



OCEANIA TENNIS FEDERATION

Minutes of the 18th General Meeting
Held at the Bayview Eden, Melbourne, Australia
19 January 2019

Attendance

Delegates:

Baudinet	Brian	Cook Islands
Godinet	Dave	American Samoa
Harris	Geoff	Nauru
Ietimeta	Baan	Kiribati
Jambor	Martin	NMI
Neisau	Donna	Fiji
Paterson	Julie	New Zealand
Patrick	Celia	New Zealand-Board Member
Rengiil	Ernestine	Palau-Board Member
Sacault	Wilfred	Tahiti-Board Member
Sands	Sarah	Vanuatu
Schuster	Ray	Samoa
Smith	Torgun	Guam
Stubbings	Barbara	PNG-Board Member
Stubbings	Troy	Papua New Guinea

In Attendance:

Mainguy	Cyrille	OTF President
Osborne	Bruce	OTF Vice President
Breen	Richard	OTF Executive Officer (Joint)
Smith	David	OTF Executive Officer (Joint)

Also in Attendance:

Haggerty	David	ITF President
McGurrán	James	ITF, International Relations Manager
Purcell	Gary	ITF Development Officer, Pacific Oceania
Santilli	Luca	ITF Executive Director, Tennis Development
Sweeney	Dermot	ITF Technical Director, Training Centre and Players

Also in Attendance (Afternoon of AGM):

Selivanenko Alekesei ITF Board Member

Welcome

Mr. Mainguy welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending. He then, in particular, thanked David Haggerty, Luca Santilli, Dermot Sweeney, James McGurran and Gary Purcell from the ITF for their attendance and said that this was the first time for such a large group from the ITF to attend an OTF AGM. He also commented that Carol Lee (NMI) was playing later in the morning in the Junior Australian Open and that this was the first time that a player from the Regional Training Centre was playing in the main round of the Junior Australian Open. He then warmly welcome Geoff Harris (Nauru) who had re-joined the OTF family after a considerable absence.

David Haggerty was then invited to speak and he commenced by saying how much he had enjoyed the dinner the previous evening and being able to interact with the delegates who were in attendance; that it was an honour to be at this AGM; that he looked forward to the meeting; that he wasn't able to come last year but did come 2 years ago; that a meeting like this is helpful to the ITF to hear the views and concerns and that is why the ITF team is here at the meeting; that the ITF team welcomed comments even if they are not what they would like to hear; additionally that ITF Board Member, Celia Patrick, was in the room and could assist answer any questions also; he also wished Carol Lee good luck at the Junior Australian Open.

Apologies

At this stage Mr. Mainguy called for apologies and the following were recorded:

Le Dain	Olivier	New Caledonia
Race	Jeff	NMI
Skilling	Sterling	Federated States of Micronesia

New delegates to the AGM, Martin Jambor (NMI), Donna Neisau (FIJI), Dave Godinet (AS), Geoff Harris (NRU) and Sarah Sands (VAN) briefly introduced themselves.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the General Meeting held in Auckland, New Zealand on the 25th March 2018, having previously been circulated, were taken as read and unanimously approved. Moved that they be accepted Brian Baudinet (CI), seconded Barbara Stubbings (PNG).

Ray Schuster referred to Page 8 of the Minutes and said that the comments of Yvonne Carruthers were slightly incorrect in that there was a meeting held with the President of SASANOC during the visit by Frank Couraud and Gary Purcell to Samoa a week preceding the AGM last year.

2. Executive Committee Report

2.1 Progress in 2018

2.2 Presentation of the Annual Report

David Smith commenced by saying that the Annual Report has already been electronically circulated with the Annual Accounts embedded in this report and invited any comments. He did say that the first paragraph of the report highlighted that 2018 was a year of many “firsts” in the Region and on the front cover of the report was the Fed Cup winning team that will be competing in a couple of weeks in Kazakhstan.

David Haggerty commented that he was impressed with the report and that it enabled him to get a complete picture of what was happening in the Region and that for him it was like a snap shot of what has happened throughout the year.

Ray Schuster moved the adoption of the Annual Report. This was seconded by Celia Patrick. The Annual Report was then unanimously accepted and adopted.

3. Appointment of Office Bearers

3.1 Election of all Officers

David Smith introduced this by saying that the current Constitution calls for a President, Vice-President and up to 6 Board Members.

He advised the meeting that there had only been 1 Nomination for President, Cyrille Mainguy (VAN), so he was duly elected President for the next 2 years.

Similarly, that there had only been 1 nomination for Vice President, Bruce Osborne, and he was similarly elected for the next 2 years. David Smith then said that the OTF values dearly the support, help, knowledge and guidance that Bruce Osborne continually provides not only to the Executive but also across the whole Region.

David Smith then advised that we had received 8 nominations for 6 Board positions. He then asked if there were any of the nominees who wished to withdraw their nomination for the Board. Julie Paterson (NZL) advised that she was withdrawing her nomination which then meant that there were 7 Board nominations for 6 positions. David Smith then explained the election process with delegates from 12 Nations voting; that the Board would need to comprise 1 member from each of the 5 OTF Regions as per the current Constitution. Gary Purcell and Geoff Harris (NRU-not eligible to vote) were duly appointed scrutineers.

Following the voting process the following were duly elected as the OTF Board for the 2019-2020 period:

President:	Cyrille Mainguy (VAN)
Vice President:	Bruce Osborne (AUS)
Board:	Donna Neisau (FIJ)
	Celia Patrick (NZL)
	Ernestine Rengiil (PAL)
	Wilfred Sacault (TAH)
	Torgun Smith (GUM)
	Barbara Stubbings (PNG)

3.2 Appointment of Honorary Auditor

David Smith recorded his sincere thanks for all the work that Barry McMillan provided in auditing the accounts and the professional guidance that he provided during this process. He explained that the AGMs in Melbourne are always challenging

due to the time of the OTF Financial Year End on the 31st December and the AGM 3 weeks later. He explained that Barry McMillan loves getting the Annual Report and that he is very emotionally invested in the OTF Region. He also advised the meeting that Barry McMillan has agreed to continue in this role as auditor. The meeting then approved the appointment of Barry McMillan to continue in the role of Honorary OTF Auditor. This was moved by Brian Baudinet and seconded by Barbara Stubbings and unanimously approved.

4. Constitution

4.1 Notice of Motion from the Vanuatu Tennis Federation

David Smith gave the background to the constitutional review before he asked Vanuatu to present their Notice of Motion. He commenced by saying that about 18 months ago the OTF Board initiated discussions with OSEP and during last year's AGM in Auckland they conducted a training programme to assist in the training of what the Board saw as shortfalls in the Administration and Governance of some Nations. As a result, the OTF Board looked at its own Constitution and engaged one of the foremost constitutional lawyers (Maria Clarke) to review our constitution. She is a specialist in this field well versed in IF Constitutions globally across numerous sports including tennis. He advised that Tennis NZ provided the initial funding (\$3,000) for this constitutional review.

Her review advised the Board that the current OTF constitution had major shortfalls. As a result, she produced a draft new constitution which was circulated to all Nations for comment and feedback within an approximate 3 months window; a proposed timeline for this review and feedback was also circulated. Subsequently 5 Nations (Australia, New Zealand, Samoa, NMI and Vanuatu) provided feedback which was then given to the constitutional lawyer to assess for a further draft v2; this was then recirculated for a further v3 and then further subsequently the final v4 which has already been circulated and is before you today; that there was 1 clause from NMI that was clearly incorrect and that was addressed. Also, additionally, there were 4 lawyers outside Maria Clarke who peer reviewed the proposed constitution.

That, during the Nations Cup in Fiji, we did have a Special General Meeting attended by almost every OTF member

Nation to discuss this; that this has been a detailed consultative process; that this is seen as the constitution to take us into the future and no doubt at some stage in the future there may well be subtle amendments as seen fit.

