

ETTU Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Online

Monday 8th June 2026, 1100-1300 CET

Present:

Pedro Moura (POR), President
Heike Ahlert (GER), Deputy President
Sandra Deaton (ENG), Vice-President for Finances
Sonja Grefberg (FIN), Vice-President
Ina Jozepsone (LAT), Vice-President
Jarosław Kołodziejczyk (AUT), Vice-President
Didier Leroy (BEL), Vice-President
Zoran Primorac (CRO), Vice-President
Frane Kojic (CRO), Athletes' Commission Chair
Pierre Kass, Secretary General
Galia Dvorak, Deputy Secretary General
Alen Ivancin, Competition Director (present for item 3)
Jean-Nicolas Barelier, FFTT (present for item 3)

11.00 1. Welcome of the President

The President welcomed the members of the Executive Board.

11.09 2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

11.10 3. Ranking to be used in Olympic pathway events

- Presentation and discussion with FFTT representatives

The President welcomed Jean-Nicolas Barelier to the meeting and asked him to explain the rationale from FFTT about the ranking in Olympic pathway events.

Mr. Barelier presented the Olympic Qualification Pathway document and a comparison of the potential impact of using either the European Ranking or the World Ranking for qualification from ETTU events. He explained that the request was not related to any individual player but based on the principle of ensuring equity, transparency and clarity for all athletes throughout the Olympic pathway, which represents the most universal competition. He highlighted that, as the final Olympic qualification steps are linked to the World Ranking, using the same ranking throughout the pathway could provide more consistency and give every deserving player the maximum chance to qualify through the events in which they participate.

From the ETTU side, it was noted that the European Ranking had been specifically developed to better reflect the performance of European players, as the World Ranking does not always accurately represent the level within Europe due to differences between events across continents. The European Ranking includes results from major European competitions such as the European Championships, Europe Top 16, European Games and club competitions, while also integrating World Ranking points with increased weighting over time.

ETTU representatives further highlighted that European events should maintain strong relevance for seeding purposes and that the European Ranking generally provides a balanced system with fewer anomalies. It was acknowledged that exceptional cases may occur, particularly for young players who develop quickly but have not yet participated in several European events; however, such situations would usually balance out once players compete regularly in European competitions.

It was also pointed out from the ETTU side that any change during an Olympic cycle would need to be carefully assessed, as the focus had been placed on strengthening the European Ranking over recent years. It was noted that the Olympic qualification pathway is based first on team qualification, after which qualified federations select their singles players according to the applicable rules, while some players may also qualify through further individual qualification opportunities.

The importance of ensuring a fair Olympic pathway for all European players was recognised, while also protecting the value and strategic role of the European Ranking.

The President thanked Mr. Barelier for his time and attendance, noting that the board will discuss the matter internally.

The ETTU Executive Board discussed the matter and postponed the decision to the next in-person meeting during the European Youth Championships.

12.23

4. Update of the President

The President updated the Board on the following matters:

He met with Dr. Ranke (antesi media) in Lisbon.

The Title Sponsor is satisfied with the Champions League Men Final 4 event and with the media reports. He informed that the marketing manager will attend European Handball Final 4 event in Cologne to study from this event. The President reported about the Champions League Women Final 4 event, which was overall well organised, while noting that certain aspects related to event promotion, spectator engagement and commercial opportunities could be further strengthened for future editions. The President informed the Board that ETTU will review the hosting arrangements of the ECLW Final 4 and evaluate possible options to further strengthen the organisation and presentation of future editions.

The President informed the Board that ETTU had opened an equipment support programme for Member Associations, with equipment purchased from the supplier at cost price. Ten applications were received. The 2026 support is allocated to Albania, which had requested tables to host the Balkan Youth Championships, while the remaining nine candidates may be considered for the following year.

He thanked Vice-Presidents Didier Leroy and Jarosław Kołodziejczyk for their representation at the Europe Cup Finals and asked them to update the Board.

Vice-President Didier Leroy reported about the Europe Cup Women Final in Linz. He noted that the players' names were not displayed on the shirts and suggested making this a requirement, that the ball kids collect the balls only at the end of each game, and that the award ceremony lacked a script. He recommended sending a standard script to organisers and proposed introducing an MVP award. He reported that the medals for referees and umpires were much appreciated, and that there had been a dispute over the visiting team's meal costs.

Vice-President Jarosław Kołodziejczyk reported about the Europe Cup Men Final in Prague. He described a well-organised event with a good atmosphere in a small venue, won by the Spanish club Priego, their first European team title. He shared the same observations regarding player names and the ceremony script, noted that the ball kids had performed well, and reported a disputed yellow card given to a player for delaying his return to the table during an opponent's timeout.

He also informed that the club from Linz will challenge the ETTU decision and information on the qualification/seeding for ECLW.

12.39

5. Development

- Eurospins 2026 (new cycle)

Vice-President Jarosław Kołodziejczyk informed the Board that the second edition will be held in Korea Republic in early September 2026, with departure no earlier than 2nd September so as not to clash with tournaments counting for the World Championships. After the camp, players may stay to play the WTT Youth Contender at their federations' expense. For this edition, ETTU will cover its own costs during the camp, and the Korea TT Association will do likewise when visiting Europe in 2027. The Board agreed that ETTU would cover one additional night not linked to the tournament. The full programme will be presented at the in-person meeting during the European Youth Championships in Gondomar.

12.50 6. Next EB meetings

- Event presentations

Event presentations for 2028 Championships will be held during the in-person EB meeting in Gondomar during the European Youth Championships on 15th and 16th July and the other event presentations will be arranged for 28th and 30th September, online.

12.55 7. Any other Business

Athletes' Commission Chair Frane Kojic reported that he had discussed his proposal on substitutions in team events with Paul Drinkhall, now Chair of the ITTF Athletes' Commission. Mr. Drinkhall still needed to consult Liu Shiwen and, owing to a language barrier, the matter will take some time. No information has yet been received on whether ETTU could introduce substitutions independently of the ITTF. Mr. Kojic will meet Mr. Drinkhall in person in July.

13.00 8. Closure

The President thanked all members and declared the meeting closed.
