



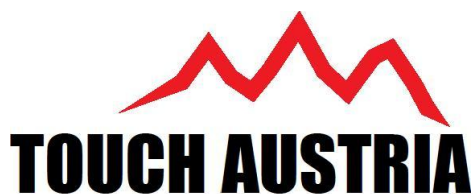
2013 Mainland Cup Touch Tournament

Preliminary Brief No 1

31 January 2013

Foreword

This is the initial Brief for the Federation of International Touch 2013 Mainland Cup Touch Championships to be delivered in Schwechat (a satellite city of Vienna), Austria during 13-14th July 2013. The information is provided to Members to allow planning and preparation for the tournament.





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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Federation 2013 Mainland Cup Touch Championships (FIT MC2013) will be conducted in Schwechat (a satellite city of Vienna), Austria during the period 13-14th July 2013.
- 1.2 Federation Member countries are invited to participate in the tournament with the objective to identify the 2013 Mainland Cup Champion Nation and promote the development of the sport of Touch in Mainland Europe.
- 1.3 The results will lead to the identification of a single Mainland Cup Champion nation, and the tournament will be delivered in just one division which includes both Open and Senior teams.
- 1.4 The tournament is open to financial Federation Members and team entries will only be accepted from financial Federation Members. Other countries that have achieved Developing Nation status may be invited to participate in the tournament. Selected invitational teams from non-Mainland European countries will be eligible to participate if it is deemed to serve the wider goal of developing the sport of Touch and/or assist in making a division viable.
- 1.5 This Preliminary Brief No 1 is designed to provide initial details about the tournament specifically to allow Member countries to undertake appropriate planning. This is the first of several Event Briefs that will be published prior to the tournament.

2. Outline Timetable

- 2.1 An outline timetable for delivery of the tournament is set out below:

Friday 12th July 2013: Teams arrive
Friday 12th July 2013: Registration and Managers Meeting (late afternoon)
Friday 12th July 2013: Technical Presentations/Info sharing (evening)
Saturday 13th July 2013: Pool games commence; Dinner together
Sunday 14th July 2013: Pools Games; Finals; Evening Function with Band.
Monday 15th July 2013: Teams disburse

3. The Location

- 3.1 Vienna is the capital city of Austria. Schwechat is a satellite city south east of Vienna where the Vienna International Airport is located. The playing fields and closing function are located in Schwechat. See Appendix 1 map.
- 3.2 Vienna is internationally known as being the city of music and museums and is one of Europe's top tourist destinations. Schwechat is known for hosting the Vienna International Airport as well as the Schwechater beer brewery (where the Sunday evening function will be held).
- 3.3 For further information about Schwechat go to: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schwechat>
- 3.4 For further information about Vienna please go to: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vienna>



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4. The Playing Venue

- 4.1 The FIT MC2013 will be staged at Rudolf Tonn Stadion playing fields at Franz Schuster Strasse 1-3, 2320 Schwechat, Austria.
- 4.2 Rudolf Tonn Stadion is 13 km from Vienna city centre and 11km from Vienna International Airport.
- 4.3 Rudolf Tonn Stadion has four international size touch pitches for pool games, plus a 5th field with Stadium seating dedicated only for the Finals.
- 4.4 Aerial photos of the Rudolf Tonn Stadion are shown at Appendix 2.
- 4.5 For further information about Rudolf Tonn Stadion go to <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rudolf-Tonn-Stadion>.
- 4.6 The venue has sufficient parking for cars and buses for all Teams.

