



## 2015 Pan Am, National Men and Women's Team, and Men and Women's World Team Selection Procedure:

### Team Composition:

- The Pan Am Team will consist of 3 athletes/gender eligible to represent USA at Pan Am Games.
- 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.
- The Men and Women's World Team will consist of the full number of singles athletes the USA is allowed to enter, based upon the new ITTF Rule 4.01.09.06 adopted at the 2014 General Assembly. ITTF Rule 4.01.09.06 reads: "Each Association shall be entitled to enter 3 men and 3 women players in each singles event, with one additional player ranked in the top 100 and one additional player ranked in the top 20 of the ITTF world ranking list issued in January of the year of the Championships to a maximum of 5 men and 5 women."
- All athletes earning a position on the Pan Am, National Men and Women's Team, and Men and Women's World Team must sign the Code of Conduct before their selection is final.

### USATT will select the 2015 Pan Am Team as follows:

- **Direct Qualification:** The highest ranked US Pan Am eligible athlete listed among the top 30 in the 2015 ITTF World Ranking list #1 (January) will directly qualify for the Pan Am Team.
- **Trials:** After one athlete ranked in the ITTF top 30, the remaining positions will be given to the top Pan Am eligible athletes at the 2015 Pan Am and National Team Trials in order of finish.
  - In the event that an athlete declines a position on the Pan Am Team, or is otherwise deemed ineligible for the Team at any time, the next highest Pan Am eligible finishing player at the 2015 Pan Am and Team Trials will be granted that position until all 3 positions per gender are filled.

### USATT will select the 2015 National Team as follows:

- **Direct Qualification:** The highest ranked US World eligible athlete listed among the top 30 in the 2015 ITTF World Ranking list #1 (January) will directly qualify for the Men's or Women's National Teams.
- **Trials:** After one athlete ranked in the ITTF top 30, the remaining positions will be given to the top athletes at the 2015 National Team Trials in order of finish.
  - 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 finishing player at the Team Trials will be granted that position until all 4 positions per gender are filled.

### USATT will select the 2015 World Team as follows:

- **National Team Membership:** The first two positions per gender will be awarded to the athletes in positions 1 and 2 on the USATT National Team on the date the World Team is announced.
- **Illness/Injury Policy:** All athletes who compete, or are entered to 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. During the two weeks prior to the date the World Team is announced, 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, and the 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.

During the week before the date the World Team is announced, 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. 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.

- **Remaining positions:** Any remaining positions will be awarded to the next highest positions on the USATT National Team on the date the World Team is announced.

The date and location of the Trials, along with any entry fees and entry deadlines, will be announced separately.

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 2015 Pan Am, National Men and Women's Team, and Men and Women's World Team without further notice.

Members of the Pan Am, National Men and Women's Team, and Men and Women's World 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.

All selected players must sign the code of conduct before being nominated as Pan Am or National Team members.

### **2015 Pan Am and 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 3 days for each gender as follows:

Geographical separation will be used to construct the draw for the first day only. On the second and third day, the draws will be made with no consideration for geographical separation.



### **First day:**

- Single elimination tournament. The winner will secure No. 1 position on the respective Pan Am & National Team. If the winner is not eligible for National Team, that National Team spot will be decided in the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the competition.
- 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the Trials.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> place finisher of the qualification tournament will qualify for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the Trials.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> place finisher of the qualification tournament will qualify for the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 No. 2 position on the respective Pan Am & National Team. If the winner is not eligible for National Team, that National Team spot will be decided in the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the competition.
- 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 #3, 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.

### **Third day:**

- Single elimination/Progressive knockout tournament. The winner will secure No. 3 position on the respective Pan Am & National Team and the runner-up will secure No. 4 position on the respective National team and alternate for Pan Am Team. If the winner is not eligible for National Team, the next eligible athlete for the National Team will be selected as member of National team and so on until the all spots for National Team are selected.
- The losing semifinalists will play one match to determine the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> positions in the Trials (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> alternates for the Teams or next alternate for Pan Am Team).
- The losing quarterfinalists will play the progressive knockout to determine 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> positions in the Trials and team alternates.
- The losing finalist of the second day tournament will be seeded #1.
- Of the losing semifinalists of the second 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 second day tournament, the player with the highest rating will be seeded #3, 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.

Players defaulting on the First day and the Second day are still eligible to compete on subsequent days 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 2015 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: 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.**