



OCEANIA TENNIS FEDERATION

Minutes of the 19th OTF Annual General Meeting Held by Video Conferencing on Sunday 26th April 2020 at 9:00am (NZ Time)

Attendance

Delegates:

Wasko	Florence	American Samoa
Reid	Vicky	Australia
Hosking-Ashford	Davina	Cook Islands
Skilling	Sterling	Federated States of Micronesia
Reddy	Sachin	Fiji
Hawes	Richard	Guam
Tannang	John	Nauru
Le Dain	Olivier	New Caledonia
Paterson	Julie	New Zealand
Race	Jeff	NMI
Akao	Shalom	Solomon Islands
Manea	Ruth	Tahiti
Sands	Sarah	Vanuatu

In Attendance:

Mainguy	Cyrille	OTF President
Osborne	Bruce	OTF Vice President
Neisau	Donna	Board Member
Patrick	Celia	Board Member
Rengiil	Ernestine	Board Member
Sacault	Wilfred	Board Member
Smith	Torgun	Board Member
Stubblings	Barbara	Board Member
Breen	Richard	Joint EO, OTF
Smith	David	Joint EO, OTF

Also in Attendance:

Haggerty	David	ITF- President
Fairweather	Kelly	ITF-Chief Operating Officer

Santilli	Luca	ITF-Executive Director, Tennis Development
Couraud	Frank	ITF Manger, Training Centres & Events
Purcell	Gary	ITF Development Officer-Pacific Oceania
McGurran	James	ITF-Manger, International Relations

Apologies

Gatehouse	Chris	Norfolk Islands
Fakakovikaetau	Amanaki	Tonga
Sweeney	Dermot	ITF-Technical Director, Training Centre and Players

Opening Address

Cyrille Mainguy welcomed everyone by saying that this AGM video conference was not only a first for the OTF but also a different style of meeting. He particularly thanked the 6 ITF attendees including the 5 from the ITF based in London and said he wished that the AGM could have been held in Vanuatu as Vanuatu is free of Covid-19.

David Haggerty, President of the ITF, then welcomed all the attendees on the Video AGM. He said that the ITF cherishes the strong collaboration with the OTF as we collectively work together to grow tennis in the Region. We live in unprecedented times right now and he had been looking forward with the ITF team to joining everyone in Vanuatu but we have all now had to learn this new video technology and that it was a pleasure to be able to address everyone in this way.

He then said that he wanted to share what the ITF is doing to protect the ITF and the ITF Member Nations to ensure that when we return to tennis, we are able to be in a strong position to lead the grass roots efforts around the World. He advised that everyone would have seen the ITF announcement, but that about 2 weeks ago the ITF Management met with ITF staff. He then went on to explain some of the cost saving measures that the ITF has taken.

The ITF has been closely following Covid-19 and has been making decisions on postponement and suspension of events in the tennis calendar. A few weeks ago announcements were happening so quickly with Roland Garros announcing the postponement till September; then Clay Court season was suspended; then the Olympics and Paralympics postponed till 2021, the first time in

Olympic history; then Wimbledon and the English grass court season were cancelled and then all the ITF Events were postponed through until the 12th July. This all happened with such speed and that if anyone had told you last year that tennis events would be suspended for 4 months, you wouldn't have believed them. The challenges are unprecedented and we are faced with the harsh economic reality that has required us to assess our financial situation and to review measures to protect the long-term operation of the ITF. Over the last few weeks, we have looked at the business and our budget and in early April we had a budget review with the ITF finance committee with a subsequent review with the ITF Board who made some recommendations.

As a result of these discussions, there were 2 scenarios that were developed and they both indicated that the ITF is projected to sustain an operational loss of \$8.4M in 2020 due to the current shutdown and that if tennis did not return until 2021, then the loss would be more than twice that amount. So, this situation forced the ITF to make several necessary but difficult decisions to create some savings and to safeguard jobs for the future and long term. The future of our sport will require all of us to make sacrifices in the short term and I know we all are. So, we then took some actions as at the 15th April which included my taking a 30% salary reduction till the end of the year, the senior leadership team has taken a 20% reduction and will work a 4-day week. In addition, for the next 3 months, the ITF will implement a job protection scheme which to some is commonly referred to as a furlough which was implemented for about half of our ITF team while we maintain 80% of those individuals' salary. The remaining staff will continue to work but on a 4-day schedule and a 10% reduction in salary and there will be no annual bonuses proposed. He had concluded the ITF Staff Meeting with the following statement which he believes applies to all of us on this Video AGM: "That we understand that these are very unsettling times for all of us, but we truly believe that we will get through this if we all pull together. It is vital that we take the temporary action now in order to resume activity quickly and effectively together the moment the situation allows us. Further details are being finalized over the next couple of weeks."

He continued by saying that you would have all seen my update last week on the 7 stakeholders to help players ranked somewhere between 150-700 in the World. He said that details

are being finalized over the next week or so, but equally importantly, the ITF is looking at ways on how we can help Nations, officials and other stakeholders and that we are discussing this with the ITF Board so that we can help you when we return to tennis. More details on this will be available when we have a better sense of the calendar.

1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held at the Bayview Eden, Melbourne on the 19th January 2019 were received and unanimously approved as a true and correct record of the meeting. This was moved by Cyrille Mainguy and seconded by Barbara Stubbings.

2. Executive Committee Report

2.1 Progress in 2017

2.2 Presentation of Annual Report

Cyrille Mainguy then spoke to the 2019 OTF Annual Report that had been previously be circulated electronically. He said that 2019 was another very successful year with the Pacific Games being held in Samoa, Two 2 Pacific players excelled on the professional circuit with Colin Sinclair (NMI) becoming the first player to win a ITF Men's Professional Singles title in Claremont, California and similarly Abigail Tere-Apisah becoming the first Pacific Oceania women to win a WTA Women's singles Title in Singapore and additionally there were also some excellent results from our Junior players. We were provided excellent support from Tennis Australia and the OTF appreciates the assistance being financially provided by the ITF and the year-on-year increases in funding. Over the last year, there has been more contact than ever with Luca Santilli and his Development Team and similarly Frank Couraud and Dermot Sweeney with the Regional Training Centre that has been extremely fruitful. This report has also been sent to the ONOC and our other stakeholders.

The presentation of the OTF 2019 Annual Report was moved by Cyrille Mainguy and seconded by Celia Patrick.

3. Finance

3.1 Financial Report 2019

The presentation of the OTF 2019 Financial Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2019 was moved by Cyrille Mainguy and seconded by Celia Patrick.

3.2 Regional Administration Grant Budget 2020

3.3 Pacific Oceania Assistance Budget 2020

Luca Santilli then spoke regarding the work that the OTF and ITF have been doing in realigning both these budgets to provide the substantive savings that the ITF was seeking as earlier outlined. He then shared a world-wide overview of the Development Budget and then the specific Pacific Oceania Development Budget.

He started his presentation by saying that David Haggerty earlier outlined how the ITF is dealing with these challenging and uncertain times. As a result, the ITF Development Department and the OTF have started a financial review to ensure that we have both a plan and a Covid-19 budget for when we return to tennis in Pacific Oceania later in the year. While this review is still in progress, he explained that he wanted to provide attendees at the AGM an overview of the ITF Pacific Development Budget which for the 4th consecutive year saw another significant increase. Over the last 4 years, development spending in Pacific Oceania has more than doubled and that if you add the amounts for the Global Tennis Number (the global rating that we are working on) and the ITF Academy (the educational platform) to the approximately \$12.5M, then the investment in Development is over \$14M in 2020. This unprecedented level of funding over the last 3 years is ensuring the long term health and development of our sport.

He then visually explained the composition and the breakdown of the spending into the different strategic categories with approximately \$9.5M coming from the ITF and an unprecedented \$3M from the Grand Slam Development Fund and that this GSDF money is entirely spent on projects as all the administration costs are borne by the ITF.

He then reviewed the breakdown by category with Events and Performance amounting to over 60% of the budget aligned with increasing the core objective of increasing participation. The ITF has also increased our focus on key areas such as participation and coaching, the launching of the ITF World Tennis Number and the ITF Academy which has been funded through the Strategic Project Budget of the ITF. The focus is now on ensuring we keep improving the impact of the facilities strategic area where from 2017-2020, almost \$2M has been granted to over 60 Nations. Specifically, for Pacific Oceania in the period from 2016-2020 spending has more than doubled and has gone from \$700,000 to

\$1.5M. This money and increase in spend has been used effectively as part of the 2017-2020 ITF Development Strategy, Mission and Objectives. He then shared a slide specifically showing the breakdown for Pacific Oceania in each strategic area with Events & Performance taking up 67% of the budget. He said that it goes without saying that the ITF Regional Training Centre, the POJC qualifying and finals as well as the Pacific Nations Cup are cost initiatives, but that they do provide a return on investment which the ITF monitor regularly.

Luca Santilli then spoke specifically to the 2020 Pacific Oceania Assistance Budget and that the ITF and OTF have been working very closely in the last few years but particularly in the last year where we have increased the number of our meetings substantially.

David Smith then explained that over the last few weeks that the ITF and OTF have been examining ever single line item of the Budgets, not only the Pacific Assistance Budget but also the Regional Grant Budget, which forms part of the wider budget in providing the savings that the ITF are seeking. He advised that we are looking at 2 scenarios depending on when tennis can resume in the Pacific. The OTF see as the 2 main priorities the North, East and West Regional Qualifying Championships and POJC Finals as Priority1 closely followed by the Pacific Nations Cup. We want to do everything in our power to try to ensure that these occur in 2020. Packaged around these, other events some of which have been postponed/rescheduled and others that have been cancelled. The subsequent intent is to then mark up a V2 revised budget which will show substantial cost savings for the ITF with this Video Conference itself representing substantial savings to the ITF.

