

PROSPECTUS

LIEBHERR 2012 WORLD TEAM TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

25 March - 1 April 2012, Dortmund, Germany

1 AUTHORITY

The 2012 World Team Table Tennis Championships will be hosted and organized by the German Table Tennis Association (DTTB) under the auspices and authority of the International Table Tennis Federation.

2 DATE AND PLACE

The Championships will be held from 25 March to 1 April 2012 at the Westfalenhallen in Dortmund, Germany.

3 EVENTS

The following Championship events will be played:

Event 1: Men's Team, for the Swaythling Cup (*Holder: China*)

Event 2: Women's Team, for the Marcel Corbillon Cup (*Holder: Singapore*)

4 PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE (subject to change)

The hall will be open for practice from 22 March at 10:00 h (practice hall), and from 23 March at 10:00 h (competition hall).

25 March	Opening Ceremony
25 – 28 March	Group matches Women's and Men's Team
29 March	Group matches Men's Team
	Round of 16 Women's and Men's Team
30 March	Quarterfinals Women's and Men's Team
31 March	Semi-finals Women's and Men's Team
1 April	Women's and Men's Final

Please make note that Daylight Saving Time (DST) starts in Germany on Sunday, 25th March 2012 at 3:00 a.m. local time which means that clocks have to be set forward by one hour.

5 RULES

The Championships will be conducted in accordance with the current Laws of Table Tennis, the Regulations for International Competitions and the Special Regulations for World Championships.

6 EQUIPMENT

The following equipment from Butterfly, Double Happiness, and Gerflor will be used:

Tables, Net and Post: Butterfly (The Earth 2012 and Starker BS-2W)

Ball: Double Happiness *** (White)

Sports flooring: Gerflor (Framboise colour)

All racket coverings must be of a type currently authorized by the ITTF.

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7 ELIGIBILITY

The Championships will be open to Associations whose membership subscriptions have been paid up to and including those for 2011 (see Regulation 4.1.3.1 and 1.16.3.3).

Nominated players have to be eligible to represent their Associations according to Regulation 4.1.3 in the 2011-2012 ITTF Handbook.

8 FEES

The entry fees will be as follows:

Men's Team Event: EUR 75

Women's Team Event: EUR 75

9 SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

All entry forms must be duly filled and submitted to the ITTF before the deadline dates.

ITTF accepts only on-line entries by using National Association's password to register on the ITTF web-site (www.ittf.com).

9.1 Preliminary entries

The intention to enter teams will be the first step on the **ITTF** on-line entry system. The closing date for the receipt of this information is **30 November 2011**.

9.2 Final entries

Entries must be submitted on the ITTF on-line entry system by providing all necessary information. In order to go through the entry process successfully, each field has to be completed properly. Final entries will be open from 1 December 2011 (when Preliminary entries are over) and entries must be sent to the **ITTF** not later than **25 January 2012**.

No additional entry is allowed after the final entry deadline (25 January 2012), only changes or cancellations are accepted in case of all accredited persons. These modifications can be done online until 1 March 2012. **The on-line system will be closed after 1 March 2012.**

9.3 Modifications

Modifications after 1 March to accepted entries (entries received by the deadline) must be made according to item 4.1.6 of the ITTF Handbook **using the appropriate form** for that purpose ("Modifications to Entry Form").

An Association may nominate up to 5 players and a non-playing captain for a team event.

The size of each "**Official delegation**" will be limited to a maximum of: 2 coaches, 1 doctor, 2 physiotherapists, 1 chief of delegation, the President of the Association, 2 AGM delegates plus the number of players selected by the Association and eligible for the competition.

All the "**Other persons**" of the Delegation must be listed separately and dealt with

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separately by the Organizing Committee especially concerning the visa request.

The Organizing Committee guarantees that members of each "Official delegation" will stay in the same hotel.

Please note that the preliminary and final entries must be submitted on-line ONLY to the ITTF.

9.4 On-line entry forms on ITTF web-site

Starting 1 December 2011 until 25 January 2012 all Associations can submit their entries on-line, on the ITTF web-site, through the following URL address:

www.ittf.com/entries/2012

9.5 Travel and accommodation information

Accommodation details have to be sent together with the final entries before **25 January 2012**.

Travel details can be added on-line until **1 March 2012**.

