



## **British Para Table Tennis World Class Programme Selection Policy for Podium & Podium Potential**

### **Introduction**

This policy outlines the eligibility and criteria for membership of the British Para Table Tennis World Class Podium & Podium Potential Programme for the period of **1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**.

This document should be used in conjunction with the Athlete Personal Awards (APA) Matrix contained in the BPTT Performance Pathway Matrix 2017-2021.

There are 5 tiers to the overall programme that are in place to support athletes – Podium, Podium Potential, Pathway, Development & Futures. All programmes are managed by BPTT, but Home Nation Table Tennis associations work closely with BPTT to support the work of Pathway, Development and Futures. Separate selection policies for the latter 3 programmes will be available in time.

BPTT has up to 16 places available on its Podium & Podium Potential Programme for the Tokyo cycle – 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

### **Athlete Nominations**

Up to 16 nominations for inclusion onto the programme will be made by the BPTT Selection Panel starting 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019.

If the number of athletes meeting the nomination criteria exceeds the number of places available, consideration for programme membership may be made on the basis of:

- a. The ranking of the athlete in relation to the latest World Rankings.
- b. The age and profile of each athlete in relation to statistics collated on the profile for success in Olympic / Paralympic Games.
- c. Individual athlete performance progression over the last 3 years.
- d. Performances over the previous two years at major championships.
- e. The quality of the athlete's training environment and the athlete's engagement with the GB Programme.

### **Selection & Deselection**

Selection of the 16 places will take place annually in November following the major championships throughout the cycle by the BPTT Selection Panel. In the event of a tie vote, the Chairman of Selection Panel will have the casting vote.

Deselection can take place at anytime throughout the cycle. The BPTT Selection panel may recommend to UK Sport that an athlete is added or withdrawn from the Podium & Podium Potential Programme at any time during the membership period. Recommendations to withdraw athletes from the programme and their associated funding and programme benefits will be made if, at the discretion of the Selection Panel, the athlete is no longer seen as possessing genuine and strong potential to make the team at the 2020 Tokyo Games and to medal at either those Games or the 2024 Paralympic Games. In addition, circumstances that warrant such action could be failure to make the required commitment to training, failure to engage fully in the WCP. Athletes may be assessed at any time during the funding period to demonstrate full engagement with prescribed training programmes, protocols and support services.

Inclusion in the Podium & Podium Potential Programme is likely to entitle athletes to a level funding and support services. Ongoing receipt of this is subject to full engagement in the programme and meeting targets set out in this and strict compliance with the BPTT Performance values.

Support services are subject to funding and availability. Where demand for a service exceeds capacity, prioritisation for access will be based on the athlete's personal assessment and relative standing/ ranking. The SSSM strategy is evolving and will continue to do so during the funding period.

#### **Podium – looking to medal at Tokyo 2020:**

Athletes to be selected onto the Podium Programme must meet the following criteria:

1. Individual Bronze Medal at the Paralympics  
or
2. Individual Silver/Bronze World Championships.  
or
3. Individual Gold Medal at the Europeans.  
and
4. Undertaking 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.  
and
5. 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.  
and
6. Athletes are expected to move to one of the centralised centres in Sheffield or Cardiff on a full time basis.  
and
7. Sign the BPTT Athlete Code of Conduct.

#### **Podium Potential – aiming to qualify for Tokyo 2020 and looking medal at 2024:**

Athletes to be selected onto the Podium Programme must meet the following criteria:

1. Individual Silver Medal at International Events – Factor 40, where 3 players from the Top 10 were competing.  
or
2. World Ranking – Top 20  
and
3. Undertaking 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.  
and
4. 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.  
and
5. Athletes are expected to move to one of the centralised centres in Sheffield or Cardiff on a full time basis or undertaking an agreed training programme approved by PD & HC.  
and
6. Sign the BPTT Athlete Code of Conduct.

### **Appeals**

For information on how to appeal a decision regarding selection on the WCP Podium & Podium Potential Programme please refer to 'BPTT Appeals Process'.