

Great Britain Selection Policy



Great Britain Training Squad 2025/26 Season

1. Policy Purpose

This selection policy relates to the Great Britain Training Squad for the 2025-26 season. The GBTS is designed to support and develop players who have the capabilities and ambition to transition to GBTT’s World Class Programme. These players are currently showing that they are performing at the standards defined in our Performance Standards below:

GB Training Squad
13-19
<p>Primary selection criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• European ranking of top 20 in age category• Top 8 finish or higher at European Youth Championships• 2 or more medals at WTT age group youth events at U15 level or above• Players Physical Readiness <p>Secondary selection criteria:</p> <p>The remaining squad will be selected by the GBTS lead coach + performance team. Considerations will be made around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performances at Home Nation U15 National Championships 2025 (male and female)• Performances at Home Nation U19 National Championships 2025 (male and female)• Player domestic/international results• Player attitude, behaviours• Player's training hours above 15 hours per week• Player potential & trajectory (considering the U17 age category to ensure the progression of players to the U19 level)

What does the GBTS Programme look like:

Centralised Training Access:

Players within GBTS will have access to centralised training at the Elite Training Centre for a

minimum of one week per month supported by Lead GB coaches. Players will be supported by sparrers and National team players from other countries worldwide. As part of this programme where appropriate athletes have the option to move full time to Sheffield. Each player depending on their age group and gender will be supported by a lead coach where further training opportunities will be facilitated and individual programmes are developed.



Competition Exposure:

Players will be given the opportunity to access 6–8 key international events across the competition season. These events are crucial for athlete benchmarking, gaining international experience, and achieving selection standards for future major events. Please note: participation in these events is likely to be on a self-funded basis.

Holistic Development Support

The GBTS is committed to developing well-rounded athletes prepared not only for elite performance but also for long-term success in and out of sport. Selected athletes will receive access to the following wider support services:

- Strength and conditioning
- Psychology Education workshops
- UK Anti-Doping Education
- Lifestyle Education Workshops

In an athlete's induction process, more details of Holistic athlete development will be outlined, and the data that the Performance Team will collect will be clearly outlined.

Performance Pathway Philosophy, Purpose & Status

GBTS provides an opportunity for players, coaches and parents to understand the commitment and demands elite international table tennis requires. The programmes will work with people who share our philosophy and are willing to commit fully to the programme we direct both on camp and in the players' daily training environment.

Philosophy and Behaviours

Our overarching philosophy for any player who enters our programme is to:

- Develop players capable of success at **senior** international level
- Develop more well-rounded people that are capable of succeeding outside of sport
- Create a long-term love of the sport

Performance behaviors are outlined below:

What is... Passion and drive	What is.... Resilience	What is.... Curiosity	What is.... Self-management	What is.... Gratitude and Respect	What is.... Adaptability	What is.... Thrive in Competition	What is.... Take care
<p>Having passion is about having a strong motivation to achieve a goal in an activity that you love.</p> <p>Drive means that you are ambitious, persistent, and want to succeed.</p>	<p>Having resilience is about adapting to difficult or challenging life experiences. A resilient person has strong coping skills and is able to use these skills to progress through difficult situations. Resilience can be physical, mental, emotional, or social.</p>	<p>Curiosity is about continual learning and discovery of new things. It means that you are inquisitive, open to trying new things and being willing to make mistakes</p>	<p>Self-management in this context is about being able to manage one's time, plan, be organised, and have ownership of their development. It also refers to how effectively the player can reflect and debrief.</p>	<p>Respect is a way of treating or thinking about something or someone. Gratitude is about being thankful and showing appreciation for another person's actions.</p>	<p>Adaptability is centred on being able to adjust to new conditions, and could be related to both adapting on the table, and adapting to new environments.</p>	<p>Thriving in competition refers to all the positive behaviours within the competitive area, both on and off the court, including effective preparation & debrief, being excited to compete, and thriving in difficult situations.</p>	<p>Taking care is about understanding what needs to be done to best support yourself and others in specific situations. This could mean how you support each other as a team, taking care of yourself physically and mentally. Take care also refers to your actions on the table and how you want to come across.</p>

2. Selection Panel

A selection panel will be established comprising of:

- GB Director of Performance(Chair);
- GBTS Lead Coach
- England Hopes Lead coach
- A member from the Athlete Support Team
- Independent Observer (non voting)

In the event of a split-decision, the Chair will have the casting vote. Additional experts may be asked to provide evidence and/or advice to the Selection Panel, at the request of the Chair. In the event of any conflict of interest for any member, that member shall not be entitled to vote on that issue.



3. Eligibility

Great Britain Table Tennis will only consider athletes for selection who:

- i. Are affiliated to a Home Nation Table Tennis Association, holding a valid Home Nation Table Tennis Association Player Licence and are in good standing;
- ii. Are eligible to represent GB in Olympic events and have a valid British Passport;
- iii. Are not currently under disqualification or suspension under the rules of any Home Nation Table Tennis Association or ITTF or ETTU;
- iv. Are not currently serving any sanction for an anti corruption or anti-doping rule violation under any relevant anti-corruption or anti-doping rules;
- v. Have provided GB Director of Performance with a signed Acknowledgement, notifying an intention to be considered for selection, by the date set out at the end of the Selection Policy in section 11;
- vi. Have signed and returned the GBTS Athletes agreement before their selection is announced.

4. Medical

At the time of their invitation or selection, players may have their medical and/or musculoskeletal status confirmed by a nominated GBTT's medical team.

Any player may, at any other time, may be required by the GB's Director of Performance to undergo fitness or medical assessments to ensure that they have maintained an adequate level of fitness to engage and perform to the best of their ability. The GB Director of Performance will specify the process by which a player is to confirm his or her continued health and fitness, which might include participating in certain events or undergoing fitness tests.

5. Media & Communication

All selected athletes are required to adhere to the Social Media guidance which can be found on the Table Tennis England website at the following address: <https://www.tabletennisengland.co.uk/content/uploads/2025/09/GBTT-Social-Media-Guidelines.pdf>)

All athletes, whether selected or not are required to keep the notification of their selection or non-selection confidential until directed by GB Table Tennis .

6. De-Selection

GB Table Tennis retains the right to deselect any selected athlete under any of the following circumstances:

- i. The player is no longer eligible for selection;
- ii. The player does not adhere to the code of conduct or Squad Athletes agreement;
- iii. Any exceptional circumstances exist which in the reasonable opinion of the Selection Panel justify the non-selection or de-selection of the athlete concerned.

Any player who is de-selected will immediately be notified of the decision and the reason.

7. Appeals Process

Eligible players only have the right to appeal in the following cases:

- i. The selection process were not applied correctly;
- ii. A player was de-selected under Point 9 above;
- iii. An ineligible player was selected under any point

The appeals process for these cases is set out here:

<https://www.tabletennisengland.co.uk/content/uploads/2023/07/TABLE-TENNIS-ENGLAND-Selection-Review-Policy.pdf>

Timeframes of Selection

Full Selection : August (on an annual basis)
Quarterly, athlete places are reviewed based on the following:
Commitment to the programme

Athlete standards against our selection criteria
Athlete's behaviours
Athlete's fitness (minimum standards to be tailored to the individual athlete)
Quarterly Reviews:
December, March, July each year

