



Table Tennis England Selection Policy

U12, Cadet (U15) & Junior (U18) National Cup 2016

Version: 1.5

16 September 2015

Overview

Table Tennis England will select players to compete who are:

- a) Able to deliver a credible performance and/or;
- b) Able to achieve the highest possible finishing position;

at the 2016 Table Tennis England U12, Cadet or Junior National Cup competitions. Any variation to the selection/de-selection policy or criteria will only be published before the conclusion of the qualification period.

Table Tennis England may select between six and 10 athletes in U12, Cadet and Junior age groups and in both genders.

Selection Panel

A selection panel will be established comprising:

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

In the event of a tie, the Chair will have the casting vote. Additional experts may be asked to provide advice to the selection committee 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 provided Table Tennis England with a signed Acknowledgement (as set out at the end of the Selection Policy) by 16th December 2015. Athletes wishing to be considered in both Cadet (U15) and Junior (U18) need to earn their eligibility and selection in each age category, but need only sign and return one selection policy.
6. Have notified Table Tennis England that they wish to be considered for this event by 16th December 2015. Athletes are required to notify Melanie Allen (performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk) in writing or by email that they wish to be considered for selection by this date; Athletes need to confirm which age group (or both) that they are wishing to be considered for. Athletes should note that they are responsible for being able to prove that they returned the signed form before the deadline and should keep this until their returned agreement has been acknowledged by Table Tennis England.
7. Have competed in the following competitions during the 12 months prior to the closing date for each competition:
 - Age group National Championships which selection is sought in*
*For the 2015/16 season the most recent Cadet & Junior National Championships will be accepted as this is greater than 12 months earlier.
 - For Junior & Cadet only: 2 x 4* events, competing in age group in which selection is sought

Qualification Period

The qualification period for this event is for the 12 months to the following

- U12 & Cadet: 1st January 2016
- Junior: 15th January 2016

Criteria

Following the overriding objectives of the selection committee, which are subject to the above, the selection committee will select according to the following criteria:

Automatic Selection

Athletes will gain automatic selection, subject to compliance with the rest of this policy, if they meet the following criteria;

- Table Tennis England ranking from one to six on the most recent Table Tennis England list available before the closing date for entries. Athletes need to achieve this in each age group they are seeking selection in.

Discretionary Selection

Following the automatic selections it will be for the selection panel to determine which, if any, additional athletes shall be selected for the event. The selectors may select between zero and four additional players from the relevant Table Tennis England ranking list in order but they are not required to select any if they feel that these players are not of sufficient standard to perform successfully at this competition.

This selection process is discretionary and the selection panel, as experts, are required to use their judgment to select athletes to compete in this event. Their reasons must be rationale, reasonable, free of bias and in accordance with the principles of natural justice.

The selection panel will consider players in their Table Tennis England ranking order to determine if they are of a suitable standard to compete in the event using the following:

1. Performances in the following events:
 - 2015 ETTU European Table Tennis Championships
 - 2015/16 ITTF World Table Tennis Championships



- 2015/16 ITTF World Tour Events (Senior/ U21/Junior & Cadet)
 - 2015 European Youth Championships
 - 2014 National Cadet & Junior Championships
 - 2015 Home 6 Nations
 - Other 2015/16 ITTF Sanctioned events when representing England (Senior/ U21/Junior & Cadet)
 - If there are insufficient players eligible for consideration for this event who have competed in any of the competitions listed above and whose performance standard the selection committee at its sole discretion deems sufficient to meet the objective of this policy, performances in the following competitions may also be taken in to account:
 - 2015/16 Table Tennis England Grand Prix
 - 2015/16 British League- Premier Division
 - 2015/16 Junior British League
2. Table Tennis England (age group specific) ranking within the selection period, any movement in that ranking and the reasons for it.
 3. Each athletes best two matches in the events listed above
 4. Commitment to improve and compete at the highest possible level
 5. Potential to perform at a high level in future events for England or GB teams

For the avoidance of doubt the selection panel may select any number between six and ten male athletes and six and ten female athletes in each age category that it considers are capable of performing at a credible level in this event.

Players may only be considered in Table Tennis England ranking order and thus should a player be deemed of insufficient standard, then all players lower on the Table Tennis England ranking list may not be selected.

Timing

The selection panel will meet at the conclusion of the qualification period and except in exceptional circumstances, athletes will be notified within five working days. Should an athlete wish to appeal their non selection, then the fast track decision review process will apply.

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 circumstances:

- The athlete is no longer eligible for selection for this event,
- The athlete in the sole opinion of the Head of Coaching and Performance 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
- Any exceptional circumstances exist which in the reasonable opinion of the Selection Panel justify the non-selection or de-selection of the athlete concerned.

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

Appeals

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

Acknowledgement

Each athlete shall acknowledge that they have read, understood and accepted these Selection Criteria and Guidelines by signing the enclosed copy and returning it to Melanie Allen (performance@tabletennisengland.co.uk) writing or by email by 16th December 2015 to Norfolk House, 88 Saxon Gate West, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK9 2DL. For any Under 18 athletes, a parent or guardian will also be required to sign the returned copy. Athletes should retain the second copy for their own records.

Policy:

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Acknowledged by:

Name _____ Signed _____ Date _____ (Athlete)

Name _____ Signed _____ Date _____ (Parent/Guardian)

ENDS