



DRAFT

MINUTES of the

ITF LIMITED

(trading as the International Tennis Federation)

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE & GENERAL MEETING
2016**

Held at the

**Sheraton Zagreb,
Croatia**

23 June 2016

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NOTE:

Where CAPITALS and ~~strike through~~ are used in the text of an Article, Bye-law, Rule or Regulation, the motion is to ADD the words in CAPITAL LETTERS and ~~delete~~ the words struck through. Where wording is underlined these are pre existing words moved within the frame of the Article, Bye-law, Rule or Regulation.

**ITF AGM
23 June 2016**

Attendance List

President	Mr David Haggerty
Vice Presidents	Ms Katrina Adams Mr Anil Khanna Mr René Stammbach
Board of Directors	Mr Martin Corrie Mr Sergio Elias Mr Ismail El Shafei Mr Bernard Giudicelli Mr Jack Graham Mr Thomas Koenigsfeldt Ms Celia Patrick Ms Mary Pierce Mr Aleksei Selivanenko Mr Stefan Tzvetkov Mr Bulat Utemuratov Mr Mark Woodforde
Honorary Life Vice-President	Dr Heinz Grimm Mr Geoff Pollard
Honorary Life Counsellors	Mrs Lucy Garvin Mr Franklin Johnson Mr Alvaro Pena Mr Stuart Smith Dr Georg von Waldenfels

Class B Member National Associations (with voting rights) were represented by:

ALG - Fédération Algérienne de Tennis

Mrs Mohamed Bouabdallah

ANG – Federação Angolana de Tenis

Mr Matias Da Silva

Mr Gonçalves Moco

ARG - Asociación Argentina de Tenis

Mr Armando Cervone

ARM - Armenian Tennis Federation

Mr Vahe Avetisyan

Mr Gevork Karamanukian

AUS - Tennis Australia

Mr Steve Healy

AUT - Österreichischer Tennisverband

Mr Thomas Hammerl

AZE - Azerbaijan Tennis Federation

Mr Ilham Guliyev

Mr Orkhan Mammadov

BAN - Bangladesh Tennis Federation

Mr Mohammad Mahmud Alam

Mr Golam Morshed

BAR - Barbados Tennis Association Inc.

