

2nd November 2005

# **SOUTH AFRICAN TABLE TENNIS BOARD**

## **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

ADOPTED ON 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY 1996  
AMENDED AT AGM SEPTEMBER 1998  
AMENDED AT SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING 1 APRIL 2000  
AMENDED AT AGM 9 JULY 2000  
AMENDED AT AGM 29 SEPTEMBER 2001  
AMENDED AT SGM 7 JULY 2002  
AMENDED SGM 30 MARCH 2003  
AMENDED AGM 7 DECEMBER 2003  
AMENDED AT SGM 4 APRIL 2004  
AMENDED AT AGM 2 OCTOBER 2004  
AMENDED AT SGM 21 MAY 2005  
AMENDED AT AGM 1 OCTOBER 2005

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## RULES AND REGULATIONS

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# **SOUTH AFRICAN TABLE TENNIS BOARD** **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

## **ADOPTION**

The Rules and Regulations were adopted at the Special General Meeting held in Braamfontein, Gauteng on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1996. These Rules shall be binding on the SATTB and its Affiliates. Should the necessity arise between meetings, to amend these Rules and Regulations, the Executive shall be mandated to make such alterations. The Affiliates shall be advised of the alterations and shall have fourteen (14) days to respond. Correspondence regarding such changes shall be discussed at the next Executive Meeting of the SATTB and the Affiliates shall be advised of the outcome of the discussion through the medium of the SATTB Executive Meeting Minutes.

These Rules and Regulations are divided into four (4) parts:-

- PART A - General
- PART B Regulations applicable to both South African Open and Inter-Regional Tournament
- PART C - South African Open Championships
- PART D - Inter-Regional -Tournament
- PART E National Team Championships

**DEFINITION:** Wherever the word "Tournament" appears in all sections of these regulations this shall mean "the South African Championships and Inter-Regional matches – Open, Juniors, Veterans and Champion of Champions" where applicable.

### **GENERAL NOTE:**

The attention of all persons is drawn to the extract from ITTF Regulations for Competitions regarding table, lighting, playing space, advice to players, appeals etc..

The South African Table Tennis Board, hereafter referred to as SATTB  
The International Table Tennis Federation, hereafter referred to as ITTF  
The Annual General Meeting, hereafter referred to as the AGM.  
The United Schools Sports Association of South Africa, hereafter referred to as USSASA.  
African Table Tennis Association, hereafter referred to as the ATTF.

## **PART "A"** **GENERAL**

### **1. PLAYING LAWS**

- 1.1 The South African Open, Junior, 20 and under, Veterans, Champion of Champions, National Inter-Regional, Team Championships and any Open Association Championships shall be played under "The Laws of Table Tennis" as formulated by the ITTF and SATTB.
- 1.2 Physically Disabled Players participating in SATTB. Tournaments.  
All disabled players shall play under the SATTB Rules except for:
  - 1.2.1 Doubles.  
In a doubles event there will be no inter-changing between a pair if one or both of

them are in a wheelchair and the ball can be addressed by them at any time during the match. (they do not have to play alternatively)

1.2.2 Services.

1.2.2.1 In the event of a match against a player in a wheelchair the opponent must serve so that the ball crosses the end line and not the sideline of the table.

1.2.2.2 The ball should only bounce once on the receiver court.

**2. AGE LIMITS**

2.1 The age limits for the Junior Championships events are 11, 13, 16, and 19 respectively on the 31<sup>st</sup> December prior to the year in which the event takes place. The events will therefore be open to players 12 and under, 14 and under, 17 and under and 20 and under.

2.2 The age limits for the Women's Veterans Championships events are 35, 45, and 55 respectively as at the 31<sup>st</sup> December prior to the year in which the event takes place. The events will therefore be open to players 35 and over, 45 and over and 55 and over.

2.3 The age limits for the Men's Veterans Championship events are 40, 50 and 60 respectively as at the 31<sup>st</sup> December prior to the year in which the event takes place. The events will therefore be open to players 40 and over, 50 and over and 60 and over.

**3. PROOF OF AGE**

3.1 When first registering through a Region to the SATTB all players must forward a certified photocopy of their identity document, a birth certificate or passport to the Board. Failure to comply with the above clause will prevent acceptance of registration.

3.2 New players must forward a certified photocopy of a registered birth certificate, identity document or passport together with the entry forms for any SATTB. Open Tournament. Failure to comply with the above will prevent the entry being accepted.

**4. JURISDICTION**

The areas and districts controlled by a Region shall be defined in Clause 10 of these Rules and Regulations, upon the affiliation of an Region to the SATTB as a duly constituted body.

**5. MISCONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION:**

5.1 Any individual, Club or Region alleged to have committed an offence, shall be reported to the relevant authority as described below within 14 days of the alleged incident. The relevant authority i.e. the Club, Region or the Board shall conduct its enquiry, and appropriate disciplinary action taken promptly i.e. within two (2) weeks, of the complaint being lodged. Such decisions must be conveyed through the membership of the SATTB within the next fourteen (14) days.

When an individual, Club or Region is of the opinion that it has been unfairly treated, it could appeal to the higher authority for redress.

All Regions shall honor the disciplinary actions, and any Region violating this will also be deemed to have misbehaved and appropriate disciplinary steps shall be taken against it.

When an accusation of misconduct has been made, the order in which disciplinary action will be conducted shall be as follows:-

- An individual will be dealt with by his Club
- A Club alleged to have defaulted shall be dealt with by its Region.
- A defaulting Region shall be handled by the SATTB.