Each Association will receive an Association code and password to access the on-line entry system. (The code and the password is the same as was/is used at previous WTTC and at Pro Tour events.)

An acknowledgment of the receipt of entry forms and any updates will be sent by e-mail. If this confirmation has not been received, the ITTF should be notified by e-mail (mo@ittf.com)

9.6 Visa application deadline

Based on the ITTF Executive Committee decision the organizers identify deadline indicating the date after which they cannot guarantee that the visa process will be concluded on time before the WTTC. For this reason it is in the vital interests of all participating Associations to submit all necessary information for getting the invitation letter and to get into contact with their closest Embassy/Consulate within the deadline (**visa application deadline**). Furthermore delegation members of several associations have to attend visa application interview also within a certain deadline to be sure to get the visa on time (**visa interview deadline**).

Visa application deadline is set to 1 February 2012

Visa interview deadline is set to 29 February 2012

Check the list of nationals who need and do not need visa to stay in Germany on this link:

http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/EinreiseUndAufenthalt/StaatenlisteVisumpflicht_node.html

Check address and contact to the nearest Embassy and Consulate for visa applications on this link:

http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/DE/Laenderinformationen/03-WebseitenAV/Uebersicht_node.html

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10 COPY OF PASSPORT AND PHOTOGRAPHS

As part of the entry process, photocopy of passport, an accreditation photograph (4cm x 3cm) and the city of visa application have to be provided for visa and accreditation purposes. In order to avoid delays at the Accreditation Centre, Associations providing all required information and payment in advance will have priority during the accreditation process.

11 OBLIGATIONS

The entry will contain a statement that players nominated are willing to compete against any other participating player and that the participants respect and acknowledge the ITTF Anti-Harassment Policy. This statement must be confirmed by a responsible official of the nominating Association and no entry form will be accepted unless such an undertaking has been given.

12 TELEVISION, MOTION PICTURE, INTERNET COVERAGE AND BETTING

By entering the Championships, participants agree to abide by all ITTF rules and by the rules and regulations of the Organizing Committee. All entered associations, pairs and individual players agree to be under the auspices of the ITTF and its agents in all matters concerning television coverage, video, internet web casting, motion picture coverage, and photographic coverage of any kind. Participants release all rights, or rights held by their agents or sponsors, in all matters relating to television and web casting coverage, video and motion picture coverage, and photographic coverage of any kind; and hence accept such coverage during the World Championships. A participant's refusal of above listed coverage may be subject to suspension or dismissal from the competition. Any participant, when called upon, must appear promptly to press conferences or medal presentations and follow the procedures set by the ITTF and the Organizing Committee.

In the context of betting, participants in the World Championships shall not, by any manner whatsoever, infringe the principle of fair play, show unsporting conduct, or attempt to influence the course or result of a competition, or any part thereof, in a manner contrary to sporting ethics. Any violation of this principle shall be disciplined according to provisions of ITTF regulation 3.5.3.

13 DRAW

The draw for the Championships Division and Division 2, 3 will be made under the supervision of the ITTF Technical Committee, in Dortmund **on 22 February 2012** at a place and time to be communicated later. For Division 4 and possible Division 5 the draw will be made at 11:00 h. on 23 March 2012.

14 JURY MEETING

The Jury will meet with Organizing Committee's representatives, Referees and Team Managers in Dortmund **at 19:00 h. on 24 March 2012** and on subsequent occasions during the Championships, if required. An Association directly affected by a matter under consideration at a Jury meeting is entitled to be represented at that meeting.

15 UMPIRES AND REFEREES

All matches will be controlled by qualified umpires and referees, in accordance with the Directives for Match Officials at World Title Competitions (page 138-143 of the 2011-2012 ITTF Handbook).

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16 AWARDS

The winning Associations will be entitled to hold the appropriate trophies until 31 December 2013.

In addition to the Championship trophies the winning players and captain will receive a gold medal, the losing finalist will receive a silver medal and the losing semi-finalists will receive bronze medals.

Each division winning team and captain shall receive a medal or award as Division Champion.

All players taking part will receive a certificate of participation.

17 MEETINGS

A General Meeting of members will be held on **27 March 2012** at Westfalenhallen Goldsaal in Dortmund. Each Association, whose membership subscriptions have been paid up to and including those for 2011, is entitled to be represented by two delegates at the Meeting. The ITTF recommends that at least one delegate should be a woman.

