

Butterfly®

July 2006

NEWS

Holger Nikelis elected for Standing Committee of the IPC

The table tennis player Holger Nikelis is not only a player in the family of the Paralympics: the 28 year old player from Cologne is now a member of the ASCD. The abbreviation stands for Athletes with a Severe Disability Committee and is a section within the International Paralympics Committee, which supports issues of more severely disabled athletes.

Last weekend Holger took part in his first meeting in Bonn.

Holger Nikelis was nominated for this position for the next four years by the world association for wheelchair table tennis, the International Paralympics Table Tennis Committee.

Further members of the newly elected committee which represents one of the twelve Standing Committees in the IPC are at the moment Iddi Kibwana (Tanzania), Rebecca Bornemann (Canada) and Sander Hilberink (Netherlands). The chairman James Thomson from the USA.



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„I am glad that I was nominated from the international association for this job“, explains Holger. The main aims of this group are enlightenment as well as supporting the IPC to increase the number of severely disabled athletes at the summer games in Peking to 25%.

In comparison: In Sydney there were only 17%.

Severely disabled athletes are according to the definition are represented in nearly all paralympic sports like boccia, wheelchair rugby, goal-ball, in athletics and also in table tennis.

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Karl Jindrak

Table Tennis is absolute top sport

Who doesn't know him, Karl Jindrak, the 33-year-old doubles specialist from Austria? Together with his Austrian countryman Werner Schlager he formed a doubles of world class over one (two) decades. Last year the pair won the European title in Denmark. A nice farewell present for „Charly“, who despite some more or less extra kilos of weight always provided excitement at the table. The new role for the ITTF and TMS International suits him well. His Viennese eloquence, his charm, his long experience in the table tennis circus, his persevering fighting spirit and his deep love to table tennis will help Karl Jindrak to exercise this responsible and new task in a confident manner.



Since the 1st of February of this year you are working officially as Tournament Director for the ITTF. Is that the correct title?

Not quite: „Competition Manager is the exact title. I work 50% for the ITTF and 50% for the TMS International.

What are your tasks exactly?

Together with Didier Leroy, my Belgian Competition Manager Colleague, we control half of the Pro Tour tournaments each. I am the Marketing Representative for Europe for the TMS. I look after all the tournaments which the TMS has bought legally from the ETTU. I am in charge of running tournaments like for example the Europe Top 12, the World Cup, when it takes place in Europe, the Champions League Semi-Finals and Final and a lot more.



07. - 10. Septembre 2006

Pro Tour: Volkswagen Singapore Open, Singapur

14. - 17. Septembre 2006

Pro Tour: Panasonic China Open

21. - 24. Septembre 2006

Pro Tour: Volkswagen Japan Open, Yokohama



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You are now 33 years old and have only finished your active table tennis career a short while ago. Isn't that a lot of work and responsibility in one go?

Well, it starts full power straight away. If I do something then I do it properly. For me a dream came true. I have made my hobby to my job. I played table tennis since I was eight years old. I have been lucky to play table tennis healthy and without injuries for 25 years. I also played quite successfully. My second dream which is coming true now is that I can stay with this nice sport after my time as an active player. I really wanted this and now I have the big chance to put all my own experiences into practice through my new double function. I know very well what is happening down there (meaning the Centre Court). I think that the ITTF has chosen me because of that. Nobody can take away all those years with experience and it is impossible to learn these things just like that.

Let's talk about the Marketing. If you look at the development of table tennis starting 15 years ago with the World Championships in Dortmund, which used completely new forms of presentation like for example the red floor and also with thanks to the engagement of Hans – Wilhelm Gaeb, who demonstrated completely new forms of sponsoring possibilities, a lot has changed in a positive way. Since 1996 we have got the Pro Tour, which is growing each year and becomes more and more important. We have got the separation of the World Championships in Singles and Team events and a lot more. How do you see the development and which chances result from that for our sport in view of marketing?

