

## **TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION (TTTTA) NATIONAL SELECTION POLICY & PROCEDURE**

This Policy and Procedure outline the Criteria and Process for the Selection of Table Tennis Teams and Players to Represent Trinidad & Tobago at Regional and International Tournaments

### **PURPOSE**

This Policy & Procedure document shall govern the selection of all table tennis players to represent Trinidad and Tobago at all tournaments.

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

The TTTTA is committed to the highest ethical standards and transparency in all its dealings, and the selection of players and teams to represent the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

The Trinidad and Tobago Table Tennis Association, its Management Committee, and its Selection Committee are charged with the responsibility of ensuring that the TTTTA's Selection Policy and Procedure is properly executed and administered.

### **GENERAL ORGANIZATION**

- 1.0.** Goal
- 2.0.** Objectives
- 3.0.** Key Responsibilities/Features

#### **1.0. Goal**

To establish and implement transparent policies, procedures and criteria for the TTTTA to govern the selection of table tennis players to represent Trinidad and Tobago at events authorized or sanctioned by the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).

#### **2.0. Objectives**

- 2.1.** To select the best available players to represent Trinidad and Tobago for national duty at regional and international competitions.
- 2.2.** To select table tennis players with requisite skill level, fitness and mental attitude who have read and understood the selection criteria for that year.

#### **3.0. Key Responsibilities/Features**

- 3.1.** The Management Committee of the TTTTA shall review this policy every five years or in the interim as the need arises.

- 3.2.** The Selection Committee shall use the following criteria for selection:
- 3.2.1. Results in all TTTTA listed ranking tournaments;
  - 3.2.2. Results of Regional and International events held within the last 12 months.
- 3.3.** Table tennis players shall participate in the following TTTTA tournaments and other tournaments identified by the TTTTA:
- 3.3.1. Juniors, Cadets, Under Cadets Tournaments**
    - i. ITTF approved tournaments
    - ii. Junior Nationals
    - iii. Schools tournament
    - iv. Silver Bowl
    - v. Tobago/Trinbago Open or other recognized TTTTA Singles Tournament
  - 3.3.2. Senior Tournaments**
    - i. ITTF approved tournaments
    - ii. Senior Nationals
    - iii. Classified
    - iv. Silver Bowl
    - v. Super Singles
    - vi. Tobago/Trinbago Open
  - 3.3.3. Any other tournament/s:** as so identified by the TTTTA upon releasing the selection process for the subsequent year.

## **SELECTION**

The TTTTA shall send out a notification by 31<sup>st</sup> July in the preceding year, detailing the selection criteria applicable for the subsequent year for tournaments.

- 4.0.** General Eligibility Criteria
- 5.0.** Short List Guidelines
- 6.0.** Selection Process

### **4.0. General Eligibility Criteria**

- 4.1. A player wishing to represent Trinidad and Tobago must be a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago, as defined by the law, accepted by the ITTF and be in possession of a valid Trinidad and Tobago passport. A copy of the bio data page of the passport must be submitted upon request;

- 4.2. A player wishing to be shortlisted to represent Trinidad and Tobago must be an affiliated registered player with the TTTTA;
- 4.3. A player wishing to be shortlisted to represent Trinidad and Tobago must sign the TTTTA National Basic Code of Conduct at the beginning of the year;
- 4.4. Such a player must be in good standing with the TTTTA and all governing bodies associated with the TTTTA, TTOC, ITTF, LATTU, Pan Am, CRTTF, WADA or any other relevant governing authority to which TTTTA is associated;
- 4.5. Such a player must be in full compliance with all protocols regarding all substance abuse and is responsible for all substances that are ingested or administered to him/her. Such a player is also prohibited from alcohol abuse or use of any prohibited substance as defined by the World Anti-Doping Agency's Prohibited List in force at the time. The player must acknowledge that he/she may be subject to random Drug or Alcohol testing by the TTTTA at any point;
- 4.6. A player who is guilty of a breach and has been duly disciplined and suspended by a duly constituted body - either internal or external of the TTTTA – after having exhausted all available opportunities for appeal, is ineligible where the tournament for which a national selection falls within the period of the suspension;
- 4.7. Players are required to participate in listed tournaments either at home or abroad as outlined above in **Article 3.3** (3.3.1, 3.3.2 and 3.3.3);
- 4.8. Results of players representing Trinidad and Tobago over the twelve (12) previous months prior to the time of the Selection Process will be considered;
- 4.9. A local based junior player must participate in more than 50% of local TTTTA tournaments as outlined above in **Article 3.3** (3.3.1 and 3.3.3) within the last 12 months to be considered for shortlisting;
- 4.10. A local based senior player must participate in more than 50% of local TTTTA tournaments as outlined above in **Article 3.3** (3.3.1 and 3.3.2) within the last 12 months to be considered for shortlisting.

