



**BPTT Selection Policy  
for the Paris 2024  
Paralympic Games**

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| <b>Version No.</b> | <b>Version Date</b> | <b>Summary of changes</b>   |
|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| 1.0                | Jan 2024            | Initial document.   |
| 1.1                | March 2024          | Amendments to the qualification timeline, Paris 2024 Paralympic Games Qualification Regulations link updated, changes highlighted in red, 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024 line in Qualification Timeline removed as changed to 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2024. |

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## **BPTT Selection Policy for the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games**

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1. This Selection Policy (“the Policy”) outlines the process by which British Para Table Tennis (“BPTT”) will determine its nominations for Paralympics GB at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games (“the Games”). The Paris 2024 Paralympic Games is taking place 28 August – 8 September 2024. BPTT reserve the right to make future amendments to this policy.
2. The stated aims of BPTT, the National Governing Body (“NGB”) for elite Disability Table Tennis, are to win 3-5 medals at the Games.
3. All athletes are ambassadors for both Paralympic Table Tennis and Great Britain. They will therefore be expected to act in a manner befitting both BPTT and GB.

### **SECTION 1: Eligibility**

4. BPTT will submit accreditation application forms for athletes identified on the “Accreditation Long List” to ParalympicsGB by 3 May 2024 who will subsequently send it to the Paris 2024 Organising Committee. Only athletes named on the “Accreditation Long List” will be considered for selection for the Games.
5. In order to be eligible for selection by the Paralympics GB, an athlete must:
  - (1) Be a member of the BPTT;
  - (2) Be a member of the BPTT World Class Programme (“WCP”) for Podium, Podium Potential, or Entry Level;
  - (3) Be eligible to compete for GB under the International Paralympic Committee (“IPC”) sport specific guidelines;
  - (4) Be ranked on the International Table Tennis Federation (“ITTF”) Para Table Tennis (“PTT”) World Ranking List closing 31 March 2024;
  - (5) Meet the requirements of the ITTF Tournament Credit system starting 1 January 2023, ending 31 March 2024<sup>1</sup>:

- (6) Be internationally classified with a ‘Confirmed’ or ‘fixed review after 31 December 2024’ sport class status;
  - (7) Have a valid ITTF PTT classification that allows them to be considered for selection;
  - (8) Agree to be bound by both the BPTT Code of Conduct, as well as the British Paralympic Association (“BPA”)’s Team Members Agreement;
  - (9) Meet all ITTF and British Paralympic Association (“BPA”) eligibility criteria, and sign to acknowledge that they have read this selection policy and the BPA Eligibility Handbook; and
  - (10) Conform to the Anti-Doping regulations and requirements of both the BPTT and the International Paralympic Committee. BPTT is committed to Ethical and Drug Free sport and complies with the WADA Code.
6. An athlete meeting the above eligibility criteria (“Eligible Athlete”) will be considered for selection in accordance with the Selection Process below.
  7. The BPTT WCP Selection Policy, and Paris 2024 Paralympic Games Qualification Regulations <sup>1</sup> are available as supplementary documents.

## **SECTION 2: Selection Process**

### *Overview of Process*

8. ITTF PTT will inform the BPA on 5 April 2024 which athletes are eligible to play in the Games. The BPA will then inform BPTT on the same day. Eligible Athletes will be considered for selection in accordance with the automatic and discretionary nomination procedures set out below.
9. If an Eligible Athlete has not been selected through the automatic and discretionary procedure but the BPTT Selection Committee ("the Committee") considers that their inclusion would realistically add to the squad’s chances of gaining further medals, the Committee may make representations to apply for a bipartite slot on behalf of that athlete. This will be communicated with the athlete prior to the application deadline.
10. Qualification slots are allocated to the individual athletes, not the National Paralympic Committee (NPC).
11. The selections by automatic qualification from world ranking, by automatic qualification from the Regional Championships, automatic qualification from

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.paralympic.org/paris-2024/qualification-regulations>

and nominations for doubles, nominations for mixed doubles event slots, and nominations for the Bipartite Commission invitation slots will be made by the BPTT Selection Committee on 8 April 2024.

