

Butterfly[®] NEWS

06 2007

Gold in the single and Mixed: Guo Yue wins the Butterfly duel against Zhang Yining

Zagreb: The Individual World Championships in Zagreb will go down in history of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) as a disaster for Europe and a festival for China. In all finals of the five events the athletes from China were among themselves. 15 of 20 possible medals went to China, two each to Hong Kong and South Korea and one to Taiwan – the hosts of the old continent remained fifteen months before the Olympic Games in Peking completely empty handed. The most successful player of the WC 2007 was China's new Butterfly empress Guo Yue, who won Gold in the Single and the Mixed with the equally successful Wang Liqin and like her partner won Silver in the Doubles. During the WC ITTF decided on a new rule concerning gluing, which should be applied straight away. **More about this on the next pages.**



With this issue we celebrate the 50th jubilee „Butterfly News“

**The results of the Butterflies:
3 x Gold, 1 x Silver, 3 x Bronze**

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Guo Yue: Matured to Golden Award

The process of maturity is finished for Guo Yue in Croatia's capital. The super talent secured her first World Championship title in the Singles at the age of 18 through a victory over Li Xiaoxia after winning the Butterfly duel against defending Champion Zhang Yining. Zhang, the number one of the world, who could defend her title in the Doubles but had to treat her playing arm with ice during the whole tournament because of persisting problems took the 0:4 defeat easily: „Yue deserved to win. She was simply better that day. I didn't have an answer to the pressure of her game.“ A good serve and serve return game, an eye for the situation and a forehand loop, with this qualities won the smallest of the top 10 players her first Gold medal in the singles final 4:3 after being down 1:3. Guo Yue, seeded number 4, took her first triumph at the table with great jubulations and appeared at the press conference with Chinese modesty. „The title in the Singles is just as nice as in the Mixed. All medals are going into the same cupboard“, commented the left handed player after winning the title. About her exciting chase she said: „I knew when I was down 1:3 that I could still win. I have only tried to concentrate point by point.“ From the European point of view Daniela Dodean's presence in the round of last 16 in the women Singles is worth mentioning. The young Romanian player was elected by the representatives of the media to the „Surprise of the Tournament“, because among other victories she beat Japan's media star Ai Fukuhara.



14. June - 17. June 2007

Pro Tour: Volkswagen Korea Open

21. June - 24. June 2007

Pro Tour: Volkswagen Japan Open

25. June - 30. June 2007

7. Senior-EM, Rotterdam

28. June - 01. July 2007

Pro Tour: Volkswagen China Open

23. August - 26. August 2007

Pro Tour: Chinese Taipei Open

30. August - 02. September 2007

Pro Tour: Panasonic China Open

Our Photo-Partners



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03 Review Individual WC, Zagreb



Timo Boll: „The thorn of disappointment sits deep“



So the light footed Guo Yue sets her impressive mark in the women's event. Altogether the Butterflies were successful with tree Gold, one Silver and three Bronze medals. Despite brilliant performances of the women there was also

some disappointment during the event, because in the men's competition the surprising third place of the Taiwanese double Chinag Peng-Lung/Chang Yen-Shu was the only countable result for the Tamasu partners. The number four in the world, Timo Boll, started with great ambitions, the desired medal close in front of his eyes failed in the Quarterfinals. After a victory in the Butterfly duel against Kalinikos Kreanga (Greece) in the previous round, the 26 year old German lost surprisingly against Olympic Champion Ryu Seung Min, who knocked out his countryman and Butterfly player Oh Sang Eun. With a balance of 5:0 against the South Korean Boll had to take a painful 4:0 defeat. Boll:“ I was very disappointed and the thorn sits very deep. The medal was my target and the draw was favourable. That helped just as little as my good balance against Ryu, because the presupposition for winning a medal is a good performance and I didn't perform. A good draw alone is not enough.“

All medal winners from Zagreb
(Butterfly players printed in bold: 3 x Gold, 1 x Silver, 3 x Bronze)

