

Butterfly®

NEWS

01 2007

Join in and win!



For the third year running our „Butterfly Newsletter“ is issued. Although the feedback on our current information is very positive, we would like to improve our service. Therefore we are asking for your help at the end of the year. We would be glad if you could fill out the questionnaire on the next page and send it back to us by the 31th of January 2007.

We are going to have a raffle among those who sent in the answers and you can win 5 x 2 of Butterfly Rubbers.

www.butterfly-world.com

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Questionnaire Newsletter (January 2007)

Name: _____

Club: _____

Age: _____

Adress: _____

Since when do you know about the Butterfly-Newsletter? _____ (Jahr)

How did you get to know about the Newsletter? ☐ Internet ☐ Friends ☐ _____

What do you think about the Newsletters? ☐ good ☐ middel ☐ bad

Which columns do you like best? _____

Which articles do you use for your game? _____

Do you have any suggestions or wishes? _____

If i win: 1. name of rubber: _____ colour: _____ sponge: _____

2. name of rubber: _____ colour: _____ sponge: _____

Join in and win!

Fill in the questionnaire an fax it to:
0049/ (0)2841/90532-20



23. January - 27. January 2007
Pro Tour: Slovenian Open

3. February - 4. February 2007
Europe Top 12, Arezzo, Italia

08. February - 11. February 2007
Pro Tour: India Open, New Delhi

13. February - 17. February 2007
Pro Tour: LIEBHERR Qatar Open



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Where the future is going depends in the end about Boll's successor as number one. The other players, who will remain the same in the key positions, think about a „big solution“, which means taking in two good quality players, because Timo's salary can be saved.

Maerte and Mai seem to favour the „small solution“ with only one very good top player. At the moment there is no talk about any names of candidates.

Basically Goennern wants to hold on to their structures. The concept of the club, which worked particularly well with the „model Boll“ will only be slightly modified. Mai: „Our philosophy will still be, to lead young players under professional conditions to top sport“.

The long term, successful coach will play a key role in this. The coach has got a contract until the end of the season, but has offers from other parties. Mai is planning the future with the „Father of Success“ of Boll and Goennern: „I assume that Helmut Hampl will be in charge of our training group.“



Madeira also with Butterfly outfit

The „Associacao de Tenis de Mesa de Madeira“ is a small organization, but the table tennis association on the Portuguese holiday Island has a strong partner: Butterfly. The „Butterflies“ support the Iberians with the usual know how and in many ways with equipment. There are for example more than a thousand active players in 30 clubs on Madeira playing with the „Butterfly 3 star ball“.



(Our picture shows the young talents from Madeira with their coaches at the Portuguese Championships 2006 for Juniors, Cadets and the „U12“ in their Butterfly outfit.)

Guo and Tie - new members of the Butterfly Team

The successful table tennis - and sports article – producer could sign two world class athletes following its motto „New Faces at Butterfly“. Guo Yue, who is ranked number three in world, signed a contract with the „Butterflies“. The Chinese national player is known as the greatest talent of her country and explained her targets after signing the contract: „I am grateful for having a contract with Butterfly. My next targets are the WC in Croatia in May and the Olympic Games at home in Peking in 2008.“ The other new Butterfly top star is the



Tie Yana

born on the 13th of May 1979
right – handed shake
hand player, attack



Guo Yue

born on the 17th of July 1988, left – handed
shake hand player,
attack

ITTF World's Ranking lists, mens (01/2007)



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

ITTF World's Ranking lists, women (01/2007)



1	ZHANG Yining CHN	16	Li Jiao NED
2	WANG Nan CHN	17	CAO Zhen CHN
3	GUO Yan CHN	18	LIN Ling HKG
4	Li Jia Wei SIN	19	SHEN Yanfei PRK
5	GUO Yue CHN	20	LI nan CHN
6	TIE Yana HKG	20	STEFF Mihaela ROU
7	LI Xiaoxia CHN	22	HIRANO Sayaka JPN
8	WANG Yue Gu SIN	23	PARK Mi Young KOR
9	NIU Jianfeng CHN	24	TAN MONFARDINI Wenling ITA
10	KIM Kyung Ah KOR	25	ZHANG Rui HKG
11	LIU Jia AUT	26	LI Qian POL
12	GAO Jun USA	27	STEFANOVA Nikoletta ITA
13	FUKUHARA Ai JAP	28	TOTH Krisztina HUN
14	JIANG Huajun HKG	29	DING Ning CHN
15	BOROS Tamara HRV	30	LAU Sui Fei HKG

