

USA Table Tennis

ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

2024 Paralympic Games

(Singles and Doubles)

March 1, 2024

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the 2024 Paralympic Games (the Games) team (the Team):

1.1.0. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination.

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

Athlete must be eligible to represent the United States based on the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) eligibility rules. (ittf.com)

1.1.1. Minimum International Paralympic Committee (IPC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Paralympic Games must be a national of the country of the National Paralympic Committee (NPC) 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 IPC Handbook (Section 2, Chapter 3.1).

1.1.2. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation:

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

- meet the requirements of the ITTF Tournament Credit System in effect for the qualification period (1 January 2023 to 31 March 2024). This requirement does not apply to:
 - Athletes qualified via the World Qualification Tournament, and
 - Athletes selected by the Bipartite Commission.
- be ranked on the ITTF Para Table Tennis Ranking List of 1 April 2024

- be internationally classified with a ‘Confirmed’ sport class status or a ‘Fixed Review Date’ sport class status with a review date after 31 December 2024.

2. TOURNAMENT CREDIT SYSTEM

Players are required to participate in a minimum number of events in the qualification period depending on the continent their NPC belongs to:

- Players from Americas: 2 ITTF PTT Open Tournaments

Participation in the tournament will be counted independently by event:

- To obtain a slot through one of the single slot allocation methods, only participation in the single events will count.
- To obtain a slot through the doubles slot allocation method, only participation in the doubles events will count.

1.1.3. Other requirements:

- Athlete must be a current Pro member of USA Table Tennis (USATT) until December 2024, and must be in good standing with the current USATT Athlete Code of Conduct
- Athlete must successfully complete all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.
- Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
- Any athlete age 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](#).
- At the time of nomination, an athlete must have an ITTF PTT International Classification with an international sport class status of FRD-Fixed Review Date or C-Confirmed. A description of sport-specific classification requirements and current athlete sport class status can be found at:
 - [ITTF Para Table Tennis Classification \(ipttc.org\)](http://ipttc.org)
 - [Player profiles \(ipttc.org\)](http://ipttc.org)

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:

DATE	DESCRIPTION/EVENT
February 25, 2023 - March 31, 2024	Players are required to participate in a minimum of two (2) Factor 20 or Factor 40 ITTF Para Tournaments during the qualification period
November 16-20, 2023	Parapan American Games (2023 ITTF PTT Regional Championships) Santiago, Chile
May 23-25, 2024	ITTF Paralympic World Qualification Tournament (only for singles events) Pattaya, Thailand

- 1.2.2. Describe how athletes qualify for the events listed in 1.2.1.:

Athlete eligibility information for ITTF events held during the qualification period can be found here: <https://www.ittf.com/para-table-tennis/>.

Athletes will be named to the 2023 Parapan American Games team via the [2023 Parapan American Games Athlete Selection Procedures](https://www.usatt.org/para-selection-procedures) (<https://www.usatt.org/para-selection-procedures>)

The highest U.S. ranked player in a class will be entered for the 2024 ITTF Paralympic World Qualification Tournament team. If there are no athletes in the class, then no athlete will be entered. e Selection procedures will be posted on the USATT website once finalized (<https://www.usatt.org/para-selection-procedures>)

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

ALLOCATION OF QUALIFICATION SLOTS:

The qualification slot is allocated to the individual athlete, not to the NPC.

MAXIMUM QUOTA ALLOCATION PER NPC:

An NPC may be allocated a maximum of three (3) qualification slots per gender per class and a maximum of thirty-three (33) male slots and thirty (30) female slots.

MAXIMUM ENTRY PER NPC:

An NPC can enter a maximum of two (2) eligible athletes per singles event.

An NPC can enter a maximum of two (2) eligible pairs per doubles event and two (2) eligible pairs per mixed doubles event, formed by two (2) eligible athletes who may also be entered in the singles events up to the limit of two (2) athletes per singles event.

QUALIFICATION SYSTEM:

The order of priority to assign the qualification slots will be the following:

1. VIRTUS Global Games (class 11 only)
 - a. (No USA para table tennis athletes attended this event)
 2. ITTF PTT Regional Championships
 3. ITTF PTT Individual World Ranking
 4. ITTF PTT Doubles World Ranking (Men's and Women's Doubles)
 5. World Qualification Tournament (only for singles events)
 6. Bipartite Invitations
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- 1.3.1 2023 Parapan American Games (2023 ITTF PTT Regional Championships Allocations) - November 16-20, 2023 (Santiago, Chile)
 - Winner of each singles event will qualify for the Games.
 - Singles events at the Parapan American Games may include different sport class combinations from those at the Paralympic Games. In such cases, the top ranked player in the respective singles event will be allocated the Parapan American Games qualification slot for his/her respective sport class.
 - For those athletes competing in the same singles event under a different sport class, the qualification slot will be allocated to the highest-ranked athlete from that region on the ITTF PTT Male and Female Ranking List of April 1, 2024.
 - 1.3.2 ITTF PTT Individual World Ranking
 - The top-ranked male and female athletes, not otherwise qualified, up to the established quota for the individual singles event, on the ITTF PTT Male and Female Ranking List of April 1, 2024 will qualify for the Games.
 - Any player qualified through a singles ranking will be allowed to play doubles.
 - 1.3.3 ITTF PTT Doubles World Ranking (Men's and Women's Doubles)
 - The top-ranked male or female athletes, not otherwise qualified, up to the established quota on the ITTF PTT Male Doubles and Female Doubles Ranking List of April 1, 2024 will qualify for the Games.
 - Any player qualified through a doubles ranking will be allowed to play singles.

