



USA TABLE TENNIS – REQUEST FOR MEMBER COMMENT

USA Table Tennis Board of Directors

Seeks Member Comment on Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws

Proposed Amendments Seek to Increase Athlete Representation and Expand List of Eligible Elite Athletes

(Colorado Springs, CO – February 4, 2021) – The Board of Directors for USA Table Tennis (“USATT”), the National Governing Body for the sport of table tennis, today opened for Member comment the below proposed amendments (in red) to the USATT Bylaws. Please email comments to Admin@USATT.org on or before February 17, 2021. The full currently published version of the USATT Bylaws can be found at: <https://www.teamusa.org/usa-table-tennis/usatt/bylaws>.

Section 4.1.e.

- e. Ensure that its Board of Directors, and any other governance body, has established criteria and election procedures for, and maintains among its voting members, individuals who are actively engaged in amateur athletic competition in Table Tennis or who have represented the United States in an Operation Gold Competition in Table Tennis within the preceding ten (10) years, and ensures that the voting power held by those individuals is not less than ~~thirty three and a third~~ ~~twenty~~ (2033.3) percent of the voting power held in its Board of Directors or other governance body;

Section 7.5

Section 7.5. Number.

The Board of Directors shall consist of ~~nine (9)~~ ~~ten (10)~~ total directors, at least three (3) of whom shall be independent directors, at least ~~twenty (20)~~ ~~thirty three and one-third (33 1/3)~~ percent of ~~such seated directors whom~~ shall be ~~athlete~~ ~~Athlete and 10 Year+ Athlete~~ directors, and the rest of whom shall be drawn from appropriate representation in the United States Table Tennis community, with no single constituency having been involved in selecting a majority of directors.

Section 7.6.b.3

3. At Large Directors: There shall be two (2) At-Large Directors that are elected by the USATT General Members, through a process conducted by the Nominating and Governance Committee. Any individual may be eligible for an At-Large Director, provided he/she is a General Member at least 60 days before the record date, and obtains and submits to the Nominating and Governance Committee, at least twenty-five (25) signatures of support from current USATT General Members.

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USA TABLE TENNIS – REQUEST FOR MEMBER COMMENT

Section 7.6.b.4

4. Athlete Directors and 10 Year+ Athlete Director: There shall be two (2) Athlete Directors, First and a Second Athlete, that are elected by athletes that meet the standards of “Elite Athlete” pursuant to Section 11.2 of these Bylaws. Pursuant to Section 11.3 of these Bylaws, the USATT Athletes’ Advisory Council shall elect from among its seven (7) members, two (2) USATT Athlete Directors to the Board.

(a) There shall be one additional 10 Year+ Athlete Director or at large Athlete Director that is elected by athletes that meet the standards of “Elite Athlete” pursuant to Sections 11.2 and 11.11 of these Bylaws.

Section 7.9

Section 7.9. Staggered Board. [Intentionally left blank]²

The Initial Board, as elected by December 17th, 2007, shall be selected under special circumstances. The initial terms of this Board shall be as follows:

1. Athlete Director:

- a. One Athlete Director, who serves as the USOPC Athlete Advisory Council, elected as of January 2005, shall complete the 4-year term through the end of 2008, or until his/her successor has been selected (whichever comes later).
- b. The second athlete representative on the Board, who shall be elected by the USATT Athlete Advisory Council per section 7.6, shall be selected to serve one initial five (5) year term, expiring December 31st, 2012, or until his or her successor has been selected (whichever comes later).

2. Independent Directors:

- a. Two (2) Independent Directors shall be selected to an initial five (5) year term, expiring December 31st, 2012, or until his/her successor has been selected (whichever comes later).
- b. One (1) Independent Director shall be selected to an initial three (3) year term, expiring December 31st, 2010, or until his/her successor has been selected (whichever comes later).

3. At Large Directors:

- a. One (1) At Large Director shall be selected to an initial five (5) year term, expiring December 31st, 2012, or until his/her successor has been selected (whichever comes later).
- b. One (1) At Large Director shall be selected to an initial three (3) year term, expiring December 31st, 2010, or until his/her successor has been selected (whichever comes later).

4. Club Director:

- a. The Club Director shall be selected for an initial three (3) year term, expiring December 31st, 2010, or until his/her successor has been selected (whichever comes later).

