

October 3, 2012

Dear Delegates of the Assembly and WASUSA Board of Directors,

I am sorry I cannot be with you this year. However, my absence doesn't mean that I do not consider this meeting to be important. I am always at work for table tennis, sharing information and encouraging participation.

Attached is my report for the Assembly. Please feel free to always contact me with any questions on table tennis at johnsonjennifer@yahoo.com or on my cell at 914-879-5184.

I wish you all a productive and successful meeting.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Johnson

Jennifer E. Johnson
WASUSA STC – Table Tennis

Wheelchair & Ambulatory Sports USA (WASUSA)– National Delegate Assembly
Rochester, MN – October 12-15, 2012
Table Tennis Report

USA Table Tennis:

USA Table Tennis is the National Governing Body for Para Table Tennis. Their functions are: Developing selection criteria for USOC approval for Para PanAm and Paralympic Games; selection of athletes for Para PanAm and Paralympic Games; selection for World Championships are made by the ITTF Para Division and verified by the USA Table Tennis; selection of head coach and assistant coaches for international trips; process entry forms for ITT-PTT sanctioned events; organize and coordinate national classification system; select National Para and Junior Team Members; conduct three disabled events (wheelchair, standing and intellectually disabled) at the USATT National Championships and US Open, and conduct international Paralympic Table Tennis competition. The USATT is responsible for the training for and development and conduct of International classification for Paralympic athletes for all 11 classification divisions for Paralympic Table Tennis in the United States. Jasna Rather is their Paralympic Program Manager and can be contacted at jasnausa@hotmail.com.

For the 2013 Para National Team Selection Procedures please go to the USATT website www.usatt.org for details.

STC currently seeks the assistance of the USA Table Tennis for help with rules, technical questions and officials.

International Competition:

London 2012 Paralympics

Three athletes, Tara Profitt – CT, Pam Fontaine – TX, and Tahl Lebovitz – NY, two coaches: Sean O’Neill – Head Coach, Keith Evans – Asst. Coach and one Escort: Matt Profitt represented the USA at the London Games. London did a fantastic job in conducting the Paralympic Games. There were spectators at all of their events. I attended as a Journalist working with Sebastian Defrancesco’s company Four Wheel Media.

Mike Dempsey International Memorial Tournament, Nov. 27-Dec. 2, 2012, San Diego, CA
Twenty-five countries with a total of 150 athletes Classes 1-11 have entered the MDMTT tournament in San Diego. Prior to the tournament there will be an adult and junior training camp from Nov. 24 to 27. The USA Table Tennis is accepting entries for the MDMTT tournament and the juniors training camp. Andre Scott at mdmtt1@gmail.com is accepting entries for the adult training camp and he can also answer questions on the tournament. In addition to competition and training for players, an International Classification seminar is being held there.

National and Regional Competitions

Our National competition is held every December at the USATT National Championships, which will be held this year in Las Vegas from Dec. 18-22 for Classes 1-11. This is the first time we will include Class11 for Paralympic qualified Intellectually Disabled athletes in our National Championships. Information on this can be found at the USATT website: www.usatt.org. The deadline for entry is October 19, 2012.

There are table tennis competitions at the Regional competition sanctioned by WASUSA. Juniors and beginners usually participate at these events, which is always a good place to start. We encourage the regions to continue to include table tennis in their regional competitions.

Juniors:

The Table Tennis tables donated by STC to the junior program were finally delivered this year. Score cards were also donated to NJDC.

The 2013 Junior Para Team Selection Procedures have been posted at the USATT website. For those of interested or have questions again you can contact Jasna Rather, Paralympic Program Manager, jasnausa@hotmail.com.

There will be a Junior Training Camp (under 18) organized and sponsored by the USA Table Tennis, November 24-27, San Diego. For more information and how to sign up go to www.usatt.org or email Jasna.

Clinics:

A Table Tennis clinic was organized and sponsored by Tri-State at the Tri-State Games in May. I was supposed to conduct that Clinic, but due to traffic and circumstances beyond my control I did not get there in time. However, my able peers jumped in a made the event happen.

We hope to do more clinics in the 2013. Please let us know if we can assist you in anyway in organizing a clinic in your area. You can contact WASUSA or me at johnsonjennifer@yahoo.com.

Classification:

Sharon Frant Brooks is the USATT National Classification Officer for Paralympic Table Tennis. Sharon is working on creating a system under the USATT to train regional and national table tennis classifiers. Any athlete that is seen by Sharon or a will be given a national classification card. We are recommending that anyone who wants to compete in international table tennis to be first classified by Sharon. Classifications are generally conducted 3-4 times a year at the Eastern Open Championship in May of each year at Rutgers University in New Jersey and the US National Championships in December in Las Vegas, the US Open Championships and if possible, a site to accommodate geographical needs of athletes to be classified.

Sharon will be hosting a Classification Seminar in San Diego, November 24-27 for Classes 1-11. 6 USA classifiers will be attending and will become the only recognized National Paralympic Table Tennis classifiers in the country, and will begin the process of training local and regional classifiers for all 11 classes of Paralympic table tennis.

I am happy to say that WASUS board of directors approved \$1,000.00 from the table tennis fund to help fund two of our members and USA classifiers, Jeannie Senter, MS, PT and Jennifer Lucarevic to attend the seminar. James Beckford and Kenneth Brooks of the USA will also be attending as technical classification candidates, but were not included in the support as they are not currently members of WASUSA. 20-30 players with intellectual disabilities from 5-6 countries will be classified in San Diego and will also play in the Mike Dempsey Memorial Tournament.

For further information on classification for all 11 classes in Paralympic table tennis, please contact Sharon Frant Brooks at usattclass@gmail.com.

Table Tennis Rules and Sanction

There were no changes to our current rules for 2012. However going forward in 2013 I propose we adopt the USA Table Tennis rules as our guideline for all competitions. In the past we modified some of the rules that were specific to Juniors and some competitions. I propose that

