2020 US Olympic Trials Prospectus

DATE:  February 27 – March 1, 2020

VENUE:  Santa Monica College - 1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405

ORGANIZER: USA TABLE TENNIS

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR/Deputy Referee: Linda Hsing - linda_usatt@yahoo.com

REFEREE: Joseph Yick, IR - joeyicktt@gmail.com

COMPETITION MANAGER: Mas Hashimoto

MEDIA: Matt Hetherington - Matt.Hetherington@usatt.org

EVENTS

- Men’s Singles
- Women’s Singles
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Thursday, Feb 27, 2020           9:00 am – 8:00 pm - Qualifications
                                 9:00 pm – Draw for 1st Stage RR

Friday, Feb 28, 2020             9:00 am – 9:00 pm – 1st Stage RR

Saturday, Feb 29, 2020           9:00 am – 9:00 pm – 1st Stage RR

Sunday, Mar 1, 2020             9:00 am – 9:00 pm – 2nd Stage RR w/ carry-overs

USATT will select the 2020 Olympic Team to compete in Tokyo, Japan at the XXXII Olympic Games to be held on July 24 to August 9, 2020.

This event will also serve as the first National Adult Ranking Tournament for 2020. National Ranking Tournament: Top 24 finishers per gender will get points for the USATT Annual Points Ranking. This format listed below applies both to the men’s and women’s competition.

Summary:

1. The competition has two round-robin stages. If more than sixteen (16) men or women enter, then a qualifying competition will be held as described below.

2. Assuming that qualifying is required, the top eight (8) seeded players will be joined by eight (8) more qualifiers and be placed into two Stage 1 round robin groups of eight (8) players each.

3. The top four (4) players from each Stage 1 group will be combined into a Stage 2 Championship round robin group, and the winner will win the Trials. The second four (4) players will also play a Stage 2 round robin for places 9-16.

4. Matches played will carry over from Stage 1 to Stage 2. Two players will not play each other twice.

5. The top sixteen (16) seeds in the qualifying competition will be placed into eight (8) final qualifying groups of three (3) players each, to be joined by eight (8) more players who win single elimination preliminary draws. The winners of the final qualifying groups will advance to the Stage 1 round robin groups.

6. The format will also be adjusted in ways described below, if required by the number of entries.

7. USATT approved tie-breaking procedures will be used.
Seeding: Up to the first eight (8) players of each gender will be seeded based on the February 2020 ITTF World Men’s or Women’s Ranking for any player in the top 250 (including ties). All remaining seeds will be determined based on USATT rating as of February 15, 2020. In case of a tie in world ranking or USATT ratings, the world ranking or USATT ratings one month earlier will be used, and if there is a tie still, it will be the world ranking or USATT rating from one month earlier and so on until the tie is broken. The snake system will be used for placing players into all round robin groups and other draws based on their seeding.

Playing format: Sixteen (16) players of each gender will play in the Stage 1 and Stage 2 round robin groups, as described further below.

The top eight (8) seeded players of each gender will automatically advance to the Stage 1 groups, and additional players may also advance directly to the Stage 1 groups depending on the number of total entries as described below.

Players seeded ninth (9th) and below may be required to play in the qualifying competition. It will have up to eight (8) final qualifying groups of players, and the group winners (only) will advance to the Stage 1 groups. The lower-seeded players in the qualifying competition may also have to compete in single elimination preliminary draws to reach the final qualifying groups.

All tournament matches are best of seven (7) games.

Qualifying competition: Players seeded ninth (9th) and lower are required to play in the qualifying competition unless exempted due to the number of entries (see below). Up to eight (8) final qualifying round robin groups will be created and each will contain three (3) or four (4) players. The winners, only, of the final qualifying groups will advance to the Stage 1 groups.

If more than twenty-four (24) players are required to play in the qualifying competition, then the top sixteen (16) seeds among them will be placed directly into the final qualifying groups. Lower-seeded players may then be required to compete in single-elimination preliminary draws to advance to the remaining available place(s) in final qualifying groups that will each contain three (3) players only.

Players required to compete in single-elimination preliminary draws will be chosen in backwards order of seeding, i.e. starting with the last seed in the event, following by the next-to-last seed and so on until enough players have been placed in the single-elimination preliminary draws to assure that the result will be eight (8) final qualifying groups of three (3) players each.
For example: if sixty (60) players are entered into the Trial, then the top eight (8) seeds will be exempt from qualifying; the next sixteen (16) seeds will be placed directly into the final qualifying groups; and the remaining thirty-six (36) lowest seeds will be placed into eight (8) single-elimination preliminary draws, with the winner of each draw placed into a final qualifying group. Another example: If thirty-five (35) players are entered in the Trial, then the highest seeded eight (8) players will be exempt from qualifying, the next twenty-one (21) players will be placed into final qualifying groups, and the bottom six (6) seeds will each participate in a single elimination match to determine the three (3) winning players who will take the remaining places in the final qualifying groups.

