



Annual Conference 2023 (Members Open Meeting)

LOCATION: Cranfield University, Mitchell Hall, Cranfield, Bedfordshire MK43 0AL, and Zoom

DATE AND TIME: Saturday 8 July 2023, 10.30 am

Members Open Meeting Commenced at 10.30 am

Mrs Sandra Deaton (Chair) welcomed all present and opened the Annual Conference 2023.

A presentation was provided to the Members with full details on the following areas and a copy of the presentation can be found in Appendix 1:

1 Table Tennis United

Members received an illustration of progress to date of the Year 1 Implementation Plan

2 Area Network

Members received progress on the building of the Area network and the establishment of the Local Organising Groups, together with the next steps in the development of Area Network for 2023/2024.

3 Pathway to Performance

Members learned about the redesign of the Performance programmes and the newly established Pathway and Performance standards. Members also received progress on establishing a network of Pathway Development Centres and learnt about the developing strategy for coach learning. The alignment of the England programme to the GB objectives agreed with UK Sport was also explained and how the UK Sport 'Progression investment' is allocated.

4 Major Events

Members learnt more about the emerging long-term plan to host international major events in England and received an update on the bid to stage the World Team Table Tennis Championships 2026, in London.

Questions and points about the four topics were noted:

- Quarterly reports were requested of the Area Managers on the objectives of their Area and the progress made against them. This was agreed.
- A Pathway Guide was currently being produced and was hoped to be available by Christmas on the website, showing the life cycle of players and how they could be supported through it.
- There were currently no specific targets about winning Olympic medals as this was too early. Once the standards had been mapped for players by the end of the year it was hoped a better picture of future goals could be set.
- In addition, TTE was looking at mapping its players against those who have been historically successful. England was quite competitive at Junior level but why this stopped at senior level needed a lot of analysis.

- Minutes were requested of the Annual Conference. It was confirmed that additional questions could be asked at the afternoon session following the AGM.
- The CEO was asked if the Implementation of the Strategy had moved forward as fast as he would have expected now. He explained that TTE was ahead of where he had expected at this stage considering the level of operational change that has taken place and he paid credit to the staff who have made such great progress.
- The CEO was then asked what he considers holds the organisation back. He explained that investment could move the organisation faster and the commercial and major events work would be an opportunity to do this. He also stated that the 'noise' generated relating to governance was a significant distraction and presents risk to the progress of the strategy.
- It was confirmed that local delivery plans within the Areas would be driven locally but will be required to be part of a National Framework that would support it.
- The Coaching Pathway was welcomed, and discussion was held on the best way to assess someone and their skills/experience without the formal qualification system.
- There was some concern about parents who might not be able to pay the costs for their children to compete and attend training camps. It was recognised that this was an ongoing problem, however, there were budgeted funds available that could help those talented players who are experiencing hardship.
- The CEO and executive team were thanked for their hard work.

Annual Review 2022/23

The Annual Review video was played to the members and the Report was considered by section.

The following points were noted:

- It was noted by Diane Webb that a lot of information had been lost from the website and this was noted.
- It was noted that there was no current Chair of the Rules Committee, and it was explained that this was still being discussed as part of the Governance reset.
- Members were reminded that the Members Advisory Group was the forum for ideas from members to be put forward. There would also be additional Open Forums diarised where Company Members are encouraged to discuss any issues that they wanted to. The dates for these were confirmed as Monday 27 November 2023 at 6 pm and Thursday 4 April 2024 at 10 am.
- A request for the benchmarking of the annual report statistics on membership over the years would be good to see. This was taken on board, and it was explained that the Senior Leadership Team were shortly to start looking at the State of Play information which will benchmark where TTE is now compared to previous years across 30/40 metrics. This information would inform next year's Annual Review.
- Ping Pong Parlours were discussed and how information could be gathered while people play informally. Discussions were currently being held about investment into technology that could collect data.
- It was confirmed that only players on the England programme were eligible to receive funding to enter competitions.