Luca Santilli said that this is currently a work in progress and that the ITF have 2 scenarios for the ITF Centre in Lautoka, Fiji to reopen and some of the players to go back to the ITF House. He went on to say that the ITF has requested all 6 Regional Associations to look at their budgets to achieve respective savings of 35% on the Regional Administration Grant. He went on to thank the OTF for their work on that and that the OTF was one of the quickest to respond.

3.4 Auditor

David Smith explained that normally at this part of the agenda he would be recommending an auditor for approval by the AGM for

the next year. However, he advised that Barry McMillan, who has been auditing the accounts for the last 17 years is about to turn 80 and he advised a few weeks ago that he felt he could not continue in this role and that at this stage was not in a position to present a name to the AGM. However, that in liaison with Celia Patrick and Julie Paterson who had made a suggestion, he is currently working through this and other options to endeavour to provide an auditor for approval.

He then went on to talk about Barry McMillan who from the OTF's inception in 1993 was Tennis Australia's representative on Development matters at the very first and subsequent OTF Executive Meetings. This role then evolved, given his accounting background, to auditing the OTF accounts continuously from 2003-2019 pro bono. He said that we should now expect that there will likely be a cost for this going forward from an alternative auditor.

He continued by saying that he felt it would be appropriate that his services over the last 27 years be appropriately recognized and suggested presenting Barry McMillan with a suitably engraved plaque or object recognizing and thanking him for his work and his long service at our next face-to-face AGM hopefully in Melbourne.

Torgun Smith then suggested and moved nominating him for the ITF Services to Tennis Award. This was seconded by Barbara Stubbings. Cyrille Mainguy agreed that we should not only present him a suitable plaque face-to-face at the next AGM but additionally make an application to the ITF for his being considered for the Services to Tennis Award. David Smith then said that from here it was for the OTF Board to address this matter through the formal ITF application process.

Celia Patrick suggested that the OTF Board should additionally look at some structure and categories around OTF recognition awards for people within the Federation who contribute significantly. David Smith then said that her suggestion would be put on the agenda for the next OTF Board Meeting which is currently planned also to occur by video conferencing on or near the beginning of the 4th quarter of 2020. He went on to say that we do have separately ITF Awards for Nations as were presented in the last AGM in Melbourne 2019 to Fiji, Tahiti and Guam.

3.5 OTF Membership Fees

David Smith explained that OTF Membership Fees are for a two-year period. He advised that all Member have paid their

membership fees with the exception of Tuvalu and New Caledonia (payment since the AGM received) and that additionally American Samoa has also paid for their 2021 fees.

3.6 ONOC/Sponsorship Opportunities

Cyrille Mainguy advised the AGM that ONOC used to support Regional Federations but that is no longer the case with their funding now more being targeted to sports with players competing in the Olympics. Given that the Olympics have now moved to 2021, it is likely that this funding will be similarly targeted though we will continue to engage both ONOC and Olympic Solidarity for funding.

Torgun Smith said that this subject has been talked about over many years and that it was very difficult for a Regional Association to attract sponsors. He was of the view that this topic should be kept on the agenda and that we should be establishing a committee or task force to look at opportunities whether that be for our senior Davis or Fed Cup teams or other programmes.

David Smith said that the OTF did approach the Bank of South Pacific unsuccessfully with a sponsorship proposal a couple of years ago but either what we were offering, or the timing wasn't right, or the Bank didn't see this as a right fit for them. Barbara Stubbings commented that the Bank at that time were more looking at smaller assistance packages for each sport and more local rather than Regional sponsorship funding. She said that when the discussions were held face-to-face with BSP, the issue of the popularity of tennis was raised and the resultant potential coverage that they would enjoy. Since then BSP have responded by assisting PNG Tennis with funding and their recommendation was for individual Nations to have engagement with their respective BSP branch offices. She said that she supported the concept of trying to seek an OTF regional sponsorship package with a potential stakeholder.

Torgun Smith said that he would like to suggest engaging Longy Le Hoang from Vietnam who now lives in Queensland. Longy had reached out to him and others on the executive offering to assist and that this may be something that he could assist us with and warrants exploring further.

4. ITF

4.1 ITF Matters – General Overview

(N.B. full visual PowerPoint can be accessed here

<http://www.oceaniatennis.com/newsite/latest/historic-day-for-otf/>

David Haggerty then spoke to a PowerPoint presentation. He gave an overview on Governance that the ITF is working on. He said that at the 2019 ITF AGM, the ITF said that they would be reviewing the ITF Constitution and as a result proposing some much-needed reforms. The ITF plan is to discuss these areas of reform with the Nations and the Regions and then pass on the feedback to the Constitutional Committee as well as the Governance Taskforce.

He said that the intent of the review is to align the Constitution with the ITF's 2024 Strategy and particularly with the integrity and transparency priorities. So with integrity, the ITF will review a number of areas including making the corporate structure more transparent, reviewing senior leadership roles and responsibilities to reflect good governance principles and improving corporate governance procedure. It would also look at improving membership obligations, to lift the standards of governance in tennis, improve diversity on the ITF Board and update the ITF Constitution in line with best practice. In Development we will continue to focus on growing tennis where it is needed most.

He talked about the various roles and responsibilities. He said that the ITF AGM is the ultimate decision-making authority. The intent is that the ITF Board will recommend changes to the ITF Constitution that will be based on the work of the Guiding Taskforce and Committee in consultation with the National and Regional Associations which is also supported by the work of the Executive and external corporate and legal advisors as required.

He went on to say that the Governance Review provides for 8 deliverables, 3 of which were Task Force related and 5 for the Constitutional Committee:

- To review the ITF corporate structure.
- To review the ITF Licensing (UK) Ltd corporate governance procedures.
- To review the roles/responsibilities of the senior leadership team (President, Chair, CEO, COO).
- To formalize Nation and Region rights and responsibilities.
- To consider gender balance requirements for the Board.
- To clarify criteria for increasing/perhaps decreasing share allocation.

- To review the Regional presence on the Board which is something that has been discussed at previous OTF AGMs.
- To review the wording of the Constitution.

David Haggerty then explained the ITF Corporate structure and showed a slide and said that this structure he felt was the best structure moving forward. He said that the ITF has been asked by the Board is to be more transparent and make the corporate structure very visible both on the ITF Website, in the ITF Annual Report and to discuss this at the ITF's AGMs. He explained that the primary reason we have the current structure is to protect the ITF's assets. This structure formalizes the legal entities to protect members from exposure to litigation and that there is a separate legal entity for investment portfolios.

He then went on to discuss the real or perceived issues with this structure. One criticism is the lack of transparency and accountability which is why the Board has directed the Executive to be more transparent. Additionally, some felt there was a lack of control by ITF Ltd over ITF Licensing (UK) Ltd and the intent is also to add more directors to ITF Licensing (UK). Also some have said that the structure is complicated and in the last few elections there have been political motivations to use this platform. However, after a review and also going back to the 1997 AGM Minutes and the presentation that was laid out there, it is still considered the appropriate structure by the Board.

He went on to say that the Board has already made decisions last month on the ITF Corporate structure and that the following are the actions that the ITF will be taking:

- Improve transparency (in the ITF Annual Report, online and at the AGM).
- Current structure ensures asset protection.
- Communicate structure to the ITF Members.
- ITF Board control over assets and business operations by adding ITFL Directors.

He then discussed the matters that the Corporate Governance Taskforce will be considering:

- To include more/all ITF Ltd Board Members as directors of ITF Licensing. This then provides more oversight and transparency.
- Inclusion of independent non-executive members, and consider gender imbalance.
- To ensure that Memorandum and Articles of Association are up-to-date.

- Clarity and transparency as to how ITF Limited Board advises the ITF Trust (as 100% shareholder of ITF Licensing).

He advised that also being reviewed are the roles/responsibilities of the President, Chair, CEO and COO. The purpose of this review is:

- To avoid the concentration of power in one individual.
- To provide checks on the exercise of power over the organization.
- To provide clear duties and responsibilities for each role splitting between strategic/representative and executive/operational.
- To consider whether there is a need for independence.
- To ultimately ensure that the structure is effective and efficient.

David Haggerty then discussed the 5 areas that the Constitutional Committee will be looking at:

- Rights and obligations of Nations and Regions to bring more clarity and to bring this more into line with best practice; additionally, to include e-sports into the ITF Constitution as this is a growing and important area that tennis should be involved in.
- Addressing gender balance and whether there is the need to introduce minimum gender requirements for the Board.
- To review Share Allocation and to produce guidance to members on how to increase shares through improved development; additionally, whether there should be a decrease in shares.
- Reviewing Regional presence on the ITF Board and the inclusion of Oceania and COTEC in the Constitution as at the moment both these Regions are not guaranteed a seat on the Board of Directors; that this has been discussed for the last 3 years at OTF AGMs that he had attended.
- Effecting a general review of the wording of the Constitution to both simplify it and ensure that there is consistency throughout and is easier to understand.

In summary, he then discussed the timeline for this review where in:

- 2020-the ITF will gain feedback from the Nations and Regions which the Committee and Taskforce will take under advisement; that there are several ways that the stakeholders will be consulted through surveys, the Regional Presidents' Taskforce and also AGM workshops.

- 2021-the responses will be reviewed, refine the proposals and continue the consultation process in advance of the AGM in 2021; then if we are prepared and have acceptance of the changes then we would potentially vote on the governance reforms.
- 2022- however, if we still need more time then the constitution reforms would be further refined and consultation would continue to take place so that we are prepared to vote on that in the 2022 AGM.
- 2023-the plan is that all those changes would be in place so that the 2023 AGM and the elections would take place under whatever the new structure would be.

Richard Breen then asked whether the ITF was expecting a motion to be presented by the OTF at the next ITF AGM for Oceania's inclusion on the ITF Board of Directors or is there just a general consultation with no formal OTF motion?

