




WORLD TABLE TENNIS DAY 2017 REPORT

Celebrating & Sharing our PASSION for TABLE TENNIS!

**"Breaking Down Barriers
with Table Tennis Balls"**
ITTF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



ITTF.com
TT4ALL.com



Intro message

The **3rd edition of World Table Tennis Day** was the **biggest ever** and shows clearly that the international Table Tennis community **has adopted this day into its agenda**. **450 events in 93 countries**, twice as many events as last year and 10 more countries.

A special recognition came from elite players who flooded social media with their innovative messages motivating others to play and enjoy Table Tennis. Though the **real celebration took place out there, right next to you**, on squares, shopping malls, deserts, beaches, parks, clubs, stadiums, restaurants, at home, schools or working places. April 6 fell on a Thursday this year and many celebrated the weekend before or after, but **many integrated Table Tennis into their common (Thursday) daily routine**.

Outstanding initiatives came from two NGOs; the Romanian AmaTur and the Indian Pingpongphilic, arranged almost half of the registered events. AmaTur is an organisation gathering amateur players all over Romania and was able to call 112 different organizations for WTTD celebration, attracting over 2000 players with a total of 451 new ones! An excellent example of bringing the passion of playing Table Tennis into daily life and sharing it with others! Pingpongphilic organised a weeklong awareness camp to let people play and teach basics of Table Tennis. A special focus was given on schools with the motto "Think outside the box".

Lots of interesting events covered the globe on April 6 2017; goals ranged from the development of Table Tennis in rural communities, 2 Guinness World Record attempts for most number of players in a Table Tennis rally or to play for peace. A common aim for most events was to **create awareness for our sport and to have fun, while being inclusive**. The images show that these goals have definitely been achieved! A report gallery is planned to be published on

TT4ALL.com with the aim to show others the wide variety of how the World Table Tennis Day can be celebrated.

As last year, prizes were awarded, however a significant increase in prizes were made available in 2017, such as iPong – Robots, ITTF T-Shirts, Butterfly Balls and Butterfly Equipment Packages. This will be distributed to several events that were staged around the world, however the distribution has not been confirmed at the time of writing this report.

Winning the Peace & Sport Award 2016 motivated and gave ITTF the confidence of being on the right track when focusing on making Table Tennis **popular, universal and inclusive**. The "WTTD has been also recognized by Sports Business", being shortlisted for their awards in the categories "Best Sports Governing Body Initiative" and "Best Mass Participation Event". In 2017, ITTF is celebrating the universality of Table Tennis, as it is the first International Organisation gathering all countries in the world as members, totalling 226 under its umbrella; it's **our task now to keep motivation high** and to see further than just the country name; to reach people in their daily lives with Table Tennis and to use it as a tool for a positive social change. In this sense, we see **two main challenges for April 6 2018**; gain **more countries** to participate and create a **comprehensive and nationwide awareness** for the benefits of playing Table Tennis.

Thanks to: ITTF officials and staff for their continuous support, Glenn Tepper for his permanent advise, Wiebke Scheffler for her hard work behind this project, Ian Marshall for the quick release of articles, our Singapore office for their work on promotion, our sponsors Butterfly, iPong, Sport for Tomorrow and the Japanese TTA for supporting the WTTD, our partners from Peace & Sport for the joint celebrations in New York and Aarhus, USATT and Danish TTU, Ping Sans

Frontières for the provision of materials for simple sport demonstration in New York, Denis Abramovich, Aleksey Yefremov, Ahmed Dawlatly, and Daniela Gomes for their help with translations and Carolina Rosso for the graphic design. And of course **our greatest thanks go to the 453 organisers and to the over 90,000 people who keep the flame on** and bring Table Tennis closer to everybody, everywhere. We highly appreciate their feedback and communication of the actual Table Tennis reality within their specific locations. We are looking forward to April 6 2018 and to celebrate it with you! **TT4ALL.com** will keep you up to date!

Table Tennis for everybody, everywhere!

Leandro Olvech
ITTF Development Director
lolvech@ittfmail.com



2017 WTTD EVENTS MAP

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
90000 approx.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
201 approx.