David Smith explained that we are still currently operating under the existing constitution and that if this constitution is approved by this meeting it will come into effect on the 1st March; that under the constitution we require to receive any Notices of Motion in this regard 20 days in advance and that the one from Vanuatu had been received within the required time frame.

At this stage David Smith invited Vanuatu to talk to their proposed Motion that "The Vanuatu Tennis Federation would like to propose the adoption of the latest newly written OTF Constitution at this upcoming AGM" This was moved by Sarah Sands (VAN) and seconded by Celia Patrick (NZL).

Raymond Schuster then spoke to the motion and the proposed new constitution by saying that what he was about to say would not be news to anyone as he had already widely circulated his views in relation to some of the articles of the proposed constitution which Tennis Samoa see as appropriate for the future; that he went on to say that he feels like a lone voice as he hadn't received any feedback to his comments which he felt were important and would make the constitution complete; that if we accept the document then we are accountable to it; why is the office in New Zealand? That he hadn't been privy to the reason why this occurred historically; that he was prepared to accept the position in terms of headquarters etc; that in relation to Rule 5 that the Board is just like a group of people ready to rubber stamp; that the OTF membership is what the Board is accountable to and that isn't reflected in the document and that is what he had tried to include in the document under the section "Powers;" that he felt this document didn't reflect this correctly; that he didn't want to speak to all his comments as they have been circulated; that it appears as though the Board has accepted the document; that he doesn't promote himself as being the foremost constitutional lawyer in Samoa though he said he had prepared many constitutions for sporting bodies in Samoa; that it wasn't a competition between lawyers as to who can prepare the best document; that he appreciated that many

of the comments that he had made had been included in the document at hand; that his most recent comments either appear to have been ignored or not considered valid or important; that he had circulated his comments to try to understand what other Nations thought and that he hadn't received any response; that the comments he had offered would give the document completeness; that the comments he had made he feels should be in the document.

David Smith then suggested to the meeting that if any others wished to make comment then this should be done in a 3 -5-minute timeline for each delegate who should so choose to do so. He then covered off an explanation re a few of Tennis Samoa's comments; that Tennis Samoa had suggested that the OTF member Nations be widened to include other Nations; David Smith explained that the OTF was a Regional Body and that the Tennis Regions, which may change from time to time, are decided and set by the ITF not the OTF hence the Oceania Region and the Nations within this that we currently have; that Tennis Samoa had suggested moving the Registered Office; he explained that when the OTF was first established in 1993 the registered office was in New Zealand; that Tennis Samoa had suggested this be moved to Fiji because the Regional Training Centre was there; David Smith explained that there would need to be a substantive reason to change this and that there was no guarantee this would always be there and could easily be in another Pacific Island Nation; that these were some of the comments that Tennis Samoa had made in their submission and that there would need to be a substantive reason to change these.

David Smith then invited any comments from other delegates. Brian Baudinet commenced by thanking Ray Schuster for his comments which he had read but hadn't replied as in Ray Schuster's own words just a few minutes earlier "that he wanted to know what people thought;" that the crucial point of this document could be that it may not be 100% perfect but that we can continue down the track to work on this with subtle changes if deemed appropriate; that we had been consulting and working on this document for many months; that some of Tennis Samoa's comments he agrees with whilst others he disagrees with; that he suggests that we approve the document but that it is also a live working document that at future meetings we can always take on board future suggestions for any change.

Richard Breen commented that the document was a huge step forward and a vast improvement on what we previously had; that it felt this was now an excellent working document but this didn't stop at any stage in the future Nations presenting Notices of Motions if they felt sections could be improved.

Cyrille Mainguy then commented that when we met in Fiji last year, we all agreed that the current Constitution was obsolete; he thanked Ray Schuster for his comments but said that the Constitution needed to be passed today but amendments where deemed appropriate could always be made in the future; he thanked Tennis NZ for the initial funding that made the initial review by the Constitutional lawyer possible; also he thanked those Nations that sent back comments.

Torgun Smith then said that he had read all the comments from the Nations who sent comments and that the constitutional lawyer had subsequently made changes; that he was happy to defer to the expert constitutional lawyer who had been engaged; that he wasn't engaging as he was accepting the expert opinion; that he agreed with Brian Baudinet that we need to vote on this document and where appropriate in the future, make amendments.

There being no further comments, the Vanuatu Notice of Motion that had been moved by Sarah Sands (VAN) and seconded by Celia Patrick (NZL) was unanimously carried by the 13 Nations present subject to the correction of a typographical error raised by Raymond Schuster relating to Clause 7.4 which should read Subject to Rule13 rather than Subject to Rule Rule123.

5. Finance

5.1 Financial Report 2018

David Smith then presented the Financial Report as previously circulated. He pointed out that there are now substantive funds that are coming through the OTF Accounts from the ITF for the ITF/OTF projects; that sometimes the timing on the funding coming in/out can give the appearance that the OTF is flush with funds when that is not the reality as funding has come in but has not yet all been paid out. He explained that

at the start of 2019 the accounts showed an opening balance of \$109,124.59 due to a substantial grant being paid in late December that had yet to be paid to respective Nations for projects like the December Showdown and the Australian Tour which was subsequently paid out in January; this is detailed in the explanatory notes. He said that the presentation later by the ITF would show in detail how the support that is now being provided to the Pacific Oceania Region has grown markedly over recent years which clearly shows the high commitment that David Haggerty and his ITF Team have to support our Region.

Richard Breen then explained that we get a grant for each ITF/OTF project and if the money isn't spent on the specific project then this is remitted back to the ITF; that it doesn't get carried over or forward; so that there are no accumulated funds. He also explained that in the budget there are estimated amounts that we don't physically see.

Troy Stubbings said that he hadn't seen a financial statement for quite some time and commented that the ITF is now investing a lot of money into the Region; that it was extremely heartening to see this; that he saw that a lot of funding was being applied to playing activity but a small amount to coaching activity by comparison; that in PNG they have absolute strength at the top of the pyramid but little underneath.

David Smith explained that this very point was discussed in detail at the Executive Meeting the day before and the fact that we have a dearth of high-quality coaches in our Region and that is an important message that we wanted the ITF to understand and that this needed to be a major focus in the immediate future; that in particular there would be an extremely high focus in developing women coaches in the region; and that some of our current top players will eventually put back into the developing talent of the Region; that the OTF wants to encourage, support and assist them get the highest certification that they can.

Cyrille Mainguy commented that Gary Purcell had run "Stay N Play" courses in PNG and Vanuatu; that both the OTF and the ITF know that this needs to be a high focus for the

development of tennis in the Region. Discussion then ensued on current funding available and what this was being used for; also, about the Coaches Conferences and those who had attended and also Cyril Jacobe who did his Level 2 course recently; that Thomas Perrin had just done his Level 3 course.

Brian Baudinet then asked whether in 2019 the OTF would end up with a deficit or a surplus. David Smith explained that he expected the YE Accounts to show a surplus for 2 reasons; firstly that almost all the costs associated with this AGM are sitting in the 2018 accounts so there would be minimal costs associated with this 2019 AGM in the 2019 accounts; and that expenditure for the 2020 AGM would sit in the 2020 Accounts as this wouldn't be held till April; additionally the OTF is expecting Davis Cup and Fed Cup participation grants of \$25,000 and \$5,000 respectively in 2019 which would go towards paying the travel etc costs of these teams participating in these events; additionally that in the budget that we will shortly discuss we had allocated a pc sum for the Executive to meet between now and the 2020 April AGM/Executive Meeting; that such meeting would be linked to the Nations Cup, the Pacific Games or the POJC for cost saving reasons; that the underlying financials (excluding the ins/outs associated with the ITF/OTF projects) should show a positive surplus.

