



OCEANIA TENNIS FEDERATION

Minutes of the 13th General Meeting
Held at the Anchorage, Vuda Point, Lautoka, Fiji
13th April 2014

Attendance

Delegates:

Adsett	Neil	Tonga
Baldovini	Sebastien	New Caledonia
Benjamin	Joel	Solomon Islands
Breen	Richard	Fiji
Bryard	Francis	Vanuatu
Carruthers	Yvonne	Samoa
Duseigneur	Tai	American Samoa
George	Tom	Papua New Guinea (Observer)
Ielemia	Peleipu	Kiribati
Johns	Steve	New Zealand
Mainguy	Cyrille	Vanuatu
Molotii	Asita	Tuvalu
Molotii	Iakapo	Tuvalu
Osborne	Bruce	Australia
Reddy	Sachin	Fiji (Observer)
Sacault	Wilfred	Tahiti
Smith	Torgun	Guam (left meeting at 1:30pm)
Stubbings	Troy	Papua New Guinea

In Attendance

Healy	Steve	OTF President (left meeting at 11am)
Shannon	John	Joint EO, OTF
Smith	David	Joint EO, OTF
Wrighton	Darran	ITF DO, Pacific Oceania
O'Connell	Dan	OTF Secretary-General

Apologies

June Langton (Samoa); Gerard Winter (New Caledonia); Madeleine Sword (Cook Islands);

Welcome

Mr. Healy welcomed everyone and thanked all the attendees for what they do for tennis in their respective Nations across Pacific Oceania. He advised that due to a Tennis Australia Board meeting that he would need to leave the meeting at 11am. He said that the last year had been a huge learning curve for him and in particular understanding the distances and associated costs for players to participate in competitions.

He then announced that Tennis Australia would be providing a \$50,000 annual sponsorship through the Australian Open with an intended roughly 50/50 focus of this money on equipment provision and grants to Nations. The intent was to provide sustainable long term benefit for OTF Nations with B. Osborne to subsequently produce a document on the criteria for funding allocation. It was intended that Hot Shots should form part of the expenditure proposals to enable the participation base to be enhanced. He commented that B. Osborne and C. Tiley had been discussing initiatives on how to develop grass roots tennis in Pacific Oceania. It is intended that this sponsorship would take effect 1 July and that TA would work closely with D. Wrighton on this. Mr. Healy stressed that this would be an annual sponsorship and not a 1-off.

D. O'Connell advised that he would be representing FSM at this meeting and similarly that T. Smith would be representing Palau.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the General Meeting held in Melbourne on 16th January 2013 having previously been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed. *Moved S. Johns, seconded N. Adsett. Carried*

2. Executive Committee Report

2.1 President's Report

Mr Healy thanked J. Shannon and D. Smith for their work over the last 12 months and particularly thanked D. Smith for his work in getting the new website up and running and maintaining this. He also went on to thank D. Wrighton for what he has done over the last 6 months since his DO appointment and the level of professionalism he has brought to his role. He also thanked B. Osborne for his assistance in helping him to better understand the issues.

2.2 Annual Report

The Annual Report of the Federation's affairs was taken as read as circulated

3. Finances

3.1 Audited Financial Reports 2013

D. Smith presented the annual accounts and thanked B. McMillan for his work in the auditing of these accounts. D. Smith commented that the outstanding membership fees of both FSM and the Solomon Islands had been paid today at the AGM, those of Samoa the previous Friday and that the only membership fees currently outstanding for the 2013-14 years are those of Nauru.

3.2 Draft Budget 2013

Mr. Healy commented that this may be able to be amended following the just announced AO/TA sponsorship. Also that D. Wrighton had

identified some changes in the ITF/OTF 2014 project funding that he announced to the Executive board yesterday.

PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR ITF/OTF FUNDING 2014		
	Originally Proposed	Revised
OCJC	9,000	9,000
RTC Court Hire	6,000	9,000
New Caledonia ITF Tour	5,000	4,500
Elite Player Tour NZ	2,500	3,500
SPOJC ITF Grade 4	2,000	2,000
OTF Regional ITF Grade 5	2,000	2,000
Saipan ITF Grade 5	1,500	1,500
Guam ITF Grade 5	1,500	1,500
Davis Cup	9,000	0
RTC US Scholarship Support	3,500	0
Daneric Hazleman RTC Project	2,000	0
NMMI Scholarship Support	6,000	12,000
Pacific Coach Development	5,000	5,000
OTF Schools Tennis Fund	5,000	0
TOTAL	60,000	50,000

3.3 Membership Fees

Discussion then ensued on the OTF Membership Fee and *it was moved N. Adsett, seconded R. Breen* that the membership fees remain unchanged at \$200 paid bi-yearly (\$400). This was carried unanimously.

3.4 Auditor

The meeting asked D. Smith to write to B. McMillan both thanking him for his services over the last year and asking him to continue in this role as auditor for the ensuing year.

3.5 ONOC Funding letter

The meeting was advised that the funding from ONOC had been reduced from the previous \$60,000 to \$50,000. It was explained that the NOCs had reviewed their funding levels and that they were now allocating grants in 3 tiers of funding (\$50,000; \$30,000; \$15,000). The meeting was also advised that \$50,000 was the maximum funding that could be accessed and that to receive funding in future we would need to accurately comply with the NOCs new funding criteria and ensure that we fill out the funding criteria letter and submit this in a timely manner.

4. Constitution

Discussion then moved on to the various Notices of Motion on the agenda. D. O'Connell questioned the validity of the notices of motion from Tennis Australia and why these hadn't been written on a Tennis Australia official letterhead and under what authority Mr. Healy was

tabling these and where was the resolution from Tennis Australia to this effect which he wanted to see. Mr. Healy then explained that these Notices of motion had been received in a timely manner so should proceed and that these were a follow on from the minutes of the previous meeting where this had been discussed in detail. He advised that he would allow these motions to proceed and note D. O'Connell's objection.

Mr. Healy then read the minutes on page 13 of the meeting of the 17th August 2013 re the changing of the constitution. He went on to say that the minutes had been in circulation for a year without a query so why was there a query now. D. O'Connell said if it was the feeling of the meeting then change clause 9.9 of the constitution but that in the past there had been lots of mistakes.

T. Smith and C. Mainguy then commented that the Secretary-General role would still be in place until the next election. N. Adsett then commented that S. Healy doesn't need to specifically or generally show that he has the authority to propose these motions and that legally he has the authority to do so. He also explained that any changes to the constitution would take effect as from today. Given that comment the motion in 4.1 was amended to ensure that any such change would only be effective from the day before the 2015 AGM.

S. Johns then asked D. O'Connell why his concerns were not discussed in the Executive Meeting yesterday and he was disappointed to see them being raised now and that this was just grandstanding. Questions were then raised around the attendance of the Kiribati delegate at the meeting as all delegates had been required to complete a delegate nomination form and that this had not been done by Kiribati. N. Adsett then requested that the rules be relaxed and that the delegate be allowed to represent Kiribati.

Discussed then ensued on the 4.1 motion. D. O'Connell said he disagreed with the motion. S. Healy then asked D. O'Connell why he hadn't disagreed with this yesterday at the Executive Meeting. S. Johns spoke in favour of the motion and said he favoured a board of 8 with the 2 EOs reporting to the executive Board through the chair. C. Mainguy also spoke in favour of the motion and that there was more than general consensus on this from the Executive Board. Mr. Healy then read out clause 9.9 of the current constitution. S. Johns explained that on day 1 when the OTF was originally set up there were no EOs which is why the role of Secretary-General was instituted.

The following scrutineers, J. Shannon, D. Wrighton and D. Smith were then appointed to count the voting. A. Molotii then asked if the first motion could be explained to her so that she could make an informed decision. Mr Healy then explained that there was a need to modernize the constitution and that the role of the Secretary-General was established in the constitution long before executive officers were employed and the change was really reflecting the reality of what was happening day-to-day in the Executive.