Women Single

1. **Guo Yue** CHN
2. Li Xiaoxia CHN
3. **Zhang Yining** CHN
3. Guo Yan CHN



Women Doubles

1. **Zhang Yining** / Wang Nan CHN
2. **Guo Yue** / Guo Yan
3. Kim Kyung Ah / Park Mi Young KOR
3. Li Jia Wei / Wang Yue Gu CHN

Mixed

1. **Guo Yue** / Wang Liqin CHN
2. Wang Nan / Ma Lin CHN
3. **Tie Yana** / Ko Lai Chak HKG
3. Cao Zhen / Qiu Yike CHN



Men Single

1. Wang Liqin CHN
2. Ma Lin CHN
3. Wang Hao CHN
3. Ryu Seung Min KOR

Men Doubles

1. Chen Qi / Ma Lin CHN
2. Wang Hao / Wang Liqin CHN
3. **Chiang Peng-Lung/Chang Yen-Shu** TPE
3. Ko Lai Chak / Li Ching HKG



Short Interview with the new World Champion Guo Yue



Congratulations: you won your first Gold in the Singles and on top of that defended your Mixed Title and achieved second place in the Doubles...

Guo Yue: „Thank you. I am very happy to have achieved these successes. In the singles it was my first title.“

What does this first World Title mean to you?

Guo Yue: „I am glad that I won this important tournament. Each win of the title is equally important. For me a Gold Medal in the Mixed shines just as nicely as in the Singles.“

Is the Gold Medal in the Singles not worth a special place?

Guo Yue: „No. The medals and trophies from the World Championships in Zagreb will be in the same cupboard as all the others.“

For years you have been the super talent in Chinese table tennis. Does this title now mean the final break through?

Guo Yue: „China has very many good players, who are all capable of winning a title. I am still very young, but in comparison to before I could gather more experience. That surely was useful this time.“

Which role does your blade and your rubbers play concerning your successes in Zagreb?

Guo Yue: „That is very important of course, because it is the last element in a whole string of conditions which must be right to win big titles. A few months ago I changed my equipment sponsor and am now playing like my predecessor Zhang Yining for Butterfly. As you can see very successfully, the material of my sponsor is absolutely worthy for World Championships.“



06 2007

ITTF World Ranking, Mens (06/2007)



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

ITTF World Ranking, Women (06/2007)



1	ZHANG Yining CHN	16	LIN Ling HKG
2	WANG Nan CHN	17	SUN Bei Bei SIN
3	GUO Yue CHN	18	HIRANO Sayaka JPN
4	GUO Yan CHN	19	CAO Zhen CHN
5	LI Xiaoxia CHN	20	ZHANG Rui HKG
6	TIE Yana HKG	21	SHEN Yanfei PRK
7	Li Jia Wei SIN	22	PARK Mi Young KOR
8	WANG Yue Gu SIN	23	LAU Sui Fei HKG
9	KIM Kyung Ah KOR	24	WU Jiaduo GER
10	NIU Jianfeng CHN	25	WANG Chen USA
11	JIANG Huajun HKG	26	TAN MONFARDINI Wenling ITA
12	FUKUHARA Ai JAP	27	FUKUOKA Haruna JPN
12	LIU Jia AUT	28	LI Qian POL
14	GAO Jun USA	28	PENG Luyang CHN
15	Li Jiao NED	30	TOTH Krisztina HUN

(Butterfly-players are marked!)

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Timo Bolls Column

Bad experiences at the WC don't throw me off the course for the Olympic Games

Hello, dear fans and readers,

I hope that you enjoyed the WC in Zagreb more than I did. Even now I am still very disappointed that I had to leave Zagreb without a medal, especially in the Singles. This medal was my declared target, which I clearly missed.

My disappointment is even greater, because I travelled to the WC with a lot of confidence. My physical condition was excellent and also playing wise, after a nearly optimal preparation, I had the feeling that I didn't have to hide myself for anybody in this tournament. On top of that I had a really good draw: I did lose to Ryu Seung Min, my opponent in the quarterfinals before but my balance against him is clearly in my favour. So I was optimistic before the game against the Olympic Champion, because my performance got better and better in the game against Kalinikos Kreanga, which I played in the round before. So this didn't have anything to do with overestimating yourself or on the other hand with being arrogant.

