

# USA TABLE TENNIS ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES 2024 OLYMPIC GAMES ("GAMES") NOVEMBER 15, 2023

#### 1. SELECTION SYSTEM

- 1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:
  - 1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of entry into a Tryout Event (Section 1.2).

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Olympic Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the Olympic Charter (Rule 41).

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation (if any):

To be eligible to participate in the Games, all athletes (Athletes) must satisfy all requirements imposed by the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).

- 1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):
  - Athlete must be a member in good standing of USA Table Tennis (USATT) at the time of entry into any tryout events and at the time of the Games.

- Athletes must have successfully completed all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.
- Any athlete age 18 or older as of the Opening Ceremony will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current <u>USOPC Background Check Policy</u>.
- Any athlete age 18 or older as of the Opening Ceremony will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with the <u>USOPC</u> <u>Athlete Safety Policy</u>.
- Athlete must be in compliance with all USADA anti-doping requirements at the time of entry into a Tryout Event (Section 1.2).

## 1.2. Tryout Events:

1.2.1. Provide the event names, dates and locations of all trials, events, and camps to be used as part of the selection process.

2023 Pan American Regional Qualification Event for Mixed Doubles

• October 29 – November 5, 2023 (Santiago, CHI)

2024 World Team Championships

• February 16 – 25, 2024 (Busan, KOR)

2024 USATT Paris Olympic Trials (Trials) will be held in March 2024.

- Information regarding the date and location of Trials will be posted on or before December 15, 2023 on the USATT website (<u>www.usatt.org</u>).
- The ITTF World Ranking cutoff date for the Trials will be March 1, 2024.

2024 Pan Am Regional Qualification Event for Singles (men only)

- May 14 18, 2024 (Lima, Peru)
- Once confirmed, information regarding the location of this event will be posted on the USATT website (<u>www.usatt.org</u>).

2024 World Mixed Double Qualification Event

- Once confirmed, information regarding the date and location of this event will be posted on the USATT website (<u>www.usatt.org</u>).
- This Qualification Event is not applicable if a U.S. mixed doubles team qualifies for the Games at the 2023 Pan American Regional Qualification Event.
- 1.2.2. Provide event names, dates, locations, and description of how athletes qualify for the trials, events and camps listed above in 1.2.1. (if any).

2023 Pan American Regional Qualification Event for Mixed Doubles

 Selection procedures will be posted at <u>https://www.usatt.org/selection-procedures</u>

2024 World Team Championships

• Selection procedures will be posted at <u>https://www.usatt.org/selection-procedures</u>

2024 USATT Paris Olympic Trials

- Entry into the Trials will be open to any individual who meets the USATT and ITTF criteria to represent the United States at the Games and who meets the eligibility requirements detailed in Section 1.1. above.
- Athletes earn ITTF World Ranking points based on performances in ITTF competitions. The ITTF World Ranking cutoff date for the Trials will be March 1, 2024.

2024 Pan American Regional Qualification for Singles (men only)

- USATT will only nominate athletes for this event if the Men's Team does not qualify for the Games through the World Team Championships or by World Ranking:
- If necessary, the top 2 male finishers at Trials will be nominated to participate in the Pan American Regional Qualification Event for Singles.
- Should a nominated athlete need to be replaced for the Regional Qualification Event for Singles, the replacement athlete will be the next highest male finisher at Trials.

2024 World Mixed Double Qualification Event

- USATT will only nominate athletes for this event if a US Mixed Doubles Team does not qualify for the Games through the 2023 Pan American Games.
- If both the Men's and Women's teams qualify for the Games, the three male and three female athletes nominated to the Team at Trials will compete in a round robin mixed pairs tournament at Trials. The Selection Committee will use the discretionary criteria outlined in Section 2 to determine the three mixed doubles pairs.
  - The winner of the round robin will be nominated to compete at the World Mixed Double Qualification Event.
- If the Men's team doesn't qualify for the Games, three mixed doubles pairs that include a female athlete nominated to the Team at Trials will compete for a spot at the Qualification Event.

- The Selection Committee will use the discretionary criteria outlined in Section 2 to determine which athletes/pairs will compete in a round robin mixed pairs tournament at Trials.
- The winning pair will be nominated to compete at the World Mixed Doubles Qualification Event.
- Should a nominated mixed doubles pair need to be replaced for the World Mixed Double Qualification Event, the replacement pair will be the next highest finisher at Trials.
- 1.3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process.

## **Quota Allocation:**

## Women:

The Women's Table Tennis Team secured a quota for the Games by finishing first at the 2023 Pan Am Championships in Havana, Cuba. The maximum Team size for the Games will be three female athletes.