1. The first notice of motion was then put to the meeting: *"That Clause 9.2 of the Constitution be amended by:*

- a. *Deleting the words "Up to two Secretaries General" and*
- b. *In the last line deleting the words "up to four members" and replacing it with "up to six committee members."*

D. O'Connell said that he had circulated the minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting to T. Stubbings. Mr Healy said that the minutes of the Executive Meeting should ideally be circulated to all Nations.

The voting was 8 in favour and 8 against. The motion failed as it failed to reach the 2/3rds threshold.

Discussion then moved to the 2nd notice of motion 4.2. D O'Connell opened the discussion by saying that he felt that Mr. Healy had a conflict of interest in that he was on both the OTF and ITF boards. Mr. Healy said that he represents and speaks on behalf of the OTF on whatever is relevant to the business of the OTF. He went on to say that it is not in the OTF's interest that everyone speaks on behalf of the OTF and that should they do this it is very important that they make it clear that it is their personal viewpoint.

C. Mainguy then said that the motion was important as Board members should be supporting the collective Board view and should be making it very clear when they are expressing their personal view rather than signing an email as an office bearer of the OTF executive. N. Adsett said that he supported the motion as from time to time the President will be involved in discussions with the ITF and that we needed to trust that the president will act on the OTF's behalf. Mr. Healy said he would take the OTF's position in anything related to the OTF despite any personal viewpoint.

The notice of motion 4.2 was then put to the meeting that

"that Clause 9.6 be amended by:

- c. *Including the wording "the right to speak and communicate on behalf of the Federation."*

This notice of motion was passed with there being 11 delegates in favour and 5 against.

It was then agreed that the 3rd motion 4.3 as below be withdrawn given that the first motion, 4.1, had failed to be passed

"That Clause 9.9 be deleted in its entirety"

Discussion then moved to the 4th notice of motion that clause 9.3 in the constitution is change to read *"that the board shall be elected at the General Meeting from a list of nominees nominated by the members to which such nominees belong. Nominations must be signed by the Secretary or president of the member and the nominee, and submitted in writing to the Executive Officer at least thirty (30) days before the General Meeting. The director positions shall include at least one person from each*

of Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia and one member from either Australia or New Zealand.”

D. O’ Connell spoke in favour of the motion and the rationale that this would free up 1 more spot to vote on and as a result only 4 people would get automatically on to the Board. C. Mainguy asked why FSM were not attending the AGM and that if they put forward a notice of motion then they should attend the AGM to speak to the motion. He said it was unethical that they didn’t come to the AGM and present and speak to the notice of motion. He said that currently there were 6 Island Nations represented on the Board plus 2 from Australia and New Zealand. R. Breen asked why Australia and New Zealand were coupled together. C. Mainguy then spoke against the motion on behalf of Vanuatu.

T. Smith said he felt it was extremely important having both Australia and New Zealand represented on the Board and that as island nations we should be putting pressure on all the committee who are acting for the Island Nations; that we should be demanding more from the committee rather than trying to push people off the committee; that the executive should be meeting more than once a year. He felt that we should be using both Tennis Australia and Tennis New Zealand to access their resources and take advantage of this unique relationship rather than trying to exclude 1 off the Board and he couldn’t see how, by excluding 1 of these Nations, that this would actually help Island Nations. At this point Y. Carruther thanked Tennis Australia for the earlier announced \$50,000 sponsorship.

S. Johns explained that whilst tennis New Zealand was not in a position to offer cash it had offered the opportunity for kids to come to camps and tournaments in NZ and coach education programmes free of charge.

The motion was then put to the delegates and this failed with 5 votes for and 11 against.

5. Sponsorship

Mr. Healy advised that the OTF hadn’t been able to replace the ANZ sponsorship. He advised that Tennis Australia may be able to part bridge that gap by providing an annual \$50,000 sponsorship via the Australian Open. C. Mainguy thanked Tennis Australia for this sponsorship and said that this would be the start of a long relationship which would have a marked impact on the development of grass tennis in the region. J. Shannon commented that we should still be seeking a replacement for ANZ. B. Osborne said that he did approach the ANZ asking them to reconsider but that they had declined. Also that he had approached AUS Aid and the Australian Sports Commission with a similar outcome. He further commented that the next round of big sponsorship opportunities would not be until 2017. He also commented that Tennis Australia had designed a basic template to assist individual member Nations to chase their own funding opportunities.