Sarah Sands (VAN) moved that we accept the Financial Statement of Accounts; seconded by Ernestine Rengiil (PAL).

5.2 OTF Budget 2019

David Smith explained that one of the requirements of the MOU signed between the ITF and OTF was that we are required to provide a Budget as to how will spend the \$90,000 Regional Administration Grant provided by the ITF. He then went on to explain that in this financial year there is an increase of \$4,500 and at the Executive Meeting yesterday it was agreed that these extra monies would be added to the financial payment that Richard Breen receives for administering the ITF/OTF projects, which is a far greater workload than we initially thought. Initially this role was sent as having a salary of \$25,000 but in the last year Richard has only been paid \$20,500 due to budget restraints; but that this extra \$4,500 is seen as moving the salary to the figure of \$25,000

which was always initially viewed as the appropriate payment for this role. He explained that this is the only change to the Regional Administration Budget (Appendix F) as presented to the meeting.

Troy Stubbing questioned what are these projects and it was then explained to him that these are all detailed in Richard Breen's Executive Report included in the soft and hard copies presented to the meeting. David Haggerty then explained to the meeting why these are called "projects."

5.3 Pacific Oceania Assistance Budget

Luca Santilli commenced by saying that he was pleased to hear the comments from some of the delegates about the ITF's commitment to the Region; that later today David Haggerty will provide an ITF update; that later there will be a comprehensive report about Development Strategy from Luca Santilli, Dermot Sweeney and Gary Purcell and you will be able to gauge from this the changes that the ITF is implementing around the world that aligns with the ITF road map 2024; that in Development the ITF is very pleased about the high intensity of work and communication with the ITF Development Team, the ITF Development Officer, the OTF and Executives and the Regional Training Centre; that all the ITF's focus action are geared to implementing the 2024 strategy using the money in the most effective way; monitoring and measuring this and creating an impact and as our President would say, eventually changing lives and providing opportunities; that in Development over the last 3 years we have received 3 years of increased investment but with that comes increased responsibility and accountability. With the 2019 budget, there is a sense of satisfaction with the consecutive increases; that he believes that the ITF have met the OTF's expectations on priority of projects; that the ITF was very pleased that they were able to provide support for the Pacific Nations Cup that has become an annual event which is clearly a significant investment; that we were also able to provide increased support to events, coaching; and moving forward we hope we can help more Nations with their facilities projects to extend, renovate and build new facilities; that after 2 years of implementing our 2017-2020 Development Strategy we want to also measure what we have achieved; in March we are

heading to Miami for the first ITF Board Meeting of 2019 and before the meeting there will be a meeting of the 5 Development Advisors that have the responsibility to guide, monitor and oversee the Development Strategy and Implementation and that Celia Patrick is one of those five advisors; that he looks forward to working with the OTF in 2019 as it is a very exciting budget; that it is very important that the ITF engages and listens to the OTF so that we align and deliver for the Nations.

5.4 OTF Membership Fee 2017/18

5.4.1 Update on OTF Membership and Fees Payment

David Smith explained that over the last year a couple of things have impacted membership; firstly, that Tonga was in default of its ITF Membership Fees and as a result was automatically suspended from the OTF and despite the numerous emails to every Tongan Tennis contact we had, we never received one response. Additionally, we welcome back to OTF Membership, Nauru, who have now paid outstanding OTF and ITF membership fees and that at the next ITF Board meeting it will be a formality for their membership to be approved.

He then explained that the current OTF membership fee is AUD \$200 per year and that invoices for the 2019-2020 years (\$AUD400) would be emailed in the next few months. The meeting agreed to leave the membership fee at its current level. This was moved by Brian Baudinet (CI) and seconded by Bruce Osborne (AUS).

5.5 Update on ONOC, BSP and other opportunities

Cyrille Mainguy explained that in 2018 ONOC didn't give any funding to the OTF despite the numerous meetings he had had with their President and Secretary-General; that it was explained to him that there is no longer any financial support to Regional Federations; that all the money is going towards 2020 Olympic athletes; that he is still discussing this with ONOC as to whether they can finance regional teams or the RTC; that he is aware that Luca Santilli has been talking re this to the IOC and Olympic Solidarity; that we will make further approaches and copy the IOC; that rugby is now included in the 2020

Olympic Games and a lot of Oceania Nations as a result will be seeking funding.

Barbara Stubbings then said that she had met with the Bank of South Pacific at their Head Office in PNG following up a funding proposal that the OTF had sent the Bank; that unfortunately the proposal was not approved; that her view is that the Bank doesn't see tennis as a sport in the Pacific in their eyes marketing-wise; that they appear to be more interested in smaller \$5,000-\$10,000 sponsorship arrangements; that there could be a 50/50 chance of success if we re-worked the proposal and resubmitted this with this time including more re the Davis Cup and Fed Cup touring teams where we can promote the BSP in a bigger light; that we are again competing with the more prominent sports in the Pacific; that there may be a better opportunity just looking to get sponsorship for the touring teams. Brian Baudinet said that this was disappointing given the work that the OTF had done on this proposal; that BSP had had a huge year in the Pacific in 2018 and had made enormous profits and that the excuses that they were giving were not acceptable; that the OTF should go back with a refined proposal.

Brian Baudinet went on to say that he finds it almost impossible to get money from the Olympic Solidarity system; that the Cook Islands had been successful twice in the last 15 odd years; that the problem is that the Cook Islands can never qualify for the Olympic Games in tennis because of the layering of the system; that with other sports now being included in the Olympics the pool of money as a result gets smaller and smaller; that the CI NOC says that in the 2 years immediately preceding the Olympics all the funds must go to the Olympic athletes, which total about 5 in any Olympics.

Richard Breen commented that ONOC had said that there was the possibility to get funding from them for a high performance centre; that we need a better explanation from them about the regional teams that play under the PO Flag which are composite regional teams; that by the time Fiji go to FASANOC once one of their players has been selected, the process to obtain the funding has already finished; they then get asked the question whether they are representing Fiji and it is explained to them that they are representing a composite PO Team as a Fiji player; that to not support the Regional

Training Centre and be knocked back for funding was extremely disappointing.

Cyrille Mainguy then explained the different types of funding streams: The World Programme and Continental Programme; that each NOC receives \$45,000 annually under the Continental Programme; that this is the programme Nations should be tapping into, not the World Programme; that the best advice he can give is to get very close to respective NOC's. Discussion then ensued regarding the relationship that delegates had with their respective NOCs.

Luca Santilli said that the NOCs had a budget for this quadrennial of \$110 Million and that it was very important that every Nation developed a relationship with their NOC; that any time the Development Team travel, that they always explore the possibility to meet with respective NOCs; that when Gary Purcell visits your country to ensure that you arrange a meeting for him to attend and meet your NOC; that tennis has been very successful with getting funding for technical training courses from Lausanne to the respective NOC; that this is a credit to the ITF's programmes but also the Nations that have good relationships with their NOCs; there is no short cut but it is important to be continually meeting with them and reminding them that you have good programmes; that for the ITF it is important to have a continual and ongoing relationship with the IOC; that at the ITF AGMs workshops in the last couple of years have been conducted by an Olympic expert to explain how to access Olympic Solidarity Funding; that the ITF are continually stating the case for tennis and tennis in the Regions; and he hoped that this year Gary Purcell would have meaningful meetings with the respective NOCs across Pacific Oceania with the goal to access the funding that is available more and more.

