USA Table Tennis
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2015 Parapan American Games
December 19, 2014

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

To be considered for the 2015 Parapan American Team, athletes must be a national of the United States at the time of the selection for the Parapan American Games - 2/1/2015.

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and/or Pan American Sport Organization (PASO) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American or Parapan American Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) or National Paralympic Committee (NPC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the IOC Charter (Rule 42), the IPC Handbook (Section 2, Chapter 3.1), or the PASO Statutes (Article XXII, Sections 4 and 5).

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) and/or Continental Federation (CF) (PAG and PPAG only) standards for participation (if any):

Athletes must be Classified by December 31, 2014, by the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) (hold an International Classification card issued by the ITTF) in order to be considered for the 2015 Parapan American Team.
1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

Athletes must be members in good standing of USA Table Tennis to be considered for the 2015 Parapan American Team. USA Table Tennis Membership must not expire prior to December 31, 2015.

Athletes must have participated in at least one (1) ITTF Para Table Tennis Event in 2014 to demonstrate recent activity to be considered for the 2015 Parapan American team. A listing of 2014 ITTF Para Table Tennis Events can be found at the following link:

(http://www.ipttc.org/calendar/index.htm?PHPSESSID=c4471afe775b7ff bce0e94493bef5f0d)

1.2. Tryout Events:

1.2.1. Provide the event names, dates and locations of all trials, events and camps to be used as part of the selection process.

- ITTF Para World Ratings as of January 1, 2015 (Athlete’s name has to show on the ITTF Para World Ranking as of January 1, 2015).

1.2.2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for the trials, events and camps listed above in 1.2.1. (if any).

- Athletes accumulate points on the ITTF Para World Ratings by winning matches in ITTF Para Tournaments,

1.3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become Team nominees (include maximum Team size).

Each Para Class may qualify no more than 2 members per class based on the criteria below.

The team size for 2015 Parapan American Games may be up to eight (8*) male athletes and up to four (4*) female athletes pending qualification of quota slots for USA Para Table Tennis Team. Detailed information of awarded spots from the International Table Tennis Federation for National Teams in table tennis can be found on (pg. 67) within the document at the following link:
The Paralympic Competitive Analysis Formula (detailed below) which utilizes the ITTF Para Singles World Ratings Points as of January 1, 2015, will be used to select up to 8 male athletes and up to 4 female athletes who will fill these USATT Parapan Am Games slots.

**Paralympic Competitive Analysis Formula**

To determine the level of Paralympic competitiveness we are using January 2015 ITTF Rating ([January 1, 2015](http://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/document/140207153735334_toronto_2015_parapan_american_games_v6_dp_ap.pdf)), which will be posted on the ITTF website between January 1-7, 2015.

The average points of the top 3 ITTF Para rated players in the respective class of the US player will be subtracted from the average points of the top 3 ITTF Para rated players with the highest points among all classes where US players are listed.

These points will be added to the ITTF Para rating points of said player, then divided by the average points of the top 3 ITTF Para rated players with the highest points among all classes where US players are listed to get a percentage.

The athletes with the highest percentage will be placed on the 2015 Parapan Am Team in their rank order.

**Example:**
- Avg. of top 3 ITTF Para rated players in the respective class of the US player: 600 rating pts
- Avg. of top 3 ITTF Para rated players in the class with highest points among all classes with US Players: 800 rating pts
- US player's rating points in the same class: 400 rating points

\[
\frac{800 - 600 = 200 + 400 = 600}{800} = \frac{600}{800} = .75 = 75\%
\]

In the event of a tie, if two (2) or more athletes are tied with the same percentage, USATT will use the following in this priority order to break said tie:

1. World Ranking (as of January 1, 2015)
2. World Ranking (as of January 1, 2015) divided by the number of players in their specific Class
2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable) N/A

2.1 Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

N/A

2.2 List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any):

N/A

2.3 Provide the name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members’ titles currently serving on the committee:

N/A

2.3.1 Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.