A. Molotii explained that her Nation was having difficulty filling out all the forms and sought assistance for this. D. Wrighton commented that the

ITF is requiring these forms to be completed from an accountability viewpoint.

6. International Senior Teams

6.1 Pacific Oceania Davis Cup 2013

C. Mainguy spoke to his Davis Cup report and the last Tie in Dubai. He said it wasn't the best team due to player unavailability though the team had won their last match against Oman; that the team had been relegated to Group IV; that this year the team is playing in June in Iran. He then went on to say that this year would be his last year as Davis Cup captain; that the captain is normally a selector and is appointed by the Board. Mr Healy thanked C. Mainguy for his years of captaincy service and said that later in the year we will need to call for captain nominations.

6.2 Asia/Pacific Tennis League

C. Mainguy explained that this was the second year that Pacific Oceania had a team in the ATL during the second week of the Australian Open. The intent has been to use this as a preparation for Davis Cup and that this year Pacific Oceania had finished 8th with the NZ team finishing 1st. C. Mainguy thanked Tennis Australia for their contribution to the PO expenses and in particular thanked B. Osborne for all his help in assisting the team.

6.3 Fed Cup Participation 2015

Y. Carruthers asked why there wasn't a women's team in the ATL. C. Mainguy explained that we needed 6 women in the team for the ATL and that the executive had discussed this yesterday re the possibility of a Fed Cup Team and also the possibility of a team in the ATL. D. O'Connell explained that there hadn't been the funding to support a Fed Cup Team and discussed the suggestion of a potential Qualifying event. General discussion then ensued as to whether a Men's or Women's Team would be entered in 2015 in the ATL and Davis/Fed Cups. D. Smith was then asked to follow this up by checking the availability with the potential women players. He would also check with the ITF what the deadline was for entering a team in Fed Cup for 2015.

7. Regional Tennis Centre Facility

7.1 Report and Hire Agreement with Fiji Sports Council etc

J. Shannon explained the agreement that we have with the Fiji Sports Council where we hire the court at certain times on certain days. Despite this no one else is using the facility so in effect we can use them at any time; that for the first 9 years we had paid nothing but that now there was an annual fee of F\$16,000; that the current lease expires in 2016; that there is a clause that they could increase the lease to a maximum of \$F20,000 but that this had never been done; that the resurfacing of the courts is linked to the term of the lease. J. Shannon said that the courts were badly in need of resurfacing and that we should start discussions as to who is going to pay for this. The Referee of events at the venue had repeatedly said that the courts

needed to be resurfaced; that the current agreement is very fair for the OTF; that at one stage 5 aside soccer had been planned to be also played on the courts but that the net posts were permanent and so prevented this; that the last time the courts were resurfaced it cost US\$80,000 by Plexipave in NZ with the paint coming from the USA; that last time we had received \$50K from Goodman Fielder, a \$10K ITF facilities grant and a \$5K soft loan. J. Shannon undertook to ask the Fiji Government whether they could assist funding this as the climate with the government is very good now as the government is doing a lot to help all sports. J. Shannon said that the ITF also have to commit that they are going to have a RTC for the next 7 years. S. Healy said we should be getting an application underway to the ITF and try and better understand what their plans are for the ITF house.

D. Wrighton then made a presentation to B. Osborne thanking him for his input on behalf of the ITF not only in the personal help he had given to him but equally for the outstanding work he has been doing assisting Nations right across the Pacific.

8. General Business

8.1 Request from Tennis Fiji for the nomination of Moana So'onalole as patron of the OTF.

R. Breen formally moved the motion that M. So'onalole be nominated as the Patron of the OTF, seconded C. Mainguy.

Discussion then ensued with N. Adsett questioning whether there should be a clause in the constitution as to what is the role of the patron and also the period. It was agreed that N. Adsett would do a draft wording and circulate this to the executive with a view to including this in the constitution and formalising this at the next AGM.