David Haggerty then commented that the ITF will spend this year \$12 Million on development worldwide, which is double where it was only a few years ago; that the Olympic Solidarity is \$500Million. Also that the ITF has introduced new branding to respective tours and posed the questioned as to how to you sell something on a local, regional or international basis if it doesn't tie together with similar branding; that the new branding of Davis Cup is so it can stand beside other sports; so the ITF is moving forward on the branding and also on gender equality with the gender equality committee that the ITF has set up; that today there needs to be that emotional pitch; that

there is now more money that is available for gender diversity and inclusion than there is for sponsorship; that some of the sponsors that the ITF is attracting for Davis and Fed Cup are other than commercial reasons; that some of the most successful trips he has had to countries is meeting with Ministers of Sport and Education and getting tennis to be part of the curriculum.

Brain Baudinet said that the document that the OTF used to present to BSP was very good and that Troy and Barbara Stubbings should use this document as the basis for presentations that could be done by them to BSP that they seem to have a relationship with and also individual Nations within their regions; that we could be targeting some of the bigger Pacific companies like Digicel.

6. ITF

6.1 ITF Matters

In opening this segment, David Haggerty explained that the ITF wants to be explicit with what its ambitions, its purpose, its priorities and its values are. At this stage an ITF video presentation was played which highlighted 2018 and included Davis Cup, Fed Cup and additionally the video tried to lay out the ITF's 8 priorities. He discussed the OTF's plan for 2019 with a focus on Governance (Constitution); Events like the Davis Cup and Fed Cup and new formats like the new World Tennis Tour that was launched in January 2019; also, Development Opportunities and the growth of participation; and Public Relations and Communications that overlaid all these.

So how does the ITF get there from where it is today to where it aspires to be in 2024; that the ITF does Business Plans in 2 year cycles with 2018-19 being a cycle and similarly 2020-21 etc; that the ITF has 13 projects that are its main focus and if they don't align with 2024 then the ITF doesn't do them but they do; some of these projects are making up for years of neglect e.g. the ITF website whilst others are aspirations as to where the ITF needs to go.

David Haggerty commenced with discussion on the World Tennis Tour; new branding and the ITF felt in order to monetize and to be able to sell the ITF's properties you must have consistent branding; that initially the ITF was using the wording

“Transition Tour” but it wasn’t seen as appropriate which was why it was changed to the World Tennis Tour initially with branding for the Junior Tour, then the \$15k tour, then the \$25k+ tours so the branding is consistent throughout and how this links to the ATP Tour and similar the WTA which is a more integrated approach; that these were the tour structures for 2019; that the ATP and WTA essentially take care of the top 300 players in the World; that the ITF is then responsible for developing the next generation of players; that it is the Nations who develop the next level through their investment in the tours that they host; that the ITF is putting more money into this area and reducing the hosting and other costs plus the smaller volume of tournaments in a series requirement.

He continued by saying that in the first 2 months of 2019 there were essentially the same number of events as in 2018 and that the total number of tournaments is holding up as there were concerns in some quarters that the number of tournaments may drop but this doesn’t appear to be the case; that there are more countries that have taken up the \$15k events in 2019 including new countries that have never hosted before like Singapore.

David Haggerty then moved to Fed Cup and the desire to increase the number of Nations that are playing in the World Group; that the ITF are considering a couple of options with the 1st week being in February as it always is and in 2020 having the 2nd week in April or in November. He then explained the options that are currently under discussion and subject to feedback.

He then discussed Women In Sport and those who were at the ITF AGM in Orlando last year saw first hand our initiatives for Women and that the committee involved in this told him they wanted to change the name to Gender Equality in Tennis and that this was more important as it promoted balance with men as well; that the ITF took the lead from the IOC; that for the long term health and future of tennis it is important the we have a better balance; in participation also plus prize money.

That during the Hopman Cup David Haggerty said that he had the opportunity to meet with some of the people from Tourism Australia; that they said to him that their business is focussed on

gender equality; that in the hosting of Fed Cup that countries that have a high focus on gender equality should be countries that the ITF should be considering for hosting rights and this could even be funded differently.

He then discussed "Voice" and he said that he wants everyone in the tennis fraternity to have a voice; and this was evident in how the funding arrangement for women was done at the Orlando AGM last year; that it was good to see the gender balance on the OTF Executive but also in the OTF AGM today; that 26% of the people on ITF Committees are women; that every woman who applied with 2 exceptions was placed on an ITF Committee; that in the ITF 15 member Board there are 3 women; that toolkits promoting women in sport are almost ready to be despatched from the ITF; that the tag line that the ITF has is that **Tennis is an Equal Advantage Sport.**

He then talked about wheelchair tennis and particularly the initiatives that the ITF has for 2019 and the \$1 Million extra investment that Kosmos will be putting into wheelchair tennis in 2019 that is driving some of the planned changes; the establishment of the Player Council; the training of classifiers; the tennis integrity programme within wheelchair tennis. He touched briefly on the wheelchair event at the Tokyo Paralympics in August/September 2020.

He then talked about Development and his Presidential campaign pledge to spend more money on development; that the initial focus was increasing revenue so more money could be spent on development; that there has been more than a 100% increase since 2016; that he wants to put more money into development but the only way this can be done is to make some of the changes that he has been talking about; he commented that \$75,000 was awarded in 2018 to facilities grants; also on some of the coaching programmes that had been implemented including those online and on Junior Player Grants and the RTC.

He then discussed Class C Membership and how it was very important for him for every Nation to have a voice; that he would like to see more of the 63 Class C Nations moving from Class C to Class B Membership; that the largest number in any region is sitting in this AGM today and that he would like to see

the ITF working with these Nations to assist them in this regard but that we need to remember it is a 2 year process; that the subscription fees have been reduced in 2019 from approximately \$750 to \$250; he then briefly touched on the new ITF rebate programme for Class B Nations with a 1 share vote a \$3,500 credit back towards development programmes; additionally the benefits that Davis Cup participating Nations will receive at minimum a \$25,000 participation grant. He discussed Davis Cup with the 133 Nations that will be competing and also the format for 2019 which compares to 126 in 2018.

He then discussed another priority which was Public Relations and Communication and that the ITF wants to be impactive and proactive; that the ITF needs to improve in this area and getting messages from London to the grassroots level; that all National Associations have been asked to provide contact data information; he mentioned that James McGurran, the ITF International Relations Manager, was in the room and any Nation is welcome to discuss any issue that they may have with him; that if you have any question of the ITF then write to him and he can obtain the answers for you; that the ITF is launching a new website in the 4th quarter of 2019.

He then shared the financial report card; that in 2018 ITF revenue was \$74M with expenses \$73.5M with a \$0.5M surplus; that in 2019 projected revenue will be \$109M and being non-for-profit, this will all be spent back into our tennis community with also a projected slight surplus. He then went into the specific data on the budget with the Kosmos licence fee and the increases in Davis/Fed Cup payments/prize money; media rights; then the projected 2019 expenditure and the other line by line items.

6.2 ITF Development Report and Update

Luca Santilli opened this presentation by saying that we had all just heard how Development was a core part of the ITF 2024 strategy and that his presentation today was to focus on the main components of the Development Strategy, the Strategy Pillars, the Events and Strategic Performance and then the Presentation on the strategy relating to Pacific Oceania; also. the key projects for 2019.

An introductory video was then played after which Luca Santilli discussed a conference that was held in London in 2018 with discussion on the key elements to grow participation. From this 1 ½ day conference 5 elements emerged:

- Facilities-The importance of tennis facilities
- Coaching- the deliverers/coaches
- Events
- Programmes-which is divided into
 - Participation and
 - Performance;

that to develop the next generation of players a world class programme needs to be in place assisted by the increased development expenditure; that a 4- year strategy was launched in 2017 with a particular objective to increase participation worldwide, from the current 80-90 million tennis players in all ages and genders and to increase participation in countries that are poorly represented.

That there are 9 strategic principles that guide the everyday activity of Development. Luca Santilli said he wanted to focus on just 2 of these today:

1. Monitoring and Measuring-that they want to ensure that this considerable investment around the world is monitored and is measured; that the programmes that aren't meeting the KPIs of the regions can be changed and improved.
2. Accountability- to manage the programme and to deliver the strategy; that the money that the ITF invests has a return.

