

GB Table Tennis APA Matrix



The Athlete Performance Award (APA) Matrix is a strategic framework employed by UK Sport to guide the distribution of funding and support to elite athletes, ensuring a transparent and performance-driven approach to investment. For Table Tennis, the APA Matrix serves as a critical tool for identifying and nurturing athletes with the potential to succeed at the highest levels of international competition, including the Olympic Games. Those athletes who meet the standards below will be up for consideration to be inducted into our Olympic programme and will be considered for nomination to UK Sport for an APA.

APA Level	Award	Competition Outcome	Performance Criteria	Commitment	Targeted Events
A		Singles or Doubles (mixed/same gender) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieved a medal winning performance at an Olympic Games or ITTF World Championships; or Achieved a medal winning performance at two WTT Grand Smashes or WTT Finals/ITTF World Cup in a year without a World Championships. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ranked within the Top 8 in the world (working towards a seeding of a semi-final finish at the Olympic Games) Full commitment to performance services team (including strength and conditioning programme, sport psychology, regular physical screening, performance lifestyle and performance analysis) Exceeding key benchmarks in objective testing data A detailed review plan of the athlete's individual plan is operational, with meetings between all key parties at a minimum of 5 points in the year A full periodised competition programme is operational 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commitment to a full-time training programme that includes a minimum of 25 hours training per week (either at the ETC in Sheffield or hybrid between the ETC and periods on tour) Minimum of 12 international competitions per year within the WTT framework, to include all major Championships (e.g., European Championships) Accessing a minimum of 250 days with a specified performance coach for each athlete per year Meeting key benchmarks in objective testing data (physical dashboard) 	Players will be looking to target per season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7-9 Star Contender/ Grand Smash / WTT Champions events, and all the World, Olympic and European championships

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B		Singles or Doubles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieved a quarterfinal finish at an Olympic Games or ITTF World Championships; or Achieved a quarterfinal finish at two WTT Grand Smashes or WTT Finals/ITTF World Cup in a year without a World Championships. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Top 25 in the World Senior Ranking Full commitment to performance services team (including strength and conditioning programme, sport psychology, regular physical screening, performance lifestyle and performance analysis) Exceeding key benchmarks in objective testing data A detailed review plan of the athlete's individual plan is operational, with meetings between all key parties at a minimum of 5 points in the year A full periodised competition programme is operational. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commitment to a full-time training programme that includes a minimum of 25 hours training per week (either at the ETC in Sheffield or hybrid between the ETC and periods on tour) Minimum of 12 international competitions per year within the WTT framework, to include all major Championships (e.g., European Championships) Accessing a minimum of 250 days with a specified performance coach for each athlete per year Meeting key benchmarks in objective testing data (physical dashboard) 	<p>Players will be looking to target per season:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7-9 Star Contender/ Grand Smash / WTT Champions events, and all the, world, Olympic and European championships
C		Singles or Doubles Have achieved three of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Top 16 finish in an Olympic Games, World Championships, WTT Grand Smash or WTT Finals/ITTF World Cup Quarterfinal finish in a WTT Star Contender European Senior Championship medallist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A world ranking of between 40 –75 and in the Senior world ranking at the age of under 25. This is in line with direct qualification for Olympic Games and all top WTT events. Evidence of main draw qualification of WTT Grand Smashes at under 23. Qualification to Europe's top 22 at Senior level. World ranking of top 16 in a mixed doubles and doubles pairing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting key benchmarks in objective testing data (physical dashboard) Commitment to a full-time training programme that includes a minimum of 25 hours training per week (either at the ETC in Sheffield or hybrid between the ETC and periods on tour) Minimum of 12 international competitions per year within the WTT framework, to include all major Championships (e.g., European Championships) Accessing a minimum of 250 days with a specified performance coach for each athlete per year. 	

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D		Singles/Doubles Have achieved two of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top 32 finish in an Olympic Games, World Championships, WTT Grand Smash or WTT Finals/ITTF World Cup • Top 16 finish at a WTT Star Contender/Contender • Quarter final at the Youth World Championships or two Quarterfinals at the WTT Youth Grand Smash. • Medal at the U21 European Championship • Winner of a WTT Senior Feeder event. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A world ranking of between 60 –100 and in the Senior world ranking at the age of under 25. • Evidence of main draw qualification of WTT Grand Smashes at under 23. • Qualification to Europe's top 22 at Senior level. • Evidence of wins against the world's top 50 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the 2 years we would be expecting the player to start to transition to full time training at the Elite Training Centre 	Players will be looking to target per season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-6 Senior Contenders/ Star Contender events. • 4-6 Grand Smash / WTT Champions events
E (Entry Level)		Singles/Doubles Have achieved two of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterfinal finish at WTT Senior Feeder. • Top 16 finish at European U21 Championships or World Youth Championships. • Medal at WTT Youth Star Contender/Contender or European Youth Championship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing trajectory of potential to be ranked within the top 200 in the senior world ranking (as an U21) within the programme. • Evidence of good performances and nearly wins against players in the world's top 200 as an under 21. • Has a professional club abroad in one of Europe's top leagues, showing above 50% win rate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to a full-time training programme that includes a minimum of 25 hours training per week, with a commitment of 50% of their time spent at the Elite Training Centre • Accessing a minimum of 125 days with a specified performance coach per year • Introduction to the development of an individual athlete development planning and athlete's showing encouraging signs of taking ownership of their training programme. 	Players will be looking to target per season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-6 Youth Star Contenders/Contenders • 4-6 Senior Feeders • 2 Senior contender events

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