



We're ready to go for gold – Drinkhall

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With less than 24 hours until the first matches, England's table tennis stars are in upbeat mood as they move into their final preparations.

The competition kicks off with four England matches on the first day – England men facing Ghana and Guyana and the women up against Vanuatu and Guyana. The women's competition was redrawn this morning after a miscalculation was discovered in the rankings.

Paul Drinkhall believes England are "in a good place" and ready to upgrade the silver medals they have won in the last two Commonwealth Games team events.

The England No 1 said: "In the team we're here to correct our last few silvers and get gold this time, but there's three, four, five teams thinking they can win the tournament."

"We're always confident going into the group stages. They've got nothing to lose against us so they'll come out and try and do everything they can. We've got to show them the respect and hopefully get through the group and then we'll see where we get drawn in the quarters and hopefully move into the medal matches.

"We're here to perform and do a job and I think we're all in a good place to do that."

Listen to the full interview:

<https://newsarchive.tabletennisengland.co.uk/content/uploads/2018/04/Paul-Drinkhall-audio.m4a>

Tin-Tin Ho and Maria Tsaptsinos have also been talking about their preparations.

Listen to the interview here:

<https://newsarchive.tabletennisengland.co.uk/content/uploads/2018/04/Girls.mp3>

Thursday's schedule

12.30am: England women v Guyana

3am: England men v Ghana

7am: England women v Vanuatu

9.30am: England men v Guyana

** All times are UK times*

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