

International Table Soccer Federation  
27 rue Adolphe Moitié  
44000 Nantes  
France

St. Gallen, 17. November 2010

### **Statement regarding the adoption of the new ball**

Dear all,

The Swiss Tablesoccer Federation STF officially dissociates itself from the adoption of a new Garlando ball which has not been approved and proposed by the official commission which was assigned to find a new ball. The reasons for that are the following:

- the nations which are using the Garlando table shall be entitled to decide about their ball
- the approved prototype needs to be distributed to all Swiss clubs for testing, which guarantees a broad range of test-results. Only after such a broad test the decision about the adoption of the ball can be taken
- not finished products/solutions will not be accepted by the clubs as official bodies like the I.T.S.F or the STF will lose its credibility
- Garlando players do not have the possibility to get used to the new ball and thus would have a clear disadvantage at the next World Cup in Nantes

We are very critical about the date of the adoption as all players and nations who choose to use the Garlando table will lose their "home field advantage" as they will have to use a new ball with different characteristics which they have not been able to practice with (or not long enough). Moreover, Garlando players have qualified themselves for Nantes with using the Speedplay and therefore should be empowered to use this ball then!

The other proposed solution of using a ball of another certified table on the Garlando table is decidedly rejected by the STF. This would mean a huge setback for the professionalism in tablesoccer. Using the same balls for different tables would indicate helplessness and an emergency solution and therefore is not viable. Moreover, all nations which are playing on Garlando might have divided loyalties as the cooperation with Garlando has been prosperous and good so far and should not be jeopardized by an unnecessary emergency solution.

For the good of our sport, all our clubs ask you not to adopt a not finalized product, which might not be suitable for the Garlando table. The potential reputation risk is not assessable.

Yours sincerely,

Swiss Tablesoccer Federation



Patric Kaiser  
President of the STF a.i.