453 EVENTS in 93 COUNTRIES



CONTINENTAL TOP ORGANISERS

(Events quantity)

20 NORTH AMERICA

- 13 USA
- 7 Canada

29 LATIN AMERICA

- 5 Brazil
- 5 Colombia
- 5 Argentina
- 2 Guatemala
- 2 Jamaica
- 2 Peru
- 2 St. Vincent And The Grenadines
- 2 Trinidad & Tobago
- 1 Belize
- 1 Chile
- 1 Dominican Republic
- 1 Ecuador
- 1 El Salvador
- 1 Guyana
- 1 Haiti
- 1 México
- 1 Panamá
- 1 Uruguay

68 EUROPE

- 114 Romania
- 15 Sweden
- 10 France
- 8 Italy
- 6 Turkey
- 5 Estonia
- 5 Germany
- 5 Greece
- 5 Poland
- 5 Russia
- 4 Netherlands
- 4 Portugal
- 4 Spain
- 3 Bulgaria
- 3 England
- 2 Belarus
- 2 Croatia
- 2 Israel
- 2 Luxembourg
- 2 Switzerland
- 2 Ukraine
- 1 Austria
- 1 Bosnia And Herzegovina
- 1 Czech Republic
- 1 Finland
- 1 Kosovo
- 1 Latvia
- 1 Macedonia
- 1 Montenegro
- 1 Slovenia
- 1 Wales

61 ASIA

- 89 India
- 6 Malaysia
- 5 Pakistan
- 5 Philippines
- 5 Japan
- 3 Nepal
- 3 United Arab Emirates
- 2 Kazakhstan
- 1 Afghanistan
- 1 Bhutan
- 1 China
- 1 Hong Kong
- 1 Iran
- 1 Korea Republic
- 1 Maldives
- 1 Singapore

13 AFRICA

- 18 Ethiopia
- 2 Cape Verde
- 2 Gabon
- 2 Cote D'Ivoire
- 2 Kenya
- 2 Tunisia
- 1 Angola
- 1 Burundi
- 1 Congo
- 1 Ghana
- 1 Nigeria
- 1 Rep.de Djibouti
- 1 São Tomé E Príncipe
- 1 Seychelles
- 1 South Africa
- 1 Uganda
- 1 Zambia

17 OCEANIA

- 4 Australia
- 2 Fiji
- 2 Papua New Guinea
- 1 Cook Islands
- 1 French Polynesia
- 1 Guam
- 1 Kiribati
- 1 Marshall Islands
- 1 New Caledonia
- 1 New Zealand

