



## 2019/2020 TTCAN – National Team Policies and Procedures

The goal of this document is to provide information and systematically outline the policies and procedures that TTCAN will apply to all National Teams and National team players moving forward. This document will provide clarity on which athletes are selected to the National Team Pool, how they are selected, which events TTCAN is targeting, and how funds will be allocated.

### **Section 1: National Team Pool**

#### **Olympic**

The National Team Pool is comprised of a list of eligible Canadian Table Tennis players. This list will be produced once a year. The National team pool serves as a tool to identify elite players at the senior, junior and cadet level. These players will be grouped into two main tiers (Senior National Team Tier and Next Gen Tier) within which, there will be specifications. Further information on this breakdown will be available further along in the document.

#### **1.1. Senior National Team Tier**

- a) The Senior National Team Tier will be comprised of athletes who formerly would have fit within the Olympic and World Championship squad sections as outlined in previous TTCAN National Team policies. It is important to note that previous nomination to these squads does not guarantee a place within the Senior National Team tier of TTCAN's High Performance Program moving forward.
- b) The players within the senior national team tier of the High Performance Program will be expected to contest selection for all national teams, and represent Canada at international team, singles, and mixed doubles competitions and major games and championships.
- c) Each player will be required to pay a membership fee (Details found in section 4), submit a yearly training and competition plan, and be engaged in a full time Daily Training Environment, either within Canada or abroad. There may also be individual requirements for each athlete on a case by case basis.

#### **1.2. Next Gen Tier**

- a) The Next Gen group of players will be split into two tiers. For details on each sub-tier, please refer to sections 1.2.1. and 1.2.2. of this document.
- b) Players within the Next Gen tier of the High Performance Program at TTCAN will be expected to contest selection for Junior and Cadet events, as well as challenge for spots within the senior national team tier.
- c) Each player will be required to pay a membership fee (Details found in section 4), submit a yearly training and competition plan, and be engaged in a full time Daily Training Environment, either

within Canada or abroad. There may also be individual requirements for each athlete on a case by case basis.

#### 1.2.1. Next Gen Tier 1

- a) The Next Gen Tier 1 will be comprised of players who would have formerly fit within the Shadow Squad and Junior 18 sections as outlined in previous TTCAN policies. It is important to note that previous nomination to these squads does not guarantee a place within the Next Gen Tiers of TTCAN's High Performance Program moving forward.

#### 1.2.2. Next Gen Tier 2

- a) The Next Gen Tier 2 will be comprised of players who would have formerly fit within the Cadet 15 section as outlined in previous TTCAN policies. This will continue to be only for the Cadet age group. It is important to note that previous nominations to these squads does not guarantee a place within the Next Gen Tiers of TTCAN's High Performance moving forward.

Generally, only athletes within the National Team Pool will be entered in international competitions by TTCAN. In exceptional circumstances, the High Performance Committee (HPC) will determine whether or not TTCAN will or will not enter a player outside of the National Team Pool into international event. These situations will be handled on a case by case basis.

### **Paralympic**

The National Team Pool is comprised of a list of eligible Canadian Table Tennis players. This list will be produced once a year. The National team pool serves as a tool to identify elite players within the Paralympic program. These players will be grouped into two main tiers (Senior National Team Tier and Next Gen Tier). Further information on this breakdown will be available further along in the document.

The Paralympic program will also be divided into the two main tiers of Sr. National Team Tier and Next Gen Tier. Due to smaller numbers, there will only be one tier of Next Gen athletes, which will differ from the Olympic stream.

#### 1.3. Senior National Team Tier

- a) The Senior National Team Tier will be comprised of athletes who possess the realistic capacity to compete for top 8 finishes at a Paralympic Games and World Championships and compete to win medals at Parapan Am Games. Each player will be required to pay a membership fee (Details found in section 4), submit a yearly training and competition plan, and be engaged in a full time Daily Training Environment, either within Canada or abroad. There may also be individual requirements for each athlete on a case by case basis.

#### 1.4. Next Gen Tier

- a) The Next Gen Tier will be comprised of players who possess the ability to make a national team for a Paralympic Games or major championships. Each player will be required to pay a membership fee (Details found in section 4), submit a yearly training and competition plan, and be engaged in a full time Daily Training Environment, either within Canada or abroad. There may also be individual requirements for each athlete on a case by case basis.

