



Development Department Update For National Councillors and Regional Chairs

August 2014

Welcome!

Welcome to the Development Department update for Regional Chairs and National Councillors. As you know we are coming through a time of great change and to ensure you remain up to date with the latest developments we have produced this communication to keep you informed. Rather than briefly updating on every programme and initiative this update has identified the areas of significant change or progress and gives a reasonably detailed update on these areas. We hope you find this approach useful and thank you for your ongoing support and enthusiasm.

Best wishes

Emily St. John (Head of Development)

Priority Zones

Table Tennis England is committed to increasing participation. One of its strategies to enable this is working in 'priority zone areas'. A 'priority zone' is considered to be a Local Authority area, which has agreed prioritised Table Tennis England staff support and investment.

A zone is selected based on a set criteria and is identified as having the potential to significantly increase participation in table tennis. The criteria considers items such as 16+ population, league infrastructure, club infrastructure, Local Authority support, wider partner support, Ping! involvement or potential involvement, workforce, educational establishments in the zone and their activity, potential satellite club activity, multi-table facility provision/potential, inclusive opportunities and wider opportunities.

During the selection process area staff communicated with Regional Chairs, Regional Sport England staff, County Sport Partnerships and Local Authorities. Census data, partner feedback and Table Tennis England data has been considered to score possible zones against the above criteria. Scores and proposed zones have been peer reviewed by colleagues from other areas and signed off by the Head of Development.

Confirmed zones are: Bristol, Oxford and Plymouth (South West); Birmingham, Leicester and Nottingham (Central); Brighton, Croydon and Sutton, Chelmsford and Tower Hamlets (London & South East); Leeds, Liverpool and Sheffield (North).



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Area staff will be working with priority zones to create a development plan and will also be considering potential priority zones to bring on board in the future. A significant amount of staff time will be focused on working with these zones, however other geographical zones will still be of great importance to us. Staff will complete some work with potential zones and with a number of clubs outside of zones, in particular those undertaking major facility developments and clubs involved in key development initiatives. County Sport Partnership support has also been secured for Table Tennis Clubs and groups to ensure local support can be easily provided.

Area Staff Roles

This update aims to provide some clarity on the roles of area staff within the new structure. Following the staff restructure Table Tennis England placed its staff into areas rather than regions. Each area has an Area Development Lead (ADL) who is managed by the Head of Development, a Coach Development Officer and a Development Officer (DO) both are managed by the ADL. London and the South East are the exception with an additional DO. The staff work together in a team across their allocated area.

The ADLs manage the team having overall responsibility for the area. They oversee programme delivery, monitoring and partnership working as well as leading on a priority zone and supporting priority programmes such as Ping! The DOs lead on club support, accreditation, promoting places to play and supporting priority programmes. They lead a priority zone and provide lots of hands on support to key initiatives such as Ping! The CDOs lead on coach development, they organise and tutor a range of agreed courses and workshops, whilst helping access coach grants and providing advice and support on coach development. They also lead a priority zone and assist with Ping!

National Table Tennis Day

17th July 2014 saw a first for the sport, with a national day dedicated to it. Clubs and communities across England combined to celebrate the sport by hosting and running events in all sorts of places, from the Houses of Parliament to shopping centres, parks, railway stations and even on the beach; involving every level from novices to England stars, the table tennis family came together to promote our sport.

The headline event was at the Houses of Parliament, where a series of Lords and MPs took up bats to show their prowess. They included the chairman of the Home Affairs Select Committee, Keith Vaz, and Mark Lancaster, the Milton Keynes MP, who helped to arrange the event on Speaker's Green in the shadow of Big Ben; watch a video of the event at <http://tabletennisengland.co.uk/news/video-when-table-tennis-went-to-westminster/>

There were three winners of NTTD competitions who each received an outdoor table for their communities, courtesy of Ping! Visit this link for all the details <http://tabletennisengland.co.uk/news/national-table-tennis-day-competition-winners-revealed/>

The success of the day was a real team effort, so huge thanks to all staff, board members, volunteers and partners who contributed!

For more information visit <http://tabletennisengland.co.uk/news/a-national-table-tennis-day-to-remember/>



Ping!

The Ping! project, currently managed by Sing London and delivered through partnerships with Local Authorities, County Councils and other Culture and Arts organisations is active in 15 cities across England this summer. Ping! takes tables into all sorts of weird and wonderful locations in an attempt to reach a new audience of participants and inspire and enthuse people to get involved in the game.

Table Tennis England will take over the Ping! project from 2015 and so are currently undertaking high levels of research into the project to see how it can be developed further to reach an even wider audience and help support participation targets with more sustained activity after the summer project has ended. Check out the list of cities and tables at <http://www.pingengland.co.uk/>



PremierClub

The application process for the PremierClub programme for the 2014/15 season was launched on the 7th August. We have contacted all existing PremierClubs to inform them that can now renew their affiliation to the programme online. This year we have also contacted leagues across the country to ask them to pass some information onto Clubs who aren't yet part of the scheme.

We hope this can both drive an increase in the number of affiliated clubs we have but also we hope it can provide us with some useful feedback as to why some clubs choose not to affiliate with Table Tennis England. More information about the PremierClub programme and the benefits clubs can receive can be found on our website at <http://tabletennisengland.co.uk/development/clubs-premierclubs/about-premierclub/>.

Satellite Clubs

The application process for the second year of our Satellite programme will be launched by the end of August. Our Sport England target for the end of this financial year is to have a total of 108 Satellites running in venues across the country engaging a minimum of 2,000 young people. This year, in order to achieve this, we have to concentrate our efforts on supporting our existing satellites but we also look to set up around 30 new satellites mainly focused around priority and potential priority zones.

Last year, we had some great projects delivering excellent table tennis programmes. As a result, we are currently in a really strong position and with investments into the right projects this year we hope to go on and surpass these targets. We anticipate more than 30 new clubs will be interested and will therefore help clubs get in contact with their local County Sport Partnership who also have satellite funding that can be applied for.

Research

Our summer of research is well under way with a Ping! participant survey and a member survey; so far we have collected 435 Ping! participant surveys to help us understand our recreational players. Thank you to all those who have volunteered as part of the Ping! project and helped us gain surveys. If you need the link or are interested to see the recreational player survey it is here: <http://bit.ly/ST5Zax>

We also launched our members survey aimed at club and competitive players on 31 July. In just over a week we have already received over 2000 responses, which will tell us players' demographic, playing behaviours and preferences, their motivations for playing table tennis and what they would like from their membership with Table Tennis England. Knowledge of our market will help us to develop future offers to maximise table tennis participation. The member survey can be found here: <http://bit.ly/1ob9sc0>

Thank you to everyone that has completed this we look forward to sharing with you some of the key findings.