2026-2027 Mark Bates Ltd
Senior National Championship

General Information

Date: Friday 19th – Sunday 21st March 2027
- Singles Qualification & Mixed Doubles initial rounds (TBC): Friday 19th March
- Singles Main Draw & other events: Sat 20th - Sun 21st March

Venue: David Ross Sports Village, University of Nottingham, Beeston Ln, Nottingham, NG7 2RD

Entry Closing Date: Midnight on Wednesday 10th February 2027

Draw Date: w/c 1st March 2027 for Singles Qualification, Doubles and Para categories
Friday 19th March 2027 for Men's Open and Women's Singles knockout stages

Ranking Lists: Senior Invites and wildcard selections will be based on the Dec 05/26 snapshot ranking list *(Published 13th January 2027)*
Qualification & Doubles draw seeding will be based on the Jan 06/26 snapshot ranking list *(Published 10th February 2027)*
Main Singles draw seedings will be based on the Feb 07/26 snapshot ranking list *(Published 10th March 2027)*

Ranking Weighting: This event carries a Table Tennis England Ranking weighting of x 2.25

Should you have any queries regarding this event please contact the Tournament Organiser Mark Pinder at mark.pinder@tabletennisengland.co.uk or 01908 208871.

1. Authority

The English Table Tennis Association shall organise the National Championships
President: Mrs. Jill Parker MBE

2. Table Tennis England Board

Ms. Clare BRIEGAL, Table Tennis England Chair
Ms. Sally LOCKYER, Table Tennis England CEO
Mr. Paul BISHOP, Appointed Director
Ms. Kath CURRAN, Appointed Director
Ms. Sally HUGHES, Elected Director
Mr. Jos KELLY, Elected Director
Mr. Liam McTIERNAN, Elected Director
Mr. Don PARKER, Elected Director
Mr. Ritchie VENNER, Elected Director
Ms. Anna WHOWELL, Appointed Director

3. Championship Jury

The Championship Jury will be made up of the following positions:
- Competition Referee
- Tournament Director
- Tournament Organiser
- Table Tennis England Chair (if present)
- Table Tennis England Chief Executive Officer (if present)
- Technical Operations Manager

4. Tournament Director

2026-2027 Mark Bates Ltd
Senior National Championship

Should you have any queries regarding this event please contact:
Tournament Director: Mr. Neil Rogers (TO4) neil.rogers@tabletennisengland.co.uk

Officials

Referee: Mr. Joshua Reynolds (NR) (ENG)
Deputy Referee: Ms. Kim Mudge (NR) (ENG)
Assistant Referee: Ms. Sandy Nash (TR) (ENG)
Umpires Manager: Mrs. Margaret Welch (TO3) (ENG)
Field of Play Manager: Mr. Brian Jackson (TO4) (ENG)
Technical Operations Manager: Mr. Chris Newton (TO4) (ENG)
Tournament Organiser: Mr. Mark Pinder (TO3)

5. Events

The following Championship events will take place:

1. Men's Open Singles	2. Women's Singles
3. Men's Doubles	4. Women's Doubles
5. Mixed Doubles	6. Para Wheelchair
7. Para Standing	

6. Criteria for Entry & Invitations

Singles Categories (Invitations) **-** Table Tennis England will invite all eligible players to take part in the Mark Bates Ltd Senior National Championships. Invitations will be issued on the below basis:

- 7 Men and 7 Women from the Dec 05/26 Table Tennis England Ranking list
- 1 Wildcard for Men and 1 Wildcard for Women

Should an athlete decline their invitation or withdraw prior to the qualification draw being made, the next eligible player on the ranking list Dec 05/26 will be invited. Should an invited athlete withdraw after the qualification draw is made and before the qualification, then an additional place from the qualifying event will become available. Should an athlete withdrawal be following qualifying and prior to the main draw, the option of a replacement is at the referee's discretion.

Please note that rankings remain live until the end of the season, and published places in a given ranking list may change slightly following subsequent month's ranking runs – for this reason, invitations are done on a fixed 'snapshot' basis and will not themselves change if the live list changes retrospectively.

