

ITF Beach Tennis World Team Championship 2017
11 - 16 July 2017, Moscow, Russia

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION FOR REPRESENTING GREAT BRITAIN

1. Introduction

The ITF has offered Great Britain 2 male and 2 female places for the ITF Beach Tennis World Team Championship 2017 (the **WTC**).

If a team is entered, the Lawn Tennis Association Limited (the **LTA**) will be selecting up to 2 male and 2 female players to compete.

All male pairs and female pairs wishing to be considered for selection for the WTC should send an email to George Donnelly at george.donnelly@lta.org.uk stating that they wish to be considered as a pair and giving their telephone number and email. The email must be sent by one member of the pair (copying in the other member) and received by the LTA on or before 21 May 2017. The Selection Panel may, at its discretion, still consider a pair who has not declared their interest by 21 May 2017. The Selection Panel shall pick the mixed pairs from the players who are selected for the male and female events.

2. Player Funding

The LTA are not contributing towards the funding of players representing Great Britain in this Event.

The selected players will need to cover the cost of the entry fee (as set out by the relevant international body), the hospitality fee (as set out by the relevant national association hosting body), travel to and from the beach tennis hosting venue (including flights, and any other means of transport required), the official GB team kit (this is a compulsory purchase for all selected players), and any additional spend (including but not limited to additional sustenance, accommodation (including rooms tabs) and massages).

3. Selection Timeline

Week commencing
22 May 2017 Selection Panel to convene to decide which players shall be selected for the WTC.

Week commencing
22 May 2017 Players will be informed of selection during the week commencing 22 May 2017.
Should a player wish to appeal the decision of the Selection Panel, he/she must follow the Selection Appeals Procedure (attached).

Please note that the above dates are subject to change.

4. Selection Panel

It is the responsibility of the LTA to select the players for the WTC. The LTA delegates this responsibility to the Selection Panel. The Selection Panel will consist of:

- a) Kasia Chmielewska; and
- b) George Donnelly, LTA Tournament Lead - Chair.

The Selection Panel will meet during the week commencing 22 May 2017 to determine which players shall be selected.

If any member of the Selection Panel has a perceived conflict of interest on a selection matter, the member shall declare that interest and the Chair will rule how the conflict will be dealt with to ensure fairness.

In the event the selection panel are required to use their discretion to make the selection, taking into account the Additional Selection Criteria, and the selection panel are unable to come to an agreement, the Chair will have the final decision.

The selection meeting may be conducted over the phone.

5. Selection Process

The male and female pairs shall be selected according to the Essential Eligibility Criteria and the First Stage Selection Criteria. Should there be an insufficient number of players meeting the Essential Eligibility Criteria and the First Stage Selection Criteria, the Selection Panel will select players based on the Essential Eligibility Criteria and the Second Stage Selection Criteria. Should there be an insufficient number of pairs meeting the Essential Eligibility Criteria and the Second Stage Selection Criteria, the Selection Panel will select pairs based on the Essential Eligibility Criteria and the Third Stage Selection Criteria.

6. Essential Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for consideration by the Selection Panel, each player must:

- have British nationality and hold a British Passport and be eligible to represent Great Britain under the Rules of the LTA (see the LTA website under LTA rule 35(a) and Appendix 2 – Player eligibility, www.lta.org.uk);
- be in good standing with the LTA;
- be medically fit and, if required, attend a medical examination by the LTA Chief Medical Adviser or a physiotherapist appointed by the LTA; and
- have no pending or outstanding anti-doping violations.

7. First Stage Selection Criteria

Pairs shall be selected in order of their combined ITF Beach Tennis Ranking on 22 May 2017. Should two or more pairs have an equal ranking, the Selection Panel shall use their discretion to make the selection, taking into account the Additional Selection Criteria.

8. Second Stage Selection Criteria

Where there are spaces remaining on the team following the selection based on the First Stage Selection Criteria, pairs consisting of one player with an ITF Beach Tennis Ranking and one player without shall be considered. Pairs shall be selected in order of the ITF Beach Tennis Ranking on 22 May 2017 of the player with an ITF Beach Tennis Ranking. Should two or more pairs have an equal ranking, the Selection Panel shall use their discretion to make the selection, taking into account the Additional Selection Criteria.

9. Third Stage Selection Criteria

Where there are spaces remaining on the team following the selection based on the Second Stage Selection Criteria, pairs where neither player has an ITF Beach Tennis Ranking shall be considered. The Selection Panel shall use their discretion to make the selection, taking into account the Additional Selection Criteria.

The LTA is under no obligation to enter a team and may do so at its discretion.