#### 5.0. **Short List Guidelines**

Table Tennis players selected to represent Trinidad and Tobago must achieve the qualifying standards set out by the TTTTA as well as standards set out by relevant governing bodies for specific table tennis events;

- 5.1. The top four placing finishes within the last twelve (12) months in two or more TTTTA tournaments as outlined above in **Article 3.3** (3.3.1 and 3.3.2) will be short listed for senior selection;
- 5.2. A virtual top four spot will be allocated to National player/s that is/are knocked out by any non-national player/s in the quarterfinals of tournaments outlined above in **Article 3.3** (3.3.1, 3.3.2, and 3.3.3.), **ONLY** for national selection purposes;
- 5.3. Any player who acquires two or more quarter-final positions within the last twelve (12) months, whilst participating in any under-11, under-13, under-15, under-18 and under-21 tournaments as outlined above in **Article 3.3** (3.3.1 and 3.3.3) will be considered for short listing under-11, 13, 15, 18 and 21 selection;
- 5.4. Wild Card/s can be allotted by the Coaching Committee to the short-listed player/s for junior or senior selection, if he/she has qualified to the last sixteen in the category being considered for selection, whilst participating in the tournaments outlined above in **Article 3.3** (3.3.1, 3.3.2 and 3.3.3) The Management Committee is responsible for approving the final decision;
- 5.5. If a player is unable to meet the **General Eligibility Criteria** (*Article 4.0*), he/she may submit in writing an explanation no later than seven (7) days after the short-listed players has been announced by the Selection Committee. The player shall outline why their inability to meet the selection eligibility criteria process and/or justification for them to be short listed. This request must be made only to the TTTTA Secretariat in the form of an email or hard copy. The request must be shared with the Selection Committee and the Management Committee. A decision of the Selection Committee made by a simple majority vote will be passed on to the Management Committee who will make a final decision by a simple majority vote on if the player will be short listed. However, under these circumstances a fee may be determined by the Management Committee and applied;
- 5.6. All foreign based players who are willing to attend the trials and have indicated so in writing to the TTTTA, will be automatically short-listed by the Selection Committee. (*A foreign based player is a player who has been living, working, studying or competing abroad for at least **FOUR MONTHS CONSECUTIVELY within the previous 12 months of the Selection Process***);
- 5.7. All players interested in representing Trinidad and Tobago shall indicate to the TTTTA in writing their interest to participate in the selection process no later than one month before the date of the trials.

## 6.0. **Selection Process**

*The Selection Committee will follow a process consisting of three levels:*

- 6.1. **Level One (Short Listing):** Submission of short-listed players by the Selection Committee to the TTTTA Management Committee for approval.
- 6.2. **Level Two (Assessment):** Evaluation and approval of short-listed players by the Coaching Committee.
- 6.3. **Level Three (First-Tier Trials):** Trials for final selection.

### 6.1. **Level One (Short Listing):**

The Selection Committee shall submit a short list of players for selection by using Eligibility Criteria and Short List Guidelines:

### 6.2. **Level Two (Assessment):**

Each player short-listed may be required by the Coaching Committee to be evaluated.

If any player/s are to be evaluated, the evaluation will comprise of:

- a. Physical
- b. Mental
- c. Technical Standard

Any player failing to pass this evaluation may not be considered to participate in Level Three (First Tier Trials).

### 6.3. **Level Three (First-Tier Trials):**

*The **FIRST TIER TRIALS** will take the following format:*

- 6.3.1. There will be three (3) trials over a period of two (2) consecutive days;
- 6.3.2. The trials would be a round robin system, three (3) best in five (5) games and all results are final;
- 6.3.3. The winner of the first round will earn the number one (#1) for selection and will be exempted from the two (2) remaining rounds;
- 6.3.4. The winner of the second round will earn the number two (#2) spot for selection and will be exempted from the third round.
- 6.3.5. The winner of the third round will earn the number three (#3) spot for selection;

- 6.3.6. Points will be allocated to the rest of players, according to where they were placed in the three (3) rounds of trials and will be ranked accordingly from 4<sup>th</sup> place selection go down;
- 6.3.7. If there are more than eight (8) players competing in any of the categories, the loser of each round of the **FIRST-TIER TRIALS** will be eliminated from further participation in the trials.