The Annual Conference was closed at 12.50 pm

The members Open Meeting reconvened at 3 pm

Chair Recruitment

Discussion was held by the members on the process of the recent Chair recruitment and what would happen with regards to the second recruitment process. A video from Richard Ayers (Director) who was leading the second recruitment process on behalf of the Board was played to members.

The following points were noted:

- There was no MAG representative on the first round of interviews during the first recruitment process as it was understood that a member of MAG had applied.
- Discussion was held on whether the new Chair should be a member of the sport. Some member felt that this was an important factor, but other members did not consider this to be as important as finding the right person who could lead the Board in its future endeavours to deliver *Table Tennis United*.
- The process for recruitment needed to be open and transparent and in line with Sport England's Code of Sports Governance to ensure that funding continued to the sport. However, it was also a confidential process for those applying and those confidences would not be shared with members.
- A request was made for frequent, precise updates and this was agreed.



Appendix 1





What Matters Most

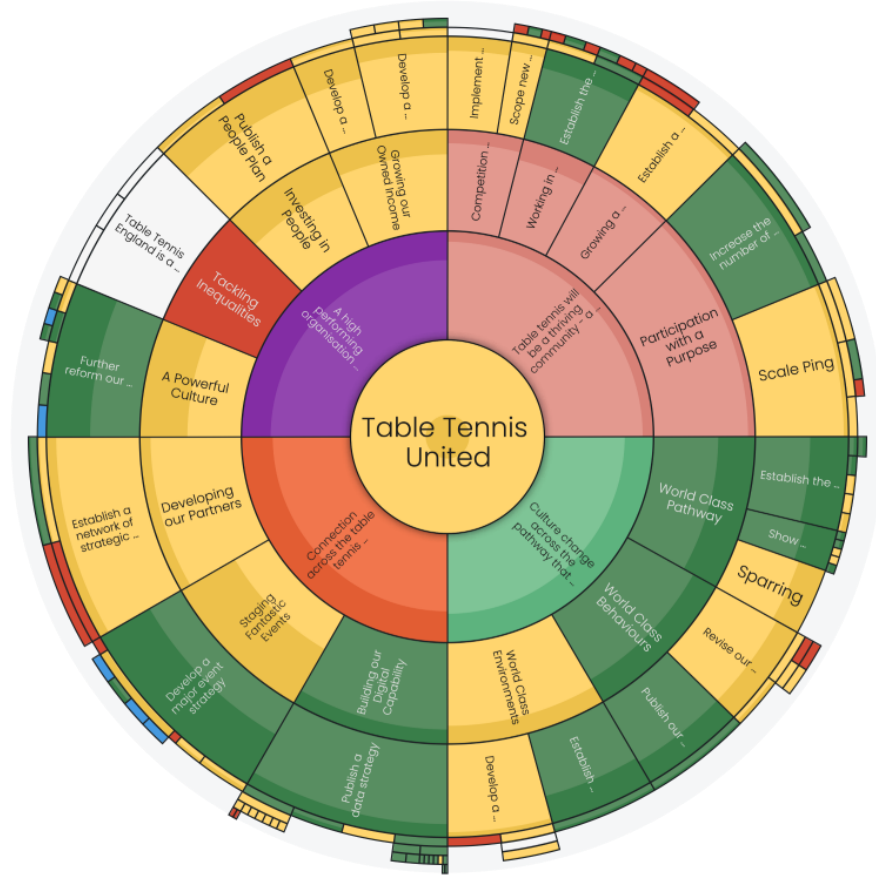
- Establish the Area Network
- Increase the number of Under 9's playing
- Increase the number of women and girls taking part in table tennis
- Implement the Competition Review
- Remodel the pathway and performance programme
- Revise our coach education and learning
- Develop the capability to enable year on year customer acquisition and retention
- Develop our approach to increasing revenue
- Demonstrate high performing organisational behaviours



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Measuring our Progress





Area Network

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Local Organising Groups - Overview

Areas have now replaced the Regions, moving from 10 Regions to 7 Areas

Local Organising Groups will be established in each Area and be made up of local people from the table tennis community and external partners and supporters of table tennis

Local Delivery Plans will be established for each Area, developed by the Area Manager and Area Chair, informed by local data and insight.

