

ETTU Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Meeting room 7, Hilton Hotel, Wembley London
Friday 1st May 2026, 1000-1750

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
Senga Thomson (SCO), Welfare Officer for item 22

10.00 1. Welcome of the President and update

The President welcomed the members of the Executive Board and provided an update on the athlete participation status of Russia and Belarus. The ITTF has issued a statement outlining a pathway for youth athlete participation from these countries, subject to the development, formalisation, and communication of specific safeguards. The ITTF administration has been tasked with preparing the relevant regulatory framework, which will be shared with stakeholders in due course.

The ETTU will await the completion of this process before taking any decision at its own level. At present, Russian and Belarusian athletes are permitted to participate in individual events under AIN status.

10.06 2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendment.

Club Competitions

10.07 3. Increase in the number of ECCW “non-European” players from three (3) to four (4) (for eventual implementation in the 2027-2028 season)

The Executive Board unanimously decided not to increase the number of “non-European” players in the ECCW from three (3) to four (4) for the 2027–2028 season.

This decision was based on the outcome of the club survey, which showed a majority against the proposal, with only two clubs in favour, and on the objective of safeguarding opportunities for European players.

10.17 4. Europe Cup system of play starting Round of 16

The Executive Board unanimously decided to maintain the current Europe Cup system of play starting from the Round of 16 for the 2026–2027 season, while keeping the matter under review for future seasons.

This decision was based on the results of a club survey, which did not indicate a clear preference for either of the proposed alternative systems.

10.23 5. Executive Board representation Europe Cup finals second leg

Men: SF SKK El Nino Praha - Real Club Cajasur Priego TM in Prag Czechia
22.5.2026

ETTU Executive Board representative: Jarosław Kołodziejczyk

Women: Linz AG Froschberg - ASD Quattro Mori Cagliari in Linz Austria 22.5.2026
ETTU Executive Board representative: Didier Leroy

In addition, the Executive Board decided to introduce medal awards for referee teams at the Champions League Final 4 events and at the Europe Cup Finals second legs.

Youth Competitions

10.30 6. European Youth Competitions report from the second Working Group meeting on 22.4.2026 (document)

Deputy President Heike Ahlert reported on the outcomes of the Working Group discussions.

Under 21 Championships

The Executive Board unanimously approved the implementation of a best-of-5 format for all singles matches. The Board also decided, by majority (one abstention), to retain the U21 category for the time being and to liaise with ITTF regarding recognition of a U23 category.

Europe Youth Top 10

The Executive Board unanimously decided to maintain the current round-robin format, introduce a best-of-5 format for all matches, move the event from autumn to spring, award the winners of the U19 categories a direct quota place for the next European Individual Championships, and grant the winners of the U15 categories direct entry into the U19 category of the next edition as well as qualification for the Eurospins Programme.

European Youth Championships

The Executive Board unanimously approved a best-of-5 format for all singles matches. Decisions regarding the system of play will be deferred to the Executive Board meeting during the European Youth Championships, following the presentation of alternative formats to the Coaches' Meeting.

11.23 Break

Senior Events

11.34 7. Substitution for European Championships – update by Athletes Chair following contact with the ITTF AC

The Athletes' Commission Chair, Frane Kojic, presented athlete health considerations as the main argument in favour of allowing substitutions. He will follow up with the ITTF Athletes' Commission.

The Executive Board will seek clarification from ITTF on whether ETTU may independently allow substitutions. The matter will be revisited for decision at the Executive Board meeting in July during the European Youth Championships.

11.45 8. 2027 European Team Championships Stage 1

Vice-President Zoran Primorac informed the Board that a decision will be taken at his upcoming board meeting on 13 May 2026.

11.55 9. European continental qualification system (document)

The Executive Board approved, by majority (two abstentions), that 12 teams will qualify directly for the European Games, while the remaining teams will compete in a Stage 1 event for four qualification places. The Board unanimously approved a knockout format with repechage.

The Executive Board also unanimously approved that European quotas for doubles and mixed doubles at the Olympic Games will be allocated through an additional standalone European Championships event to be held by the end of 2027 (date to be confirmed). Singles quotas will be allocated through an Olympic Singles Qualification event to be held in January or February 2028 (date to be confirmed).

12.15 10. European Games (document)

The Executive Board unanimously approved a team quota of six (6) active players plus one (1) reserve per gender for the European Games, corresponding to a total of 64 players per gender (16 teams of three active players plus one reserve).

The Board further approved, by majority (5 in favour, 4 against), limiting the singles event to a maximum of two players per country, with a total of 64 players per gender.

13.00 11. Ranking to be used in Olympic pathway events

The Executive Board postponed the decision to the next board meeting in June and will invite the member Association who raised the concern, to explain their rationale.