² The current term for all directors ends 2024. Provisions for restoring staggered board will be implemented prior to that date.





USA TABLE TENNIS – REQUEST FOR MEMBER COMMENT

5. National Organization Director:

a. ~~If there is a National Organization Director, he or she shall be selected for one initial five (5)-year term, expiring December 31st, 2012, or until his or her successor is elected (whichever comes later).~~

~~With the above staggering, one (1) athlete director's, one (1) independent director's, one (1) at large director's, and the club director's terms will expire on December 31st, 2010, or when his/her successor has been selected (whichever comes later). Alternatively, one (1) athlete director's, one (1) at large directors', two (2) independent director's and the national organization director's terms will expire December 31st, 2012, or when his/her successor has been selected (whichever comes later).~~

Section 9.3

Section 9.3. Number.

All committees and advisory task forces shall have at least twenty (20) percent Elite ~~athlete~~ Athlete representation ~~and at least thirteen and one-third (13 1/3) percent Elite Athlete or 10 Year+ Athlete~~ defined consistently with the USOPC's requirements and Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act. Membership on all committees and task forces, other than for the High

Performance Committee and Para High Performance Committee, shall normally not exceed five (5) individuals.¹⁰ ~~The High Performance Committee and Para High Performance Committee~~¹¹ may have between five (5) and seven (7) members. USATT committees shall be of the minimum number possible to permit both conduct of the sport and appropriate board governance.

¹⁰ This sentence was amended 2015-08-22 (M-8). The previous sentence read, "Membership on all committees and task forces, other than for the High Performance Committee, shall not exceed five (5) individuals."

¹¹ The string "and Para High Performance Committee" was added in two locations on 2018-12-16 (M-6).

Section 9.15

Section 9.15. Nominating and Governance Committee.

- a. The Nominating and Governance Committee shall be elected and/or selected as follows:
 1. two (2) individuals who are independent as that term is defined in these Bylaws and who are selected by the previous Nominating and Governance Committee;
 2. ~~one two (42)~~ athletes as elected by the athlete members of USATT and who shall otherwise qualify as an athlete in accordance with the USOPC's standards; and
 3. two (2) individuals who shall be selected by the Board from USATT members in good standing.¹⁵

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USA TABLE TENNIS – REQUEST FOR MEMBER COMMENT

Section 10.6

Section 10.6 Hearing Panel.

Upon the filing of a complaint, the members of the Ethics and Grievance Committee shall review the complaint, and any member with a conflict of interest shall self-recuse from the matter. If the chair has a conflict, the USATT General Counsel shall appoint another member as the acting chair for the matter in question. Then, the chair/acting chair of the Ethics and Grievance Committee, after consultation with the other Committee members, shall examine the complaint, along with the General Counsel, to determine if the complaint has merit. If it is determined to be with merit, the Ethics and Grievance Committee shall appoint a hearing panel consisting of three individuals, none of whom have a conflict of interest, to hear the complaint. At least one member of the panel shall satisfy the standards of independence for “independent directors” as set forth in these Bylaws, and at least one member shall be an Elite Athlete. The Committee shall also appoint a chair of the hearing panel. Ethics and Grievance Committee members may be appointed to and serve on the hearing panel as well as other individuals who have been identified pursuant to Section 9.13(b)(7).¹⁹

Section 11.11

Section 11.11 Election of 10 Year+ Athlete or third Elite Athlete to the Board of Directors.

“10 Year+ Athlete” shall constitute an individual who has represented the United States as athletes in the Olympic or Paralympic Games, the Pan American or Para Pan American Games, or World Championships in the sport of Table Tennis more than ten (10) years since the completion of competition. The Board shall appoint the initial 10 Year+ Athlete to fill the vacancy and serve a 4 year term. Thereafter:

1. An Individual may be nominated by an Elite Athlete or self-nominate.
2. The Election shall take place every four years, prior to January 1st of the year following the Summer Olympic Games.

3. By count of the vote of the Elite Athletes, a 10 Year + Athlete or at large Elite Athlete shall be elected to the Board of Directors.

Updates include revisions from:

January xx, 2021

Amendment to § 7.5, 7.6, 7.9 and 11.11.

End.21 02-04a

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