

**USA TABLE TENNIS
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
PARAPAN AMERICAN GAMES 2023
SANTIAGO, CHILE
5/31/2023**

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the 2023 Parapan American Games team (the Team):

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a citizen of the United States by 4/1/2023.

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the 2023 Parapan American Games (the Games).

Athlete must be eligible to represent the United States based on the ITTF eligibility rules. [Eligibility - International Table Tennis Federation \(ittf.com\)](http://www.ittf.com)

1.1.2. Minimum International Paralympic Committee (IPC) or Americas Paralympic Committee (APC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Parapan American Games must be a citizen of the country of the National Paralympic Committee (NPC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a citizen of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the IPC Handbook (Section 2, Chapter 3.1) or the Americas Paralympic Committee bylaws (Chapter 2.4.12 of the IPC Handbook).

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) and/or Continental Federation (CF) (PPAG only) standards for participation (if any):

To be eligible for selection by an NPC, athletes must:

1. For classes 1-10: be internationally classified in an eligible Sport Class with a Sport Class Status of (i) Confirmed; or (ii) Review with a Fixed Review Date after 31 December 2023. *
2. For class 11: be internationally classified in an eligible Sport Class with a Sport Class Status of (i) Confirmed; or (ii) Review with a Fixed Review Date after 31 December 2023.

*In relation to criterion 1 above, NPCs are permitted to provisionally select athletes with a Sport Class Status of (i) New; (ii) Review; and (iii) Review with a Fixed Review Date of 2023 or earlier, subject to such athletes attending an Evaluation Session prior to or during the Games (including any required in competition Observation Assessment)

1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

- In order to be eligible, all athletes must have an eligible impairment in accordance with the ITTF PTT International Classification system and be classified by July 5, 2023.
- Athletes must be a current member of USA Table Tennis (USATT) until December 2023 and in a good standing with the current USATT Athlete Code of Conduct.
- Athletes must have successfully completed all Games Registration requirements by deadline given by the USOPC.
- Athletes must have international confirmed class before the start of the 2023 US Parapan American Games Trials.
- Any athlete aged 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
- Any athlete aged 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#).

1.2. Tryout Events:

1.2.1. Event names, dates and locations of all trials, competitions, and camps to be used as part of the selection process:

2023 Parapan American Games Team Trials (Men Only)
July 1, 2023
Fort Worth, TX

Para U.S. Open (Women Only)
July 3-5, 2023
Fort Worth, TX

1.2.2. Describe how athletes qualify for the events listed in 1.2.1.:
See Section 1.3

1.3. Step-by-step description of the selection process for these Games:

Team Size: Based on ITTF PTT allocations, USA Table Tennis was allocated ten (10) male qualification slots and three (3) female qualification slots, for a total of thirteen (13) qualification slots. The individual athletes assigned to allocated NPC slots will be determined by implementing the selection criteria detailed herein. The men's and women's components of the Team shall be considered separately.

a) Men's Allocation Round 1 – Result Based Criteria (4 slots)

The four (4) highest ranked male athletes from different classes on the ITTF Para World Ranking List as of June 1, 2023, will be nominated to the Team. If there is a tie for the final slot, the athlete ranked highest in their respective sport class out of the total athletes in their respective sport class will earn that slot (World Ranking/Total Athletes in class). Athletes selected via this method will be notified by June 5, 2023. No more than one (1) athlete per Class Group will be nominated in this round. Athletes nominated to the Team via Men's Allocation Round 1 will not be invited to compete at the 2023 Parapan American Games Team Trials.

b) Men's Allocation Round 2 – Result Based Criteria (up to 1 slot)

The highest-ranked male youth athlete (under 23) on the ITTF Para World Ranking List as of June 1, 2023, will be nominated to the Team. If the highest-ranked male youth athlete is already nominated based on Men's Allocation Round 1 criteria, then the next-highest ranked male youth athlete that meets criteria would be nominated. If there is a tie for the final slot, the athlete ranked highest in their respective sport class out of the total athletes in their respective sport class will earn that slot (World Ranking/Total Athletes in class). Athletes selected via this method will be notified by June 15, 2023, to allow appropriate time for determining their participation status, a l b e i t encouraged, in the Para event at the 2023 Parapan American Games Team Trials. If no athletes meet this criteria then this slot will be determined via discretionary selection (see Section 2.2).

c) Men's Allocation Round 3 – 2023 Parapan American Games Team Trials (up to 5 slots)

Class slots will be allocated to the top-placing U.S. finisher(s) of

the relevant sport class groupings at the 2023 Parapan American Games Teams Trials. If there are less than two athletes in a Class Grouping, then that slot will be decided via discretionary selection (Section 2.2)

Men's Trials Class Groupings:
Winner of Men's Class 1-2
Winner of Men's Class 3-5
Winner of Men's Class 6-7
Winner of Men's Class 8-10
Winner of Men's Class 11

- d) Men's Allocation Round 4 – Discretionary Selection Post 2023 Parapan American Games Team Trials

If after Men's Allocation Rounds 1, 2 and 3 there are unfilled slots the remaining slots will be determined without class restriction via the discretionary selection criteria in Section 2.2.

