

Warsaw, 13 March 2014

I.dz. 220/2014

International Table Tennis Federation Chemin de la Roche 11 1020 Renens / Lausanne Switzerland

Dear Sirs,

Having analysed the information concerning the meeting of the ITTF Para Table Tennis Division on February 7-8, 2014 published on an internet website on March 7, 2014 we decided to write this letter.

Ten pages of reports have given us a clear view of activities which took place on different continents, the costs and what has to be taken into consideration in the particular parts of the ParaTT Division. However, the information acquired from the report of a selection officer concerning players qualification to Paralympic Games in 2016 makes us to express our strong protest.

We PROTEST against the interference of the ITTF officials into trainers/coaches competences and making players participate in both individual and team matches. This is both the duty and privilege of a coach to decide which matches a player is going to play in order to prepare the best training program for an individual player as they know best how to prepare a player for the most important competition (European, World Championship and Paralympic Games). For some reasons not all players should play all matches.

We PROTEST against the interference of the ITTF officials into organizational and financial activities of National Table Tennis Federations and trials to impose on them the procedures and costs of participation of our players in the tournaments in 2014 and 2015. The rules established by the International Table Tennis Federation / ParaTT Division/ and published on March 7, 2014, when all the financial and sports plans had already been formulated, destroy the stability of work with disabled players. The necessity of collecting maximum 40% of points i.e. 100 in 2014 and maximum 60% in 2015 is regarded as a violation of our independence. Our budget was approved of by the Ministry of Finance in February and now the ITTF make us spend thousands of euros so that Polish players who are medalists of the Paralympic Games in Beijing and London, World and European Championships could meet the requirements created by some officials. Will the ITTF help us to find funds to participate in additional tournaments? Why does the ITTF not protect









the interests of players? Why not let National Federations decide when, where and in how many matches the players will take part? Would it not be reasonable to discuss such important issues before taking a decision? Why were we not given enough time to raise sufficient funds and just forced to accept the qualification rules when the application to three tournaments have already been completed?

Last year we drew your attention to the incoherence in the ITTF activities regarding the integration of disabled and able body players with these activities not being in favour of Natalia Partyka. Now it turns out that the changes introduced into the qualification system affect an even larger number of players because only the richest will be able to meet the requirements thought of by some ITTF officials.

We do hope that you will kindly think over the new regulations and allow a different division of points to be won in 2014 and 2015 from the one which was published after the Copenhagen meeting and let us decide on which players and when take part in particular tournaments. We are positive it would be extremely beneficial for the development of Para Table Tennis.

Yours faithfully,

Marek PRZYBYŁOWICZ

Director of Office

Polish Table Tennis Federation

Copy to:

Members of the ITTF ParaTT Division International Olympic Committee International Paralympic Committee Polish Olympic Committee Polish Paralympic Committee European Union of Table Tennis Ministry of Sport and Tourism