**7.0. Important Notes:**

- 7.1. *If there are no foreign based player/s challenging for selection in a category being contested, a local based player who has won all the local tournaments within the last 12 months in the category being contested, will automatically earn the #1 selection for that category only;*
- 7.2. *If on the date allotted for the trials, any player has attained the rank 250 or higher within the last twelve (12) months in the ITTF Rankings, he/she will obtain automatic selection and be the #1 ranked selection for that category being contested;*
- 7.3. *If on the date allotted for the trials, there are more than one player who have attained the rank 250 or higher within the last twelve (12) months in the ITTF Rankings in any category being contested, they will obtain automatic selection and will be ranked for selection according to their ITTF Ranking on the date of the trials (For only players ranked 250 or higher in the ITTF rankings);*
- 7.4. *On the date allotted for the trials, only players who have attained ranked 250 or higher within the last twelve (12) months in the ITTF rankings will obtain automatic selection and be exempted from trials;*
- 7.5. *If on the date allotted for the trials, there are no players who have not attained the rank 250 or higher within the last twelve (12) months in the ITTF Rankings, any foreign based player participating in the trials, will be reimbursed travel expenses **ONLY** if:*
- 7.5.1. *They travel directly from their home-based country excepting as described in **Article 7.5.2;***
- 7.5.2. *The player provides in writing to the TTTTA Secretariat reasons on their inability to travel from their home-based country. (This document will be provided to the TTTTA Management for a decision to be taken on reimbursed on travel expenses);*

7.5.3. *The travel expenses are considered to be economy class or \$10,000 whichever is the lesser amount;*

7.5.4. *They follow all requirements for foreign based players as described in this document;*

7.5.5. *They have won the first round of the **First-Tier Trials**.*

## **8.0. Date of First-Tier Trials**

8.1. The trial tournament should be held to accommodate all players;

8.2. The Management Committee shall be responsible for scheduling the date of the First-Tier trials;

8.3. The Management Committee shall advertise to the association's membership no later than four (4) months in advance the scheduled date of the First-Tier trials.

9.0. Trials will be held in the month of December or January for the following categories:

1. Seniors
2. Under-21, Under-18, and Under-15

The Trials for the Under-11 and Under-13 may take place at least three (3) months over two (2) days, before the scheduled date for the CRTTF Tournament or before the end of April (whichever comes first).

10.0. There are no exemptions for non-participation in trials. Participation in trials is a mandatory requirement for any player selected or short listed for trials according to the Selection process.

11.0. The results of these trials will determine the order of selection for the rest of the calendar year to represent Trinidad and Tobago in all Regional or International tournaments. If any player who has been selected to represent Trinidad and Tobago but is unable to do so, the next person in line according to the trials results will fill that spot.

## **12.0. Second-Tier Trials**

A second-tier trials will be held **ONLY** if the TTTTA is unable to field a full team for any category after the *First-Tier Trials*.

Player/s who have participated in TTTTA tournaments and have earned a quarter-final or a Super Singles tournament (last 12) result within the last twelve (12) months in tournaments outlined above in **Article 3.3** (3.3.1. 3.3.2. and 3.3.3.) for the category being contested, will be short listed providing he/she was not short listed for the First Tier Trials

A virtual top quarter-final or a Super Singles (last 12) spot will be allocated to National player/s that is/are knocked out by any non-national player/s in the last sixteen or the Super Singles tournament (last 24), **ONLY** for National selection purposes.

- a. There will only be one round of trial in the Second-Tier trials.
- b. The trials would be a round robin system three best in five games and all results are final.
- c. Points will be allocated to the players, according to where they were placed and will be ranked accordingly

### **13.0. Medical Condition**

All medical conditions, injuries or illness preventing a player from fulfilling a selection or activity obligation, must be substantiated by a medical certificate (original and authentic) provided by the player's physician (in the case of foreign based players – a digital copy would be accepted) or a physician assigned by the TTTTA (in the case of local based players).

To ensure fitness is achieved, the coaches will be required to conduct a fitness test and will make recommendations after the fitness test to the Management Committee.

Players will also be subject to medical fitness/certification tests if the TTTTA believes that he/she may not be able to competently represent Trinidad and Tobago in upcoming regional and/or international tournaments that the player was selected to participate in.

The Management Committee will make the final decision on the total amount of players who shall represent Trinidad and Tobago at any Regional or International tournament. Only players short-listed for the trials will be eligible to represent Trinidad and Tobago in that Calendar year.

### **14.0. National Preparation**

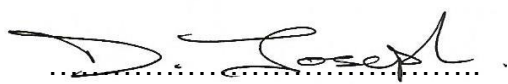
All local based player/s selected or qualified to represent Trinidad and Tobago shall fully participate in all preparations (training and competitions) planned by the Coaching Committee.



All foreign base players shall adequately prepare for tournaments for which they have been selected or qualified to represent Trinidad and Tobago and shall fully participate in all preparations (training and competitions) planned by the Coaching Committee, once they are available.

Players shall participate in up to seventy-five percent (75%) of team preparation activities and may forfeit their spot on their respective team if they fail to do so. The decision will be made by the Management Committee based on reports submitted by the Coaching Committee.

This National Selection Policy and Procedure was amended and adopted at a Special General Meeting held on 28 day of February, 2021 and came into force on 28 day of February, 2021.



David Joseph

President

Date: 28/02/2021



Edwin Anthony Caines

General Secretary

Date: 28/02/2021