It is true that table tennis has improved a lot optically. Our „Show Court“ looks great but we shouldn't be satisfied by saying: that is perfect. We can always improve concerning the presentation and also the organization. We work intensively with that.

Have you got some precise plans in the back of your head?

No, I wouldn't like to say anything at the moment. Altogether we have moved many steps forwards. If you look for example at the presence of media during the Olympic Games, we are in third place considering the number of spectators. That is amazing and must be made known. I think we are on the right way.

A completely different question to the doubles specialist Karl Jindrak. Together with Werner Schlager you were a legendary doubles pair and belonged for years to the absolute world class. Last year you could win the European title in the Danish Aarhus. Doesn't it make you think that the meaning of the doubles in comparison to the singles is declining more and more? Perhaps not quite as much as it is the case in tennis, but it still can't be overlooked.

It really is a pity that the doubles become less and less important. Earlier doubles were played in the European League and the Champions League. That was a dream. Even if you talked to the spectators, the doubles were always a spectacle. At the Olympic Games the doubles are now included in the team competitions. But the whole doubles event is cancelled now. At the moment it looks like that the doubles will become more important in the future again.

If you had a wish in table tennis as a player, Marketing Manager or fan, what would it be?

A wish in table tennis? (He thinks for a long time before he answers.) I would like table tennis to be recognized as a real top sport everywhere in the world. In China table tennis is the number 1 sport, in Austria people still ask: „What do you do?! Playing table tennis, ha, ha, ha! Ping - Pong“. Slowly even some people here accept that table tennis is an absolute top sport, which is not so easy to master. If we achieve that, marketing and sponsoring and so on would happen on its own.

One word about your new boss, Adham Sharara, the ITTF president, who changed and achieved a lot.

He took part in a great deal of the development of table tennis during the last ten years. I respect him a lot, because he moved and changed a lot, which was good for our sport.

Timo Boll's forehand-backhand-topspin combination

Since the February issue of this year the Butterfly – newsletter publishes the technical and tactical analysis of their top players. Timo Boll was the centre of attention for three times. In February we looked more closely at his forehand loop against backspin. In March and April we looked at his magical and variable forehand serves. In this issue we are concentrating on a typical sequence of Timo's strokes, which shows the combination of a forehand serve, the forehand loop with a lot of spin and the powerful backhand loop. This is even more suitable because we studied the backhand loop of Werner Schlager and Kalin Kreanga in our last issues.

In modern attacking table tennis the backhand loop is an essential technique to keep up the pressure and the high speed of playing. Even the Chinese penholder specialists, whose strong side is obviously the forehand, are nowadays able to use a penholder backhand loop. Despite excellent footwork they could not survive by only using their forehand. How important the backhand loop really is becomes very obvious in this playing scene between Timo Boll and Jan-Ove Waldner.

Pictures 1-5: Timo Boll serves the ball with his forehand from the backhand side short to the middle of the table. It becomes clear that it had to be a side-backspin serve because of Waldner's decision to use a backhand backspin return. Even if Waldner's action is covered by Boll, his backhand backspin stroke is obvious on pictures 3 and 4. By the way, it is a return which the great master of table tennis favours. He manages like nobody else to place the 'spinnny' and aggressive returns efficiently to anticipate the following attack and hits it back mercilessly.



05 Stars under the magnifier

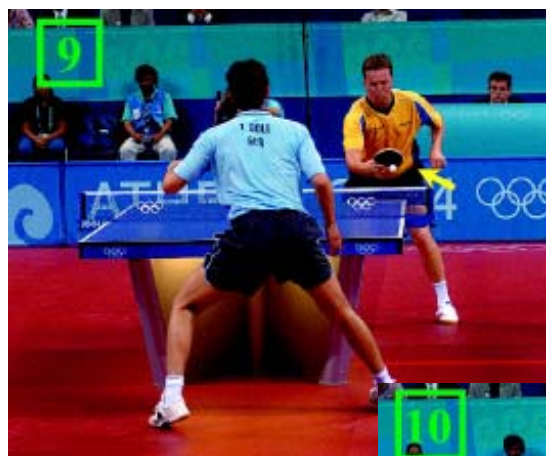


Pictures 6-8: In this example Waldner pushes the ball back half long in the middle of the table. Boll sees this early enough and loops with a lot of spin diagonally with his forehand down to Waldner's backhand. He goes deep down with his racket (7) and straight upwards (8) with his arm which proves this topspin variable.