13.19 12. European Mixed Team Ranking (for further discussion – decision during EYC) (document)

No update was provided, as this item is dependent on the outcome of agenda item 11.

Other Events

13.20 13. European Parkinson Championships

No update was provided therefore nothing to report on the item.

13.21 14. Playing format future European Veterans Championships

A survey addressed solely to Member Associations would not be sufficiently representative. If a survey is conducted, it should target the participants directly. It may therefore be preferable to collect feedback from players during the next European Veterans Championships.

13.25 15. Pairing of athletes from different associations at the 2027 European Para Championships

Vice-President Sonja Grefberg reported that the ETTU Para Table Tennis Committee supports allowing the pairing of athletes from different associations.

The Executive Board unanimously approved the possibility for athletes from different associations to form pairs at the 2027 European Para Championships.

13.27 16. Next EB meetings

- decision of date in June

Confirmed online meeting: Monday 8 June, 11:00 CET

- decision of date in July (14th, 15th or 16th July including event hosting applications)

Confirmed in-person meeting at the European Youth Championships: Wednesday 15 July, with continuation on 16 July if required.

The meeting on 15 July will also include event hosting presentations for the 2028 European Youth Championships and the 2028 European Championships (up to seven presentations).

13.30 Lunch break

Congress related matters

14.40 17. Finances

- update financial statements 2025

As the accounting and audit processes are ongoing, a full update, including detailed explanations, will be presented at the meeting on 15 July. An update on the 2026 financial situation will also be provided at that time.

- Budget 2027 (document)

The Secretary General presented the 2027 budget, which was approved for submission to Congress.

The budget includes the following elements, which were approved separately by the Board prior to approval of the budget:

Europe Youth Series players fees: 20 EUR per player

European Champions League Men fees: 2.000 EUR per team starting in stage 2

European Champions League Women fees: 1.500 EUR per team starting in stage 2

Staff remunerations including the President: 578.650 EUR

Executive Board annual representation allowance: 2.000 EUR per member

Competition Management School and other projects: 10.000 EUR total

15.18 18. Finance and Propositions Webinar date

The Finance and Propositions Webinar was scheduled for Wednesday 7 October 2026 at 11:00 CET.

15.20 19. Propositions to Congress

- Audit company (document)

The Executive Board approved proposing PKF Audit & Conseil to Congress for a further term.

- Constitution

Committees quotas

The Board approved proposing an increase in the limit from four (4) to five (5) Committee members per Association, reflecting the growing number of committees.

- Regulations

ETTC, EYC and Youth Top 10 hosting levies

The Board had confirmed in an earlier EB meeting to propose 30.000 EUR hosting fee for each European Championships (Individual and Team).

No proposal will be made at this stage regarding hosting levies for the European Youth Championships and the Europe Youth Top 10.

Club Competitions penalty catalogue deletion (moved to directives)

The Board approved proposing the deletion of the penalty catalogue from the regulations, as these provisions are already integrated into the respective competition directives and require differentiation by league level.

- Honorary Membership

The Board approved proposing Raul Calin for ETTU Honorary Membership.

15.50 20. ETTU Badges of Honour (document)

The following was noted for the record: Mr Darijan Vizjak (Slovenia) had been approved by the Executive Board in 2025 to receive an ETTU Badge of Honour in 2026.

The Board also approved awarding the ETTU Badge of Honour in 2026 to Esko Heikkinen (Finland), Veli Ozan Çakır (Türkiye) and Margarita A. Pesotska (Ukraine).

16.15 21. Election Audit Commission members

The Board was informed about the criteria and timeline for nominations and elections to the Audit Commission.

16.25 Break

Governance

16.40 22. Meeting with ETTU Welfare Officer

The Executive Board and the Welfare Officer discussed welfare good practices for sports organisations. The Executive Board agreed to implement awareness actions during the upcoming European Youth Championships, introduce safeguarding self-declarations within the event entry process, and offer educational courses to coaches participating in development camps.

Other

17.49 23. Any Other Business

No matters were raised.

17.50 24. Closure

The President thanked all participants and declared the meeting closed.

For EB meeting 8 June:

Ranking to be used in Olympic pathway events

B boards tender applications

Substitution for European Championships – update by Athletes Chair following contact with the ITTF AC

2027 European Team Championships Stage 1 – decision following CTTA board meeting from 13.5.2026

Timeline for event hosting presentations

For EB meeting 15-16 July (EYC):

EYC and ETTC hosting presentations

ETTU Europe Tour

European Mixed Team Ranking - decision

Equipment bid for the 2027 European Para Championships (deadline 30 June)

Substitution for European Championships – decision

Constitution and regulation proposals – final decisions

Finances: financial statements 2025 and forecast update 2026