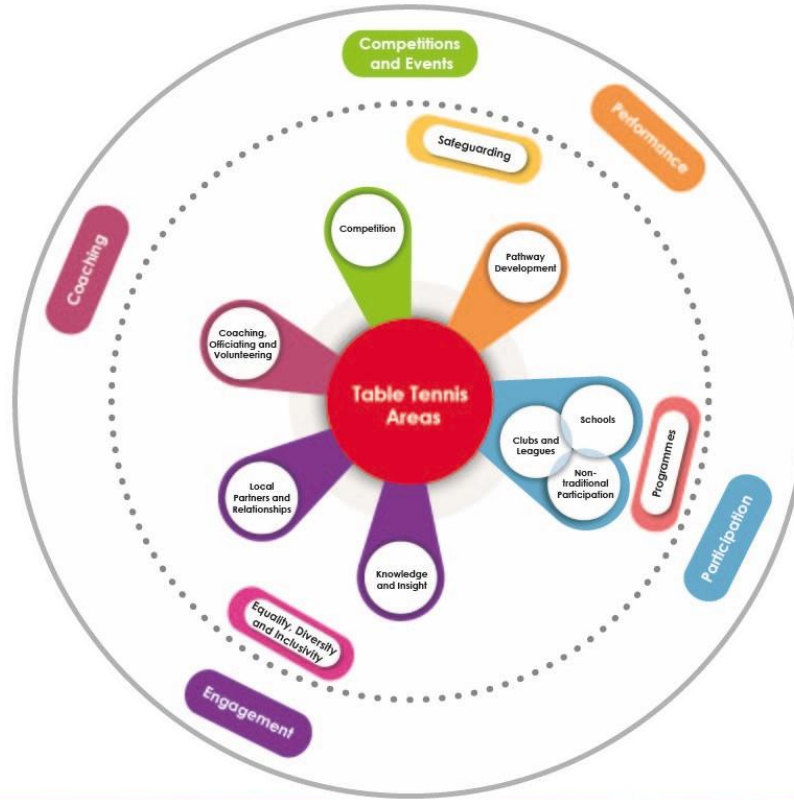
An Area Forum will be established bringing together the Chairs from the seven Local Organising Groups. They will feed into the Development Committee.

Local Organising Groups will be led and steered by the Area Managers. They will work closely with the newly appointed Area Managers.

Each Area, through the Local Delivery Plan will have a budget to deliver on the priorities of that Area and support the local implementation of Table Tennis United.



Local Organising Groups - Priorities



Work carried out to date

Area Managers and the Senior Area Manager are now in place
– about to recruit a new East Area Manager

Area Managers have undertaken their Area mapping and met or spoken with local counties, clubs, leagues and external partners

The budget for the Area work is set for 2023/2024 and will be invested into each Local Delivery Plan.

Recruited 4 of the 7 Area Chairs
– North East, West, South East and South West

What's next?

Recruit the remaining 3 Area Chairs to be in place by early Autumn.

Develop the focus areas for the Area Network to inform the Local Delivery Plans.

Develop the Local Delivery Plans, ready for delivery from the Autumn.

Recruit people to the Local Organising Groups to help develop and deliver the Local Delivery Plans by Autumn.

Establishing Local Delivery Plans





Meanwhile.....