## Section 2: Selection Process and Quota for Olympic and Paralympic National Team Pool

### 2.1. Olympic

<b>Tier</b>	<b>Selection Process</b>	<b>Number of Male Players</b>	<b>Number of Female Players</b>
<b>Sr. National Team</b>	<p><b>1)</b> Automatic selection if ranked in ITTF top 200.</p> <p><b>2)</b> If spots have not been used in Step 1, player's most recent ITTF ranking at the date of selection will be used. Spots will be filled using this process until this tier is completed. Highest rank to lowest until spots are filled.</p>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Next Gen Tier 1</b>	Players will be ranked highest to lowest until spots are filled using the Canadian rankings(U25) at the time the list is published.	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Next Gen Tier 2</b>	Players will be ranked highest to lowest until spots are filled using the Canadian rankings(U16) at the time the list is published.	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>

### 2.2. Paralympic

<b>Tier</b>	<b>Selection Process</b>	<b>Number of Male Players</b>	<b>Number of Female Players</b>
<b>Sr. National Team</b>	ITTF Para top 100 ranked within their classification. The players most recent ranking at the time of selection will be used. Other slots may be assigned on Coach discretion based on realistic medal potential at Parapan Am Games, and the ability to qualify for the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games	<b>Dependent on depth of field</b>	<b>Dependent on depth of field</b>
<b>Next Gen Tier 1</b>	The Para National Team coach will identify players who have the realistic capacity to compete for National team selection.	<b>Dependent on depth of field</b>	<b>Dependent on depth of field</b>

### **Section 3: Eligibility**

3.1. In order to be eligible for selection in to the National Team Pool, athletes must meet the following requirements:

- Be a registered member of TTCAN at the time announcement.
- Senior National Team pool players must hold Canadian citizenship by date of selection
- Next Gen Tier 1 players must hold Canadian citizenship by date of selection
- Next Gen Tier 2 players may hold Permanent Residency within Canada
- Senior and Next Gen Tier 1 must be eligible for Olympic/Paralympic competition as outlined in the ITTF rules and regulations found [here](#).
- In order to be selected, players must take part in their respective National Championships (Senior, Junior, Para)
- Selected players will be required to participate in the mandatory pre-competition preparations as outlined by the National team coaching staff if they are selected to a National Team
- Pay an annual membership fee to TTCAN as outlined in Section 4
- Para players in the Senior National Team tier must have received their international classification
- Para players in the Next Gen Tier must provide a plan of when they will be seeking international classification, and meet the minimum disability criteria for classification.

### **Section 4: Membership Fees**

Membership fees for the National team player pool is an annual fee structure that will cover the following:

<b>Tier</b>	<b>Fee</b>	<b>Membership Fee Covers</b>
<b>Sr. National Team</b>	<b>\$1000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>National Team Kit</b></li><li>- <b>Entry fees for National Championship</b></li><li>- <b>Contribution into domestic prep camps</b></li><li>- <b>Access to National Team coaching</b></li><li>- <b>Entry fee to one international tournament</b></li></ul>
<b>Next Gen Tier 1</b>	<b>\$750</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>National Team Kit</b></li><li>- <b>Entry fees for National Championship</b></li><li>- <b>Access to National Team coaching</b></li><li>- <b>Entry fee to one international tournament</b></li><li>- <b>Contribution into domestic training camp</b></li></ul>
<b>Next Gen Tier 2</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>National Team Kit</b></li><li>- <b>Entry fees for National Championship</b></li><li>- <b>Access to National Team coaching</b></li><li>- <b>Entry fee to one international tournament</b></li></ul>

In addition to the membership fee structure, athletes in the National Team Pool will be required to sign an Athlete Agreement, found [here](#).

## **Section 5: Events**

### **5.1. International Events**

5.1.1. TTCAN prioritizes international events in the following order\*:

- 1) Olympic and Paralympic Games
- 2) Pan Am and Parapan Am Games
- 3) Olympic/Paralympic and Pan Am/Parapan Am Qualification events
- 4) World Team Championships and Para World Championships
- 5) World Junior Championships
- 6) World Junior Qualification Events
- 7) World Individual Championships
- 8) ITTF PAN AM Championships
- 9) Other ITTF National Team Competitions

\*The High Performance Committee will identify which events in a calendar year are a priority, and will retain discretion on how they are funded, and if applicable, what contributions athletes are required to make.

### **5.2. National Championships**

5.2.1. Attendance at the National Championships is mandatory for anyone who is named to the National Team Pool, both Olympic and Paralympic stream.

5.2.2. Players are required to fund their own way to and from Canadian Championships. TTCAN is not responsible for any travel or accommodation costs for players to attend the Canadian Championships.

5.2.3. At the National Championships there will be player meetings with the respective National Team Coaches and the High Performance Director for players within the National Team Pool.

### **5.3. Domestic Event Alignment with High Performance Program**

There will be an importance placed on domestic TTCAN events that will play a part in National Team Selection Criteria.

- 1) National Championships – Competing at the respective National Championships (Senior, Junior, Para) will be mandatory for any athlete within the National Team player pool. This is detailed in the adjoining athlete agreement.
- 2) Canada Cup Series – For certain National Team events, Canada Cup results may play a weighted part in selection criteria.

## **Section 6: Funding**

### **6.1. National Team Events**

6.1.1. TTCAN will send fully funded teams to events that are prioritized by the High Performance Committee (HPC) and High Performance Director.