Single Categories (Qualification) **-** Any eligible player can enter the qualification stage, whereby 24 players from the qualification on Friday 19th March will progress to the main draw taking place on Saturday 20th, with finals day taking place on Sunday 21st March.

All qualifier entrants to the Mark Bates Ltd Senior National Championships must have >=200pts in the men's open or women's TTE Senior ranking list, excluding formerly rated players who would be dummied >=200pts, at the entry deadline. Players in the top50 (men's open) and top30 (women) on the TTE Senior Dec 05/26 senior ranking list will have their entry accepted should they submit entry and payment by the deadline. All other entries will then be accepted in order of receipt (time and date) up until the closing date, or the competition is full. There will be a practical

limit for entrants, and it may not be possible to accept all entries. This will be determined by when entry is submitted and paid for. All entries should be considered provisional until confirmed, and any unsuccessful entries will be refunded.

Doubles Categories – All doubles categories will include up to 16 pairs for the Men's Open, Women's and Mixed events. Any eligible player can enter the doubles competition, with each partner having to enter and name their playing partner. This event is not restricted to Singles event entrants only. If a category is oversubscribed, then priority will be given to the top 16 pairs with the highest aggregate Senior ranking. If a player does not appear on the ranking list at the time of seeding, then they will be given 0 points; by default no dummy rankings will be given.

Para Players: Table Tennis England will invite Para players based on BPTT selection, which is at the sole discretion of BPTT. Para players must also be current TTE members.

7. Fees & Membership

Each player will be required to pay an entry fee. Payment must be paid via TTE Hub. Instructions for payment will be detailed within the entry system.

All entrants must have a current Table Tennis England Compete Plus membership:

Category	Fees
1. Men's Open Singles	£46:00
2. Women's Singles	£46:00
3. Men's Open Doubles	£38.00
4. Women's Doubles	£38.00
5. Mixed Doubles	£38.00
6. Para Wheelchair	£46:00
7. Para Standing	£46:00

Refunds for entries will only be issued to players who have withdrawn in the below timescale:

- Prior to the deadline date – Full refund minus a £5 admin charge
- After the deadline date and prior to the draw date – Full refund minus a £10 admin charge
- After the draw there will be no refunds available
- If a player is suspended prior to the event, and cannot take part, refunds will depend on the date that they were suspended, and that date will follow the above timelines.

8. Formats

Singles Categories (Qualifying) – The format will be group stages, typically comprising groups of at a minimum of 4 players, subject to entries. There will be a set number of allocated spots that will qualify to the main draw, or to a qualifying play-off match to determine the final 24 players that will progress to the main draw, to be determined by the referee on entries received. All matches will be played best of 5, 11 up.

Singles Categories (Main Draw) - The format will be played on a knockout basis from the Last-32 onwards. The Last-32 matches will be played to the best of 5 games, 11 up, and the top 8 seeds will start at this stage. The Last-16 matches onwards will be played to the best of 7 games, 11 up.

Doubles Categories - Matches will be played on a knockout basis, played to the best of 5 games, 11 up, and will involve up to 16 pairs for each category.

2026-2027 Mark Bates Ltd
Senior National Championship

Para Categories - The Para categories will play in 2 groups of 3, followed by knockout matches. All matches will be played to the best of 5 games, 11 up. **Para Wheelchair: Classes 1-5** are for physical impairment (sitting), class 1 being the most severely affected, and class 5 having the most physical functionality. **Para Standing: Classes 6-10** are for physical impairment (standing), class 6 being the most severe and class 10 the least. These are set by the International Paralympic Committee.

9. Sunday Format

Sunday matches will use International standard pre-match procedures, and multi-ball will also be in operation. There will be on-court presentations between Sunday's matches.

