



# Table Tennis England Selection Policy

## ITTF World Tour Events 2018/19 Season

Version: 1.0

19 June 2018

### 1. Event Purpose

It is open to Table Tennis England to select individuals and pairs (doubles & mixed doubles) to enter in each case, Table Tennis England may select up to the number of athletes and teams as limited by the ITTF and each event organiser who are able:

- a) To deliver credible performances;
- b) To support the development of young players with a rising international profile; and
- c) To promote Table Tennis England with performances consistent with its performance objectives.

Variations of this selection policy may be published from time to time, inline with Table Tennis England's performance objectives. The latest version will always be available in the performance section of the Table Tennis England website.

Unless otherwise notified in writing by Table Tennis England, any selection implicit in this process is not conveying an England Cap or otherwise deemed to be officially representing England or require official England kit. Athletes are therefore free to wear their own kit, compliant with relevant international rules.

All events however are eligible for Table Tennis England ranking points. Please supply an official copy of the results to the Table Tennis England Ranking Team upon completion.

### 2. Eligibility

Table Tennis England will only select athletes to represent England 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. Have satisfied the selection panel of their physical readiness to perform by the date of selection. It is the players' responsibility to provide evidence of this to the panel in a timely manner. This includes fitness and training history data.
6. Have provided Table Tennis England with a signed Acknowledgement (as set out at the end of the Selection Policy) before receipt of their Table Tennis England event entry form.
7. Have provided Table Tennis England with a signed ITTF Conditions of Participation Form and copy of valid passport.
8. Have notified Table Tennis England that they wish to be considered for this event by the deadline published below. Athletes are required to notify the performance team ([performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk](mailto:performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk)) in writing or by email that they wish to be considered for selection by this date by completing the relevant Table Tennis England event entry form;
9. If selected, athletes may be required to sign a Team Members' Agreement to accept their place at each event. The Agreement will include a code of conduct and a commitment to adhere to observe Table Tennis England sponsorship guidelines and to wear, if required, appropriate apparel.



Table Tennis England

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[www.tabletennisengland.co.uk](http://www.tabletennisengland.co.uk)

Registered in England

Company number 4268058

Table Tennis England is a trading name of English Table Tennis Association Limited, registered in England at Norfolk House, 88 Saxon Gate West, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK9 2DL

10. If athletes are selected any support staff approved to accompany them are required to sign and abide by a Support Staff Members' Agreement in order for the athlete to be eligible to take their place at the event. The agreement will include a code of conduct and a commitment to abide by the instructions of the Table Tennis England Performance Staff which may include a requirement to wear provided apparel.
11. Players who meet eligibility clause 1 and all of clause 2 above except they do not yet have a valid British passport can be considered eligible provided:
- There are still spaces in the event they are seeking selection after all eligible players with a British passport have been considered
  - The ETTU & ITTF have accepted that they can play under "England"
  - The players have met all other eligibility criteria

### **3. Scope of the Team**

Table Tennis England may select up to the number of players authorised by the ITTF players through the following selection process

Following the overriding objectives of this policy, as set out in the purpose above, the selection panel will select athletes according to the criteria in the following order:

1. Singles Competition;
2. Mixed Doubles Competition; and finally
3. Doubles Competition.

#### **a) Singles Competition**

The selection panel may select up to the number of players authorised by the ITTF Singles players to represent England at this event\*.

Eligible athletes will be considered first under the automatic criteria (point 4a);

If places remain after automatic criteria have been applied, then any remaining places may be offered to eligible players under the Wild Card (point 4b).

\*Subject to confirmation by ITTF.

#### **b) Mixed Doubles & Doubles Competitions**

The selection panel may select up to the number of pairs authorised by the ITTF to represent England in each of Mixed Doubles event, and Doubles\*. Athletes selected to any of these events MUST first have been selected for Singles Competition to be eligible. The selection panel will decide the pairs as per the Wild Card (4b) selection process. No pairs will be selected under point 4a. The panel may consider creating pairs across different nations, after England only pairings preference will be given to opportunities within Home Nations (GB eligible) partners and then other nationalities.

