

Pitchford ready for Oz odyssey

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Liam Pitchford will begin his ITTF Australian Open campaign against South Korea's Cho Daeseong at 11am UK time on Thursday.

The match, on Table 2, will be streamed live on the ITTF website – click here to watch (registration required).

Pitchford is 14th seed for the event and will be up against an opponent ranked No 305 in the world. However, Cho has been on a good run to get to the main draw, defeating Lam Siu Hang of Hong Kong (WR #116) 4-3 in the first preliminary round, Benedikt Duda (GER, #53) in the second and then coming from 3-1 down to beat world No 18 Wong Chun Ting of Hong Kong 4-3 in the final preliminary round.

The winner of the tie will face the winner of the match between Wang Chuqin of China and world No 4 Tomokazu Harimoto of Japan in the last 16.

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