



**TABLE TENNIS.
FOR ALL.
FOR LIFE.**

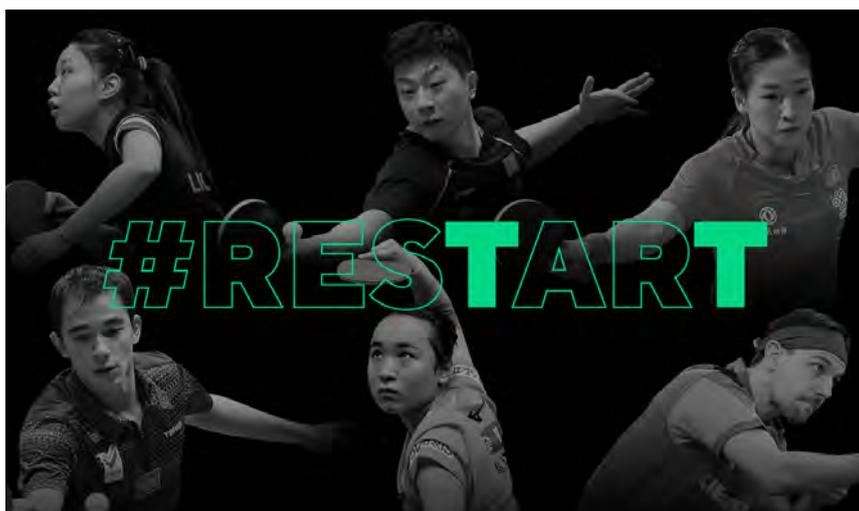
NEWSLETTER

September 2020

#RESTART - INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS RETURNS!

After months spent in the darkness, it's time to return to the light. It's time to return to the table. It's time to #RESTART!

2020 has been the most challenging year in living memory, as the COVID-19 pandemic brought the international table tennis event calendar to a grinding halt early in the year. Many players, coaches and fans were confined to their homes or their local communities, unable to play or watch their beloved sport in the electric international environment that has lit up so many table tennis careers and engaged a captive worldwide audience over the years.



Click to watch the #RESTART promo video!

Ever since the pandemic struck, the ITTF has been working tirelessly to bring table tennis back to the global community in a safe and secure manner. While it has not been an easy journey, the ITTF would like to express its heartfelt gratitude towards all the stakeholders for their support in these challenging times.

After months of grit, hard work and preparation, we are proud to finally announce the return of table tennis into the international arena. Welcome to #RESTART!

#RESTART is a special series of events scheduled for November 2020, taking a regional approach to ensure a smooth transition from national to international activity for players. #RESTART will feature three of the most prestigious ITTF events (the Uncle Pop 2020 ITTF Women's World Cup, the Liebherr 2020 ITTF Men's World Cup and the 2020 ITTF World Tour Grand Finals), all of which will be held in China with support from the Chinese Table Tennis Association (CTTA). [READ MORE](#)

#RESTART THE ITTF WORLD RANKING!

The ITTF World Ranking was frozen as of April 2020 due to the suspension of international table tennis events caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The #RESTART series will deliver a return to international activity, and with it an unfreezing of the ITTF World Ranking, so that players will earn points at the three organised events: the Uncle Pop 2020 ITTF Women's World Cup, the Liebherr 2020 ITTF Men's World Cup and the 2020 ITTF Finals.

The three upcoming events offer plenty of opportunities for players to move up and down the World Ranking charts. [READ MORE](#)



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NEWSLETTER September 2020

WELCOME TO WTT MACAU!

World Table Tennis (WTT) is excited to announce that it will stage a special, promotional showcase WTT Macau between 25-29 November 2020, which will offer a first glimpse into the future of the sport.

After many months of planning behind the scenes, WTT is ready to put on a show in Macau and provide an opportunity for players, fans and broadcasters to experience a teaser of what to expect when WTT launches its first annual calendar of events in 2021.



[Click to watch the WTT Macau promo video!](#)

WTT Macau boasts a thrilling, original playing format and will showcase many of the sport's biggest stars in brand-new WTT surrounds. It's a moment that is certain to catch the eye and leave a special legacy for the sport. This is the dawn of a new era. Welcome to WTT Macau! [READ MORE](#)



WTT and Imagen's partnership will allow table tennis fans to enjoy iconic moments, old and new.

