

Representing England

What does it mean to represent England?

An outcome of our performance pathway is to produce senior level athletes capable of achieving international podium success at European, Commonwealth, World, and Olympic level. In order to reach this, players will have opportunities to represent England at a number of major events, such as:

- European Youth Championships
- European Under 13 Championships
- European U21 Championships
- EuroMini Championships (U11 & U13)
- Commonwealth Games
- European and World Team Championships
- European and World Table Tennis Championships

During these events, players will receive an England cap, and will be recognised as having represented England. Please note England Schools events and Veteran events sit outside of the England representative caps.

WTT Events

Outside of major events, players who are included in performance squads or who have met the performance standards (assessed by the Head of Performance Development) and are currently ranked in the top 15 in England of their respective age categories will have the opportunity to put themselves forward for entry into World Table Tennis Events (WTT) by Table Tennis England.

Players in the process of gaining British citizenship who meet the performance standards will also be considered.

Whilst at this event, players will be recognised with the England flag or 'England' next to their name on the entry list. This is an identifier. Players will not receive an England cap when playing in this event.

When attending WTT events, players entries will be submitted to Table Tennis England who will make the decision to endorse and submit their entry on the ITTF system. For the avoidance of any doubt, WTT events are not representative events and players being entered into WTT events are not representing England – they will not receive an England cap.

The Performance Team will evaluate players based on the eligibility criteria as stated in the WTT Youth Policy and the performance standards.

Player Eligibility

To be eligible to represent England at major events (examples listed above), players must have a valid British passport, be registered with England on the ITTF database, hold a

current Table Tennis England Membership, and be free of any waiting periods as determined by the ITTF – see below.

Change of Eligibility

For players who have requested a change in eligibility (moving representation from one country to another), they will be required to have a current Table Tennis England Membership, have submitted a written request for the change in eligibility signed by the player (and parents if under the age of 18), hold a valid British passport, or be in the process of applying for a British passport. The passport must be received by the end of the waiting period (see below).

Once the eligibility request has been agreed and submitted to the ITTF through Table Tennis England (and pending approval), there will be a waiting time attached to the age categories.

Players Waiting periods

Players' age	Length of waiting period	Criteria
Under 15	1 year	If they have never represented another Member Association Players must be able to present a valid British passport by the end of the waiting period
Under 15	3 years	If they have represented another Member Association Players must be able to present a valid British passport by the end of the waiting period
Between 15-18 years old	5 years	Players must be able to present a valid British passport by the end of the waiting period
Between 18-21 years old	7 years	Players must be able to present a valid British passport by the end of the waiting period
Over the age of 21 years old	9 years	Players must be able to present a valid British passport by the end of the waiting period

During the waiting period players will be able to play the following events

<p>During their waiting period</p>	<p>World Table Tennis (WTT) Events – their entry can be endorsed through England.</p> <p>Non-WTT events (European and International)</p> <p>Domestic events such as 4* competitions, Grand Prix, Women’s British League, Junior British League, Senior British league</p>
<p>If players have a valid British Passport</p>	<p>Eligible to compete at the English National Championships (all age categories) – please note players cannot have competed in a National Championships of another Member Association in the same season year, 1 October – 30 September</p> <p>Eligible to compete at the English National Cup</p> <p>Eligible for support (such as TASS places, Backing the Best awards, or SportsAid bursaries if they meet the criteria for these)</p> <p>Eligible to compete for Great Britain at Events: The Olympics, European Games.</p> <p>Eligible to compete at the Commonwealth Games</p>
<p>After the waiting period (5-9 years depending on their age)</p>	<p>Eligible to compete at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - World and European Team Championships - World and European Individual Championships (all age categories) - World Youth Events - European Youth Championships