That we have been privileged to have 3 years of consecutive funding increases in development and with these increases comes increased responsibility in delivery. He then referred to the increase in Development Investment in the Oceania Region with an investment in 2019 of over \$1.4M which comes both from the ITF Budget of \$8.58M and also the GSDF Budget of \$2.8M; from a total Development Budget of \$11.39M.

The GSDF has a particular focus in 4 areas: Player Grants, Support for Professional Tournaments; Junior Tournaments and Touring Teams.

He mentioned that some of this funding is assisting a new item in the Budget which was the \$30,000 towards the U17 Teams project, the POJC and other projects.

He then referred to 2 of the pillars, events and performance that account for more than 60% of the investment in Development; that the ITF Board of Directors has approved 2 projects; he discussed the first of these in detail which is the On Line Academy which is an on line platform that will focus on coaches and also for tennis administrators, nutritionists, psychologists and others which will make a difference for tennis; that coaching is getting a 4% spending increase but this doesn't include the \$170k that the ITF gets from Olympic Solidarity which can be accessed by National Federations; that in 2019 the worldwide budget for facilities will be almost \$400k; that the ITF realize that this is not enough but that they are trying to do the best they can in this area; that the ITF is committed to increasing the spending in this area and that the ITF looks forward to receiving applications.

That the Oceania budget for 2019 is \$1.4M with over 70% being spent on the 2 strategic pillars of events and performance; that to deliver a worldwide development programme and strategy we realize that we need to work closely with the 6 Regional Associations with the 10 Development Officers based around the world and the 210 National Member Associations.

That in 2019 the ITF will be organizing another Worldwide Participation Conference which will be on the 7th-8th July; that also the Worldwide Coaches Conference will be held in Bangkok from 25th-27th October.

Dermot Sweeney commenced his presentation by saying that it was a great pleasure to be at the AGM and to better understand the Pacific Region. He commenced by saying that one of biggest spending areas is events where \$360k will be spent in the Pacific in 2019; he then referred to the

Nations Cup which was highly successful, so much so that in their DO Meetings they have been talking about trying to replicate this event in other Regions of the world; that in the U12 team competition that for the Pacific this is a really important event for talent ID; that we want to identify the talent at an early age so we can start to try to achieve our ranking goals for players; that in 2017 the ITF started the Junior Player Grant Programme with grants being awarded to Abigail Tere-Apisah (3rd year), Violet Apisah and the New Zealander Ajeet Rai.

That the ITF has done a good job with players until they reach 18 but not beyond that; that this programme is designed to help these players achieve their goals; that we realized that the we had to start earlier with players in the Pacific he then discussed the top tier funding (\$25k) and also the 2nd tier funding (\$12.5k), the criteria for this and that this was introduced particularly to assist regions like the Pacific where it is more difficult for these players to achieve the higher level rankings that are linked to the top tier funding; that he is looking at discussing with Gary Purcell during his time in Fiji a 3rd and a 4th tier funding programme; that a lot of the kids in the Pacific may need to go a different pathway which is the college pathway.

That the U18 touring programme is run from London; that this year an U14 Tour Team programme was introduced which 2 NZ players were the beneficiaries of; that all 4 Grand Slams are covered by the ITF Touring Teams; that we have a new team in South America starting in February 2019 and a College Team started 2 years ago; that we have a player(Carol Lee) playing in a Grand Slam for the first time which is an indication of huge improvements that have taken place in the Training Centre over the last couple of years.

He then discussed the RTC Coaching team which includes Roxanne Clarke (a Level 3 Coach), Thomas Perrin (who has just completed his Level 3 Course), Tito Bira who has just been appointed an Assistant Coach; that all players are now enrolled in online schooling; that players now have a full programme of training as a result and it is a far more professional programme and set up; that we are pushing

the standards for a high level commitment and performance; that criteria have been set for players around discipline, attitude etc and if this isn't adhered to then they won't stay at the centre as has happened in the past; he then discussed National Centre Training Centre Programmes and the set up for this and their ability to get funding to support the programmes; that Samoa have now taken on board the ITF Programme; that the intent is to get an ITF expert to come in to support the Centre to help the coaches and the overall structure and to provide guidance on how to set up the programmes especially on the competition side where you have to set up a really strong programme; also that the ITF had started a recognition programme for the Training Centres that achieved minimum standards to get Gold, Silver or Bronze recognition.

Gary Purcell said that this is the 2nd AGM that he has attended; then gave an update of his activity in 2018 where he tried to get around as many of the Nations as possible to assist deliver the ITF Programmes with the following visits:

East Pacific:	Samoa, Am. Samoa, Cook Is, Tahiti
West Pacific:	Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Is, PNG, Kiribati
North Pacific:	Guam, Saipan

With the intent in 2019 to visit Tuvalu, Norfolk Is, FSM, Palau, Nauru.

That we focus on the pillars in our Development Programme with coaching being a massive one and the strategy to come in at the Play Tennis Level with the coaching qualification that is aligned to this; also, the high-end performance area; that in this Pacific Region to grow the base of tennis coaches in general is a big priority; that the Play Tennis is a standard stand-alone 4 day course where we can take existing coaches, PE teachers, volunteers; that there were 2 successful courses held in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu in May and October 2018 respectively; that also during his visits he has been doing 1 Day Workshops and 2 such workshops were held in Kiribati and Papua New Guinea in September and October 2018 respectively; the plan is to further build our bases of coaches within the region in 2019; that plans are in place for those who already

have Level 1 and would like to attend a higher Level 2 course; that he is looking at tutoring a course possibly in Asia and to take those coaches who may suit that there rather than trying to build one here in the Pacific where the numbers could be restrictive.

That he was able to take 7 coaches to Hong Kong in November 2018 to a Regional Coaches conference with over 250 coaches from all over Asia attending with world class speakers; that Guam took advantage of an Olympic Solidarity Initiative with substantive work done on developing the National Sporting Structure with Play Tennis Courses delivered (14 attendees with 7 identified that could progress to a Level 1 Course), CBI Coaching Course delivered, Tennis Festivals for Juniors and Adults, National Team Training restructured with associated media coverage.

That Programmes are split into Participation and Performance; that the GSDF allow us to have these great tours predominantly to Australia and New Zealand involving U12, 14s, 16s and in 2019 we have additional budget to allow U17s; that the players going on these tours are now going deeper into the draws with their success; that there are an increasing number of Junior Events in the Pacific with the introduction of the new Grade 5 in Vanuatu which was won by Clement Mainguy (VAN); that the pathway for players is now becoming a lot clearer; the other initiative is participation with the JTI Programme being at the forefront of this with 13 Nations actively involved that all the subsidy grants of \$33k were used and the equipment/resources funding has now increased to almost \$25k this year; that he taken on board feedback from the Nations as to what is required.

That the flagships events in the Pacific are the Regional Championship where we have an East, West and North Event in the first half of the year culminating with the POJC in July in Fiji with 56 players coming to Fiji in 2018; that historically we have used the top 4 positioning for placements in the touring teams; that there was a recent shift from a U12s to a U12 Team Competition which is a worldwide rollout; there were similarly regional events held

in this age group culminating in the finals; that 16 different teams came to Fiji for the U12 Team Competition Finals with the Cook Island Boys and Samoa Girls winning their respective events; this event provides a great talent identifier; that 15 Nations played in the new Pacific Nations Cup Event with great local marketing initiatives with players going into the local communities.