5. Transport and Travel

- 5.1 Travel Time planning guideline:
 - 5.1.1 Team Managers would need to be at the venue on Friday July 12th late afternoon for the Team Managers meeting and Registration.
 - 5.1.2 Any Coaches, NTA Heads, NDRs, or Captains interested in attending the technical presentation on Friday evening should plan to be at the venue NLT 18:00 July 12th.
 - 5.1.3 Players themselves would need to be in Vienna Friday evening at the latest, as Pool games will commence early Saturday morning.
 - 5.1.4 All Participants should plan to leave Vienna no earlier than Monday morning (July 15th) in order to attend the evening function on Sunday night. However, If Participants need to fly Sunday evening (July 14th) for work on Monday, it would be recommended to book as late a flight as possible Sunday evening, no earlier than 21:00 in order to not miss out on the prize giving or finals. Depending on the number of team entries and number of games, the end of the last final may be as late as 18:15 and then prize giving would occur after this at the venue.
- 5.2 *By air:* Many airlines such as Lufthansa, FlyNiki, AirBerlin and Austrian Airlines connect Vienna with all major European cities. Another option is to fly cheap airlines RyanAir to Bratislava and take connecting buses to Vienna Airport (but this increases the overall travel time in some cases).
- 5.3 Vienna International Airport is situated 11km from Schwechat and it is also well connected to Vienna city centre.
 - 5.3.1 From Vienna Airport to Schwechat the S7 train runs twice per hour and takes 7 minutes, costing €2. Taxi costs up to approx. €25.
 - 5.3.2 From Vienna Airport to Vienna City (Wien Mitte Landstrasse train Station) the S7 train takes 27 minutes (cost €4) and CAT airport trains takes 16 minutes (cost €11). There are additional Airport Buses running to Vienna City, taking approx. 25 minutes. Taxi costs approx. €30-€40.



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- 5.4 *By rail*, the main international train stations in Vienna city are Westbahnhof and Hauptbahnhof. The train station in Schwechat closest to the fields is Kaiserebersdorf Station on the S7 train Line.
- 5.5 More information about trains to/from Vienna & Schwechat at <http://www.oebb.at>
- 5.6 A Taxi or ÖBB-Postbus 217 or 171 is needed for the 2.2km trip from the Kaiserebersdorf S7 train station to the playing fields (closest bus stop is Rannersdorf b.Wien Wirtingerstraße).
- 5.7 If you decide to stay in Vienna City and not in Schwechat, it is advisable to stay close to Wien Mitte – Landstrasse bahnhof (train station), as the S7 train goes direct to Schwechat from here, taking about 20 minutes. However, a Taxi or public buse (ÖBB-Postbus 217 or 171) is then required from the S7 train station to the playing fields, so sufficient travel time must be planned for. Please see the accommodation section.
- 5.8 *By Car*: Schwechat is close to the A4, and S1 highways. There are sufficient car and bus parks at the venue for all Teams.
- 5.9 Further details of transport options for internal arrangements will be provided in subsequent Briefs.

6. Accommodation

- 6.1 Hotel accommodation is available in both Schwechat and Vienna. It is recommended to find accommodation in Schwechat simply because it is closer to the Playing Fields and the evening function.
- 6.2 *Swechat Accommodation*: A shuttle bus service between selected Schwechat Hotels and the playing fields will run at selected times in the morning and in the evening. See Appendix 3 for recommended options in Schwechat. Teams should contact these recommended Hotels directly. A number of Rooms in these Hotels in Appendix 3 have been blocked out for Mainland Cup Teams so the reference *Mainland Cup* should be used when making your booking. The Hotel bookings are on a first come first serve basis, so it is recommended that you book early in order to avoid having to stay farther away from the Playing Fields. We cannot guarantee any Teams a place in these Hotels.
- 6.3 *Vienna Accommodation*: Alternatively, there are a large number of accommodation options in Vienna City, however Vienna accommodation is much farther away from the Playing Fields and evening function, and consequently careful planning into transport to/from the playing fields must be made by Teams deciding to stay in Vienna. Staying close to Wien Mitte Landstrasse train Station is one recommendation, as the S7 train that stops at Schwechat leaves from Wien Mitte Landstrasse. Wien Mitte Landstrasse is the main train station where the Airport trains terminate. There will be a shuttle Bus to/from the S7 Schwechat train station to/from the playing fields at certain times in the morning/evening, but there is no Shuttle Bus directly to any Vienna based Hotels.



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- 6.4 There are also number of Airport Hotels close by the airport, and the S7 train or Taxis would be needed to get to the fields.