8.2 Presentation on the Proposed Governance Changes at the ITF AGM 2015/Palau Tennis Request re Tennis Asia Letter

Mr. Healy opened the discussion by explaining the ITF view on changes to the share structure and voting rights, the composition of the Board of Directors and the Board Term of Office. He asked whether there should be criteria for voting. Currently a country can just apply for more share which involves paying more money rather than this being based on performance, participation etc.

Mr. Healy explained that there were currently 14 on the Board and whether proposed changes would reflect both geography and gender. He explained that currently Asia was not well represented with 6 members currently on the Board from Europe. He explained that the relationship with the players was not as good as it could be and questioned whether there should be a player representative on the Board. That currently there is no woman on the Board and whether this should be mandated in the constitution to have a certain number; Also whether the Board should be increased to 16. He went on to explain that currently the CE is in effect an executive director and that the CEO should attend Board meetings but not have a vote; that directors are appointed for a 2 year term. He felt that 2 years is very

distracting and leads to a lot of politicking and whether this should be increased to 3 or 4 years; maybe aligned to the Olympic years; also whether there should be a limit on the number of terms?

Mr. Healy went on to comment that the OTF is a regional association and is affiliated to the ITF but doesn't have any voting rights. The individual nations have the voting rights. The OTF can indicate a position to the ITF but have has no voting rights. The proposed changes will be put to a vote at the AGM in September 2015.

C Mainguy commented that the IFs should align tenure with the IOC and that the athlete's voice must be represented on the Board; similarly with gender equity. Mr. Healy said that he wanted to get a feeling from the OTF member nations as to what their feelings were. He said that the survey was a discussion point with a view to getting the views of nations so that resolutions could be drafted for the ITF AGM.

- Athletes should be represented
- Women should be mandated to be represented on the Board
- The 2 year director period is too short and that this should be aligned with the Olympic quadrennium

Mr. Healy went on to explain that the 4 Grand Slam Nations hold 12 votes each as does Germany and that these Grand Slam Nations contribute 1% of the prize money to the Grand Slam Fund.

N. Adsett asked then whether we could obtain a background paper from the Head of the ITF Governance Committee and discuss this further at the AGM in Melbourne in January

Mr. Healy then went on to read the letter from Palau and explained again that the OTF has no voting rights. C. Mainguy said that if the OTF has a consensus view then we could write to the ITF saying which OTF Nations do and which do not support the ATF letter.

T. Smith commented that E. Rengiil (Palau) had not given him specific instructions to bring to the meeting except that she supports the ATF letter as does Guam. He explained that the ATF letter was a 12 page letter. It was then commented that ATF's proposal would give all Class C Nations 1 vote.

Mr. Healy then went on to say that the meeting can defer this to January given that the ITF AGM is not until September 2015 or it could express an opinion now. Mr. Healy said he could get governance papers to all OTF member nations; also that the ATF, like the OTF, does not have a vote; as an example Japan does not have to be bound by the collective ATF vote.

T. Smith explained that the ATF letter came from the ATF AGM. It didn't detail those for or against but that as a general group they were in favour. Mr. Healy said that he was more than happy to represent the OTF view to the ITF.

N. Adsett said that this should be placed on the January 2015 AGM agenda and that in the interim all nations should be going back to their individual Boards and then present their respective views to the January AGM. T. Smith noted that Guam and Palau have discussed this with their respective Boards and they are in support of the ATF proposal and of The OTF writing to the ITF in support.

At this time (11am) Mr. Healy left the meeting as earlier advised as he was required to attend a Tennis Australia Board Meeting first thing in the morning. In leaving he commented that the voting today on the various notices of motion indicated that there is a very divided OTF and that the real focus should be on things that are going to help develop tennis and tennis in the region.

C Mainguy then took the chair.

9. Mini Tennis Programme

9.1 Reports from Nations

These were taken as read and circulated though it was explained that the report from Tonga was still outstanding as the one provided did not report on the Mini Tennis Funds Grant.

