

PG Mutual Nationals to be held at Copper Box

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The PG Mutual National Championships are coming to the Box That Rocks!

The Copper Box Arena in London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park will host the championships from Friday March 2 to Sunday March 4.

That is a few days after the Team World Cup at the same venue from February 22 to 25 and Table Tennis England is investigating the possibility of allowing practice sessions the day before the Nationals begins and potentially starting the event on Friday morning, rather than at lunchtime as in previous years.

The iconic Copper Box Arena was dubbed the Box That Rocks during the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics because of the superb atmosphere generated by spectators. Ticketing arrangements for the Nationals will be announced in due course.

Table Tennis England is also announcing venues for other major events this season, and the selection procedures for players.

There will be no selection policies for National Championships and National Cup events this season – meaning there is no need for players to let us know that they wish to be considered for selection. Instead, invitations will be sent out based on specific ranking lists.

The Senior and Cadet & Junior Nationals will be limited to 32 competitors in each category, with invitations sent to the top 30 in the relevant rankings lists, plus up to two wildcards.

In the event of invitations not being taken up, players below the top 30 in the rankings will be invited, but no invitations will be issued to players ranked below 50.

The competition and ranking dates are as follows:

• PG Mutual (Senior) National Championships: March 1-4, Copper Box Arena (London), selections based on the

January 2018 rankings list.

- Cadet & Junior Nationals: April 28-29, Aldersley Leisure Village (Wolverhampton), selections based on the February 2018 ranking list. Players must have played in a minimum of two 4* events in the 12 months prior to the publication date of the February rankings list (scheduled for February 7, 2018).
- U10-13 Nationals; June 16-17, Aldersley Leisure Village (Wolverhampton), selections based on the April 2018 ranking list. Age group lists will be published in December, March and April.
- Junior National Cup: May 26-27, Ellenborough TTC (Enfield), selections based on the February 2018 ranking list.
- Cadet & U12 National Cup: March 17-18, Priory Ruskin Academy (Grantham), selections based on the January 2018 ranking list.

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