5.2 Any Player or Region being found guilty of Misconduct and being subjected to Disciplinary Action at any National Tournament by a Disciplinary Committee, may appeal to the SATTB as described

- under the Disciplinary Code.
- 5.3 All Disciplinary Regulations as defined in the ITTF Rules are enforced under this SATTB Clause.
- 5.4 Any dispute arising out of or in connection with the enforceability of the Constitution of the SATTB or the application and interpretation of the provisions thereof, or any dispute between any members of the SATTB or between a member and the Executive Committee or the SATTB itself, shall be referred to the Arbitration Foundation of Southern Africa (AFSA) for resolution through mediation of expedited arbitration in terms of the Rules and Procedures for the Resolution of Disputes in Sport, prevailing at the time such dispute is so referred.  
In the event of arbitration in terms of the foregoing, such resolution shall be final and binding on the parties in the dispute.

5.5 **DISCIPLINARY CODE – see separate cover.**

## **6. CLEARANCE OF PLAYERS**

- 6.1 Clearance should be given promptly i.e. within fourteen (14) days, of a member wishing to move from one club to another, or from one Region to another, provided the member is in good standing i.e. - not owing moneys,  
- not presently guilty of misconduct.
- 6.2 Clearance of International Players:  
International players entering SA Open Competitions must obtain clearance from their National Regions and this clearance must be forwarded to the SATTB by the closing date as stipulated on the entry form.
- 6.3 International players residing temporarily or permanently in South Africa may be selected for Regional Teams if they have the necessary clearance from their Country, their National Associations and from the SATTB. This is providing that a Region wishes to select them for their teams.
- 6.4 International Players who have been granted South African Citizenship may be selected for National Teams in terms of Clause 3.8 of the ITTF Regulations.

## **7. EQUIPMENT**

- Only ITTF approved equipment may be used for any International and National Open Tournaments.
- 7.1 **Balls.**  
Only balls approved by the ITTF and listed in the ITTF Handbook may be used in Open Tournaments and National Inter-regional Matches. The Host Region shall have the right to nominate the ball to be used at National Championships. Such nominations must be specified on the Tournament entry forms.
- 7.2 **Racket Coverings.**
- 7.2.1 Only ITTF approved racket coverings as listed in the ITTF Handbook may be used by players.
- 7.2.2 The ITTF official Logo must appear on the racket coverings.
- 7.2.3 All racket coverings with pimples with a ratio of the height to the width of the pimples of more than 1.1 to 1.0 have been banned by the ITTF as from 1 July 1999 and by the SATTB as from 1 February 2000.
- 7.3 **Adhesives. (Solvents)**  
Only ITTF approved Adhesives as listed in the ITTF Handbook may be used by players. The Tournament Referees at major Tournaments will make random tests.

Lists of all ITTF approved equipment will be published in the SATTB Handbook.

## **8. BOUNDARIES, CLUB MEMBERSHIP AND REGIONAL REPRESENTATION:**

- 8.1 Clubs shall affiliate to the Region within whose boundary the clubs are situated. (Boundaries – Refer to Clause 1.21 of the SATTB Constitution).
- 8.2 A member shall have the right to register with any member Region of the SATTB irrespective of the area in which he/she resides, except that in the case of the SATTB Associate Members, their members will be governed by the regulations of the associated member.
- 8.3 Guest Players
- 8.3.1 A player is allowed to participate in the league fixtures of more than one Region of the Board as a guest player.
- 8.3.2 A guest player may only represent the Region in which he/she is normally registered. A player's Home Region will be determined by where the player registers at the beginning of the year.
- 8.3.3 A guest player must be in good standing with his/her Home Region.
- 8.3.4 A club is allowed to participate in the league fixtures of more than one Region of the Board as a guest club.
- 8.4 Veterans:  
All Veteran players are to be registered through their Clubs to their Regions irrespective of where they may reside. In the event of Veteran players who are not registered and wish to enter for any Open Veteran Provincial, SAVETTS Open or the SATTB Veterans Open Tournament, the following procedure is to be followed:  
The unregistered Veteran players may apply for membership of SAVETTS on the prescribed SAVETTS form through the Organising Committee of the specific Competition.  
Forms to be forwarded to SAVETTS Secretary and SAVETTS will then register the players as SAVETTS players with the SATTB at a fee of 25% of the membership fee of SAVETTS.  
(Refers to point 3.1 of the SAVETTS Constitution)

## **9. REGISTERED REGIONAL COLOURS**

- 9.1 All Regions are to register their playing colours with the SATTB. Alternative playing colours must also be registered in the case of two Regions with the same colour T-shirt participating in the team events. Refer to Clause 8.14 in the ITTF Handbook for Match Officials.
- In the case of two Regions wearing the same colour T-shirt in a National Inter-Regional match, lot by the Tournament Referee shall determine the Region who has to change their T-shirt.
- 9.2 The playing colours of all Regions shall be in line with the National Sports Council's Regional Colours.
- 9.3 Regional players must be properly attired in their Regional colours with the appropriate badge on the shirt or blouse.
- 9.4 Any player not wearing the correct colours of his/her Region during any National Inter-Regional match will automatically forfeit the particular game or match in which he/she has contravened this rule.

