



**World Bowling Congress
September 1, 2019, Las Vegas, USA**

Secretary General Report

The 2017 World Championships held in South Point Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, from November 24 - December 4, 2017 has successfully concluded. 11 men teams and 9 women teams from ABF, 15 men teams and 12 women teams from ETBF and 10 men teams and 9 women teams from PABCON participated in the championships. There was a total of 42 federations in the championships.

The minutes of the 2017 Congress was distributed to the member federations after two months. Secretariat has not received any queries from member federations so far. Newsletter Issue 8 was also distributed to member federations on February 12, 2018.

In May 2018 there was an email ballot on proposal of ties and practice and warm-up time to Executive Board members for their endorsement. These changes have been updated in the WB Statutes and Playing Rules and they were in effect for the 2018 WYC. This information was also included in the WYC Bulletin.

World Youth Tenpin Bowling Championships, Detroit, USA, July 24 – August 3, 2018

The World Youth Tenpin Bowling Championships was held in Detroit in July. Because the scoring system could not support the current frame system, the Executive Board member decided that it would not be used. 32 federations participated in the championships with 133 boys and 82 girls and 195 coaches/managers/officials.

The Asian Games in Indonesia-Palembang held from August 24 – September 2 used the current frame scoring system in the bowling competition as the official venue was a new QubicaAMF centre with 40 lanes and this new scoring system was installed.

On August 2, 2018 Puebla, Mexico withdrew their bid for hosting 2019 WJC to support Paris in hosting the championships, to pave the way for our Olympic Quest for 2024 Paris Olympic Games. In return they would like to host the 2021 WJC.

A youth player Nixon Chan from Hong Kong (Hong Kong Tenpin Bowling Congress) would like to change to representing Tenpin Bowling Australia. The majority of WB Executive Board members felt that this issue should be resolved by the Zone in which the two federations belonged. The ABF Executive Committee unanimously agreed to the bowler's change of federation as he has dual nationality, Hong Kong and Australian.

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Provisional Members

- Sierra Leone Bowling Association - Provisional membership granted on June 4, 2018
- Ethiopia Bowling Association - Provisional membership granted on June 4, 2018
- Nigeria Bowling Federation - Provisional membership granted on September 20, 2018

Luxembourg Tenpin has separated from Ninepin and has subsequently formed the 'Luxembourg Bowling Federation'. We communicated with them on August 2, 2018. Now we are still waiting for the recognition letter from their NOC/Government.

2018 World Men Championships, Hong Kong, November 23 –December 5, 2018

47 countries and territories participated in the World Men Championships in Hong Kong with a total of 265 athletes and 112 officials. The countries that have withdrawn are Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Qatar and Ecuador. Countries that have not submitted documents for visa processing were Pakistan and Sierra Leone. Nigeria was refused entry visas by the Hong Kong Immigration Department.

i-Cable was the Host Broadcaster and all the Semi-finals and Finals of the Singles, Doubles, Trios, Team of 5-player and Masters were broadcast live from December 1 – 5.

2019 World Junior Championships, Paris, March 16 – 24, 2019

After the Executive Board Meeting in November in Hong Kong, The Technical Committee Chairman, Neil Stremmel clarified on the new ball rules which would become effective for World Bowling federations in August 2020. Email was sent to all federations informing them of this as there was confusion whether the new ball rule or the old ball rule would be implemented in WJC. In the WJC, both rules could be used.

Bulletin 1 for World Junior Championships was sent out on October 25, 2018. Revised Bulletin 2 for World Junior Championships was sent out on November 23, 2018. Bulletin 3 was sent out on January 13, 2019. Bulletin 4 was sent out in March. Bulletin 1 of the World Senior Championships was sent out with all related forms in January 2019. Bulletin 2 was sent out on April 26. Bulletin 1 of World Women Championships was sent out on March 19, 2019 while Bulletin 2 was sent out together with the one for World Senior Championships on April 26. It was participated by 34 federations with 109 athletes and 73 coaches/officials.

During the World Junior Championships, the wrong flag of Chinese Taipei was put up in the bowling centre. The Chinese Bowling Association called me about this and I handled their complaint. This was rectified eventually. We need to be very careful about Chinese Taipei's flag and national anthem. Under the IOC Charter, they have a special flag and used a different music as their national anthem. This was the third time that it happened in our World Championships. The Tournament Director of our World Championships should be extra alert about the flag and national anthem of Chinese Taipei. It could create a diplomatic disaster if not handled properly.

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CEO Kevin Dornberger went to the SportAccord Convention in Gold Coast, Australia in May. I was supposed to go. But when the President said CEO has already prepared to go and bought the ticket and paid for the hotel already, I felt there was no need for two persons to be there for 3 meetings on 3 separate days stretched over 6 days. This should save World Bowling extra expenses.

By the end of May, Secretariat has received notices from three incumbent officers of World Bowling expressing their intention to stand for re-election. There were one nomination for the position of President and three nominations for the position of Vice-Presidents by the end of June. There were three proposals from Japan Bowling Congress, USBC and TBAL/TBNZ/Guam respectively, one from ETBF and one from WB Executive Board respectively.



Vivien Lau
Secretary General
June 30, 2019