Luca Santilli then gave an update on the ITF Strategy Programme-the ITF Rating System which has an objective to create a common language in tennis and include all the players as a result of this; that the intent is to measure the standard of everyone around the world; that an algorithm will be used to do this; that the ITF will engage the tennis players around the world through technology; that a full project team is in place; that Nations such as Australia, Austria, Canada, China, France, Great Britain, Ireland, Netherlands, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, USA are already onboard to support this project; that there has been an ITF Rating Advisory Group that has been created with the task of defining the parameters of how the algorithm will work; that they had identified Club Spark as a sports technology provider to assist and be a partner with this project; that the first pilot project is expected to be launched in 4-5 countries by March 2019 and that the project will be finally launched and live by October 2019.

That the key projects for 2019 are the ITF Rating System, The ITF Online Academy, the National Associations Development Plan, Tennis Festivals with the new participation programmes that Gary Purcell will introduce across the Pacific during his visits, the ITF Coaches Conference and the ITF Participation Workshop.

In closing he said that he was really pleased to see that Gary Purcell has been able to introduce himself successfully to the Region; he reiterated the commitment of the ITF Development Team to help the Region grow tennis in Oceania.

7. 2018/2019 ITF Recognition of Excellence in the Development of Tennis

7.1 Background Overview of Awards, Objectives, Criteria

David Haggerty prefaced the presentation by thanking everyone for the positive comments on him and his ITF Team; that this is a partnership and that the ITF is working really hard to change but it is a 2-way street; that he commented that the ITF wants to provide more and more funding to every Region, that this is one of his goals and as he visits each region that there isn't a region that doesn't want more funding.

He then said that there are 210 member Nations around the World and that every Nation works hard to develop tennis with the help of numerous volunteers who often don't see or get the recognition that they deserve; that one of the things that the ITF created a year ago was regional awards where the ITF could acknowledge and recognize the Nations that go above and beyond with great performance in the areas of the pillars referred to earlier.

7.2 Presentation of Awards

Luca Santilli then spoke and gave a background on the award recipients. He then said that there were 3 Pacific Nations that were being recognized today and asked Gary Purcell to detail who they were and why:

1. **Guam**- awarded for excellence in facilities following the securing of funding for a Nation Tennis Centre to act as a National Association Headquarters with 6 courts initially with a further 5 to be constructed at a later date. Torgun Smith received the award on behalf of Guam Tennis.
2. **Fiji**- awarded for excellence in events; he explained that Fiji has developed into a hub for regional and ITF events and tournaments in hosting the POJC and a number of ITF events on the ITF Circuit, the B2, the Fiji Open. The ITF Pacific Oceania Training Centre in Fiji and the big success of the Nations Cup, Donna Neisau received the award on behalf of Fiji Tennis.

- 3. Tahiti-** awarded for excellence in programmes and that Tahiti always has outstanding results in all categories from Juniors to Seniors; that in the 2018 Nations Cup Tahiti won the Men's Event; that Tahiti dominated in all the regional events with Boys and Girls 14s and 16s singles through to the POJC; their Juniors finishing in the top 4 and as a result going on to a lot of the Junior Touring Teams. Wilfred Sacault accepted the award on behalf of Tahiti Tennis.

Following the lunch break David Smith then welcomed Alekesei Selivanenko, an ITF Board Member who joined the meeting at 1:30pm.

7.3 ITF Subscription Fee Rebate Programme

Luca Santilli started by saying that the programme was introduced for 2019 to support the Class B- 1 share National Associations; that upon payment of the subscription fee that Nations can then apply for a rebate up to \$3,500 ; that Nations have received letters from the ITF President and the Development Department; that every Development Officer will be the recipient of applications and collectively they can decide which projects are the most efficient use of such monies; they could apply for a Play Tennis Course, a Participation in Junior Competitions like a U12 Competition, extra JTI equipment, it could be used to offset the levy of players at the RTC or potentially other programmes as examples of how such rebate monies could be used.

7.4 2019 Davis Cup by BNP Paribas Financial Letter

7.5 2019 Fed Cup by BNP Paribas Financial Letter

These letters from the ITF had been previously circulated and were taken as read. David Haggerty briefly spoke to these; that with the reforms to these events that there is significant improvement in their funding and the resultant funding benefits that will come to Class B Nations.

8. OSEP Governance

8.1 Review of Workshop-March 2018

8.2 Report from Participating Nations

Bruce Osborne then gave an overview and the background to the course that occurred during the OTF AGM in Auckland in March 2018; that we were grateful to get a Governance Grant from the ITF to host this training programme which is part of one of the ITF's pillars; that the OTF see that it is critical that every Nation follows the guide lines of OSEP; that there is follow up work that is needed to continue the process to enable every Nation to get better at running tennis; that he urged everyone to continue the process that they started last March; that any questions can be addressed to OSEP on their website; that it is all on line and one of the best programmes that he has seen; that even those who didn't attend the workshop need to visit the website.

Brian Baudinet commented that OSEP is a partnership between the Australian Sports Commission, ONOC and the OSFO (Organizations of Sports Federations in Oceania) and that it is a sports education programme available for ONOC member countries and gave a brief overview of its mission in tennis that it focussed on governance management, communications, finance, sports activity, physical and human resources and then explained what the recent, current and proposed focus for the Cook Islands is; that their most important immediate focus is Constitution and Structure. He then discussed the Readiness Assessment Tool (RAT) which he found valuable and urged other Nations to take up the course which he said was disappointingly attended in Auckland last March at the AGM and for them their Strategic Plan and the Constitution were their primary focuses.

Bruce Osborne then summarized and said that Milly and her OSEP team were there to help any Nation; that a Nation can progressively work on this. Richard Breen commented that it was his impression that a lot of ONOC money is being funnelled into OSEP to run these training programmes.

9. Regional Training Centre

9.1 Report on the RTC Courts, Facility Management and Lease

Richard Breen advised the meeting that the annual lease cost for the RTC is F\$18,000 annually that is done through a contract between Tennis Fiji and Fiji Sports Council, with a lease for 7 years, but funded by the ITF; that following a report written on the courts that some of the funding used from the Nations Cup was used to resurface the courts and to bring the facility up to standard; that it had been discussed in the Executive Meeting yesterday to have a

sinking fund to continually maintain the facility; that Luca Santilli mentioned in the Executive Meeting yesterday that a Facilities Grant could be considered in the future to help bring the facility to a more acceptable standard should it need upgrading or resurfacing; that outside of this there is the day-to-day upkeep which costs money with is currently funded by Tennis Fiji (75%); that the remaining 3 courts have been done since the Nations Cup, so all 6 courts have now been resurfaced; that the usage is now primarily the ITF Scholarship kids.

9.2 2018 Development Officer Report

This part of the agenda was handled earlier in the meeting during the ITF Presentation.

9.3 2018 ITF/OTF Projects Management

9.3.1 Background to MOU

9.3.2 2018 Overview

Luca Santilli then gave a brief overview of the MOU signed between the OTF and the ITF. He explained that there is a very significant amount of money in the OTF Budget for these projects and that the ITF had put in place in all the Regional Associations similar MOUs which ensured integrity, accountability and helped ensure that the ITF and The respective Regional Associations were always on the same page; that it was disappointing when ONOC stopped their contribution as this had provided an additional revenue stream to the OTF and the ability for the OTF to fund some of its projects which then meant that the ITF needed to cover this shortfall; that the MOU is an agreement between the ITF and the OTF which mandates where the ITF funding needs to be spent; that the Regional Administration Grant is for technical items, salaries, operations, formal meetings/AGMs and administrative workshops; additionally the MOU establishes the responsibility of the Regional Association and what administrative role the OTF has in the administration of the Development Programme; that it is a point of reference of the joint work; that in 2019 we probably need to re-look at the MOU and see when any update/amendment is required with amended responsibilities; that the initial % of the contribution was amended last year from 75% to 90%. David Smith and Richard Breen then explained both the rationale around this change but also now the new modus operandi.