Junior World Champion Matsudaira: another success for Japan's Juniors



Kenta Matsudaira visit
Butterfly-President Shunsaku Yamada

Japan may dream more than ever of a rosy future in table tennis. Kenta Matsudaira's title of Junior World Champion in Kairo confirms the clear upwards tendency of the talents in the country of the rising sun. Last year at the Championships in Egypt the Team World Champion Jun Mitzutani impressed with outstanding results.

The protégés of Butterfly Sports Director Mario Amezic and coach Mazakazu Kawano don't have to hide behind the talents of World Champion Country China. Matsudaira, who is only 15 years old, is one of the youngest in the class up to 18 years. His success increases Nippon's hope to follow up on long gone glorious times. This successful junior generation should be able to challenge China's leading position in the near future.

The new Junior World Champion impressed in many different ways in the country of the Pharaohs. Matsudaira opened the game with brilliant variable stip-serves and was convincing with his aggressive attacking game from both sides and his understanding for the game, which caused great difficulties for his opponents. Especially noticeable with Matsudaira, who was attracting attention already last autumn, when he got to the Finals at the ITTF World Junior Circuit, is his extraordinary mental strength and the ability to recognize mistakes quickly and learn from it. Proof for this was his victory in the final in Kairo against the Chinese Xu Ke and in the previous semi – final against the German Dimitrij Ochtarov - Matsudaira lost to both players a few days before in the team competition.

The aggressive forehandpush

In the December Newsletter we presented the Chinese Zhang Yining and her impressive demonstration of a back-hand push. This time the Japanese top player Toshio Tasaki (best placing on the World Ranking List: No. 22) shows us the aggressive forehand push against a short back spin ball. Especially this variety is of special importance on top level, because it can surprise the opponent often when it is played long and with a lot of backspin to the far forehand, the far backhand or on the elbow. Aggressive means: long, fast and with a lot of backspin. We are talking about an aggressive push. Toshio uses the penholder grip, which basic technique isn't different from the shake hand grip.

Pictures 1-4: Toshio moves from the basic parallel stance forward with his right leg towards the ball. He bends his upper body slightly forward. He goes „into“ the ball. The playing arm remains naturally bent in height of his hips and is hardly raised up. This is a mistake which occurs very often as you can see in the wrong demonstration on picture F1.

The position of the racket is clearly open. The more backspin the coming ball has got, the more open the racket must be.





Picture 5: At the moment of contact with the ball the right foot touches the ground. Some players stamp on the floor similar to serving. The playing arm is still slightly bent. The body weight is on the bent front leg, the upper body is bent over the table without actually touching it. The racket is opened wide and touches the ball underneath. The use of the wrist can't be seen directly on the pictures, but many of the top players use it so speedily that you can hardly see it even in a game. The drawing shows the moment of contact with the ball from the side, where the position of the legs and the slightly bent arm can be observed.



08 Stars under the magnifier

Pictures 6-8: The movement after contact with the ball shows the aggressiveness of the push of the Japanese. It is interesting how Toshio follows the ball with his arm and body. On picture 8 he reaches the lowest point. His body weight is completely on the front right leg, from which he pushes back very quickly to get back to a favourable stroke position. The wrong demonstration F2 shows two mistakes, which are often made. On the one hand the leg, which is supposed to take the body weight is stretched so that the player can't get back speedily enough. Neither can he feel the ball properly. On the other hand the playing arm is stretched at the elbow. This makes it very difficult to achieve the optimal position of the racket, the feeling for the ball and the use of the wrist, which is supported by the forearm. With the arm outstretched like this it is almost impossible.



09 Stars under the magnifier

Picture F1: wrong demonstration: „playing arm is too high, bent too much and causing too much tension“.

