

Butterfly[®]

January 2005

Boll with World 's selection against Südkorea

Alike the Chinese in last year's December now South-Korea with Olympic Champion Ryu Seung Min wants to compete the World. On the 17th and 18th of February the Korean Federation has invited to the „World Top's Table Tennis Festival“ in the capitol of Seoul. The teams of four will go through two competitions and a show-match is planned for the second day. Besides Timo Boll the Olympic-second Wang Hao (China), World Champion Werner Schlager (Austria) and Greece's all time runner Kalinikos Kreanga will stand up against Ryu, defence ace Joo Sae Hyuk, Oh Sang Eun and Lee Jung Woo or Kim Jung Hoon. The event is noted with the total of 80.000 US-Dollar.

The Butterfly Solidarity Scholarship

The International table Tennis Federation and the Tamasu Co. Ltd. have set up a new support programme named „Butterfly Solidarity Scholarship“.

Read more in the next pages.



Initiated the scholarship: Mr. Kimihiko Tamasu
and Mr. Adham Sharara

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www.butterfly-world.com

The Butterfly Solidarity Scholarship

At the beginning of the year Tamasu Co. Ltd. and the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) have started a remarkable initiative to support our sport in the Third World. The Butterfly Solidarity Scholarship will support promising talents and their coaches from developing countries in financial terms extending the existing aid of the company. The goal is a long term increase in performance in the specific countries, in which the best junior players are unable to unfold their full potential in the homeland due to economic problems, and therefore are unable to make a step on international level.

The ITTF specifically welcomes the notion of the Japanese Butterfly parent house, which received it's inspiration for this initiative by a similar cooperation between the Olympic Committee (IOC) and the ITTF: „It's a generous offer by Butterfly. We are grateful for this example of lived solidarity within the Table Tennis family“, the ITTF President Adham Sharara stated after the organisational details were set up with Tamasu.

From the beginning of this year and first until end of 2007 Tamasu supports the total of five players per year. The ITTF has been asked by Butterfly to make the choice of candidates. Due to the relationship of Tamasu

Co. Ltd. to it's localisation one talent from Japan receives such a scholarship per year as well.

The size of the project as an ideal addition to the commitment of the Butterflies at the ITTF Global Junior programme is remarkable: 15 Million Yen equalling 105.000 Euros are spent by Tamasu Butterfly for the chosen talents and their coaches. A place within the programme means about 7.000 Euros per candidate, which are to be used for different means of support.

The resources for the Butterfly Solidarity Scholarship come from a special fund set up by the company's founder Hikosuke Tamasu. Right after he started his enterprise in the fifties, part of the revenue were given into this fund, out of which specifically the local juniors should be supported. A few month after the passing of the „Father of the Butterflies“ his son Kimihiko turned the stock into a worldwide development fund considering the globalisation in Table Tennis, and by this fulfilled his heritage under modern aspects.

The message of the engagement is clear: In this one world the strong have to stick to the weak – in general and especially in Table Tennis.

Schedule

29th of January

Pro-Tourtournament in Europe

3th to 6th February

Pro-Tourtournament in Middle East

21th to 25th February

Pro-Tourtournament in Middle East

27th of March to 3th of April

European Championships Men and Women, Aarhus (DEN)

30th of April to 6th of May

Volkswagen World Championships in the singles, Shanghai (CHN)

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Butterfly-Stars on the hunt of Titles

The Olympic Games are past – for the Butterfly stars the hunt for titles at the World Singles Championships in Shanghai and the Asian- respectively European Championships are scheduled in the post-Olympic year of 2005. Not unlikely that the Butterflies go for another high rise: in all competitions of the years the Butterfly aces are within the inner circle of favourites.

Highlight is of course the WCC in Shanghai (30th of April to 6th of May). After the festival in Paris 2003 an even greater spectacle can be expected in the Table Tennis paradise China. Tens of thousands of local fans and surely a great number of foreign visitors should provide an unforgettable atmosphere in the Chinese Boomtown.

An atmosphere, which might make Shanghai to a „lion pit“. The home-play will turn China's aces even more into favourites in all competitions. Out of the squad of Butterfly Olympic Champion Zhang Yining is first candidate for WCC Gold in singles and surely in the doubles as well.



A split role is played by the Butterfly-stars in the Men's singles. On the one side Olympic Champion Ryu Seung Min (South Korea) and World Champion Werner Schlager (Austria) hold both titles, with supposed to be in their possession according to China's self image. On the other side the duo has to be counted to the number of challengers of the Chinese top trio Wang Liqin, Ma Lin and Wang Hao. To them Timo Boll (Germany) as currently highest ranked non-Chinese player, the WCC-Second Joo Se-Hyuk, WCC-Third and World-cup second Kalinikos



Kreanga as well as Europe Top-12 winner Michael Maze (Denmark) have to be added, too.

