



**BRITISH TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION**

## **British Table Tennis Federation Selection Policy**

V2.3

Olympic Games, Tokyo Japan, 23 July- 08 August 2021

### **1. Event Purpose**

British Table Tennis Federation will nominate players to Team GB in order to achieve the following objectives:

- a. Quarter Finals in singles or mixed doubles competitions\*
- b. Support the development of younger players who are ready to benefit from the experience that competing in this event will provide\*.

\*Subject to qualification of quota places

The British Table Tennis Federation (BTTF) may nominate to Team GB

- Up to two ITTF named individual athletes per gender for each Singles Competition\*;  
and/or
- Up to one ITTF named pair for the Mixed Doubles Competition\*.

\*subject to receiving appropriate named entries from the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF). The total number of players may not exceed three per gender.

For the avoidance of doubt in the Singles and Mixed Doubles only BTTF may not nominate athletes who do not receive a named offer place from the ITTF in place of athletes who have qualified named places.

### **2. Eligibility**

British Table Tennis Federation will only consider athletes for selection who:

1. Are affiliated to a Home Nation Table Tennis Association , holding a valid Home Nation Table Tennis Association Player Licence and are in good standing;
2. Are eligible to represent GB in ITTF and ETTU approved competitions and have a valid British Passport which expires no less than 6 months after the Games;
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) senior world ranking on the most recent list at the time of selection unless the British Table Tennis Federation 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should apply in writing to the Chair as soon as possible, providing full explanation why their world ranking is no longer active and evidence of injury or other relevant information to [performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk](mailto:performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk));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 their Home Nation in international competition unless fully re-engaged with their Home Nation's 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 Table Tennis England Director of Sport or his delegate. This includes fitness and training history data;
6. Are not currently under disqualification or suspension under the rules of any Home Nation Table Tennis Association or ITTF or ETTU;
7. Are not currently serving any sanction for an anti corruption or anti-doping rule violation under any relevant anti corruption or anti-doping rules;
8. Have provided British Table Tennis Federation Team Leader with a signed Acknowledgement, notifying an intention to be considered for selection, by 31/12/2020, as set out at the end of the Selection Policy;
9. Have completed and returned all BOA requirements satisfactorily by the necessary deadlines.
10. Have signed a BOA Team Members' Agreement to accept their place on the team. The Agreement will include a code of conduct and a commitment to (for example) adhere to specified travel dates, to observe certain sponsorship guidelines and to wear appropriate Team GB apparel.

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

British Table Tennis Federation may nominate to Team GB 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 for the:

1. Olympic Games Singles Competition; and/or
2. Olympic Games Mixed Doubles Competition.

#### **a) Olympic Games Singles Competition**

The selection panel may select up to the number of players authorised by the ITTF to represent Team GB in each singles event\* (max two per gender).

Eligible athletes may only be considered under the automatic criteria (point 4).

\*Subject to receiving quota entries.

### **C) Olympic Games Mixed Doubles Competition**

The selection panel may select up to two (one male and one female) players authorised by the ITTF to represent Team GB in the mixed doubles event\*.

\*Subject to receiving quota entries.

## **4. Criteria**

Selection can only be achieved as follows:

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

- i. Athletes who have received named places by virtue of meeting the necessary IOC-ITTF qualification standards in either singles or mixed doubles to the maximum allowed by the IOC (2 per gender in singles and 1 pair in mixed doubles);

Please note the mixed doubles player from that gender will only play in the singles event if they also met the necessary qualification standards. If they did not then they may only play in the mixed doubles events.

## **5. Medical**

At the time of their selection, any selected athlete may have their medical status confirmed by a nominated British Table Tennis Federation Medical adviser. Any selected athlete may, at any other time, be required by the British Table Tennis Federation Team Leader (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 British Table Tennis Federation Team Leader (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. Selection Timeline**

The British Table Tennis Federation reserves the right to amend this Policy at its sole discretion and will make any amended version publicly available (including the date on which any amendment was made) at [this page](#). The BTTF is continually monitoring the latest advice and developments in respect of COVID-19 in particular, and it is acknowledged that changes to the qualification and/or selection pathway may be made at relatively short notice. The BTTF will use all endeavours to keep all athletes up to date as soon as possible in the event of any changes to this policy.

Event	From	To
Competition	24/7/21	4/8/21
Preparation Camp	TBC	TBC
Team Announcement*	TBC	
Athletes notified	By 4/6/21	
Final nomination date to Team GB*	3/7/21	
*May be subject to change, notice will be provided as much as possible but may be limited.		

## 7. Selection Panel

A selection panel (all with voting rights) will be established comprising:

- a) Table Tennis England Director of Sport (Chair) & British Table Tennis Federation Team Leader (or similar as agreed by Table Tennis England)
- b) Table Tennis England Technical Director (or similar as agreed by Table Tennis England)
- c) Table Tennis England Programme Manager (or similar as agreed by Table Tennis England)
- d) Table Tennis Wales National Coach (or similar as agreed by Table Tennis Wales)
- e) Table Tennis Scotland Director of Performance (or similar as agreed by Table Tennis Scotland)
- f) Table Tennis Ireland National Coach (or similar as agreed by Table Tennis Ulster)

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. An independent observer (non voting) shall be present in order to ensure due process.

In the event of any conflict of interest for any member, the British Table Tennis Federation 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 British Table Tennis Federation 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 British Table Tennis Federation .

## 9. De-Selection

British Table Tennis Federation retains the right to deselect any selected athlete at any time prior to the Delegation Registration Meeting (“DRM”) on 6 July 2021 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 British Table Tennis Federation Team Leader, 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 British Table Tennis Federation Selection Panel or its delegates;
- 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.