Dr Raymond Forde

BEL - Fédération Royale Belge de Tennis

Mr Gijs Kooken

Mr Luc Vandaele

BLR - Belarus Tennis Association

Mr Igor Subbotin

Mr Anton Yuspa

BOL - Federación Boliviana De Tennis

Mr Ricardo Alvaro Guzman Bowles

BOT - Botswana Tennis Association

Mr Nelson Amanze

BRA - Confederação Brasileira de Tennis

Mr Rafael Westrupp

BUL - Bulgarian Tennis Federation

Miss Katerina Guenova

Mr Georgi Krumov

CAN – Tennis Canada

Mrs Kelly Murumets

Mr Derrick Rowe

CHI - Federación de Tenis de Chile

Mr Ulises Cerda

Mr Esteban Elias

CHN - Chinese Tennis Association

Mr Mingxin Liu

**COD - Fédération Congolaise Démocratique
de Lawn Tennis**

Mr Ngoy Kasongo Emile

COL - Federación Colombiana de Tennis

Mr Gabriel Sanchez

CRC - Federación Costarricense de Tenis

Mr Carlos Bravo

CRO - Croatian Tennis Association

Mr Franjo Lukovic

Mr Predrag "Pegi" Stojcevic

CYP - Cyprus Tennis Federation

Mr Philios Christodoulou

Mr Stavros Ioannou

CZE - Czech Tennisova Asociace

Ms Pavla Kordova

DEN - Dansk Tennis Forbund

Mr Henrik Pedersen

DOM - Federación Dominicana de Tenis

Mr Persio Maldonado

ECU - Federación Ecuatoriana de Tenis

Mr Danilo Carrera Drouet

EGY - Egyptian Tennis Federation

Mr Ayman Azmi

Mrs Israa Elsannhoury

ESA - Federación Salvadoreña de Tenis

Mr Rafael Arévalo

ESP - Real Federación Española de Tenis

Mr Marcos Romagosa Josa

EST - Estonian Tennis Association

Mr Allar Hint

FIN - Suomen Tennisliitto

Mr Matti Virtanen

FRA - Fédération Française de Tennis

Mr Jean-Pierre Dartevelle

Mr Jean Gachassin

Mr Dominique Malcotti

GBR - The Lawn Tennis Association

Mr David Rawlinson

Mrs Cathie Sabin

GEO - Georgian Tennis Federation

Mr Levan Razmadze

GER - Deutscher Tennis Bund EV

Mr Ulrich Klaus

GRE - Hellenic Tennis Federation

Mr Spyros Zannias

GUA - Fed. Nacional de Tenis de Guatemala

Mr Jorge Fernando De La Vega Izeppi

HKG - Hong Kong Tennis Association Ltd

Mr Christopher Lai

Mr Kwan Yat Philip Mok

HUN - Magyar Tenisz Szovetseg

Mr Tamas Hamori

Mr Attila Richter

INA - Indonesian Tennis Association

Mr Goenawan Tedjo

Mr Revel Yehezkia

IND - All India Tennis Association

Mr Aditya Khanna

Mr Ashish Khanna

IRI - Tennis Fed. of Islamic Republic of Iran

Mrs Homeira Asadi

Mrs Majid Shayesteh

IRL - Tennis Ireland

Mr Des Allen

ISR - Israel Tennis Association

Mr Shmuel Herzig

ISV - Virgin Islands Tennis Association

Mr William McComb

ITA - Federazione Italiana Tennis

Mr Giovanni Ocleppo

JPN - Japan Tennis Association

Mr Naohiro Kawatei

Mr Masaru Uchiyama

KAZ - Kazakhstan Tennis Federation

Mr Adil Burlibayev

KOR - Korea Tennis Association

Mr Hoyoun Chung

Mr Ji-Shick Kim

KOS - Kosovo Tennis Federation

Mr Shkelzen Domi

Mr Mejdi Rexhepi

KSA - Saudi Arabian Tennis Federation

Mr Hamad Albargan

Mr Saeed Alshahrani

KUW - Kuwait Tennis Federation

Mr Abdul Redha Al Ghareeb

Mr Faleh Al Otaibi

LAT - Latvian Tennis Union

Mr Karlis Lejnieks

Mr Juris Savickis

LIB - Fédération Libanaise de Tennis

Mr Samir Saliba

LTU - Lithuanian Tennis Association

Mr Ramunas Grusas

MAR - Fédération Royale Marocaine de Tennis

Mr Abdelaziz Laarraf

MDA - Moldova Republic Tennis Federation

Ms Mariana Erhan

Ms Marina Tauber

MEX - Federación Mexicana de Tenis

Mr Jorge Velazquez Valassi

MLT - Malta Tennis Federation

Mr Mark Camilleri

Dr David Farrugia Sacco

MNE - Montenegrin Tennis Association

Mrs Milica Popovic

Mr Dimitrija Rasovic

MOZ - Confederação Mocambicana de Tenis

Mr Valige Tauabo

Mr Virgilio Tivane

NED - Koninklijke Nederlandse

Mr Erik Poel

Mr Rolf Thung

NOR - Norges Tennisforbund

Mr Gisle Jentoft

Mr Alexander Kjær

NZL - Tennis New Zealand

Mr Steve Johns

PAK - Pakistan Tennis Federation

Mr Salim Saifullah Khan

Mr Abbas Syed Dilawar

PAN - Federación Panameña de Tenis

Mr Jorge Arrue

PAR - Asociación Paraguaya de Tenis

Mr Julio Ferrari

PHI - Philippine Tennis Association

Mr Fernando "Randy" Villanueva

POL - Polski Związek Tenisowy

Mr Wojciech Batorski

Mr Maciej Stanczuk

POR - Confederação Portuguesa de Tenis

Mr Vasco Costa

PUR - Asociación de Tenis de Puerto Rico

Mr Rubén Jordán

Mr Humberto Torres

QAT - Qatar Tennis Federation

Mr Yousif AlObaidli

Mr Tariq Zainal

ROU - Federatia Romana de Tennis

Mr George Cosac

Mr Razvan Itu

RSA - South African Tennis Association

Mr Gavin Crookes

Mr Riad Davids

RUS - Russian Tennis Federation

Mr Max Kozin

Mr Shamil Tarpishchev

SLO - Slovene Tennis Association

Mr Ziga Ham

Mr Gregor Krusic

SRB - Serbia Tennis Federation

Mr Dusan Orlandic

SRI - Sri Lanka Tennis Association

Mr Iqbal Bin Issack

Mr Surendran Subramaniam

SUI - Swiss Tennis

Mrs Ruth Brigitta Wipfli Steinegger

SVK - Slovak Tennis Association

Mr Lubomir Palenik

SWE - The Swedish Tennis Association

Mr Thomas Wallén

THA - Lawn Tennis Association of Thailand

Mr. Kitsombat Euammongkol

TPE - Chinese Taipei Tennis Association

Miss Ching Hsin Kuo

TRI - TennisTT

Mr Jermille Danclar

TUN - Fédération Tunisienne de Tennis

Mrs Mouelhi Guizani Salma

TUR - Türkiye Tenis Federasyonu

Mr Cengiz Durmus

Mrs Ayda Uluc

UAE - United Arab Emirates Tennis Association

Mr Naser Al Marzooqi

UKR - Ukrainian Tennis Federation

Mr Sergiy Lagur

Mr Evgeniy Zukin

USA - United States Tennis Association

Mr Andy Andrews

Mr Patrick Galbraith

UZB - Uzbekistan Tennis Federation

Mr Mukhtardjon Rakhimov

Mr Igor Shepelev

VIE - Vietnam Tennis Federation

Mr Longy Hoang

Mr Ky

YEM - Yemen Tennis Federation

Mr Mohamed Alsurmi

Class C Member National Associations (without voting rights) were represented by:**ANT - Antigua & Barbuda Tennis Association**