Sadly it went differently for me. The 0:4 against Ryu shattered me thoroughly the first moments after the match. It is still too early for an analysis of my defeat in the quarterfinals especially about this medal, which I am still lacking. On the one other hand I have surely lost against a Ryu, who was playing in top form, which he proved again the next day in the semi final when he lost 3:4 in an impressive manner against the old and new World Champion Wang Liqin. On the other hand Ryu's brilliant achievement shouldn't distract from my own mistakes: I noticed very early in the first set that I didn't have the right touch that day. Apart from that the problems, which I had during the first WC rounds with returning the serves, reoccurred. I didn't have the right vista, because normally I always see what the opponent is planning, while Ryu made my strength to his strength and always seemed to know what I was planning. I tried to fight myself back into the match but in some matches nothing works – that happened to me exactly then when I was playing a match for a WC medal.

Now it is important for me to find the reasons for some of these very unusual weaknesses during the match against Ryu when we analyse the WC. I am sure that



we will succeed and then I can work successfully on these mistakes and weaknesses. One thing I can say now already: I have focused for quite some time on the Olympic Games in 2008 as a distant target and a disappointing WC including the Doubles result with a similarly good prognosis as in the singles doesn't throw me off course. I feel confident that like in past years after heavy defeats like this one against Ryu I can come back strong.

Obviously I have still got the potential for improvement, which I have to use if I want to stand up against the Chinese in Peking. In Zagreb China's stars have definitely demonstrated which exceptional position they have in world table tennis. You must get up to your limit if not more to have a chance at all against them. I will definitely try that at the Olympics.

Because of my defeat against Ryu the extension of my contract with Butterfly was the only really positive occurrence in Zagreb at the WC. The length of the contract until 2015 looks perhaps unusually long at first sight but my signature was given with the background of the 14 years of teamwork up to now. During this time not only a brilliant partnership was established but also true friendship, so that despite proposals from other companies I had no doubt about the correctness of my decision to continue my work with Butterfly. Butterfly is simply the perfect partner for me. Without their support in many areas my way in life up to now would not have been so successful.

Therefore I am completely trusting Butterfly and it's know-how when looking at the time when gluing is forbidden. Naturally I am happy that the compromise solution of the ITTF despite the formally valid prohibition allows me to play with my usual material in Peking. I do know as well that Butterfly will provide optimally for me in the coming era – and especially that gives me a good feeling for a question which is dominated by much insecurity on many different levels.

The season is still not finished for me after the WC, even if there is a relatively long break with matches. During the second half of June I will take part in the Pro Tour in Japan and China. Naturally I hope that I will be able to strengthen my self confidence during these tournaments and can break up for the summer holidays with a better result than in Zagreb.

Timo's own Homepage:
<http://www.timo-boll.de>

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Timo Boll and Butterfly prolong contract until 2015



Good news from the team Boll and Butterfly from Zagreb. The 14 year long friendship and partnership was prolonged until 2015. „Timo Boll is a very strong and equally fair player. This profile suits our company“, says Tamasu Butterfly Europe Chief, Hideyuki Kamizuru, at a short press conference on May 22. Both of us still have great plans and therefore extended our teamwork to such a long period.

Photo: DTTB

Glue Regulations: ITTF decides suspension and appeals to the players



The board of directors of the World Federation made a surprising resolution during the WC. After a single incident in Japan, where glue, which is no longer on the market, caused an anaphylactic reaction with an allergic person, the ITTF felt forced to act quickly also for glue which is still permitted but contains volatile organic solvents. The majority of the board decided not to give any more approval for glue in the future and to withdraw all approvals which have been given with effect from now. In a public press announcement (the official rule is not available yet) the ITTF informed all players to cease using glues containing Volatile compounds.

Although the ITTF does not see a serious health risk, if the allowed glue is used in properly ventilated rooms, they feel that long term use of such glues may have negative health effects. For the realisation of its decision the ITTF appeals to the player's own responsibility and points out that the use of organic solvent glue is at own risk. From the 1st of January 2008 bat tests with accurate appliances will be executed during all junior events of the ITTF, from the 1st of September 2008 bats at all ITTF events will be checked. As soon as we have got a precise announcement of this ITTF decision, we will publish it on our web sites. Please also note the individual announcement of the National Federations.