## **10. REGIONAL BOUNDARIES**

All Regional Boundaries shall be in line with the Regional Boundaries as determined by the Provincial Governments of the nine Provinces of the Republic of South Africa. A Region may apply to the SATTB for special exemption of this Regulation if there are valid reasons that prevent compliance with this Regulation.

## **11. PLAYER IDENTIFICATION**

- 11.1 All players should be in the possession of the official SATTB Identification Cards and these cards should be produced on request.
- 11.2 The Co-Host Region should provide player's numbers for all Tournaments. The players must wear these numbers on the back of their T-shirts for the complete duration of the Tournament. Players failing to adhere to this rule shall be liable to disciplinary action.
- 11.3 No advertisements of drugs, alcohol or tobacco may be used on the player's numbers. Refers to ITTF Rules No. 3.2.4.10

## **12. CLOTHING**

- 12.1 All ITTF Rules as set out in Clause 3.2.2 to be adhered to.
- 12.2 **Shorts**
  - 12.2.1 Shorts must be standard shorts and may not have any extra big side pockets, zips or any other attachments.
  - 12.2.2 Medical or cycle shorts may be worn under the shorts but must be of the same color as the shorts.
  - 12.2.3 The length of the shorts must not reach beyond the knee. The legs of shorts may reach the knee when standing.

## **PART "B"**

### **APPLICABLE TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN OPEN/CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS AND NATIONAL INTER-REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS**

## **13. DATE OF CHAMPIONSHIPS AND NATIONAL INTER-REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS**

The SATTB shall notify all Regions at least twelve (12) months, but not less than six (6) months, of the dates of the tournaments.

- 13.1 Approval of playing venue and equipment by the Technical Committee 11 months before the event.  
Final approval of playing venue and equipment by Technical Committee 3 months before event.
- 13.2 The Junior Tournament shall be staged during the majority of the Provincial school holidays
- 13.3 These Tournaments shall preferably not be staged later than the end of September each year.
- 13.4 The SA Championship shall consist of the SA Open Individual Championship and the National Inter-Regional Championship.
- 13.5 In the year of a World Open Veterans Tournament being staged, the SA open Veterans Tournament should be held after the World Veterans Tournament.

## **14. PROGRAM**

- 14.1 Honours Roll  
The names of all past holders of all events prior to 1991 shall be recorded in the SATTB Handbook.  
The names of all past holders of all events since the 1991 inaugural Tournament shall be recorded in the official program.  
Clause 1.25.2 of the SATTB Constitution refers.
- 14.2 A Promotional National Inter-Regional event (B-Section) will be staged but will be limited to the amount of teams that could be accommodated at the tournament venue.

15. **TABLES, NETS, SURROUNDS, TIME CLOCKS, SCORING MACHINES AND FLOORING ETC.**  
All the above equipment shall be approved by the Technical Committee.

16. **ELIGIBILITY**

16.1 All registered players who are in good standing with their respective Regions and the SATTB shall be eligible to play in these championships.

16.2 **The Champion of Champions Tournament is an invitational Tournament**, which shall be held annually and shall be restricted to the following players.

16.2.1 The Closed Champion of each Region.

The only exceptions of this Rule will be:

a) In the event of the closed Champion of an Association being the SATTB representative, then the runner-up or the next player may be nominated to represent a Region.

b) SAVETTS

The number one South African Veteran players at the S A Veterans Open Tournament, Men 40 years and over and Women 35 years and over or the next player if the No 1 player is not available (SAVETTS Executive Committee)

16.2.2 SATTB's representative shall consist of the following players:

16.2.2.1 the current 17 and Under SA Champion

16.2.2.2 the current 20 and Under SA Champion

16.2.2.3 the current S.A. Champion

16.2.2.4 defending C.O.C. Champion

16.2.2.5 any player selected by the SATTB

16.2.3 It is not a prerequisite for Associations to send both Women and Men's players to the Champion of Champions Tournament.

17. **TOURNAMENT REFEREES**

17.1 Appointment. A Co-Host Region may forward the name of a Tournament Referee to the Technical Committee for approval 3 months prior to the event

Or

The Technical Committee shall appoint the Tournament Referee and Deputy Referees as required.

17.2 Convener of Management Committee. The Referee shall be the convener of the Management Committee.

17.3 The SATTB shall be liable for the traveling expenses for the Referee and two (2) Deputy Referees, if not registered members of the Co-Host Region.

17.4 The Organising Committee shall provide free accommodation, meals and local transport for each day of the competition for the Referee and 2 Deputy Referees.

17.5 The Deputy Referees should have at least the National Umpire's qualifications.

18. **UMPIRES:**

18.1 Each Association participating in a National Championships with Team Events will pay an Umpires Levy of R75.00 per team for each team entered into the A or B sections of these Tournaments.

18.2 Each Association participating in a National Championships is encouraged to nominate qualified umpires with a minimum qualification of Provincial Umpire to the SATTB for consideration as Umpires for the National Championships.

18.3 The SATTB will appoint all Umpires for National Championships and will pay for their travel to the hosting city, accommodation, local travel and subsistence allowances whilst on duty at the National Championships. In determining which Umpires to appoint the order of selection will be to first consider umpires qualified as International Umpires then National Umpires and finally Provincial Umpires.

