



BPTT Performance Pathway Matrix 2017-21

Introduction

This document outlines the process agreed between the British Para Table Tennis (BPTT) World Class Programme (WCP) and UK Sport as to how to assess athlete performances and an individual athlete's suitability for inclusion from March 2017 to March 2021.

The objectives of this selection process are to:

- Use the performance profile to determine:
 - The appropriate Athlete Performance Award (APA)
 - The appropriate level of WCP support and intervention for each athlete.

Athlete Eligibility:

To be eligible for support from the British Table Tennis Association for People with Disabilities and a UK Sport Athlete Performance Award (APA), athletes must:

- Hold membership with the BPTT
- Sign the Athlete Agreement with the BPTT
- Be eligible to compete for Great Britain at the Paralympic Games
- Hold a current British passport
- Not be serving a ban from competition as a result of being found guilty of a doping offence or other breach of ethical conduct, nor be in receipt of a funding ban from UK Sport

UK Sport Athlete Performance Award (APA)

The APA is a means tested Lottery funded grant to support progression through to the Podium at the Paralympic Games. Podium APA amounts are classified from 'A' (the highest award) to 'B'. Podium Potential level awards are tiered from 'C' to 'E'. The value of 'A' level Podium is derived from the average estimated costs of living and training as an elite athlete. All subsequent funding levels being based on progression towards Podium level. An APA runs for a maximum twelve month period.

A UK Sport APA is a contribution towards general living and sporting costs. The APA for a Podium level athlete is a contribution towards sporting and living costs and the APA for a Podium Potential athlete is only a contribution towards sporting costs.

The UK Sport APA guidelines provide a recommended split in expenditure between living and sporting costs.

The **living costs** element of the grant covers a contribution to the costs of rent/mortgage, domestic bills, basic food, general clothing, telephone, household insurance, National Insurance contributions and a stakeholder pension. (The list is an example as opposed exhaustive).

The **sport specific** costs element of the grant provides a contribution to the costs of personal training equipment, internet and mobile telephone costs, vehicle costs, alternative UK travel costs, training clothing, nutritional/dietary supplements, local gym membership, consumables and sport specific equipment. (The list is an example as opposed exhaustive).

Performance Pathway APA Matrix

Performance and Commitment expectations

At Podium and Podium Potential levels certain **performance** criteria are expected to be met by all athletes in order to be in receipt of an APA. This includes:

- Achievement of agreed health and fitness goals
- Utilising available Sport Science support on a regular basis
- Competing at a pre agreed number of events per year

Athletes are required to demonstrate a level of **commitment** across Podium and Podium Potential levels in order to be in receipt of an APA. This includes:

- Achievement of training programme outcomes agreed between the player and BPTT. Including 92% attendance at all training and 92% achievement in all physical, psychological, tactical and technical training sessions against targets set by BPTT Performance Coaches. To be documented by player and signed off by BPTT Performance Director/Head Coach
- Achievement of agreed fitness programme plan between player and BPTT. Documented by player and signed off by approved EIS S&C coach
- 100% attendance at agreed EIS Sport Science staff sessions as agreed between player, BPTT and home country sports science provider
- Achievement of performance targets agreed between player and BPTT Performance Manager every six months
- 100% attendance at all camps and positive reviews provided by BPTT coaching team

Performance Matrix – Levels A-E

The award period for the APA runs from 01 April 2017 – 31 March 2021

Award Level	Individual Classes	Team Events	Performance	Commitment
Podium A £28,000	Individual Gold/Silver Medal at the Paralympics Or	Team Gold/Silver Medal at the Paralympics Or	An agreed training programme that includes physical, psychological, tactical and technical work This is to be based on a minimum of 25 hours of high quality training per week	Athletes must show that they are undertaking a minimum of 25 hours high quality training per week. This is agreed between the athlete and coaches on an individual basis

	Individual Gold World Championships.	Team Gold World Championships in Paralympic events.	Attending all BPTT sessions and demonstrating commitment to training	Athletes are expected to do 75% of their training at one of the centralised centres in Sheffield or Cardiff
			Working with BPTT coaches on an agreed basis between training camps.	
			Regularity of coaching agreed between player and BPTT coaching team on a weekly basis	

Award Level	Individual Classes	Team Events	Performance	Commitment
Podium B £21,500	Individual Bronze Medal at the Paralympics Or Individual Silver/Bronze World Championships. Or Individual Gold Medal at the Europeans.	Team Bronze Medal at the Paralympics Or Team Silver/Bronze World Championships in Paralympic events Or Team Gold Medal at the Europeans in Paralympic events	Expectation to progress to Podium A level within 24 months	Upward progress to Podium A within 24 months of commencing Podium B level
			An agreed training programme that includes physical, psychological, tactical and technical work This is to be based on a minimum of 25 hours of high quality training per week	
			Attending all BPTT sessions and demonstrating commitment to training	Athletes are expected to do 75% of their training at one of the centralised centres in Sheffield or Cardiff
			Working with BPTT coaches on an agreed basis between training camps.	

