

**GOLD COAST 2018 COMMONWEALTH GAMES
4 – 15 APRIL 2018
SELECTION CRITERIA POLICY**

PARA TABLE TENNIS

1. Nomination

Singapore Disability Sports Council (SDSC) to nominate athletes to represent Singapore at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018), according to qualification criteria set by the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF). The final selection of athletes remains at the discretion of Singapore National Paralympic Council (SNPC), Commonwealth Games Association (CGA), Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) and International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).

In their nominations, SDSC should state clearly in the forms the justification for the athletes to be selected.

2. Overview

The Para Table Tennis Athlete Allocation System focuses on the three (3) key methods of qualification:

- a. **Ranking and Regional Qualification** (12 months cycle)
- b. **World Ranking**
- c. **Universality**

3. Medal Events

Men's Medal Event (1)	Women's Medal Event (1)
Eligible Classifications TT6, TT7, TT8, TT9, TT10	Eligible Classifications TT6, TT7, TT8, TT9 TT10

*One athlete must be classified B6

4. Athlete Allocation System

a. **Athlete Allocation by Gender**

Men	Women
8	8

b. **Maximum Number of Athletes by CGA**

Gender	Max. By CGA
Men	2
Women	2

c. Invitation Allocation

Gender	Min. per event
Men	1
Women	1

5. Qualification Framework

The qualification framework is designed to ensure there is strong regional representation across the Commonwealth.

Method of Qualification		Type of Slot Allocation
Ranking and Regional Qualification	The top ranked player from each of the six CGF regions (with Americas and Caribbean combined) will qualify one slot awarded to the CGA by Athlete by Name. The ranking positions will be determined by the highest ranked athlete across all classifications as determined by the ITTF Commonwealth ranking list.	To CGA by athlete by name
World Ranking	Once regional qualification has been awarded the next top two ranked athletes not already qualified will be awarded a slot as determined by the ITTF Commonwealth Ranking list.	
Universality	Universality slots may be issued to athletes' of widely and regularly practicing CGAs. Such invitation slots will be issued to the CGA (in the name of a specific athlete) for allocation. If the Home nation hasn't otherwise qualified through the regional qualification or by world ranking they will be awarded the invitation slot. If they have already qualified the slot will be allocated back to the invitation pool with universality being the key driver.	

6. Qualification Pathway

a. Regional

A qualification slot will be allocated to the top ranked eligible CGA athlete from each of the CGF's regions (with Americas and Caribbean combined). The ITTF will produce a Commonwealth Ranking list as at 31 October 2017.

Any athlete from a CGA nation with an international confirmed classification is eligible.

The athlete will qualify the slot for the CGA by Athlete by Name.

b. ITTF World Ranking Database

The top two (2) athletes from CGA nations not already qualified will be entitled to a qualification slot through the ITTF Para Table Tennis Standing Classes World Ranking Database:

- i. CGAs will be capped at two (2) athletes per event;
- ii. In case of an exact tie for the final slot of qualification, reference will be made to the previous ITTF World Ranking List and the higher-ranked athlete will qualify. If still tied, reference will be made to the previous ITTF World Ranking List. If still tied, reference will be made to the previous ITTF World Ranking List and so on until the tie is broken;
- iii. Only ITTF sanctioned events will be recognised for the purpose of the ITTF world ranking database. The qualification period is as follow: 31 October 2016 – 31 October 2017.

At the cessation of the qualification period, the following procedure will be implemented:

- iv. ITTF will advise which athletes have been awarded a slot to their CGA by Athlete by Name based on Ranking and Regional qualification and World Rankings.
- v. CGAs to nominate to GOLDOC for a Universality place;
- vi. Bipartite Commission to determine the allocation of Universality place/s;
- vii. GOLDOC to advise CGAs of the Invitation Place/s attained;
- viii. CGAs to confirm their intention to accept the Invitation Place/s offered;
- ix. In the event a CGA is unable to accept the award of any and/or all slots earned via these methods, the slot(s) will be redistributed via the reallocation policy.

c. Universality and Home Nation

In recognition of widely and regularly practicing Table Tennis athletes whose CGAs have not otherwise earned a slot-allocation, a maximum of one Universality position (one per category) may be issued. The Universality slot will only be allocated if the home nation has otherwise already qualified.

This method maybe actioned in circumstances where:

- i. The Home Nation has not otherwise qualified; or –
- ii. Less than four of the five ITTF regions are represented at the end of the qualification period. Best endeavours will be made to have regional representation; or when –
- iii. An extenuating circumstance has occurred resulting in an athlete being unable to register a result within the qualification period; or when –

- iv. An athlete who, in the opinion of the Bipartite Commission, has demonstrated a previous level of performance commensurate to participation at the Commonwealth Games but has not otherwise attained a slot-allocation via the methods outlined within the Athlete Allocation System.

All applications for a Universality slot-allocation must be submitted by the CGA. Athletes to be considered by the Bipartite Commission shall have competed in at least one (1) ITTF sanctioned event within the qualification period. These slots are non-transferable and in the event the CGA is unable to confirm the Games-time entry/participation of the specific athlete, the slot will be redistributed via the reallocation policy.

7. Athlete Eligibility

To be eligible for endorsement by a CGA, an athlete must;

- i. Have an international confirmed classification;
- ii. Not be currently under disqualification or suspension by the CGF, or their respective Affiliated CGA or ITTF or under the World Anti-Doping Code;
- iii. Have complied with all applicable rules and regulations of the CGF, ITTA and the World Anti-Doping Code as may be modified and applied by the Federation to ensure that the overriding principles of the Commonwealth Games are observed. In the case of any inconsistency, CGF rules and regulations will prevail;
- iv. Have met the CGF's eligibility standards in accordance with the CGF Constitution; and
- v. Have complied with the minimum age regulations as stipulated by the ITTF and CGF;

At the sole and absolute discretion of the Bipartite Commission, where an athlete has not competed in at least (1) ITTF sanctioned event within the Qualification period but would otherwise be deemed eligible, the Bipartite Commission may grant an exemption on the grounds of extenuating circumstances. This exemption is granted at the sole discretion of the Bipartite Commission, having consideration for any matter they deem relevant.

8. Appeals Process

- a. Results from the selection will be published on SNPC's website on 24 October 2017 (or such other date as may be stated on SNPC's website). Appeal against non-selection by SNPC must be made in writing to SNPC within **72 hours** of the date of announcement, of the athletes being selected for **GOLD COAST 2018 COMMONWEALTH GAMES**.
- b. The ground for any appeal is that:
 - The athlete's omission was a result of a failure by SNPC to properly apply the selection criteria set out in this policy
 - The athlete's omission was as a result of a failure by SNPC to adhere to the requirement guidelines set out in this policy
 - Fresh and compelling evidence and/or data which had not been submitted in the initial nomination.
 - Appeal must be made in writing, accompanied by a deposit of S\$100.00 by cheque, payable to "Singapore National Paralympic Council".

- If the appeal is successful, the deposit will be refunded in full.
- c. SNPC Appeals Committee will consider and deliberate the appeal and, if deemed justifiable, will hear the appeal by the athlete concerned.
- d. SNPC will, in writing, inform all parties about the decision taken to either uphold or reject the appeal by 31 October 2017 (or such other date as may be stated on SNPC's website). The decision will be final and no further appeal or correspondence will be entertained.