

## BRITISH PARALYMPIC PERFORMANCE TEAM APPOINTED FOR TABLE TENNIS

Following the award of £1.6 million by UK Sport for the Paralympic funding cycle 2009 - 2013, the British Table Tennis Association for People with Disabilities (BTTAD) as the National Governing Body for elite Disability Table Tennis is pleased to announce the appointment from August 1 2009 of 4 staff to its Paralympic Performance Team which will drive its World Class Performance Programme forward up to 2013.

The new Performance Manager is Gorazd Vecko who has been Head Coach and Performance Manager of Slovenia achieving considerable success internationally – most recently with 3 medals at the European Paralympic Table Tennis Championships in June 2009. Gorazd is also ITTF Para Division's Tournament Manager and as such a member of its Committee.

The new Head Coach will be Greg Baker with his assistants as National Coaches being Matt Kenney and Neil Robinson in full and part time roles respectively. All 3 have been acting in these posts since earlier this year and were the GB coaches at the European Paralympic Table Tennis Championships where the 5 medals won exceeded the declared target.

The Performance Team will be based at the English Institute of Sport in Sheffield apart from Neil who will be based in Wales operating across the south of the UK. They will all work alongside the Performance Manager and coaches running the separate Olympic Programme under BTTF; every opportunity for synergies between the programmes will be sought in liaison with BTTF to the overall benefit of Team GB.

Peter Taylor, Chairman of BTTAD who has been acting as Performance Manager since April, is delighted with the appointments and said "these appointments will create a strong platform for the development of the British Paralympic Table Tennis elite programme enhancing the prospects of medals in 2012 and beyond"