

Preface

It is a great pleasure and honor for the JTTA Sports and Medical Science Committee to bring you the International Journal of Table Tennis Science No.6 under the name of ITTF (International Table Tennis Federation). This book consists of selected, peer-reviewed papers presented at ITTF-SSC11 (the 11th ITTF Sports Science Congress) held in Yokohama, Japan from April 25 to 30, 2009.

ITTF-SSC (ITTF Sports Science Congress) was commenced by the late Mr. Ichiro Ogimura. More than 20 years have passed since the beginning. In the early times, the late Prof. Nobuo Yuza dedicated himself to arrange the congresses, not only in Japan but in other countries. Later, people of the host countries of WTTC (World Table Tennis Championship) have taken initiatives and conducted ITTF-SSC in their responsibility. The 10th anniversary ITTF-SSC10 held in Zagreb 2007 is still fresh in our minds. It was very successful thanks to Dr. Miran Kondric and his co-workers. ITTF-SSC11 is the first step to the next decade anniversary. Dr. Kondric described the history of ITTF-SSC in detail in the web-site of ITTF-SSC10 (http://sportikus.kif.hr/~ittfcongress/congress_history.htm). Here I would like to describe the history of the congress book.

Initially, the book of ITTF-SSC was published in the name of International Journal of Table Tennis Sciences. The subtitle of the book is Proceedings of ITTF-SSC. Naming of this subtitle is a little strange because a journal and proceedings do not coexist in general. Anyway Mr. Ogimura tried and got the ISSN (International Standard Series Number) number for the journal. The ISSN number that he obtained from ISSN International Centre is 0966-9256. I have heard that the English Table Tennis Association helped him to get this ISSN number. Prof. Yuza and a few Japanese researchers worked very hard with Mr. Ogimura to lay the base of the journal.

Unfortunately, publication of the International Journal of Table Tennis has been quite irregular in the subsequent ITTF-SSC. The ISSN number was sometimes clearly expressed, but not other times. It has been almost forgotten in recent books of ITTF-SSC. The International Journal of Table Tennis Sciences No. 1 combined the books of 2 congresses; ITTF-SSC1 and ITTF-SSC2. The journals No. 2 and No.3 were published normally. Those books consist of the papers presented at ITTF-SSC3 and ITTF-SSC4, respectively. The ISSN number is specified in the journal from No.1 to No.3. Some changes happened from ITTF-SSC5. ITTF-SSC5 was held in conjunction with Science and Racket Sports (2nd World Congress). The papers presented at ITTF-SSC5 were published in the book of Science and Racket Sports II. The journal No.4 was intended to be published after ITTF-SSC6 but actually it was not published though several papers were submitted. When planning the book of ITTF-SSC7 in Japan, the local committee decided to include the papers presented at ITTF-SSC6 in the book of ITTF-SSC7. The book published after ITTF-SSC7 has the name; Table Tennis Sciences No.4 & No.5. This book has two parts, including the papers presented at ITTF-SSC6 and ITTF-SSC7. The title of the book is Table Tennis Sciences but the same ISSN number is shown in the book. ITTF-SSC8 was held in conjunction with Science and Racket Sports (3rd World Congress) again and thus papers of ITTF-SSC8 were published in the book of Science and Racket Sports III. The papers presented at ITTF-SSC9 and ITTF-SSC10 were published in the proceedings of ITTF-SSC 9 and 10, respectively. These proceedings have their own ISBN (International Standard Book Number)

numbers. ISBN numbers are given to impermanent books while ISSN numbers are given to permanent books. Our congress ITTF-SSC has a long history and it is held every 2 years steadily.

The above history is in a way not normal. The Editorial Committee in Japan discussed the style of the book, and finally decided to keep the ISSN number and revive the name “The International Journal of Table Tennis Sciences”. I hope that this style will maintain in the future issue of this journal.

At the end of this preface I would like to express sincere appreciation to people, organizations and companies supporting ITTF-SSC11 and its book. Dr. Kahn and members of the ITTF Sports Science Committee have been always encouraging us and giving us good advice during the process of planning. Members of JTTA Sports and Medical Committee share the work for ITTF-SSC11. Particularly, Prof. Kasai and members of the National Organizing Committee have been engaged in the preparatory work of every detail. Contribution of Prof. Kazuo Yoshida and members of the Editorial Committee of this journal is great for publication of this issue.

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