



## Table Tennis England Youth Funding Support Policies

Table Tennis England will provide as much funding support to players as it is able to facilitate. This funding is provided from a number of different sources:

- Sports Aid
- Backing the Best
- TASS
- Ivor Montague
- Talent & Performance funding

These funds and funding opportunities will be allocated according to the following policies for the season 2017-18.

### Eligibility

Table Tennis England will only provide funding support to players who:

1. Are affiliated to Table Tennis England, holding a valid Table Tennis England Player Licence and in good standing
2. Are eligible to represent England in ITTF and ETTU approved competitions and have a valid British Passport
3. Are not currently under disqualification or suspension under the rules of Table Tennis England or ITTF & ETTU.
4. Are not currently serving any sanction for an anti-doping rule violation under any relevant anti-doping rules.
5. Are a selected member of the England Youth Squad for the 2017-18 season (unless specific programmes do not require this).

### Sports Aid

Sports Aid offer Table Tennis England a limited number of places on this scheme every year. These are normally allocated in October although funding may not be provided until much later in the year.

Table Tennis England works with Sports Aid to provide guidance and priority places, however Table Tennis England has no involvement in the allocation of funding once a player has been nominated and players should note that nomination does not guarantee any funding from Sports Aid. Eligible players will be nominated for a Sports Aid Award in the following order:

1. England Youth Squad Performance Tier



2. If there are insufficient places available to cover all the players in the Performance Tier then the Head of Talent & Performance will consult with the Table Tennis England Performance Staff to prioritise places.
3. Should places remain after the England Youth Squad Performance Tier then they will be allocated by the Head of Talent & Performance in consultation with the Table Tennis England Performance Staff.
4. Should there still be places available after the England Youth Squad have been nominated then the Head of Talent & Performance in consultation with the Table Tennis England Performance Staff will offer places to other players who they believe will benefit the most from the financial support provided through this programme. These players will by definition not be on the England Youth Squad but become eligible once all England Youth Squad players are nominated.

### **Backing The Best**

This scheme provides a grant through Table Tennis England to support talented athletes who are experiencing financial hardship and without this support would be unlikely to make progress through the talent pathway. Places are extremely limited and determined by Backing the Best. Table Tennis England may only nominate a small number of players for places each year. Funds are allocated by the Table Tennis England Performance Staff in conjunction with the players individual programme. Places are allocated at the same time as the Sports Aid awards using the same system. For more information click here ([LINK](#)).

Table Tennis England works with Backing the Best to nominate places, however Table Tennis England has no involvement in the allocation of funding once a player has been nominated and players should note that nomination does not guarantee any funding from Backing the Best as this is a means tested process. Eligible players will be nominated for a Backing the Best Award in the following process:

1. England Youth Squad players who are experiencing financial hardship should request consideration by the Table Tennis England Performance Staff.
2. Priority will be given to players committed to the National Talent Academy
3. If places remain then other England Youth Squad players will be assessed.
4. Table Tennis England will not complete a means testing process, but will make a judgement about who is most likely to be successful in receiving an award. Backing the Best will require players and their families to complete a means testing process that they will determine.

### **TASS**

This scheme provides support services to players who are over the age of 16. Players must be in a form of recognised education programme at the time of application and remain so for the rest of

that academic year. Places are normally allocated in late summer each year. Table Tennis England receives a limited number of places and these are allocated accordingly:

1. England Youth Squad players meet the age and education requirements with priority to players attending the National Talent Academy first.
2. If places remain then players who meet the age and education requirements who are currently (within the past 12 months) representing England at major championships or Games (European, World Championships and Commonwealth Games).
3. If places remain then priority will be given to talented players attending an educational establishment in the Nottingham area who are actively engaged with the Table Tennis England Performance Team in some capacity.
4. If places remain after this then they will be offered to players attending University of Nottingham or Nottingham Trent University in Table Tennis England Ranking order (at the time of allocation)

### **Ivor Montague**

This funding is covered by a separate policy however funding is prioritised towards players engaged in National Squads or National Para Squads and is only allocated for specific activities with only small grants provided.

### **Talent & Performance Competition Funding**

In a change from previous years any available competition funding for the Youth age competitions and younger will be only be provided to players in the England Youth Squad with the exception of the European Youth Championships.

Selections will continue to be made for these events inline with published policies but no funding support will be available to players outside of the England Youth Squad. Selection and funding for all other age group including senior events will be made inline with those published policies.