David Haggerty responded by saying that the intent was that we have a consultation with all the Nations and Regions and everyone would then be aware whether this is included by the Constitutional Committee into the recommendations that would then be circulated for further discussion. If this isn't included in the recommendation, then the OTF would have the option of so doing. The ITF see this review as having a debate on all the different topics including this as it is something that we have all talked about over the last few years. We are hoping that the Constitutional Committee is able to get a broad array of feedback from Regions and Nations that would be included in the reform.

Cyrille Mainguy asked the question whether there was any intent as part of this review by the Constitution Committee to review giving voting provision to Class C Members. David Haggerty responded by saying that as part of the "Share Allocation" review by the Constitution Committee that this would be covered and considered there as part of this Governance reform.

4.2 ITF 2017-2020 Development Strategy (2019-20) Report and Update

4.3

4.3.1 ITF/OTF Strategic Development Matters

4.3.2 RTC Future and Review by ITF

Luca Santilli then spoke to a PowerPoint presentation on the ITF Development Strategy. He said that as a follow up to the 2019

OTF AGM in Melbourne that he and the Development Team will talk today how the ITF, in close collaboration with the OTF, has continued to engage with its Member Nations and what has been achieved during the implementation of our truly ambitious Development Plan over the last 14 months.

He then gave an overview of the overall Development Plan and some key projects within each of the strategic areas including the digital projects such as the ITF World Tennis Number and the ITF Academy. This, he said, shows the ITF's commitment to create digital tools to support the National Associations to become leaders in participation in their countries. He said that he intended to detail some success that we have had in the Pacific to date and then ask Frank Couraud and Gary Purcell to outline the strategic pillar projects implemented in Pacific Oceania along with the OTF.

He then visually showed attendees the total ITF Development Plan for 2017-2020 which is what has been our focus for the last 3.5 years in alignment with the Regional and National Associations. The Strategy provides a clear sense of direction for the 2 core objectives of increasing participation and developing talented players. He then discussed the 9 strategic principles (simplify, technology, engagement, customisation, more to fewer, return on investment, monitor and measuring, innovation and flexibility) that guide the ITF's work daily so that we have a strategy that is both data driven and measured-based.

As part of the Development Plan, he discussed the 6 strategic pillars (participation, coaching, administration and resources, events, facilities and performance). For each of these pillars there is a list of key projects that are instrumental to deliver on the 2 core objectives on how to grow tennis. It is a strategy that has participation at its core that aims to increase opportunities to play for all ages, genders, playing standards and physical ability. The ITF has set a very ambitious goal of growing participation from 87 million in 2019 to 120 million worldwide in 2030. To achieve such a very ambitious goal, we all need to work together with the participation initiatives that create specific resources for Nations. With the roll-out of the ITF World Tennis Number, we have seen a game-changing innovation and additionally with the ITF World Participation Conference we have established a forum to focus on how we grow tennis.

Luca Santilli said that it was important that we all improve our data collection techniques and we need to make it easier for Nations to safely exchange and share data with the ITF. Once we

are able to do this on a regular basis, we will be able to measure our investment in growing tennis, our successes and challenges and also by working together, we are increasing awareness on data regarding the tennis players, access to tennis (courts and clubs) and also the deliverers (coaches), the performances players and together we are improving our data collection in tennis.

He said it was interesting to note that players from 12 Nations make up over 90% of the World's playing population. Asia has the most tennis players globally (over 33 million); Pacific Oceania is the Region that has the highest percentage population of people who play tennis (6.2%); North America is the only Region with more female players playing than males (54.5%).

Being aware of this data will allow the ITF and the Nations to prioritize investment in the areas of participation and player development. This will assist us set up an additional goal to grow participation and with specific KPIs because we can confidently measure them.

In July 2019 during the ITF World Participation Conference in London, the ITF formally launched the World Tennis Number alongside 3 Grand Slam Nations and many other National Associations. To manage such a project we have in place in the ITF a steering committee comprised of representatives from the ITF, the Lawn Tennis Association, the French Tennis Federation and the USTA as well as an ITF World Tennis Number Advisory Group with other key Nations such as China, Netherlands, Switzerland, Canada, Tennis Europe. Even in these uncertain times due to Covid-19, the ITF World Tennis Number remains a high priority for the ITF for the next 6 months and onwards. Our ambition is to introduce a common language for the world of tennis and make more players play more often through level-based play thereby overall ensuring a better on court experience for all and keeping players engaged with tennis for longer.

The ITF is confident that the World Tennis Number will be a powerful tool fulfilling the fundamental objectives of increasing participation and recruiting and retaining players of any age and ability. We believe that the ITF and the National Associations are the ones to lead in this important base of the tennis eco-system. Through the ITF World Tennis Number, we will be able to, not only provides singles and doubles algorithms, but for the first time and free-of-charge we will provide digital tools to all National Associations in the form of a digital platform to assist the development of tennis. By doing this, the ITF will generate

significant amount of financial savings within the ITF stakeholders. He advised that this summer, the Lawn Tennis Association will launch the ITF World Tennis Number as their new national rating. The ITF is also currently working very closely with the French Tennis Federation and the USTA to test the algorithm and start the onboarding process.

Luca Santilli then proceeded to give an overview of the strategic areas of coaching, events, performance, facilities and participation by highlighting some of the key programmes worldwide so that playing opportunities exist for them at a local and regional level. It is important that we must continue to close the gap in competitive opportunities between North America and Europe (the most developed regions) and the other areas of the world from entry level to Junior and Professional tennis. We are doing this not only with the ITF Competitions where we have introduced a new and successful 12U competition in 5 Regions but additionally at Junior Circuit level, where we have added 48 new Junior Events in 5 regions including 6 Regional Junior Championships and Masters as part of the competitive Junior structure.

This is also why that in 2019 over \$650,000 was given in Host Nation Grants that was distributed to Nations to support professional tournaments (\$15,000 prize money level). This is why in 2018 and again in 2019, 15 Class C Nations from the Pacific Oceania Region had the opportunity to take part in the Pacific Nations Cup, a new Regional Team Competition with a similar format to the Davis Cup and Fed Cup.

He said that the Grand Slam Development Fund has been in place for more than 30 years and has contributed more than \$55 Million to the development of tennis worldwide. This is a fund that has supported and helped create countless champions through the touring team programme including players like Simona Halep, Jelena Ostapenko and Grigor Dimitrov and more recently emerging talents including top players from Indonesia and Latvia. This initiative has been complemented by the player grant programme which helps more Nations and players to play at the international event level.

In the same way, the ITF Junior player programme is helping to transition players from the Junior level to the Professional level. Over \$1M is spent every year on player grants. Coaching, which is instrumental in the success of any sport, is another vital pillar in the ITF's Development Strategy. This is why we continue to assist in ways to help Nations in becoming independent and self-sufficient

delivering coach education nationally and in acquiring ITF and Olympic Solidarity support for higher certification levels
In 2019 we had the bi-annual ITF Coaches Conference in Bangkok which attracted more than 650 coaches from 100 Nations and was a huge success. In early 2019, the ITF launched the On Line Academy which is an excellent example of how we are leveraging new digital technology to support coaches worldwide. The vision of the ITF Academy is to provide the information and education and access to certification as well as continuous professional development opportunities to all those interested. This includes the players, the coaches, the parents, the sports science practitioners, administrators and more
The ITF Academy holds a coaches' video library which is the largest in the world and offers a new online education section to deliver unique and accessible learning experience for coaches worldwide. National Associations will be able to use the digital platform to manage the coaches, community and reserve and save space, upload the online courses and engage with the coaches. At the present we are very pleased that Tennis NZ is using the ITF platform as part of the pilot project

Luca Santilli went on to say that, in addition to the ITF Facility Grant Programme, we need to focus on increasing the standard of National Training Centres and that the ITF have introduced an ITF Recognition Programme of Gold, Silver and Bronze level for those Centres managed by National Associations to the very highest of standards. The ITF would like to congratulate the French Tennis Federation that has become the first National Association to receive recognition at Gold level as well as Colombia at Silver level. Other countries like Belarus, Hong Kong, Mauritius, Portugal, USA and Tahiti in Pacific Oceania are now currently undergoing the process of ITF recognition.

Luca Santilli said that the ITF's Training Centres in Africa and Pacific Oceania are also a crucial component of the strategy. The 2 African Centres now have 2 players in the top 100 of the ITF Junior rankings including one ranked at #15 in the World. Additionally Carol Lee (NMI) became the first ever Pacific Oceania Training Centre player to participate in a main draw Grand Slam Junior Event when she qualified for the Australian Open and the US Open in 2019. The ITF's ambition is to create many more player stories and using our Centres and regional training camps we bring together the most talented junior players

from each region as we endeavour to improve the level of play and allow for court time with national level coaches.

He then mentioned that the ITF in conjunction with the OTF are conducting a strategic review (a SWOT analysis) of the Regional Training Centre in Fiji with the focus being on competition, training, education, court and facilities, gym, nutrition, environment, human resources and health. Hopefully the ITF will have a chance to report our findings at the next OTF AGM in January 2021. He said that the ITF is very much aware of the importance of working together and the ITF would like to thank the many National Associations, the 6 Regional Associations and the 10 ITF Development Officers as we grow the game for their commitment in delivering the ITF Development Strategy and for embracing the strategic changes in Development since 2017. The ITF is now working on putting together the 2021-2024 Strategy and already 170 Nations have provided feedback through an online survey which will be reviewed by the ITF Development Advisors. The new strategy will be rolled out according to the following time frame ready for implementation at the end of 2020.

