

# ASIAN TENNIS FEDERATION NEWSLETTER (AUG 2017)

2017 ITF AGM (Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam)



ASIAN DELEGATES IN STRENGTH WITH PRESIDENT OF ITF & ATF AT THE 2017 ITF AGM HO CHI MINH CITY (VIETNAM)

The 2017 ITF Conference and AGM formally went into session on the 2nd of August in Ho Chi Minh City, the capital city of Vietnam. 116 National Associations attended this year's Conference and AGM.

In the opening address the **ITF President Mr. David Haggerty** outlined the programme for the week and welcomed 13 nations who are in attendance at an ITF AGM for the first time.

Nations making their debut at the 2017 ITF AGM were: Bahrain, Democratic Republic Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Guyana, Kiribati, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Tahiti and Zimbabwe.

A record number of 16 Class C (non-

voting) nations were also in attendance during this year's ITF AGM.

Ahead of the formal opening of the ITF Conference and AGM the Presidents of the Regional Associations met with the ITF Board of Directors.

Representatives from Tennis Europe, Oceania Tennis Federation (OTF), Confederation of African Tennis (CAT), Asian Tennis Federation (ATF), Confederacion Sudamericana de Tenis (COSAT) and Confederacion de Tenis de Centroamerica y El Caribe (COTECC) were represented at the meeting.

**Mr. Anil Khanna (President ATF / Vice President ITF)** said: "I am extremely pleased that we are able to invite a large number of participants here. This has partly been

because of the policy of the ITF to subsidize the travel costs and the host costs which is encouraging for nations who do not necessarily have a vote in the ITF. I think this is the kind of encouragement that we require, and it will be the duty of the ITF management to try and engage all the members to come here. It's a very positive step, he said."

At the Regional Associations Meeting, the ATF announced that former ITF Director of Development, **Dave Miley**, would be joining the Asian Tennis Federation as a consultant and would be the person responsible for overseeing and advising the organization on their Development activities.

This new role for the seasoned

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FROM L TO R: MR. SURESH SUBRAMANIAM (SECRETARY GENERAL ATF), MR. DAVID HAGGERTY (PRESIDENT ITF), MR. DAVE MILEY (NEWLY APPOINTED DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT ATF), MR. ANIL KHANNA (PRESIDENT ATF, VICE PRESIDENT ITF), MR. IGOR SHEPELEV (ATF VICE PRESIDENT CENTRAL ASIA)

administrator Dave Miley, commenced on August 1st.

Dave Miley was Director of Development for the ITF for 17 years before resigning at the end of 2015 and has extensive experience in international tennis. He led the biggest department of the ITF which included Junior Tennis, Senior Tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Technical and Anti-Doping.

Dave Miley also oversaw the highly regarded jointly funded ITF / Grand Slam Development Fund (GSDF) programme which assisted the 200+ member nations through programmes in coach education, tennis participation and high performance player development.

He was instrumental in the development of the ITF Coach Education syllabi, the Tennis Play and Stay campaign which led to the rule change for 10 and under ten-

nis in 2010 and for the launch of the International Tennis number (the ITN) in 2003. He has visited over 140 nations in his 24 years at the ITF and speaks English, French and Spanish.

**Mr. Anil Khanna, President ATF,** said “We at the ATF are delighted to have Dave Miley joining us as a Development consultant. The Asian region currently boasts of large number of successful events and tennis champions. Furthermore, Asia has huge potential for tennis development and the ATF is working with the National federations for their development initiatives.

We believe that Dave’s involvement will have a very positive impact on the Asian Development projects and on the growth of tennis in general in Asia.

Dave has considerable expertise in coach education, high performance

player development and club development / participation and in organizing events and tournaments.

On his part Dave Miley expressed happiness at being asked to join the Asian Tennis Federation as a consultant.

“During my time at the ITF, I always felt that Asia was the tennis region of the World with the most potential. During my time at the ITF I saw tennis in the region develop extensively in all areas of the game.

It is an exciting time for tennis in Asia and I am looking forward to working with the ATF and its member nations to try to further develop tennis in the region.

In a first of its kind, **Tennis Cambodia** was awarded the inaugural International Tennis Hall of Fame

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Global Organization of Distinction Award in recognition of its outstanding achievements in rebuilding tennis in the nation following the sport's eradication during the genocide by the Khmer Rouge regime in the 1970s.

The International Tennis Hall of Fame Global Organization of Distinction Award recognizes an organization that has shown great commitment to inspiring the growth of tennis globally, which is an important shared priority of the International Tennis Hall of Fame and the International Tennis Federation.”

Nominations were submitted by the tennis community at large, with the winner selected by a committee comprised of representatives of the ITHF and the ITF.

The award is presented annually to a tennis organization, association, federation, or facility that has demonstrated a successful track record of distinguished service and contributions towards the growth of tennis.

**Rithivit Tep, General Secretary of Tennis Cambodia**, while receiving the award on behalf of Tennis Cambodia said: “I’d like to dedicate this award to the 2 million people that died, a lot of them members of my family.

We have a right, Tennis Cambodia



has a right. All we wanted to do was be part of the family of tennis nations in the world. We have managed to do so by sheer inspiration, and with the support of the ITF that has helped us give tennis back the nation and change lives.”

The Tennis Federation of Cambodia (Tennis Cambodia) was officially re-established in 1994 under the current President Prasih Cham. He joined forces with Tep, who has been General Secretary since 1997.

Tep, son of prominent 1950s Cambodian player Khunnah Tep, and Cham were instrumental in reviving the sport in Cambodia following the horrors of the Khmer Rouge era, during which many tennis players were killed and all courts and equipment were destroyed.

Among the 40 registered national players of the time, only three tennis players survived the genocide. With virtually no qualified coaches and only a handful of players, Tennis Cambodia came back to life under the

slogan "From Killing Fields to Tennis Courts". Tep began coaching young players, and the federation sought additional funding and grass roots support from the ITF.

In 1997, just three years after Tennis Cambodia was re-established, the nation returned to international competition, taking part in the Southeast Asian Games.

Tan Nysan won the nation's first tennis medal (bronze) at the Games in 2007, a major turning point for tennis in Cambodia. He repeated the feat in 2009, and Cambodia medaled in tennis again in 2011 and 2015.

In 2012, Cambodia took part in Davis Cup by BNP Paribas for the first time, competing in Asia/Oceania Zone Group IV and earning instant promotion to Group 3. Cambodia has competed in Davis Cup every year since.

Additionally, Cambodia has produced its first ranked WTA player. Andrea Ka, who competed for the University of San Francisco, is currently ranked inside the top 700 on the WTA Tour and will be a contender at the Southeast Asia Games in Malaysia later this month.