Hiroshi Shibutani: The backhand-chop defence

We have pointed out the meaning of the modern defence game in previous Newsletters about the forehand - chop defence. Defence is alive and not dead and now with the prohibition of gluing coming up it will experience a renaissance, providing that there are coaches who dare to teach children who are suitable for defence accordingly. Before we now look at Hiroshi Shibutani's backhand-chop defence let's have a look at his „material“ on the backhand. Like all defenders, who are ranked high on the World Ranking List, Hiroshi plays with long pimples on the backhand (FEINT LONG II). The defender is not so sensitive on the opponents spin and then you can produce excellent differences in backspin in combination with pimples inside on the forehand. That starts already with the serve. The whole movement of the backhand-chop is basically not different with pimples outside or inside apart from the bat angle at the moment of contact with the ball. We will not look into that here.

The former Japanese national player and double partner of Koji Matsushita, Hiroshi Sabutani, belongs internationally to the best defensive artists for years. He was last mentioned on the World Ranking List in 2001. Today he works in the education and training team of Butterfly. Let's now look at his backhand-chop defence, which he plays with long pimples. On the forehand he plays like all top defenders with pimples inside (TACKINESS D 1,9mm).



Picture 1:

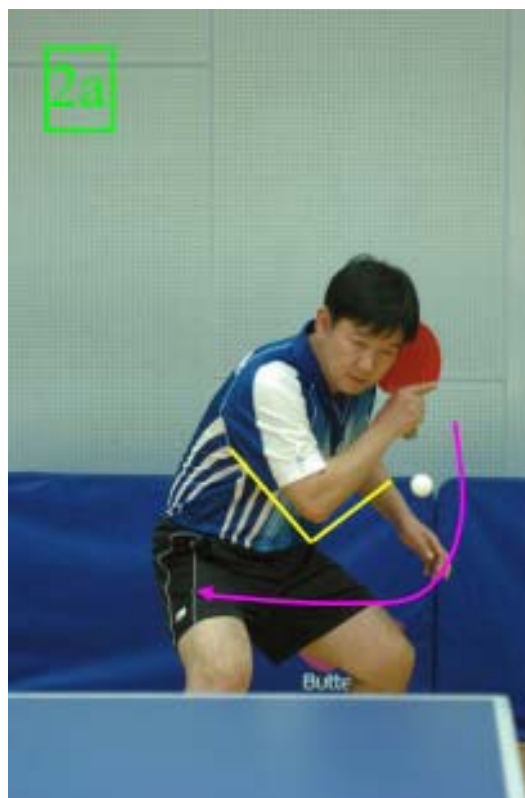
At the beginning Hiroshi is standing square (about 45 degrees) to the table, the legs are more than shoulder wide apart and slightly bent at the knees. The body weight is a bit more on the left back leg. He takes the bat backwards and up to the height of the head. The playing arm is bent at a right angle. Picture 1a shows the position of the player from the top.





Picture 2 shows us the end of the starting phase and the beginning of the hitting phase from the side perspective, picture **2a** from the front and picture **2b** from a half square position. It becomes very obvious

- how square the player is standing to the ball
- that the upper body is twisted to the side at the hips
- that the bat is in height of the head above the shoulder
- that the elbow is bent at an right angle (90 degrees)





