United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee Certification Review Group



USA Table Tennis: Certification Renewal Follow-Up Report June 23, 2023





## USA Table Tennis Certification Renewal Follow-Up Report Executive Summary

In December 2022, the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC) Board of Directors renewed the certification of USA Table Tennis as a National Governing Body (NGB) with a status of Renewal with Conditions. In accordance with the USOPC's NGB Certification Policy, USA Table Tennis had 180 days from the USOPC Board of Directors' ratification of this recommendation to resolve the remaining deficiencies and fulfill the conditions outlined in the report, then the Certification Review Group would evaluate the NGB's progress and deliver an updated recommendation to the USOPC Board of Directors.

The CRG's initial certification review of USA Table Tennis found that the organization was meeting most of the USOPC's NGB Compliance Standards in the five core areas of evaluation for certification: Governance and Compliance, Financial Standards and Reporting Practices, Athlete Protections and Rights, Sport Performance, and Operational Performance. However, at the close of the initial certification review, USA Table Tennis had yet to fully address the audit finding relating to background check controls, and the CRG made remediation of those controls a condition of the certification renewal.

During the 180-day remediation period, USA Table Tennis ensured its background check controls were operating effectively, resolved expired background checks, and ensured that persons within its tracking system are currently affiliated with the organization. Additionally, USA Table Tennis also took action to resolve other marginal issues, which do not affect its certification status.

As a result of USA Table Tennis' timely action to meet the condition of its initial Renewal with Conditions certification, the CRG recommends that USA Table Tennis' certification status be upgraded to Renewal in Good Standing for its certification term ending in 2026.



#### **Certification History**

The CRG completed a certification renewal review of USA Table Tennis in 2022 based on the USOPC's quadrennial certification renewal schedule. As a result of this review, the National Governing Body Oversight and Compliance Committee recommended that USA Table Tennis be certified with a status of Renewal with Conditions. The USOPC Board of Directors accepted this recommendation and ratified it on December 7, 2022.

The Board's ratification triggered a 180-day remediation period for USA Table Tennis to resolve the condition the CRG put in place for the certification. USA Table Tennis' remediation period ran through June 5, 2023.

## **Certification Conditions**

USA Table Tennis's Renewal with Conditions certification status was contingent on the completion of the following condition:

• USA Table Tennis must ensure its background check controls are operating effectively, resolve expired background checks, and ensure that persons within its tracking system are currently affiliated with the organization, in order to maintain compliance with NGB Compliance Standard C.3.a.

## **Remediation Actions**

USA Table Tennis updated the organization's background check policy to include all required elements to comply with the language requirements of NGB Compliance Standard C.3.a. USA Table Tennis staff executed the policy in accordance with its audit management action plan by conducting regular review of its background check listing for expired results, ensuring that the persons within the tracking system are currently affiliated with the organization. During follow-up testing, NGB Audit verified that individuals required to be background checked are current within the system and that USATT's controls have been updated to ensure the completion of expired background checks.

#### Additional Actions Taken

While not conditions of the certification, USA Table Tennis also addressed marginal issues that were noted in its certification review but did not contribute to its Renewal with Conditions status. For example, USA Table Tennis actively engaged its board of directors through a virtual offsite as well as through in-person meetings to align on the organization's values and priorities, and to develop a long-term strategic plan. The CEO, Board Chair, and USOPC staff member in attendance noted increased participation, interaction, and collaboration among board members, as well as developing trust and respect among management. NGB Audit considered this sufficient in remediating USA Table Tennis' managerial capability finding.

While not required to fulfill as a certification condition, USA Table Tennis' work to facilitate open dialogue among its leadership demonstrates the organization's commitment to the NGB Compliance Standards and to its own organizational excellence.



# Conclusion

The CRG concludes that USA Table Tennis is performing satisfactorily overall based on input from CRG members and its completion of the conditions required as part of its December 2022 Renewal with Conditions certification. USA Table Tennis completed all requirements within the remediation period for its Renewal with Conditions status and there are no outstanding areas of concern affecting its certification status at this time. Accordingly, the CRG recommends that USA Table Tennis' certification status be upgraded from Renewal with Conditions to Renewal in Good Standing for its current certification term ending in 2026.