18.4 Local Umpires, will receive a daily travel allowance and a subsistence allowance.

**19. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.**

A Management Committee of five (5) members including the Referee, who shall act as the Convener, shall be elected at the Managers meeting which shall be held prior to the start of the Tournament. This Committee will adjudicate in any dispute, which may arise during the Tournament. Appeal to the Management Committee on a ruling by the Referee may be made on a question of Tournament or match conduct not covered in the Laws, such as time or conditions of play, umpiring, etc. but in no circumstances shall it be made on any question of interpretation of the Law.

**20. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE.**

A disciplinary Committee consisting of three (3) members who shall be elected at the Managers meeting, which shall be held prior to the start of the Tournament. This Committee will adjudicate in any breach of Disciplinary Code not covered by the jurisdiction of the Referee.

**21. ALCOHOL, SMOKING AND DRUGS.**

21.1 No player or official shall indulge in any smoking, drinking of alcohol, or the taking of any prohibited substances as defined in the ITTF Rule Book or the Drug Free Sport Guide of the SA Institute for Drug Free Sport while participating in any Tournament.

21.2 Smoking and the drinking of alcohol will be strictly prohibited in the playing area. The Organising Committee must provide designated areas for drinking and smoking.

21.3 Authority is vested in the Referee or any other Delegated Authority to take whatever action is necessary against any offenders.

**21.4 Drug Testing**

21.4.1 Players may be tested for drugs at any time, either on the day of the competition, during training or out of competition. All testing shall take place on short notice.

21.4.2 The Procedure for Drug Testing, lists of Prohibited and Restricted drugs as well as the rights of the player can be obtained from the SA Institute for Drug Free Sport in a "Quick Guide for Drug Free Sport" booklet, CD Rom or from the Internet online website: <http://infosource.co.za>

Address of SA Institute for Drug Free Sport:

P O Box 395

Pretoria, 0001

Tel: (021) 841 2686

E-mail: [kgalant@csir.co.za](mailto:kgalant@csir.co.za)

<http://www.drugfreesport.org.za>.

The South African Institute for Drug Free Sport was established by an Act of Parliament in 1997.

**22. TOURNAMENT RESULTS**

The organising Region shall submit the complete Tournament results reflecting all game and team scores to the Technical Committee within 21 days after the Tournament for ranking purposes.

Failure to submit results a fine of R500.00 will be imposed by the SATTB

## PART "C"

### SOUTH AFRICAN OPEN INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

#### EVENTS

#### **23. SA OPEN TOURNAMENT**

The SA Open Tournament is to be run concurrently with the SA Open Junior Tournament.

The SA Open Championships shall consist of the following events:-

- 23.1 Men's Singles
- 23.2 Women's Singles
- 23.3 Men's Doubles
- 23.4 Women's Doubles
- 23.5 Mixed Doubles

Events 23.1 and 23.2 shall be the best of seven (7) games and events 23.3 to 23.5, shall be the best of five (5) games.

Finals Night shall consist of events 23.1 to 23.5 only.

The first stage of all events will be based on a group of 3 to 4 singles or doubles combinations playing on a round robin basis. The top two singles players or doubles pairs in each group shall qualify for the knock-out stage. The subsequent rounds shall be played on a knock-out basis, except, where, in exceptional cases such as insufficient entries, an event may be played on a round robin bases.

There will be NO plate event.

#### **24. SA JUNIOR OPEN TOURNAMENT**

The SA Junior Open Tournament shall consists of the following events:

- 24.1 10 and Under Boys Singles
- 24.2 10 and Under Girls Singles
- 24.3 12 and under Boys Singles
- 24.4 12 and under Girls Singles
- 24.5 14 and under Boys Singles
- 24.6 14 and under Girls Singles
- 24.7 17 and under Boys Singles
- 24.8 17 and under Girls Singles
- 24.9 20 and under Boys Singles
- 24.10 20 and under Girls Singles
- 24.11 12 and under Boys Doubles
- 24.12 12 and under Girls Doubles
- 24.13 12 and under Mixed Doubles
- 24.14 14 and under Boys Doubles
- 24.15 14 and under Girls Doubles
- 24.16 14 and under Mixed Doubles
- 24.17 17 and under Boys Doubles
- 24.18 17 and under Girls Doubles
- 24.19 17 and under Mixed Doubles
- 24.20 20 and under Boys Doubles
- 24.21 20 and under Girls Doubles
- 24.22 20 and under Mixed Doubles

The number of events that any participant can play in, are:

His/her own age group in the singles event and the singles event of the next higher age group, plus one (1) boys/girls doubles event and 1 mixed doubles event to a maximum of four (4) events.

All matches shall be the best of five (5) games.

Finals Night shall consist of events 24.1 to 24.8 only.

The first stage of all events will be based on a group of three (3) or four (4) singles or doubles combinations playing on a round robin basis. The top two (2) singles players or doubles pairs in each group shall qualify for the knock-out stage. The subsequent rounds shall be played on a knock-out basis, except, where in exceptional cases such as insufficient entries, an event may be played on a round robin bases.

There will be NO plate event.

**25. SA VETERAN'S OPEN TOURNAMENT.**

25.1 The SA Veteran's Championships shall consist of the following events:-

25.1.1 Men's Singles 40 years and over.

25.1.2 Men's Singles 50 years and over.

25.1.3 Men's Singles 60 years and over.

25.1.4 Women's Singles 35 years and over

25.1.5 Women's Singles 45 years and over.

25.1.6 Women's Singles 55 years and over

25.1.7 Men's Doubles

25.1.8 Women's Doubles

25.1.9 Mixed Doubles

25.1.10 The following additional events will be staged.

25.1.10.1 Men's Plate Singles (All sections)

25.1.10.2 Women's Plate Singles (All sections)

25.2 All matches shall be the best of five (5) games.

25.3 All the ITTF and SATTB Rules to apply with the following exceptions:

25.3.1 Each Competitor may only compete in his/her own age category in the Singles event plus the next category lower. (Maximum 2 Single Events).