7. Proposed Playing Divisions

- 7.1 As at the time of this Brief, the Federation intends to offer the following playing divisions at the Mainland Cup:
- 7.1.1 Open Men's – MO;
 - 7.1.2 Open Women's – WO;
 - 7.1.3 Open Mixed - MXO;
 - 7.1.4 Senior Men's – M30, M35, M40;
 - 7.1.5 Senior Mixed – SMX
- 7.2 Most Member countries indicated preliminary team entries in EOI conducted by the Federation during November 2012. Final playing divisions will be confirmed following closure of formal team entry requirements scheduled March 2013. It is reiterated that for team entries to be valid Members must be financial. Late entry fees will apply and late team entries may not be accepted.
- 7.3 Any invitational team will be eligible to participate in semi-final or final matches, but will not be eligible to receive any Mainland Cup championship awards. If an invitational team wins the division, it would be declared "Division" champion and the best ranked Mainland Cup team would be declared the "MC Divisional" champion.
- 7.4 There must be a minimum of 4 formal entries for a division for it to run as a separate competition. However, in the interests of opening the Tournament to as many interested teams in as many divisions as possible, if there are less than 4 teams in a particular division, there will be an option to join another division. Based on initial team EOI, this option will be given to the following divisions:
- 7.4.1.1 SMX – will be allowed to play in the MXO division
 - 7.4.1.2 M30 - will be allowed to play in the MO division.
 - 7.4.1.3 M35 will be allowed to play in the M40 division or alternatively M40 will be allowed to play in M35.
- 7.5 If any of the situations in 7.3 occur, the following rule will apply:
- 7.5.1 A Team from another division merged into that division may contest the final (e.g. SMX from Country A vs MXO from Country B), with the exception of a M35 Team merged into a M40 division.
 - 7.5.2 No two Teams from the same country in a merged division may contest the Final of that division. (e.g. if the SMX has been merged into the MXO division, then the SMX Team from country A and the MXO Team from the same Country A cannot contest the final of that division. The next highest placed team from another country will contest the final with the MXO from country A).



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- 7.5.3 All Teams entered, even if merged from other divisions, will receive competition points towards the overall Mainland Cup championship country.
- 7.6 Further clarification of these rules will be included in the Tournament Rules & Regulations to be issued soon.

8. Planning Timelines and Finances.

- 8.1 An outline planning timeline detailing Key Stages and financial requirements is attached as Appendix 4.
- 8.2 Participation in the FIT MC2013 is dependent upon full payment of Entry Fees by Members as follows:
- 8.2.1 FIT Team Levy: (AUD) **\$200** per team
 - 8.2.2 Referee Levy: **€80** per team (See section 9.)
 - 8.2.3 Team Entry Fee: **€150** per team
 - 8.2.4 Participant Entry Fee: To be confirmed by March 24th. Maximum **€30** to minimum **€18**/participant.
- Following the EOI process, there was a degree of uncertainty in expected team numbers, and therefore expected income. As a result, the final participant fee will be confirmed following the team entry deadline. The more teams that enter, the lower the fee will become.
- 8.3 Participant countries will be invoiced directly by FIT for the Team Levy. Payment details for the FIT Levy will be advised on the respective invoice.
- 8.4 A Participant Entry Fee must be paid by each participant that includes each registered player, coach, manager, and other support staff. The Participant Fee does not include any lunch or evening meals.
- 8.5 Fees must be paid to an account nominated by the Host Nation. Details of this account will be advised in the official entry form. All fees must be paid into the account in Euros and must include any bank fees or transfer charges that may be added to the specified amount due.
- 8.6 Participant countries will be invoiced directly by Touch Austria for the Referee Levy.
- 8.7 Interest may be charged on Entry Fees which are not paid by the due date and non-payment may result in teams being barred from competing. Late withdrawal of teams will result in the forfeiture of all of the Entry Fees paid.