RANKING PER CONTINENT

215 Europe

126 Asia

39 Africa

35 Latin America

20 North America

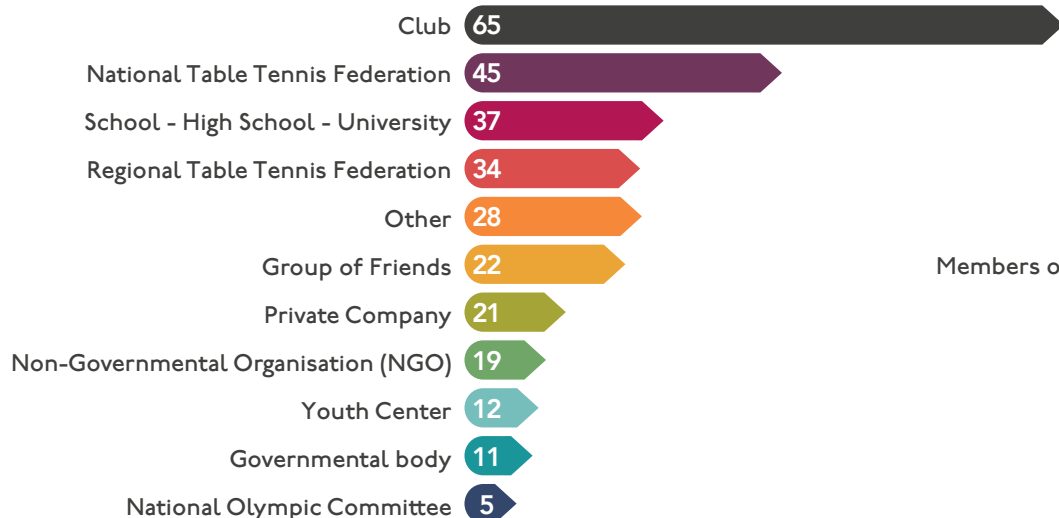
15 Oceania

COMPARATIVE TABLE

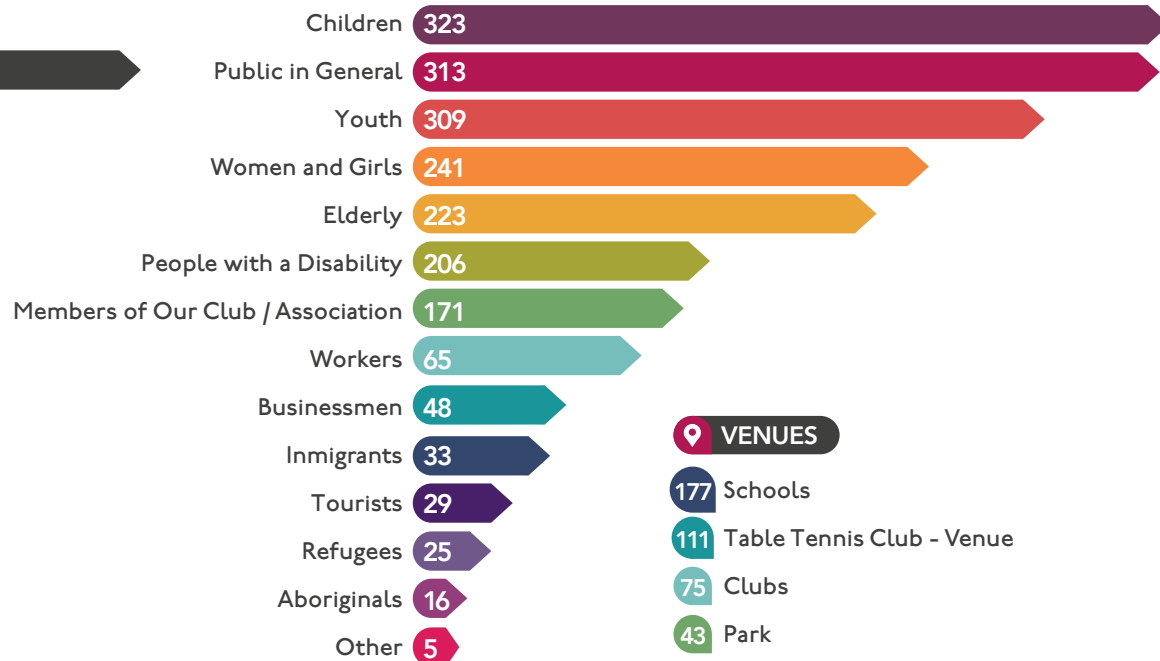
CONTINENT	2015	2016	2017
NORTH AMERICA	12	7	20
EUROPE	50	68	215
LATIN AMERICA	36	29	35
ASIA	35	61	126
OCEANIA	13	17	15
AFRICA	14	13	39

ORGANISER(S)

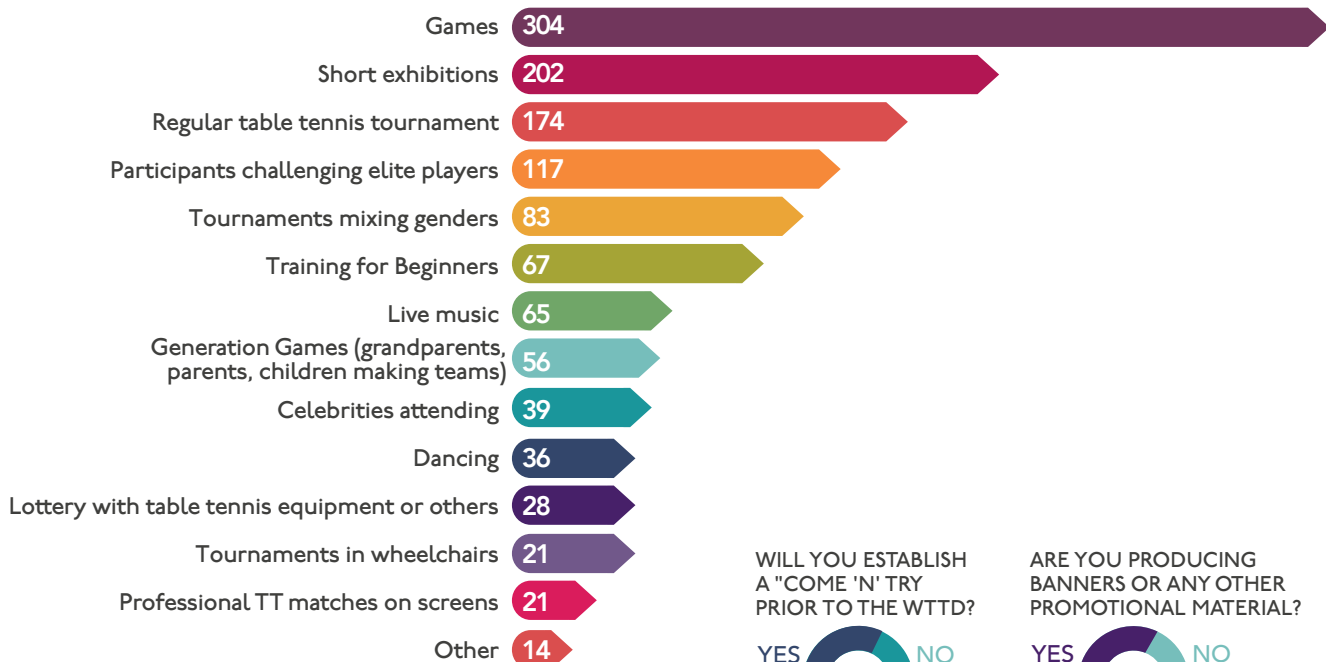
The various types of organisations which organised events



