



Table Tennis England Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence (AASE) Programme 2014-15

What is AASE and how will it work in Table Tennis?

The AASE programme reflects the range of skills, knowledge and performance criteria required in elite level sport. It is designed to directly measure the athlete's ability to plan, apply and evaluate their development in the appropriate technical, tactical, physical and psychological aspects of their sport. It also addresses wider issues such as lifestyle, career development, communication and health and safety. This is work that you are already doing in your training, so the AASE programme provides us with the framework to formalise and record evidence of the knowledge and skills that you are developing and reward you with formal qualifications that will help further your career in sport.

As a member of the Table Tennis England AASE Programme you will benefit from additional investment and support in your personal athletic development plan, through bespoke coaching, training and competition opportunities, equipment and support services.

There are currently more than 2500 athletes on the AASE throughout England. More than 25 sports are currently involved in the AASE, including football, rugby, rowing, boxing, tennis, swimming, and disability including a large number of Olympic and Commonwealth sports.

Table Tennis England will be partnering with Stroud and South Gloucestershire College to deliver our AASE programme. The programme will provide a great degree of academic flexibility and work with players in their home environment, adding additional support through camps and bespoke delivery.

Who is Eligible for the Table Tennis England AASE Programme?

Table Tennis England has worked with SkillsActive and Sport England to develop our sport specific entry requirements, ensuring the most talented table tennis athletes are selected for the programme.

Table Tennis England will only select athletes to the AASE programme who:

- Are aged 16-19 and:
- selected onto an England or Regional Squad or based in a Table Tennis England Talent Development Centre.
- Meet the minimum academic entry requirements.



- Meet Apprenticeship Funding Eligibility criteria.
- Are affiliated to Table Tennis England, holding a valid Table Tennis England Player Licence and in good standing
- Are eligible to represent England in ITTF and ETTU approved competitions and have a valid British Passport
- Are not currently under disqualification or suspension under the rules of Table Tennis England or ITTF & ETTU.
- Are not currently serving any sanction for an anti-doping rule violation under any relevant anti-doping rules.
- Have notified Table Tennis England that they wish to be considered for this programme by 1st October 2014.

Eligible candidates will be selected on the following criteria;

- Competitive Performance Standards in Table Tennis
- Your Coach's Reference

All apprentices are required to complete the following components of the programme:

- Functional Skills
- Personal Learning and Thinking Skills (PLTS)
- Employee Rights and Responsibilities
- AASE Portfolio

Please note apprentices are able to complete additional learning through a part time programme for a maximum of 16 hours per week; this may include A-levels.

Up to 40 places are available. The first selection will be completed by 15th September and additional places may be offered up to 1st October 2014. Places will be offered on a first come first served basis until 1st October.

Selection Panel

A selection panel will be established comprising three voting members and one non voting Chair:

- Table Tennis England Head of Coaching and Performance (Non Voting- Chair),
- Table Tennis England Head Coach,
- Table Tennis England National Coach,
- Table Tennis England National Talent Coach

Additional experts may be asked to provide advice or information to the selection panel at the request of the Chair.

In the event of any conflict of interest for any member, the Table Tennis England conflict of interest policy should be adhered to. Any member with a conflict of interest shall not be entitled to vote on that issue.

How does AASE work?

The Table Tennis England AASE Programme will take between twelve months and eighteen months to complete. If your application is successful your programme will commence in September and October 2014. On successful completion of the programme you will gain two qualifications.

- Level 3 Certificate in Achieving Excellence in Sports Performance
- Level 3 Certificate in Understanding Sports Performance

These qualifications recognise excellence in a specific sport and are only available as part of the AASE programme. The certificates cover the following performance and knowledge related topics:

- Technical Skills
- Tactical Skills
- Physical Capability
- Nutrition
- Psychological Skills
- Lifestyle Management
- Career Planning
- Communicating as an Athlete
- Health and Safety

Where Can You Complete Your Table Tennis England AASE Programme?

You can stay at your existing school or college and train at your home club or transfer to the residential option. AASE table tennis athletes will also be required to attend additional training, workshops and camps for the NVQ Diploma.

Why Should You Enrol into the Table Tennis England AASE programme?

The AASE programme helps develop and nurture elite athletes and is the perfect programme for aspiring athletes.

AASE also provides for second career development, should an athlete fall short of their ultimate sporting goal or choose to follow an alternative career path. This includes work within the related fields of coaching, sport development, health and fitness and sports leadership.

AASE apprentices will get more quality coaching hours

AASE apprentices may also benefit from additional expertise including strength and conditioning experts, physiotherapists, nutritionists and mentors

The programme encourages apprentices to be responsible for their own time management, commitment and skill development.

Success Stories

AASE alumni apprentices have achieved huge success in the sporting arena, including Olympic and Paralympic medals, Commonwealth medals and professional contracts.

Past AASE athletes include:

- Rebecca Adlington- Double Olympic Gold Medallist Swimmer
- Tom Daley- Olympic Medallist Diving
- Jack Wilshere- Arsenal 1st Team Player and England International
- Sarah Stevenson- Olympic Medallist Taekwondo Athlete
- Rachel Jennings- Ladies European Tour Player and Former England International

How do I apply for AASE

If you wish to apply please do so by e-mail to Sandra Pelizzoni performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk by 1st October 2014 by providing the following information:

- Your full name
- Date of birth
- Your Table Tennis England player number
- Postal address
- Your e-mail address
- Your phone number
- Parent or Guardian's full name
- Parent or Guardian's e-mail address
- Parent or Guardian's daytime phone number
- Details of qualifications you already hold
- Details of the qualifications you are studying towards in 2014-15 and your school
- Which level of the England Talent Pathway you are on
- Details of your club coaches' contact information
- Details of your table tennis career to date.

ENDS.