\*Subject to confirmation by the ITTF.

### **4. Criteria**

As stated above, the selection panel may select any number of athletes or teams to each event, with six singles entries per gender fixed and additional spaces subject to the event capacity and an athletes' current ITTF World Ranking. Unless otherwise stated, Table Tennis England will select the singles event first and then any doubles or team events.

Selection can be achieved either automatically or at the discretion of the Selection Panel, as follows:

**a. Automatic Selection**

Eligible athletes will gain automatic selection, subject to compliance with the rest of this policy, if they meet one or more of the following criteria:

- i. hold a top-300 ITTF senior ranking for two or more months within the qualification period;
- ii. The current English National Singles Champion as at the conclusion of the qualification period.

In the event there are more automatic selections than places, places will be offered to eligible players in ITTF ranking order on the most recent ITTF ranking list available at the conclusion of the qualification period (not the selection panel meeting date).

In the event that an athlete meets both criteria, point i will be accepted first and no further places will be offered to beaten finalists or other players within point ii.

**b. Wildcard Selection**

If there are still places available after Automatic Selections have been accommodated the selection panel may choose to select up to the number of spaces available. The panel may choose any eligible players and are not required to consider any particular set of factors or information they may select any player(s) who they believe may contribute to the overall objectives of the competition or the objectives of Table Tennis England. The panel are not required to provide reasons or rationale for their selections and no appeals for non selection under this part of the criteria will be accepted.

**5. Medical**

At the time of their selection, any selected athlete may have their medical and/or musculoskeletal status confirmed by a nominated Table Tennis England Medical adviser. Any selected athlete may, at any other time, be required by the Head of Talent & Performance (and/or his delegate) to undergo fitness or medical assessments to ensure that they have maintained an adequate level of fitness to perform to the best of their ability. The Head of Talent & Performance (and/or his delegate) will specify the process by which a selected athlete is to confirm his or her continued health and fitness, which might include participating in certain events or undergoing fitness tests;

**6. Event Specific Qualification Period & Selection Timeline**

Event	From	To	Table Tennis England Closing date	ITTF closing date	Qualification period	
					From	To
ITTF World Tour, Bulgarian Open, Panagyurishte (BUL)	16/08/2018	19/08/2018	10/07/2018	17/07/2018	10/07/2017	09/07/2018
ITTF World Tour, Czech Open, Olomouc (CZE)	23/08/2018	26/08/2018	10/07/2018	24/07/2018	04/07/2017	03/07/2018
ITTF World Tour, Swedish Open, Stockholm (SWE)	01/11/2018	04/11/2018	11/09/2018	02/10/2018	12/09/2017	11/09/2018
ITTF World Tour, Hungarian Open, Budapest (HUN)	22/01/2019	27/01/2019	01/12/2018	22/12/2018	02/12/2017	01/12/2018
ITTF World Tour, Hong Kong Open, Hong Kong (HKG)	04/06/2019	09/06/2019	12/09/2018	03/10/2018	13/09/2017	12/09/2018
ITTF World Tour, Korea Open, TBC (KOR)	02/07/2019	09/06/2019	12/05/2019	02/06/2019	13/05/2018	12/05/2019
ITTF World Tour, Bulgarian Open, Panagyurishte (BUL)	13/08/2019	18/08/2019	13/09/2018	04/10/2018	14/09/2017	13/09/2018
ITTF World Tour, Czech Open, Olomouc (CZE)	20/08/2019	25/08/2019	29/06/2019	20/07/2019	30/06/2018	29/06/2019



ITTF World Tour, Swedish Open, Stockholm (SWE)	01/10/2019	06/10/2019	14/09/2018	05/10/2018	15/09/2017	14/09/2018
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Entry forms are usually posted on the ITTF website at least two months before the event. The event prospectus with detailed event entry timings is usually released on the ITTF website at the same time. Table Tennis England may send the prospectus to the athletes when it arrives from the ITTF or event organiser, however athletes are responsible for getting this information themselves.