- The Area network will be driven by the *Table Tennis United* Implementation Plan.
- They will support clubs, leagues and volunteers to ensure there is a strong table tennis infrastructure locally.
- They will be focussed in their work– limited resources so focus is on the biggest impact
- Build relationships and establish local partnerships to help us go faster



Pathway & Performance

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Table Tennis United Pledge 2

Culture change across the pathway that inspires world class performances and medal success

World Class Pathway

- Establish the 'Start', 'Potential' and 'Podium' structure
- Show Progressive improvement at junior and senior level

World Class Behaviours

- Revise our coach education and learning programme

World Class Environments

- Establish Pathway development centres
- Develop a 'Home' for table tennis



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PATHWAY & PERFORMANCE CORE OUTCOMES

● Our pathway and performance programmes will have a series of outcomes, these include, to:

Produce senior level athletes capable of international podium success at European, World, and Olympic Level

Provide meaningful life experiences for players and support skill development that will transfer to wider settings

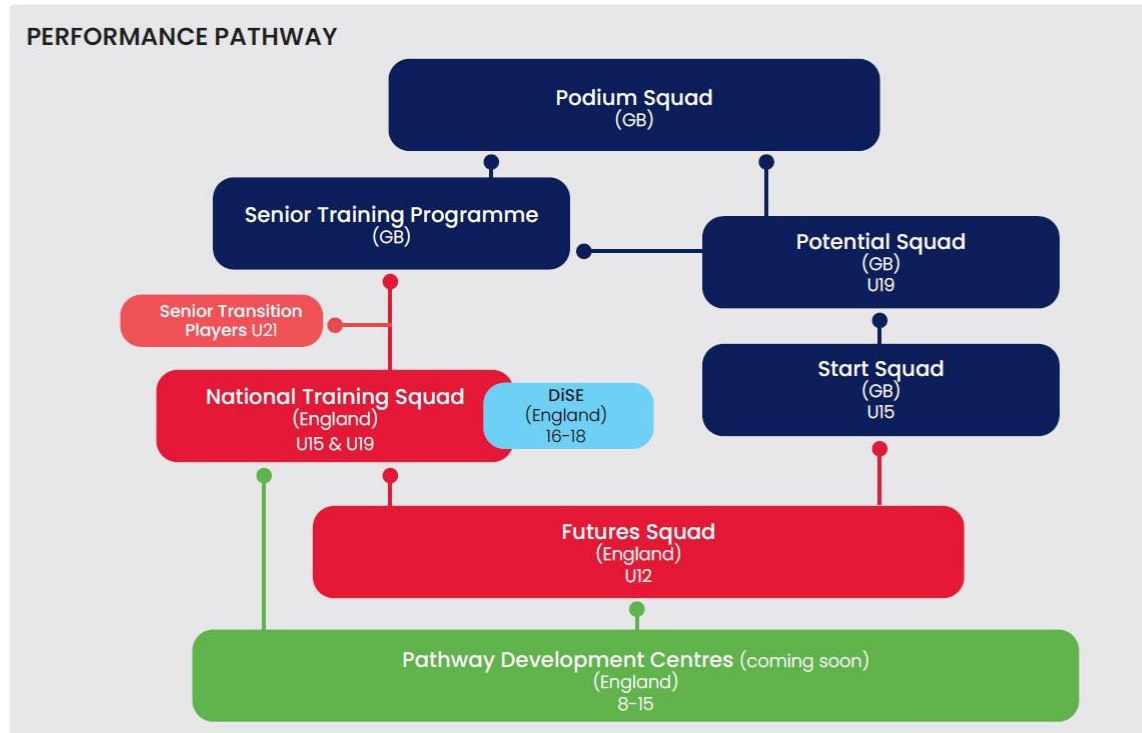
Support player exit pathways for meaningful long-term engagement in the sport

Develop coaches with expertise at specific stages of the player journey, capable of providing the right environments and skill development that is age & stage appropriate



PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

World Class Pathway



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PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE NETWORK VISION

A network of high-quality development hubs united with the goal of supporting players to develop world class potential that are ready to excel into the next stage of the pathway.

● **Overarching Aims:**

- Develop players with world class technical & fundamental skills relative to their age, ready to excel in the pathway
- Develop creative and fun environments that keep players motivated
- Create an early investment in good habits and behaviours
- Support coaches to excel in developing elite youth players



Pathway standards

- To evolve each year as player dept improves

Player Criteria/Standards (Early Development Group – 8 to 11 years)

The criteria below should be used as a guide to support player entry into the early development group of the PDC. Although technical aspects should be taken into consideration, behaviours, athleticism & commitment are priority criteria for players fairly new to the sport (e.g. aged 8).