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9. Referee Levy

- 9.1 Our referees are volunteers who provide their services at each tournament. As the sport of Touch has grown successfully throughout Europe the number of tournaments seeking greater numbers, and a higher standard, of referees has increased accordingly. This creates challenges for Europe's representative and international series events, particularly the HN/MC/ETC series where event durations and number of games per day put pressure on acquiring the appropriate refereeing team.
- 9.2 It is generally acknowledged that the attendance of quality referees is one of the contributing factors for teams offering their best on-field performances. The principal issue identified for referees electing to forego attendance at these events is one of cost. In addition, the average direct tournament cost to each referee is higher than that of an individual player.
- 9.3 For the HN and MC we are seeking a budgeted fund that will be allocated towards the costs of attending referees. This fund will be raised through the introduction of a Team 'Referee Levy' which will be 80 Euros for the HN2013 and MC2013. The fund will be allocated equitably amongst on-field referees via the European Refereeing Panel, and restricted to full-time on-field referees only to ensure that the desired outcomes are directly supported - that is, to increase the number and standard of referees on offer at these critical events so that teams are assisted in performing at the highest standard.

10. Referee Requirements

- 10.1 Each Participating country will be required to provide at minimum one Referee per entered Team. Failure to do so will forfeit the Teams entry.
- 10.2 Referees are not charged any Mainland Cup 2013 Tournament Fees.

11. Playing Uniforms and Protocol

- 11.1 Members are reminded of uniform and eligibility policies together with protocol requirements appropriate to the nature of an international Touch tournament.
- 11.2 All players in each national team are to participate in registered Member country uniform design and colours as previously advised to the Federation. Any Member country that has not advised the Federation Secretary General of national uniform colours must do so prior to final acceptance of team entries NLT 15 April 2013 – FIT Player and Referee Uniform policy applies.



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12. Technical Presentation and Info Sharing Evening

- 12.1 On Friday evening there will be an opportunity for NTA heads, Coaches, Captains, Senior Players and NDR's to share technical information about the development of the sport of Touch in Mainland Europe.
- 12.2 Guest presenters will present technical topics and field questions. Invitations will be sent out to all participating countries if there are any technical topics that they may wish to present. The theme of the evening will be kept technical in nature and relevant to mainland Europe (e.g. possible topics could be - coaching tips, trends in the game played in Europe, how to develop Players past park level, gaps in technical development between Mainland Europe, the UK and NZ/Australia) .

13. Evening Function and Prize Giving

- 13.1 An evening function will be held at Brau Haus Schwechat on Sunday evening after the completion of the Prize Giving ceremony (held at the fields). See Appendix 1 map for the location and www.brau-haus-schwechat.at . Authentic Austrian food and refreshments can be purchased here for an evening meal - NOTE: evening meals and drinks are not included in any Tournament Fee. A small band will be organised for entertainment. The Touch Shuttle Bus will transport participants from the Playing Fields to the venue. We understand that some Participants may need to leave late Sunday evening for work on Monday morning, and therefore may miss out on the Sunday evening function.
- 13.2 All Participants will be encouraged to attend an informal dinner all together on Saturday night very soon after the last pool games, (location to be announced, either at the Stadium or very close). This may give Participants a chance to mingle and perhaps some speeches and/or program will be made. This dinner is not included in the Team fee.
- 13.3 The Awards ceremony will be held at the Playing Fields directly after the completion of the finals matches on Sunday.
- 13.4 Participating members are reminded of the requirement for FIT member NTA to develop and implement an alcohol and drugs policy. FIT members will be required to ensure all individual participants adhere to respective policies.



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14. Contact and Further Information

- 14.1 All enquiries should be directed to the Event Organiser/EFT Tournament Director, with e-mail contact as below: touchvienna@gmail.com and/or EFT Tournament Director tom@toucheurope.org
- 14.2 Further information will be supplied in subsequent Briefs.