Nov/Dec 2019	2017-2020 STRATEGY: REVIEW SURVEY TO NAS & RAs
MAR 2020	2021-2024 STRATEGY: INITIAL DAs REVIEW
OCT 2020	2021-2024 STRATEGY: FINAL BoDs APPROVAL
OCT/NOV 2020	2021-2024 STRATEGY: IMPLEMENTATION
MAR 2021	2017-2020 STRATEGY: OUTCOME REPORTED TO BoDs

4.3.3 RTC-Presentation and Discussion

4.3.4 Facilities Review/Audit/10-year plan

4.3.5 14U Tour- Update on current situation

4.3.6 14U World tour Consultation/U14 Circuit

Gary Purcell then reported on the ITF's 3 strategic pillars: viz coaching, participation and facilities. He started by saying that since the last AGM the following Nations have had Play Tennis Courses:

COURSES

Fiji	Play Tennis Course -May 2019
Regional Fiji	Play Tennis Course –September 2019
Regional Fiji	CBI Level 1 –October 2019
Cook Islands	Play Tennis Course –February 2020

WORKSHOPS

Kiribati	March 2019
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Norfolk Island	April 2019
PNG	February 2020

He said that over 30 people completed the Play Tennis Courses and 14 people attended the CBI Course which was a Regional Course run from the RTC in Lautoka with roughly a 50/50 ratio of male/female participants at all these courses, The plan for 2020 was to hold another Play Tennis Course and CBI level course from the RTC in Lautoka towards the last quarter of the year. This can still be possible once we know the dates of the Regional Championships and the POJC Finals.

He then discussed the ITF Academy and that to assist tennis coaches globally in this time of uncertainty, the ITF is making more resources available on its ITF platform for free for the duration of the Covid-19 period. This Academy features a wealth of resources that will benefit, parents, teachers and anyone who wants to improve their own game. There are more than 340 pieces in the Academy including videos, articles and scientific research papers that are available on the ITF educational platform. Additionally, interactive online courses have also been added to the platform with over 30 courses currently available in both English and French. These cover everything from an introduction to strategy, ethics in coaching, goal setting, tennis parents with more courses being added each week. These courses act as part of the new blend of learning style for the completing of coaching certification and his intent is to check in with coaches across Pacific Oceania and to increase the user base
In addition to the courses and resources available on the ITF Academy, the ITF are also making their best-selling E-Books available as a free download from the Android and Apple Appstores with over 150 publications available in 7 languages.

Gary Purcell then discussed the ITF Recognition of Coach Education System which moving forward will be a key focus for Pacific Oceania. He advised that Tennis NZ were awarded Silver recognition in 2019 with the increased number of Play Tennis courses run over the past couple of years. It is his goal with the increase of tutors to get more Pacific Nations recognized at the White level indicating that they are self-sufficient up to the level of delivering Play Tennis courses themselves.
He then discussed participation and the JTI (Junior Tennis Initiative). In 2019 there were 13 active Nations in Pacific Oceania

and this is a primary programme run in the schools and communities. It is also the pathway to bring the more interested children from the schools into their club programmes and then on to the Nations' 12U and 14U training squads. In 2019 the ITF was able to distribute \$33,150 in subsidy grants and \$24,630 in equipment and resources grants. These figures have increased by over \$22,000 to almost \$80,000 for 2020. He said that our current key priorities will be to try to increase numbers in the JTI Programme throughout the region and to increase the number of Nations in the JTI Programme.

ITF Festivals will be implemented as a new initiative which can be as big or small in any given Nation run from anywhere from 2 hours to a full day or weekend as a way to attract more players to our sport. He said he will be also rolling out a new Tennis Express product in the near future for adult players. New Zealand will be trialling this in conjunction with a local Council and medical centres to patients who could benefit from this.

He then spoke about facilities in the Region and that in the last 4 years \$150,000 had been granted to Fiji, FSM, Guam, Norfolk Islands and Samoa for projects. In 2019, Guam completed their National Training Centre with the help of a \$50,000 grant; FSM were granted \$40,000 in 2019 to renovate 2 courts used for national training; Fiji and Norfolk Island to upgrade existing facilities and early in 2020 Samoa were awarded \$35,000 to build an additional court at their National Training Centre.

He said that the current key priorities will be to establish a current overview of the facilities throughout the region and to develop a framework with each Nation for a 10-year strategic approach for facility upgrades. A document has recently been finalized that he will be using on an individual basis in 1-on-1 meetings with each of the Nations to establish a long term plan for systematic upgrades from the Nation's own data given in the global tennis report in 2019.

Frank Couraud then updated the AGM on 2 strategic pillars, Events and Performance and he shared information on 1 strategic project in the Region, the Pacific Oceania 14U Circuit. In Events, the Pacific Nations Cup has become the highlight of the competition calendar with the first 2 events, held in 2018 and 2019, being extremely successful with close to 100% participation of ITF Class C Member Nations of the Region and that the investment in 2019 was \$90,000.

At a Junior level, the key event is the Pacific Oceania Junior Championships with 3 qualifying events in the East, West and North and he thanked Tennis New Zealand and the Federations of Vanuatu and NMI for hosting in 2019 the qualifying events. He said that he had had the opportunities to attend these events on several occasions and it is truly the gathering of the best players in 12U, 14U, 16U. A special thank also to Tennis Fiji for hosting for so many years the POJC Finals. He advised that the total combined budget in 2019 was \$151,000

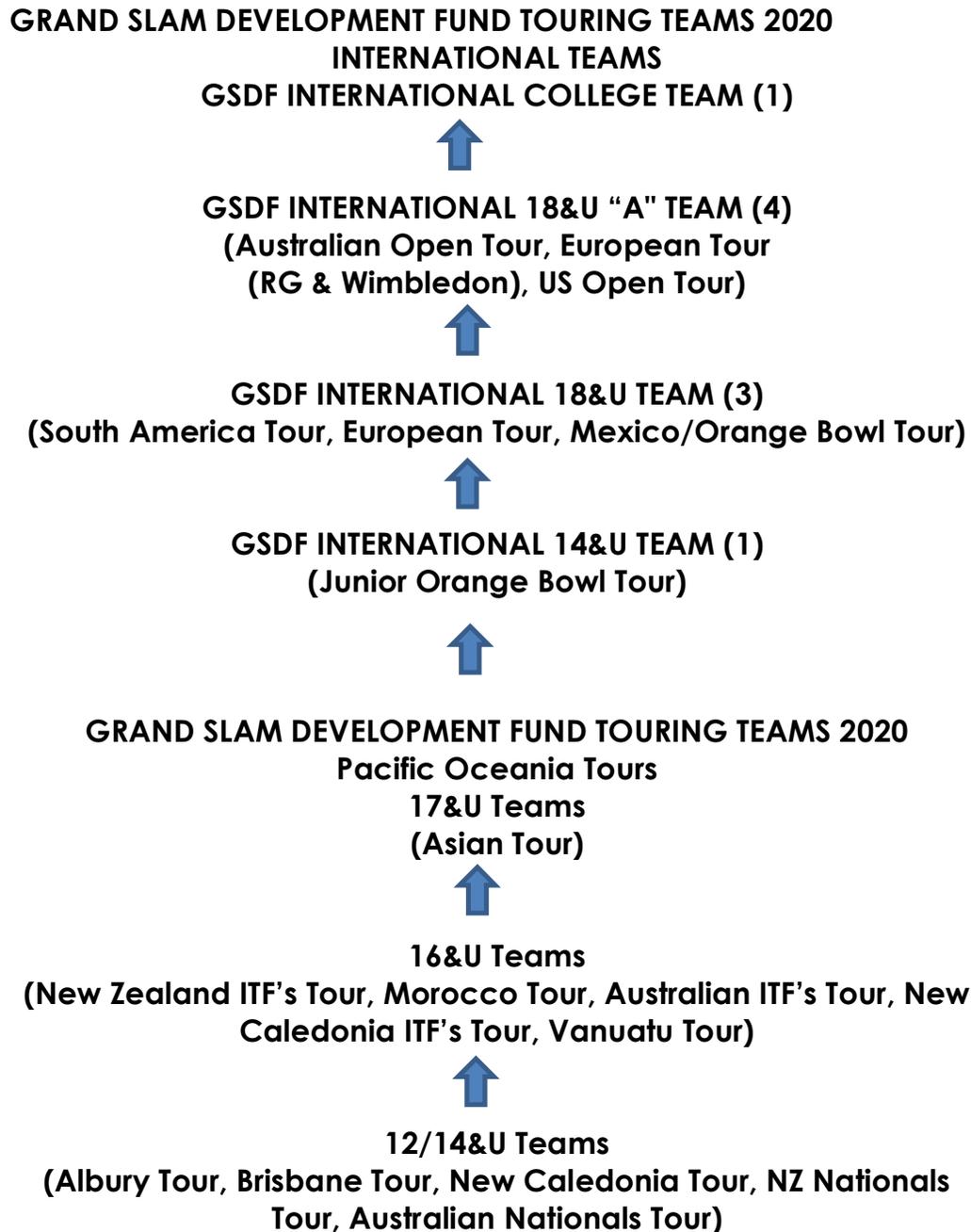
In 2017 the 12U team Competition was played for the first time in and is now well integrated in the regional calendar and now held at the same time as the POJC and qualifying. The format mirrors the World Junior Teams competition. The New Caledonia 12U Team Event allows the best in the region to compete with each other and in 2019, the boys from Guam and the girls from Kiribati played against teams from Asia and New Caledonia with the investment in 2019 being \$116,000 (Qualifying \$60,000, Finals \$45,000 and New Caledonia \$11,000).

He encouraged Nations through their JTI Programme to prepare the top 12U players who will have their first opportunity to have exposure at international level which will surely improve the depth of 12U players both at a National and Regional level.

He then discussed Performance with particular mention of the GSDF Touring Programme which is one of the oldest projects in Development. Over the years it has created competitive opportunities for talented players by providing coaching, travel and accommodation. In 2019, 30 players from 10 Nations benefitted from the GSDF Programme at a cost of \$178,000. In 2020 the financial assistance to Pacific Oceania was increased by \$40,000. The Pacific Oceania GSDF touring team is available at every age category from 12-17 years old.