Luca Santilli went on to say that without good administration projects do not happen effectively so it is important that there is in place the expertise, the professionalism and timely administration to ensure that the money advanced is meeting the KPIS and objectives; that the GSDF projects are supported by the ITF Administration; that our objective is to improve our ability to administrate the programmes which is an ongoing challenge.

10. International Junior and Senior Teams

10.1 Nations Cup

10.1.1 Review of 2018

10.1.2 2019 Dates/Venue

Richard Breen commenced by saying that 2018 was the inaugural event for the Nations Cup where funding was provided by the ITF to run this event for Class C Nations; that Fiji was chosen as the host Nation; that this was probably the first time that we have had every eligible that could play an event, play an event with 15 eligible Nations represented; that events in the Pacific are always challenging to attend due to the travel cost but this was mitigated by the ITF funding this so there was then no reason for Nations not to participate; that the format was great as was the feedback from Nations; that it was initially meant to be a biannual event and that due to its success it has now become an annual event; that the report of the event is embedded in the Annual Report with photos of the medal winners, results etc; that the OTF Board was of the view that this should be held in Fiji again in 2019; that at this AGM the OTF is seeking expressions of interest of any Nation that may wish to be considered as a host in 2020-21; that due to the event calendar the end May/early June was seen as the best dates and also particularly for Fiji in that it follows the Fiji Open; also it was seen as an appropriate date as it was before the Pacific Games in July in Samoa.

He explained that the event cost about \$120k to run of which \$90k was provided by the ITF with the balance being sourced locally through sponsors and the Fiji Government so as a result the cost to Nations was NIL; that the 2019 Nations Cup will be held in Fiji from the 28th May to the 2nd June 2019; also that the Fiji Open will precede this event from 22nd May to the 26th May.

Cyrille Mainguy commented that during the 2018 OTF AGM in Orlando, the OTF did a presentation to Class C Nations and as a result other Regions like Africa have expressed an interest in doing similarly. David Smith advised that an "Expression of Interest Document" would be sent out to all Nations for those wishing to express and interest in hosting the Nations Cup in the 2 years of 2020-21.

10.2 Oceania Championships

Ray Schuster then gave a verbal report on the Oceania Championships which were held in Apia, Samoa in early September 2018. He commenced by thanking all the Nations that attended with 10 Nations (Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Guam, Samoa, FSM, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Tahiti, Samoa and American Samoa) participating and expressed disappointment that more didn't attend given at the previous AGM Nations were saying that there wasn't enough senior competition; that there were 50 players who participated and the competition was of a high level particularly as New Zealand and Australia participated who lifted the level of the Championships; he thanked all those who contributed to the success of the Championships and that it served as good preparation for this year's Pacific Games.

Bruce Osborne commented that this was the first Australian indigenous tennis team that had been sent abroad; that the players, on their return, were effuse in their praise of the Championships and are looking now to go to the Fiji Open and another Oceania Championships.

David Smith then, on behalf of the OTF, thanked Ray Schuster and Tennis Samoa for hosting the Oceania Championships.

10.3 Fed Cup 2018 and 2019

David Smith then gave a brief overview of 2019 and referred delegates that a full report on 2018 was contained in the reports circulated before the AGM; that the 2019 Fed Cup was taking part in a couple of weeks in the week commencing the 4th February in Astana, Kazakhstan and that Pacific Oceania will be fielding arguably one of the strongest, if not the strongest, Fed Cup side to have represented Pacific Oceania; that there are some very strong teams competing and that Pacific Oceania has

been drawn in the same pools as China which has 3 players in the top 50 in their team.

10.4 Davis Cup 2018 and 2019

That at this stage we don't know where or when this will be held in 2019; that nominations have been received from Nations for the Team and that the selectors had been waiting for a match between 2 Tahitian players to occur but that this hasn't happened and is unlikely to happen in the immediate future; that this has been the delay in announcing the team; that the expectation is in the near future once the dates are known that the team will be announced and the players can start training towards that.

10.5 Junior Davis/Fed Cup 2018 and 2019

David Smith gave a brief overview of the Pre-Qualifying Junior Fed Cup and Junior Davis Cup in Colombo, Sri Lanka from the 4th-9th March and then, should they qualify, the Final Qualifying Event from the 8th-13th April.

10.6 Pacific Games Samoa

Ray Schuster commenced by saying that 22 Counties will be attending the Pacific Games; he had circulated a list of proposed attendance for tennis from the Games Organizing Council for delegates to verify for correctness; that currently the courts are under resurfacing work with an end February expected completion date with the expectation that the resurfacing by the Chinese contractors will be a better job than what was done for 2015; that Yvonne Carruthers, the Sports Competition Manager, is the local contact person for the tennis event.

Cyrille Mainguy said that Andrew Minogue had been invited to the AGM but at the last minute he couldn't attend; that he wanted to give a message to all Nations to urge them to attend the Games; that the OTF has nominated Francis Bryard (VAN) to be the Tennis Technical Delegate, Stephen Gibson (Referee) and Willy Quan (Chief of Officials).

Brief discussion took place on where the athletes would be housed; at this stage there was conflicting information and this wasn't yet clear.

11. Junior Development Grants

11.1 AOP Funding Reports from Nations

Bruce Osborne gave a quick overview of the programme that had been running for the last 5 years with Tennis Australia granting over \$50k annually to the programme; that 9 Nations applied in 2018 and all were successful and received grants. He then asked Torgun Smith, one of the recipient Nations, to give an overview of their programme.

He advised that Tennis Australia had forwarded equipment and the funding helped pay the coaches who administered the programme; that with the JTI equipment they were able to combine the equipment/programme; that they do 3 x 9 week sessions a year; that on Saturdays up to 40-50 kids attend and not always the same kids; that it is a great introductory tennis programme.

11.2 Programme for 2019 and beyond

Bruce Osborne said there was no reason why the programme wouldn't run beyond 2019; that the current programme will finish in the middle of August; that applications will open again in July; that the applications will again be circulated and also again be online with the deadline for submissions.

11.3 JTI Subsidy Grants

Gary Purcell talked on the JTI Programme and stressed that reporting was important to be done; that this will shortly be an online process; that there has now be a good addition in that Nations will now be able to suggest to the ITF the equipment that they need.

At this stage of the meeting Bruce Osborne talked about Vicki Reid, who attended the OTF Board Meeting yesterday, and is the TA Head of Stakeholder Engagement and what her role and responsibilities are.

12. Junior Competitions
12.1 Pacific Oceania Junior Circuit
12.1.1 Report 2018 Circuit
12.1.2 Report 2018
12.1.3 2019 Circuit/Dates

David Smith mentioned that in the bound handout is the calendar of Junior Events for 2019. Richard Breen explained about the ITF Junior Events in the Pacific with the events in Guam and Saipan in May, New Caledonia in June followed by Fiji after that; that the only new event is that Australia had an additional Grade 3 Event backed up by the B2 in Fiji in August; that this Grade 2 Event in Australia is now becoming a Grade 2 event; that New Zealand have applied for an additional Grade 3 event which will be held in October; that there are now a good number of events in the Pacific and this was added to in 2018 with the Grade 5 event in Vanuatu which is continuing.

Cyrille Mainguy then commented that it would be great to have a Grade 5 Event in every Pacific Nation; that the numbers for the inaugural event in Vanuatu weren't great but that they almost had a full draw in the Boy's Event but not as full in the Girl's Event; that for Vanuatu it was a real success with a local, Clement Mainguy, winning the Singles and Doubles; that for years we have had a Development Programme and that it is time now to move to a competition stage.