26.3.2 A minimum of 4 entries per section required. In the case of less than four (4) players entering one event, it is the Organising Committee's right to enter them in a lower age group.

25.3.3 All categories in the Single events are to be played in accordance with the following system that has been adopted from the World Veteran's Tournament system as played in 1998:

a) The qualifying Competition is to be played on a Round Robin format in groups of preferably 4 players. If the necessity occurs the competition may also be played in groups of 3 players. As a group consisting of 5 players is too big and takes up too much time, this should be avoided, unless there are only 5 entries in total for a specific section. In this case there should be only the one group of 5 players. There then will be no final and the players will be placed according to the results as number one, two and three.

b) The first and second placed persons in each group will automatically qualify for the SA Veterans or SAVETTS proper draw. This also applies for a group consisting of 3 players.

c) The third and fourth placed players in each group will automatically qualify for the draw of the Consolation Event (Plate). In the case of groups of 3 players the 3<sup>rd</sup> player will go through to the plate event.

- d) Both the main draw of the SA Veterans Competition and SAVETTS Open as well as the draw on the Consolation event are to be played on a knock-out basis.
  - e) Knock-out draw for the main singles event:  
Should be done in such a way as that the players seeded no 1 and no 2 in a group do not meet again until the quarter finals of the main draw.
  - f) In the event of a large entry, which exceeds the capabilities of the Organising Committee, as well the time limit set, it will be the responsibility of the Organising Committee to make the necessary decision on whether to restrict the number of entries, or to play a knock-out competition on the guidelines set in these Rules. (See Clause 30 of these Rules "DRAW" i.e. accordance to the I.T.T.F. Regulations for International Competitions, 128 for singles events with preliminary rounds and 64 for doubles events with preliminary rounds),
  - g) If the Tournament is played on a knock-out basis, qualifying rounds are to be played on a knock-out basis.
- 25.3.4 In the case of less than 4 entries for the doubles events, the doubles may also be played on a group basis if the time permits. In this case there will be no final. The winners of the doubles event according to result, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **26. SA CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS TOURNAMENT**

- 26.1 The SA Champion of Champions championship shall consist of the following events:-
  - 26.1.1 Men's Singles
  - 26.1.2 Women Singles.
- 26.2 All events shall be played on a round-robin basis.
- 26.3 All matches shall be the best of seven (7) games.
- 26.4 The Associations are responsible for the expenses of their representatives to this event.

## **27. ENTRIES**

- 27.1 The Championships shall be open to all registered members of the SATTB, and to all internationally affiliated members, subject to nomination by their Region.
- 27.2 The SATTB Prescribed Entry forms shall be forwarded to Regions at least three (3) months before the Tournament starting date.
- 27.3 The closing date for the receipt of entries shall be **seven (7) weeks** before the commencement of the Tournament.  
Late entries will only be accepted at the discretion of the SATTB but will be subjected to a fine of 10% of the entry fee.
- 27.4 The cost of printing the entry forms shall be borne by the Region staging the Championships.
- 27.5 The Secretary of each Region shall arrange for all entries from his/her center to be submitted and sanctioned by him/her, for transmission in writing to the Tournament Organising Committee. All entries for SA Open Tournaments must be done through the Regions and the Organising Committee may not receive any entries directly from individuals.
- 27.6 A list of the players' ranking order within their Association must accompany the entry forms.  
If there is no indication of the ranking positions of players on the entry forms received, the Organising Committee will take the order as indicated on the forms.
- 27.7 All entry forms must be accompanied by the relevant entry fees.
- 27.8 The number of entries in all events shall be unlimited except for the Champion of Champions Tournament.

## **28. ENTRY FEES.**

- 28.1 The National Organising Committee in conjunction with the Executive Committee of the SATTB shall determine the entry fees for the National Tournaments.
- 28.2 Regions shall be held liable for their members' entry fees.

**29. SEEDING**

- 29.1 The Technical Committee shall compile the seeding for the Championships taking into account the following order: The ITTF World Ranking list, ATTF Ranking list, National Grading list from the previous Championships and Associations Ranking list.
- 29.2 The National Grading list will be determined from the results of the National Open Championships in each age category. The last eight players will be ranked by determining their final positions through additional matches in the knockout stages of the Open Championships. These players will normally make up the top eight seeded positions.
- 29.3 Seeds 9 to 16 will be drawn from a list of players ranked by their Associations. Priority will be determined by seeding players based on the performance of their Regional Teams at the previous Inter-Regional Championships.

**30. DRAW**

- 30.1 All SA Open Tournament draws are to be done by the Technical Committee of the SATTB and as far as possible the Tournament Referee should be present.
- 30.2 The Draw is to be completed and sent to all Associations two (2) weeks prior to the Tournament.
- 30.3 The draw shall be conducted in accordance with the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions.
- 30.4 Singles Event. The actual draw shall be limited to 128 with preliminary rounds if necessary.
- 30.5 Doubles Events. The actual draw shall be limited to 64, with preliminary rounds if necessary.