BTTF may de-select an athlete post-DRM on any of the above grounds, however, such de-selection decision will be made in conjunction with the BOA. 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.

After the DRM has been completed, de-selection and selection of a replacement athlete is only allowed in accordance with the ITTF’s Qualification Document and IOC’s Late Athlete Replacement Policy (or any revised or amended IOC policy dealing with athlete replacement). This primarily provides for replacement in the case of injury and/or illness. In the event of there being a query over the following procedure will be adhered to:

- (i) Team GB’s Chief Medical Officer can require an athlete to undergo a medical examination to determine his/her fitness to participate. This examination will be carried out by the Team GB’s Chief Medical Officer or another doctor delegated by him/her. If the athlete fails the medical examination he/she will be withdrawn from the Team and the BTTF may (if appropriate) nominate a replacement athlete in accordance with its Selection Policy.
- (ii) if the athlete passes the medical examination carried out in accordance with (i) above but the BTTF and/or the BOA still have concerns over whether or not the athlete is able to compete to a level which would ordinarily have been expected of the athlete due to the underlying injury or illness, the Chef de Mission (in consultation with the BTTF) can require the athlete to undergo a set of pre-determined sports specific performance tests. The tests will be conducted under the guidance of the sport’s Team Leader (or his/her delegate e.g. team physiotherapist) and a BOA representative or delegate will be present (if possible/available). If the athlete fails the test (which can be undertaken on more than one occasion and within a short time frame if appropriate), he/she will be withdrawn from the

Team on medical grounds and, if appropriate, a replacement can be nominated by the BTTF in accordance with the criteria set out in this Selection Policy.

## 10. Appeals

The appeals process is set out here:

1. Eligible athletes are entitled to appeal a decision by the Selection Panel not to select them for this event, in accordance with the procedure set out here. The appeal process is intended to be quick, fair and independent.
2. If an athlete wishes to appeal, he or she must notify the British Table Tennis Federation Accountable Officer ([appeals@tabletennisengland.co.uk](mailto:appeals@tabletennisengland.co.uk)) that they wish to appeal as soon as possible, and in any event no later than by 4pm two working days after they have been notified of their non-selection. Such a notification must be given in writing (e- mail is acceptable).
3. The athlete must, within two working days following such notification, provide to the British Table Tennis Federation Accountable Officer a written document setting out the grounds for the appeal (the “Grounds of Appeal”). The Grounds of Appeal must include the fullest explanation possible, in the time available, of the basis for the athlete’s appeal, together with any evidence (such as performance data or results) that they rely on. Athletes should note that the only available grounds of appeal are: there has been a failure to adhere to the procedure set out in the selection policy. An athlete does not have a right of appeal against any judgment or discretion exercised in the course of making nomination decisions, or against the content of the applicable selection criteria.
4. If, in the reasonable view of the British Table Tennis Federation Accountable Officer, the appeal may affect other athletes (“Affected Athletes”), then they must provide the Grounds of Appeal to any such persons as soon as possible.
5. The selection appeal will then as soon as possible be referred to Sport Resolutions (UK) for determination by way of binding, confidential, arbitration. An athlete seeking to appeal will, accordingly, be required to pay to British Table Tennis Federation a deposit of £500 towards the cost of using Sport Resolutions’ services, which should be paid at the same time as the Grounds of Appeal are provided. This sum will be reimbursed to the athlete in the event that the appeal is upheld (i.e. succeeds) but will otherwise be forfeited and should the costs of the appeal exceed £500 (and the athlete loses the appeal) then he/she will be required in addition to pay such excess cost.

6. British Table Tennis Federation must, as soon as possible and by no later than by 4pm two working days after receipt of the Grounds of Appeal, serve on the appealing athlete and on any Affected Athlete a written response to the appeal, including the fullest explanation possible, in the time available, of the basis for that response together with any evidence that British Table Tennis Federation wishes to rely on.
7. Any Affected Athlete may also, as soon as possible and by no later than by 4pm two working days after receipt of the Grounds of Appeal, serve on British Table Tennis Federation a written response to the appeal, including the fullest explanation possible, in the time available, of the basis for that response together with an evidence that they wish to rely on. British Table Tennis Federation must provide this written response to the appealing athlete as soon as possible.
8. The appeal will then proceed, on the earliest possible date, by way of hearing by a single legally qualified arbitrator appointed by Sport Resolutions (UK). The arbitrator may set any directions in connection with such a hearing or written determination as they consider fair and appropriate, and may likewise determine how any such hearing is to be conducted in order for that hearing to be fair, always bearing in mind the need for the matter to be concluded quickly.
9. The arbitrator will endeavour to render a decision in respect of the appeal as soon as possible. In the interests of expediency, the arbitrator may initially render a brief summary of the decision with full reasons to follow. Sport Resolutions (UK) will be responsible for notifying all participants of the decision.
10. The arbitrator may either dismiss the appeal, or uphold the appeal in which case he must remit the selection decision back to the British Table Tennis Federation Selection Panel, with any guidance which the arbitrator may consider appropriate. The arbitrator will not have jurisdiction to select or deselect any athlete.
11. The arbitrator's decision will be final: if an athlete's appeal is dismissed, he or she will have no further right of appeal. If the appeal is upheld, then this appeal process may be invoked in respect of the fresh selection decision, time allowing.

12. Save as may otherwise be agreed between them, all participants to the appeal process are required to keep the fact and contents of the appeal process confidential.



## 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 31/12/2020 to Table Tennis England, Broughton Road, Loughton Lodge, Milton Keynes, MK8 9LA. 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.

British Table Tennis Federation

Olympic Games 2020

Version: 2.3

Acknowledged by:

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

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

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

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