1.3.4 World Qualification Tournament (only for singles events)

The highest Para world-ranked US player in their class is eligible to participate in this tournament.

If no athlete is ranked in a class, then no athlete will participate in that class.

- The winner of each singles event (for athletes who are not already qualified) at the World Qualification Tournament will qualify for the Games.
- If a particular medal event is not offered at the Tournament, the respective slot will be allocated via the Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation method.
- If two or more classes are combined at the Tournament, the top ranked athlete in such a combined event obtains the qualification slot in their class while the vacant slot(s) will be allocated via the Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation method.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

2.1. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection:

The Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation Method allows USATT to submit nominations for Bipartite spots. USATT may, but is not required to, submit an application for a Bipartite slot depending on whether there are athlete candidates who meet the principles below. USATT's nomination of a particular athlete for a Bipartite slot will be based on these principles and on the discretionary selection criteria outlined in Section 2.2.

While at the sole discretion of the IPC, Bipartite Commission Invitations may typically consider the following factors:

- allowing the participation of top athletes who may not have had the opportunity to qualify through other methods due to extraordinary circumstances;
- ensuring the representation of athletes with high support needs;
- enabling greater representation by gender;
- ensuring medal events will have sufficient representation for event viability purposes; and/or
- optimizing the presentation of a particular contest within its competition format and schedule.

2.2. Define the discretionary criteria to be used:

The nomination of a particular athlete for submission to the IPC for a Bipartite slot will be based on the following criteria in no particular order:

- The athlete is in the Top 50% of the ITTF PTT Class on the ITT PTT World Ranking as of April 1, 2024 or medaled in Singles at the Parapan Games.
- The athlete is the doubles partner of a player who already qualified for the Games in the singles event, and who participated in at least two ITTF Para Open TT tournaments during the eligibility period of February 25, 2023-March 31, 2024 with already qualified players. Performance and medaling in both singles and doubles will be taken into consideration.
- 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
- If multiple athletes meet the criteria stated above, the athlete with more recent medals in major events will be nominated for the Bipartite slot

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, or other decisions/recommendations directly impacting athletes in the selection process, along with a complete list of the members' titles:

2024 Paralympic Selection Team Taskforce:

- Jasna Rather – USATT Para Program Director (10+ athlete representative)
- Vlad Farcas – USATT Para National Team Coach
- Mitchell Seidenfeld – USATT Para National Team Coach
- Tara Profitt – USATT AAC Chair (athlete representative)
- Jennifer Johnson – 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:

If there are any conflicts, the person in conflict would abstain from the discussion.

All members of the selection committee must comply with the USATT conflict of interest policy [USA Table-Tennis | USA Table Tennis Bylaws \(usatt.org\)](#), 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 USATT 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 USATT 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 USATT's ethics committee Chair (frankroth11@gmail.com). 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 USATT selection committee appointment process.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to the USOPC's submission of athlete entries by name to the Local Organizing Committee, USATT has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is 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 the USATT Chief Executive Officer.
- 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 debilitating 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 Code of Conduct (Attachment).
- 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/ITTF of the event in which the athlete qualified for the Team from the medal event program of the 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/ITTF.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USATT's Bylaws) 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 within the Delegation Terms. See "Delegation Events" at <https://www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Dispute-Resolution> for more information.
- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IPC, 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 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:

Any qualification slots that are not used by an NPC will be reallocated by the ITTF as outlined in the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games Qualification Regulations.

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

N/A

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 Delegation Conduct Requirements, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Team (include as attachments or provide links):

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

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

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

- 7.1. USATT Web site: [USA Table-Tennis | Para Selection Procedures \(usatt.org\)](https://www.usatt.org/usa-table-tennis-national-team-athlete-code-of-conduct)

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

Nomination of athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before: July 19, 2024.

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

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

- US Athletes are required to participate in at least 2 ITTF PTT tournaments in 2024 between January 1, 2024-May 10, 2024
 - 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/event. 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 IPC, 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, 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 – USA Table Tennis Para Program Director (10+ athlete)
- Vlad Farcas – USA Table Tennis National Team Coach
- Pamela Fontaine – USA Table Tennis Para HPC Chair (athlete rep)
- Tara Profitt – USA Table Tennis AAC Chair (athlete rep)
- Jennifer Johnson – USA Table Tennis Para HPC Member (athlete rep)
- Daniel Rutenberg – USA Table Tennis Para HPC Member
- Randall Medcalf – USA Table Tennis Para HPC Member (athlete rep)

12. NGB BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USATT Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

- [USA Table-Tennis | USA Table Tennis Bylaws \(usatt.org\)](https://www.usatt.org)

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IPC and/or ITTF PTT rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IPC and/or ITTF PTT 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 selection criteria 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 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 USATT.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USA Table Tennis Chief Executive Officer	Virginia Sung		3/4/2024
USA Table Tennis Para Program Director	Jasna Rather		3/1/2024
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Tara Profitt		3-6-24

* 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.