**31. PROGRAM**

The Program indicating the place, date, time and playing schedule should be send out to all participating Regions by the Organising Committee at least two (2) weeks before the commencement of the Tournament.

**32. TROPHIES AND/OR MEDALS**

- 32.1 Trophies and/or Medals shall be awarded to all the finalists and semi-finalists as stipulated under "EVENTS" clauses 23.1 - 23.5; 24.1 - 24.20; 25.1 - 25.9; 26.1.1 26.1.2, 27.1.1 and 27.1.2  
The expenses of the Trophies and/or Medals are to be carried by the SATTB. The expenses of the Plate events will be the responsibility of the Co-Host Region.
- 32.2 Winners of trophies/medals who are not present to accept such awards personally, without a valid reason, shall forfeit such prizes due to them.
- 32.3 All floating trophies shall be clearly signed for by the recipient on the SATTB standard form.

**33. PRIZE MONEY**

- 33.1 Prize money may be awarded by the SATTB for the SA Open and the SA Veteran's Open Tournaments and the final amounts allocated shall be decided upon by the Executive Committee.
- 33.2 Prize money and/or Prizes may be awarded by the SATTB for the SA Junior and 20 and Under Open Tournaments.
- 33.3 Prize money and Prizes may be awarded to all the winners and runners-up of the Singles and Doubles events.
- 33.4 Prize money and Prizes may be awarded to all the semi-finalists in all the Singles events.
- 33.5 Winners of prize money or Prizes who are not present to accept such awards personally, shall forfeit such prizes due to them.
- 33.6 All prize money shall be clearly signed for when received.
- 33.7 A Prize Money Fund will be created based on a levy on the member capitation fees of the SATTB. This levy will be determined by the Executive Committee.
- 33.8 The allocation of prize money will be shared as follows, 50% to the Senior Tournament, 25% to the Veteran Tournament and 25% to the Junior and 20 and Under Tournaments.
- 33.9 There shall be equality of prize money for male and female events.
- 33.10 Prize money or prizes will only be awarded to events where there is a minimum entry of eight players or pairs.

## PART "D"

### NATIONAL INTER-REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

#### **34. ELIGIBILITY**

34.1 The Inter-Regional Tournaments shall be held annually and shall be open to all Regional Affiliates and Associate Members of the SATTB. International Teams will be permitted to participate in the Inter-Regional Tournament.

#### **35. CLOSING DATE**

The closing date shall be seven (7) weeks before the commencement of the tournament.

#### **36. ASSOCIATION PLAYERS**

- 36.1 A player shall be eligible to represent only the Region in which he/she is registered.  
36.2 Regions should submit the names of the Region's Team Players with their entry forms.

#### **37. TEAMS**

37.1 A Region may enter more than one (1) team in the "A-Section" of the National Inter-Regional Tournament for Seniors and Veterans provided they have four (4) or more players ranked in the top 20 of the National Ranking List. This is providing that three (3) of the four (4) players are participating in the Inter-Regional Tournament.

37.2 The Co-Host Region may enter an additional team in the A-Section, but not if they have qualified for the additional team under the Ranking System. A third team is not permitted.

37.3 A Region may enter more than (1) team in the "A-Section" of the Inter-Regional Tournament for Juniors provided they have four (4) or more boys or girls in the top twenty junior rankings for 17 and under and 20 and under Boys and Girls Categories. This is providing that two (2) of the four (4) or more Boys and Girls thus ranked are still eligible to participate in the same age and a minimum of two (2) players are actually playing in the National Inter-Regional Tournament.

Example: To qualify for a second (2) team in the Youth category a Region needs only have four Boys in the 20 and under Boys ranking list (top twenty) irrespective of the number of girls in the top twenty of the 20 and under Girls ranking list and vice-versa.

#### **37.4 SATTB Affirmative Action Policy.**

37.4.1 An Association's Men's team may only be entered on condition that a women's team is entered. This regulation will apply to the Junior and the Senior National Inter-Regional Championships.

37.4.2 A minimum of one black player (African, Coloured or Indian) must be included in each Association's Team Squad (Male and Female) of players competing in the National Inter-Regional Championships excluding the Veteran's Championships.

Example:

Seniors: An Association's Squad consisting of three (3) men and three (3) women will be required to have at least one black male and at least one black female player in the squad

Juniors: In the total Association's squad of 20 and under, 17 and under, 14 and under and 12 and under players (Boys and Girls) there must be at least one black male player and at least one black female player in the squad.

These black players must play at least one third (33 1/3%) of the scheduled matches.

### **38. TEAM FEES**

Entry fees for Teams shall be determined by the Executive Committee of the SATTB. All fees are to be paid to the SATTB by the closing date.