Mr Peter Quinn

BDI - Fédération de Tennis du Burundi

Mr Libérat Hicintuka

CAY - Tennis Fed. of the Cayman Islands

Mr Simon Gunn

DMA - Dominica Lawn Tennis Association

Mr Richard Edghill

FIJ - Fiji Tennis Association

Mr Richard Breen

GUM - Guam National Tennis Federation

Mrs Mae Hsieh

Mr Torgun Smith

IVB - British Virgin Islands LTA

Mrs Carol Matthew Mitchell

MLI - Fédération Malienne de Tennis

Mr Traore Mohamed Oumar

SEN - Fédération Senegalaise de Tennis

Mr Momar Martin Ndiaye

VAN - Fédération de Tennis de Vanuatu

Mr Cyrille Mainguy

Regional Associations**CAT - Confederation of African Tennis**

Mr Tarak Cherif

Mr Hichem Riani

COSAT - Confederacion Sudamericana de Tenis

Mr Camilo Pérez López Moreira

COTECC - Confederacion de Tenis de Centroamerica y El Caribe

Mr Miguel Irigoyen

OTF - Oceania Tennis Federation

Mr David Smith

TE - Tennis Europe

Mr Jacques Dupré

Observers

AUT - Osterreichischer Tennisverband

Mr Peter Nader

CAN – Tennis Canada

Mrs Janet Petras

COSAT - Confederacion Sudamericana de Tenis

Miss Leticia Pérez Miranda

CRO - Croatian Tennis Association

Mr Miroslav Zecic

DJI - Fédération Djiboutienne de Tennis

Mr Mohamed Houmed Houssein

KAZ - Kazakhstan Tennis Federation

Mr Oral Abubakir

Mr Yuriy Polskiy

LES - Lesotho Lawn Tennis Association

Mr Kamohelo Hlomisi

U.S. Olympic Committee

Mr Dragomir Cioroslan

USA - United States Tennis Association

Ms Nellie Nevarez

UZB - Uzbekistan Tennis Federation

Mr Andrey Kornilov

Recognised Organisations

Centenary Tennis Clubs

Mr Juan Maria Tintore

Ms Berta Tintore

International Council of ICs

Mr Julian Tatum

International Tennis Hall of Fame

Mr Todd Martin

Foundation Members

GreenSet Worldwide, SL

Ms Beatriz Villares

PTR

Mr Dan Santorum

ITF Staff

Miss Justine Albert

Exec. Director - Pro Tennis Events

Mr Dominic Anghileri

Exec. Director – Finance & Administration

Mrs Caroline Blincoe

Head of ITF Circuits

Mrs Fiona Conroy

Manager, Television

Mr Frank Couraud

Manager, Training Centres & Events, Development

Mr Kris Dent

Senior Exec. Director - Pro Tennis

Miss Vicki Fecci

AGM Organiser

Ms Jane Fraser

EA to the President

Mr Juan Margets

Chief Operating Officer

Mr James McGurran

AGM Assistant

Dr Stuart Miller

Senior Exec. Director - Development & Integrity

Miss Jackie Nesbitt

Exec. Director - ITF Circuits

Mr Ed Pearson

Digital Services

Mr Luca Santilli

Exec. Director - Development

Ms Barbara Travers

Head of Communications

Mr Andrew Walker

Exec. Director - Commercial

Mr Max Woodward

AGM Assistant

Mr Hrvoje Zmajic

Development Officer - Europe

ANNUAL CONFERENCE - 21 JUNE 2016

The Conference was opened at 09:07 by The President, David Haggerty.

He began by welcoming the delegates on behalf of both the ITF and the Croatian Tennis Association with thanks to their President, Franjo Lukovic and Vice President Predrag Stojcevic for their hospitality and hosting of the event.

The President reiterated the 5 promises he had made when elected in 2015:

- Every nation would have a voice
- No nation would lose money participating in Davis Cup and Fed Cup
- Development investment would be increased
- Collaboration with partners would be improved
- Growth would result from new initiatives and partnerships

“Working for Nations” was the theme of this year’s Annual Conference and AGM and the structure of the event was being expanded and changed to allow interactive sessions, open committee meetings, question and answer sessions and more opportunities for socialising and networking among delegates.

The introduction of one free hotel room per nation had a positive impact and the President welcomed 105 nations, 20 more than in previous non-election years, including 9 nations who were attending for the first time. He mentioned over 60 nations were now represented on ITF Committees and Commissions (an increase of over 50%) and the creation of 4 new Taskforces to give a stronger voice to nations and regions.