10.Prize Fund – current values are indicative only, pending confirmation

The tournament will be offering prize money in each of the Championship Events. The prize money on offer for the tournament will be as below:

Category	Winner	Runner-Up	Losing Semi-Finalists	Losing Quarter-Finalists	Total
Men's Open Singles	£1800	£900	£450	£225	£4500
Women's Singles	£1800	£900	£450	£225	£4500
Men's Open Doubles	£350 each	£175 each	£75 each*	n/a	£1350
Women's Doubles	£350 each	£175 each	£75 each*	n/a	£1350
Mixed Doubles	£350 each	£175 each	£75 each*	n/a	£1350
Para Wheelchair	£300	£150			£450
Para Standing	£300	£150			£450
				Total Prize Fund	**£13,950**

All players must attend their medal ceremony or else they will forgo any prize money earned.
* Medal Ceremony to be held on Sunday 21st March following conclusion of the Final; losing semi-finalist prize money and medals will only be issued if entry numbers warrant

11. U18s participants at the competition

All U18 participants should be accompanied at all times by a responsible adult. Officials and Organisers of the competition do not take responsibility for stand in loco parentis for any U18s.

12. Photography and Streaming

Table Tennis England will be taking photos and live streaming matches during this event which may include (but not limited to), using them on our printed and online platforms, social media, press releases and funding applications. If you do not give permission to take photographs and/or video of you (or individuals for whom you are legally responsible), please contact competitions@tabletennisengland.co.uk.

For further details please see the Table Tennis England Photo and live streaming Policy:
https://www.tabletennisengland.co.uk/about-us/safeguarding/photography-guidelines/

13. Code of Conduct

All participants and attendees at Table Tennis England events are subject to Table Tennis England Codes of Conduct https://www.tabletennisengland.co.uk/about-us/safeguarding/safeguarding-codes-of-conduct-and-terms-of-reference/

2026-2027 Mark Bates Ltd
Senior National Championship

We will not tolerate swearing or verbal abuse of volunteers, officials, staff or venue staff, nor a failure to follow the operational directions of stewards and event staff. We will treat all such instances extremely seriously and will rigorously pursue disciplinary sanctions if necessary. For further details, please see the Table Tennis England Workforce Protection Policy https://www.tabletennisengland.co.uk/about-us/policies-and-procedures/

All rules will be played as per Table Tennis England Regulated Competition, unless otherwise stated below, which can be found in the below link: Articles and regulations - Table Tennis England

2026-2027 Mark Bates Ltd
Senior National Championship

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

It is important that all competitors read and understand these regulations. Please take the time to do this. Competitors should also ensure that they retain this sheet for reference purposes.

