article 5.2.4 whereabouts violation (whether a filing failure or a missed test) declared by the ITTF under rules in force prior to the Effective Date that has not

expired prior to the Effective Date and that would qualify as a whereabouts violation under Article 11 of the *International Standard* for *Testing* shall be carried forward and may be relied upon, prior to expiry, as one of the three Filing Failures and/or Missed Tests giving rise to an anti-doping rule violation under Article 5.2.4 of these Anti-Doping Rules. *[Note: where existing whereabouts violations are carried over to the new regime, any restrictions under the old rules on combining those whereabouts violations with other whereabouts violations must also be carried over. Hence:]* Unless otherwise stated by the ITTF, however:

a. a filing failure that is carried forward in this manner may only be combined with (post-Effective Date) Filing Failures;

b. a missed test that is carried forward in this manner may only be combined with (post-Effective Date) Missed Tests; and

c. a filing failure or missed test declared by any Anti-Doping Organization other than the ITTF and a National Association prior to the Effective Date may not be combined with any Filing Failure or Missed Test declared under these Anti-Doping Rules.

5.18.7.3 Where a period of *Ineligibility* imposed by the ITTF under rules in force prior to the Effective Date has not yet expired as of the Effective Date, the *Person* who is *Ineligible* may apply to the ITTF for a reduction in the period of *Ineligibility* in light o the amendments made to the *Code* as from the Effective Date. To be valid, such application must be made before the period of *Ineligibility* has expired.

5.18.7.4 Subject always to Article 5.10.7.5, anti-doping rule violations committed under rules in force prior to the Effective Date shall be taken into account as prior offences for purposes of determining sanctions under Article 5.10.7. Where such pre-Effective Date anti-doping rule violation involved a substance that would be treated as a Specified Substance under these Anti-Doping Rules, for which a period of *Ineligibility* of less than two years was imposed, such violation shall be considered a Reduced Sanction violation for purposes of Article 5.10.7.1.

APPENDIX 1 - DEFINITIONS

Adverse Analytical Finding. A report from a laboratory or other approved *Testing* entity that identifies in a *Sample* the presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* (including elevated quantities of endogenous substances) or evidence of the *Use* of a *Prohibited Method*.

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

Athlete. Any *Person* who participates in sport at the international level (as defined by each International Federation), the national level (as defined by each *National Anti-Doping Organization*, including but not limited to those *Persons* in its *Registered Testing Pool*), and any other competitor in sport who is otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of any *Signatory* or other sports organization accepting the *Code*. All provisions of the *Code*, including, for example, *Testing*, and TUE's must be applied to international and national-level competitors. Some *National Anti-Doping Organizations* may elect to test and apply anti-doping rules to recreational-level or masters competitors who are not current or potential national caliber competitors. *National Anti-Doping Organizations* are not required, however, to apply all aspects of the *Code* to such *Persons*. Specific national rules may be established for Doping Control for non-international-level or national-level competitors without being in conflict with the *Code*. Thus, a country could elect to test recreational-level competitors but not require TUE's or whereabouts information. In the same manner, a *Major Event Organization* holding an *Event* only for masters-level competitors could elect to test the competitors but not require advance TUE or whereabouts information. For purposes of Article 5.2.8 (Administration or *Attempted* Administration) 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*.

[Comment to Athlete: This definition makes it clear that all international and national-caliber 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 IFs and National Anti-Doping Organizations, respectively. At the national level, anti-doping rules adopted pursuant to the Code shall apply, at a minimum, to all persons on national teams and all persons qualified to compete in any national championship in any sport. That does not mean, however, that all such Athletes must be included in a National Anti-Doping Organization's Registered Testing Pool. The definition also allows each National Anti-Doping Organization, if it chooses to do so, to expand its anti-doping control program beyond national-caliber athletes to

competitors at lower levels of competition. Competitors at all levels of competition should receive the benefit of anti-doping information and education.]

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* renunciates the attempt prior to it being discovered by a third party not involved in the *Attempt*.

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

CAS. The Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Code. The World Anti-Doping *Code*.