Athletes must submit the Table Tennis England event entry form <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1d9KHfK-zpw8pmVzUHQDuqKfg5lovD9gobf8OCxc0xqs/prefill> no later than the dates outlined above.

Table Tennis England will complete selections to each event no later than three working days after the Table Tennis England closing date for entries.

In the event that the prospectus and entry is delayed resulting in its publication being inside deadlines outlined above, Table Tennis England will endeavour to complete selections in a timely manner to allow athletes to enter the event, subject to them completing the relevant forms and payment and being selected for the event, but accepts no responsibility for the late publication or delays in entry processing and selection resulting in an athletes' entry not being accepted by the event organisers or the ITTF.

Eligible players will be notified in a blind carbon copy (BCC) group email to all applicants confirming who has been selected. Players will no longer receive individual letters notifying them of non selection. Instead all eligible players will receive the same email communicating the outcome of selection.

Except in exceptional circumstance ineligible players will not be notified or receive the above email.

The email will communicate the same information as the individual letters regarding the selection review process and the need for confidentiality until Table Tennis England make a team or selection announcement

## 7. Wild Card Selection Panel

A selection panel will be established comprising three voting members including Chair:

- Table Tennis England Director of Sport (Chair),
- Table Tennis England Technical Director,
- Table Tennis England Performance Manager,

The Table Tennis England Athlete Selection Advisor will have oversight of the selection process.

Additional experts may be asked to provide advice or information to the selection panel at the request of the Chair.

In the event of any conflict of interest for any member, the Table Tennis England conflict of interest policy should be adhered to. Any member with a conflict of interest shall not be entitled to vote on that issue.

## 8. Media & Communication

All selected athletes are required to adhere to the Social Media guidance which can be found on the Table Tennis England website at the following address: <http://tabletennisengland.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/ETTA-Social-Media-Guidelines-2012.pdf>

All athletes, whether selected or not are required to keep the notification of their selection or non-selection confidential until such time as directed by the Table Tennis England.

## 9. De-Selection

Table Tennis England retains the right to deselect an athlete under any of the following circumstances:

- I. The athlete is no longer eligible for selection for this event
- II. The athlete does not adhere to the code of conduct or team members' agreement
- III. The athlete in the sole opinion of the Selection Panel is no longer physically or mentally able to perform at the level consistent with that which earned their initial selection
- IV. The athlete fails to comply with any reasonable training or competition programme set out by Table Tennis England performance staff
- V. The athlete fails to comply with the entry processes and payment schedule detailed within this policy
- VI. The athlete does not pay all relevant fees or any payment is returned.

Any athlete who is de-selected will immediately be notified of the decision and the reason and will have a right of appeal in accordance with the appeals process.

## 10. Appeals

Eligible players only have the right to appeal in the following cases:

- i. The automatic selection criteria were not applied correctly;
- ii. A player was de-selected under Point 9 above
- iii. An ineligible player was selected under any point

The appeals process for these cases is set out here:

<https://tabletennisengland.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/TABLE-TENNIS-ENGLAND-Selection-Review-Policy-2.1.pdf>

No appeals will be considered in the following cases:

- i. Wild Card Selections save for ineligibility; or
- ii. Doubles or Mixed Doubles pairings



## 11. Acknowledgement

Each athlete shall acknowledge that they have read, understood and accepted these Selection Criteria and Guidelines by signing the enclosed copy and returning it to Performance in writing or by email before submitting their first entry under this policy for the 2018-19 season to [performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk](mailto:performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk) or Norfolk House, 88 Saxon Gate West, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK9 2DL. For any Under 18 athletes, a parent or guardian will also be required to sign the returned copy. Athletes should retain the second copy for their own records.

Eligible players who are not British passport holders accept that being entered by England may affect their future ability to represent another country and that any and all consequences are the players' responsibility.

Policy:

### Table Tennis England Selection Policy

ITTF World Tour Events 2018/19 Season

V 1.0

Acknowledged by:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ (Athlete)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/Guardian)

ENDS