Maze has an important date behind him when travelling to Shanghai: the ECC in his home country. The title fight of the Old Continent in Aarhus (27th of March to 3rd of April) is in the focus of the top-player of the German Butterfly-club Borussia Düsseldorf for quite a while, for Maze wants to do more than to confirm his bronze-medal of the Olympic Games in Athens in the doubles by a great performance in the singles; his aim is to bring Table Tennis in Denmark ahead.

The competition is great – see above. The European hopes at the WCC have their chances for the crown of the continent in Aarhus as well. Especially Boll wishes for another title since 2002, after he had his „Golden Autumn“ with victories in the Pro Tour in Poland, Germany and Austria. In the doubles and with the team he even has the chance for a rare „triple“.



With the title in her bag Butterfly ace Otilia Badescu travels to Aarhus. Another success of the Rumanian might be prevented by brand-colleagues Tamara Boros (Croatia), Liu Jia (Austria), who recently has stormed the Top-10 as Europe's hope, or current Europe Top-12 winner and altogether five times European Champion Nicole Struse (Germany).

Just before the ECC the Asian Championships could a „case for Butterfly“ as well. In Jeju Olympic Champion Ryu and Joo have the advantage of a home play to China's aces. Athens-Winner Zhang, unchallenged No.1 of the globe since the Olympics, has



to prepare for a remake of the Olympic final against North-Korean Butterfly player Kim Hyang Mi.

While the highlights are scheduled for spring, the first weeks of the new year bring high class tournaments. Surely outstanding is the Europe Top-12 (5th and 6th of February), which is held in the French City of Rennes after two years in Germany (Saarbrücken 2003 and Frankfurt 2004).

In the second half of the year the winners of the great championships are the hunted ones at further top events. In the World Cup men and women go separate ways again after a common event last year in China. The men move to Europe to the Belgium City of Lüttich (21st to 23rd of October), while the women serve in China one week later. The tournament is rated four in the importance right after the Olympics, the WCC and the continental championships.

Last highlight of the year has traditionally become the final of the Pro Tour with the best 16 players in the singles and the eight strongest doubles. After a large number of players wore Butterfly dresses in Beijing 2004, this time Tamasu should be well represented at the Grand Final in Fuzhou as well.

New Advertisement campaign!

The Material of the Champions!



„Marios Children“ - Japan 's talent-project in Düsseldorf



Special goals demand special measures. The great and traditional Table Tennis Nation Japan has no other goal than the return of it's aces into the absolute top of the World. Therefore it goes a worldwide unique path. It has made a change in course which is remarkable for an Asian

nation. The leaders in sports allow their greatest talents and hopes a highly professional schooling abroad since 2002. The project under Butterfly sports director and internationally successful and prestigious coach Mario Amizic combines the element of an almost continuous training camp at the German record champion Borussia Düsseldorf, important collection of playing practice at clubs in Germany and competition with the top-stars at the ProTour Tournaments.

Fondly Amizic calls his group of four with „Senior“ Ryusuke Sakamoto (20 years), Minoru Muramori (19), Seiya Kishikawa (17) and Jun Mizutani (15) his „children“. The quartet has more than earned the affection of the Croatian, who made Borussia Düsseldorf to a European top club in the eighties and nineties. Each one of them undermined his positive development in the recent year 2004 on the international stage with promising to outstanding results and rewarded the high commitment of everyone involved. Most prominent results recently were the title of the double Kishikawa/ Mizutani and the Bronze medal of the team at the World Junior Championships in the hometown of Kobe, yet even more impressive was the

performance of the „boy group“ at the ProTour by good results against established players.

To rise the chances of „Mario's Group“, as the little society is called in Japan, Nippon broke many old traditions. Sakamoto and Co. were taken out of circle of training and competition at the Japanese schools, which has been the usual way throughout centuries, and put into the experiment of Amizic. First it was „Saka“, who belongs to the Champions League cadre of Borussia Düsseldorf, and Kishikawa, later Muramori and Mizutani as well. Together they live and work in Düsseldorf and travel the World for tournaments.

The location of Düsseldorf was chosen by Amizic not only for his connection with the famous Butterfly club. The reason for settling his team at the Metropolitan at the Rhine were of structural nature. Besides the almost ideal training and living conditions in the modern Table Tennis Centre of Borussia, Düsseldorf as well offered further conditions for the expected growth. Other than alternative places in Spain, Poland or Denmark there is a large Japanese community, other clubs close and an airport in short range as top-requirements.

Besides Sakamoto all other „children“ have a place at clubs of the 2. Bundesliga. Kishikawa, who recently entered the final of the Japanese Championships as first junior for 52 years, is top player of the TTC Bergeustadt. Muramori as well plays in the top positions at the TTF Bönen and Mizutani is at least Nr. 3 of the DJK Holthausen.