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

Consequences of anti-doping rule violations. 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 for a specified period of time from participating in any *Competition* or other activity or funding as provided in Article 5.10.9; and (c) *Provisional Suspension* means the *Athlete* or other *Person* is barred temporarily from participating in any *Competition* prior to the final decision at a hearing conducted under Article 5.8 (Right to a Fair Hearing).

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

Doping Control. All steps and processes from test distribution planning through to ultimate disposition of any appeal including all steps and processes in between such as provision of whereabouts information, sample collection and handling, laboratory analysis, TUE's, results management and hearings.

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

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

Event Period. The time between the beginning and end of an *Event*, as established by the ruling body of the *Event*.

In-Competition. Unless provided otherwise in the rules of an International Federation or other relevant *Anti-Doping Organization*, "*In-Competition*" means the period commencing twelve hours before a *Competition* in which the *Athlete* is scheduled to participate through the end of such *Competition* and the *Sample* collection process related to such *Competition*.

Independent Observer Program. A team of observers, under the supervision of *WADA*, who observe and may provide guidance on the *Doping Control* process at certain *Events* and report on their observations.

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

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

International Event. An *Event* 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 designated by one or more International Federations as being within the *Registered Testing Pool* for an International Federation.

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 Committee*s 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 parameter(s) that indicates the *Use* of a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method.*

Metabolite. Any substance produced by a biotransformation process.

Minor. A natural *Person* who has not reached the age of majority as established by the applicable laws of his or her country of residence.

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, all at the national level. This includes an entity which may be designated by multiple countries to serve as regional *Anti-Doping Organization* for such countries. If this designation has not been made by the competent public authority(ies), the entity shall be the country's *National Olympic Committee* or its designee.

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

National Event. A sport *Event* involving international or national-level *Athletes* that is not an *International Event*.

National Olympic Committee. The organization recognised by the International Olympic Committee. The term *National Olympic Committee* shall also include the National Sport Confederation in those countries where the National Sport Confederation assumes typical *National Olympic Committee* responsibilities in the anti-doping area.

No Advance Notice. A *Doping Control* which takes place with no advance warning to the *Athlete* and where the *Athlete* is continuously chaperoned from the moment of notification through *Sample* provision.

No Fault or Negligence. The *Athlete'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.*

No Significant Fault or Negligence. The *Athlete's* establishing that his or her fault or negligence, when viewed in the totality of the circumstances and taking into account the criteria for *No Fault or Negligence*, was not significant in relationship to the anti-doping rule violation.

Out-of-Competition. Any *Doping Control* which is not *In-Competition*.

Participant. Any *Athlete* or *Athlete Support Personnel*.

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 over the *Prohibited Substance/Method* or the premises in which a *Prohibited Substance/Method* exists); provided, however, that if the person does not have exclusive control over the *Prohibited Substance/Method* or the premises in which a *Prohibited Substance/Method* exists, constructive possession shall only be found if the person knew about the presence of the *Prohibited Substance/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.

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

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 so described on the *Prohibited List*.

Provisional Hearing. For purposes of Article 5.7.6, an expedited abbreviated hearing occurring prior to a hearing under Article 5.8 (Right to a Fair Hearing) that provides the *Athlete* with notice and an opportunity to be heard in either written or oral form.

Provisional Suspension. See *Consequences* above.

Publicly Disclose or Publicly Report. To disseminate or distribute information to the general public or persons beyond those persons entitled to earlier notification in accordance with Article 5.14.

Registered Testing Pool. The pool of top level *Athletes* established separately by each International Federation and *National Anti-Doping Organization* who are subject to both *In-Competition* and *Out-of-Competition Testing* as part of that International Federation's or National Anti-Doping Organization's test distribution plan.

Retroactive TUE. As defined in the *International Standard* for Therapeutic Use Exemptions.

Sample. Any biological material collected for the purposes of *Doping Control*.

[Comment to Sample: It has sometimes been claimed that the collection of blood samples violates the tenets of certain religious or cultural groups. It has been determined that there is no basis for any such claim.]

Signatories. Those entities signing the *Code* and agreeing to comply with the *Code*, including the International Olympic Committee, International Federations, International Paralympic Committee, *National Olympic Committee*s, National Paralympic Committees, *Major Event Organizations*, *National Anti-Doping Organizations*, and *WADA*.