Picture F2: wrong demonstration: „outstretched front leg“ and „outstretched playing arm“.



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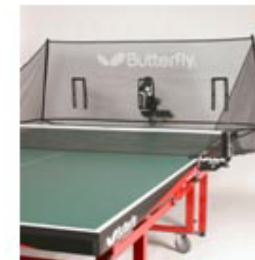
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During the WORLD CUPS 2006 at the end of October Butterfly News carried out several interviews with prominent representatives of French table tennis. In the next issues we will present you the conversations and inform you more about French players, coaches and officials. Today: Christophe Legout, no 3 of France and Jean-Rene Chevalier, Vice President of the Federation Francaise de Tennis de Table (FFTT).

We are in need of young champions and the TV

Chevalier, Vice President of the French Table Tennis Federation, organized the Table Tennis World Championships in Paris – Bercy. Recently he was in charge of the very successful WORLD CUP in Paris. In 2008 his last big effort is scheduled: hosting the Olympic qualifications in Nantes. He knows French table tennis inside out. As a player, a coach and an official he has looked after the juniors for years. Just read how he evaluates the situation of French table tennis.

Mr Chevalier, you are the chief organizer of the men WORLD CUPS in Paris. This is not your first big table tennis event which you organize in France.

Indeed, the biggest challenge was the Table Tennis World Championship 2003 in Paris in Salle Omnisport in Bercy.

With 80.000 spectators you are still holding the record for this event. Again congratulations. Surely you had to start on a lower level as well. Where was the beginning for you?

I have done everything in table tennis. For 23 years I was a national player and played in the 1st and 2nd league. Then I was a coach. Among others I coached Patrick Chila. As an official I took responsibility for example in the region before I started as a secretary for juniors in the French Federation (FFTT) in 1988. Later I became Vice President of the Federation and since then I take care of all international events on French soil.

You are a classical multi talent and know French table tennis very well. What is the situation in French table tennis at the moment?

The FFTT has got 185.000 members in more than 4.000 clubs. At the moment we are lacking a brilliant leading figure, who would draw younger players into our clubs. We don't have a „Secretin“ or a „Gatien“.

There is a big gap between the older players like Chila, Eloi or Legout and the youngsters.

Our young generation is not bad but there are no great player among them, although we are working hard. Sometimes it takes a few years.

The French Federation is well known for its intensive work with the juniors even if there are no results at the moment. What are you doing for the young players?

We start at the lowest level with centres of excellence on regional level and follow those up on national level. On top we have got the INSEP in Paris, which is our national training centre. We can also see that more and more clubs try to offer table tennis on a higher level.

In Germany we have got the problem that there are nearly 10.000 clubs but only very few good coaches.

That is the same problem in France. The clubs lack qualified coaches. Our federation tries very hard to improve the education of coaches, but many stop after a short while. This is closely connected to the fact that small clubs have problems to pay the coaches.

How high is the public interest in a sport like table tennis in France?

The public French TV is not at all interested. The biggest French daily Sports paper L'Equipe showed more and more interest during the last years. But we are standing at the side line. It looks different on regional level. Table tennis plays a good role in the sports section of the daily papers. In the area around Paris less, of course, because there are so many sports.

So it is very important to have big events like the WORLD CUP in Paris to get headlines in the papers.

Of course, we need a big event not every year but at least every second year, an international table tennis event.

What are your next projects?

In 2007 the Pro-Tour-Tournament, this time in Toulouse and then the Olympic Qualification in Nantes.

Why don't you organize a Pro – Tour – Tournament in Paris every year like in tennis the French Open in Roland Garros? Paris seems to be a good place for table tennis after all the successful events.

Yes, without a doubt. But we need financial support from the town and the region and I don't think that we will get that every year.

Mr Chevalier, you lived table tennis and you are still living table tennis. What is your biggest wish for the future of table tennis sport?

I would like more recognition and presentation on TV. That would make it a lot easier to find sponsors but it would also attract more kids into the halls. And a men national team that could beat Germany. (He laughs) In short, we need young champions and the TV again. The basis is very good, we don't have to worry about that.

Thank you very much Mr. Chevalier and good luck for the future events in France.