

## Ho hunting another national title

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Tin-Tin Ho will be favourite to add to her growing collection of National Championship titles when the Junior & Cadet version gets under way on Saturday.

The 17-year-old Londoner won a memorable hat-trick at the PG Mutual Nationals in March, defeating Kelly Sibley live on ITV4 to seal her first Women's Singles title and add to the Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles she had won earlier in the event.

She only missed out on the Under-21 title, <u>beaten in a dramatic final by Maria Tsaptsinos</u> – the same opponent who defeated her in the Junior Singles last season.

This time, however, Tsaptsinos will not be standing in Ho's way this time as she is no longer eligible. The most likely challenger is second seed Emily Bolton, who won the Junior National Cup while Ho was on World Championships duty.

Ho starts her campaign at 9am on Saturday at the University of Huddersfield and is in the same group as Gauri Duhan, Mollie Patterson and Tiana Dennison.

In the Junior Boys' event, another multiple national champion will be looking to add to his haul. Tom Jarvis won his first under-21 crown in Hatfield in March and is favourite to take the title in Huddersfield.

His first challenge will be to get past Wing Cheong Kwan, Ben Cawston and George Hazell in the group stage.

The Junior events take place on Saturday, with the Cadets to follow on Sunday. Cadet National Cup champions James Smith and Denise Payet are the respective top seeds – and Payet will be looking to retain the title she won last year.

Because of changes in the competition calendar, this is the first Cadet & Junior Nationals since November 2014, while the format has also changed.

The event is on an invitation basis, with the top 32 eligible boys and top 16 girls selected to compete.

There will also be Junior Team test events for both boys and girls on Sunday.

For details of the draw and schedule, <u>click here to view the event programme</u>

We will be live-streaming matches throughout the event on our <u>YouTube channel</u> and you can follow updates via our Twitter page (@TableTennisEng) during the event using the hashtag #TTNationals

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