Any member of the selection committee that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the selection committee member must recuse him/herself from committee discussions and voting. Further, the committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the nomination process. However, a committee member who recused him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the selection committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the committee member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

3.1 Prior to acceptance of nominations by the USOC, the NGB/HPMO has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by the NGB/HPMO may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by the NGB/HPMO:
3.1.1 Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the NGB/HPMO CEO/Executive Director.

3.1.2 Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the NGB/HPMO. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the NGB/HPMO, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.

3.1.3 Violation of the NGB’s/HPMO’s Code of Conduct.

3.1.4 An athlete doesn’t follow the preparation program set by USATT as outlined in Section 9.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USATT’s Bylaws Article X and the USOC’s Bylaws, Section 9.

3.2 Once an athlete nomination is accepted by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable NGB/HPMO Code of Conduct, the USOC’s Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOC’s Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures can be found at: http://www.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman/Games-Information.aspx

3.3 An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, PASO, IPC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

4.1 Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:

4.1.1 prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee: Replacement of athletes will be in order based on the Paralympic Competitive Analysis list calculated by using ITTF Para Singles World Ranking as of January 1, 2015.

4.1.2. after submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee: Replacement of athletes will be in order based on the Paralympic Competitive Analysis list calculated by using ITTF Para Singles World Ranking as of January 1, 2015.
5. **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

USATT will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

6. **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

In addition to the USOC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Parapan American Games and are included as attachments:

USATT Code of Conduct

7. **PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES**

The USOC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by the USATT in the following locations:

7.1. **USATT Web site: www.usatt.org**

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOC.

8. **DATE OF NOMINATION**

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOC on or before:

June 24, 2015

9. **MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION**

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

1. Training Camp prior to the Parapan American Games (2 weeks in July, 2015 *)
2. Parapan American Games – Toronto, Canada (August 2-15, 2015.)

* Exact date and location to be announced 30 days prior to commencement of camp.
10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, IF, USADA and USOC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, IF, USADA and USOC Rules, as applicable.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

USATT High Performance Committee
Carl Danner – Chair
Attila Malek – USATT Board Member (former National Team member)
Sean O’Neill – Media Director (Olympian 1988 and 1992)
Stelan Bengtsson – Executive Para National Team Coach (World Champion 1973)
Han Xiao – Athlete Representative
Tahl Leibovitz – Para Athlete Representative (Olympic Medalist 1996 and 2004)
Jasna Rather – Para Program Director (Olympic Medalist 1988)

12. NGB/HPMO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USATT Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:
http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Table-Tennis/USATT/Bylaws

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or ITTF rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or ITTF rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USATT. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOC.
14. **ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN**

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USATT may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman by:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- E-mail at athlete.ombudsman@usoc.org
- [http://www.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman.aspx](http://www.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman.aspx)

15. **NGB/HPMO SIGNATURES**

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and/or CF (PAG/PPAG only) and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USATT.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Print Name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NGB/HPMO President or CEO/Executive Director</td>
<td>Gordon Kaye</td>
<td></td>
<td>12/23/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director</td>
<td>Teodor Gheorghe</td>
<td></td>
<td>12/22/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USOC Athletes’ Advisory Council Representative*</td>
<td>Han Xiao</td>
<td></td>
<td>12/22/14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* If the USOC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB/HPMO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOC AAC Representative, the NGB/HPMO must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.
ATHLETE PLEDGE

I pledge to uphold the USA Table Tennis Code of Conduct (the “Code”) as a guide to my conduct as a member of the 2015 Parapan American Team and/or Para National Team.

I acknowledge that I have a right to a hearing if my opportunity to participate is denied or if I am charged with a violation of this Code.

I further acknowledge that if I am found to be in violation of this Code, I may be subject to sanctions up to and including suspension or dismissal from the 2015 Parapan American Team and/or Para National Team.

I have familiarized myself with the Code and understand that acceptance of its provisions is a condition of my selection to the 2015 Parapan American Team and/or Para National Team.

IN ORDER TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE TEAM, AN INDIVIDUAL MUST SIGN THIS CODE OF CONDUCT IN UNALTERED FORM IN ALL APPLICABLE PLACES.