Picture 3

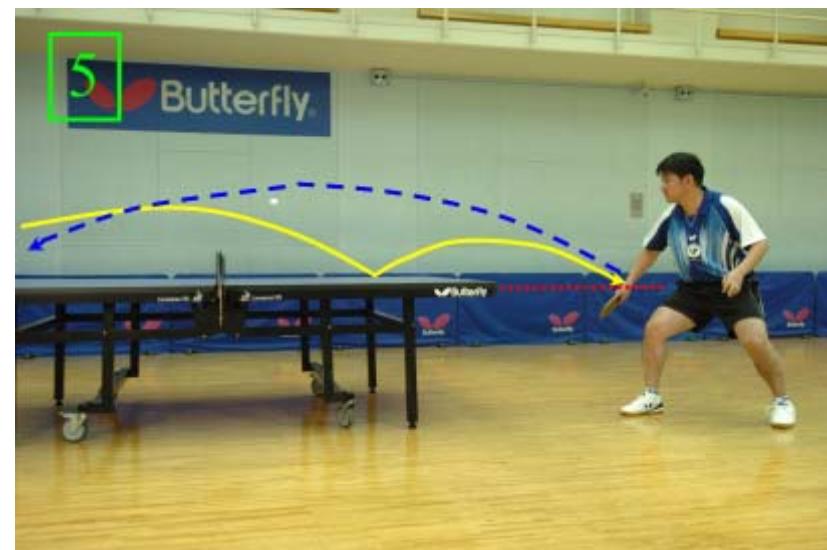
shows us the phase after contact with the ball has been made. The arm is stretched at the elbow. The bat is moved in a natural curve. This becomes also very clear from the frontal view (**picture 3a**). The moment where contact with the ball is made can't be seen but guessed easily.



Picture 4 and 4a show the end of the swinging out movement. The bat has been moved in a circular manner and is now on the right hand side of the body. The whole body weight is now on the front right foot.

Picture 5 shows the moment of contact with the ball in relation to the height of the table and the distance to the table. The ball is hit in height of the table (red dotted line).

1. The ball is hit in extension of the right knee in front of the body and in height of the hip.
2. The body weight is at the moment of contact with the ball on both legs, maybe a little bit more on the front leg.
3. The player moves towards the ball and lowers his entire body weight extremely downwards.
4. The angle of the bat is slightly open. How much the bat is open or closed is depending on the spin of the coming ball and how much spin I want to produce myself.



11 Products of the month

[Link www.butterfly-world.com](http://www.butterfly-world.com)

At well assorted distributors!

Kiso Hinoki V & VII

It is the Hinoki – wood of the Japanese Kiso Cypress. Kiso is a Japanese region, where only this type of cypress is growing. The trees must be at least 300 years old. The Hinoki wood of this Kiso cypress is not too hard and at the same time very light. The result is the typical Hinoki feeling. The use of Hinoki veneers has a special tradition at Butterfly.



Kiso Hinoki V OFF-

This innovative and attractive blade is made of only one type of wood, which is 100% Kiso Hinoki. It combines extravagant design, lightweight and exceptional feeling, while Kiso Hinoki offers powerful and dynamic offensive playing features which can not be compared by any other type of wood.

5 - wood

44,90 Euro



Kiso Hinoki VII OFF

In addition to Kiso Hinoki V OFF-, this blade is built with two more veneers whereas the total thickness is the same for both of them. This makes the KISO HINOKI VII a little bit harder and more powerful, still being easy to handle with only 85 grams in weight. Feel the elegance of pure Kiso Hinoki and experience an extraordinary playing character.

7 - wood

49,90 Euro

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World Champion Werner Schlager – Part 3: Forehand - Topspin

In 2003 Werner Schlager became sensationally World Champion in the Men Singles in Paris. Not all experts thought this possible. The rise of the Austrian to the top of the world was not easy. With courage, strength and endurance the right handed player managed the stony way to the top. Werner Schlager lives and lived table tennis like nobody else. His professional attitude towards sport is exemplary. For Butterfly the 34 year old is an important counsellor concerning the development of products. In his book: „Matchball – Dreams and Triumphs“, which was published last year, he describes his career, his successes and disappointments, his opinions about table tennis and his very personal quite philosophical thoughts about life. A very good book, not only for table tennis players. In the new Butterfly series „Tips & Tricks from the World champion“ he answers many questions concerning all areas of competition and training: technique, tactic, psychology, endurance, organisation of training, competition, player development and culture, material, rules, coaches. Barely practical issues. The Butterfly team and Werner Schlager wish you, dear reader, good entertainment and joy. If you have further questions about a topic, send us a mail. Previous articles: push, counter hit.