He then discussed the tour to Morocco where the ITF has a Regional Training Centre in Casablanca where Pacific players could be accommodated and have training before they competed in 3 high level ITF Junior Tournaments (1 x J1 and 2 x J3 Events). Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, the tour was aborted with players only managing to play the J1 and then they trained a few days before they travelled back home safely. A new GSDF Team was introduced into the programme in 2018 with a 14U Touring team at 2 of the World's top 14U Tournaments in Florida (Eddie Herr and Junior Orange Bowl). He said that 2 Pacific players in 2019 participated, one boy and one girl – Maka Ofati (TUV) and

Vaiani Dusserre-Valleaux (TAH) at a cost to support the 2 players of \$20,000. He then discussed the player pathway at regional level as below:



Every year, the ITF offer over 30 weeks of touring of International Teams Competition including for the very best Juniors to compete at the 4 Grand Slams. He then thanked the OTF for administrating the Regional Touring Teams and Event projects. In order to better support players in their transition from Juniors to Professional, the

GSDF and the ITF provide financial support to players with individual grants. These ITF International Junior Player grants help players for their first steps at a professional level with the GSDF grants supporting Professional players who have already established themselves on the ATP and WTA ranking system and have the goal to break into the top 100.

In **2019** the recipients from Oceania were:

Juniors:

Corban Crowther (NZL)	12,500
Valentina Ivanov (NZL)	12,500

GSDF

Colin Sinclair (NMI)	12,500
Abigail Tere-Apisah (PNG)	12,500

And in **2020**

Juniors:

Corban Crowther (NZL)	12,500
Vivian Yang (NZL)	12,500

GSDF

Colin Sinclair (NMI)	12,500
Paige Hourigan (NZL)	12,500

Frank Couraud then discussed one of the Strategic priorities which is the 14U Regional Circuit for the Pacific Oceania region. He said that it is an important project to be able to develop depth and quality in this crucial age category. What we have seen previously is in that the 14U players have been of a good standard but then the level drops significantly after.

A regional circuit would create more opportunities to have the best players to compete against each other earning circuit points in sanctioned tournaments and acquiring a regional ranking. The ITF envisage that the first year in 2021 that the circuit would use already existing tournaments as a core of the circuit and then the following year, the circuit could expand. Having a 14U regional circuit in Pacific Oceania would align with the other Regions that already have this circuit in place; that the ITF and OTF are currently working on finalizing the details and will communicate more information on this to Member Nations in due course.

Frank Couraud then reported on the ITF/OTF Pacific Oceania Training Centre during 2019 and the first 2 months of 2020. This project each year received the highest annual level of investment with the budget in 2020 being \$220,500. He advised that the RTC has had some positive changes in the last 2 years with resulting very good results by the players regionally but also outside Pacific Oceania. Frank Couraud then thanked the RTC staff who are the key to the success of the RTC:

- **DIRECTOR OF CENTRE & HEAD COACH- ROXANNE CLARKE (RSA)**
- **SENIOR COACH- THOMAS PERRIN (FRA)**
- **ASSISTANT COACH- TEBATIBUNGA TITO BIRA (KIR)**
- **HOUSE MANAGER- DONNA NAISAU**
- **TEACHER - LUSI VAKERE**
- **COOK -AUNTIE FILO**
- **CLEANING -AUNTIE MA**

Additionally, there is continually high-level support from the ITF with Dermot Sweeney who is the ITF Technical Director for Players and ITF Training Centres. In addition, Gary Purcell's contribution has been very important, working closely with Roxanne Clarke and her team. Ultimately we have a duty of care to look after these young players who are under the ITF's responsibility 24/7. He mentioned that in 2020 the RTC has 11 Full Time Players (7 girls and 4 boys) between the ages of 13 and 17 from 7 Nations (Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu).

Name	Gender	Country	D.O. B
Eleanor Schuster	Female	Samoa	21/04/03
Saoirse Breen	Female	Fiji	21/06/04
Zorika Morgan	Female	Solomon Islands	31/12/04
Storm Cornish	Male	Fiji	20/04/05
Maka Ofati	Male	Tuvalu	28/09/05
Maka Maui	Male	Cook Islands	15/01/06
Roselyn Tupuola	Female	Samoa	09/07/06
Ruth Baantarawa	Female	Kiribati	15/04/07
Mahina Warren	Female	Samoa	25/05/07
Lumay Apinelu	Female	Kiribati	10/08/07
Fintan Molbaleh	Male	Vanuatu	07/10/07

Gary Purcell then discussed the Programme Improvements that had occurred during the period from 2017-2020 apart from staff changes. The RTC has undergone some renovations with upgrades to the bathrooms, showers, bedrooms and also the lobby and the office space downstairs. There has been a safe guarding roster for the players and the staff. On line schooling has been in place for over 2 years

which allows 2 training sessions per day thereby providing a huge improvement in the training programme.

There has been a conscious effort to increase the competition schedule for all players. Now, all players play on average a total of 70 singles matches and 30 doubles matches which has improved markedly from 2017 where some players in the programme were getting as few as 15 international matches a year. Each player also has an individualized development plan which has been developed in conjunction and consultation with the coaches which align to individual KPIs which have been set. All the information is recorded with an online platform introduced in early 2020 called "The Athlete Management System." THE ITF see this having great potential, not only collecting data but also sharing information and goals with the players and coaches.

In terms of results, Gary Purcell said that Carol Lee (NMI) has been the most successful, achieving her highest Junior Ranking of #114. She also won 2 ITF Titles in 2019, the J3 on Clay in Casablanca and the J4 in Fiji on hardcourt. She played 2 Junior Grand Slams in 2019 (the Australian Open and US Open) and the ITF is delighted to announce that she has accepted a Scholarship with the Georgia Tech in 2020.

Other highlights were the Pacific Oceania Junior Fed Cup Team who won the Pre-Qualifying in Asia/Oceania with the team comprising 3 from the RTC (Eleanor Schuster, Saoirse Breen and Zorika Morgan) with their captain, Roxanne Clarke. The RTC's younger players have also excelled in a very short time with Mahina Warren reaching the 12U Finals in the 2019 NZ Nationals and players in the programme reaching the top 3 in their respective age groups and 12U Team Finals.

At the moment they have all been repatriated to their homes because of Covid-19 but we are in close contact with all of them daily making sure that education and training continues.

Luca Santilli concluded this segment of the ITF presentation by saying that these are just a few of the successful stories and illustrates the power of tennis to transform lives. We all have much to be proud of and much still to do, of course. Our story is about a journey that started 3 ½ years ago together with everyone's support from the OTF and the National Associations of Pacific Oceania, we are creating a tennis transformation that will ensure that everyone has the chance to join our global tennis family. In closing he thanked everyone for the work that everyone does for the next generation of players.

Richard Breen then thanked Luca and his team for the comprehensive reports and summary. He said that it was so good to see so many Pacific photos in the global report. He commented that the World Tennis Number is really important and is a great initiative from the ITF as it will give an opportunity to benchmark your level.

Torgun Smith then asked that with more data available globally but less with our smaller Nations, has this component been factored into the algorithms. He asked how will this work with a small population of event and playing data? Luca Santilli responded by saying that we are going to treat every Nation the same. The algorithm will describe an individual's standard and give you, your number better and more accurately if you play more tennis. In short, the more you play, the more the algorithm will be able to define your ability. He said that the great thing about this is that the steering committee, advisory group as well as our software provider are giving the opportunity to recreational players to upload their results and for these results to count with obviously a cap for the number.

The ITF do not want to forget that this project supports the main core objective of the Development Strategy which is to increase participation worldwide. We want to empower the Nations with these digital tools to engage and become leaders in your tennis community. The recreational players for us are very important so we are creating the tools to engage with them. So in short, the answer is yes, regardless of how small the tennis community is, the engagement will be satisfactory.

Sarah Sands, as a mother of one of the scholarship students at the ITF House expressed her thanks to the ITF and said that her family is so grateful for what the ITF has offered in having the RTC based in Pacific Oceania. She said that she felt that the team that the ITF have in place at the RTC is outstanding and that the ITF needed to be congratulated for being able to have a Centre like we have in Lautoka in Pacific Oceania.

4.3.7 2019/20 OTF Projects Review

4.3.8 RTC Courts/Management/Lease

Richard Breen then spoke to the 2019 Projects and said that most of the information had already been covered in the previous presentations. He said that the aim is to give as many opportunities to the best players as possible and that these opportunities are based on the results that these players obtain during the POJC. Every year we review the tours and try to introduce new tours. It is a very strong programme that we have in place and the financial support we have been getting year-on-year from the ITF has increased every year with the support in 2020 being extremely generous.

He said that when we review the projects, given Covid-19, we still have events and projects that have been scheduled. We are reviewing which tours to cancel, which tours we can re-schedule mindful of the return on investment. We are not just going to cram as much as possible into the end of the year if we feel there is no benefit in doing so. It is a very fluid situation that we are monitoring continuously.

He advised that the re-scheduled ITF Regional Championships are still planned to occur from July 13th which is the first day that tennis is currently meant to be returning globally. If that date is further changed, there is a contingency to play those events in September with the POJC Finals scheduled for October. As far as tours go, the tours from August till the end of the year are still going ahead as planned dependent on the date that we return to tennis. Those events that were originally scheduled for May-July are currently being reviewed as to whether they will be cancelled or re-scheduled which will reduce costs in the budget.

With the 14U Regionals, a lot of work has been done by Frank Couraud and Gary Purcell on this and the discussion is to implement that next year which will provide more opportunities to those players.

When we look now collectively at the programme with the Regionals and POJC, the touring programmes in the U12s/U14s/U16s, the new U17s programme last year and you couple that with the support we now are getting to be able to field Pacific Oceania Teams in Junior Davis Cup, Junior Fed Cup and World Junior Teams Events, it is now a very comprehensive touring programme providing a lot of opportunities for the best players in the region.