As a Member of the Parapan American Team and/or Para National Team, I hereby promise and agree that I:

- will abide by all rules related to the Team selection procedures as approved by USA Table Tennis;
- have acted and will act in a sportsmanlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct;
- will maintain a level of fitness and competitive readiness that will permit my performance to be at the maximum of my abilities;
- will not commit a doping violation as defined by the Pan American Sports Organization (PASO), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC) or the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) rules;
- am not currently serving a doping violation and/or do not have a pending or unresolved doping charge; and I understand that a suspension, or pending or unresolved anti-doping rule violation may be cause for my not being selected to the 2015 Parapan American Team and Para National Team;
- will not engage in any conduct that is criminal under any laws applicable to me, including, but not limited to laws governing the possession and use of drugs and alcohol and providing of drugs to any person and of alcohol to minors;
- have never been convicted of a felony (except for convictions as a minor which have been
legally sealed), and do not face a current indictment or charge for a felony; and, I understand that such conviction, indictment or criminal charge may be cause for my not being selected to the Team;

• am eligible to compete under the rules of International Table Tennis Federation and PASO;
• am in possession of a valid USA passport, that will not expire prior to six months following the conclusion of the international competition, should I be chosen for an international team that requires a passport;
• will refrain from conduct detracting from my ability or that of my teammates to attain peak performance;
• will respect the property of others whether personal or public;
• will respect members of my Team, other teams, spectators and officials, and engage in no form of discriminatory behavior or verbal, physical or sexual harassment or abuse;
• will follow my Team’s rules and programs including by way of example: rules regarding curfew, training, required attendance at team meetings, training and competition programs;
• will play whenever I am selected and will not default or refuse to play when asked by the coach. I understand that if I refuse to play other than for reasons of illness or injury, I may be liable for sanctions up to and including dismissal from the team and/or suspension of my association membership;
• am aware that USA Table Tennis sponsors, suppliers and licensees provide critical support for the Team and, in recognition of this fact, I will wear designated USA Table Tennis apparel at all official Team functions and events;
• will not conceal or cover-up any USA Table Tennis sponsor, supplier or licensee brand or other identification appearing on my USA Table Tennis apparel;
• agree to be filmed and photographed by the official photographer(s) and network(s) of USA Table Tennis under conditions authorized by USA Table Tennis and give event organizers and USA Table Tennis the right to use my name, picture, likeness, and biographical information before, during and after the period of my participation in these activities to promote the activity in which I participate or to promote the success of the team on which I compete; in no event may USA Table Tennis or the event organizers use or authorize the use of my name, picture, likeness, voice and biographical information for the purpose of trade, including any use in a manner that would imply an endorsement of any company, product, or service, without my written permission;
• will not use or authorize the use of photographs, films or videos of myself in my USA Table Tennis apparel or equipment or the use of the USA Table Tennis logo for the purpose of trade, without the prior written consent of the USA Table Tennis (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld);
• will not act as a journalist, media liaison or in any other similar media capacity during the time I represent USA as a 2015 Parapan American Team and/or Para National Team member.
• understand that if I require legal representation because I am accused of a doping violation or am accused of criminal misconduct, or if for any other reason I require the services of an attorney, I will be personally responsible for payment of all such legal fees and expenses;
• will act in a way that will bring respect and honor to myself, my teammates, USA Table Tennis and the United States; and
• will remember that at all times I am an ambassador for my sport, my country and the Olympic Movement.
ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

I may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman Office at 719-866-5000, athlete.ombudsman@usoc.org for further information regarding my rights under this Code that are not answered by USA Table Tennis.
I am aware of the USATT complaint procedure set by the USATT Bylaws.

PARTICIPANTS’ AFFIRMATION

I have read and accept this Code of Conduct in its unaltered form. I agree to the rules, guidelines, jurisdiction and procedures stated in these documents as a condition of being selected to participate as a member of the USA Parapan American Team and/or Para National Team.

__________________________  ________________________
Signature                  Date

Athlete’s Name (print)

PARENT/GUARDIAN CERTIFICATION
(For Participants Under the Age of 18 as of Date of Signature)

__________________________  ________________________
Signature                  Date

Relationship (Parent or Guardian)

USA Table Tennis Representative

Signature

Name and title (print)