The President then introduced the ITFs long-term plan, ITF2024, which contained eight priorities under three headings:

Leadership: Integrity; Investment; Development

Management: Davis Cup and Fed Cup improvements; Elevating Tennis within the Olympics; Opportunity

Collaboration: Partnership; Communication

The focus during this conference was on Integrity, reform of Davis Cup and Fed Cup and Investment in Development and Partnerships. For example, there was the prospect of a \$10m increase in revenue from a different approach to the staging of the Davis Cup and Fed Cup Finals – revenue which would be used to ensure that no nation hosting a tie would end up losing money. A revised approach on Development would provide an extra \$2m in 2017 and a further \$2m in 2018, bringing spending up to \$9.8m. Meanwhile, strong support of the work of the National Associations and improved collaboration with the ATP, WTA, and other partners was already happening, including a new development fund with the ITHF that would be launched in 2017. Partnerships with the IOC and IPC were strong, and between 2016 and 2020 income from the Olympics would be \$25m, for reinvestment into tennis. With regard to Integrity the President welcomed the forthcoming Independent Review into tennis, chaired by Q.C. Adam Lewis.

Development Strategy Update

The President introduced Anil Khanna (Board Member and Chair of the Development Advisors Group) Stuart Miller (Senior Executive Director, Development and Integrity) and Luca Santilli (Executive Director, Tennis Development). Stuart Miller announced the formation of a new Development and Integrity department in January 2016 and Anil Khanna introduced the members of the Development Advisors Group. A presentation by Luca Santilli mentioned recent contact with all the Presidents of Regional Associations and with a number of Presidents of National Associations from all continents. He went on to summarise the objectives of the Development department, those being to increase the number and standard of players worldwide and to develop talented players – especially those from under-resourced and under-represented nations. A key element in this would be to monitor the progress of talented individuals and to encourage their commitment to repay the investment in them by becoming ambassadors for the game in their country and playing in Davis Cup and Fed Cup and other team competitions. Member nations would be assisted in talent-spotting children at an early age and continuously monitoring their development, with the best being actively helped to make the transition to professional tennis. To be successful, the two core objectives would require an overhaul

and expansion of four main areas: events; facilities; coaching and programmes. He completed his presentation by detailing plans for each of these four areas.

Answers were given to a variety of wide-ranging questions including finding a robust measurement of participation in tennis; how talented players outside the top 100 could make money from the game; developing a universal ranking system for the ITF and nations for professional and club level and the fight against anti-corruption and anti-doping.

The session concluded with a presentation from Adam Lewis (Chair of the Independent Review Panel (IRP) about integrity. The review had been commissioned by the ATP, WTA, ITF and Grand Slam Board – which had also been the founders in 2008 of the Tennis Integrity Unit – arising from perceptions that evidence of integrity breaches had not been acted upon. The IRP's terms of reference covered: rules; mechanisms for enforcement; adequacy of enforcement; relationships; resources; transparency and education. The IRP had already interviewed various people across sport, and the evidence and testimony would be used to produce an interim report for consultation before a final report was produced. Three areas particularly relevant to National Associations are: the education of players at an early stage in their careers, creating a secure environment at events, and liaising with the TIU and local agencies.

Junior and Circuit Committees

The President introduced Ismail El Shafei (Board Member and Chairman of Junior Committee), Stefan Tzvetkov (Board Member and Chairman of Men's Committee) and Thomas Konigsfeldt (Board Member and Chairman of Women's Committee) for the next session on Juniors and Circuits.

Ismail El Shafei outlined the strategic aims before handing over to Kris Dent (Senior Executive Director, Professional Tennis), who stated that all Circuits were now administered by a single ITF department, ensuring consistency with regards to the professional pathway and the various stages of the professional game. Pro Circuits had been comprehensively reviewed in 2014 and this had paved the way for the current Junior review.

The Pro Circuits review had established that professional player numbers had risen considerably in recent years with almost 50% of all players being unable to win a single ranking point. The review also demonstrated the inefficient distribution of total prize money in professional tennis with 50% of all money going to the top 1% of players. The study also showed that the average cost of playing professional tennis, before coaching, was approximately \$40,000 for both men and women.

As part of the review recommendations, the amount of prize money, which had long remained unchanged, had recently increased. The additional burden of these costs in future years had been covered by ITF grants in 2016 and 2017, thanks to the renegotiated Data Rights Agreement.

Other recommendations included reviewing draw sizes, play up and down rules, limiting the duration of events, changes to officiating costs and the introduction of interim events or tours between Juniors and Futures.

A similar review of the Junior professional pathway was being undertaken by the new Junior Committee with the aim of presenting the recommendations to the Board in November.

Multiple questions from the floor were answered by Kris Dent and Jackie Nesbitt (Executive Director, ITF Circuits). The President mentioned the continuing importance of closer and deeper relations with the ATP and WTA.