F. Bryard then spoke to his report; that he had 110 kids playing regularly at their tennis centre; that they had gratefully received some equipment from Tennis Australia; about the more and more tournaments they were holding; the hot shots competitions. D. Wrighton explained that the "Stay N play" course was still in place and that it was now called "Play Tennis Course." D. Wrighton then briefly referred to the TA \$K50 sponsorship and that it was likely that there would be a working group focussed on how to spend this money and the criteria that would be set; In short K25 for equipment and K25 for programme assistance.

N. Adsett then commented that D. Wrighton needed to be visiting nations like Tonga, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Samoa to better understand their needs as each nation is completely different and has a different need; that there cannot be this overarching paradigm that fits every nation; also he commented on his concern about the volume of paperwork that some nations are really having difficulty completing.

10. Regional Training Centre

10.1 Follow Up on the Action Points of the Last Meeting

D. Wrighton explained that he would work with nations to assist with their funding paperwork but equally the Nations need to be working with their NOCs to be trying to access funding
That the RTC Pathway criteria had been reviewed and that he would email the document which is basically a subjective assessment, to Nations.

That the coaching staff had been reviewed and assessed as to what is required and that big improvements had been made in the mentoring of staff

That Tennis NZ are to send a high performance coach to assist A. Maitorok and that D. Wrighton would be working on this during the year. Basically at the moment it is a timing issue with his assimilation into his DO role.

Nations had been asked by D. Wrighton to email him as to what help they need from Tennis NZ; that it can't be a cash option but more aligned to people assistance.

I Honila is to attend a L1 coaching course.

Equipment had been purchased for the ITF House and had been relocated downstairs; that the coaches were attending a Fiji Fitness course to assist them better understand the components of fitness.

That the ITF house was not equipped for on line learning and the current players do not have rankings to merit this.

10.2 Reviewed RTC Player Pathway and its link to the TA ranking system and ITF World Junior Rankings.

D. Wrighton advised that there used to be 2 tours to NZ and Australia The NZ tour cost K30 in 2012, had great results but was harder to benchmark this with the NZ ranking system as opposed to the TA system as their results could to TA rankings. This had put strain on the budget and that it was better to have a smaller number of really top players

In the December 2013 tour, the players got the chance to play at Melbourne Park.

10.3 Revised Touring Programme using GSDF

D Wrighton started by asking what is the criteria? The top 2 players in each age group are invited to participate in the year end tour; that any RTC player who reaches the top 2 in his age group automatically goes on tour; outside the RTC other top players will be offered travel grants to part assist

Proposed that players will be sent to the teams event in Vanuatu ITF players are automatically entered in the ITF Fiji Junior Events and will have their IPIN and entry fee paid

That 4 U12 boys and girls will be going on a 2 week tour to Queensland. The criteria for selection will be based on the POJC plus some players from New Caledonia who already have a TA ranking.

D Wrighton was asked to email his presentation to all Nations.

10.4 Changes to the ITF House and the RTC training Programme

10.5 Possibility of an Additional Pathway for the Most Talented Players

D Wrighton advised that he had visited two academies in Brisbane; that neither was suitable for the ITF purpose both because of cost but also because of the lack of information that they could provide; that he had also visited the Margaret Court Academy and that he had

reservations with this academy; that he was looking at other options; that it was important that other pathways were fully investigated and explored.

10.6 The OTF/ITF Regional Championships and the POJC

This year the host would be Fiji (West Pacific); Guam (North Pacific) and American Samoa (East Pacific). D. Wrighton then discussed the entry criteria, eligibility, draw size in that he was looking to increase the draws from 12 to 16, travel grants in that nation would receive 40% of their travel costs; that he would be encouraging countries to send 8 players (2U12s, 2U14s, 2U16s) and that any country with 8 players would get a travel grant for a coach; that the U18 category would be removed from the Regional Championships and would go straight to the POJC.