The selections by automatic qualification from the World Qualification tournament will be made by the BPTT Selection Committee on 28 May 2024, as well as any adjustments to doubles compositions.

The official selections for athletes awarded Bipartite Commission Invitation slots, if any, **as well as any adjustments to doubles compositions** will be made by the BPTT Selection Committee on 25 June 2024.

Following each selection meeting, the nominations will be submitted to the BPA. BPTT Performance Director, or delegate, shall aim to communicate the decision of nomination via personal contact, followed up via email, within 3 working days of the selection decision.

12. Selection for the World Qualification Tournament will be based on the highest world ranking athlete in their class on the ITTF World Ranking List as of 1 April 2024. In the event of athletes being equally ranked, the athlete who has recorded the most wins against the world ranked top 7 athletes, in the qualification year, will be selected. In the event that the recorded wins are equal, priority will then be given to the athlete with the highest number of wins against top 10 athletes. For any subsequent ties, an additional two ranking places will be added until a selection can be made.

In order for an athlete to be eligible for selection for the World Qualification Tournament, an athlete must:

- (1) Be a member of the BPTT;
- (2) Be a member of the BPTT World Class Programme ("WCP") for Podium, Podium Potential, or Entry Level;
- (3) Be eligible to compete for GB under the International Paralympic Committee ("IPC") sport specific guidelines;
- (4) Be ranked on the International Table Tennis Federation ("ITTF") Para Table Tennis ("PTT") World Ranking List closing 31 March 2024;
- (5) Be internationally classified with a 'Confirmed' or 'fixed review after 31 December 2024' sport class status;
- (6) Have a valid ITTF PTT classification that allows them to be considered for selection;

- (7) Agree to be bound by the BPTT Code of Conduct.
  - (8) Meet all ITTF and British Paralympic Association (“BPA”) eligibility criteria, and sign to acknowledge that they have read this selection policy and the BPA Eligibility Handbook; and
  - (9) Conform to the Anti-Doping regulations and requirements of both the BPTT and the International Paralympic Committee. BPTT is committed to Ethical and Drug Free sport and complies with the WADA Code.
13. Selection for the doubles and mixed doubles composition for the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games will be based on the doubles world ranking in each athlete’s respective classes, as of 1 April 2024, performance team recommendations, as well as future Paralympic Games medal potential. The final doubles and mixed doubles composition selection decision is at the discretion of the BPTT Selection Committee.

*Selection Committee*

14. The Committee will comprise of an independent chair and three others.  
The current members are:

- (1) Shaun Newcomb, Chairman of the Committee;
- (2) Gorazd Vecko, BPTT Performance Director;
- (3) Shaun Marples, BPTT Programme Manager;
- (4) Andrew Rushton, BPTT Head Coach.

If the independent chair is unavailable for the meeting, the BPTT Chairperson will appoint a replacement.

The quorum shall be three members.

All members are voting members.

In the event of a tie vote, the BPTT Performance Director has the casting vote.

15. As each Eligible Athlete is considered, members of the Committee shall declare any conflict of interest and the Chairman will decide if that Committee member can contribute to the discussion as per the BPTT Conflict of Interest Policy.<sup>2</sup> Where a genuine conflict of interest exists, the relevant Committee member will

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<sup>2</sup> [https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0472/7455/7591/files/BPTT\\_Conflict\\_Of\\_Interest\\_Policy.pdf?v=1705077700](https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0472/7455/7591/files/BPTT_Conflict_Of_Interest_Policy.pdf?v=1705077700)

not be permitted to contribute to discussions about the athlete in question or be entitled to vote.