Suggestions for improving the pathways were welcomed by National Associations.

The session concluded with a presentation by Jackie Nesbitt on the Junior Masters Tournament, which had been introduced in 2015 very successfully and held again in 2016 in Chengdu, China.

ITF Finance Review and Discussion

Rene Stammbach (Board Member, Chairman – Finance Committee) began with an overview of the 2015 results. The 2015 Budget had been forecast to break even, with an operating deficit of \$1.4m and taxation charges of \$0.3m balanced by an investment surplus of \$1.7m. The outturn however, was less favourable: although the operating result was delivered as forecast, at \$1.4m and taxation

charges were actually less at \$0.2m, the non-operating result showed a book loss on investments of \$1.0m and foreign exchange losses of \$0.3m, leading to an overall deficit for the year of \$2.9m.

Dominic Anghileri (Executive Director – Finance & Administration) provided more detail for the 2015 outturn. While the operating deficit was as forecast there were – as always – internal variances. The outturn of the Davis Cup had shown a net increase of \$0.5m; sponsorship income was \$0.9m lower than budget, partially offset by improved data sales and departmental cost savings.

In the non-operating result a fall of 1.5% in the value of the ITF's investments reflected a fall in the global benchmark but was worsened by a poor performance by our Fund Managers.

Overall, the ITF's net balance sheet assets fell from \$52.6m at the start of 2015 to \$49.2m at the end of the year.

Dominic Anghileri continued by reviewing the 2016 Budget and Forecast detailing the variations in forecast and expenditure experienced, or anticipated, for the year. In summary, the forecast operating result remained broadly in line with the budget but downgraded expectations of investment returns means the ITF's overall result for 2016 would be a deficit of \$100,000.

For 2017 and beyond, we are directed by the Board to budget for a surplus at the operating level. For 2017 this is budgeted to be a surplus of \$2m in light of new contracts signed for TV and Data Rights. Two estimates were presented for 2018, one showing a surplus of \$1.1m based on the existing model and the other showing a surplus of \$3.1m based on the concept of the Neutral Final being introduced.

Rene Stammbach summarised the position with the ITF's investments. These had fallen in value from \$40.8m to \$39.8m between 31 December 2014 and 31 December 2015, mainly due to a poor performance by one of the two investment managers in particular. However since then they had recovered somewhat to \$40.1m at the end of April 2016,

Different arrangements for investment management were currently under consideration.

Dominic Anghileri summarised the ITF's Reserves position. Overall, taking into account amounts set aside to meet specific contingencies, reserves at the end of 2015 stood at \$49.2m against \$48.0m at the start of 2013, illustrating that no drawdown or deficit funding had been required since the Board was asked to approve drawdowns of \$6m to cover anticipated operating losses.

The session ended at 13:15.

Wheelchair Tennis Committee

Martin Corrie (Board Member and Chairman - Wheelchair Tennis Committee) opened the session and introduced Ellen de Lange (Wheelchair Tennis Officer) who observed that this year was the 40th anniversary of Wheelchair Tennis. She outlined there were two current challenging issues in the calendar, structure and flow of events. In other areas, improvements could be made to the ranking point system and prize money distribution needed to be reviewed. With regards to classification currently there were only two classes, open and quad, but both needed to be reviewed to comply with the IPC classification codes. With regards to development of the sport, she stated that a key priority was to encourage nations to embrace wheelchair tennis and actively encourage participation at club level. Ellen de Lange then answered some questions from the floor in regards to coaching.

Geoff Newton (Tennis Foundation) then presented on the NEC Wheelchair Singles Tennis Masters, an event which is the climax of the season for wheelchair players. He explained it was a great showcase event for the sport and provided good opportunities to grow participation and raise the profile of wheelchair tennis. The event had been available on the BBC in the UK and had played its part in encouraging Wimbledon to introduce wheelchair singles for the first time in 2016. The Tennis Foundation had also used the hosting opportunity to run a development programme alongside and hoped to build on this in future years.

Martin Corrie then introduced Jurgen Padberg (Manager, International Paralympic Committee) who informed the delegates that the IOC and IPC had just signed a long term agreement binding the host cities of Olympic Games to also host the Paralympic Games until 2032, a very positive move forward. He then gave some background on the role of the IPC and Paralympic sports programme which

currently consisted of 22 sports. He went on to say Wheelchair Tennis was a model sport in the disability sports world.

Following several questions from the floor Martin Corrie closed the session at 3.50pm.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE - 22 JUNE 2016

The conference reconvened at 08.50am.

Olympics

The President introduced Juan Margets (Chief Operating Officer and General Secretary, Olympics) to give an update on Rio 2016.