Amizic, commissioned by Butterfly to work with the upcoming generation of the home of the house of Tamasu Co. Ltd., is convinced of the potential of his „children“, to which the 16-year old super-talent Taku Takakiwa might join in the future. First viewed with scepticism the concept faces more and more support and acceptance at the responsible boards. Within three to five years the experienced coach expects another step ahead, by which Japan might be able to win a medal at World Championship as a national team formed by his „children“. Even good results at the Olympic Games 2008 in Beijing, which are the main interest of the National Association and the National Olympic Committee as well as the schools, responsible for funding the expensive program, are thought possible by Amizic.

„Mario's Children“ seem to set the path to the great Table Tennis Nation, which Japan used to be several years ago. For this special goal the special path is worth it.



ITTF World 's Ranking lists, men (01/2005)

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

ITTF World 's Ranking lists, women (01/2005)

1	ZHANG Yining CHN	16	PAVLOVICH Viktoria BLR
2	WANG Nan CHN	17	SONG Ah Sim HKG
3	NIU Jianfeng CHN	18	UMEMURA Aya JPN
4	GUO Yue CHN	19	KIM Hyang Mi PRK
5	BOROS Tamara HRV	20	TOTH Krisztina HUN
6	GUO Yan CHN	21	LI Nan CHN
7	KIM Kyung Ah KOR	22	FAN Ying CHN
8	LI Jia Wei SIN	23	LEE Eun Sil KOR
9	TIE Yana HKG	24	STEFF Mihaela ROU
10	LI Ju CHN	25	ZHANG Rui HKG
11	CAO Zhen CHN	26	LIN Ling HKG
12	LAU Sui Fei HKG	27	KIM Hyon Hui PRK
13	LIU Jia AUT	28	BAI Yang CHN
14	LI Xiaoxia CHN	29	FUKUHARA Ai JPN
15	GAO Jun USA	30	SCHÖPP Jie GER

(Butterfly-players are marked!)



Dear Table Tennis friends,

In cooperation with the Federation of German Table Tennis Coaches (VDTT) Butterfly presents to you practical exercises for your play. Enjoy them!

Part 6 – Height control

The height is a crucial component of the short service. There can be as much backspin as possible – if the service is too high, a technically well trained player can use the incoming spin for a fast flip. This is only possible, if the ball is hit clearly above the net. Therefore the short service has to be played as low as possible. It can be said: the lower the ball hits the surface of the table on your own half, the lower the service becomes. Common mistake is, that the service player hits the ball too high. Many players stand too upright and could make a better serve, if going down into their knees.

To control the quality of the service we take the frame of a barrier and place it on a suitable object (box, bowl etc.), so that there is a gap of about 2 to 4 times the height of the ball between frame and net (depending on the level of the service player). Now all practiced services have to be played through this gap.

Next month we take a look at variations of the service.



www.vdtt.de

New! The Butterfly tricots of our players in Athens.



Tricot global

A good idea for a present with an Olympic touch

Our new shirt was specially designed to set some of our top athletes in scene at the Olympics, for example Michael Maze, winner of the only medal for Europe. Now you have the unique opportunity to secure one of those much demanded pieces. The shirt is comfortable on your skin for its mixed functional fabric „Cotton feeling“ (55% polyester / 45% cotton) and its tight and fashionable cut.

The stand-up collar and the fine, light zipper are a welcome alternative to the common tricots and are an appetiser for our new generation of tricots.

Colours (sizes): black/red (XXS-XXL); red/black (XXS-XXXL); dark-blue/magenta (XXS-XXXL); magenta/dark blue (XXS-XL)

29,90 Euro



Laxford double case

Material: Denim 840

Details: very stable double case, four different sized net cases offer much space for spare rubbers

14,90 Euro



Laxford sports bag

Size: 60x30x35 cm (l/w/h)

Material: Denim 840, Details: spacious bag with many useful functions

34,90 Euro

At well assorted distributors! 

Link www.butterfly-world.com



Radial Crosscourt

Size: 36-47, Weight: 390g (per piece, size 43), Details: our top model with EVA-sole and high-class composition. A twisting element prevents the foot from tilting sideways.

69,90 Euro

Radial V7

Size: 36-45, Weight: 310 g (per piece, size 43), details: light shoe with good fitting form und air circulation in the inner shoe

65,40 Euro



Radial Optimo

Size: 36-47, Weight: 380 g (per piece, size 43), Details: stable TT-shoe with an extra damping of the sole. Recommendable for hobby- and professional players.

49,90 Euro



Radial Classic

Size 36-47, weight: 275 g (per piece, size 43), Details: very light and inexpensive shoe with mid-sole. For players preferring light shoes.