This year is the first year that we have fielded U14 Teams in a Regional Qualifying Event. With the introduction of the World Touring Teams, that apart from Carol Lee, this is the first time that we have had U14 players playing on a Regional Team with Maka Ofati and Vaiani Dusserre-Valleaux having incredible opportunities to travel to Florida and play in such high-level events.

If you look at events outside the ITF and to the Tennis Australia and WTA Events, having those events in Asia where the best U14 and U16 can compete in the WTA Future Stars and similarly U14 players in the Tennis Australia Event that was recently introduced, the opportunities are now greatly enhanced.

Richard Breen advised that that there is a MOU in place between the OTF and Tennis Fiji re the maintenance/upkeep of the RTC and that he had just written to the Fiji Sports Council seeking a moratorium/reduction on the rental for the RTC (paid by the ITF) with the scholarship students being repatriated home and courts having minimal usage. The FSC have acknowledged receiving both the ITF and OTF letters to this effect and will revert back to him in the near future which will assist in reducing costs. The maintenance staff are still employed by Tennis Fiji and they are using this break to tidy up the grounds and ensuring the Centre is kept safe which is our obligation under the MOU. There is work that needs to be done on the courts moving forward and funds from the OTF go towards this facility upkeep.

5. Governance/Constitutions of Member Nations Review

David Smith commenced the discussion by saying that the ITF have 8 strategic priorities, one of which deals with integrity and ensuring we have the highest standards not only of integrity but also governance. As a Regional Association we have a responsibility to ensure that all our Member Nations are compliant and that if they require assistance or support in this area, whether it be with their Constitution, their Board Structure then it is important that you ask the OTF for help. The OTF is willing to assist and that there are monies available to assist.

He then posed the question as to whether there was any Member Nation on the Video Conference that in the last 12 months, for whatever reason, has been unable to hold an AGM. He said he was aware that Fiji were to have held theirs towards the end of March but this had to be deferred because of the Fiji Government's rules regarding group gatherings and this had subsequently been deferred 3 months. He was also aware that the Cook Islands had just held their AGM and elected a new President, Davina Hosking-Ashford, who he congratulated and commented on the gender equality element and that of the 12 Presidents of the OTF, 12 were male and 8 were female. Richard Breen commented that Tennis Fiji had completed a Constitutional Review via OSEP about 3 years ago. He explained that Tennis Fiji had all the office bearers coming up for re-election at the same time which is not ideal for succession planning if you suddenly get 8, 9, 10 new people on your Board all at once. One of the changes they were advised to make was to ensure that Tennis Fiji staggered the years of election and the positions available on their Executive Board and that it was likely that other Member nations had a similar situation that they should review.

David Smith advised that this was one of the changes that the OTF made in the new OTF Constitution that was approved at last year's OTF AGM in 2019. Cyrille Mainguy said that the Vanuatu Tennis Federation was currently reviewing their Constitution to align with the OTF and that OSEP was assisting in this process.

6. International Junior and Senior Teams

6.1. Pacific Nations Cup

6.1.1. 2019 Dates/Planning/Venue Update

David Smith advised that the Pacific Nations Cup was scheduled to take place in Apia, Samoa in the first week of June. With Covid-19, this has now been postponed till the 26th-31st October. This event may well end up being a "Good News" story for World Tennis given that Pacific Oceania have not yet played Davis Cup or Fed Cup in 2020 and it could be the only Senior Event occurring for our players in Pacific Oceania with the cancellation also of the Fiji Open for 2020. He suggested to James McGurran

(ITF Manager-International Relations) that it may well be a very good story for the ITF. Additionally, if this Event cannot take place at the end of October, then the OTF Board is of the view that the hosting rights would remain with Samoa for 2021 on a date that would then be decided.

Richard Breen then commented that there could also be potentially a scenario where if tennis resumes later in the year, Tennis Samoa is willing to hold the event, but their Government doesn't give them permission to have international travellers arriving that we may need to consider a back-up Nation/venue.

David Smith advised that Nations will have fresh choices re their participation. New teams could be entered as players who may not have been available, may now be. Additionally, Nations who had not entered may now choose to enter; so in short, the entry process/deadline/team composition would start afresh and we will advise further on this, once the landscape for tennis resuming is clearer.

6.2. Pacific Games

6.2.1. Rules Update

David Smith referred attendees to the Library of the OTF Website but also he advised that Nations had had circulated to them an update to the Pacific Games Tennis Rules following on from the recent Pacific Games. There had been 2 changes, one to the number of players a Nation can now have and also more specific instruction re the seedings for the Teams Event.

He said that since the first Pacific Games were held in Suva in 1963, Nations have been allowed to take a total maximum of 8 players with a maximum of either 5 male or 5 female players. This has now been increased to 10 players, still with a maximum of 5 male and 5 female players.

The reason for this is that we have increased the number of entries that Nations can enter in the Mixed Doubles (from 2 to 4 teams); that when you have a large Men's Singles Draw for example, the best players potentially will end up playing up to 20 or more matches; this now allows Nations to now rest some players, or where players are injured in an event, the opportunity to replace them in their entry for subsequent events.

The other change, he said, was to more clearly define the process around the seeding for the Teams Event so that situation like we had in the last Games didn't recur where too greater

emphasis has been placed on the Host Nation rather than player ability and led to lopsided draws.

Jeff Race said that, due to re-scheduling of the Olympic Games, the next Pacific Games (Mini) in Saipan may well be re-scheduled from 2021 to 2022. There was also a problematic situation where they were planning to run the Games in 2021 in Saipan over a 7-day period. This will cause major issues as we all know with the recent Games in Samoa and with court and weather issues, we barely finished in 15 days. He felt that this new rule which adds more players and thereby larger draw sizes would then make this more difficult to complete in the time frame available. NMI were already looking at starting the tennis event 2 days before the Games officially start so that the tennis event could be completed in time and would then occur over 9 days.

Cyrille Mainguy then clarified that tennis currently is not on the list of sports for Saipan as only 6 sports so far have been confirmed. The other point he said was that whilst there are extra players, this does not increase any draw size but just gives the Team Managers the opportunity to have more player choices available for the Teams and Doubles Events so that players can be suitably rested. This also additionally gives further opportunities should players be injured and are unable to take further part in the Games.

Jeff Race thanked Cyrille Mainguy for the clarification and explanation and said that earlier in the year Vidhya Larkin (President -Pacific Games Council) and Andre Minogue (CEO-Pacific Games Council) were in Saipan a few months ago and were very positive about tennis being included in the Games. They were impressed with the level of organization that had already been done and that they intended so recommending to their Council at their Executive Meeting in September.

David Smith reiterated the explanation that Cyrille Mainguy had earlier said that the increase in team composition numbers does not change the draw size but gives team managers more playing options. He said that we have all been to previous Games e.g. particularly Tahiti in 1995 and Pago Pago in 1997 where there were many player injuries but Team Managers then had no replacement player options.

David Haggerty offered to send a letter from the ITF perspective if this would be seen to assist.

6.3. Davis Cup

6.3.1. Update for 2020

6.3.2. New Caledonia Participation, Selection

6.4. Fed Cup

6.4.1. Update for 2020

6.4.2. New Caledonia Participation, Selection

David Smith updated everyone that Pacific Oceania were yet to play either Davis Cup or Fed Cup in 2020; that the Fed Cup draw had been split into two sections with one section already played in February in Wellington (which saw NZ promoted) and Pacific Oceania due to play in Malaysia in early June, which has been postponed; that at this stage we do not have any dates for either the Davis Cup or Fed Cup.

David Smith then said that he and Cyrille Mainguy have been having discussions with Olivier LeDain and Cyrille also with the FFT President about the inclusion of New Caledonian Senior players in Pacific Oceania Davis Cup and Fed Cup Teams. The Senior, not the Junior Rules, allow for Associate Member Nations (e.g. New Caledonia) to be selected either as a player or team captain, provided they have not previously represented France.

David Smith said that he had discussed this a couple of weeks ago with Olivier who was then going to talk to the FFT President. Given that these New Caledonian players will never play Davis or Fed Cup for France (as they are not at that very high level), they are being deprived of this opportunity, as Nikolas N'Godrela was, throughout his entire playing career. He then asked Olivier to update the meeting on this. Olivier LeDain said that at this stage, due to Covid-19, he had not yet had this discussion but that he had a meeting with the FFT President the following Friday and that he planned to do so then. He said that when he first raised this with the President some time ago, he wasn't as familiar with the rules as he now is and the FFT President didn't think this could happen. But that now that he better understands and has been given a copy of the rules which specifically includes Associate Members, he said that players over 25 he agreed would be unlikely ever to play for France and that this would be a good opportunity for them as players and/or captains.

Torgun Smith then detailed conversations he had recently had through his involvement on the Davis Cup Task Force on the composition of the numbers of players on teams; also, the Task Force had been having discussions on the rescheduling of the Davis and Fed Cup 2020 Events.

David Haggerty said that we have some planned alternative dates in September but that until the ITF know when tennis will resume, that it is really difficult to speculate what we can and can't do and that we are currently in the postpone, not cancel mode. As far as the rules go in both Davis and Fed Cup in the World Group, the intent is for a minimum of 4 players to be a requirement as the ITF had some situations last year in the Davis Cup Finals where some matches were not able to be played because of injuries. In a round-robin set up, it could have an impact on a team getting a win because of a 60,60 walkover which could have qualified them to progress further over another team because of that walkover. The Task Force had a good conversation on this and the recommendation was fine at the World Group level and the Finals. This will go to the ITF Board in the next week with some other regulation changes.