06 Stars under the magnifier

1. **Pictures 9-13:** Waldner seems to have expected the ball and blocks it nicely parallel (9, 10) back to Timo's backhand. Now you can't do without a backhand loop in modern attacking table tennis:
2. A simple backhand counter hit wouldn't put enough pressure on the opponent, because everything hints to a backhand sidespin block.
3. Running around to the backhand side to be able to loop with the forehand wouldn't be possible because of the lack of time. Even if you would succeed with a forehand loop the table would be wide open for the opponent's return.

So you need a backhand loop and Timo demonstrates this brilliantly. He takes the ball very early, while it is still coming up. His legs are extremely wide apart, which allows him to put enormous pressure on the ball. This becomes very obvious through the swinging position of his arm (13). The ball flies diagonally to Waldner's forehand. We don't know if this results in winning the point but Waldner is under pressure and he has to react.



July

2006

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07 Products of the month

At well assorted distributors!

Link www.butterfly-world.com

New!

Maze Advance

How can players like Michael Maze be characterized well?

Creative, self-confident, always ready to surprise the opponent. By developing MAZE ADVANCE ALL+, we have successfully incorporated these aspects. The main focus is set on a variable game with a lot of rotation, without missing the necessity of speed and powerful strokes which is provided by seven wooden plies.

It offers an excellent ball touch, it is hardly vibrating and helps you to effect controlled winning strokes.

Fl (flared), ST (straight), AN (anatomic)

34,90 €

XXS FL

XXS ST

29,90 €



Taksim Carbon Chinese Penholder

Our best seller in China. The two Arylate/Carbon layers enable a flexible and strong offensive play. Chinese penholder grip. 5-ply + 2 Aryle/Carbon. App. 90 g

119,90 €



Peregrin II Penholder

A well balanced penholder blade with a rounded head for topspin and straight attacking play close to the table. The reversed side is painted black for a red rubber. A red coloured sheet is in the package for a black rubber. Japanese penholder grip. 5-ply, app. 80 g

79,90 €



Balsa Carbon X3 ALL+

As consequence from the successful introduction of BalsaCarboX5 OFF, BUTTERFLY adds this new allround blade to its Balsa series.

BalsaCarbo X3 is the result of our research in order to offer the same advantages of a lightweight Balsa veneer in combination with stabilizing Carbon layers and Limba outer veneers also to an allround player: lightweight, great feeling, control and speed, in a version that is even more controlled and easy to play.

A good feeling for blocks and spinful, but also heavy topspins allow the player to take control in the game without losing control for ball placement.

Fl (flared), ST (straight), AN (anatomic)

49,90 €



Boll TriCarbon OFF+

Butterfly is proud to introduce another highlight in a long tradition of successful offensive BUTTERFLY blades.

BOLL TriCarbon OFF+ gains the maximum speed a blade can provide without being too heavy to control. Combining three carbon layers, a Balsa core and hard, dynamic outer veneers made from Paduk, this blade will certainly speed up your game.

With an attractive design and a remarkable ball feeling, also the spin orientated player will achieve a great variety in his offensive game. Put pressure on your opponent with BOLL TriCarbon OFF+!

Fl (flared), ST (straight), AN (anatomic)

59,90 €



Oh Sang Eun OFF

Medium hard middle and inter veneers combined with hard outer veneers make a perfect combination for the fast and spin oriented game and yet allow a sensitive feeling for the ball.

