

# TEAMS TOURNAMENT



USATT SANCTIONED 3 STAR TOURNAMENT



**TEAM CHALLENGE**  
Third Edition Tournament  
Nov 30 - Dec 1, 2024



# Over \$6,000 Prize Money

T DIRECTOR

Manny Velazquez

REFEREE/UMPIRE

Floriss Teng RU/CR

## 2 PERSON TEAMS TOURNAMENT

Houston International Table Tennis Academy  
510 South Mason Rd. Suite L, Katy TX 77450

# 2024 STL TEAM CHALLENGE

## STL Nov 30- Dec 1, 2024



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### Partners:



## EVENT FEES / SCHEDULE

### ENTRY FEES

- Entry Fees for each 2 Players team is \$300. Fees for any team that entered a 3rd player will be \$350.
- **EARLY BIRDS ENTRY BONUS!** Enter and pay before November 3, 2024 will save \$100 per team.
- Entry Deadline: November 27, 2024.

**UNPAID ENTRIES WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE DRAW THE DAY AFTER DEADLINE ENDS!**

The following rules apply after Entry Deadline;

- The tournament director reserves the rights to add new entries after the Entry Deadline. Each late entry Team will have to pay the appropriate Entry fees and a \$100 late fees.
- Changing any player in a Team can be done till November 28. However, changing a player in a Team after Entry Deadline will incur a \$50 PENALTY fee.

EVENT	DATE	START TIME	FEE	CHAMPION	FINALIST	3RD/4th	LIMITS
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### SATURDAY 2 PERSON TEAM PRELIMINARY ROUND

**ALL TEAMS IN TOURNAMENT**

### SUNDAY 2 PERSON TEAM DIVISIONAL ROUND

CHAMPIONSHIP DIV	DATE	START TIME	CHAMPION	FINALIST	3RD/4th	LIMITS
A DIVISION	12.1	9:00AM	\$500+M	\$350+M	\$250+M	
B DIVISION	12.1	9:00AM	\$300+M	\$200+M	\$100+M	
C DIVISION	12.1	9:00AM	MEDAL	MEDAL	MEDAL	

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## ENTRY DEADLINE

Wednesday, November 27, 2024

## RATING LIMITS

RATINGS CUT OFF DATE: November 4, 2024.

Each team will have a minimum of 2 players and a maximum of 3 players. Seeding will be based on the rating of the highest 2 players on each team. Each team can have only one player rated 2500 and above at the rating cutoff date. The latest ratings will be used for draws.

## PLAYING FORMAT

This Team Tournament will be played over 2 days. Day One will be Preliminary Round Robin Stage and Day Two will be the Championships Stage. Each Team Match will be played by 2 players from each team. For teams with 3 players, the Team Captain will have to decide which 2 players will play in each Team Match before the start of each Team Match. The winner of each Team Match will be determined in a Best of Five Singles and Doubles matches to be played in the order tabulated below:

A	SINGLES (Best of 5)	Y
B	SINGLES (Best of 5)	X
AB	DOUBLES (Best of 5)	XY
B	SINGLES (Best of 5)	Y
A	SINGLES (Best of 5)	X

To accelerate match play, the Tournament Referee reserves the rights to order the first and/or last 2 Singles matches to be played concurrently. Once a team has reached 3 matches won, no further matches will be played (any matches still in progress will be abandoned or canceled).

### DAY ONE – Preliminary Round Robin Stage

Each team will be placed in a group drawn in a snake format. There will NOT be geographical or club separation. Within each of their groups, each team will play up to 4-6 matches (i.e. 2-3 teams seeded higher and 2-3 teams seeded lower) in this Preliminary Round Robin Stage. In so doing, each team will play teams that are rated comparable to themselves.

### DAY TWO – Championships Stage

After the completion of Day One's Preliminary stage, each team will be placed in one Division (Either Championships, A, B, or C) based on Day One's total match points accumulated, any tie breaks, and the original Day One's drawn position.

## PLAYING FORMAT (CONT.)

Day Two will start with a Divisional Round Robin round with most teams placed in group of between 4-5 teams each to be snake drawn. There will NOT be geographical or club separation.

After the Divisional Round Robin round, the TOP 2 teams of each group will advance to a single elimination round to determine the winners.

## DIVISIONAL CUT OFF

The exact cut off of each division will depend on the total number of teams. The Championships and C divisions will roughly represent 20% of the top and bottom respectively. Divisions A and B will roughly have the middle 60%.