The central stroke technique of modern attacking table tennis is the forehand topspin, not only in Europe but also in China and the other Asian nations. What is the advantage of a forehand loop in comparison to the classical attack with attacking pimples?

You get a more stable flight projection of the ball by putting spin into the ball. The more rotation I put into the ball, the less I must consider the existing rotation. The advantage is mainly in a much higher degree of consistency.

How high is the percentage of a forehand loop in your attacking game?
I estimate two thirds.

Nowadays every top player must also be able to play the backhand loop. In which situations do you decide to run around the backhand side to loop with your forehand?

Only if it tactically makes sense and I have got enough time to run around.

The table tennis literature differentiates between a loop against backspin and topspin. What is the difference and which variety is more difficult?

The main difference is the angle of the bat, which has to be changed according to the rotation of the ball. Personally I don't see a clear borderline between a loop against backspin and topspin. The transition – also considering other important factors like the main hitting direction and use of the body (always upwards and forwards) – is fluently.

How important is the use of the wrist when playing the forehand loop? The Chinese seem to use more wrist movement than the Europeans. Is the material also important?

The use of the wrist is one of the other factors influencing the possibilities of putting rotation on the ball. The material is important too. The typical „penholder“ player must have a much more flexible wrist which he then obviously uses more. I doubt that the Chinese „shake-hand“ players use their wrists more than we do.

I can still remember my first topspin efforts. I only learnt to play it properly during regular training against defence players. Can you also remember such an „oh, yes“ moment? **Yes, in my case it was the first backhand counter loop. I was practicing with my brother and was standing a bit further away from the table. My brother was playing topspins to my backhand. Although I had the passive role, I suddenly decided to loop against the ball. It was a very intuitive decision. After I realized what I had done I was full of joy about the success, which was worth even more than the surprised expression on the face of my older brother.**

13 Tips and Tricks

What are the main attributes of a good topspin player? The speed of the spin is surely only one factor sadly you can see it much too often in the lower classes where young players can only play topspins as „rockets“.

The right mixture of consistency, precision and speed.

How do you achieve consistency and control in a looping game?

By training.

The forehand loop is played quite differently at top level. There are players like Wang Liqin, Ma Lin or Kalinikos Kreanga, who are looping with an almost outstretched arm or others like Timo Boll or Michael Maze, who loop with their arms bent and explosive fore-arm acceleration. To which group do you belong?

The first one.

What is the secret when playing the forehand topspin, the feeling, the wrist, the acceleration, the use of the whole body...?

The right combination of everything.

In game situations topspin against topspin we differentiate between close to/over the table and away from the table/from half distance. What is important when looping close to the table and what is important when looping from half distance?

Primarily it is important to estimate the rotation/speed correctly. Especially when playing close to the table, because the ball must be hit very accurately. Otherwise the ball would go out. That way you don't determine the spin, the existing rotation determines the following flight projection in a higher degree. The further you are away from the table the more powerful you can play the ball. The existing rotation of the ball is in relation to what I want to do with the ball less important.

What is the forehand sidespin as a variable to the topspin, which effect does it have and in which situation is it played against which balls?

It is one of the numerous variations of the topspin. The effect is a horizontally curved flight projection („Banana – topspin“) as well as a sidekick after the bounce. It can be used at any time to interrupt the rhythm of the opponent.

Who are the best topspin players and why?

One of the most attractive forehand topspin players is Kalinikos Kreanga. The one with most varieties is Vladimir Samsonov. The one with the fastest loop is Ma Lin. There are a few more, which should be quoted here. At world class level everybody must be in command of a forehand topspin.

At the moment fresh gluing is still allowed, which advantage does that give to a forehand topspin?

More speed and more rotation.

Coaches often think that it is better for new beginners to start with relatively thin rubbers (1,5-1,7mm) so that they get better control and have more feeling for the ball. Others maintain that talented new beginners should start very soon with thicker rubbers (1,9-2,1mm). What is your opinion?

Start straight away with thicker rubbers but glue less or not at all. A change of bat (thickness/-model, blade) demands completely new adaptation to the movements. You should not demand that only seldom of a player.