The ITTF Board of Directors will meet on **29 March 2012** at Westfalenhallen-Congress Centre in Dortmund.

Details in writing of business and propositions to be dealt with at the AGM and Board of Directors must reach the ITTF Secretariat **not later than 27 December 2011**.

18 FREE HOSPITALITY

Free accommodation and meals will be provided from lunch on 24 March to breakfast on 2 April 2012 for

- Three (3) men and three (3) women players nominated by an Association (on double occupancy basis);
- One (1) delegate to the General Meeting from each Association if he/she is not already included in the nominated players listed above;
- Members of the ITTF Development and Continental Council, the Board of Directors and the Olympic Commission and full members of Committees.
- Personal Honorary Members;
- President's Advisory Council;
- Four (4) members of the Doping Control Panel appointed by the Sports Science Committee;
- Up to 4 members for the Racket Control;
- Eight (8) members of the Athletes' Commission;
- All the International Umpires, Referees and Other Officials from other Associations invited in accordance with the directives for Match Officials issued by the ITTF.
- 6 members of the ITTF staff.

19 HOSPITALITY FOR CHARGE

Players and officials who are listed on Associations' official entry forms but who are not entitled to free hospitality can take the official hospitality package including meals, transport and admission, at a charge of **EUR 140** per person per day in a twin/double room or **EUR 185** per person per day in a single room.

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20 PAYMENT

Associations are requested to pay their entry fees, extra hospitality costs and hospitality costs for those persons not entitled to free accommodation and meals, when submitting their entry forms.

Payment should be made **in EUR currency** by direct Bank Transfer **before 20 February 2012** to the following account:

Account Holder: Deutscher Tischtennis-Bund
Account Address: Otto-Fleck-Schneise 12, D-60528 Frankfurt am Main
Account Number: 6000739527
IBAN: DE66 5019 0000 6000 7395 27
Swift: FFVBDEFF
Bank Name: Frankfurter Volksbank
Bank Address: Triftstrasse 14, D-60528 Frankfurt

Payment has to be made by covering all bank fees in connection with the bank transfers after receiving the pro-forma invoice from the organizers.

The Organizing Committee will make hotel reservations and pick-up arrangements only for Associations that have completed their payments.

Cancellation

Reimbursement of cancellation will be done upon request only if the cancellation has been announced before 13 February 2012.

For cancellation of accommodation for members of Delegations after the deadline of the Final Entries, the cancellation fee will be as follows:

- Before 13 February 2012 - no cancellation fee.
- From 14 February until 14 March - 50 % cancellation fee of the total costs for each person who does not have free hospitality.
- From 15 March 2012 - 80% cancellation fee of the total costs for each person who does not have free hospitality.

The Organizing Committee should not cancel the rooms of the persons taken in charge by them except if they receive official information from the associations concerned.

The Organizing Committee should not cancel the rooms of the persons not taken in charge by them if:

- they have received the full payment in advance or
- they have received the confirmation of date and time of arrival or
- they have received an official confirmation of the flight tickets by the company or the travel agency.

If the Organizing Committee does not receive any of these 3 above confirmations on time they are free to cancel the rooms.

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21 ARRIVAL INFORMATION

The deadline to provide travel details is 1 March 2012. Participating delegations **must** inform the Organizing Committee of any change on their arrival date and time at least three days prior to their arrival and no later than 23:59 h. (local time) on 22 March 2012. Delegations not providing travel details before 23:59 h. (local time) on 22 March 2012 will not have their teams included in the draw.

The Organizing Committee provides pick-up service from and to Duesseldorf International Airport (DUS), Dortmund Airport and Dortmund Main Train Station.

2012 World Team Playing System

According to the ITTF Board of Directors decision in May 2011 in Rotterdam

1. STRUCTURE

- 1.1 "Division" System with 24 teams in each of the top 3 Divisions and the rest of the teams to form the 4th Division, unless there are sufficient teams to have 24 teams in a 4th Division and a viable 5th Division.
- 1.2 The 1st Division is also the Championship Division.
- 1.3 In each of the top 3 {or 4} Divisions there will be 4 Groups of 6 teams.
- 1.4 The 4th {or 5th} Division will be comprised of all the rest of the teams divided into groups after the final entry is known, to maximise the number of matches played by each team.