WTT PARTNERS WITH IMAGEN

WTT is building a future-proofed digital video archive with video management platform Imagen in order to preserve decades of historic sporting moments.

6,000 hours of exclusive match footage, including more than 9,000 matches spanning as far back as the 1930s, have been digitised and uploaded to Imagen's intuitive platform.

WTT's social media channels will be utilising the full power of the archive from now on, bringing to life iconic table tennis moments, never to be forgotten! [READ MORE](#)

WTT HOSTS EQUIPMENT WEBINAR

In what was the first of its kind, an informative webinar was hosted on Monday 31 August 2020 to present the vision and mission of WTT to a large section of equipment manufacturers. The message was loud and clear: become involved and be part of the change.

Equipment manufacturers are very important stakeholders in the table tennis economy and it has been critical to work closely together with them in order to grow the sport's fanbase.

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Igor Levitin has expressed ideas to innovate the table tennis landscape across Europe.

IGOR LEVITIN ELECTED ETTU PRESIDENT

The ETTU presidential elections on 16 September saw Igor Levitin take charge of Europe’s governing body of the sport for a four-year term.

Levitin, who is also a Member of the ITTF President’s Advisory Council and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Table Tennis Federation of Russia, has expressed his desire to implement new, innovative measures to ensure a positive evolution of the sport in Europe, traditionally one of the strongest table tennis markets globally.

“We must embrace change if we are to navigate through these challenges and ensure that table tennis enters a new period of European growth.” – Igor Levitin, ETTU President [READ MORE](#)



Anthony Ho will serve a second term as President of ITTF-Oceania.

ANTHONY HO ELECTED ITTF-OCEANIA PRESIDENT

Anthony Ho will serve a second term as President of ITTF-Oceania, after winning the continental federation’s 2020 election on 22 August.

The 2020 ITTF-Oceania AGM secured a new milestone for the sport, conducted in a brand-new digital form with online voting being utilised throughout.

Ho was first appointed as President of ITTF-Oceania in August 2017 and has a longstanding association to the sport. Since 2004, he held the position of President of the Fiji Table Tennis Association and has been a member of the Oceania Table Tennis Management Committee. Since 2005 he has sat on the Board of Directors of the ITTF. [READ MORE](#)

2020 MEMBER ASSOCIATION CATEGORISATION UNVEILED

In alignment with the new ITTF Strategic Plan, the Member Association (MA) Categorisation was launched for the first time in 2018 with the primary aim to set up a more objective and needs-based approach, defining how the Continental Development funding should be split among the Continents, across the different areas that it covers and the programmes on offer.

[READ MORE](#)

#TABLETENNISUNITED BACKS 25 INITIATIVES

Set up to assist the table tennis community worldwide affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, #TableTennisUnited continues to play an important role during these unprecedented times, issuing support to 25 initiatives while a further 26 are currently being analysed for eligibility.

The ITTF would like to thank everyone who has already donated to the cause. For those wanting to show their solidarity with Table Tennis United, [DONATE HERE](#).

ITTF.COM CELEBRATES "PARALYMPIC GAMES WEEK"

Following on from the ITTF's "Olympic Games week" celebrations, ITTF.com put the world's finest Para stars in the spotlight to mark the one-year countdown to the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

Highlighting the main contenders for silverware in Tokyo, ITTF.com published special preview pieces taking a look at just some of the eye-catching players set to descend upon the Japanese capital in 2021.

Accompanied by two in-depth features, focusing on **the best from Brazil** and **one of China's greatest wheelchair players in Zhang Bian**, ITTF.com also conducted a series of exclusive interviews with a host of star names, bringing their individual stories and experiences to fans across the globe. [READ MORE](#)



Click to read the story of Mexico's Edith Sigala.

#RESTART THE ITTF DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES!

After months of global standstill, ITTF Development activities have returned with an Olympic Solidarity Technical Coaching Course in North Macedonia, the first ever coach education course held in the country. The course lasted between 24 August – 2 September 2020 in the small town of Pehcevo. [READ MORE](#)



WEEKLY TRAINING LESSONS – SEASON TWO

ITTF High Performance & Development has launched its second season of the Weekly Training Lessons! Join us every Friday on Facebook [@ITTFHPD](#) or on the [Official ITTF YouTube Channel](#) for your weekly hit of table tennis training!