			Regularity of coaching agreed between player and BPTT coaching team on a weekly basis	
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Award Level	Individual Classes	Team Events	Performance	Commitment
Podium Potential C £14,000	Individual Silver/Bronze Medal at the Europeans. Or World Ranking – Top 8 Non-Paralympic event medals to be at the discretion of the Performance Director.	Team Silver/Bronze Medal at the Europeans. Or Team Silver/Bronze Medal at the worlds in non Paralympic Events Or Team Gold Medal at Europeans in non Paralympic Events	Expectation to progress to Podium B level within 24 months	Upward progress to Podium B within 24 months of commencing Podium C level Athletes must show that they are undertaking a minimum of 25 hours high quality training per week. This is agreed between the athlete and coaches on an individual basis Athletes are expected to do 75% of their training at one of the centralised centres in Sheffield or Cardiff
			An agreed training programme that includes physical, psychological, tactical and technical work This is to be based on a minimum of 25 hours of high quality training per week	
			Attending all BPTT sessions and demonstrating commitment to training	
			Working with BPTT coaches on an agreed basis between training camps.	
			Regularity of coaching agreed between player and BPTT coaching team on a weekly basis	

Award Level	Individual Classes	Team Events	Performance	Commitment
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Podium Potential D £9,000	Individual Gold Medal at International Events – Factor 40, where 4 players from the Top 10 were competing. Or World Ranking - Top 15		Expectation to progress to Podium C level within 24 months	Upward progress to Podium C within 24 months of commencing Podium D level Athletes must show that they are undertaking a minimum of 25 hours high quality training per week. This is agreed between the athlete and coaches on an individual basis
			An agreed training programme that includes physical, psychological, tactical and technical work This is to be based on a minimum of 25 hours of high quality training per week	Athletes are expected to move to one of the centralised centres in Sheffield or Cardiff on a full time basis

Award Level	Individual Classes	Team Events	Performance	Commitment
Podium Potential E £6,000	Individual Silver Medal at International Events – Factor 40, where 3 players from the Top 10 were competing. Or World Ranking – Top 20 Or At the discretion of the Performance Director if the athlete has centralised and showing an upward trajectory of performance.		Expectation to progress to Podium D level within 24 months	Upward progress to Podium D within 24 months of commencing Podium E level Athletes must show that they are undertaking a minimum of 25 hours high quality training per week. This is agreed between the athlete and coaches on an individual basis
			An agreed training programme that includes physical, psychological, tactical and technical work This is to be based on a minimum of 25 hours of high quality training per week	Athletes are expected to move to one of the centralised centres in Sheffield or Cardiff on a full time basis

Important Supplementary Information

- The athlete expenses policy to be utilised alongside this matrix is as follows:

Matrix Level	Athletes pay	Programme pay
A to C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food – Domestic Camps Mileage (domestic camps & weekly training) Additional Coaching Costs outside the WCP International Camp, Competition & league match airport travel & accommodation if travelling without the squad.* Domestic & League Competitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hotel Costs – Domestic Camps International Camps & Competitions Carer Food Costs Domestic Camps International League Match Flights (must be booked a minimum of 1 month in advance)
D to E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Costs – Domestic Camps Mileage (weekly training only) Additional Coaching Costs outside the WCP International Camp, Competition & league match airport travel & accommodation if travelling without the squad.* Domestic & League Competitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hotel Costs – Domestic Camps Travel Costs (camps only) International Camps & Competitions Carer Food Costs Domestic Camps International League Match Flights (must be booked a minimum of 1 month in advance)

*If transport and accommodation is provided by the programme there is no requirement to cover the costs. When travelling alone or with a small number of athletes then each athlete is responsible for their to/from UK airport transport costs. Please see confirmation for each specific trip from Louise Larcombe, Performance Operations.

** Individual athlete arrangements regarding each athlete's expenses policy can be made at the Performance Directors discretion depending on personal training circumstances.

- The matrix demonstrates the pathway for players to progress through the BPTT World Class Performance Programme from Podium Potential to Podium, in order to achieving gold medal successes for Great Britain at Major Competitions.
- Regular achievement of both performance and the world class athlete characteristics targets as defined within the matrix does not automatically guarantee a player entry onto the World Class Programme or access to a particular funding level. The quality, consistency and progression of performances and a player's overall commitment as well as an assessment of the potential the player has to win medals in the Paralympics will be taken into account in deciding who will be offered an APA.

