



40th Anniversary of Ping Pong Diplomacy Fact Sheet & Schedule

About: 40 years ago the world changed, for the better. Communist China cracked open the diplomatic door and the first Americans in two decades were allowed in. Sports created the opportunity – specifically ping pong (table tennis). The courage of two athletes - one from each country - in particular started the process that led to President Nixon’s historic visit a year later.

What: Now the San Francisco Bay Area has the opportunity to welcome a delegation of Table Tennis Olympians and sports officials, including members of the veterans team who played in the original matches in 1971.

Schedule for the Delegation

Monday, July 4, 2011 Delegation Arrives in San Francisco

Tuesday, July 5

Welcome Press Conference, 1:30 pm San Francisco City Hall

Sports and Diplomacy Forum, sponsored by the Asia Society
San Francisco Public Library, Koret Auditorium, 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm

VIP & Sponsor Reception and Demonstration
San Francisco City Club, 155 Sansome, San Francisco, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Wednesday, July 6

Coaches Clinic, Palo Alto Table Tennis Club 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Exhibition Matches, Maples Pavilion, Stanford 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Official Hotel: St. Regis, San Francisco