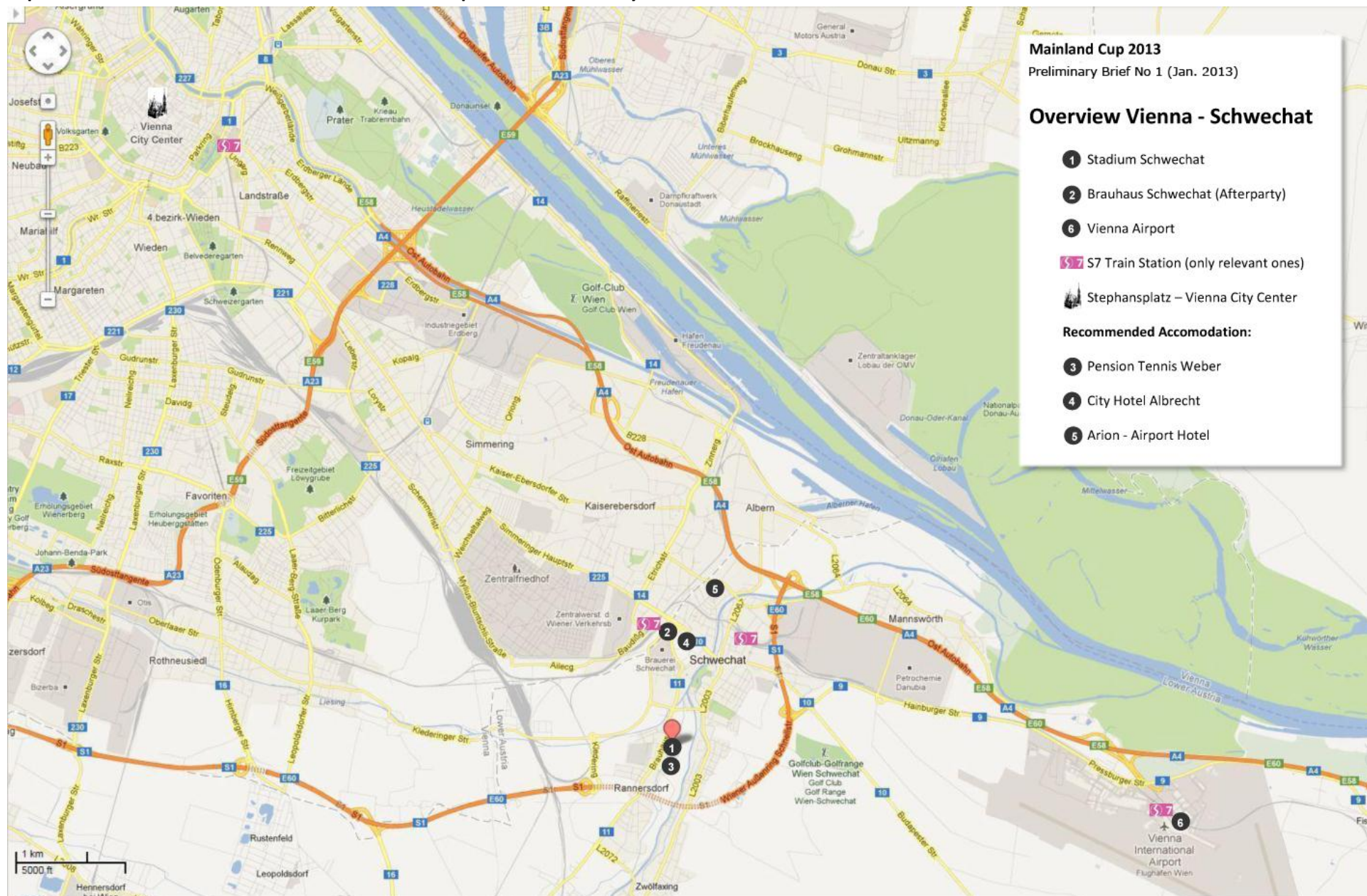
Dennis Coffey
Federation Secretary General
31 January 2013

Attachments: Appendix 1: Overview Map of Vienna, Schwechat, Playing Fields, Hotels, Airport
Appendix 2: Aerial View of Playing Fields
Appendix 3: Accommodation Options
Appendix 4: Planning Timeline and Key Stages