Juan Margets said that, while the Olympic tennis facilities were more advanced than those for other sports, a lot remained to be done. Resurfacing of half the courts had been completed, and the other half would be ready in time. Lighting on the outside courts was complete and satisfactory but lighting on the centre court had been subject to technical delays but should be finished by the time of the next ITF site visit in early July. One positive is that the tennis facility was within the Barra Olympic Park which was the main hub of the Olympics.

It had been mutually agreed with both Tours that there would be no ranking points for the 2016 event but this had not impacted player participation so far. At least 52 nations would be represented which was the highest in memory. The qualification system was complicated, but there was still time for appeals in the case of male players involved in Davis Cup in July.

Juan Margets mentioned that concerns about the Zika virus had been allayed by the World Health Organisation and that there was no reason to postpone, let alone cancel, The Games.

With regards to the Paralympics, the same facilities would be used on a scaled down version and 29 nations would be represented.

He concluded by outlining the arrangements for the 2020 Olympic Tennis Event in Tokyo and said that the location of the 2024 Games would be decided by the IOC in September 2017, the contending cities were Budapest, Paris, Los Angeles and Rome.

Questions were answered regarding the political financial and health situation in Brazil generally and Rio in particular and there was further discussion on the decision not to award ranking points.

The Constitution

Jack Graham (Board Member and Chairman, Constitutional Committee) outlined the background to the proposed reform of the procedures for dealing with adjudicating disputes involving ITF event regulations. The aim was to remove the adjudicative functions from the committees and Board and replace them with an internal adjudicative panel appointed by the Board and an external independent panel. The internal panel would make initial decisions on minor breaches of the rules, for which the external panel would act as an appeal body. For major offences, the external panel would make the initial decision, with the right of appeal being to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

This new process would not only free the ITF Board from time spent on adjudicating appeals, which could instead be spent overseeing the strategy and operation of the ITF, but also protect the ITF from allegations of undue political interference in matters of integrity.

The proposed amendments, which had been unanimously supported by all relevant committees, including those for the Davis Cup, Fed Cup, Rules of Tennis and Constitutional, would be presented as a single package to vote on at the AGM the following day.

In the questions and answers session that followed delegates were overwhelmingly supportive of the proposal and welcomed the separation of the regulatory and dispute resolution processes.

In response to a question from Franklin Johnson (Honorary Life Counsellor), Jack Graham said that there should be no loss of professional expertise under the new system.

Davis Cup & Fed Cup

Bernard Giudicelli (Board Member and Chairman, Davis Cup Committee) introduced Justine Albert (Executive Director – Professional Tennis Events) and asked her to go through the rules changes being proposed for 2017. The main areas where amendments were being proposed were:

- Choice of Ground: provision for moving or postponing a tie in the event of war or terrorism after a location has been fixed for Davis Cup and Fed Cup.
- Security: making security measures more robust by clarifying the separate responsibilities of the ITF and National Associations for Davis Cup and Fed Cup.
- Eligibility: a clarification of the one-nation rule for Davis Cup and Fed Cup.
- Preparation of temporary courts: recommending the construction of clay courts to start a minimum of 4 days before the first day of practice and a clarification that the match court must also be ready on the first day of practice for Davis Cup and Fed Cup.
- Punctuality: to bring the rule into line with the ATP and Grand Slams for Davis Cup and Fed Cup.
- Ticketing: increasing the ITF's entitlement to purchase tickets at the Davis Cup Final from 10% to 15%
- Amenities for Fans: making WiFi mandatory for public areas at the Davis Cup Final and Fed Cup Final.

The President asked Kris Dent (Senior Executive Director – Professional Tennis) to go through the Davis Cup and Fed Cup format review.

Kris Dent began with a summary of the main events of 2015. Both flagship events had continued to grow, with 125 nations and over 1000 players taking part. Attendance had risen in the last couple of years by over 100,000 to almost 750,000, while website visits and social media activity had both shown significant increases. Player participation had risen to 81% and 90% in 2015 and was expected to be even higher in 2016.

To maintain this success, it was widely felt that some changes in format should be considered:

1. The Fed Cup World Group needed to become a 16-team event
2. A review of the competition formats was currently being undertaken by an outside consultancy. 20 variations had been analysed and one major emerging recommendation is that both Davis Cup Final and Fed Cup Final be held in neutral venues, separately or together. The opportunity for increased revenue appeared to be considerable, particularly if finals were staged in Europe where 70% of the broadcast audience was located. The forecasts suggested that there could be a potential uplift of \$5.0m from ticketing and hospitality and a further \$5.0m from commercial income. Market testing of the concept of a neutral final would now be explored with potential partners. There would be full consultation with member nations and resulting recommendations would be put forward for approval at the AGM in 2017. As well as unlocking potential revenue a neutral final approach would provide the increased certainty demanded by organisers, commercial partners, television and fans.

Kris Dent went on to say the player consultation programme was ongoing and non-competitive weeks for both competitions had been secured until 2018. Discussion on ranking points would also begin again in 2017.