6.1.2. There will be certain identified events where TTCAN may send a National Team that is partially funded. This could mean that each player funds a previously agreed upon percentage of the cost

themselves, or some players are fully funded with others being selected to the team on the contingency that they are to self fund their involvement in the event. Partially funded teams will be teams that either do not align with TTCAN's short and long term high performance goals, or are developmental events.

6.1.3. For players required to fund their own trip, or part of it, no logistical arrangements will be made on their behalf until there is receipt of payment by TTCAN office at an agreed upon date. If there is a balance to be credited or debited following the trip, these arrangements will be made at the end of competition.

## 6.2. National Team Pool Players Attending International Events – Funding and Procedure

6.2.1. Players are encouraged to seek out international training and competition opportunities that will be beneficial to their long term player development. Plans for this may be made with, and consulted on by the National Team coaching staff.

6.2.2. Players who require TTCAN to enter them into events will be required to submit an [expression of interest form](#) along with the registration fee to TTCAN's office 8 weeks ahead of the event. TTCAN will register the player for this event once this information has been received.

6.2.3. TTCAN will not book flight and hotel arrangements for players unless required to do by the competition. Players will be responsible for arranging their own travel and accommodation unless otherwise stated by TTCAN.

6.2.4. In the situation that the event requires TTCAN to book players accommodation and travel, if the trip is not fully funded by TTCAN, no arrangements will be made until the player has paid their full cost to the TTCAN office. Please contact Julia He ([juliahe@ttcanada.ca](mailto:juliahe@ttcanada.ca)) for payment details. There will be no exceptions for this. If payment is not received by the entry deadline imposed by ITTF (6 weeks ahead of the competition) the player will be removed from the entry list.

6.2.5. If there is a balance to be credited or debited to a player following the competition, these arrangements will be made at the end of competition.

6.2.6. TTCAN will not fund individual players to attend events outside of National Team events, UNLESS specified beforehand. This will be determined in discussions between individual players within the National Team pool and the National team coaching staff/High Performance Director.

## **Section 7: National Team Selection**

7.1. Events that have been identified as National team events will all require their own selection policy. This policy will be released at the same time as the prospectus for the event. The number of players and staff selected to an event will be dependent on ITTF/COC/CPC/TTCAN guidelines. The selection document will detail timelines, point values, decision making authority, and process for injury, appeals and further

7.2. For events such as the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games where qualification is needed to compete at the games, the selection criteria published by TTCAN will detail what is needed to make the team that will compete at the qualifying events.

7.3. Players not selected to a team reserve the right to appeal their non-selection. Table Tennis Canada's National Team nominations may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set out in the Table Tennis Canada's Appeals Policy, a copy of which is available on the Table Tennis Canada website under Governance / Policies / Appeals. If both parties are in agreement, the Table Tennis Canada Appeal Policy may be bypassed, and the matter brought directly before the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) who will then manage the appeal.

## **Section 9: Code of Conduct**

The Table Tennis Canada code of conduct applies to everyone involved within the sport at a national level. This starts with the players, coaches and staff. The code of conduct is aimed at developing a highly professional, accountable, and progressive environment within the sport of Table Tennis in Canada.

### **9.1. Staff and Coaches Code of Conduct**

9.1.1. Ensure a safe environment for athletes.

9.1.2. Prepare players for competition using training and coaching methods designed for the age, experience, and ability level of the player.

9.1.3. Provide athletes with the information necessary to be involved in the decisions that affect the athlete.

9.1.4. Meet the level of certification and credentials set out by TTCAN, or commit to a professional development plan to achieve these levels.

9.1.5. Respect other coaches and athletes and not engage in abusive actions or language towards anyone involved in the sport

9.1.6. Create an environment that promotes clean sport, and stay up to date on World Anti Doping Regulations set forth by the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA).

9.1.7. Not engage in a sexual or intimate relationship with any athlete.

9.1.8. Act and dress professionally, both domestically and abroad in a way that represents TTCAN to the highest level.

9.1.9. Support other staff, coaches and athletes when in a training, training camp, or international environment.

### **9.2. Athlete Code of Conduct**

9.2.1. Attend all national team training, competition, and events on time and representing Canada professionally with language, dress, and conduct.

9.2.2. Report any medical issues in a timely manner to the coaches, high performance director, or IST staff.

9.2.3. Adhere to TTCAN funding and budget regulations around participation in international events.

9.2.4. Adhere to TTCAN and WADA anti - doping policies and regulations. TTCAN is committed to clean sport, and any type of doping or PED infractions warrants grounds for a lifetime ban within the sport. Positive tests will result in the player being subject to the proper legal proceedings before a decision is made. A list of banned substances can be found on the WADA website ( <https://www.wada-ama.org/>).

9.2.5. Attend all pre-competition preparations, and mandatory TTCAN training camps and competitions.

9.2.6. Be proactive in seeking out opportunities to develop playing level.