Behaviours	Technical competence	Anticipation & decision making	Athleticism & coordination	Game awareness & coachability	Commitment
<p>Player: Demonstrates some of the following behaviours:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passion and drive • Resilience • Curiosity • Self-management • Gratitude and respect • Adaptability • Thrives in competition • Takes care <p><small>*An overview of how these behaviours may appear in an 8- and a 9-11yr old player is available in the player development framework* - under development</small></p>	<p>Player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has a good grip that is not limiting • Shows they are capable on both wings • Can take the ball early before the top of the bounce on all attacking shots • Ability to hold the table (not running back) • Good ready position and recovery • Minimum of 2-3 services • Has a basic understanding of spin • Has a good forearm speed • Has good feeling in the hand and able to use the wrist • Is able to move laterally and in and out of the table • Is able to undertake basic movement drills on the table 	<p>Player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows good ability to anticipate where the ball is going during irregular play • Has an awareness of the right time • Has the ability to change the pace of play (i.e. speed up or slow down) 	<p>Player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can use strength in legs to move around the table • Demonstrates high levels of coordination (or ability to improve) in basic fundamental movement skills activities (e.g. ladders, catching) 	<p>Player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has an awareness of the basic rules of table tennis and how to compete • Is able to take on feedback from a coach and make changes accordingly 	<p>Player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates commitment to attending all PDC based sessions • Shows they are committed to improving their level and progressing in the sport • Shows commitment to start or continue competing



Player Criteria/Standards (Pathway Group – 12 to 15 years)

The criteria below should be used as a guide to support player entry OR progression into the PDC pathway group. The criteria should be used as a guide and not as a definitive.

Behaviours	Performance Criteria	Technical competence	Athleticism & coordination	Commitment
<p>Player: Demonstrates the following behaviours:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passion and drive • Resilience • Curiosity • Self-management • Gratitude and respect • Adaptability • Thrives in competition • Takes care <p><small>*An overview of how these behaviours may appear in a 12-15yr old player is available in the player development framework* - under development</small></p>	<p>Player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has a ranking within the top 40 within their respective age group (U13 & U15) • Competing regularly in 4* and wider national events 	<p>Player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates high level competence on both wings • Strong variety of service and receive • High competence in footwork • Strong tactical development 	<p>Player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can use strength in legs to make explosive movements around the table • Demonstrates high levels of coordination 	<p>Player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates commitment to attending all PDC based sessions • Shows they are committed to improving their fitness and table tennis level • Can evidence a minimum of 10-12 hours a week of training, inclusive of PDC sessions