Questions and comments were responded to by the President, Bernard Giudicelli and Kris Dent.

A short supporting summary of the potential changes in format was made by Katrina Adams (Board Member and Chairman, Fed Cup Committee). A suggestion from Luc Vandaele (President, BEL) to reduce the Davis Cup sets from 5 to 3 would be considered as part of the format review.

The Session finished at 10.50am and was followed by Open Committee Meetings.

ITF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 23 JUNE 2016

The President, David Haggerty, opened the Meeting by welcoming the delegates and introducing Franjo Lukovic (President, Croatia Tennis Association) with thanks for their hospitality in Zagreb. Mr Lukovic extended his association's welcome to the delegates.

The PRESIDENT informed the Meeting that 107 out of 211 Member Nations were represented at the AGM by 198 delegates. Two of these nations were in subscription arrears (Djibouti and Lesotho) and were therefore attending as Observers.

The computerised voting system was tested and the quorum established. 399 out of a total of 461 shares were registered to vote.

Apologies for absence had been received from the following Associations:

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| - Anguilla | - Malaysia |
| - Bahrain | - Mauritius |
| - Burundi | - Solomon Islands |
| - Cuba | - Turkmenistan |
| - Luxembourg | - Turks & Caicos Islands |

Apologies for absence had also been received from Francesco Ricci Bitti and Brian Tobin (Honorary Life Presidents), Jan Carlzon, David Jude, Ian King and Roman Murashkovsky (Honorary Life Counsellors).

The President acknowledged the presence of Honorary Life Vice Presidents Heinz Grimm and Geoff Pollard and Honorary Life Counsellors Ismail El Shafei, Lucy Garvin, Franklin Johnson, Alvaro Pena, Stuart Smith and Georg von Waldenfels.

The appointment of Stuart Smith as parliamentarian was agreed by the Meeting. David Rawlinson, Raymond Forde and Geoff Pollard were elected as scrutineers.

The Board's appointments of Mary Pierce and Mark Woodforde as Athlete Representatives was confirmed by the Meeting.

The Minutes of the 2015 AGM were approved.

The Meeting stood in silent tribute to honour the members of the tennis family who had passed away during the previous year:

Review of the Year

The President began by thanking the nations for their support in his first 9 months of Presidency and paying tribute to his predecessor, Francesco Ricci Bitti, for his achievements over 16 years, particularly in bringing about an enhanced standing for tennis in the Olympic movement.

2015 had seen outstanding sell-out finals for both the Fed Cup and Davis Cup. At the Final of the Davis Cup in Ghent BNP Paribas had signed a 5-year renewal for both competitions as well as Junior Davis Cup and Fed Cup, the Wheelchair World Team Cup and ITF Worldwide Coaches Conference. Sponsorship renewals had also been announced with Rolex, Adecco and Uniqlo. Additionally a seven-year agreement had been signed with beIN Sports as a media rights partner, a new sponsorship agreement with Betway and a significantly increased data rights renewal with SportRadar. Together these would result in an income increase for 2017 of \$10m.

The year to date had seen important structural reforms within the ITF: 1) the creation of the Integrity and Development Department to oversee all rules, governance and compliance areas as well as the key priority – Development and 2) the expansion of the Pro Tennis Department's responsibilities to cover all ITF Circuits.

These changes happened to coincide with an outbreak of allegations of match-fixing and corruption in tennis. These allegations had actually improved cooperation between the various governing bodies, who came together as a unit for the good of the game.

Greater collaboration between the National Associations and the ITF, of which this restyled Conference and AGM was part, was a key element of ITF2024, the ITFs strategic plan for the future.

Other key elements of ITF2024 included improving the ITF flagship competitions, Davis Cup and Fed Cup to ensure they remained relevant in the 21st century, increasing development spending from \$5.6m in 2016 to \$9m in 2018 and a determination to enhance even further the status of tennis within the Olympic Movement. In relation to improving collaboration, the President announced a new partnership with the International Tennis Hall of Fame (ITHF) who will contribute to the ITF Development Fund and present an annual award at the ITF Conference and AGM. He introduced the ITHF's CEO, Todd Martin, who briefly addressed the Meeting.

The President then paid tribute to the achievements of Juan Margets (Chief Operating Officer), who would leave the ITF at the end of the year after 18 years loyal service as Executive Vice President, Board Member and Chair of the Davis Cup, Men's Circuit and Wheelchair Tennis Committees. Juan Margets received a standing ovation from the Meeting.

The President concluded his review with a summary of the main responsibilities of the ITF's Departments and Committees and an overview of their primary current activities.

Finance & Administration

Rene Stambach (Vice President) formally presented the 2015 Annual Report and Accounts to the Meeting. These had already been circulated with the Agenda and discussed in the previous day's Finance Review. The year had ended with an overall deficit of \$2.9m, comprising an operating deficit of \$1.4m (sanctioned in advance by the Board), a \$1.0m drop in the valuation of the investment portfolios, foreign exchange losses of \$0.3m and tax charges of \$0.2m. Net assets at the end of the year were \$49.2m.