If the number of players in the qualifying competition is not sufficient to create eight (8) final qualifying groups of three (3) players in each group, the draw will be adjusted as follows. The 9th seed will be made exempt from qualifying and placed into Stage 1, and the remaining players will be placed into seven (7) final qualifying groups. If that is not sufficient to cause each group to have at least three (3) players, then the 10th seed will be made exempt from qualifying and the remaining players will be placed into six (6) final qualifying groups. As required, this process will continue (exempting more seeded players) until all final qualifying groups have at least three (3) players; in this process, it will also be possible for a group to have four (4) players. If there are seventeen (17) total entries, the sole final qualifying group will contain the bottom three (3) seeds and the top two finishers will qualify for Stage 1. If there are sixteen (16) or fewer total entries, then all players will be placed in Stage 1 without any need to qualify.

Finally, the qualifying competition groups and preliminary draws will be made in advance based on the number of entries, and will not be adjusted further on the day of competition based on no-shows, illness or injuries. If one or more of the top eight (8) seeds withdraws from the event after the draw is made but prior to the start of Stage 1 play, then a “lucky loser(s)” will be selected at random from among the second-place finishers in the final qualifying groups to replace each such withdrawn top 8 seed in the Stage 1 groups. If any lucky losers advance, the results of any matches they played in the Qualifying competition will be carried over should they face the same opponent(s) again in Stage 1 or Stage 2.

Stage 1 and Stage 2: The sixteen (16) players of each gender qualified for Stage 1 will be divided into two (2) round robin groups of eight (8), using their seedings for the event. For Stage 2, the top four (4) players of each stage 1 round robin group will be combined into a Championship round robin group of eight (8); and the bottom four (4) players from each group will be combined into a second round robin group of eight (8). The results of matches previously played against the same opponents will be carried over (e.g. from Stage 1 to Stage 2), and those matches will not be played a second time.

The top eight (8) finishers, in order, from the Championship round robin group will finish in places 1 through 8 in the trial, while players in the second round robin group of eight (8) will finish in positions 9 through 16 in the trial based on their Stage 2 final placements.
Order of Play: Family members and members from the same club will play prior to other opponents in both Stage 1, Stage 2 and qualifying RR groups.

For the 2020 Olympic Athlete Selection Procedures please visit: https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Table-Tennis/Team-USA/Selection-Procedures.

Winner: The top two finishing male and female record of stage 2 will secure two slots on the 2020 US Olympic Team.

Players selected for the 2020 Olympic Team based on highest World Ranking are not eligible to participate in the 2020 US Olympic Trials.

Rules: The tournament will be conducted in accordance with ITTF Rules and Regulations.


Eligibility: Athletes must be citizens of the United States and eligible to represent USA at Olympic Games under the international rules of the IOC.

FEES: - $275/athlete

The entries will be accepted only if include: Player's name, address, telephone number, entry fee, signed waiver and proof of citizenship. Entries need to be done online no later than February 15, 2020. Late entries will not be accepted. Players will not be considered entered unless paid in full.

For entries and payments use the link to the 2020 US Olympic Games Team Trial & 1st Adult National Ranking Tournament: https://omnipong.com/T-tourney.asp?t=108&r=1300

Cancellations: There will be no cancellations accepted and therefore there will be no refunds.

Racket Controls: If racket control includes official test for VOC, mini RAE devices will be used according to the ITTF decision. In this case, players will be invited to voluntarily tests their rackets before competition starts. The ITTF Equipment Committee strongly recommends all players to make certain that new coverings are aired 72 hours before use.

Defaults: By defaulting a match after the draw is done, for whatever reason, USATT has to assume that this athlete is no longer able to participate in the remainder of the event and any remaining matches in that event will be forfeited.

Premature Departure: Participation in our tournaments is only possible if the athletes can guarantee right from the start and plan in advance that they will be able to finish the tournament in terms of the time schedule. Deliberately planned or even booked premature departure will no longer be accepted.
Motion & Picture: By entering the event, players agree to abide by all USATT rules and by the rules and regulations of the Organizing Committee. All individual players agree under the auspices of USATT and its agents in all matters concerning television coverage to be video internet webcasting, motion picture and photographic coverage of any kind. Participants release all rights, or rights held by their agents or sponsors, in all matters relating to television and web casting coverage, video and motion picture coverage, and photographic coverage of any kind. A participant’s refusal of above listed coverage may be subject to suspension or dismissal from the competition.

Hospitality: There is no ‘official’ host hotel for the tournament, here are the closest to the venue

Comfort Inn Santa Monica - West Los Angeles - 2815 Santa Monica Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90404
Phone: 310-526-8794 – 2 Queens Beds - $182 + tax – 1.5 miles

Days Inn by Wyndham Santa Monica/Los Angeles - 3007 Santa Monica Boulevard Santa Monica, California 90404 Phone: 310-829-6333 – 2 Queens Beds - $167 + tax – 1.6 miles

Ramada by Wyndham Marina del Rey - 3130 Washington Boulevard Marina Del Rey, California 90292
Phone: 310-773-9792 – 2 Queens Beds - $169 + tax – 2.8 miles

Holiday Inn Express: West Los Angeles-Santa Monica 11250 Santa Monica Blvd., West Los Angeles, California 90025 Phone: 310-478-1400 – 2 Queens Beds - $195 + tax – 2.9 miles

Hampton Inn & Suites Santa Monica 501 Colorado Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90401-2454 Phone: 855-605-0317 – 2 Queens Beds - $268 + tax – 1.3 miles
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Players participating in the 2019 World Cup will receive 80 points.