Performance standards

- To evolve each year

BEHAVIOURS							
Players must demonstrate core pathway and performance behaviours set by Table Tennis England <i>Passion & Drive, Resilience, Curiosity, Self-Management, Gratitude and Respect, Adaptability, Thrives in Competition, Takes Care</i>							
PERFORMANCE & ENGAGEMENT	Futures Squad (England)	National Training Squad (England)	Start Squad (GB)	Potential Squad (GB)	Senior Transition Players (operational – Sep)	Senior Training Programme (GB)	Podium Squad (GB)
	Must meet criteria: - 2 4* events & Age Group National Championships - High level footwork competency - Demonstration of a variety of serve and receives - Demonstrates competent athleticism - Can evidence a minimum of 12 hours a week training - Continued commitment to increasing fitness levels	Must meet criteria: - 2 4* events, Age Group National Cup & National Championships - Commitment to international competition (3 or more a year [self-funded]) - Can evidence a minimum of 12 hours a week training - Continued commitment to increasing fitness levels	Must meet criteria: - 2 4* events, Age Group National Cup & National Championships - Fitness level designed by Lead S&C coach is met - Can evidence a minimum of 18 hours a week training	Must meet criteria: - Top 30 in the world in singles age category (U17, U19) - 2 4* events, Age Group National Cup & National Championships - Fitness level designed by Lead S&C coach is met - Can evidence a minimum of 18 hours a week training	Must meet criteria: - Commitment to international events (2 or more a year) - Can evidence a minimum of 15 hours a week training to be considered - Ranked in the top 15 British Senior ranking	Must meet criteria: - Commitment to international events (4 or more a year) - Can evidence a minimum of 15 hours a week training - Continued improvement within S&C programme - Ranked in the Top 8 British Senior ranking	Must meet criteria: - An Olympic medal hope for the current cycle
	Panel consideration (case by case basis): - QF and beyond at Age Group National Championships - Showing promise on the U13 European Tour - Ranked in the top 8 in the country in age group	Panel consideration (case by case basis): - Current national age group champion - Semi-final or beyond at U15 and U19 national championships - Ranked in the top 6 in country in age group - Engagement in support services offered (e.g., TASS)	Panel consideration (case by case basis): - The review panel will gather information and deliberate if an athlete can operate at top 50 in the world in their age group based on current form in international competition	Panel consideration (case by case basis): - Consistently making quarter final or beyond at WTT Star Contenders (U17, U19) - Consistently medalling at Youth Contender events (U17, U19)	Panel consideration (case by case basis): - Currently playing or aspiring to play in a professional league - Player has shown potential that they can integrate into the senior training programme (e.g., reached QF or beyond at Senior National Championships) - On track to qualify for the U21 European Championships	Panel consideration (case by case basis): - Current Senior National Champion - Currently playing in a professional league	

National Training Centre

Purpose

- To establish a world class programme that delivers high quality, and regular training opportunities for both live in elite performance players and development players on the periphery of being elite performance programme athletes
- To provide the opportunity for players to access world-class performance services to enhance their personal and sporting development
- To provide the opportunity for players to combine their elite training with age-specific educational options (school, FE/HE) and maximise their dual career aspirations
- To provide coach and practitioner development/training opportunities
- To provide opportunities for national events to be hosted in a high-quality environment
- To hold talent ID and pathway initiatives that help us to spot players with potential



Where are our options?

- Nottingham
- Sheffield
- Loughborough

Coach Development

A vision to create systemic change to support coaches to become world class within their chosen environments.

We will:

- Transition from qualifications to a redesigned place-based learning programme that is conducive to where coaches coach, and aligns the coaching pathway with the athlete pathway.
- Celebrate excellence within each environment and not assume that the best performance coaches will be the best coaches at school and early club level
- Focus on the experiences and environments that coaches learn within
- Have an online learning hub that will give coaches choice over what they learn CPD will be at the heart of what we do!
- Have a mentoring programme
- Have a national coach tour once a year
- Come together at coaching festivals to learn and engage with other practitioners (an annual coaching weekend!)
- Support PDC's to become hubs of coach learning





UK Sport Progression Initiatives aligned with *Table Tennis United*

Time on Task 'Home of Table Tennis'

- Spending more time with the athletes -120 days a year is the minimum target for our performance players
- Player development framework
- Centralised performance programme

Coaching Coach Development

- Developing a network of HN coaches that excel in supporting players flourish in their pathway and ultimately ready to excel in our performance programme

Home Nation Collaboration GB Performance Programme

- Aligning the HN's pathway environments and culture in order to be laser focused on our singular intent of winning an Olympic medal



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GB Progression Award and Allocation

- GB Table Tennis receives a 'Progression' award which is about system development—people, players, training environments, support services
- This year our award from UK Sport to support our system build is £412,980
- LA 2028 investment process from 6 July 2023

Investment Area	Allocation
Central Support	10%
Coaching	15%
Home Nation Pathway Collaboration	15%
People – coaches, support	33%
Time on Task	27%