- e) Women's Allocation Round 1 – Result Based Criteria (2 slots)

The two (2) highest-ranked female athletes across all classes on the ITTF Para World Ranking List as of June 1, 2023, will be nominated to the Team. If there is a tie for the final slot, the athlete ranked highest in their respective sport class out of the total athletes in their respective sport class will earn that slot (World Ranking/Total Athletes in class). Athletes selected via this method will be notified by June 5, 2023.

- f) Women's Allocation Round 2 – Para US Open (1 slot)

One (1) slot will be allocated to the Para US Open tournament highest placed female athlete. If there is a tie, the athlete ranked highest on the ITTF Para World Ranking list as of June 1, 2023, will be allocated the slot.

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

2.1. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection:

The rationale for utilizing discretionary selection is to allow USATT the ability to select athletes who are capable of medal potential, can positively impact team performance are considered to be on track to produce a top three podium result.

2.2. Define the discretionary criteria to be used (if any):

The USA Table Tennis Selection Committee will consider the following criteria in priority order:

- The athlete shows potential of medaling in Singles at the Games
- The athlete has medal-potential impact in the Doubles and/or Mixed Doubles Event at the Games
- The athlete has been competing a relatively short time in the sport, has a performance trajectory that is favorable to future international success
- The athlete encountered an unforeseen circumstance which caused them to not be able to compete

USATT may, but is not required to, submit an application for a bipartite slot depending on whether or not, as determined by the Discretionary Selection Committee, there are athlete candidates who meet the criteria in Section 2.2 , and who are capable of medal potential, can positively impact team performance, are considered to be on track to produce a top three podium result in the near future, or are athletes from sport in individual classes that are not represented through the direct selection process listed above. USATT will notify the athlete(s) if an application is submitted on their behalf.

2.3. Name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles:

USA Table Tennis Discretionary Committee

1. Director of Para Programs, USA Table Tennis
2. USA Table Tennis Para National Team Coach
3. USA Table Tennis Para National Team Coach
4. Athlete Representative
5. Athlete Representative

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 selection committee must comply with the USATT Conflict of Interest Policy, to include completing and submitting a disclosure form for review by the USATT Ethics Committee prior to convening the committee.

Any member of the selection committee who has an actual, possible, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it to the NGB/PSO'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, the NGB/PSO'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 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 high performance director, may, if requested by the selection 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 member must not otherwise influence other members of 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 NGB/PSO'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 the NGB/PSO selection committee appointment process.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to entry by name to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, the NGB/PSO has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

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

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the NGB/PSO CEO/Executive Director.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the NGB/PSO. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the NGB/PSO,

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 the [USATT's Code of Conduct](#).
- 3.1.5. Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section 1.1 of these selection procedures.
- 3.1.6. Removal by the IPC/IF of the event in which the athlete qualified for the team from the medal event program of the 2023 Parapan American Games.
- 3.1.7. Change in the athlete's sport class(es) following team selection, such that:
 - 3.1.7.1. The athlete's qualifying performance would not have qualified him/her for the team; and/or
 - 3.1.7.2. The athlete is deemed Not Eligible (NE) by the IPC/IF.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the NGB's/PSO's Bylaws (NGB/PSO: Provide specific Article(s) of Bylaws here) and the USOPC Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable NGB/PSO Code of Conduct, the USOPC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOPC's Code of Conduct is included in the Games Forms made available prior to the respective Games; the USOPC's Grievance Procedures can be found at: www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Governance-Documents
- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IPC, APC, WADA, IF, 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 NGB/PSO'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:

Replacement for athletes will be selected using discretionary selection set forth in Section 2.2.

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

If allowable, replacement for athletes will be selected using discretionary selection set forth in Section 2.2.

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 Games (include as attachments or provide links):

N/A

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

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

- 7.1. USATT Web site: [USA Table Tennis - Features, Events, Results, & Team USA](#)

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

- 7.2. Other: N/A

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

Nomination of athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before: July 6, 2023

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

N/A

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IPC, APC, 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 IPC, APC, WADA, ITTF, USADA and USOPC rules, as applicable.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

Jasna Rather – USATT Para Program Director
Pamela Fontaine – Athlete representative/ USATT Para HPC Chair
Jennifer Johnson – Athlete representative /USATT Para HPC Member
Tara Profitt – Athlete representative/ USATT Para HPC Member
Randall Medcalf –Athlete representative/USATT Para HPC member
Daniel Rutenberg – USATT Para HPC Member

12. NGB/PSO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USA Table Tennis Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at: <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Table-Tennis/USATT/Bylaws>

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IPC, APC, as applicable, and/or ITTF rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in, IPC, APC, 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 USA Table Tennis. 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 alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures may require revisions, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOPC.

14. ATHLETE OMBUDS OFFICE

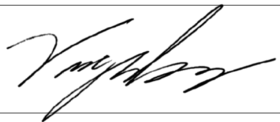


The Athlete Ombuds Office provides cost-free, independent and confidential advice regarding athlete rights, grievance procedures and any other related guidance pertaining to selection procedures and can assist in mediating disputes between athletes and their NGB/PSO.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:
PHONE: (719) 866-5000
EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: www.usathlete.org

15. NGB/PSO SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and/or PPAG 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
CEO	Virginia Sung		6/1/2023
Nat. Team Coach	Vlad Farcas		06/01/2023
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Nikhil Kumar		6/1/2023

* 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 the NGB/PSO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her USOPC Sport Performance Team.

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