He said that there was a new ITF event-the Oceania Open Regional Championships which could be hosted on a rotational basis around PO but that initially this would be in Fiji. He went on to say that there would be more awards for the Regional Championships with an individual award for the winner of their age group. Also a new ladder based on the top 4 singles and doubles results. It was intended after each Regional Event that there would be a 2 day training workshop

11. Junior Competitions

11.1 POJC

This year would mark changes to the format with the POJC being a 10 day event. There would be 2 separate events comprising 5 days each. The first 3 days of each event would be dedicated to singles and the last 2 days to doubles with the results for the POJC being based on both of these events combined. The meeting agreed that for this year for the U18s that this age group would only play in the POJC and not the Regional Championships as a lead up as there are currently not the numbers of U18 players available to play. It was agreed that this would be reviewed annually.

There would be a Nation Leader Board with the top 10 results from Nations. D. Wrighton explained that it was important every player tried to do the best because if the #1 and #2 players were unavailable to tour then the # 3 and # 4 would be selected. He commented further that he intended developing a logo for the event to be able to market the event; that a qualified Referee had been appointed; that all the finals would be on the last day with an awards ceremony on the same day; there would be an on-site physio and stringer to improve the quality of the event.

D. Wrighton then discussed the ITF Junior Tennis Initiative (JTI) which he said operated in 70 countries worldwide. It was basically made up of 2 components, the provision of equipment and financial assistance to assist the funding of coaches. He said that he can now allocate funding to specific projects in individual countries. Every nation can access this funding and equipment. All Nations would need to report back to the ITF on their progress.

There were 5 KPIs: the number of players; the number of competitions U10; an adequate number of players in the U10, U12, U14; the number of national competitions at a performance level; high performance participation in U12 and U14 levels.

Mr. Wrighton went on to explain that there were 3 levels of JTI within a Federation: the ITF Funded Schools Programme which was an introductory level linked to inter schools tennis competitions; the JTI tennis sessions which were participation sessions linked to a club development programme and that most Nations would be at this level where children are playing regularly; and finally the performance level where the best players at a club level would be brought together on a monthly basis. Also there must be a reporting process on the programme for it to continue to receive assistance. He further advised that the new JTI reporting format document would be sent to Nations towards the end of April/early May.

D Wrighton then went on to discuss tennis in schools with a suggestion that a programme could be every class of 7/8 year olds receiving 4 hours free coaching and the final week of the programme could be framed around a competition. The coaches would receive a manual/USB coaching resource and a set of slides. Nations could apply for this on a project by project basis.

D. Wrighton discussed the RTC entry criteria. Age band would be 12 year olds turning 13 next year; 14 year olds could be considered but no older than that as it would be considered too late. It was then suggested that Tennis Fiji put a proposal together to submit to the ITF about the future of the RTC house for the next 10 years.

11.1.2.1 Proposal by Tennis Cook Islands re the POJC and East Pacific Regional Championships.

The Cook Islands are saying it is very expensive for them to travel anywhere in the Pacific except Fiji and NZ. It is a similar situation for Tahiti. It was suggested that holding the EPQ in Fiji could be the solution for both the Cook Island and Tahiti from a cost viewpoint. Whilst the host this year is American Samoa the idea was floated of the host being rotational. For example 1) American Samoa then 2) Fiji then 3) Samoa then 4) Fiji; Also suggested that the EPQ should be held the week before the POJC to reduce duplicated travel costs. It was agreed that D. Wrighton would go back to the east Nations with the suggested proposal.

11.2 ITF Junior Circuit Events

The fact sheets for all these events are on the website. Comment was made about the new event, the Oceania Open junior Championships (OOJC) with D. Wrighton saying that his personal opinion would be to see this held in Samoa and American Samoa from time-to-time as it would be good for the event and these Nations. It can be moved around the region. This is the first year so it is likely that we would lock in this being held in Fiji for the first 3 years before looking to move it. J. Shannon said that if it were to be moved elsewhere then it

was important that the correct country be chosen so that it doesn't become more expensive for players to get there.

11.3 Oceania Closed Junior Championships

J. Shannon briefly spoke to the event explaining that it would be held this year from 4-8 August and this was the highest level tournament outside the Australian Open Juniors.