At the start of the tournament, each team will be ranked based on their team rating. After Day One, each team will be re-ranked based on their Day One's results. Each team can move up or down as many as 3 positions from their original rank. This re-ranked list and the Divisional Cut Off will be used to decide which teams go to the Championship, A, B, and C divisions.

The Tournament Director and Referee have sole rights to determine the cut off points of each division.

## DEFAULTS

No prize/prize money shall be awarded for teams who default any team match/matches. The tournament committee reserves the right to restrict such teams (who default their matches) from advancing if no satisfactory reasons are given for their defaults.

## CANCELLATIONS

Only cancellations requested BEFORE THE ENTRY DEADLINE WILL BE CONSIDERED VALID. For any other questions, registrations, payments, scheduling or other please contact us at: [HITTAPongGM@gmail.com](mailto:HITTAPongGM@gmail.com) or call: 713-737-5310

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## Partners:



## OFFICIALS

**Tournament Director:** Manny Velazquez

**Chief Umpire/Referee:** Floriss Teng, RU / CR

## ADDITIONAL RULES

- All Local and State guidelines concerning the use of masks and vaccination status regarding any diseases will be enforced.
- No displays and/or any distribution of brochures, posters, literature, or written materials will be allowed at the tournament venue unless previously approved by HITTA.
- All USATT regulations, including uniforms, equipment, conduct and language apply.
- All decisions of the Tournament Referee are considered final.
- Prizes will be forfeited if the match is not played as scheduled.
- Players are limited to no more than 4 events per day.

## HOTELS

**Preferred hotels near HITTA:**

- **Palacio Royale Inn Signature / Boutique 2-star**  
22455 Katy Fwy, Katy, TX 77450 • (281) 392-9800  
**USE CODE "HITTA" FOR RATES DISCOUNT**
- **Days Inn & Suites by Wyndham Katy 2-star**  
20414 Julie Marie Ln, Katy, TX 77449  
• (281) 944-9029
- **La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham Houston**  
15225 Katy Fwy, Houston, TX 77094  
• (281) 646-9200

## MATCH CHECK IN

**PLAYERS SHOULD CHECK IN AT LEAST 30 MINUTES BEFORE THEIR FIRST MATCH and should be ready to play each match at least 15 minutes prior the scheduled starting time for each event. PLAYERS WHO ARE NOT PRESENT AT THE TIME THEY ARE SCHEDULED TO PLAY A MATCH, WILL BE DEEMED TO HAVE DEFAULTED THAT MATCH AND ENTRY FEES.**

## REGISTRATION LIST

Event entries and player lists can be found on Omnipong or StadiumTT.com , under tournament section. For any questions regarding paid but unlisted entries, please contact us at: [HITTAPongGM@gmail.com](mailto:HITTAPongGM@gmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP

Proof of USATT membership is required. Membership may be purchased along with tournament entry form. Adult basic membership \$25/year, Pro membership \$75/year. Players who don't want to purchase a full membership may purchase a tournament pass for \$50. \*\*\* You may purchase a tournament pass even if you were previously a USATT member or have never purchased a tournament pass.

## EQUIPMENT

The tournament will feature the following 25mm top ITTF approved tables:

- Yinhe Pro 25 Table with net set.
- Tournament ball: Yinhe 3 Star H40+ ABS balls.
- Flooring is Purple rubberized mat.

## DRESS CODE

White shirts or shorts/skirts during play are not allowed. All USATT and ITTF rules and regulations will be followed.

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HITTA

## Release and Waiver of Liability and Indemnity Agreement

I hereby release the Houston International Table Tennis Academy, USATT, sponsors, directors, and any individual or corporate body directly or remotely connected to this event in any form from any and all claims, actions and demands resulting from sickness, loss, damages or injuries sustained to persons or properties at this event. I will abide by all USATT regulations and final decisions by HITTA on all matters relating to this event. Signature required (parent or guardian if U18 years old)

## Photo and Video Release Consent

I hereby grant HITTA, USATT and/or the event Photographer/Agency permission to use my likeness in photograph(s) or video(s) in any and all of its publications and other media, whether now known or hereafter existing, controlled by HITTA, USATT and/or Photographer/Agency, in perpetuity, and for other use by HITTA, USATT and/or the Photographer/Agency. I will make no monetary or other claim against HITTA, USATT and/or the Photographer/Agency for the use of the photograph(s) or video(s). Signature required (parent or guardian if U18 years old)

