

TAC Meeting
12/6/2012

A meeting of the Tournament Advisory Committee was held from 4:00-5:30pm Mountain time via teleconference.

Attendees:

Larry Rose (Chairman)
Wendell Dillon
Thomas Wintrich
Larry Thoman (National Sanctioning Coordinator)
Andrew Horn (Staff Liaison)
Mike Cavanaugh (USATT CEO)

At meeting start, Andrew Horn brought up the recent request of Len Winkler regarding Japanese players at tournaments in HI. For USATT tournaments with open criteria, foreigners may play by showing their membership in their countries equivalent of USATT. However, JTITA membership is restrictive, and many members do not join. Mr. Winkler wanted a way for these players to enter his tournaments without purchasing full USATT memberships. The TAC suggests that in these situations, players from countries where national membership is restrictive we allow the players to repeatedly purchase playing passes, as long as they show foreign citizenship or address proof. Mr. Horn was told to inform Mr. Winkler to allow this one time exemption until the issue is addressed by the USATT Board. This will be included as an issue for Board attention at the upcoming meeting.

A brief review of the results of the recent USATT Board meeting were discussed. The Board took very little action on the past committee recommendations. These will need to be readdressed.

The recent Baltimore Teams and Butterfly Teams tournaments were discussed. Final attendee lists were not yet available. Overall attendance between the two tournaments was higher than the participation at Baltimore last year, but attendance at Baltimore was lower than last year.

The TAC reviewed and gave comments on the draft Star Ratings proposal by Rose and Wintrich. Those changes were noted and will be incorporated for Board review. Key points:

- These requirements should be reviewed periodically to continue improving tournament standards.
- Requirements to gain 5-star should be attainable, and not require ITTF-level standards at this time.
- Consideration should be given to a flat sanction fee, but not if it requires significant increase in cost.
- Several members suggested a trial period before change.