12. Pacific Oceania Junior Teams

This was covered in D. Wrighton's earlier presentation

13. Open Competition

In 2010 and 2012 New Caledonia hosted the Oceania Championships. In the last event in 2012 there were nations who felt that they couldn't send their best players. B. Osborne explained that the best players can still be sent and be put into a regional team. This year the event will be held at the Cairns International Tennis centre from Sunday 31 August-Sunday 7 September. Accommodation and meals would be provided with the airfares at Respective nations' expense. B. Osborne asked which nations felt that would be involved in the event. C. Mainguy asked when a brochure of flyer for the event would be available. Clearly this could be used as a preliminary competition for the Pacific Games in 2015. B. Osborne said he would send a notice on the event for D. Smith to circulate to all nations and post on the website. Nations were asked to respond to D. Smith with the numbers likely to participate.

Brief discussion ensued on the B1 Senior Clay court event at Koyoong in March with B. Osborne thanking the OTF for the promotion of the event. J. Shannon advised that the Fiji open would be held from the 4th-8th June at the Denerau Golf and Racquet Club.

14. Coaching

D. Wrighton advised that a proposal had gone to the ITF in the last 2 weeks. He advised that he did not have the certification to deliver a L1 Course or a Play Tennis Course. He advised that the ITF requires you to do a Play Tennis Course before you do a L1 Course. He explained that part of the ONOC \$K50 funding is a requirement to attend the 2 day Oceania Sports Education Programme. He then referred to educating the educators designed to stimulate activity in schools and that this wasn't a coaching course but more an activity programme. He also explained that the 2 day proposed workshop after the Regional Championships was designed to explain and show the types of activities that can be done. He said that he was hoping that a tutor can be sent out towards the end of the year so that he can be certified as a Level 1 tutor and thereby deliver these courses.

He also said that he is keen to develop a PO Coaches Membership with the intent that in the first year everyone could be an associate member and then in the second year they could choose to become a full member. Discussion then ensued around coaching education with D. Wrighton saying that this was very important but that we already had a very full programme this year. R. Breen said that there were people who wanted

to get more involved in coaching but they were reluctant to as they didn't have an official coaching certificate.

F. Bryard spoke to OSEP courses and what the components of these are. He said they were a free 2 day course and a good jump start. At the end you received a regional certificate. It was suggested that Nations talk to their NOCs for them to assist access these courses. D. Wrighton commented that there is Olympic Solidarity Funding to assist nations access a programme called "Developing a National Structure." B. Osborne commented that Tennis Australia's Tennis in Schools programme had gone crazy and was getting a lot of kids involved on the ground.

15. General

R. Breen then raised the question of S. Reddy wishing to develop a pathway to develop his officiating knowledge and also requested a understanding of the badge structure and pathway. D. Smith then explained the pathway and offered to assist him access events. This would be discussed further during the Fiji Open in person with S. Reddy and R. Breen.

Y. Carruthers said that she is looking for a coach from TA, TNZ or PO to come and visit Samoa to do a regular visit. D. Wrighton said he is hoping to develop our coaches to do exactly that. C. Mainguy suggested that Y. Carruthers write to the OTF with a specific proposal. B. Osborne explained that he had been looking at this with D. Wrighton and there was better value in helping coaches in the delivery of their programmes rather than doing the programme themselves.

16. Next Meeting

The next AGM was set for Sunday 25th January 2015 in Melbourne with those wishing to could stay on and watch the ASTL coming on the Monday 26th.

I. Peleipu said there had been a problem with their DO in that Kiribati cannot afford to pay him. D. Wrighton said there could be money available to assist once he understands what programmes he is delivering. The NOC could also assist. He also said that coaches needed to be providing money from their JTI coaching programme so that money was being brought to their respective associations.

Y. Carruthers said that Samoa is hosting the 2015 Youth Games. She asked what assistance could the OTF provide? It was suggested that D. Smith write to J. Langton suggesting she write to the Commonwealth Games Organizing Committee re any hosting grant

C. Mainguy closed the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 2:55pm