2. PLAYING SYSTEM

- 2.1 The playing system for the top 2 Divisions will be identical.
 - 2.1.1 Each group of 6 teams shall play a complete round robin competition (5 matches per team).
 - 2.1.2 The order of play and the scheduling of the matches must be prepared in such a way as to avoid, whenever possible, the possibility of "pre-determining" results. All final round matches, as feasibly possible, must be significant for each competing team.
 - 2.1.3 Following the complete round robin in each group, the winners of each group (4 teams) will move directly into the quarter finals round (they have a bye in the round of 16 - see diagram on page 9) and be seeded accordingly (winner of Group "A" seeded 1st (position (1)) winner of Group "B" seeded 2nd (position (2)) winners of Groups "C" and "D" **drawn** in positions (3)).
 - 2.1.4 The teams placing 2nd in the groups will be drawn randomly in positions (5) into the Round of 16 first (see diagram on page 4).
 - 2.1.5 The teams placing 3rd in the groups will be **drawn randomly** in positions (9) into the Round of 16 next (see diagram on page 4), *with the exception that teams having played against each other in the group stage shall not meet again in the first round of the knock-out competition.*

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- 2.1.6 The teams placing 4th, 5th and 6th in the groups (12 teams) will play-off for positions 13 to 24 (draw of 12 teams, using the same system as the top 12 teams - round of 16 with byes to each of the teams placing 4th).
- 2.1.7 The play-off rounds (final draws) will be played according to a progressive knock-out system to determine all the final positions in order from 1 to 12 and from 13 to 24. (2nd Division: 25-36 and 37-48), except that there shall be no match for 3rd and 4th.
- 2.2 The playing system for the other full Divisions will be identical *with the exception that teams having played against each other in the group stage shall not meet again in the first or second round of the knock-out competition.*
- 2.3 In the lowest Division, depending on the total number of entered teams, the teams shall be divided into groups (number of groups to be determined after the closing date for entries) in order to provide sufficient number of matches to each team. The teams will play first in groups and then a progressive knock-out system to determine all positions. Every effort will be made to provide as many matches as possible per team.
- 2.4 The World Champion team could play a maximum of 9 matches and a minimum of 8 matches.
- 2.5 In 1st Division all teams are guaranteed to play at least 7 matches, but most teams will play 8 or 9 matches. In the 2nd and 3rd {and 4th} Divisions most teams will play 9 matches, only teams with a bye in the round of 16 may have only 8 matches to play.
- 2.6 No. 1 overall (winner of 1st Division) shall be the World Champion.
- 2.7 In 1st Division the winning team shall receive gold medals, the runner-up silver medals and the 2 losing semi-finalists bronze medals.
- 2.8 In 2nd and 3rd {and 4th} Divisions winning teams (Division Champions No. 25 and 49 {and 73}) shall be given medals or awards.
- 2.9 A special award shall be given to the winning team of lowest Division.

3. SEEDING and RANKING

- 3.1 The top 18 Teams of the 1st Division in the previous World Team Championships shall be guaranteed a place in 1st Division regardless of their position on the relevant ITTF Computer World Team Ranking (CWTR).
- 3.2 The teams having finished in the previous World Team Championships in one of the two top positions of each Division (25th-26th, 49th-50th, 73rd-74th, {97th-98th}) will be guaranteed a seeding of at least 23rd, 24th, 47th, 48th, 71st and 72nd {95th and 96th} respectively, unless the ranking of the team would seed them in a higher position.
- 3.3 The teams having finished amongst the next 16 positions of 2nd and 3rd {and 4th} Division (27th to 42nd inclusive and 51st to 66th inclusive {and 75th to 90th inclusive}) on the previous World Team Championships will be guaranteed a place in the same Division regardless of their position on the relevant CWTR, unless their position on this CWTR would place them in an even higher position.
- 3.4 All other teams shall be seeded according to the CWTR.
- 3.5 Seeding in the 4 groups in each of the top 3 {or 4} Divisions shall be done as follows:
- 3.5.1 In 1st Division:
- 3.5.1.1 Teams Ranked 1 to 4 shall be seeded as top of each group: 1st - A, 2nd - B, 3rd - C and 4th - D,
- 3.5.1.2 Teams ranked 5 and 6 shall be drawn in Groups D and C,

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- 3.5.1.3 Teams ranked 7 and 8 shall be drawn in Groups B and A, etc, drawing teams two-by-two using the snake system until all groups are complete with 24 teams.
- 3.5.2 The same system shall be used for the 2nd and 3rd {and 4th} Divisions.
- 3.5.3 The system of seeding for the lowest Division will be determined after the closing of entries.
- 3.6 The CWTR which will be used for the composition of the Divisions and for the Draws shall be the last CWTR before the draw of the Championship Division.

