



Table Tennis England Selection Policy

England Youth Squad 2014/15

Version: 2

14th July 2014

Overview

Table Tennis England will select a squad of athletes and lead a programme to achieve the objective of developing successful senior international athletes for England and Great Britain. The programme will require athletes to commit to a series of training and competitions and engagement with the National Coaching staff. This programme will predominantly be funded by the individual athlete and in applying to the programme, athletes are committing to meet the financial requirements of the programme. Finally athletes will only be eligible for selection once they have completed, signed and returned both an application form and an athlete agreement.

The Table Tennis England Youth Squad will consist of two tiers:

1. **Performance:** Athletes selected to this group will have evidenced a higher level of performance prior to selection and athletes in this group are expected to be performing at a higher current standard. This group of athletes may be required to attend additional training and competitions but this will be discussed and agreed with the successful athletes and have a greater degree of individualisation.
2. **Development:** Athletes selected to this group have achieved the minimum criteria for selection and are committed to their training and growth but have not yet competed successfully at international level. The group of athletes will be supported to grow their performances over a period of time and may well be offered a two or three year selection subject to continued commitment to their training and competition.

The selectors will consider athletes for both tiers when assessing their applications.

This programme replaces the two previous national programmes, EYS and YDT. Instead they are merged into one England Youth Squad, with two performance tiers.

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



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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.

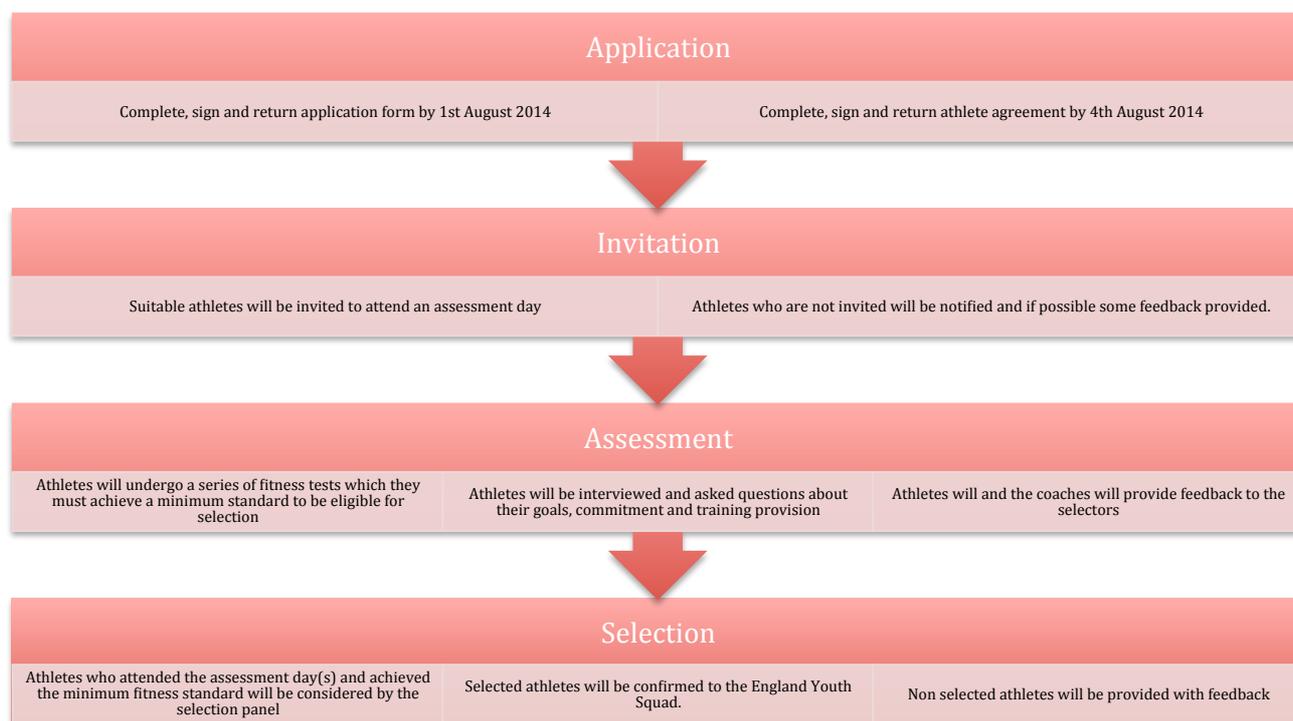
Eligibility

Table Tennis England will only select athletes to represent England who:

1. Are affiliated to Table Tennis England, holding a valid Table Tennis England Player Licence and in good standing
2. Are eligible to represent England in ITTF and ETTU approved competitions and have a valid British Passport
3. Are not currently under disqualification or suspension under the rules of Table Tennis England or ITTF & ETTU.
4. Are not currently serving any sanction for an anti-doping rule violation under any relevant anti-doping rules.
5. Have notified Table Tennis England that they wish to be considered for this Squad by 4th August 2014 by returning a signed application form and signed athlete agreement. Athletes are required to notify Sandra Pelizzoni (performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk) in writing or by email that they wish to be considered for selection by this date;
6. Athletes must sign and return the England Youth Squad Athlete Agreement in order to be eligible for selection to this Squad. The Agreement will include a code of conduct and a commitment to the specified training and competition programme, to observe Table Tennis England sponsorship guidelines and to wear appropriate Team apparel.
7. Have attended the required Table Tennis England assessment day, or had mitigating circumstances accepted in advance by the selection panel.

Process

The following process will apply:



Athlete Agreement

This will be sent out shortly and available from our website. Athletes are only eligible for consideration for this Squad if they have signed and returned the athlete agreement by 4th August 2014.

Assessment Days

Following their initial application, invited athletes will be asked to the assessment days on 13th or 14th September. Venue for this is to be confirmed but likely to be Lilleshall National Sports Centre.

Performance Standard

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the minimum performance standards listed below to be eligible to be considered for selection to the England Youth Squad.

- Represented England at international competition in the 2013-14 season
- Quarter finalist or higher at U11-U14 National Championships 2014
- Quarter finalist or higher at Cadet or Junior National Championships 2013
- Quarter finalist or higher at Senior National Championships 2014
- Cadet or Junior Masters Top 8 in 2013/14 season
- Quarter finalist or higher at 4* events in 2013/14 season
- Been invited to apply by one of the National Coaching Staff (Nick Jarvis, Alan Cooke or Matthew Stanforth).

Fitness Standard

Athletes will undergo a series of fitness assessments. Each age and gender will have a series of minimum benchmarks that players have to achieve at the testing session in order to be eligible for selection. The tests and standards are set out below:

Minimum Benchmarks:

Test	U11		U12		U13		U14		Cadet		Junior	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Yo Yo Test (m)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	360	280	360	280	440	320	720	600
Cooper Test (m)	1200	1200	1400	1200	1800	1500	2000	1500	2200	1700	2400	1800
T Test (s)	13	14	13	14	12	13	12	13	11.5	12.5	11.5	12.5
Press Ups (number per minute)	10	8	10	8	12	10	15	12	20	15	25	18
Sit Ups (number per minute)	10	8	10	8	12	10	15	12	20	15	25	18
Sargeant Jump (cm)	20	10	20	10	25	15	30	20	35	25	35	25

For the U11, U12, U13 the Cooper test will be completed and the older groups either the Yo Yo test or the Cooper test will be administered. Four other tests will also be recorded but will not form part of the assessment

1. Stand & reach flexibility test
2. Astride sit flexibility test
3. Weight
4. Height

Test details:

For more information on each test- please click the link below:

Yo Yo Test: <http://www.topendsports.com/testing/tests/yo-yo-intermittent.htm>

Cooper Test: <http://www.topendsports.com/testing/tests/cooper.htm>

T Test: <http://www.topendsports.com/testing/tests/t-test.htm>

Press Ups: <http://www.topendsports.com/testing/tests/home-pushup.htm>

Sit ups: <http://www.topendsports.com/testing/tests/home-situp.htm>

Sargeant Jump: <http://www.topendsports.com/testing/tests/home-vertical-jump.htm>

Training Programme

If you are selected to the England Youth Squad you are committing yourself to attending the following training camps, venues are to be confirmed but as a base Lilleshall will be used:

- 20-21 September 2014
- 28-31 October 2014
- 15-16 November 2014

- 6-7 December 2014
- 17-18 January 2015
- 16-20 February 2015
- 6-10 April 2015
- 2-3 May 2015
- 30-31 May 2015
- 13-14 June 2015
- 28 June- 2 July 2015

Between each camp one of the three National Staff will meet with you at least once with the objective of supporting your local training and talking through with you the progress you are making. You will be assigned a particular contact coach who will provide this support.