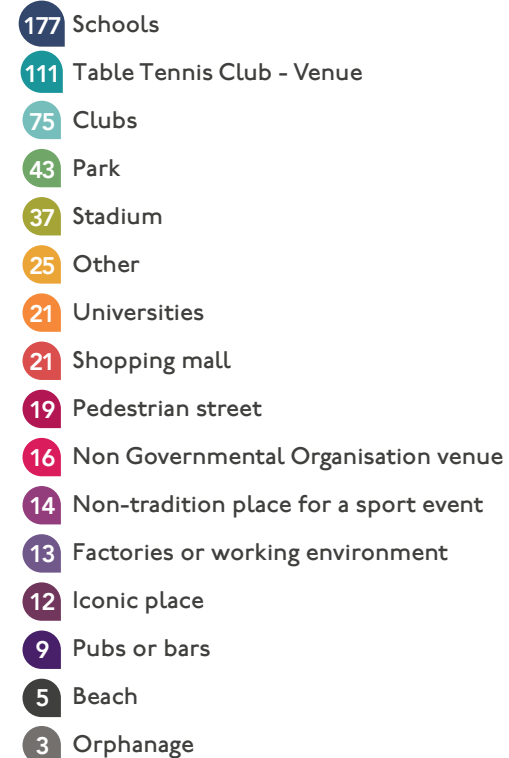
PERSON TARGETED PARTICIPANTS



★ ACTIVITIES INCLUDED



📍 VENUES



WILL YOU ESTABLISH A "COME 'N' TRY" PRIOR TO THE WTTD?



ARE YOU PRODUCING BANNERS OR ANY OTHER PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL?



ARE YOU PRODUCING T-SHIRTS?



DO YOU HAVE A PHOTOGRAPHER?



DO YOU HAVE A CAMERAMAN?



★ ITTF Main Celebrations

The ITTF celebrated the 3rd World Table Tennis Day 2017 in two different locations and joined the Peace & Sport celebration of the 4th International Day on Sport for Development and Peace.

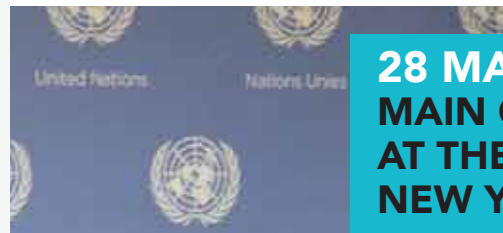
28 MARCH 2017 MAIN CELEBRATION AT THE UNITED NATION HEADQUARTERS NEW YORK CITY, USA


The gathering presented an occasion with a sense of innovation. The **key message** was not only to **keep matters simple**; it was to also demonstrate that **Table Tennis is accessible to ALL**. Handmade table tennis rackets, provided by the French NGO Ping Sans Frontières, plus regular table with a roll-up net were used. The order of proceedings was a quite unique **combination of high level play, while using basic equipment**. An exhibition match involving the USA duo of Tahl Leibovitz and Kanak Jha, the former a Class 9 Para player, the latter the youngest ever male to compete in the table tennis events at an Olympic Games was followed by a coaching session for the Sports and Arts in Schools' Foundation in New York; the biggest schools' programme in the United States.