Specified Substances. As defined in Article 5.4.2.2.

Substantial Assistance. For purposes of Article 5.10.5.3, a *Person* providing *Substantial Assistance* must: (1) fully disclose in a signed written statement all information he or she possesses in relation to anti-doping rule violations, and (2) fully cooperate with the investigation and adjudication of any case related to that information, including, for example, presenting testimony at a hearing if requested to do so by an *Anti-Doping Organization* or hearing panel. Further, the information provided must be credible and must comprise an important part of any case which is initiated or, if no case is initiated, must have provided a sufficient basis on which a case could have been brought.

Table Tennis Team. A group of 2 or more table tennis players associated as a unit for competing according to the table tennis rules for team events.

Tampering. Altering for an improper purpose or in an improper way; bringing improper influence to bear; interfering improperly; obstructing, misleading or engaging in any fraudulent conduct to alter results or prevent normal procedures from occurring; or providing fraudulent information to an *Anti-Doping Organization*.

Target Testing. Selection of *Athletes* for *Testing* where specific *Athletes* or groups of *Athletes* are selected on a non-random basis for *Testing* at a specified time.

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

Trafficking. Selling, giving, transporting, sending, delivering or distributing a *Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* (either physically or by any electronic or other means) by an *Athlete*, *Athlete Support Personnel* or any other *Person* subject to the jurisdiction of an *Anti-Doping 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 such *Prohibited Substances* are not intended for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes.

TUE. As defined in Article 5.2.6.1.

TUE Panel. As defined in Article 5.4.4.3.

UNESCO Convention. The International Convention against Doping in Sport adopted by the 33rd 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.

DIRECTIVES FOR MATCH OFFICIALS AT WORLD TITLE COMPETITIONS AND ITTF SANCTIONED EVENTS

Definitions

World Title competitions include – but are not limited to - the table tennis competition at the Quadrennial Summer Olympic Games, the World Team Championships, the World Individual Championships, the World Junior Championships, the Men's World Cup, the Women's World Cup, the World Team Cup and other events so designated by the ITTF Executive Committee.

ITTF Sanctioned events include all events on the published ITTF calendar where the Technical Delegate (TD) or Competition Manager (CM) is designated or appointed by the ITTF or ITTF Executive Committee.

HOST – HOST Organizing Committee, HOST Association, HOST Governing Body.

URC – The ITTF Umpires and Referees Committee; the Chairman of the ITTF Umpires and Referees Committee; any of the designated officials of the ITTF Umpires and Referees Committee.

IR – ITTF certified International Referee.

NR – National Referee(s) – individuals that have completed their national association internal referee certification program.

IU - ITTF certified International Umpire

NU – National Umpire(s) – individuals that have completed their national association highest internal umpire certification program.

Number of Referees

Number of Referees = Number of playing halls x 2 + 1.

One more referee will be required for a playing hall with more than 20 tables.

Nomination, Acceptance and Declination of Match Officials

All Referee and Umpire nominations must also be accepted – or declined – by the Parent association of the nominee.

Age will not be a consideration in the selections of Referees and Umpires.

Referees & Deputy Referees

Subject	World Title competitions	ITTF Sanctioned events
Referee	Must be an IR	Must be an IR
Deputy Referee(s)	Must be IRs	At least half must be IRs with no more than one NR
Selection of Referees	By the URC in co-operation with the HOST.	By the HOST in co-operation with the URC for all IRs. By the HOST for one NR
Language	The Referee and all Deputy Referees must be able to communicate in English.	The Referee and all Deputy referees should be able to communicate in English or any language that is common to the players, umpires, referees and HOST. It is the responsibility of the HOST to make sure that an interpreter is available for the Referee and Deputy Referees if any of them are unable to communicate in English.
Referee mix	At least two-third of the Referees shall be from Associations other than the HOST	At least one-third of the Referees shall be from Associations other than the HOST
Referee	The URC will nominate a qualified and experienced IR from the HOST. If there is no qualified or experienced IR from the HOST, the URC will nominate a qualified and experienced IR from the same continent as the HOST. If there are no qualified or experienced IR from the same continent as the HOST, the URC will nominate a qualified and experienced IR from another continent.	The HOST will nominate a qualified and experienced IR from the HOST. If there is no qualified or experienced IR from the HOST, the HOST will nominate a qualified and experienced IR from the same continent as the HOST. If there are no qualified or experienced IRs from the same continent as the HOST, the URC will nominate a qualified and experienced IR from another continent.
Deputy Referees	The URC will nominate a qualified and experienced IR from the HOST of the next same event – if already designated. The URC will nominate additional numbers of qualified and experienced IRs as required from any continents.	The first Deputy Referee must be an IR from an association other than the HOST. The URC will inform the HOST about the recommended IR at least 4 months before the event. The second Deputy Referee can be an IR or NR from the HOST or an IR from another association. Subsequent Deputy Referees can be IRs from any continent.