1. The Mark Bates Ltd Senior National Championship is only open to those players who are eligible to play for England. If you are in any doubt about this, please telephone Table Tennis England on 01908 208871 or email mark.pinder@tabletennisengland.co.uk for clarification and advice.
2. Players must be eligible on the date entries close and must remain eligible up to the time of playing the tournament. If, after the completion of a Championships, it is found that a title winner was ineligible to play then their name will be expunged from the records.
3. All competitors must meet all the following criteria:
    - Be a current Compete Plus member of Table Tennis England. If a Compete member, a one-time tournament top-up must also be purchased.
    - Be a British national and be born in or have their main residence in England.
    - Have indicated 'England' nationality in their membership profile, and hence be eligible to appear on the Table Tennis England 'rankings' list
    - Not be currently under disqualification or suspension under the rules of Table Tennis England or ITTF & ETTU.
    - Not be currently serving any sanction for an anti-doping rule violation under any relevant anti-doping rules.
    - And additionally in the case of players transitioning from eligibility for another federation:
        - Hold a current British Passport
        - Not have played in a National Championship of any other country in the same year (01 August to 31 July)
    - The Mark Bates Ltd Senior National Championships will be played under the Laws of Table Tennis and Table Tennis England Tournament Regulations. ITTF Regulations for International Competitions apply except those relating to matters covered by items marked (X) in these regulations.
    - Completion and submission of this entry form signifies agreement by the entrant to the conditions of the competition including the variations from the ITTF requirements.
4. Entrants in events 1-2, Table Tennis England will invite up to 8 Men's Open players and 8 Women's players eligible for each of the Singles categories and a further 24 Men's Open and Women who progressed through qualifying.
5. Entrants in events 3-5, will involve up to 16 pairs for each category, Men's Open, Women's and Mixed; event entrants can invite their regular doubles partner if that individual meets the requirements of Regulation 3, as this is not restricted to Singles event entrants only – if oversubscribed, priority will be given to pairs with the highest aggregate Senior ranking. If a player does not appear on the ranking list at the time of seeding, then they will be given 0 points, by default; no dummy rankings will be given. Should a player withdraw from the doubles after the closing date, but before the event category commences, their doubles partner will have an agreed time to find a replacement player before the next pairing is accepted, at the discretion of the referee. The replacement player can't be higher ranked, and the combined ranking can't be lower than the highest ranked pair on the reserve list, should there be one.
6. Any player withdrawing after the Championships has started, in either the singles or doubles events, will then be withdrawn from all remaining categories within the Championship weekend.
7. Any player withdrawing from the competition after the initial draw has been made may receive a £50 fine.
8. Table Tennis England Tournament Director will invite eligible players, invited players must be ranked 1 to 7 in the senior Men's Open and Women's rankings on the Table Tennis England Dec 05/26, snapshot ranking list, published on 13th January 2027. Should an athlete decline their invitation ahead of the deadline, the next eligible player listed on the snapshot ranking list will receive an invitation.
9. Entrants in events 6 & 7 will be submitted by BPTT, invited by Table Tennis England and will meet international classification set by the ITTF, in consultation with BPTT. Selection is at the sole discretion of BPTT, and Para players must also be current TTE members.
10. The tournament referee reserves the right to cancel any event for which fewer than 8 entries are received and to hold qualifying competitions or merge events if necessary. No entry will be accepted after the draw, however Table Tennis England reserves the right in exceptional circumstances to invite additional players to fill vacant gaps in the groups. Fees sent for entries subsequently rejected will be refunded, but entry forms received without fees will be ignored.
11. Entries will be acknowledged automatically; a player having not received such an acknowledgement by Wednesday 10th February 2027 should contact the Events department on 01908 208871.
12. The last date for receipt of entries is midnight, Wednesday 10th February 2027. Please note that entries received without payment or signature will be declined.
13. Table Tennis England retains the right to withdraw an invitation from an athlete under any of the following circumstances:
    - The athlete is no longer eligible for this event.
    - Any exceptional circumstances, which in the reasonable opinion of Table Tennis England, justifies the withdrawal of the athlete concerned.
14. The draw for Men's Open and Women's Singles Main Draw will take place following the qualification rounds on Friday 19th March 2027. All other categories will be drawn in the week commencing Monday 1st March 2027.
15. The right is reserved to alter the schedule of playing times and/or table for any match. Entrants, if absent at any time when called upon to play, are liable to disqualification from the event.

Table Tennis England
Bradwell Road, Loughton Lodge, Milton Keynes, MK8 9LA
T 01908 208860 E help@tabletennisengland.co.uk

16. Play throughout will be with Yinhe H40+ 3* plastic ball (white), Butterfly nets and posts and a minimum court size 10m x 5m (qualifying) and 12m x 6m (Main draw). Tables will be Butterfly Europa 25 or Centrefold 25. Triofloor flooring will be used over semi-sprung wooden flooring.
17. For the main draw, the Referee shall appoint an umpire for each match and may, at their discretion, appoint an assistant umpire. Decisions on point of fact by an umpire or assistant umpire appointed by the Referee shall be final. The Referee's decision shall be final on any points of law and in any disputes as to the interpretation of these regulations and on any matter not covered by them. Scoring machines will be used for all matches. **During qualifying, matches will be umpired by players in the same group on Friday, and the referee shall appoint table managers across all groups.**

THE LAST 32 IN THE MEN'S OPEN AND WOMEN'S SINGLES WILL BE PLAYED TO BEST OF 5 GAMES. THE LAST 16 MATCHES ONWARDS IN THE MEN'S OPEN & WOMEN'S SINGLES EVENTS WILL BE PLAYED TO BEST OF 7 GAMES. QUALIFICATION, DOUBLES AND PARA EVENTS WILL BE PLAYED BEST OF 5 GAMES.