### **39. PLAYING SYSTEM**

- 39.1 The Inter-Regional Tournament will be restricted to the Official teams from each Regional Affiliate, Associate Member and International Teams.  
All other teams will compete in an Open Team Tournament. This competition will provide full sets of medals for the winners, runners-up and third placed teams.
- 39.2 The draw will be done in accordance with the basic snake system taking into account the teams ranking position from the previous National Inter-Regional Championships.
- 39.3 **Team Playing Procedure:**
- 39.3.1 The group system in stage 1 of the Inter-Regional and Open Team Championships will be divided into groups and competition format as follows.
- 39.3.2 Competition with one (1) to five (5) teams. Teams will play a round robin system. There will only be one stage for this competition.
- 39.3.3 Competition with six (6) to eight (8) teams. Will play in two (2) groups consisting of three (3) or four (4) teams with all the teams of a group playing each other in Stage 1. In Stage 2 the top two (2) teams in each group will play a cross-over match with the winners of each match playing for the Gold or Silver Medal and the losers players for the Bronze Medal. The third (3) teams in each group will play each other to determine the fifth (5) and sixth (6) places. The fourth (4) teams will play for the seventh (7) and eight (8) places and so forth.
- 39.3.4 Competitions with nine (9) to twelve (12) teams. Will play in three (3) or four (4) groups consisting of three (3) or four (4) teams. The Top two (2) teams will proceed to a knock out phase with the two (2) top seeded teams having a bye where necessary. Top seedings will be determined on the results of the stage 1 matches and if necessary by calculating game scores in matches. The bottom teams will play a knockout match/matches to determine final placings.
- 39.3.5 Competitions with more than twelve (12) teams. A strength versus strength group format will be used with the top eight (8) ranked teams from the previous championships placed into the Championship Group and the remaining teams will be placed into the Challenge Group and if necessary additional groups comprising a maximum of eight (8) teams. The format will be a round robin system with positions one (1) to eight (8) determined by the results of all matches played. Gold, Silver and Bronze will be awarded to the teams finishing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in each Group.
- 39.4 Two (2) match points shall be awarded for a win and one (1) for a loss in a played match and zero (0) for a loss in an unplayed or unfinished match. The ranking order shall be determined primarily by the number of match points gained.
- 39.5 If two (2) or more members of the group have gained the same number of match points, their relative positions shall be determined only by the results of the matches between them, by considering successively the numbers of match points, the ratios of wins to losses first in individual matches (for team event), games and points, as far as is necessary to resolve the order.
- 39.6 If at any stage in the calculations the positions of one or more members of the group have been determined while the others are still equal, the results of matches in which those members took part shall be excluded from any further calculations needed to resolve the equalities in accordance with the procedures of 39.4 and 39.5.
- 39.7 If it is not possible to resolve equalities by means of the procedure as specified above, the relative positions shall be decided by lot.

39.8 **Veterans**

39.8.1

**A-Section**

In the event of **5** or less teams entered for the Team event, only one group round robin is to be played and no pools.

If **6** or more teams enter for the team event, the teams will be divided into two (2) equal groups, with all the teams of the groups playing each other.

The first two teams in each group, that is the four (4) top teams, will then play in the play-offs. Teams who had already played each other in their groups do not meet again. The result of the match between the two top teams in each pool (group) stands and is carried.

The remaining play-off matches are therefore as follows:

|        |        |
|--------|--------|
| A vs X | A vs Y |
| B vs Y | B vs X |

In the case of a tie between two or more teams, the placing of the teams is decided by the greater difference between games wins and losses. (All points of games of each team member positive or negative to be calculated for the team's score and teams then placed accordingly to the results).

The minor positions will be played for amongst the remaining teams relative to the position in which they have ended. Teams ended in the 3<sup>rd</sup> place in their pools will play for the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> place, teams ended 4<sup>th</sup> will play for the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> place and so forth.

**There must be a final - ITTF Rules**

**40. TEAM MATCH FORMATS.**

**40.1 SENIOR MEN'S AND WOMEN'S NATIONAL INTER-REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**40.1.1 BRAZILIAN FORMAT:**

- 40.1.1.1 A team shall consist of a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) players plus the Manager.
- 40.1.1.2 The format and order of play shall be:  
Best of 7 matches, six (6) singles and one (1) doubles  
A vs Y, B vs X, C vs Z, doubles, A vs X C vs Y, B vs Z
- 40.1.1.3 National Inter-Regional matches to be played to result.

**40.2 JUNIOR NATIONAL INTER-REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

40.2.1 The Juniors shall have four (4) Team events.

- A Juveniles Team event for boys and girls 12 years of age and younger
- A Cadets Team event for boys and girls 14 years of age and younger.
- A Juniors Team event for boys and girls 17 years of age and younger.
- A Youth Team event for boys and girls 20 years of age and younger.

40.2.2 If insufficient teams are entered for an event the Referee may allow a team to play in the A-Section of a higher age category event in the case of Juveniles, Cadets and Juniors.

40.2.3 The National Inter-Regional event shall be run concurrently with the Seniors.

**40.2.4 12 AND UNDER**

40.2.4.1 **CORBILLON CUP FORMAT**

40.2.4.2 A team shall consist of a minimum of two (2) players and a maximum of four (4) players plus a Team Manager.

40.2.4.3 The order of play shall be: A vs X, B vs Y, a doubles, A vs Y, B vs X.

40.2.4.4 National Inter-Regional matches to be played to result.

40.2.4.5 The 12 and Under event shall only be staged if four (4) or more teams have been entered.

**40.2.5 14 AND UNDER, 17 AND UNDER AND 20 AND UNDER**

40.2.5.1 **BRAZILIAN FORMAT**

40.2.5.2 A team shall consist of a minimum of three (3) players and a maximum

- of five (5) players plus a Team Manager.
- 40.2.5.3 The order of play shall be:  
Best of seven (7) matches, six (6) singles and one (1) doubles.  
A vs Y, B vs X, C vs Z, doubles, A vs X, C vs Y, B vs Z.
- 40.2.5.4 National Inter-Regional matches to be played to result.
- 40.2.5.5 The events listed above shall only be staged if four (4) or more Teams have been entered.