MC 2013 VENUE – Vienna, Schwechat & Playing Fields

Appendix 1

Map A – Location of Stadium in relation to Vienna Airport and Vienna City Center



Map B - Aerial View of Fields



Map C – Aerial View of Fields



RECOMMENDED MC2013 ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

Name	Contact	Rates per person per night incl. Breakfast / incl. Village-tax	Distance to Playing Fields	Capacity (blocked for Mainland Cup)	Transport and other Notes
Pension Tennisweber	Wallhofgasse 5, 2320 Schwechat- Rannersdorf fon: +43 1 707 34 11 fax: +43 1 707 34 11-20 mail: office@tennisweber.at www.tennisweber.at	Single € 53,5 Double € 42,5 Triple € 33,5 4-bed € 28,8	200 m	11 rooms, max. 33 Pers. 1 x single 8 x triple 2 x 4-bed	<u>Transport to Fields:</u> walk to Stadium 200m <u>Transport to Vienna City or Airport:</u> take bus or taxi to S7 station "Kaiserebersdorf" <u>Other notes:</u> double instead of triple or 4- bed also possible, but reduces the capacity.
City-Hotel Albrecht	Wiener Straße 25b, 2320 Schwechat fon: 01 707 81 06 fax: 01 706 81 06 20 mail: office@cityhotelalbrecht.at www.cityhotelalbrecht.at	Single € 56,6 Double € 41,6 Tripple € 32,6	2 km	20 rooms	<u>Transport to Stadium:</u> Touch Shuttle-bus or ÖBB-Postbus 217 or 171, or Taxi to Stadium <u>Transport to Vienna City or Airport:</u> take S7 from train-station "Kaiserebersdorf" (600m to train-station)
Hotel Arion	Mühlgasse 30, 2320 Schwechat fon: 01 706 52 00 fax: 0043 1 706 5222 mail: info@arion-hotels.com http://www.arion-hotels.com/en	Single € 66,5 Double € 36,5 Tripple € 30,5 4-bed € 27,5	3 km	55 rooms	<u>Transport to Stadium:</u> Touch Shuttle-bus or Taxi. <u>Transport to Vienna City or Airport:</u> take S7 from train-station "Schwechat" (1km) <u>Other notes:</u> € 13 3-course dinner, € 10 2- course dinner

The 3 Hotels in the Table are recommended for the MC2013. They are relatively close to the Playing Fields (see Appendix 1 map) and are reasonably priced.

As noted in the Table, **a certain number of Rooms have been "blocked out"** for booking by Mainland Cup Teams. Teams should book their rooms directly with the Hotel, and use the Reference *Mainland Cup* to book these rooms that have been blocked out. All payments, room/bed configurations, number of nights and all details are to be handled by each Team/Country directly with the Hotel. These rooms have been blocked out until up to 8 weeks before the Tournament. However, the rooms are booked on a first come first serve basis, and no Team/Country is guaranteed to secure a booking in these Hotels if all rooms are quickly booked by other Teams/Countries.

A **Touch shuttle Bus** from/to the Albrecht and Arion Hotels and the S7 train Station Schwechat to/from the Playing Fields, will run at selected times on Saturday and Sunday morning and evening.



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Appendix 4

FIT MC2013 PLANNING TIMELINES AND KEY STAGES

(Please note Fee Payment Requirements)

Activity / Requirement / Key Stage	Date / Timeline
Tournament Rules & Regulations and Participating Nation Agreements published	28 February 2013
Team Registration Deadline Fee Stage 1: FIT Team Levy due (\$200) Team Registration Fees due (€130) Referee Levy due (€80)	22 March 2013
Second Brief issued	2 April 2013
All Participation Agreements concluded and exchanged	15 April 2013
Final Brief issued Fee Stage 2: 50% of Participant Fees due (To be confirmed)	1 May 2013
Draft draw issued	15 May 2013
Fee Stage 3: Final 50% of Participant Fees due (To be confirmed)	13 June 2013
Final draw issued	13 June 2013
Participant Registration Deadline	21 June 2013
Tournament commences	13 July 2013