Umpires & Assistant umpires

Subject	World Title competitions	ITTF Sanctioned events
Umpires	Olympic Games: All umpires and assistant umpires required for the event must be Blue Badge IUs. Other World Title competitions At least 75% of the total number of umpires required for the event must be IUs. NUs can used for matches at the early stages of the competition (preferably as Assistant Umpires) and may not be used for matches in quarterfinals, semi-finals and finals.	At least one-half of the total number of umpires required for the event must be IUs.
Foreign IUs	Olympic Games: There should be only one IU from each Association, with the possibility of up to 1/6 of the total umpires from the HOST. World Championships and World Junior Championships: At least 50% of the umpires shall be from Associations other than the HOST Proportion of IU allocation per continent shall be based on ratio of ITTF membership distribution for World Championships and participating team distribution for the World Junior Championships Other World Title competitions: At least 30% of the umpires shall be from Associations other than the HOST, representing at least five associations and including at least three IUs from continents other than the HOST. If the total number of umpires on hand does not support such allocation, then a proportional distribution of qualified IUs based on geographical diversity would be suggested by the URC.	At least 25% of the umpires shall be from Associations other than the HOST, representing at least five associations.

Invitations and Selection of Umpires	The URC will invite associations to nominate any IU meeting a defined set of criteria using each association's internal selection process. The URC will select all foreign IUs in cooperation with the HOST and define the criteria that the nominated IU must meet in order to be accepted by the URC. URC nominations will be based on a blend of the levels of IU certification, recent IU activities, personal evaluations and results on written exams, as well as gender and geographic distributions; and for junior events, special considerations may be given to more recently qualified officials. The HOST will nominate all domestic IUs and NUs, and in cooperation with the URC define the criteria that each must meet in order to be accepted by the HOST.	The HOST will select the national associations to invite and define the criteria – without specifying any names - that each nominated IU must meet in order to be accepted by the HOST. The HOST will invite all NUs and define the criteria that each NU must meet in order to be accepted by the HOST. The URC will have the option to nominate up to one-fourth of the total number of foreign umpires in order to provide training and evaluation opportunities for selected IUs to meet global ITTF objectives as well as worldwide geographical diversity. The URC will inform the HOST of the target associations to be invited at least two months in advance in implementing this option.
Hospitality	All visiting match officials shall be provided with free accommodation, meals and local transport on the same basis and to the same standard as visiting players and with an allowance of US$25 or the equivalent for each day of the competition. The allowance should be paid to the umpires by the second day of the tournament.	The HOST defines all of the criteria for visiting umpire hospitality and allowance must clearly include them in the invitation letter to other associations. Any omissions on the standard of hospitality that will be provided are presumed to be at a level equal to – or better than – the level for World Title competitions. All visiting match officials shall be provided with an allowance of US$ 20 or the equivalent for each day of the competition. The allowance should be paid to the umpires by the second day of the tournament.

