



INTERNATIONAL HOSTING REQUIREMENTS: CLUBS European Championship Qualification (Team)

Introduction

Elite sport has the ability to inspire and enthuse – top-class table tennis performed by England’s best is no different and is a fantastic spectacle. An international match can provide a focus and platform for development and leave a legacy of involvement of players, coaches, officials and spectators. Therefore, we are formally inviting clubs to submit a bid to host a home England table tennis match.

Event profile

European Championship Qualification (Team) matches are part of the qualification system for team events in the European Championships. This is the premium team event for 50+ nations affiliated to the European Table Tennis Union (ETTU). The Championships are hosted biannually at a central venue by bidding cities and feature Europe’s leading players.

To qualify for the European Championships, national teams must play in the qualification event where there are three divisions – Championship, Challenge and Standard. Both England’s men and women are currently in the Challenge division, with both aiming to reach the Championship division through these qualifying matches.

Matches are played over a two-year cycle, in a group format and consist of up to five singles rubbers (matches are only played to a result) on a home and away basis between teams of three/four players.

This competition is one of the few times that the public has the opportunity to watch England’s top ranked players compete on home soil in front of a home audience.

Table Tennis England’s unique selling point (USP)

Table Tennis England can stage international matches in almost any town, city or club in England enabling local table tennis communities to experience the thrill and excitement of seeing live, world and European star players. We can also provide **your club** support to grow, which is detailed below. This is your chance for **your club** to get close to the action. Table Tennis is a sport for all, for life.

Why stage an international match?

Table Tennis England staff members will visit **your club** prior to and after the event, to have discussions and implement initiatives to **grow your club**, putting **your club** at the forefront of Table Tennis England’s mind. Some ideas of what this may include are . . . tournament organisers, umpires and coaching courses; social media and marketing training; event delivery training; advice on what funding opportunities to pursue; volunteer and membership recruitment. You may have more/ other ideas yourself.

Other reasons to stage an international match?

- Enjoy the thrill of seeing England’s elite players in **your club**, as well as a visiting international team.
- Increase **your club** membership through engagement of the general public in the build-up to the event and at the event through spectating. This will be built into a marketing plan as an objective.



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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



- Potential income opportunities for **your club** through provision of catering
- Opportunity for **your club** members to gain international event experience by volunteering at the event.
- Exposure of **your club** to a UK and international audience with live streaming of the match on Table Tennis England or ETTU website.
- Table Tennis England will drive ticket sales to get as many people in **your club** spectating as possible.

CLUB REQUIREMENTS		
ITEM	CLUB REQUIREMENTS	ADDITIONAL NOTES
FREE Venue	Hall: suitable for 1 table playing arena (18m x 9m). 3 rows of spectator seating. Lighting: 700 lux or capacity for us to install our OWN lighting rig . Floor: Wooden sprung/semi sprung Internet: High speed broadband/hardline capable of live streaming	Available for 2 days (Day 1 - set up & practice, Day 2 – practice, match & de-rig) PA system would be preferential, but we can bring our own. Clubs must be willing for sports flooring to be laid on surface
Parking	Suitable parking for up to 50 spaces on site	More spaces offsite but close by (overflow)
Equipment	Surrounds, ITTF approved tables (4) + net posts, umpires tables and scoring machines.	Table Tennis England events team set up match court. Assistance required from local club.

DESIRED ITEMS THAT WOULD MAKE YOUR BID MORE ADVANTAGEOUS		
ITEM	CLUB DESIRED	ADDITIONAL NOTES
Flooring	ITTF approved sports flooring	Or access to flooring off-site
Volunteers	Provision of club volunteers	10 club volunteers would be ideal
Hotel	3/4 Star, ideally within 10 minutes' drive of the venue	Preferential rate could be secured by club
Catering	Suitable catering facilities with spaces for spectators, players and officials	Catering for players can be offsite or at hotel
Hospitality	Space for hospitality or VIP reception in the venue	Small private room/area for reception
Transport	Provision of club minibus or cars for transport	Foreign and home team airport-venue-hotel transportation.

Available Home Fixtures Men's Championships Division Qualifier Tuesday 7 th March – England vs. Netherlands Women's Championship Division Qualifier Tuesday 13 th December 2016 - England vs. Germany	Away matches (for information) Men's Championships Division Qualifier Tuesday 22 nd November 2016 Netherlands vs. England Tuesday 24 th January 2017 Greece vs. England Women's Championships Division Qualifiers Tuesday 27 th September 2016 Germany vs. England Tuesday 7 th March 2017 Slovenia vs. England
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Awarded Home Matches

For your information, the below home matches have already been awarded to host venues

Tuesday 1st November 2016 - England vs. Greece (awarded to Fenton Manor, Stoke)

Tuesday 22nd November 2016 - England vs. Slovenia (awarded to Medway Park, Medway)

Further information

For an informal discussion on match hosting, site visits or more information please contact: Neil McGuigan (Competitions & Events Officer, Table Tennis England) 01908 208875

neil.mcguigan@tabletennisengland.co.uk

Submitting a bid

In order to submit a formal bid to host one or more of the above fixtures, please send an email/document containing the below information to Neil McGuigan at the email address above:

- Name and address of club
- Match(es) hosting preference
- Bullet point list of how your club does, or would meet the requirements and desired items listed in the tables above
- Which ideas your club would propose to take advantage of, from the site visits from Table Tennis England staff. Please think about these carefully.
- Any relevant photographs of the facilities that would support the bid

After receiving bids, Neil will be in touch to discuss a site visit/meeting with the club should we feel there is potential to host

Timelines

Process	Deadline
Invitations sent by Table Tennis England for clubs to host	Friday 20 th May 2016
Formal bid submitted by club to Table Tennis England	Tuesday 21 st June 2016
Site visits & meetings	21 st June – 28 th July 2016
Table Tennis England to award fixtures to successful club	Friday 29 th July 2016