### 40.3 **VETERANS NATIONAL INTER-REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

#### 40.3.1 **BRAZILIAN MATCH FORMAT** for Men 40 years and over team.

Teams shall consist of:  
3 to 5 players from those players nominated for the event, including a playing or non-playing captain.

#### 40.3.2 **CORBILLON CUP FORMAT** – all other teams.

Teams shall consist of:  
Men 50 years and over, Men 60 years and over, Women 35 years and over, Women 45 years and over and Women 55 years and over – 2 to 4 players from those players nominated for the event, including a playing or non-playing captain.

40.3.3 Players may only enter for one team.

40.3.4 The Veterans shall have three Team events:

40.3.4.1 Men 40 years and over and Women 35 years and over.

40.3.4.2 Men 50 years and over and Women 45 years and over.

40.3.4.3 Men 60 years and over and Women 55 years and over.

#### 40.3.5 **Format of play for the Men 40 years and over:**

The format and order of play shall be: Best of seven (7) matches, six (6) singles and one (1) doubles match. A vs Y, B vs X, C vs Z, doubles, A vs X, C vs Y, B vs Z.

The format of play for the Men 50 years and over, Men 60 years and over, Women 35 years and over, Women 45 years and over and Women 55 years and over, shall be:

A vs X, B vs Y, a doubles match, A vs Y, B vs X

Five (5) matches in total. (Clause 3.7.2.1 of the I.T.T.F. Rules)

40.3.6 The events listed above shall only be staged if 4 or more Teams have been entered. In the case of insufficient entries, the Referee may allow a team to play in the A-section of a lower age category in the case of the Men's 50 years and over and Women 45 years and over and the Men 60 years and over and Women 55 years and over sections.

40.3.7 **All** National Inter-Regional matches are to be played

**40.4 The Open Team Championships** will be staged at all National Tournaments. A team may comprise of a minimum of two and a maximum of four players.

Format of play: A vs X; B vs Y; Doubles: A vs Y; B vs X

Teams must stop play as soon as a match result is achieved.

### 41. **TEAM MATCH PROCEDURE**

41.1 All players shall be selected from the team lists on the Team Entry Forms for the event in order to play.

41.2 Before a team match, the right to choose A, B, C or X, Y, Z shall be decided by lot and the

captains shall name their teams to the referee or his representative, assigning a letter to each single player.

- 41.3 The pairs for a doubles match need not to be nominated until the end of the immediately preceding singles match.
- 41.4 All individual matches shall be the best of three (3) games.
- 41.5 All the players of a team scheduled to play must be present 20 minutes before the start of the match.

## **42. TROPHIES AND MEDALS**

- 42.1 The winners of the various team events shall be presented with a floating trophy.
- 42.2 The floating trophy must be returned to the SATTB Treasurer one (1) month prior to the hosting of the same event in the following year.
- 42.3 Medals shall be awarded to the team members who finished in the first three team positions. A maximum of six (6) medals shall be presented, one to each team member of the respective teams plus one (1) medal for a non-playing Team Captain or Manager.
- 42.4 All the Trophies and medals expenses shall be determined by the SATTB.

## **PART "E"**

## **43. NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **43.1 FORMAT OF COMPETITION**

#### **REGULATIONS:**

- 43.1.1 The competition will be open to all age groups
- 43.1.2 A Team shall consist of a minimum of two (2) males and one (1) female with a maximum of three (3) males and two (2) females.
- 43.1.3 A minimum of one (1) female must participate in every match.
- 43.1.4 The players forming a pair for the doubles match must be a male and a female.
- 43.1.5 Participation will be open to teams from Associate members and Clubs from Regions.
- 43.1.6 One guest player, registered with any of the members of the SATTB, may be entered to represent a Team from an Associate member or a Club.
- 43.1.7 Teams comprising of non-registered members (i.e. Escom, Telkom, Pick'nPay, etc) will be permitted to participate.

### **43.2 MATCH FORMAT**

#### **REGULATIONS**

- 43.2.1 A team shall consist of a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) players.
- 43.2.2 The format and order of play shall be:  
Best of seven (7) matches, six (6) singles and one (1) doubles.  
A vs Y, B vs X, C vs Z, doubles, A vs X, C vs Y, B vs Z.
- 43.2.3 All matches will be played to **result**. First Team to reach four (4) matches wins.
- 43.2.4 In the first stage teams will play a round robin system in groups of four (4) teams.
- 43.2.5 The second stage will consist of a knockout competition with the two top teams in each group playing for the Winners Trophy and Prize Money and the bottom two teams playing for the Consolation Trophy and Prize Money.

### **43.3 ENTRY FEES**

43.3.1 Entry fees will be determined by the National Executive Committee of the SATTB.

### **43.4 TROPHIES, MEDALS AND PRIZE MONEY**

43.4.1 Prize Money, Trophies and Medals will be awarded to the top four (4) teams.

43.4.2 Prize Money and a trophy will be awarded to the team winning the Consolation Knockout Competition.

43.4.3 A maximum of six (6) medals, five (5) players and non-playing captain, coach or manager, will be awarded to each of the top four (4) teams and the team winning the Consolation Competition.

43.4.4 Teams absent from the Presentation Ceremony will forfeit any Prize Money, Medals or Trophies.

43.4.5 Prize Money will only be paid if there is an entry of more than 32 teams.