The event, hosted by the Monaco Mission in the UN and facilitated by Peace & Sport, was attended by UN ambassadors and dignitaries, Peace & Sport President and Founder Joël Bouzou, ITTF President Thomas Weikert, the USATT CEO Gordon Kaye and the ITTF Development Director Leandro Olveh.

"ITTF alongside Peace and Sport has worked very closely together to use table tennis as a tool for social change. It is an honour for me to be invited to the United Nations headquarters to represent the ITTF to deliver an important, powerful message to the world about how vital and effective sport is to promote peace globally. This is a key pillar in the philosophy of World Table Tennis Day on 6th April. We invite everyone, everywhere to pick up a table tennis racket and play our great sport." **Thomas Weikert, ITTF President**

"Globally, more than 35,000 people are mobilised behind our vision and much of that is down to the hard work done by athletes spreading the word. I want to thank everyone for their immense support and I look forward to continuing our work to inspire and unite communities. Sport is a vehicle for social change, and on 6th April together we will make a difference once more." **Joël Bouzou, Peace & Sport President and Founder.**



 Check the video here:
<https://youtu.be/tq0Di3CCsbl>



06 APRIL 2017

MAIN CELEBRATION AT THE SPORT ACCORD CONVENTION AARHUS, DENMARK

On April 6 itself, ITTF shared the passion for our sport by **showcasing the universality of Table Tennis to be played in ALL corners of the world**. Matters included the sharing of **best practices**, presentation of **humanitarian projects** promoted by ITTF, the presentation of the **“Building Handcrafted Table Tennis Tables” - Manual** published by the French NGO “Ping Sans Frontières” and exhibition matches between the Danish Class 6 Para Player Peter Rosenmeier, Danish Table Tennis star Allan Bentsen and attending VIP guests. Surprisingly, the former French World Champion Jean-Philippe Gatien came along to play and fascinated the public with his skills and performances with an audience composed by the highest decision makers within sport.

ITTF President Thomas Weikert said: “Once again, to everyone who contributed in one way or another to making our 3rd World Table Tennis Day beautiful and memorable and to those who will continue celebrations in the coming weeks, I would like to express my sincere gratitude from the bottom of my heart. It fills me with great pride to see how far we have come, and may we continue to push on in our quest to make table tennis for everyone, everywhere. To make TABLE TENNIS FOR ALL.”

SportAccord Convention is the world’s premier and most exclusive annual event at the service of sport. It is focused on driving positive change internationally and dedicated to engaging and connecting; rights holders, organising committees, cities, press and media, businesses and other organisations involved in the development of sport.



* WTTD 2017 AWARDS - OVERVIEW

Competition and looking for the best is surely not the spirit of World Table Tennis Day. Nevertheless it's always great to recognise work well done. In this sense, the following materials are awarded to showcase interesting initiatives, to serve as a motivation to keep the TT4ALL – motto high on the agenda and to express our thanks to all the many hands helping to develop our sport in every corner of the world.

2 BUTTERFLY EQUIPMENT PACKAGES

2 Butterfly Equipment packages went to **the organisations hosting most events in one country** in relation to its inhabitants. **WTTD 2017 clearly shows the commitment of volunteering**, as both prizes go to NGOs who have invested a great deal of time and work to promote the goals of making Table Tennis popular, universal and inclusive in a perfect manner.



1 AmaTur Romania

- 112 events
- 67 cities
- 3,400 players

AmaTur Romania is an organisation which arranges competitions for amateur players all over Romania.



2 Pingpongphilic StartUp Incubation Universal Society (PSIUS)

- 74 events in India + 2 abroad in Congo and Ghana
- 8 cities (focused on the Madhya Pradesh District)
- 2,010 players

PSIUS visited schools, colleges, public places; anywhere where it was possible or feasible to play Table Tennis.



IPONG®

iPong ROBOTS

The iPong – Robots went to the most popular, most universal, most inclusive and most creative events. The selected events have model character and show great ideas to be repeated on World Table Tennis Day.

