

Actions of the USATT High Performance Committee (HPC)  
August – September 2015  
Reported by Carl Danner, HPC Chair  
December, 2015

During August – September 2015, the HPC did not hold any formal meetings or conference calls. However, the following summary of its actions and discussions is offered to inform USATT members about the HPC's activities conducted by email, and through participation in the other USATT activities.

1. The HPC Chair participated in revising the USATT High Performance Plan for 2016, and in its presentation to staff of the United States Olympic Committee. One emphasis of the plan was the increasing strength of our Olympic-eligible women, and the potential for them to compete at a significantly higher level in Rio in 2016.
2. The HPC received detailed, confidential reports from the coaches of the men's and women's teams on the results of the U.S. Open and Pan American Games. Our highlight of both events was the women's team at the Pan Ams, where we won the team gold and Wu Yue took the singles gold to directly qualify for the 2016 Olympics. Despite playing throughout with a significant injury, Jiaqi Zheng also made the semifinals of both the Pan Am and U.S. Open singles competitions, while Lily Zhang made the Pan Am singles semifinals as well. On the men's side, we saw some strong individual results from Timothy Wang, and an injury to another team member contributed to a quarterfinal loss in the Pan Am team event. Ongoing concerns for the HPC include how best to encourage more of our team members and key hopefuls to commit to full-time training and competition, and how best to structure the support the HPC can provide to promote the most effective improvement in the playing level of our adult teams.
3. The adult national team trial procedures were finalized and posted on the USATT website.
4. The cadet and junior national team selection procedures were reviewed and adopted for 2016. Two changes involved increasing the relative weight of the team trial results somewhat relative to that of the world rankings, and allowing players added flexibility in which world ranking date would be used to determine their ranking points for selection purposes.