Other Officials	The URC may appoint a Referees Coordinator and an Umpires Coordinator for the proper governance of the match officials and competition procedures. The URC may invite certified ITTF instructors to conduct training and evaluations for umpires before or during the event, except Olympic Games. The total number of trainers and evaluators will not exceed one-sixteenth of the total number of umpires working in that event – rounded up to the next highest whole number. The HOST will provide an office / workplace with computer and internet access for URC / Coordinators near the field of play. The HOST will provide hospitality on the same basis as visiting match officials.	The HOST may request from the URC to provide certified ITTF instructors to conduct training and field of play evaluations before or during the event. The HOST will provide an office / workplace with computer and internet access for the URC Trainers / Instructors near the field of play. The HOST will provide hospitality on the same basis as visiting match officials.
Field of play procedure	The HOST will implement the current ITTF Field of play procedure as defined in the latest version of the ITTF Handbook for Match Officials.	The HOST may implement the current ITTF Field of play procedure as defined in the latest version of the ITTF Handbook for Match Officials.
Duty day	Umpires shall be on duty for no more than 8 hours in a day and shall receive at least a 20-minute break every three hours on duty. At World Championships each visiting Umpire shall have 1 free day.	Umpires shall be on duty for no more than 8 hours in a day and shall receive at least a 20-minute break every three hours on duty.
Umpire Uniform	IUs from the same association shall be dressed alike or in the recommended ITTF IU uniform.	
Acknowledgment	The names and associations of all match officials shall be included in the official programme. In staged matches the names of the umpires for each match shall be announced.	
Changing and Storage area for Officials	The HOST shall provide a secure changing and storage area near the field of play for all match officials to maintain their personal belongings while on duty.	

To achieve ITTF objectives, special consideration should be given to the selection of women for the positions of referee and umpire at all world and Olympic events.
The URC may have the discretion to waive certain requirements for ITTF sanctioned junior events.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OPEN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1 FACILITIES

1.1 Hotels should be of at least 3-star standard and with easy access to the playing hall, which ideally should be within walking distance; there should be rooms for 1 or 2 persons, with bath or shower.

1.2 Where necessary, a frequent transport service should be provided between hotel and playing hall; its schedule should be flexible enough to cope with unplanned requirements, such as taking players back to the hotel after a late finish.

1.3 There should be a choice of meals, taking account of any special dietary requirements, and meal times should be flexible and co-ordinated with the times of playing sessions; refreshments, especially soft drinks, should be available in or near to the playing hall.

1.4 The playing hall should be large enough to accommodate at least 8 tables, in separate playing areas of at least 14m X 7m; there should be a practice hall, or a separate practice area in the main hall, with not fewer than half as many tables as in the main hall and with similar playing conditions.

1.5 Changing rooms should be of a good standard with enough showers and toilets for the numbers of players taking part, preferably with individual lockers for players' clothing; there should also be rest rooms for players and match officials.

1.6 The medical service in the playing hall should be capable of dealing with all likely minor illnesses and injuries and there should be provision for taking anyone needing more extensive treatment to a suitable medical centre or hospital.

2 EVENTS, DRAW AND SCHEDULE

2.1 The events should include men's singles, men's doubles, women's singles and women's doubles; any associated team events should be completed before individual events begin.

2.2 There should be a knock-out of not more than 64 places in singles and not more than 32 places in doubles, with 25% of the places for seeds, 25% for other direct entries, 25% for byes and 25% for qualifiers; singles qualifying competitions should be run on the basis of round-robin groups of at least 4 players.

2.3 Direct entry should be based on ranking except that, where necessary, the organising Association may allocate up to 2 wild card entries in each singles event and 1 in each doubles event to ensure that 2 of its players in singles, and 1 of its pairs in doubles, are given direct entry.

2.4 In the knockout stage, matches should not be scheduled to start before 10:00 h. or to end after 22:00 h. and no player should be required to play more than 4 matches in a day.

3 PRESENTATION

3.1 The playing hall should be kept tidy and only necessary players and officials allowed in the playing area; around the playing area there should be no refreshment bars or vendors' stands, nor any obtrusive advertisements or bright lights which might disturb players.

3.2 Interesting matches should be scheduled at times and on tables that are convenient for spectators and the media; finals and semi-finals should be properly staged, on not more than 2 tables at once.

3.3 Media personnel should be provided with all necessary services, including access to telephone and fax facilities, and should be supplied promptly with all results and news items; there should be public displays of results, regularly updated.

3.4 Press photographers and TV camera operators should have good access to the playing area, taking account of the interests of spectators and players; there should be one or more rooms in which players can be interviewed by press and TV reporters.