### Men:

Subject to final quota allocation through the World Team Championships or by World Ranking, the maximum Team size for the Games will be up to three male athletes.

## **Nomination Process:**

## Women:

Results from the 2024 USATT Paris Olympic Trials and ITTF World Ranking will be used to nominate athletes who will represent the United States at the Games in the following priority order:

- One female athlete ranked in the Top 50 of the ITTF World Ranking as of March 1, 2024, will be nominated to the Team.
  - If more than one athlete is ranked in the Top 50 of the ITTF World Ranking, the highest ranked athlete will be nominated to the Team.
- The top two female finishers at Trials not already named to the Team.
- If no athlete qualified through a Top 50 ITTF ranking, the next highest female finisher at Trials will be nominated to the Team.
- Athletes earn ITTF World Ranking points based on performance in ITTF competitions. The ITTF World Ranking cutoff date for the Trials will be March, 1 2024.

## Men:

1. If the Men's Team qualifies for the Games through the World Team Championships or by World Ranking:

Results from the 2024 USATT Paris Olympic Trials and ITTF World Ranking will be used to nominate athletes who will represent the United States at the Games in the following priority order:

- a) One male athlete ranked in the Top 50 of the ITTF World Ranking as of March 1, 2024, will be nominated to the Team.
  - If more than one athlete is ranked in the Top 50 of the ITTF World Ranking, the highest ranked athlete will be nominated to the Team.
- b) The top two male finishers at Trials not already named to the Team.
- c) If no athlete qualified through a Top 50 ITTF ranking, the next highest male finisher at Trials will be nominated to the Team.
- 2. If the Men's Team does not qualify for the Games through the World Team Championships or by World Ranking:

Results from the Trials will be used to nominate athletes who will represent the United States at the Pan American Regional Qualification Event for Singles.

- a) The top 2 male finishers at Trials will be nominated to the Pan Am Regional Qualification Event.
- b) If an athlete earns a quota spot at the Pan Am Regional Qualification Event for Singles, the athlete will be nominated to the Team to participate in the singles event in the Games.

From the athletes nominated to represent the United States at the Games, the U.S. Team Coaches for the Games will determine the participants in the Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles based on past performance and/or style of play at the Tryout Events.

In the event of a conflict between this overview and the ITTF Qualification System, the ITTF Qualification System will take precedent. For more details, please refer to the ITTF Qualification System directly: <a href="https://www.ittf.com/2022/07/11/road-paris2024-olympic-table-tennis-qualification-system-unveiled/">https://www.ittf.com/2022/07/11/road-paris2024-olympic-table-tennis-qualification-system-unveiled/</a>

#### 2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

2.1. Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

If a US Mixed Doubles Team does not qualify for the Games through the 2023 Pan American Games, the Selection Committee will use discretionary criteria to determine which athletes/pairs will compete at Trials for a spot at the World Mixed Double Qualification Event. 2.2. List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any):

The Selection Committee will nominate the best combination of athletes to compete in the mixed doubles pairs tournament at Trials based on the following factors listed in no particular order:

- The athlete's current world ranking;
- Whether the athlete has a performance trajectory that is favorable to future international success based on the athlete's past performance at international competitions;
- The athlete's style and compatibility with available mixed doubles partners.
- 2.3. Provide the name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles currently serving on the committee:

Name	Role		
Amy Feng	USATT High Performance Committee		
Pieke Franssen	USATT High Performance Committee		
Jun Gao	USATT Head Coach		
Khoa Nguyen	uyen USATT High Performance Committee Chair		
Jack Wang	Athlete Representative		
Yue Wu	10 Year Athlete Representative		

#### Olympic Games Selection Committee

2.3.1. Process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee:

All members of the Olympic Games Selection Committee must comply with <u>USATT's conflict of interest policy</u>, to include completing and submitting a disclosure form for review by USATT's ethics committee prior to convening the committee.

Any member of the committee who has an actual, possible, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it to the USATT's ethics committee prior to the start of the selection process and/or recuse him/herself from the review process and/or voting. A conflict of interest exists when a personal, family, financial, professional, club, team or business interest of the committee member poses a direct or indirect relationship, connection, or affiliation, past or present, with an athlete in contention for the applicable team selection that could compromise the committee member's ability to participate in the selection process in an unbiased manner.

If a conflict exists, USATT's ethics committee shall review the conflict and determine the committee member's level of involvement (e.g., whether that committee member must recuse him/herself from participating in discussions and/or voting). For example, if it is determined that a committee member must recuse him/herself from voting, the ethics and governance committee may still determine that a committee member who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team coach or chief high performance officer, may, if requested by the nomination committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and so long as the committee member with the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision. The committee in the selection process.

Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted athlete or coach of a potentially impacted athlete) with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to USATT's ethics committee. Reports may be made anonymously. No committee member shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest.

Any recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with USATT's selection committee appointment process.

#### 3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

3.1. Prior to submission of athlete entries by name by the USOPC to the Local Organizing Committee, USA Table Tennis has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by USATT may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USATT:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to USATT Chief Executive Officer or High-Performance Committee Chair.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USATT. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a

physician (or medical staff) approved by USATT, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.

- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.
- 3.1.4. Violation of USATT's Code of Conduct (<u>https://www.usatt.org/usa-table-tennis-national-team-athlete-code-of-conduct</u>).
- 3.1.5. Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section 1.1. of these selection procedures.
- 3.1.6. The athlete is deemed Not Eligible (NE) by the ITTF.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USATT's Bylaws (<u>https://www.usatt.org/governance-and-financials/bylaws</u>) and the USOPC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted by the USOPC to the Local Organizing Committee, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable USATT Code of Conduct, the USOPC's Delegation Conduct Requirements apply, contained in the USOPC Games Delegation Terms. The USOPC Games Delegation Terms are specific to each Games and made available during the Games registration process; the USOPC's Grievance Procedures and Hearing Process are found at www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution.
- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC WADA, ITTF, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and USATT's SafeSport policies, as applicable.

## 4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- 4.1 Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:
  - 4.1.1 prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

If an athlete who is nominated to the Team is unable to compete at the Games for any reason, the replacement athlete will be the next highest finisher of that gender from Trials.

4.1.2 after submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

If an athlete who is nominated to the Team is unable to compete at the Games for any reason, the replacement athlete will be the next highest finisher of that gender from Trials if replacements are allowed by the Local Organizing Committee.

4.2 All replacement athletes must meet all requirements listed in Section 1.1.

### 5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USATT will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

### 6. **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

In addition to the USOPC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the 2024 Olympic Games:

• USATT Code of Conduct - <u>https://www.usatt.org/usa-table-tennis-national-team-athlete-code-of-conduct</u>

## 7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOPC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USATT in the following locations:

7.1 USA Table Tennis Website: <u>https://www.usatt.org/selection-procedures</u>

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOPC.

#### 8. DATE OF NOMINATION

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before:

June 7, 2024

### 9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Specify the location, schedule, and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

Athletes may be required to attend a pre-Games Camp and/or other event(s) to be held at a venue to be announced. Written announcement of the pre-Games camp will be posted on the USATT website (<u>www.usatt.org</u>) at least ninety (90) days before the commencement of the camp.

While waivers for mandatory training will not be unreasonably withheld, all athletes nominated to the Team should arrange for appropriate time off from school, work or other obligations in advance of the pre-Games Camp. Waivers will primarily be granted for injury or other similar incapacity or for a personal/family emergency. Requests for a waiver must be submitted in writing to the National Team Coach as far in advance as possible.

### **10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS**

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, WADA, ITTF, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies, and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, WADA, ITTF, USADA and USOPC Rules, as applicable.

## **11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES**

The following committee/group (include <u>names</u> and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

Name	Role		
Amy Feng	USATT High Performance Committee		
Pieke Franssen	USATT High Performance Committee		
Khoa Nguyen	USATT High Performance Committee Chair		
Jack Wang	Athlete Representative		
Yue Wu	10 Year Athlete Representative		

#### USATT High Performance Committee

In addition, the following individuals participated:

- Virginia Sung, USATT Chief Executive Officer
- Jun Gao, USATT National Team Head Coach
- Jasna Rather, USATT Para High Performance Director

#### 12. NGB BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USATT Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

https://www.usatt.org/governance-and-financials/bylaws

#### 13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or ITTF rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or ITTF rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USATT. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the altercation or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOPC.

## 14. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

The Athlete Ombuds Office provides cost-free, independent and confidential advice regarding athlete rights, grievance procedures and any other related guidance pertaining to selection procedures and can assist in mediating disputes between athletes and their NGB.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000 EMAIL: <u>ombudsman@usathlete.org</u> WEBSITE: <u>www.usopc.org/athlete</u>-ombuds

#### **15. NGB SIGNATURES**

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA Table Tennis.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USATT Chief Executive Officer	Virginia Sung	Vinhon	11/22/2023
USATT High Performance Committee Chair	Khoa Nguyen		
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Tara Profitt		

\* If the USOPC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

\* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by USATT, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

\* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOPC AAC Representative, USATT must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
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USATT High Performance Committee Chair	Khoa Nguyen	Dr m	11/22/2023
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Tara Profitt	Jon Preito	11/22/23

\* If the USOPC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

\* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by USATT, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

\* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOPC AAC Representative, USATT must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.