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EUROPEAN PICKLEBALL FEDERATION WELCOMES UWPF ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALLS FOR SPEEDY, DEMOCRATIC UNIFICATION

Luxembourg November 4, 2025 — The European Pickleball Federation (EPF) warmly welcomes the recent statement from the Unified World Pickleball Federation (UWPF) regarding dialogue toward a single, internationally representative governing body for pickleball. EPF has long supported efforts to bring greater cohesion to the sport’s global governance and encourages all parties to set aside historic divisions and move swiftly to deliver a single, democratic, member-controlled and fully IOC-compliant international federation.

“The recent announcement is an important step in the journey to Olympic recognition for pickleball,” said Frank Arico, President of the European Pickleball Federation. “The EPF urges both organisations to engage and work together in prioritising transparency, democratic elections, and balanced member representation so that the new international federation is truly representative of players and national bodies worldwide. Europe stands ready to work constructively with all partners to establish a single, member-driven federation that meets IOC governance standards and secures a bright Olympic future for our sport.”

The EPF reiterates its commitment to:

- Supporting a unification process grounded in democratic governance, transparency and accountability;
- Championing balanced member representation to avoid dominance by any one country or region; and
- Working collaboratively with UWPF, GPF and other stakeholders to accelerate progress toward a single international federation eligible for IOC recognition.

About the European Pickleball Federation : The EPF is a not-for-profit federation established in Luxembourg on 31 May 2023 and now comprising 38 member countries.

EPF’s objectives are:

- To facilitate the growth of pickleball as a world-renowned sport, to promote its physical, mental and social benefits for people of all ages and abilities.
- To represent the best interests of EPF members and European pickleball players internationally.

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