



Pitchford primed for WTT season finale

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England No 1 Liam Pitchford heads to the season-ending WTT Cup Finals in good heart after narrowly missing out on the medals at the World Championships in Houston.

Pitchford & Paul Drinkhall reached the men's doubles quarter-finals in Houston, where victory would have guaranteed bronze. However, they were defeated 3-1 (12-10, 10-12, 12-10, 11-5) by second seeds Shunsuke Togami & Yukiya Uda of Japan.

World No 15 Pitchford also reached the last 16 of the singles, losing out 4-3 (14-12, 11-6, 9-11, 11-6, 7-11, 3-11, 11-4) to sixth seed Liang Jingkun of China in one of the best matches of the tournament.

Pitchford has qualified for the WTT Finals for the second season in a row and will be looking to improve on last year's showing, when he was beaten in the first match by Hugo Calderano of Brazil.

With 16 of the world's top 20 competing in Singapore, it is one of the toughest competitions in the world. The draw has pitted Pitchford against Jang Woojin of South Korea, who he beat just over a year ago at the WTT in Macao.

The match is at 8am UK time on Saturday – follow the latest news from the event on the [WTT website](#). The winner will face the winner of the clash between Wang Chuqin (CHN) and Lin Yun-Ju (TPE).

Pitchford said: "It's exciting and another chance to have a go at the top guys. I've got a lot of confidence going into it from the Worlds. It's where I want to be and cement myself at these events and do well."

[Click here for more information on the WTT website](#)

Who's competing?

Men: Fan Zhendong (CHN, WR1), Tomokaku Harimoto (JPN, 4), Hugo Calderano (BRA, 5), Lin Yun-Ju (TPE, 6), Lin Gaoyuan (CHN, 7), Dimitrij Ovtcharov (GER, 8), Liang Jingkun (CHN, 9), Mattias Falck (SWE, 10), Jang Woojin (KOR, 12), Jeoung Youngsik (KOR, 13), Patrick Franziska (GER, 14), Liam Pitchford (ENG, 15), Wang Chuqin (CHN, 16), Quadri Aruna (NGR, 17), Simon Gauzy (FRA, 18), Lee Sangsu (KOR, 20).

Women: Chen Meng (CHN, WR1), Sun Yingsha (CHN, 2), Wang Manyu (CHN, 4), Cheng I-Ching (TPE, 8), Kasumi Ishikawa (JPN, 9), Wang Yidi (CHN, 10), Feng Tianwei (SGP, 11), Miu Hirano (JPN, 12), Doo Hoi Kem (HKG, 13), Jeon Jihee (KOR, 14), Chen Xingtong (CHN, 15), Sofia Polcanova (AUT, 16), Adriana Diaz (PUR, 17), Hina Hayata (JPN, 18), Petrissa Solja (GER, 19), Hitomi Sato (JPN, 20).

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