



# Table Tennis England Selection Policy

V1.0

World Championships Budapest, Hungary 21-28 April 2019

## 1. Event Purpose

Table Tennis England will select players to this event in order to achieve the following objectives:

- a. Reach the last 32 of the singles events
- b. Support the development of younger players who are ready to benefit from the experience that competing in this event will provide.

## 2. Eligibility

Table Tennis England will only consider athletes for selection who:

1. Are affiliated to Table Tennis England, holding a valid Table Tennis England Player Licence and are in good standing;
2. Are eligible to represent England in ITTF and ETTU approved competitions and have a valid British Passport;
3. Have an actual and active (i.e. have competed within the relevant time period as determined by the ITTF, which as at the date of this policy is 4 months but may be subject to change) world ranking on the most recent list at the time of selection unless the Table Tennis England Selection Panel have accepted mitigating circumstances in writing prior to selection (athletes should apply in writing to the Chair as soon as possible, providing full explanation why their world ranking is no longer active and evidence of injury or other relevant information to [performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk](mailto:performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk);
4. Have not retired from representing England in international competition unless fully re-engaged with the England performance staff;
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 when requested by the Director of Sport, Technical Director, Performance Manager or their delegates. This includes fitness and training history data;



6. Are not currently under disqualification or suspension under the rules of Table Tennis England or ITTF or ETTU;
7. Are not currently serving any sanction for an anti-doping rule violation under any relevant anti-doping rules;
8. Have provided Table Tennis England with a signed Acknowledgement, notifying an intention to be considered for selection, by 31/1/19, as set out at the end of the Selection Policy;

Athletes will be required to sign a Team Members' Agreement to accept their place on each team. The Agreement will include a code of conduct and a commitment to adhere to specified travel dates, to observe Table Tennis England sponsorship guidelines and to wear appropriate Team apparel.

### **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. World Championships Singles Competition;
2. World Championships Doubles Competition; and finally
3. World Championships Mixed Doubles Competition.

#### **a) World Championships 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) World Championships 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

Selection can be achieved either automatically or as a wild card by 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-100 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) Wild Card 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.

For the avoidance of doubt the selection panel is not required to select any singles Wild Cards but may choose to do so if space is available. If players have been selected under point 4a or 4b in singles then the panel will also formulate the pairs for the doubles and or mixed doubles events.

## 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 Director of Sport (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 Director of Sport (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
Competition	21/4/19	28/4/19
Preparation Camp	TBC	
Selection Announcement	15/2/19	
Selections notified	1/2/19	
Entry Deadline (ITTF)	20/2/19	
Qualification Period	1/2/18	31/1/19

## 7. Wild Card Selection Panel

A selection panel will be established comprising:

- a) Table Tennis England Director of Sport (Chair)
- b) Table Tennis England Technical Director
- c) Table Tennis England Performance Manager
- d) Athlete Selection Advisor (Non voting)

In the event of a split-decision, the Chair will have the casting vote. Additional experts may be asked to provide evidence and/or advice to the selection committee, 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:

<https://tabletennisengland.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Social-Media-guidelines.pdf>

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

## 9. De-Selection

Table Tennis England retains the right to deselect any selected athlete under any of the following circumstances (whether automatic or wild card selection):

- i. The player is no longer eligible for selection for this event;
- ii. The player does not adhere to the code of conduct or team members agreement;
- iii. The player in the sole opinion of the Director of Sport, is no longer physically or mentally able to perform at the level consistent with that which earned their initial selection;
- iv. The player fails to comply with any reasonable training or competition programme set out by Table Tennis England performance staff;
- v. Any exceptional circumstances exist which in the reasonable opinion of the Selection Panel justify the non-selection or de-selection of the athlete concerned.

Any player who is de-selected will immediately be notified of the decision and the reason. They 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 the Performance Department by email ([performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk](mailto:performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk)) or in writing by 31/1/19 to 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.

Table Tennis England

World Championships 2019

Version: 1.0

Acknowledged by:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ (Athlete)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent)