If you think about your own forehand loop what could you improve?

A lot. Especially consistency.

The forehand loop plays surely a central role in your training. Could you name one exercise to our readers which is important to you, which you enjoy and which you repeat often?

My standard exercise is „1-1“, that means: one backhand from the backhand side, one forehand from the forehand side down to the backhand side of my partner. Regularly in the beginning, irregular or free later. If you play that with different variations it is the perfect exercise for topspin consistency.

„With Timo Boll our chances are better“



Andreas Preuß is „Mister Bundesliga“. Since 1984 he is playing, coaching or managing the German Record Champion Borussia Düsseldorf. Since 2004 also Butterfly is the official sponsor of the international well-known club. Ten titles on European level speak a clear language. With Timo Boll Butterfly's top star is coming to the Rhine and Borussia wants to return to the Elite class. Last year the table tennis centre of Borussia Düsseldorf and the table tennis centre of Germany was opened. Millions were invested in German table tennis. Andreas Preuß was also actively involved in that. Get to know more about the man, who loves and lives table tennis, in the following interview.

Mr Preuß, first of all congratulations to the ETTU-Cup victory against Würzburg and to Borussia's 10th international title. But you had to wait a long time for it.

When did you and your club win the last title?

The last time was in 2003 when we surprisingly became German Champion. Naturally we are very proud now that we managed to win a title again after such a long time, especially after both these brilliant finals which could have gone both ways and were really great.

Is Borussia now qualified for the Champions League? That would be very important considering Timo Boll's transfer.

The maximum is four German teams in the Champions League. Goennern is automatically qualified because of their participation in the semi-finals. Additionally the first and second from the Bundesliga preliminary round before the start of the play off rounds: that is Grenzau and Frickenhausen. In the end we are depending on that Würzburg does not become German Champion, because then we are out, because the German champion is directly qualified. We still have a good chance as we are one of the semi finalists. At the moment there is still a big question mark if we qualify for the Champions League.

Let's assume that Borussia qualifies for the Champions League. What are your chances with Timo Boll to win the Champions League?

The chances are there. Insiders are trading us high on the lists and predict that we will win three titles. My thesis is and was: you have to work hard daily to be successful, especially in Europe. Charleroi and Lower Austria have got better players than us on paper. Probably also Granada. Naturally our target is to win the Kings class with Timo after 2000.

In the semi finals of the play-off round you are meeting Frickenhausen, where the former Borussia player Bastian Steger is playing since this season. What are your expectations?

During the last two matches against Frickenhausen we got beaten up heavily within 30 minutes. I think Frickenhausen are because of their better placement in the preliminary round slight favourites.

At the beginning of the season you made a clear cut at Borussia by making your assistant coach Dirk Wagner to your successor. The right decision?

Without a doubt, that was planned a long time ago. Dirk Wagner came to us as an assistant coach two years ago as a successor of Li Ping and we worked very well together. He was well-known for his excellent work on junior level in Thuringen and could gather the necessary experience in the professional area over the past two years. He is respected, has a good relationship with the boys and can bring them forward. We are just about ready to prolong his contract for a longer period. We are happy that he is here and works really well.

Düsseldorf has got most spectators in the Bundesliga as often before. What are you doing to achieve this?

We are very active, especially because the offer of sports in Düsseldorf is enormous. We work intensely with the press and their enormous Email – distributor. We are doing lotteries and invite youngsters and clubs, and, and, and. One and half a year ago we broke the spectator record in club table tennis. 4.500 spectators came against Goennern. Naturally free entry tickets were included. But for us it is important to lure people into the hall and bring the fantastic table tennis sport closer to them. **Part 2 follows in the next Newsletter.**

Duesseldorf continues Butterfly tradition of ETTU – Cup victories



Borussia Duesseldorf continues the tradition of great successes of Butterfly teams in the European Table Tennis Cup. After the Champion – League triumphs of TTV Goennern during the last two years, the German Record Champion won the ETTU Cup in the German Finals against Mueller Wuerzbürger Hofbraeu (3:1 and 3:2) and won the trophy for the third time after 1987 and 1995. Only the five times

winner BVSC Budapest and the four times winner Spartacus Budapest could win the little European Cup more often.