16. In addition, representatives from the BPA, the BEAA, UK Sport, and a note taker, will be invited to sit on this Committee as independent observers.
17. The Committee will report its decisions to the BPTT Board, BPTT Performance Monitoring Committee (“PMC”), the BPA, and UK Sport. The BPTT Performance Director, or delegate, shall inform athletes of their nomination outcome via personal contact.

#### *Required Documentation*

18. All supporting documentation relevant for the selection meeting will be circulated by the Performance Director to the Committee at least 3 working days prior to the selection meeting. The documentation will include Eligible Athletes’ ranking, performance during the relevant period (1 January 2023 – 31 March 2024) and adherence to training programmes as well as the Performance Director’s recommendations in relation to the discretionary nomination procedure.

#### *Phase 1: Automatic nominations*

19. An Eligible Athlete will be automatically nominated to Paralympics GB for the Games if they have won a gold medal in the single events at the European Championship in September 2023, or at the ITTF PTT World Qualification Tournament in May 2024.

#### *Phase 2: Discretionary nominations*

20. Eligible Athletes may be nominated for the Games if their ranking in the ITTF PTT Male and Female World Ranking Lists indicate to the Committee, in its absolute discretion, a realistic chance of attaining a medal at the Games, as well as at future Games. Specifically, this must include a demonstrated ability to (in no order of weighting):
  - (1) Meet individual performance targets in 2023 and 2024 that demonstrate ability to compete at the games.
  - (2) Make good decisions under pressure (measured via the coaching team’s observation of match practice, training camps, and tournaments);
  - (3) Be tactically aware and make adaptations during match play (measured via the coaching team’s observation of the athlete’s ability to change the tactic in the match to the athlete’s advantage to turn a losing match to a winning match); and

- (4) Play in accordance with technical principles.
21. The Committee will consider the Performance Director's recommendation in relation to (in no order of weighting):
- (1) The ranking of the athlete in relation to the latest World Rankings;
  - (2) The profile of each athlete in relation to statistics collated on the profile for success in Paralympic Games;
  - (3) Individual athlete performance progression over the last 3 years;
  - (4) Performances over the previous two years at major championships;
  - (5) The quality of the athlete's training environment and the athlete's engagement with the GB Programme including attendance at Performance Camps.
  - (6) Adherence to the BPTT athlete code of conduct / BPA Team Agreement.

*Phase 3: Bipartite invitations*

22. Bipartite invitations are a method by which NPCs may attain additional slots for named athletes in any given sport-class at the Games. For information on the IPC's principles that underpin their Bipartite invitation process, please see Paris 2024 Paralympic Games Qualification Regulations.<sup>3</sup>

The BPA will accept bipartite nominations for "top athletes who may not have had the opportunity to qualify through other methods due to extraordinary circumstances".

23. Selection for the bipartite commission invitation slots will be based on (in no order of weighting):
1. Current medal potential in singles, doubles, and mixed doubles events, current world ranking, and future Paralympic Games medal potential.
  2. The athlete must be internationally classified with a 'Confirmed' sport class status;
  3. The athlete must have a valid ITTF PTT classification that allows them to be considered for selection.
  4. The ranking of the athlete in relation to the latest World Rankings.
  5. The profile of each athlete in relation to statistics collated on the profile for success in the Paralympic Games for Paris 2024, Los Angeles 2028, or

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<sup>3</sup>

<https://www.paralympic.org/paris-2024/qualification-regulations>



Brisbane 2032.

6. Individual athlete performance progression over the last 3 years.
7. Performances over the previous two years at major championships.
8. The quality of the athlete's training environment and the athlete's engagement with the GB Programme including attendance at Performance Camps.
9. Adherence to the BPTT athlete code of conduct and BPA Team Agreement.