Available in FL, AN and ST

64,90 €



The new DVD: Michael Maze - Fantastic!

Available at well assorted table tennis shops

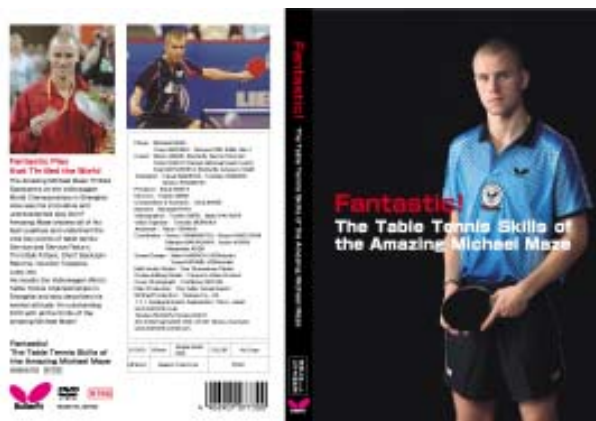
Perhaps you can remember: Michael Maze amazes the spectators at the Volkswagen World Championships in Shanghai. On an especially cut DVD Maze demonstrates the main key points of his game:

Serve and return
Third ball attack
Short backspin returns
Counter-Topspins
High Lobs

He reminds you of the Volkswagen World Championships in Shanghai and describes his mental attitude while playing with the celluloid ball.

A brilliant DVD – a must for table tennis fans.

Recommended
retail price:
29,95 Euro



ITTF World 's Ranking lists, women (07/2006)

1	WANG Liqin CHN	16	JOO Se Hyuk KOR
2	BOLL Timo GER	17	LI Ching HKG
3	MA Lin CHN	18	CRISAN Adrian ROU
4	WANG Hao CHN	19	KONG Linghui CHN
5	SAMSONOV Vladimir BLR	20	MA Long CHN
6	Chen Qi CHN	21	KORBEL Petr CZE
7	OH Sang Eun KOR	22	MAZE Michael DEN
8	RYU Seung Min KOR	23	SMIRNOV Alexei RUS
9	CHEN Weixing AUT	24	CHEUNG Yuk HKG
10	HAO Shuai CHN	25	PRIMORAC Zoran CRO
11	KREANGA Kalinikos GRE	26	KO Lai Chak HKG
12	CHUAN Chih-Yuan TPE	27	BLASZCZYK Lucjan POL
13	SCHLAGER Werner AUT	28	LEE Jung Woo KOR
14	LIU Guozheng CHN	29	CHIANG Peng-Lung TPE
15	SAIVE Jean-Michel BEL	30	WALDNER Jan-Ove SWE

(Butterfly-players are marked!)

ITTF World 's Ranking lists, mens (07/2006)

1	ZHANG Yining CHN	16	WANG Yue Gu SIN
2	GUO Yue CHN	17	LAU Sui Fei HKG
3	TIE Yana HKG	18	PAVLOVICH Viktoria BLR
4	GUO Yan CHN	18	STEFF Mihaela ROU
5	WANG Nan CHN	20	LI nan CHN
6	LI Xiaoxia CHN	21	LIU Jia AUT
7	Li Jia Wei SIN	22	STRUSE Nicole GER
8	NIU Jianfeng CHN	23	PARK Mi Young KOR
9	BOROS Tamara HRV	24	TOTH Krisztina HUN
10	KIM Kyung Ah KOR	25	FAN Ying CHN
11	GAO Jun USA	26	Li Jiao NED
12	CAO Zhen CHN	27	SHEN Yanfei PRK
13	LIN Ling HKG	28	MOON Hyun Jung KOR
14	FUKUHARA Ai JAP	29	ZHANG Rui HKG
15	JIANG Huajun HKG	30	HIRANO Sayaka JPN