

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Asia Federation of Pickleball (AFP) Announces Historic Support for the Merger of International Pickleball Federation and World Pickleball Federation

Singapore, December 2, 2024 – The Asia Federation of Pickleball (AFP) is proud to announce its unanimous support for the historic merger of the International Pickleball Federation (IPF) and the World Pickleball Federation (WPF). This monumental decision was approved during the AFP General Meeting held on November 30, 2024. In line with this merger, AFP has formally affirmed its affiliation with both the IPF and WPF, as well as the forthcoming unified International Federation.

This development reflects a shared vision of fostering the growth of pickleball on a global scale, promoting inclusivity, and advancing the sport's profile internationally.

In his remarks, AFP Chairman Mr. Hogan Lai expressed the significance of this decision:

“The merger of the International Pickleball Federation and the World Pickleball Federation represents a watershed moment for our sport. The unification of these two bodies will streamline global governance, enhance development programs, and unlock new opportunities for players across all regions. AFP stands united in supporting this vision for a stronger and more inclusive future for Pickleball.”

The merger marks a pivotal step toward consolidating resources and expertise to better serve the Pickleball community worldwide. The combined International Federation will focus on advancing the sport's global reach and enhancing opportunities for players, officials, and organizations.

For more details, refer to the official announcements on the 15 November 2024:

World Pickleball Federation Merger Announcement

(<https://www.worldpickleballfederation.org/histo/>)

International Pickleball Federation Merger Plan (<https://theipf.org/MergerPlanAnnouncement.html>)

About the Asia Federation of Pickleball (AFP) - [www.afpickleball.org](http://www.afpickleball.org)

The Asia Federation of Pickleball (AFP) was established in 2020 and is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the growth of pickleball across Asia. Through partnerships, competitions, and development

initiatives, AFP aims to nurture a vibrant and inclusive pickleball community in the region.

About the International Pickleball Federation (IPF) - <https://theipf.org/>

The International Pickleball Federation (IPF) is the global governing body committed to advancing pickleball as a sport accessible to players of all ages and abilities. Established to provide structure, oversight, and support for pickleball activities worldwide, IPF collaborates with regional and national organizations to develop competitive opportunities, standardize rules, and promote inclusivity. The IPF's mission is to unify the global pickleball community and foster the sport's growth across continents.

About the World Pickleball Federation (WPF)- <https://www.worldpickleballfederation.org/>

The World Pickleball Federation (WPF) is a dedicated international organization aiming to expand the reach of pickleball to underserved regions and elevate its global profile. With a focus on innovation, education and community development, the WPF supports grassroots initiatives, professional tournaments, and training programs. By championing collaboration among stakeholders, the WPF strives to make pickleball a universally recognized and widely played sport, uniting players from diverse backgrounds.

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