



2016 Men and Women National Team Selection Procedure

1-Team Composition

- a. The Men and Women's National Teams will consist of four athletes each. Only athletes eligible to represent the USA at the World Championships will be eligible for National Team membership. USATT will fund up to four (4) athletes/gender for National Team Program activities, depending upon USATT's needs for an event and the budget limitations.
- b. For World T.T Champs USATT may select the 5th athlete to travel to the WTTC based on self-funding as coach's pick.
- c. All athletes earning a position on National Men and Women's Team must sign the Code of Conduct before their selection is final.

2- Selection

USATT will select the 2016 National team as follows:

- a. **Direct Qualification:** The highest ranked US eligible athlete listed among the top 30 in the 2015 ITTF World Ranking list #12 (December), will directly qualify for the 2016 National Team.
- b. **The winner** of Men's and Women's singles at 2015 US Nationals, if eligible to represent USA at the Worlds, will directly qualify for 2016 Men and Women's NT. 2015 Nationals is considered the **1st Trials**.
- c. **Trials:** After one athlete ranked in the ITTF top 30, and the winner of 2015 US Nationals, the remaining positions will be given to the top eligible athletes at the 2016 National Team Trials as follows:
 - The winner of the first day of the Trials (**2nd Trials**)
 - The winner of the second day of the Trials (**3rd Trials**)
 - A player who was runner-up at all 3 Trials (Nationals and first 2 days of the Trials).
 - Any remaining player who was runner-up in two trials (Nationals and/or one or two days of the Trials).
 - Any remaining eligible players who were runners-up in one trial (Nationals and first 2 days of the Trials), who will play a suitable draw for placement if necessary.
 - Any remaining players who were semi-finalists in all three trials, who will play off for placement if necessary.
 - Any remaining players who were semi-finalists in two trials, who will play a suitable draw for placement if necessary.
 - Any remaining eligible players who were semi-finalists in one trial, who will play a suitable draw for placement if necessary.
 - Any remaining players who were quarter-finalists in all three trials, who will play a suitable draw for placement if necessary.
 - Any remaining players who were quarter-finalists in two trials, who will play a suitable draw for placement if necessary.
 - Any remaining eligible players who were quarter-finalists in one trial, who will play a suitable draw for placement if necessary.



- d. In the event that an athlete declines a position on the National team, or is otherwise deemed ineligible for the Team at any time, the next highest eligible finishing player at the 2016 National Team Trials will be granted that position until all 4 positions per gender are filled.

3- Illness/Injury Policy

All athletes who compete at the National Team Trials, but who have to withdraw from the National Team Trials on the basis of a certified illness or certified injury, will be placed in a Special Consideration Group. This provision does not apply to illness or injury at the Nationals

During the two weeks following the Trials, the USATT High Performance Director, in consultation with the USATT High Performance Committee, will evaluate the members of the Special Consideration Group for potential participation in the World Championships. The evaluation will be based upon objective criteria. The objective criteria shall include, but not be limited to, the finishing order from the Trials, the athlete's current world ranking, the athlete's current rating, the athlete's recent national and international performances, the athlete severity of injury and athlete's recent training regimen. The names of athletes, whom the USATT High Performance Director deems appropriate for potential participation in the World Championships, will be forwarded to the Men's and Women's World Team Coaches.

The Men's and Women's World Team Coaches will evaluate the athletes whose names were forwarded to them by the USATT High Performance Director. Each Coach may, at his/her complete discretion, select one of those athletes for inclusion on the World Team as coach's pick. Should the World Team Coach propose to select one of that Coach's personal students, the Coach shall instead make a recommendation for the selection to the USATT High Performance Committee (HPC). The HPC will evaluate potential candidates, including the one recommended by the Coach, and the HPC will make the final selection. Players should note that the use of a Coach's pick is intended only for the circumstance in which a very highly qualified athlete is prevented from competing fully in the trial due to an illness or injury. There is no guarantee that a coach's pick will be made.

A player who withdraws due to injury must submit a written notice from a certified medical doctor stating the nature of illness or injury which prevented the player from completing the event. The notice must be received by the USATT High Performance Director within seven (7) days from the close of competition. In the event that a doctor's note is not submitted to the USATT High Performance Director in time, the athlete will be ineligible for the 2016 National Men and Women's Team without further notice.

NOTE- Members National Men and Women's Team are expected to participate in all mandatory team activities. Any athlete who fails to attend a mandatory event may, at the discretion of the HPC, per recommendation of respective Team Coach, be removed from the Team.

4- 2016 National Team Trials Playing System

Unless otherwise specified, the latest available USATT ratings at the time of the draw will be used. If players have equal ratings, the tie will be broken by lot.

The Trials will be held over 2 days for each gender as follows:

Geographical separation will be used to construct the qualification draw for the first day only. There will be no geographical separation for the main Trials.

First day:



- Single elimination tournament. The winner will secure a position on the respective National Team.
- Players will be seeded based on USATT most recent ratings available at the time of the draw.
- The top 8 seeded players will receive direct entries into the round of 16.
- All players who reach the round of 16 automatically qualify for the 2nd day of the Trials.
- Players who fail to reach the round of 16 have the option of playing in a single elimination qualification tournament for a place in the 2nd day of the Trials.
- The 1st place finisher of the qualification tournament will qualify for the 2nd day of the Trials.
- Prior to the Round of 16, and in the subsequent qualification tournament, all matches will be the best 3 out of 5 games.
- Starting with the Round of 16 all remaining matches will be best 4 out of 7 games.

Second day:

- Single elimination tournament. The winner will secure a position on the respective National Team.
- The losing finalist of the first day tournament will be seeded #1.
- Of the losing semifinalists of the first day tournament, the player with the higher rating will be seeded #2, and the player with the lower rating will be seeded #3.
- Of the losing quarterfinalists of the first day tournament, the player with the highest rating will be seeded #4, and the remaining players will be seeded #5.
- Of the remaining qualifying players as specified above (in the description of the first day), the player with the highest rating at the time of the draw will be seeded #5, and the remaining players will be seeded #9.
- All matches will be best 4 out of 7 games.

If necessary there will be matches to determine the finishing order for alternates based on the selection outlined above in #2-c.

Players defaulting on the First day are still eligible to compete on second day of the Trials. Players defaulting on the last day of the Trials for any reason other than injury will not be considered for the National Team.

A player who withdraws due to injury must submit a written notice from a certified medical doctor stating the nature of illness or injury which prevented the player from completing the event. The notice must be received within seven (7) days from the close of competition.

In the event that a doctor's note is not submitted to the High Performance Director in time, the athlete will be ineligible for the 2016 USATT National Team without further notice.

Members of the National Team are expected to participate in all mandatory team activities. Any athlete who fails to attend a mandatory event may, at the discretion of the HPC, per recommendation of respective team coach, be removed from the National Team.

Note: For 2016 Continental events the priority to enter and be funded will be given to the Olympic Games Team members who are eligible for those events.

Note: Details regarding the event location, dates, and draw will be announced in the Trials Prospectus.

The playing system may be changed depending upon the number of entries. Any such changes will be announced within 4 days after the entry deadline.