### *Qualification Timelines*

| Date               | Milestone  |
|--------------------|--|
| 1 January 2023     | Start of the period for athletes to attain performances to be recorded on the ITTF PTT Male and Female World Ranking Lists.  |
| January 2023       | BPTT Selection Committee decide individual targets for athletes to qualify for the European Championships in September 2023.   |
| 4 – 9 June 2023    | 2023 VIRTUS Global Games, Vichy, France.   |
| 4-9 September 2023 | ITTF European Para Championships, Sheffield, Great Britain. Gold medallists in the single events will qualify automatically for the Games in accordance with the automatic nomination procedure above.   |
| 1 January 2024     | Start of period for NPCs to send by email their applications for the doubles events slots.   |
| 31 March 2024      | End of the period for athletes to attain performances to be recorded on the ITTF PTT Male and Female World Ranking Lists for qualification purposes.   |
| 2 April 2024       | Start of Bipartite Commission Invitation application process.  |
| 5 April 2024       | ITTF confirms in writing to the NPCs the allocation of qualification slots from VIRTUS Global Games, Regional Championships and World Rankings.  |
| 8 April 2024       | BPTT Selection Committee meet to officially nominate athletes who have qualified for the Paris 2024 Paralympics by world rankings, automatic qualification by Regional Championships. BPTT Selection Committee meet to also nominate athletes for the doubles and mixed doubles compositions, select athletes to be nominated for Bipartite Commission Invitation slots, and select athletes to participate in the World Qualification Tournament. Nominations to be conveyed to BPA as soon as proposed selection finalised by the BPTT Selection Committee. BPTT Board, BPTT Performance Monitoring Committee, and athletes, would then be notified. Athletes have then 3 days from notification to lodge an appeal, following correct procedure as detailed in the BPTT Appeals Policy. |

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
|                | If the BPA accept the nominations, these will then be put forward to the ITTF.  |
| 15 April 2024  | NPCs confirm in writing the use of allocated qualification slots.   |
| 19 April 2024  | ITTF confirms in writing to the NPCs the reallocation of unused qualification slots from VIRTUS Games, Regional Championships and World Rankings.   |
| 20 April 2024  | End of period for NPCs to send by email their applications for the doubles slots.   |
| 22 April 2024  | ITTF confirms in writing to the NPCs the allocation of doubles slots.   |
| 3 May 2024     | Deadline for Paris 2024 Organising Committee to receive accreditation application forms submitted by NPCs (“Accreditation Long List”).  |
| 13 May 2024    | Deadline to submit Bipartite Commission Invitation applications to ITTF.  |
| 23-25 May 2024 | ITTF Paralympic World Qualification Tournament, Thailand.<br>Gold medallists in the single events will qualify automatically for the Games in accordance with the automatic nomination procedure above.   |
| 27 May 2024    | ITTF confirms in writing to the NPCs the allocation of qualification slots from the World Qualification Tournament.   |
| 28 May 2024    | BPTT Selection Committee officially nominate athletes who have qualified for the Paris 2024 Paralympics by automatic qualification via the World Qualification Tournament, as well any athletes who may have qualified via reallocation of unused qualification slots, and any adjustments to doubles compositions. Athletes have then 2 days from notification to lodge an appeal, following correct procedure as detailed in the BPTT Appeals Policy.<br>If the BPA accept the nominations, these will then be put forward to the ITTF. |
| 3 June 2024    | NPCs confirm in writing the use of qualification slots from the World Qualification Tournament.   |
| 5 June 2024    | ITTF confirms in writing to the NPCs the reallocation of unused qualification slots from the World Qualification Tournament.  |
| 24 June 2024   | ITTF confirms in writing the awarding of Bipartite Commission Invitation slots as well as the doubles and mixed doubles compositions.   |
| 25 June 2024   | BPTT Selection Committee officially nominate athletes awarded Bipartite Commission Invitation slots, if any, as well any athletes who may have qualified via reallocation of unused qualification slots from the World Qualification Tournament, and any adjustments to doubles compositions. Athletes have then 2 days from notification to lodge  |