6.5. Oceania Regional Seniors Championships

6.5.1. Report and Hosting of 35+ Event

Bruce Osborne updated the Meeting on the Oceania Regional Seniors Championship giving attendees a brief historical overview. He explained that this Event is the 2nd highest ranked Event on the ITF Seniors calendar and had just recently been hosted and held at the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club in Melbourne. It is a very prestigious event and was one of the last events to be held prior to the Covid-19 lockdown. During this event, players from 16 Nations participated with the #1 players in their age group from France and Australia competing. The event receives a very high player approval rating. It is named after the Oceania Region because originally it was a Regional Closed Championships. That is no longer the case as it is now Open with age groups from 35-85 years old and it has the OTF's name to the event He had recommended to the OTF Board a week ago that for the next 2 years we offer the hosting rights out. It is not a profitable event and the OTF is looking at Tennis Australia and Tennis Seniors Victoria, who were the hosts this year, to host the next 2 years with a few minor adjustments to the contract

6.6. Junior Davis/Fed Cup/WJT

6.6.1. 2020 Overview

Richard Breen said that in 2019, Pacific Oceania fielded 2 teams for Junior Davis and Junior Fed Cup. The Junior Fed Cup Team got through Pre-Qualifying and got to Qualifying with some very good results with our doubles team beating the Indonesian Team who

had as one of their players, the girl that had just won the Australian Open Junior Doubles. This then meant that for 2020 they didn't have to play Pre-Qualifying and went straight to the Qualifying Event

Last year we had requested from the ITF for additional funding so that we could also field teams in the U14 World Junior Teams Event which was approved. This meant that for 2020 we were able to field U14 Boys and Girls in the World Junior Teams Event. They both played the Pre-Qualifying but were unsuccessful and didn't qualify but it was a great experience for them to represent Pacific Oceania for the first time. We also had this year the Junior Davis Cup team that played in the pre-Qualifying Event in Indonesia who were also unsuccessful in trying to qualify, so currently we have the Junior Fed Cup Team waiting to play the Qualifying event in Malaysia (as they had already qualified from last year) once new dates are confirmed

6.7. Oceania Championships

6.7.1. 2020/2021

David Smith advised that he had been liaising with Blake Taylor from Tennis New Zealand re the possible hosting of this event by Tennis New Zealand. Those familiar with the event know it can only be hosted by a Nation with at least 5-6 courts as it is a large Event and that over the past 15 or so years had been hosted by New Caledonia, Australia, Fiji, Samoa with some of these Nations hosting several times. He advised that, now with Covid-19 and the likely compression of the calendar, this event will not now be held in 2020. In discussions with Blake Taylor, it was agreed that we would talk more a little later in the year re the possibility of Tennis New Zealand hosting this in 2021.

7. Junior Development Grants

7.1 AOP (Australian Open Pathway) Funding

7.1.1 Reports from the Nations that received funding

7.1.2 Program for 2020 and beyond

Vicky Reid commenced by backgrounding attendees on the AOP (Australian Open Pathway) Funded Programme which in 2019 was the 6th year that this Tennis Australia initiative had been in place. She said that it is a Primary School Programme in Pacific Oceania supported by funding from the Australian Open through Tennis Australia. The programme aims to encourage the development of Junior tennis players from 4-10 years old. This

programme provides equipment and additionally small financial grants to support the Nations successful with their applications. It is open to 9 Nations each year and that in 2019 the following Nations received grants: Cook Islands, Fiji, FSM, Guam, Kiribati, NMI, Samoa, Tahiti, Vanuatu. These Nations are required to submit their overall plan and then progressive reports to ensure their maximum 100% staggered grant payment.

Nations in attendance on the video conference (Cook Islands, Fiji, FSM, Guam, NMI, Tahiti and Vanuatu) then detailed their programme and the work that they had been doing.

Davina Hosking-Ashford (Cook Islands) explained that this funding had supported 8 primary school programmes only on the Island of Rarotonga and that the programme had yet to reach the other 14 Islands of the Cook Islands; that 150 children were part of the programme in 2019; that they had found that the school programme was more effective than an after-school programme because at school, the children are in one place and they are more accessible in the larger numbers as after school they dissipated and this proved more difficult; that in the near future, they are hoping to extend this programme to the outer Islands, with there being 7 other Islands that we need to fly to be able to deliver this programme.

Sachin Reddy (Fiji) explained that they had almost completed their AOP Report and expected to submit this during the next week; that he appreciated the support from Tennis Australia as it is an excellent programme; that they have been to so many schools and engaged so many children in the local programmes they have been holding; they have been holding primary school competitions.

Sterling Skilling (FSM) said that their programme was currently in 4 schools but that at the moment this is suspended with Covid-19; however, there are some of the children turning up to their National Tennis Facility doing sessions.

Torgun Smith (Guam) advised that whilst they were successful in receiving a grant, they had not submitted an invoice as their focus has been more on their new facility; that for 2020 they will not be seeking the payment of the funding but they will be better positioned in 2021 to engage with the programme.

Jeff Race (NMI) said that they were very happy to become part of the programme in 2019; that just after they put the programme into place, the person who was responsible for the programme left NMI and to date they have not been able to find a suitable

replacement; that now the schools are closed, with Covid-19 for the rest of the school year; that they still have been able to maintain a very successful after school mini-tennis programme with about 45 children coming to the programme weekly; that they hold regular mini-tennis competitions.

Wilfred Sacault (Tahiti) said that their programme was running in different schools with Anne Criqui-Leissner, a local coach, assisting with this programme; that in 2019 they have 15 schools engaged in the programme but with Covid-19, it is currently on hold. Ruth Manea (Tahiti) added her endorsement of the programme and the relationship that they have with the schools in French Polynesia.

Sarah Sands (Vanuatu) said that the programme in 2019 was managed by Ian Honila, a local coach, very successfully throughout the schools; that in 2020, they had started the programme but it is currently on hold with Covid-19; that they do have 1 school that will be recommencing next week; additionally, the Vanuatu Tennis Federation have an MOU with the Vanuatu Government which allows them to engage the schools; it is a very successful programme embraced by the teachers.

In closing, Vicky Reid gave Tennis Australia's commitment in these uncertain times to supporting the programme in any way that they can.

8. Junior Competitions

8.1 Pacific Oceania Junior Circuit

8.1.1 POJC

8.1.1.1 2020 Update

Richard Breen reiterated what had previously been said in the earlier part of the meeting that the POJC is rescheduled as per the following dates:

North Pacific: Guam- Monday 13th - Friday 17th July

West Pacific: Port Vila, Vanuatu- Monday 20th - Friday 24th July

East Pacific: Apia, Samoa- Monday 27th - Friday 31st July

POJC: Fiji- Thursday 15th -Saturday 24th October

That these dates are dependent on the resumption of tennis.

8.1.1.2 Eligibility Rules

Richard Breen then discussed the POJC Eligibility Rules document that is in the Library on the OTF Website and that also had previously been circulated to Nations. He said that this is a working document as some of the previous eligibility rules/criteria

was a little hazy and the intent was to protect the accessibility and opportunity of the Event for the actual children playing in the Nations of Pacific Oceania. One of the issues that had come up was the players who had moved from one Pacific Nation to another or players that moved to a Pacific Nation from outside the Region.

Previously there was never really an interest from players of Pacific heritage from around the world to join our programmes but that in the last 12 months, there has been more interest based on the fact that there are now so many great tours, events and opportunities that are happening in the Pacific Oceania Region. The OTF wanted to ensure that there wasn't suddenly an influx of players that weren't born in the Region or resident in the Region trying to take advantage of these opportunities that are intended for children resident in Pacific Oceania.

Jeff Race commented about the exemptions for players that the document says have moved to Australia or New Zealand for schooling/tennis etc. This document only specifically mentions these 2 Countries and he couldn't understand why just these 2 Countries were mentioned as NMI currently has 1 player who is training in Europe and 1 player who is training at IMG in Florida. Under the eligibility rules where we have just mentioned Australia or New Zealand, that players such as these would not be eligible to play even though their parents are still resident in NMI. He said that he felt there should be more latitude in the wording as children leaving NMI for schooling would unlikely be going to Australia or New Zealand but more likely the USA or elsewhere.

Richard Breen explained the rationale behind this was that players going to Australia or New Zealand were still then domiciled in the Pacific Oceania Region. Jeff Race said that it makes sense for the players from the southern Nations of Pacific Oceania to go to Australia or New Zealand for schooling/tennis but not the northern Nations where these players are more aligned with the USA. The parents of NMI feel that they have progressed to a certain level in NMI but that they need to elevate them to a higher level and leave NMI to achieve this.

Torgun Smith said that he agreed with Jeff Race's comments in that the ties that the parents of Guam have are more with Europe, Asia or the USA; that the places where parents may decide to send their children off island are likely to be outside the Pacific area; that the parents are still remaining resident in the region but just provide schooling/tennis opportunities for their

children; he said he didn't believe the wording should limit this just to Australia or New Zealand. He believed that the eligibility should be more tied to the residence of the parents as long as they are in Pacific Oceania.

Richard Breen said that he personally didn't have any objection to this suggestion but that there needs to be a balance between protecting the children in the Region without depriving other children of these opportunities which is why the wording had mentioned "case-by-case."

Barbara Stubbings commented that if the underlying issue is the children holding a passport from the Region, then where they go to school should then not be an issue, whether their parents are resident or not but had some time previously represented that Country.

Richard Breen explained that it was not solely the passport as it does get complicated as you have children who have never lived or been born in their Nation, yet through their grandparents apply for and have a passport from that Nation. They have never been developed or have lived in the Region and they then say that they have a Pacific Oceania passport and want to play the POJC and then potentially become eligible to take up places on the touring teams as a result of their finishing place in the Event. As a result, they are taking this opportunity away from players who were born and have spent most, if not all of their life, living in Pacific Oceania.

It was agreed that, as a result of these comments, that the OTF would relook at the POJC Eligibility Rules and re-circulate a revised document for further comment, consideration and agreement.