10. Additional Selection Criteria

If required, players will be selected taking into consideration the factors below.

- Performances in ITF Beach Tennis World Championships, ITF Beach Tennis Regional Championships, ITF Beach Tennis Graded events and domestic events held in GBR over the previous 12 months.
- Perceived ability to translate this into WTC performance.

- Track record of performance representing Great Britain.
- Additional factors including potential GB doubles pairings and team cohesion.
- Exceptional circumstances, including those related to a player's individual performance needs, which are relevant to the player's suitability for selection.

11. Communication of Selection

Players will be notified of their nomination during the week commencing 22 May 2017. The LTA will contact players who made themselves available for selection for verbal communication of the decision of the selection panel, giving non-selected athletes an opportunity to seek clarification on reasons for non-selection. All selection decision communications will be backed up in writing.

12. Selection of Teams

Once the individuals for the male pairs and the female pairs have been selected in accordance with the criteria above and the individuals have accepted their selection, the LTA shall ask the individuals to submit any preferences they have as to their partners for the mixed doubles matches at the WTC. The mixed pairings shall be chosen by the Selection Panel. The Selection Panel shall take into account the wishes of the individuals selected, their ITF Beach Tennis Ranking, previous doubles pairings, team cohesion and any other factors which they consider are relevant.

The Selection Panel shall pick a captain from the players who are selected for the male and female events.

13. Confidentiality

All players, coaches, members of the support team and any other individuals involved in the selection process must keep all information relating to the selection process confidential and not disclose any information regarding the process, the nominated athletes and the team selected unless authorised to do so by the LTA.

14. Changes to the Selection Process

The LTA will have the right to amend or vary this Selection Policy where necessary at any time in order to meet the requirements of the International Tennis Federation. These changes and amendments, having been discussed and agreed, will be clearly communicated to all parties.

15. Appeals

Should a player wish to appeal against the selection decision, the player must do so by email within 7 working days of receiving written notice of the decision to the LTA Director of Major Events and Competitions at oliver.scadgell@lta.org.uk. Full details of the Selection Appeals Procedure are attached at Schedule 1.

No appeals will be allowed against the content of this published Selection Policy and the Selection Criteria (both as amended from time to time).

16. De-selection

In the circumstances listed below, the Selection Panel will be convened to consider the de-selection of a player.

- **Illness or injury**
A player may be required to prove his/her fitness to compete by attending a medical examination and/or a fitness test with the LTA Medical Adviser.
- **Level of Performance**
In the event that a player's performances result in a substantial fall in ranking or are well below expectations, consideration will be given to withdrawing the invitation to the WTC, unless there is an exceptional reason for this.

- **Discipline**
Anything done by the player which the LTA deem to be a breach of discipline and/or a breach of the applicable Rules of the LTA or ITF will be taken into account when considering any action to be taken, including the withdrawal of the invitation to compete at the WTC.
- **Anti-Doping**
Any investigation or disciplinary action taken in respect of an alleged anti-doping violation, whether in or out of competition. A proven anti-doping offence will result in immediate de-selection.

The Selection Panel has the power to de-select a player should any of the above circumstances arise. In the event that a decision to de-select a player is taken, the player will be informed of the decision of the Selection Panel within 24 hours and will be entitled to appeal the decision. The Selection Appeals Procedure attached at Schedule 1 will be followed in such circumstances with the dates amended appropriately to the circumstances.

Should one member of a selected pair be de-selected, the next pair eligible under the criteria set out above shall be chosen.

17. Withdrawal

The LTA recognises the player's right to withdraw from the WTC post-selection. Any intention to do so must be communicated by email or letter to the Chair of the Selection Panel. Withdrawals should be made as soon as possible in order to minimise disruption to the team.

18. General

All players, coaches and support staff selected will be expected to stay with the team in the allocated hotel.

Schedule 1

Selection Appeals Procedure

1. If a player wishes to appeal against a decision relation to them, they must do so in writing to the LTA Director of Major Events and Competitions within 7 working days of receiving written notice of the decision. The player must set out the reasons for the appeal in writing and send in any evidence which they wish to be taken into account.
2. After receiving the written appeal, the LTA Director of Major Events and Competitions, or a person nominated by the LTA Director of Major Events and Competitions to hear the appeal, will consider the appeal.
3. The Player will be informed in writing of the decision of the LTA Director of Major Events and Competitions (or their nominee) and their reasons. LTA Director of Major Events and Competitions (or their nominee) may change the decision of the Selection Panel.
4. The decision of the LTA Director of Major Events and Competitions (or their nominee) following the appeal is final and there is no further right of appeal.