Signature of Participant

Print Name

Date

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian  
(If participant is under 18 y/o)

Print Name

Date

HITTA

## Registration Form

Name

Phone

Email Address

Home Club

Gender:  Male  Female

Date of Birth: / /

USATT #

Expiration Date

Current Rating

Total Event Fees (total of events entered minus discounts)	\$
USATT Membership Fee (Basic / \$25, Pro / \$75)	\$
Voluntary Donation to USATT Team Program	\$
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>

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### USATT RANKING EVENTS PAGE

The following tournaments are sanctioned in the USATT Rankings for events related to the lists. (e.g., Men's Singles is ranked but U2400 is not ranked within the same tournament)

US Nationals

US Open

US Team Trials

USATT Regional Championships

USATT Top 10 Club Ranked Tournaments

US State Championships

Points are awarded for each tournament based on their significance:

US Nationals – 7x

US Open – 7x

US Team Trials – 5x

USATT Regional Championships – 4x

USATT Top 10 Club Ranked Tournaments – 3x

US State Championships – 1x (base weight)

**USATT Ranking Points will be awarded for the following events in this tournament:**

**Men's Singles, Women's Singles, U17, U11**

1st Place - 162 points	9th - 16th Place - 30 points
2nd Place - 108 points	17th - 32nd Place - 18 points
3rd - 4th Place - 72 points	33rd - 64th Place - 12 points
5th - 8th Place - 48 points	65th - 128th Place - 6 points

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## USATT SAFESPORT PROTOCOL

I understand USATT's Safe Sport Policy including the organization's Coaching Policy, which requires that all persons who are engaged in coaching activities at USATT Affiliated Member Clubs and/or USATT Sanctioned Tournaments, except parents or legal guardians coaching their own children, must be fully Safe Sport Compliant, which includes completing SafeSport Training offered by the US Center for SafeSport every year and undergoing a criminal background screen every two years.

I understand that, pursuant to USATT's Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy, all participants at USATT Sanctioned Tournaments who are over the age of 18 and have regular contact with or authority over minor athletes must complete annual SafeSport Training offered by the US Center for SafeSport. More information on USATT's Safe Sport Policy is available at: <https://www.teamu-sa.org/usa-table-tennis/athlete-safety/safe-sport>.

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### **PERSONS IN POSITIONS OF AUTHORITY MUST BE FULLY SAFE SPORT COMPLIANT**

Under USATT Safe Sport Policy, persons holding certain Positions of Authority must complete SafeSport Training ordered by the US Center for Safe Sport (once per year) and undergo a criminal background screen (every two years). The list of Positions of Authority requiring Full Safe Sport Compliance is set out in USATT's Safe Sport Policy and the Athlete Safety Section of the USATT Website: <https://www.teamusa.org/usa-tabletennis/athlete-safety/safe-sport>.

### **USATT COACHING POLICY**

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### **ADULT PARTICIPANTS REQUIRING SAFE SPORT TRAINING**

"Pursuant to USATT's Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy, ALL Adult Participants (participants over the age of 18) who have regular contact with or authority over minor aged athletes must complete SafeSport Training offered by the US Center for SafeSport every year ("SafeSport Trained").

### **CONTACT USATT TO BECOME SAFESPORT TRAINED AND/OR FULLY SAFE SPORT COMPLIANT**

USATT is pleased to assist USATT Members in the process of becoming SafeSport Trained and/or Fully SafeSport Compliant. Please contact USATT at [admin@usatt.org](mailto:admin@usatt.org) for more information and guidance in this process.

### **MANDATORY REPORTING**

There are certain circumstances where reporting a potential Safe Sport violation is mandatory. These circumstances include: (i) child abuse; (ii) sexual misconduct; (iii) emotional and physical misconduct; (iv) criminal charges and/or dispositions involving sexual misconduct or misconduct involving minors; (v) any abuse of the Safe Sport process. Child abuse must be immediately reported to local law enforcement. To learn how to submit a report of child abuse, log on to: <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/responding/reportingmore> about the appropriate agency where you can

### **HOW TO REPORT SAFE SPORT VIOLATION**

Persons can report a suspected violation of USATT's SafeSport Policy to:

1. The US Center for SafeSport at [www.Safesport.org](http://www.Safesport.org) (or by phone during regular business hours at: 720-531-0340); and/or
2. The USATT Athlete Protection Officer Mark Thompson ([mark.thompson@usatt.org](mailto:mark.thompson@usatt.org)) (719-329-4200).

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