18. Rackets: The surface of one side of the racket can be either pink, violet, green, blue or the normal bright red and the surface of the other side shall remain black, whether or not both sides are used for striking the ball and must conform to ITTF Regulations for International Competitions. Racket testing may take place randomly according to ITTF regulations. Racket testing will be compulsory for all semi-finals and finals.
19. It is the player's responsibility that bats must be submitted 15-20 minutes prior to play. Voluntary testing will be available all weekend.
20. At all times when playing, competitors are required to have their name printed on the back of their playing shirts. Any player without their name printed on the back of their playing shirt will receive a £20 fine per match.
21. Playing clothing shall consist of a shirt and shorts, trousers, leggings or skirt, or a one-part sports outfit, socks, and playing shoes. A sports hijab may also be worn. Other garments shall not be worn during play except with the permission of the Referee.
22. No competitor or official shall engage in betting on players or matches.
23. Signing the entry form constitutes agreement by the competitor, under the Data Protection Act 1984, to the storing of his or her name, address and date of birth on a computer system.
24. Separate practice tables will be available on the Saturday and Sunday of the event for PARTICIPANTS only. Practice on the match tables once the competition starts will be at the discretion of the Referee. There will be no separate practice tables for qualifying.
25. Suitably engraved Medals will be presented to the finalists as well as losing semi-finalists in all Championship Events, that have more than 14 entries.
26. All medal winners must attend their ceremony for each individual event they gain a medal, or they will forgo their prize money for that specific event. If awarded, the losing semi-finalists of events with finals on the following day (e.g. Doubles), will have the option of being presented with their medal on the day of the Semi-Final, should both losing semi-finalists not be attending on the following day.
27. Competitors are required to sign an undertaking*: I undertake to (1) observe the regulations of the tournament (2) abide by the decision of the Referee and Championships Jury (3) fulfil the schedule of play arranged for me unless prevented by circumstances beyond my control and accepted as such by the Referee. *This undertaking may be signed on behalf of a junior competitor by a parent or legal guardian but not by a coach.
28. Doping shall not take place before or during play. Players competing in this tournament may be subject to drug testing from UK Anti-doping.
29. Mobile phones are not permitted to be used within the match court area and should remain somewhere safe within your bag or with a parent or coach attending the event. Any player caught using their phone during time out, change of ends or during matches will forfeit the match.
30. Changing facilities, light meals, and refreshments will be available at the venue for purchase. Parking is available at the venue; parking charges will apply for the duration of the competition. Limited disabled parking is also available.
31. All competitors must report to the reception for check-in on arrival on the first day they are attending and must not leave the venue without first obtaining permission from the Referee.
32. Table Tennis England may authorise photographers and other media representatives to record the event.
33. For entrants aged 17 and under, no entry will be accepted unless the person having legal responsibility for the entrant has completed and signed the Anti-Doping Consent and Agreement form.
34. Admission – each Singles Player will receive one accreditation for their coach; they must confirm the name of the coach during the entry process.. Any accreditations issued or amended after the deadline will incur a £10 fee. All other spectators will be required to buy a ticket. Player and Coach accreditations will allow access to the venue for Friday 19th & Saturday 20th, subject to available seating each day. Only players participating on the Sunday and their coaches will gain accreditation for Sunday 21st. Accreditations must be worn at all times. Players/coaches must sit in the allocated seating, if applicable.
35. Notification – entrants will be notified of the time of their first match on each day.

Trophies

Competitors should note that Table Tennis England retain the ownership of all Perpetual Trophies, but each Championship Event winner will continue to receive a medal as currently provided. If a player requests

permission to retain a trophy for a period of time, this is acceptable providing the player signs a guarantee of safe return form.

Provisional Playing Schedule

Details for the playing schedule will be circulated to the players and will be posted on the Table Tennis England website. It may be subject to alteration by the Referee depending on the number of entries for each event and other extraneous factors. Completing and signing this form constitutes the player's acknowledgement of this.

Schedule Outline:

Friday AM:	Men's Open and Women's Singles Qualification
Friday Eve:	Mixed Doubles (TBC)
Saturday:	Men's Open and Women's Doubles to Semi Finals
	Mixed Doubles (TBC)
	Men's Open and Women's Singles to Quarter Finals
	Para Wheelchair Groups to Semi Finals
	Para Standing Groups to Semi Finals
Sunday:	Men's Open and Women's Singles Semi Finals & Final
	Men's Open and Women's Doubles Final
	Mixed Doubles Final
	Para Wheelchair Final
	Para Standing Final