A 2 iPong Robots for the 2 most popular events

This category awards events with a high quantity of participants, both in terms of real numbers and potential. Public squares, iconic places, a great scenery and therefore the possibility for EVERYONE to play Table Tennis has been indicators:

Dita Boterore e Pingpongut in Prishtina, Kosovo

Goal: To promote Table Tennis in Kosovo

Participants: > 500

- Program:**
- 6 professional tables in Prishtina's main square
 - 4 mini tables for kids
 - 1 table with 5 different sized holes
 - DJ played music
 - T-Shirts and certificates for every participant
 - Citizens played and enjoyed all day long

Organiser: Kosovo Table Tennis Association



Kosovo

Izmir Playing Table Tennis at WTTD in Izmir, Turkey

Goal: To promote Table Tennis in Izmir
We aimed to make table tennis widely known for the people from all ages. During the event, more than 400 people played table tennis.

Participants: > 400

- Program:**
- 8 tables around an iconic venue in the city center
 - 4 hours of play
 - National Folk Dance combined with TT material performed by a national table tennis team player

Organiser: Turkish Table Tennis Federation (Representative from Izmir)



Turkey



Cabo Verde

B 2 iPong Robots for the 2 most universal events

The most universal event has been determined by the location where the event was organized, whether unusual, hard to reach or vast region covered.

World Table Tennis Day in Cabo Verde

Goal: To promote Table Tennis among the community of one of the last ITTF members.

Participants: > 1000

- Program:**
- Tables at different beaches and parks of the islands
 - Games
 - Tournaments

Organiser: National Table Tennis Federation, National Olympic Committee

Teepee Table Tennis in Fort Simpson, Canada

Goal: To bring elders and kids Table Tennis and spirituality together in the isolated north of Canada.

Participants: > 200

- Program:**
- Teaching of basic skills of Table Tennis
 - Introduction of different games to keep on playing
 - Donation of 7 tables to have the sport continue

Organiser: Table Tennis North



Canada

C 2 iPong Robots for the 2 most inclusive events

The most inclusive events has been determined by the activities offered to mix up different target groups, appeal to a specific target group that might not be reached by mass participation events and this way make everybody participate of World Table Tennis Day.

Ping Sans Frontières celebrates World Table Tennis Day in France, Ivory Coast, Nigeria and Haiti

Goal: To organise a day of happiness and wellness, to start new programs and to create access to the practice and social links.

Participants: ~ 500

Program: A wide range of participants have been reached; people with physical and mental disabilities, less privileged youth, women and girls.

Organiser: French NGO "Ping Sans Frontières"

Table Tennis for Everyone in Hoima, Uganda

Goal: To increase participation of less privileged children and youth and the general public to reduce boredom in school. To appreciate the role of sports in building social cohesion among the people of different ideologies, color, age and social economic status

Participants: ~ 300

Program:

- Anthems
- Welcome remarks
- Simple games
- Briefing
- Simple illustrations
- Video shows
- Simple competitions

Organiser: Hoima Network of Child Rights Clubs (HONCRIC)



D 2 iPong Robots for the 2 most creative events

This category is for all those who show creative ideas to make Table Tennis popular, universal and inclusive. Indicators are unusual activities, places, promotional campaigns, etc. The selected events give examples about "what else can be done".

The Great Knowledge Quiz about Table Tennis in Prabuty, Poland

Goal: To popularize the game among amateurs, competition and deepen the knowledge about Table Tennis

Participants: ~ 30

Program:

- Great Knowledge Quiz about Table Tennis
- School TT Tournament
- Night Table Tennis Marathon

Organiser: Zespół Szkół Ponadgimnazjalnych Prabuty (School)

Table Tennis Fun Day 4ALL Fiji Style in Suva, Fiji

Goal: To play Table Tennis anywhere, anyhow, anytime and make the celebrations inclusive and fun.

Participants: > 200

Program:

- 3 days of Table Tennis activities
- 3 different locations in the capital city: parks, carparks, foodcourts and shops
- makeshift table tennis tables, larger balls, simple rackets
- music to enable more people to feel that they can enjoy and take part together

Organiser: Fiji Table Tennis



E 2 iPong Kits for the 2 most “popular, universal and inclusive events at once”

The events combining the best the 3 pillars of World Table Tennis Day “popular, universal and inclusive”, receive an iPong - Kit.