The Meeting agreed the Annual Report and Accounts with a show of hands.

Process for Dispute Resolution under ITF Rules and Regulations

The President introduced Jack Graham (Board Member, Chairman – Constitutional Committee) who presented proposals to change the process for dispute resolution under ITF Rules and Regulations. He outlined that for reasons of good governance it was prudent to remove committees and the Board of Directors from the adjudicative process, and that in their place a panel of experts would be appointed by the Board to deal with these matters. This would provide a robust, centralised and transparent process and free the Board to concentrate on strategic matters.

All amendments to the Constitution, Articles 22, 33 and Byelaws 7, 8 and Appendix E and Davis Cup Regulations 7, 11, 13-17 and 35 and relevant Appendices as well as the corresponding Fed Cup Regulations were approved as set out in the Agenda, without amendment.

The amendment to Article 28 of the Constitution, Rules of Tennis, was withdrawn.

Constitution

Jack Graham further presented the proposals to amend Byelaw 3.2 and Articles IV, 2, 4, 5, 8, 17, 20, 25 and 31(b) of the Constitution. All amendments were approved as set out in the Agenda, without amendment.

The proposed amendment to Article 23 was not voted on and proposed amendments to Articles 28 and 31(c) were withdrawn.

The President thanked Jack Graham and notified the Meeting that the Resolutions proposed by the All India Tennis Association (AITA) and Asian Tennis Federation (ATF) had also been withdrawn.

Membership

Changes take effect from 1 January 2017.

Antigua & Barbuda Tennis Association's application for Class B Membership was approved by the Meeting.

Guam National Tennis Federation's application for Class B Membership was approved by the Meeting.

Hong Kong Tennis Association's application for an increase from one (1) to three (3) Class B Shares was approved by the Meeting.

Kazakhstan Tennis Federation's application for an increase in shares was withdrawn.

Ukraine Tennis Federation's application for an increase from one (1) to three (3) Class B Shares was approved by the Meeting.

Haiti Tennis Federation's late application for a transfer from Class B to Class C membership was voted on to be heard and then approved by the Meeting.

The following nations were suspended from membership after failure to pay their annual subscriptions for two consecutive years:

- Brunei Darussalam
- Rwanda
- American Samoa
- Guinea Bissau

It was announced that, in accordance with the OECD International Index of Inflation which showed a 12-month increase of 0.6%, subscriptions for 2017 would be increased to the following amounts:

Class B & C Members: \$ 759 per nation plus

Class B Members: \$ 4,525 per share

Rules & Regulations

The President asked Justine Albert (Executive Director, Pro Tennis Events), to introduce amendments to the Davis Cup and Fed Cup Regulations.

All Davis Cup Regulation amendments were approved as set out in the 2016 AGM Agenda, without amendment.

All Fed Cup Regulation amendments were approved as set out in the 2016 AGM Agenda, without amendment.

Nomination of Honorary Life Vice President

The nomination of Juan Margets (ESP) as Honorary Life Vice President was approved by the Meeting. Juan Margets offered his thanks to the Meeting and was warmly applauded.

Awards for Services to the Game

The President introduced the following nominations for awards from National Associations:

Des Allen (IRE)
Sofia Arvidsson (SWE)
German Benjaminov (UKR)
Alan Schwartz (USA)
David Smith (NZL)
Hiroshi Suzuki (JPN)
Torben Ulrich (DEN)
Luc Vandaele (BEL)

Also included was the Coaches Commission nomination for Judy Murray (GBR).

The Meeting approved the awards by show of hands.

The President then presented the awards to those recipients who were present, David Smith, Luc Vandaele and Des Allen and all said a few words of thanks.

Appointment of Auditors

KMPG LLP were appointed as Auditors for the ITF from 23 June 2016 up to and including the final day of the 2017 Annual General Meeting.

Annual General Meeting 2017

The President announced that the next AGM would be hosted by the Vietnam Tennis Federation (VTF) and would take place in Ho Chi Minh City from 1-4 August 2017. The formal invitation to Vietnam was issued by Mr Ky, VTF Vice President, and Longy Hoang, VTF Commercial Director.

The President announced that the following nations had expressed an interest in hosting a future AGM: Belarus, Dominican Republic, Hungary, Moldova and USA.

Any Other Business

In response to a question from William McComb (ISV) and an earlier observation from Torgun Smith (GUM), The President replied that the Board would continue to actively look into voting rights and subscription rates for Members.

The President thanked the Board of Directors, Regional Presidents, Committee Chairs and Committee members for their engagement and contribution to the Conference and AGM. He also thanked the ITF Executive and AGM staff for their work.

The Meeting concluded at 12:05.