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
|               | <p>an appeal, following correct procedure as detailed in the BPTT Appeals Policy.</p> <p>If the BPA accept the nominations, these will then be put forward to the ITTF.</p>  |
| 1 July 2024   | NPCs confirm in writing the use of reallocated qualification slots and Bipartite slots as well as the doubles compositions.  |
| 15 July 2024  | <p>ITTF confirms in writing to the NPCs the final competition formats for doubles and mixed doubles events.</p> <p>Once ITTF have confirmed receipt of the selections from the NPCs the official team announcement by BPTT can be made. A date for the official team announcement will be agreed upon by the BPTT Media Officer and BPA after consultation with BPTT and Performance Director.</p> |
| 5 August 2024 | Deadline for Paris 2024 Organising Committee to receive sport entry forms submitted by NPCs.   |

### SECTION 3: De-selection and replacements

24. The BPTT Selection Committee will consider de-selection of an athlete in the following circumstances:
- (1) Illness or injury, on the recommendation of the Head of Performance Support (medical);
  - (2) Contravention of any existing sport-specific team agreement/code of conduct, including the BPTT and the BPA’s Team Agreement.
25. An NPC may substitute an athlete between the close of entries (5 August 2024) and their Delegation Registration Meeting (“DRM”), on TBD August 2024, tbc, only if the substitution is in the same sport, medal event(s) and sport class. The substitute athlete will be the next highest ranked Eligible Athlete on the world ranking list. Substitute athletes must have met all qualification and eligibility criteria for the respective event(s), and must have signed the Eligibility Code Form. For clarification, if a GB athlete is de-selected from the Paralympic Games, the substitute athlete will be the next international athlete on the world ranking list, and not a direct replacement for GB.
26. Substitutions may only be made for athletes who withdraw due to injury, illness or other special circumstances. Any athlete wishing to withdraw must communicate this directly to the Chair of the Committee. All substitutions are subject to review and approval by the IPC.
27. Absolutely no substitutions will be permitted after the DRM.

## SECTION 4: Appeals

28. In cases of selection dispute, BPTT have an Appeals Committee, which will decide on any appeals logged. The Appeals Policy is available as a supplementary document, available to view on the BPTT website.<sup>4</sup>
29. Athletes wishing to seek advice regarding the appeals process are advised to contact the British Elite Athletes Association (BEAA) at <https://britisheliteathletes.org/> or by emailing [support@britisheliteathletes.org](mailto:support@britisheliteathletes.org)
30. BPTT recognises that the BPA has the ultimate authority in final selection decisions relating to the Paralympic Games. BPTT agrees to abide by all selection decisions made by the BPA's Qualification & Selection Panel or by any appeals decision made by the appointed Games time Appeals Panel.
31. In respect of any de-selection decision taken by the BPA after the DRM, any appeals must be made by the BPTT to the BPA and dealt with in accordance with the BPA's Appeals Policy and administered by Sports Resolutions UK.

## SECTION 5: Amendments

32. In the event that any unforeseen circumstance makes any provision of this Policy ineffective or unworkable to promote the aims of the Policy, the BPTT will be entitled to amend this Policy so that those aims can be secured. Any amended version will be made available at <https://www.britishparatabletennis.com/pages/performance>.

## SECTION 6: Glossary

### *Definition of terms*

| <b>Acronym</b> | <b>Definition</b>                                       |
|----------------|---|
| BPA            | British Paralympic Association                          |
| BEAA           | British Elite Athletes Association                      |
| BPTT           | British Para Table Tennis                               |
| DRM            | Delegation Registration Meeting                         |
| ITTF           | International Table Tennis Federation                   |
| NGB            | National Governing Body                                 |
| NPC            | National Paralympic Committees                          |
| PMC            | Performance Monitoring Committee                        |
| ITTF PTT       | International Table Tennis Federation Para Table Tennis |
| IPC            | International Paralympic Committee                      |

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.britishparatabletennis.com/pages/performance>