12.1.4 WTA 2018 Future Stars-Singapore and Beyond

David Smith commented that late last year 2 Pacific Girls, Saoirse Breen (FIJI)-U14s) and Rosalie Molbaleh (VAN-U16s) took part in the WTA Future Stars Event in Singapore; that Pacific Oceania has again been invited in 2019; that it is one of these situations where if we don't use the invitation, we will likely lose that opportunity, that later again this year the same opportunity will again be offered to the top 14 and 16 Girl to be with the Stars and play at this event.

Richard Breen said that even though there aren't ITF ranking points on offer, it is an incredible opportunity for these girls to play but also an education in the different workshops that they attend; that in 2019 the event will be in China.

12.1.5 Under 12s

12.1.6 POJC

Gary Purcell said that historically the 12s events have been part of the 14s/15s and similarly the POJC due to travel costs, coach availability, school holidays; that in other Regions of the World the 12s are stand alone events; that the 12s currently don't get the attention that they deserve; that he proposes a discussion at the finals later in the year to see if there are any other solutions that can be put forward; that the winning team in 2018 went to New Caledonia in October; that some of the players with higher ranking earned positions on GSDF touring teams.

13. Pacific Oceania Junior Teams

13.1 ITF Teams to Australia

13.2 Future Teams/Tours

Gary Purcell commented on the extra \$30k funding in the budget for the U17s which is a new initiative; that under discussion at the moment is the best way to use these funds with hopefully one tour early in the year and another later in the year at higher levels than what we have been used to playing.

Richard Breen commented that the criteria for player selection will be updated; that it is important that all coaches of Nations bring players to the Regionals know the progression of how their players get from the Regionals to the POJC; then how they get on to one of the touring programmes.

14. Coaching and Player Development

14.1 Coaching Development

14.2 Coaching Resources

Gary Purcell said that as he had been visiting Nations he had been focussing on coaching programmes on Play Tennis; that he urged nations if they have coaches who have done Level 1 Courses and are looking to upgrade to a Level 2, that he was looking to tutor a course in Asia and he would like to bring some Pacific coaches to Asia to do a Level 2 Course.

He then referred to the Online Academy that was being launched which will be very beneficial to all member Nations; that coaches who are already doing Play Tennis courses will be able to do on line hours before they are with a tutor which then flows through to on court work and activity; that this Online Academy will revolutionize coaching in the future.

Dermot Sweeney said that the development of coaches in the Pacific was a critical element for the future; that opportunities need to be found for local coaches to tour with teams to learn; that we have to look at all the different events and how we can use those events to do say a half day seminar with coaches; that maybe when they come to the POJC a session with Roxanne and Thomas can be arranged.

15. ITF

15.1 ITF AGM-Lisbon, Portugal

David Haggerty said that in a record number(11) of attendees from Pacific Oceania attended the ITF AGM in Orlando; that from the 25th-27th September in Lisbon, Portugal, the ITF AGM will be held and this is an opportunity for every Nation of Pacific Oceania to attend; that the networking allows you to share best practice, to meet other people; to share the same challenges and ambitions.

The ITF provides each Nation for 1 delegate 4 nights accommodation, a \$500 airfare credit; this year there will be a number of different things on the agenda with the materials just being sent a couple of days ago to all the Nations; that this will be an election year for the Board and the President; that this will be the first re-election of the Board since we changed the by-laws to be a 4 year term as it used to be a 4 year term for the President and a 2 year term for the Board; that this is now a 4 year term for both; that there will be an update on Fed Cup and also Davis Cup as we will know the teams that will be in the finals; that we will go through the Constitutional updates and any changes to bylaws; an update on the ethics commission; gender equity will be a key topic also; that any Nations interested in becoming a Class B member would also be a good opportunity for those to be there remembering it is a 2 year process.

16. Administration/Projects/New ITF Initiatives

16.1 Facilities/Special ITF Grants

Luca Santilli mentioned then that Guam, Fiji and Norfolk Island have been successful in obtain ITF Facilities Grants; that those looking to apply for Facilities Grants should initially contact Gary Purcell who will then engage Rachel Woodward in the ITF who will assist with the application; that the ITF always asks the Regional Association if they approve the project; that the ITF will always try to find the funding to support projects; that for existing Training Centres the ITF has a programme to support the functioning and the management of the centre by sending an ITF expert for a week and by doing that we establish a conversation and collaboration between the National Training Centre and the ITF Development Department; that also once the National Training centre has reached a reasonable standard, you can also apply for recognition (Bronze, Silver and Gold Recognition); that the programme was introduced in 2018 and already the ITF has received an application from the French Tennis Federation, Belarus, Ireland, Portugal to name a few; it is a good opportunity for you to tell your NOC and Government that the World Body has certified the Training Centre meeting the initial standard but that we need support to move to the next level.

Luca Santilli said that there is a committee that oversees the applications with the ITF President being part of this committee; that one of the pre-requisites is that the Nation is engaged not only with the ITF but also with the Regional Association; that we believe that this is important for the application process to be successful. He also gave credit to the Guam Tennis Federation for the quality of their Business Plan that subsequently resulted in a successful grant application to build a National Training Centre and the position that was given to the ITF to share this best practice with the rest of the World; that as a result other Presidents have been privy to ideas on how to fundraise for projects.

That the ITF has an expectation that Nations engage with their attendance at Regional AGM and also the ITF AGM. Whilst the ITF realizes Nations can't attend every meeting, this engagement positions Nations to have the greatest likelihood of success for their proposed projects provides the project itself stands up to scrutiny and also it is sustainable; this doesn't mean that missing OTF or AGM Meeting rules out your chances of successful

applications; that there are multiple ways to engage and that this is only one method.

Dermot Sweeney commented that the ITF is available to assist if you want to set up a National Training Centre; or you may want assistance with programmes; the ITF would willingly send an expert over to assist; that the ITF would cover the travel and the fees of the expert and the National Association would cover the accommodation and meals; that if there is a particular area of expertise that you are seeking then the ITF would make sure that the expert is skilled in that particular field.

17. General Business-Development Issues

17.1 General Discussion

Torgun Smith raised that we should ensure we always have Officiating as an agenda item as we don't have enough officials in our region.

David Haggerty then talked about Alekesei Selivanenko, who joined the AGM after lunch, who is an ITF Board Member; that he is the Chair of the Beach Tennis Committee; that he is available to talk Beach Tennis with anyone who may be interested as the ITF is trying to grow Beach Tennis around the World.

Alekesei Selivanenko then addressed the meeting and said there were huge opportunities for developing Beach Tennis; that the Pacific Oceania region is surrounded by water and beaches; that the most successful Nations developing Beach Tennis are similar to the Pacific Oceania Region like Aruba, Mauritius; that Aruba started with 4 courts and now has over 30 courts; that his experience is that Beach Tennis is not cannibalising traditional tennis; that he encouraged Nations to look at Beach Tennis as a new discipline which attracts a new audience to your Nation and also it attracts a new, young audience to the sport in general; that playing tennis on the beach doesn't necessarily mean the sand; that those interested in pursuing this further should contact the ITF office in London; that in September this year in San Diego will be the inaugural Beach Games which are organized by ONOC.

Gary Purcell commented that the ITF was putting together a Beach Tennis Equipment “starter-pack” that would shortly be available to Nations.

18. Next Meeting

18.1 OTF AGM 2019- Where/When?

Next AGM will be in Port Vila, Vanuatu with:

- OTF Executive Meeting- Friday 24th April 2020
- OTF AGM- Saturday 25th April 2020

In closing Cyrille Mainguy thanked everyone for their support; Tennis Australia and Bruce Osborne for hosting the delegates; all the attendees; David Haggerty and the ITF Team for their attendance; and he welcomed the new OTF Board; and closed the meeting by thanking the 2 Executive Officers, Richard Breen and David Smith for the arrangements, organization and documentation for the AGM.

Before the AGM closed Bruce Osborne then advised attendees of the Dinner Arrangements at the Rod Laver Arena.

The AGM closed at 3:20pm.