- Players admitted onto the World Class Programme and/or access to a particular funding level must recognise that the benefits offered are given so as an award in order to permit the player to train and progress their playing career in with the intention to assist them to achieve gold medals for Great Britain.
- Should a player be achieving at a world level and be a genuine medal prospect but not be able to commit to the World Class Athlete Characteristics listed, the player should understand that no personal award will be offered. However BPTT will review the player's position within the overall programme and agree an individual package of support to cover entry, travel and accommodation at events, sports science support and access to training camps and coaches.
- Should players become static or not achieve performance and the world class athlete characteristics as listed on the matrix, BPTT reserve the right to de-select them from the programme. BPTT also reserve the right (with the approval of UK Sport) to review whether a player, in unusual circumstances can remain or move to a lower level on the matrix, but players should recognise that this will only occur in extreme circumstances.
- Players can be re-instated onto the matrix should their performance and appropriate characteristics warrant re-inclusion.

Reviews

- Players are assessed against the World Class Program Matrix at their quarterly athlete performance reviews .If an athlete is not progressing against targets then programme and APA support can be reviewed or removed, athletes will be given due notice should this occur.
- Note for Podium A-B Individual only. Should a Podium player medal at the Paralympic Games or World Championships, but subsequently not achieve the required performance outcome (i.e. medal) at the following Milestone Event, they may be retained as a Podium Player at the discretion of the Performance Director up until the following year, subject to meeting performance outcomes and world class athlete characteristics.
- All players on the pathway are expected to attend all BPTT Training Camps and demonstrate 100% commitment to training. Should a player be injured there is still a requirement to be present at BPTT training camps unless medically certified as not able to travel.
- When considering a players entry onto the Pathway Matrix in the area of performance, this will primarily be based on individual performances before team performances are taken into account.

Appeals Process

- If an athlete believes there is a discrepancy between their nominated APA level by the BPTT and the performance matrix, they should refer to the appeals document which the BPTT can provide and can be found on the website: <http://www.britishparatabletennis.com>

Athlete Places

- In the event of more athletes being eligible for Podium and Podium Potential levels than there are places available, the decision will be taken by the World Class Programme Senior Performance Team. Their decision will be informed by a number of performance variables such as: recent tournament performances, world ranking and the ability to defeat the top players consistently

Injury and Illness

- In the event of short term injury/illness, and if an athlete is likely to recover to full fitness for training and competition, the athlete may continue to receive their full APA allowance up to a maximum of three months from the point of injury. To continue to receive funding during a performance

limiting injury/illness, the athlete would have to agree an appropriate rehabilitation/training and (if appropriate) competition programme with the Performance Director/Head Coach that would timetable and plot the return of the athlete after the injury/illness to full competitive level and to participate fully in the WCP as per the Selection Criteria. At the end of the three-month period of injury/illness, the Performance Manager/Head Coach would be required to undertake a review with the athlete to assess the commitment and progress of the athlete against the agreed programme. If the athlete, during this three-month period had shown neither commitment nor progress against the agreed programme, the athlete would be given a notice period before being removed from the World Class Performance Programme and would cease to receive an APA

Athlete Medical Scheme

- The Athlete Medical Scheme (AMS) is private medical insurance cover for World Class Programme (WCP) athletes whilst training and competing in their sport. It is provided as an additional benefit from UK Sport (UKS) alongside the support services they receive from their governing body programme and their Athlete Personal Award (APA)

Pregnancy

- To continue to receive funding during pregnancy (and after childbirth), the athlete would have to agree an appropriate training and competition programme with the Performance Manager/Head Coach that would timetable and plot the return of the athlete after childbirth to full competitive level and to participate fully in the WCP as per the Selection Criteria. At the end of a three-month period after the childbirth, the Performance Manager/Head Coach would be required to undertake a review with the athlete to assess the commitment and progress of the athlete against agreed performance targets. If this commitment were not demonstrated by the time of the three-month review, the athlete would be given a notice period (dependent on her time spent on the WCP) before being removed from the World Class Performance Programme.

Transitional Funding

- One month transitional funding is offered to all athletes leaving their sport by choice, retirement or is no longer nominated for a space on the WCP Podium or Podium Potential levels.
- The one month transitional funding could fall within an athlete's current award period, i.e. Athlete Reviews will be conducted prior to APAs expiring to allow for a transitional period and appropriate administration to be completed. Further funding could be offered at current grant level and for a period of time dependent on their continuous time spent on WCP to recognise their commitment to the programme. Additional transitional funding is awarded at the discretion of the Performance Manager.