Jugamos donde queremos (We play where we want) in Santa Marta, Colombia

Brighton Table Tennis Club celebrates World Table Tennis Day in Brighton, England

Goal: To present Table Tennis as a sport able to be played everywhere (even in small places) and for everyone (regardless of physical ability or age)

To increase Refugee participation and collaborate with others. To support the local “Open Market”. To showcase the high variety of members (wide range of backgrounds, including minority groups)

Participants: ~ 300

~ 200

Program:
 - Tables set up in parks, food trucks, beaches, bars, remote citis, iconic places, schools
 - Let passengers play
 - Include minority groups

- Tables set up in the local “Open Market”
 - Welcome messages for Refugees (personally and on balls)
 - Open play

Organiser: Liga de Tenis de Mesa del Magdalena

Brighton Table Tennis Club



Agroindustrial de Minca School



Brighton



Aracata Colombia



Mamatoco Park



Rodadero Beach

ITTF T-SHIRTS

The effort of every organiser having sent a video and/or an Activity Card was recognised through an ITTF T-Shirt (limited edition, not purchasable)



BUTTERFLY BALLS

over 14,000 Butterfly Balls were distributed among the events of 54 countries.

	Afghanistan		Cuba		Maldives		South Africa
	Angola		Curacao		Mexico		Spain
	Argentina		Dominican Republic		Montenegro		St. Vincent and the Grenadines
	Aruba		Ecuador		Nepal		Suriname
	Belarus		El Salvador		NewCaledonia		Tahiti
	Bhutan		Fiji		Nigeria		Tanzania
	Bonaire		Haiti		Pakistan		Trinidad & Tobago
	Bosna and Herzegovina		India		Panama		Tunisia
	Burundi		Iran		Papua New Guinea		Turkey
	Cape Verde		Ivory Coast		Paraguay		Tuvalu
	Chile		Kazakhstan		Portugal (Madeira)		Uganda
	Congo		Kenya		Russia		Uruguay
	Cook Islands		Lebanon		Sao Tomé e Príncipe		
	Croatia		Macedonia		Seychelles		

ITALY



AUSTRIA



SOUTH AFRICA



GUAM



CAPE VERDE

SPAIN



GUATEMALA



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



SWEDEN



BRAZIL



MONTENEGRO



POLAND



INDIA



SLOVENIA



UKRAINE



CROATIA



TURKEY



BURUNDI



ROMANIA



GREECE



TURKEY



USA



UGANDA



MALAYSIA



PORTUGAL



INDIA



NEW CALEDONIA



ESTONIA



KOSOVO



AFGHANISTAN





MACEDONIA



BRAZIL



NEPAL



HAITI



PHILIPPINES



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



SPAIN



BELIZE



TURKEY



ROMANIA



AUSTRIA



MEXICO



DJIBOUTI



ESTONIA



KOSOVO



UGANDA

BUILDING HANDCRAFTED TABLE TENNIS TABLES



BUILDING HANDCRAFTED TABLE TENNIS TABLES - MANUAL RELEASED

Ping Sans Frontières in liaison with the International Table Tennis Federation launched the "Building Handcrafted Table Tennis Tables" manual for World Table Tennis Day 2017

The goal of the handbook is to produce low cost and durable tables. Thus the manual contains easy to read illustrated instructions explaining the various options such

as concrete, recycled materials and wood, which can be used for construction.

Also, the topics of environmental issues, climatic conditions and available resources are addressed. Notably all the possibilities have been designed under the guidance of professional architects and have passed multiple practical tests in Africa and France.

Click here to get your own copy of "[Building Handcrafted Table Tennis Tables](#)".

"PSF, whose main aim was to facilitate access to table tennis in the deepest poor corners of Africa has since reached out to many countries, even on other continents; thus leading to a diversity of actions. One of these actions is the handcrafted table building project. This innovative idea will remarkably reduce costs, hence providing an alternative solution for less privileged countries. Eco-friendly with the use of recycled

materials, it also provides a noteworthy advantage of developing the local economy since local carpenters will be needed.

Different models for different needs have been designed and tested on the field with outstanding success: make it as simple as possible so that any local carpenter can build them. Pertinently concrete tables can be used outdoors in any weather conditions; the classroom table amongst others even boasts a revolutionary multi-functional nature such as for playing and studying. It is a perfect match with our slogan: "education beyond the racket".

With more hope and light thrown to a future practice in poor communities, clubs, and many disadvantaged areas around the world, PSF thanks the ITTF for their collaboration and technical advice, the carpenters, national associations, clubs and all the architects involved."

**Sarah Hanffou,
Founder and President Ping Sans Frontières**





2018

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www.TT4ALL.com