This success means the end of a four year period without major wins, which the Czech Butterfly player made possible by winning the first set against the Hong Kong Chinese Leung Chu-Yan at 1:2 from the host's point of view. The team from the North-Rhine-Westphalian capital, who won the title in 2003, never had to wait longer for a new Champion title only once before, 38 years ago, when they had to wait 8 years in 1961 before they could repeat the title.

„We really value this success. This is because we had to wait so long and had to cope with some hard defeats just before a possible win of the title“,

commented Duesseldorf's manager Andreas Preuss the feeling of success and admitted honestly: „after such a long time the title feels really good.“

Preuss didn't want to understand the tenth success (apart from that six wins in the European Cup for Champions/record and one title in the Champions League) in an international competition as a taste for future triumphs. The 45 year old rejected estimations that the club, because of the engagement of the European Champion Timo Boll for the next season, will automatically win the title vehemently. „You can't buy success and we don't want to do that. We are aiming for success, of course, but we have to work like always before on a solid basis. Titles don't come on without work. It was like that before and it will be like that in the future.“

Titles for Duesseldorf are also in the new „era Timo Boll“ only a part of a superior strategy plan. Preuss: „We have through Timo but not only because of him a very attractive team for the coming years. With this team we want to move forwards to new dimensions of marketing and presentation as well as spectator advertisement. Timo Boll is very precious for these new ways we want to go and with his exceptional position in German table tennis also on international level. Perhaps we achieve successes which are more important and further reaching than titles.“



„My heart is beating for Butterfly“



Zlatko Pospis always on WC duty: working at his Butterfly stand and together with the European Butterfly Chief „Yuki“ Kamizuru.

Mr Pospis, how did you make your first contacts with Butterfly?

I can remember that precisely. At the time I was 25 years old and our table tennis legend Dragutin Surbek already had a contract with Butterfly. He took me with him to one of his meetings.

How did the table tennis sport develop from your point of view?

In old times our sport was more attractive. I can remember very well when Dragutin Surbek played the hall was sold out three months before. Sadly that isn't the case any more. Apart from that I wish for more defenders. The spectators love that way of table tennis.

How is table tennis rated in your country?

It is very popular and that for many decades. Croatia belongs since nearly 60 years to the top of the world. Beginning with Dragutin Surbek and Anton Stipanovic up to Zoran Primorac. We are still continuing with this great tradition. In Zagreb alone we have 4 table tennis centres.

What does this WC mean to your country?

Zlatko Pospis is hardly able to move forwards in the „Dom Sportova“, everybody wants to talk to the Croatian. No big surprise, because he is the chief of Butterfly and as that one of the most important people at the LIEBHERR Single Table Tennis World Championships in Zagreb. Pospis, who started with table tennis as a child, was one of the best players of his country and even played table tennis in Germany- in the Bundesliga club TTC Esslingen. Today the successful salesman is a well-known person all over Europe and received a special present for his success in table tennis as a player, coach and junior co-ordinator: an own pub in Zagreb. The name of the pub is „Butterfly“, logical, because the 47-year old is totally committed to his work for the world wide leading table tennis company.

That is optimal advertising for our sport. With that we get the chance to involve new children in table tennis. Another important aspect is the financing of our future through the intake of such a World Championship.

Are you satisfied with your own work at the WC?

More than that! We have been working here with four people non-stop without a break that was a bit unusual. But the interest in our trade mark Butterfly was enormous because of the presence of Butterfly stars like Timo Boll or the World Champion Guo Yue at the WC. The work was well worth it.

As we heard you are also privately engaged in table tennis?

I have also built a big sports centre at the Adriatic coast near Zadar. The main target here is not commercial but offering talented children from all over Europe optimal training. Very successful coaches are working here and take care that the children develop further. The centre is supposed to become a table tennis „smithy“ for Europe.

What are your wishes private and sportingly?

Privately only that I remain healthy and my Butterfly heart keeps beating for a long time. In sports I hope that Croatia will once again have a table tennis World Champion.