



Table Tennis England Selection Policy

European Youth Championships, Varazdin, Croatia, 18th July to 1st August 2021*

v1.6

*subject to change

1. Event Purpose

Table Tennis England will select players to this event with the aim to achieve the following objectives:

1. Reach the last 32 of the singles events and / or
2. Reach the top 18 of the team event

2. Eligibility

Table Tennis England will only select players 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 provided Table Tennis England with a signed Acknowledgement (as set out at the end of the Selection Policy), by 16th April 2021;
6. For the avoidance of doubt, players must have been born from the following dates for each age category:
7. Juniors = on or after 1st January 2002;
8. Cadets = on or after 1st January 2006
9. Are ranked within the top 16 players of the Table Tennis England national ranking list (age group specific) at the time of the application closing date (*For Juniors who meet the new age category requirements and were ranked within the top 10 Table Tennis England ranking in July 2020 list are eligible to apply*);
10. Have notified Table Tennis England that they wish to be considered for this event by 16th April 2021. Players are required to notify the performance department in by email (performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk) that they wish to be considered for selection;
11. Players will be required to sign and adhere to the Table Tennis England Code of Conduct to accept their place on each team. The Agreement requires each player 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 recognise the impact Covid-19 has had on domestic and international competition and therefore commit to sending representation in all categories at this years' event.

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



Table Tennis England

Bradwell Road, Loughton Lodge, Milton Keynes, MK8 9LA
T 01908 208860 E help@tabletennisengland.co.uk

www.tabletennisengland.co.uk

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a) European Youth Championships Singles Competition

The selection panel may select up to the number of players authorised by the ETTU to represent England at this event. Eligible players will be considered first under the Direct Selection criteria (point 4a);

Should players not achieve selection directly for the singles competition, but are subsequently selected for the team event - they will also then receive a singles, mixed doubles and doubles entry.

b) European Youth Championships Team Competition

The selection panel may select a team from the selected singles players to represent England at this event.

If the minimum team size is not yet reached (Cadet=2, Junior=3), then the selection panel may select additional eligible players under the Play Off Criteria (point 4b) and then at the discretion of the panel, under Wild Card Criteria (point 4c).

c) European Youth Championships Mixed Doubles & Doubles Competitions

The selection panel will decide the pairs from the selected players for the singles and team events. The panel may not select any additional players under this category to make up pairs unless the players are already selected under the singles or team category. The selection panel may select up to the number of pairs authorised by the ETTU to represent England in these events.

4. Criteria

Selection can be achieved either automatically or as a wild card by the Selection Panel, as follows:

a) Direct Selection

The panel may select any eligible player(s) up to the minimum team size who they believe have demonstrated a performance standard that is in line with achieving the Event Purpose set out at the beginning of this policy.

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 make any singles direct selections.

b) Play Off Selection

Should places remain following any Direct Selections, the panel will consider inviting players to compete in a play-off competition for any remaining places up to the minimum team size. Further information regarding the play-off can be found in Appendix 1.

Where a playoff is held, players will be selected in placed order until the minimum team size is reached. If a player decides not to accept their place following the playoff, it will be offered to the next placed player. Final play-off placings will not convey any priority for consideration in any Wild Card Selections (Point 4c) which will be made.

c) Wild Card Selection

If the play offs have not been possible (due to any restrictions preventing this from taking place), or the Selection Panel wishes to select additional players beyond the minimum team size and within the maximum entry permitted by ETTU, then 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 for the singles event, the panel will formulate the pairs for the doubles and/or mixed doubles events from these players only.

5. Medical

At the time of their selection, any selected player may have their medical and/or musculoskeletal status confirmed by a nominated Table Tennis England Medical adviser. Any selected player may, at any other time, be required by the Head of England Performance (and/or their 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 England Performance (and/or their delegate) will specify the process by which a selected player is to confirm his or her continued health and fitness, which might include participating in certain events or undergoing fitness tests.

6. Provisional Event-Specific Qualification Period & Selection Timeline

Event	From	To
Competition	Juniors = 18 th July Cadets = 26 th July	Juniors = 24 th July Cadets = 1 st August
Travel	Juniors = 16 th July Cadets = 24 th July	Juniors = 24 th July Cadets = 1 st August
Preparation Camp	To Be Confirmed	
Selection Announcement by	4 th June	
Selections notified by	Direct (all categories) = by 30 th April Play-off Invitations = by 30 th April Cadet Play-off & Wild Cards = by 18 th May Junior Play-off & Wildcards = by 25 th May	
Playoffs Competition Dates	Juniors = 22 nd May Cadets = 15 th May	Juniors = 23 rd May Cadets = 16 th May
Entry Deadline (ETTU)	To Be Confirmed	
Qualification Period	1 st May 2020	1 st May 2021

Due to the ongoing situation of Covid-19, the dates shown are subject to change. Any changes will be communicated as soon as we are able to do so.

7. Wild Card Selection Panel

A selection panel will be established comprising:

- a) Table Tennis England Programme Manager (Chair)
- b) Table Tennis England Junior Lead Coach
- c) Table Tennis England Women's Coach
- 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 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 players 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 players, 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 player 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 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 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) **by 16th April 2021**.

For any Under 19 players, a parent or guardian will also be required to sign the returned copy.

Players should retain the second copy for their own records.

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Acknowledged by:

Name _____ Signed _____

Date _____ (Player)

Name _____ Signed _____

Date _____ (Parent)

Appendix 1: Playoff Information

As set out in the selection policy, a play-off may be hosted for invited eligible players in that category to compete in, with places awarded up to the minimum team size.

- Following the application deadline, all applications will be reviewed. If a play-off is required, all invited players will be informed by 30th April. This information will include details of number of places available in each category, finalised play-off format, timings, etc.
- Venue for play-off = TT Salle, David Ross Sports Village, University of Nottingham, Beeston Lane, Lenton Abbey, Nottingham, NG7 2RD;
- Provisional Playing Format

Cadets

- 2 Groups of 8 players – all play all, best of 5 games per match
- Winner & Runner's Up of each group progress to KO Stage
- KO Stages
 - **Semi Final Stage**
 - Semi Final 1 = Winner of Group 'A' v's Runner Up of Group 'B'
 - Semi Final 2 = Runner Up of Group 'A' v's Winner of Group 'B'
 - **Final Stage**
 - 1st & 2nd Places = Winner of Semi Final 1 v's Winner for Semi Final 2
 - 3rd & 4th Places = Runner of Semi Final 1 v's Runner for Semi Final 2

Juniors

- 3 Groups of 6 players – all play all, best of 5 games per match
- Winner of each group progress to the final group (group A) for places 1 to 3
- Runners Up of each group progress to the final stage (group B) for places 4-6
 - **Final Group 'A'**
 - All play all – Best of 5 games
 - Match 1 = Winner of Group '1' v's Winner of Group '2'
 - Match 2 = Winner of Group '3' v' Loser of Match 1
 - Match 3 = Winner of 'Group '3' v's Winner of Match 1

The above format of competition is provisional and depending on the number of eligible applications and / or changes to government guidance so is subject to change. All changes will be communicated via email as soon as is possible to do so.

- Players will be required to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements for the play-off;
- The play-offs will be over seen by the Table Tennis England performance staff. If it is possible, official umpires may be used, however players may also be required to umpire matches;
- Due to government restrictions scheduled to be in place at that time the play-offs, only players will be able to enter the venue. No parents, guardians or coaches will be able to attend;
- Should a player not accept their place following the playoff, it will be offered to the next placed player from that event;
- This is a non-ranking competition.