4. DEFINITIONS

- Division:** refers to a block of teams competing against each other. Divisions shall consist of 24 Teams (4th {or 5th} Division may consist of less or more teams). References to these blocks are: 1st Division, 2nd Division, 3rd Division and 4th {and 5th} Division. The 1st Division is the Championship Division.
- Group:** refers to teams drawn together within a Division. There will be 4 groups per Division and they are referred to in the alphabetical order. In the 1st Division: Groups A, B, C, and D, in the 2nd Division: groups E, F, G and H, and in 3rd. Division, groups I, J, K and L. (4th {or 5th} Division may consist of less or more groups).
- Ranking:** refers to the ITTF's Computer World Team Ranking (CWTR)
- Seeding:** refers to the placement of a Team at the Championships based on its final position at the previous Team Championships or on its position in the current championships based on its ranking relative to all other entered teams.

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1st DIVISION - CHAMPIONSHIP

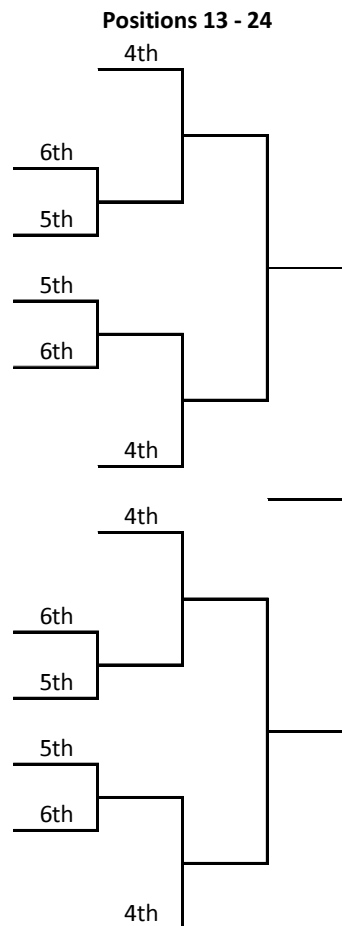
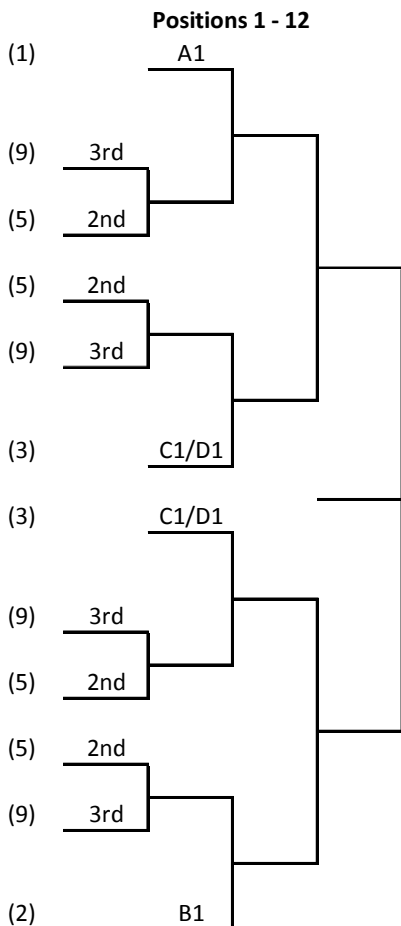
GROUPS

A	1
	7/8
	9/10
	15/16
	17/18
	23/24

B	2
	7/8
	9/10
	15/16
	17/18
	23/24

C	3
	5/6
	11/12
	13/14
	19/20
	21/22

D	4
	5/6
	11/12
	13/14
	19/20
	21/22



2nd DIVISION

GROUPS E,F,G,H

Positions 25 - 36

Positions 37 - 48

3rd DIVISION

GROUPS I,J,K,L

Positions 49 - 60

Positions 61 - 72

4th DIVISION

GROUPS M,N, ...

Positions 73 +

{Positions 85 - 96}

{5th DIVISION}

{GROUPS Q,R,...}

{Positions 97 +}