Our results

Connor Green

WTT Youth Contender Linz Quarter Final of U17 Boys

Sophie Earley

WTT Youth Contender Linz – Runner Up U17 Girls

WTT Star contender Peru Quarter finals U19

WTT Youth Contender Rio Quarterfinals U19

WTT Youth Contender Rio Semi final U17s

Anna Hursey

WTT Youth Contender Spain Quarter finals U19

WTT Youth Contender Belgium Quarter finals U19

WTT Star contender Peru Semi finals U19

WTT Youth Contender Rio Runner U19, Semi finals U17

Quarter finals U21 European Champs

England

Bronze Medal European Top-16 Sam Pitchford

Doubles Quarter final WTT Ciam Pitchford and Paul Drinkhall

Dusseldorf Feeders Semi Finals Paul Drinkhall

Doubles Durban Contender Semi Finals Tom Jarvis and Paul Drinkhall

WTT Youth Contender Spain **Winner** – Abraham Sellado U13

WTT Youth Contender Spain Quarter finals Kacper Piwowar U13

WTT Youth Contender Belgium Quarter final Kacper Piwowar U13



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Hosting the world at our table



Objectives

- **Create memories** that last a lifetime
- **Deliver** an inspirational, accessible and inclusive event
- **Increase awareness and visibility** – more eyeballs, more broadcast, more people talking about table tennis
- **Inspire** a new generation of players, workforce and fans
- **Secure** partnerships and investment
- **Create** a lasting legacy





Engaging the nation

	Feeder	Star Contender	WTTC	Champions
2023	🏓			
2024	🏓			
2025	🏓	🏓		
2026	🏓		🏓	
2027	🏓			🏓
2028	🏓	🏓		
2029	🏓			🏓
2030	🏓	🏓		
2031	🏓			🏓
2032	🏓	🏓		







World Team Table Tennis Championships 2026
30 April – 10 May





Our ambition is strongly backed by our leaders...

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, said:

"London is the sporting capital of the world, with a rich history of delivering elite, commercially successful sporting events.

I fully support Table Tennis England's ambitions to bring the World Team Table Tennis Championships to the capital and look forward to building a lasting legacy for Table Tennis in the city."

Chair UK Sport, Dame Katherine Grainger DBE, said:

"We are delighted to be exploring this exciting event proposition with Table Tennis England.

Delivering world class events here in the UK is at the heart of our ambition to showcase extraordinary sporting moments and we are pleased to be considering the opportunity to bring the centenary World Championships to the UK.

Hosting major sporting events delivers real economic, societal, reputational, sporting and environmental benefits to the UK, and we look forward to continuing to work together with Table Tennis England to develop this event proposal."



World Team Table Tennis Championships

- 10 days of competition
- 640 players
- 80 Teams
- 190 matches



Wembley

- Two London 2012 venues
- 25,000 spectators
- Practice venue – the world-famous Wembley Stadium
- Competition venue – the iconic Wembley Arena
- Competition, practice and accommodation within 50m eliminating the need for transport
- Multiple food and beverage options onsite
- Easy access to more hotels, restaurants and bars, as well as London's worldrenowned theatre and shopping hotspots
- Outstanding connections for international visitors, including **a new 43-minute direct connection from Heathrow Airport into London**
- A choice of 12 state-of-the-art trains an hour with Wi-Fi and air conditioning so you can travel in style and comfort





Creating a lasting legacy

A sustainable legacy

- Deliver the most environmentally sustainable table tennis ever!
- Minimise our environmental footprint and carbon emissions and have a positive impact towards reducing climate change
- Use energy efficiently and, wherever possible, maximise the use of low carbon energy
- Reduce total waste produced through minimising consumption and using resources productively



A Participation Legacy

- Single largest opportunity ever to inspire participation in table tennis
- From kids to adults, from schools to clubs, from players to coaches and volunteers– London will have it all.
- We are already committed to increased investment in table tennis in London



A People Legacy

- The the 2026 World Team Table Tennis Championships will be a wonderful opportunity to recruit our 'Gamesmakers' to support the most spectacular Championships ever.
- Roles will be as varied as the skills, knowledge and experiences of the volunteers themselves.
- Everyone involved will know that they are where the action is; playing an essential role in the success of the Championships