8.1.2 OCJC

8.1.2.1 Future of OCJC

Richard Breen explained that the OCJC is the ITF B2 Event hosted for many years by Tennis Fiji under the Oceania Flag. It is the highest ranked Junior Event in Pacific Oceania. The Event used to be a stand-alone Event with no event immediately after it, however, the Junior Circuit Calendar has changed to the point now that there recently was a Grade 3 Event in Australia following, which has now been upgraded to a Grade 2 Event. Previously the OCJC B2 was an Event where Tennis NZ and Tennis Australia would choose their teams and Pacific Oceania would choose their teams and the players would stay for the duration of the Event with a welcome dinner and function and additionally

also, there were consolation matches. Now that there is a Grade 2 event immediately following in Australia, a lot of New Zealand and Australian players wanted to leave earlier and as a result it has changed the dynamics of the Event.

If we look at 2019, there is a summer scholarship programme at the ITF House/RTC inviting some of the best players from the Region to train at the Centre even though they may not be a scholarship recipient. As a result the numbers have dropped quite significantly over the last few years to the point that it has actually been a struggle to fill Pacific Oceania's allocation of players. If Pacific Oceania can't fill their allocation, then maybe it is better hosted in a different Nation and that should this now be an event to discuss with Tennis Australia and Tennis New Zealand to find out where is the best place to host this event.

The situation we have now is that players play the B2 Event in Fiji then after this event the better players would go to Australia to play the Grade 2 Event. When you look at the funding used to host the event, it might be better use of these funds to have the Event either in Australia or New Zealand with the 2 Events then back-to-back and then using the funding rather than for hosting the Event to help the better Pacific Oceania players go and play a second Event. He said that he was of the view that both Tennis Australia and Tennis New Zealand were both keen to have the opportunity to host the Event and that a lot depends of the number of Pacific players of sufficiently high quality at the Summer Scholarship Programme to fill the allocation.

Jeff Race said the best players from the POJC used to be entered in this Event; that it then created opportunities for Pacific players who then didn't get an opportunity to play in ITF Events and enabled them to get significant ITF ranking points; that he would like to see players that attend the Summer scholarship programme be given this opportunity but that they do now also have many other opportunities that they didn't previous have to play ITF Events in the Pacific; but he has concerns whether these players are at the Grade 2 level; that he was relaxed if this was hosted elsewhere.

Richard Breen said that if the Event was to move that there would be a significant reduction in the financial commitment that the OTF would have to make; it still means that the Event would happen, just not in a Pacific Oceania Nation; that also we could consider the hosting being a rotational event between Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Oceania.

Bruce Osborne said that the Tennis Australia performance team have been very keen to host the Event; that it has been a battle to ensure that the Event stays in Fiji; that should the OTF decide to move the Event, that Tennis Australia would certainly put their hand up to host the Event and that Tennis New Zealand would be similarly like-minded.

Julie Paterson said that Tennis New Zealand would certainly consider the hosting and that their performance team has been engaging the OTF; that for New Zealand players it is challenging from a cost viewpoint knowing that the players have to travel to Fiji and then the following week to Australia and there have certainly been discussions on how this can be made more cost-effective; yet at the same time, Tennis New Zealand wants to be respectful of the current situation with the background to the Event being held in Fiji but acknowledged that the cost is becoming an issue.

It was agreed that the OTF would discuss the future of the Event to decide the best of the options for the future as with the new Calendar there are now many other ITF events where players can get ranking points that were not previously available to them.

8.1.3 U14s Circuit

Richard Breen said that this topic has already been covered in earlier discussions and the presentation by Frank Couraud; that in summary it was about providing more opportunities for this age group and aligning more with what is currently happening in other Regions worldwide with a plan for the Circuit to start in 2021.

8.1.4 U12 Teams Event

Richard Breen said that the funding for the U12s enables the players to play the 12s Regional Teams Event and the POJC and that this also was covered earlier in the Meeting in the ITF Presentation; that there is a tour that goes to New Caledonia and is a world U12 Teams Event that we had previously taken the winning teams. This year, due to Covid-19, the tour that would have occurred in October has been cancelled and that the U12s will focus only on the Regionals and the POJC.

8.1.5 WTA Future Stars

8.1.5.1 Current Situation/Proposed Changes

David Smith said that attendees had been circulated with a couple of emails from the WTA Future Stars Team regarding the Futures Stars Event for U14 and U16 that has been hosted for the last 5 years (the first 4 in Singapore and last year in Shenzhen,

China) in conjunction with the WTA Finals in October. He explained that the focus of the discussions has been that historically Pacific Oceania were given a position in each Event automatically but its popularity has grown the Event to 28 in each age group.

The WTA are now suggesting that from the Oceania Region, Australia get automatic entry but that Pacific Oceania and New Zealand play off for 1 spot in each of the U14s and U16s Events He then went on to say that should this occur then Pacific Oceania would in essence be squeezed out of the Event as probably only 1 out of 20+ times would a Pacific Oceania player beat a player from New Zealand due to the different playing strengths.

Additionally, there would be a cost factor. The 2nd option he had floated with the WTA was that as our Juniors play Junior Fed Cup in the Asia region, that we should be included in the play-offs there. Whilst there would still be a cost, the chances of success would likely be greater. The other option would be increasing the draws from the current 28 to 32 for more direct inclusivity and guaranteeing both New Zealand and Pacific Oceania a place as currently happens with other countries.

He advised that the event has been cancelled for 2020 because of Covid-19; that he had been in communication with both Donna Kelso (WTA-Supervisor of the Event) and Blake Taylor (Tennis NZ) and agreed to have further discussions to come to the best solution for Pacific Oceania; that no decisions have been made on any of these options at this stage.

Richard Breen said that currently we have 3 players in both age groups from Oceania, viz. Australia, New Zealand and the respective age winners of the POJC. His personal feeling is that Australia and New Zealand should stay there as 2 Nations as their level is so high and that if we have to play a play-off then we should be included with the Asia play-off given that there are so many Asian Teams that play the Event. He felt it was unfair for Pacific Oceania players to be playing off against New Zealand players.

Bruce Osborne said that the Event is a sensational Event and not one that we should treat lightly; that when it first began it was only an Asian and Pacific Oceania Event and now it has opened up to the World which is clearly having an impact on the number of players that they can host; that the fact that the WTA provide minimal funding is an issue and the OTF is currently picking up most of the costs of the travelling coach with the parents picking up the players' travel cost (less the WTA travel grant); that it is

important that Pacific Oceania is involved; that he doesn't believe this should be limited to a play-off; that when you look at the participants in the Event, all the Asian Nations have representation so why is Pacific Oceania being singled out for a play-off.

Julie Paterson said she was interested to hear that the Asian Nations have automatic entry and asked the question as to why the WTA was pushing back on the Oceania Region for a play-off; that there is a real opportunity to have discussions on that and to put a stake in the ground for our Region.

David Smith said that he would pick this up and endeavour to engage Donna Kelso with the intent of positive outcomes for everyone in the Oceania Region.

9. Pacific Oceania Touring Teams

9.1 ITF/OTF/GSDF Junior Touring Teams

9.2 Future Teams/Tours

Richard Breen commented that this item on the Agenda had already been covered in earlier discussions/PowerPoint presentations other than to say that the OTF is extremely grateful for the funding assistance for the touring teams; that as we discussed earlier these projects are currently under review for this year with some projects being cancelled and/or rescheduled. Gary Purcell then thanked Richard Breen for his administrative work on these touring teams and projects; that we have worked together well over the last few years in terms of selection criteria that has led us to a really good pathway now from U12s to U17s; that with the budget increases it has allowed more players and more tours to occur thereby resulting in better competition.

10. ITF

10.1 ITF AGM-21 November, Madrid, Spain

David Haggerty said that at the moment it is like looking through a crystal ball and that he would advise everyone not to make any plans to travel to Madrid for the AGM; that no notices have been sent out from the ITF recently on this; that there is a good possibility that if the Davis Cup Finals are cancelled, then we will not have an AGM in Madrid; that it is very likely that we could have a virtual AGM; but it is a bit too early to advise further on this; that we will ask everyone to remain agile with their plans for attendance.

He then said that one of the things he had been impressed with is that the OTF AGM has shown him again that a larger gathering of people can be an effective and efficient medium; that he had been on some Zoom Meetings and Microsoft Team Meetings with over 250 people and they are quite effective.

10.2 Regional Presidents' Report

Cyrille Mainguy said that the Presidents were intending meeting at the end of May in Roland Garros but that this had now been postponed; that he will keep everyone informed once he knows more; that it is likely that we will probably have a virtual meeting.

11. OTF AGM 2021

11.1 When/Where?

David Smith then advised attendees regarding the next OTF AGM in 2021. He advised that there were 2 likely options:

1. If the Australian Open in Melbourne in January was held in the format that we have known historically with spectators attending etc, then the next OTF AGM would be on the Sunday of the middle weekend of the Australian Open in Melbourne (Sunday 24th January 2021)
2. If not, then the next AGM would be in Vanuatu, as was originally planned today either in April 2021 or before, at a date to be decided in liaison with the ITF to ensure David Haggerty's and the Development Team's attendance

12. General Business

As there was no general business, Cyrille Mainguy closed the meeting and thanked David Haggerty, Kelly Fairweather and the ITF Development Team and all the Pacific Oceania delegates, OTF Board Members for their attendance.

David Haggerty concluded the AGM with some final words congratulating the OTF on a well- run AGM. He had just seen a chat message on Zoom to the attendees from Luca Santilli to the same effect. He said that the OTF is the first Region to have a successful AGM in a virtual way; so congratulations and once again the OTF leads the way. He concluded by asking everyone to stay safe and that he looked forward to seeing everyone in person as soon as we can.

The Meeting closed at 12:28pm