Your training programme is completed at your own expenses unless otherwise agreed with Table Tennis England and a minimum of 10 hours training per week is required from each member of the Squad

You will be required to complete weekly records of your training, submitted regularly to Matthew Stanforth in electronic form providing details of your training and competition including physical training completed that week.

Competitions

Selected athletes will be required to compete in the following events:

- Relevant age group National Championships
- At least 2 4* competitions
- Relevant Masters (if selected and age group applicable)

Players will be required to agree the rest of their competition programme with their support coach and submit competition reviews following each event. The costs for these competitions are the responsibility of the athlete unless other wise agreed with Table Tennis England.

Players should be available for selection for a number of international competitions where relevant for their age group including:

- Home 6 Nations (potentially funded)
- Cadet 6 Nations (potentially funded)
- European Youth Championships (funded)
- World Junior Championships (self funded)
- European Minis (self funded)
- Hungarian Youth Open (potentially funded)
- French Youth Open (potentially funded)

- Spanish Youth Open (potentially funded)
- Other dates may be added

Funding

The cost to each athlete for their programme is £1555. By accepting your place on the programme, you are committing yourself to paying this amount to Table Tennis England by 31st July 2015. For clarity, these costs cover all training camps as detailed above and local support to each athlete from the central staff. It does not cover any domestic competition costs or international competition costs where no central funding is available.

A number of payment options are available, please contact the finance department to arrange these (jenny.richards@tabletennisengland.co.uk) payments. A minimum payment is required on a quarterly basis.

Should you be unable to commit to this amount and have been offered a place please communicate with us at the earliest opportunity. Athletes in receipt of funding from Sports Aid or other NGB applied sources will be expected to use this to support this programme initially. Athletes are at risk of de-selection if they fail to maintain payments for their programme.

Communications

Athletes and their personal coaches are expected to communicate regularly with the support coach and to engage in an open and honest manner with them. This is the basis of the support that this programme can offer and failure to do so may result in their de-selection.

Medical

At the time of their selection, any selected athlete may have their medical and/or musculoskeletal status confirmed by a nominated Table Tennis England Medical adviser. Any selected athlete may, at any other time, be required by the Head of Coaching & Performance (and/or his delegate) to undergo fitness or medical assessments to ensure that they have maintained an adequate level of fitness to perform to the best of their ability. The Head of Coaching & Performance (and/or his delegate) will specify the process by which a selected athlete is to confirm his or her continued health and fitness, which might include participating in certain events or undergoing fitness tests;

Media & Communication

All selected athletes are required to adhere to the Social Media guidance which can be found on the Table Tennis England website at the following address: <http://tabletennisengland.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/ETTA-Social-Media-Guidelines-2012.pdf>

All athletes, whether selected or not are required to keep the notification of their selection or non-selection confidential until such time as directed by the Table Tennis England.

De-Selection

Table Tennis England retains the right to deselect an athlete under any of the following:

- The athlete is no longer eligible for selection for this squad,
- The athletes does not adhere to their code of conduct or athlete agreement.
- The athlete in the sole opinion of the Head of Coaching and Performance (or his or her representative) is no longer physically or mentally able to perform at the level consistent with that which earned their initial selection
- The athlete fails to comply with any reasonable training or competition programme set out by Table Tennis England performance staff



- The athlete does not make the necessary funding payments for their programme

Any athlete who is de-selected will immediately be notified of the decision and the reason and will have a right of review in accordance with the review process.

Selection Review

Athletes have the right to review selection decisions through Table Tennis England's Selection Review Process. A copy of the policy outlining this process is available on the Table Tennis England website.

ENDS

14th July 2014