39,90 Euro

Radial Run

Size: 36-47, Colour: dark blue/yellow/grey/red

44,90 Euro



Radial TB

Size: 36-46, weight: 280 g (per piece, size 42), Details: a three-layered sole provides a perfect damping and stabilizes the ankle. This light Shoe is played by Timo Boll.

79,90 Euro





Taisei Imamura (45) works for Butterfly since 1980. As service man he takes care of the Butterfly-contract-players worldwide and works intensively in the development of new products. Players consider him one of the best and experienced experts for materials. They trust his advice and – as every table tennis does – again and again ask the same question: „Which blade and which rubbers are best for my play? “. In conversation with „Butterfly News“ Taisei Imamura gives many tips, informations and ideas about „Shoes“

FEINT LONG III for the dangerous chop-defence – TACKIFIRE C for more power at the table

Mr. Imamura, Butterfly presents two new rubbers at the ISPO in spring in Munich: the FEINT LONG III and the TACKIFIRE C. One is a long-pimple rubber, the other an extremely tacky offence-rubber. Let's first talk about the FEINT LONG III, which extends the successful long-pimple assortment by another rubber. By this long-pimple specialists have another alternative besides the FEINT and the FEINT LONG II. What's the difference of the FEINT LONG III to its predecessors.

To bring it to the point: it's much more dangerous as the FEINT LONG II. The rubber is designed softer and especially made for defenders, that prefer chop-defence far from the table. The rubber itself is softer and more flexible.

You are talking about the FEINT LONG III being more dangerous. Is this due to its increased softness, which provides more spin-effects?

Truly the softer design of the rubber makes the chop-defence against topspin more controlled and with clearly more rotation. When playing above the table and pushing one yet can not

provide as much rotation as with the FEINT LONG II. To take an example from the top-section: Our currently best defence player, JOO Se Hyuk, World-Vice Champion 2003, unnerves his opponents by an extremely safe and spiny backspin defence and interferes with an aggressive forehand. For him the FEINT LONG III is the ideal rubber. But who stays at the table to block or counter with his long pimples should rely on FEINT or on FEINT LONG II.

Has the FEINT LONG III been tested by any Butterfly contract players?

Not only tested. In Asia the rubber is already on the market. The Japanese defence artists Matsushita and Shibutani have been playing it successfully for quite a while. European defence players contracted by us, test it at the moment and the echo is promising.

In which versions will the FEINT LONG III will be available and at which price?

The thicknesses 0,5 , 1,1 and 1,3 as well as without sponge will be available. We have abstained from the KAWA-sponge willingly. The price will be about € 34,90.



Let's get to the TACKIFIRE C. Butterfly rubbers which name starts with „TACKI“ usually are significantly tacky. How can the TACKIFIRE C be seen within the TACKI-family?

Usually tacky rubber-surfaces are softer. The TACKINESS C for example is the softest rubber regarding the surface and therefore extremely tacky. But the softer setup causes it to be slower. The TACKINESS D is a bit harder and therefore faster, while the TACKIFIRE SPECIAL combines a hard sponge with a soft surface and so is even faster. The TACKIFIRE C is something new: sponge and surface are hard. In so far the TACKIFIRE C is not an improvement of the existing TACKINESS- or TACKIFIRE rubbers, but a true new development, of which we are proud. With the TACKIFIRE C we present a truly new kind of rubber ideally suitable for the modern offence play. On the one hand the sponge is designed hard, on the other hand we have managed to develop a completely new, hard surface, which yet is extremely tacky. For hard and tacky is not really a contradiction.

Can the TACKIFIRE C be compared with the hard and tacky Chinese rubbers?

In a way, but we have managed to keep the rubber clean, so that it doesn't get stained and needs no foil to stay tacky.

So the TACKIFIRE C is a completely new product of the house of Butterfly with high prospect of success as well in the top-section?

One can say that. ZHANG YINING has become Olympic Champion with it. More and more of our Asian contract players trust the TACKIFIRE C.

Especially on the forehand. Some of our European contract players test it at the moment.

What's especially good with the TACKIFIRE C?

Without doubt the counter-spin close to the table. And in modern Table Tennis this is one of the crucial strokes. And above the table attacks with short movements can be done. For playing out of half-distance it's not that ideal; for this BRYCE or SRIVER can be recommended.

You said, TACKIFIRE C is especially suitable for the forehand. Why?

The full power of the TACKIFIRE C can only be used at high-speed strokes. And these are provided by longer movements which can only be done with the more freely forehand. Therefore the TACKIFIRE C is a typical forehand rubber. In the backhand the Chinese top-players prefer SRIVER or BRYCE.

In which thicknesses will the TACKIFIRE C be offered and at which price?

In 1,7, 1,9 and 2,1 mm and for € 41,90.

Thank you very much, Mr. Imamura.