

Table Tennis Ulster Junior Selection Criteria

Overview

Table Tennis Ulster, its players and coaches seek to achieve their best performances by design, involving sound and sustained (good) attitude, application of all sports services and regular attendance at training leading to constantly improving ability, shown in consistent and strong performance in competition

Table Tennis Ulster will therefore select players, not just from Ranking Lists, but from their Attitude, Application and Ability. Ulster team selections will be for a number of events during the calendar year, which may include but not limited to: Irish Interprovincial Championships, UK School Games, International Training camps & Tournaments.

The Ulster selection panel hopes that the team selected will be able;

- a) To deliver a credible performance and;
- b) To show improvement and increased ability, and
- c) To provide the opportunity for younger players to gain experience.

The selection panel for 2017/2018 includes;

- Arnold Morgan (TTU Chairman)
- Keith Knox (Technical Director)
- Ann Ludlow
- Wallace Mahaffey
- Gervis Knox
- Amanda Mogey
- Jennifer Thompson
- Peter Graham
- John Murphy

General Eligibility (See Additional Criteria for UK School Games)

Table Tennis Ulster will only select athletes to represent Ulster who:

1. Are affiliated to Table Tennis Ireland and in good standing with TTU & ITTA.
2. Are eligible to represent ITTA in ITTF and ETTU approved competitions.
3. Are not currently under disqualification or suspension.
4. Are not currently serving any sanctions for anti-doping rule violation.
5. Attend Ulster Squad Training sessions – acceptable reasoning provided for lack of attendance if any. Players with High attendance may become favourable.
6. Sustain a good quality attitude to training
7. Competed in a minimum of 3 Junior Irish Ranking events (including Irish Junior National Championships) unless exception circumstances apply.
8. Are willing to take challenges, alter style and pursue continuous improvements
9. Attend Ulster at Monthly Squads, as outlined in the TTU Calendar (unless based outside of Ulster)
10. Have potential to perform at a high level in future events for TTU or N.I teams
11. Show proven ability to perform in a positive manner and function well as part of a team

B. Selection Procedures:

- a. Technical Director will identify playing or training camp opportunities for Ulster players along with the High Performance Coach.
- b. The Technical Director will make an initial selection of players based on;
 - b1. **Automatic Selection (as outlined below)**
 - b2. **Ulster Trials Top 8 (as outlined below)**
 - b3. **HP Coach Discretionary Wild Card (as outlined below)**
- c. HP Coach will appraise the balance of work and probable availability of players & coaches;
- d. Technical Director & Treasurer will review these against budget restraints and event status
- e. Technical Director will draft each selection and forward for review feedback to the Ulster Selection Panel.
- f. Nominated players will be informed by TTU Office with levies, child safe-guarding and timing details included;
- g. At least two meetings of Selection Panels will be held annually.

Automatic Selection

Eligible athletes will gain automatic selection, subject to compliance with the rest of this policy, if they are;

- The Top 2 players from Ulster on the Irish Ranking List in their respective age category during the calendar year

Ulster Top 8 Trials Selection (DATE of EVENT: TBC)

- If you are within the Top 8 players in Ulster within your main age category you will be invited to the 'Ulster Top 8 Trials' in which TWO places will be taken into consideration if appropriate for

1. Irish Interprovincial Championships
2. UK Schools Games
3. 3. TTU Organised Summer International Camps/Events (If applicable)

*In the event of possible Camps/Events that are to be held prior to the Ulster Top 8 Trials day, these places will be open to the discretion of the Technical Director & Selection Panel which will take into account General Eligibility, ranking, and potential for the future.

Discretionary Wild Card

The Technical Director & Ulster Selection Panel reserves the right to select a wild card to represent Table Tennis Ulster/N.Ireland. This will be a professional governing body judgement.

In the event of a selected player unable to attend the event/camp in which they were selected for, the Technical Director & Ulster Selection Panel reserves the right to use their professional judgement to ensure an adequate player is found in replacement. Their reasons must be rationale, reasonable & free of bias.

The Technical Director & Ulster Selection Panel are not required to select any additional players under the discretionary selection at all if it is considered that adequate athletes capable of performing at a credible level are available.

Additional Criteria for UK School Games (Sainsbury's School Games)

1. Players must be in full-time education in a school in Ulster and must be Under 17 on 1st January in the year of competition.
2. In exceptional circumstances, players who are not in full time education in Ulster, but are eligible to represent Northern Ireland may be considered for selection, at the sole discretion of TTU.
3. Participation and performance in the Schools' Individual Championships will be considered in selection for the team for the UK School Games.
5. To allow for players from schools that are not affiliated to the USTTA, or unable to compete in the Schools' Individual Championships, and to allow comparison of all School-eligible players, positions in the Ulster Junior Ranking lists will be taken into account in final selections.
6. In the disability categories, players must be Under 19 on 1st January in the year of competition. In order to compare players who are eligible in each category, elimination competition(s) may take place.
7. The general guidelines of the Table Tennis Ulster Selection Policy above will be applied within this UKSG Policy.

De-Selection

Table Tennis Ulster retains the right to deselect an athlete under any of the following circumstances:

- The athlete is no longer eligible for selection for this event,
- The athlete does not adhere to the code of conduct
- The athlete fails to comply with any reasonable training or competition programme set out by Table Tennis Ulster/HP Coach
- The athlete does not adhere nor comply with the general selection eligibility

Medical

Any selected athlete may, at any other time, be required by the Technical Director & High Performance Coach (and/or his delegate) to undergo fitness or medical assessments to ensure that they have maintained an adequate level of fitness to perform to the best of their ability.

Media & Communication

All selected athletes are required to adhere to the Social Media guidelines which can be found on the Table Tennis Ireland website at the following address:

<http://www.irishtabletennis.com/content/files/TTU%20-%20P21%20-%20Social%20Media%20Guidelines.doc>

All athletes, whether selected or not are required to keep the notification of their selection or non-selection confidential until such time as directed by Table Tennis Ulster.

Payment of Levies

In agreeing to selection, athletes are committing to paying their costs for travel and accommodation during the events/camps. Payments must be made prior to the event date.

Should an athlete chose to withdraw after their selection, then athletes will only be refunded the portion of their costs that are unspent or are recoverable by Table Tennis Ulster.

Appeals Process

The following Selection Appeals Process exists to allow players and/or their coaches to challenge any selection decision:

- Any appeal can only be based on the application of the Policy and its Selection Criteria;
- An Appeal must be lodged with the Honorary Secretary of TTU Executive Committee within 10 days of the Selection announcement;
- An Appeal must be supported with: i. Reason for Appeal; ii. A full supporting overview of the appellant; iii. Supporting evidence; iv. Any medical or counselling document when the appeal is based on medical or other similar circumstances; v. a Deposit of £15 (refundable if the Appeal is with-held);
- TTU Executive Committee must appoint, within 10 days of receiving the Appeal, an Appeals Panel whose members have no 'conflict of interest' with either selected players or the Appellant;
- The Appeals Panel has independence, must apply all the policy and report back with a decision to the Appellant within 21 days of the lodged appeal;
- A decision on an appeal cannot be reversed.