Para Table Tennis

INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

PARA TABLE TENNIS DIVISION

SELECTION COMMITTEE

Introduction: the Selection Committee met in Grenoble and Cornille en Trieves, France from 5 to 7 March 2010. The Selection Committee was chaired by the Selection Officer, Nico Verspeelt and comprised Steven Lee (deputy Technical Delegate), Vincent Boury (athlete representative), Gaël Marziou (ranking director) and Alison Burchell (Project Manager).

Criteria: as with previous selection meetings, the committee confirmed the criteria as used in previous selections including:

- a) Eligibility in terms of the tournament credit system. In terms of the rules, a tournament credit was set at 20 excluding the regional championships.
- b) Increasing the number of teams. This was considered in terms of ensuring maximum benefit for players at the world championships.
- c) Universality and increasing the number of countries. It is important to note the domination of Europe both in terms of numbers of players qualified and the number of tournaments organised in that continent. Thus, in order to promote the development of table tennis world wide, ensuring participation countries from other continents was considered.
- d) Potential. To encourage the participation of countries with new players, this area was also considered to ensure continuity.
- e) Quality. Underpinning all the above is the need to ensure quality at the world championships.
- f) Guaranteed host wild card requests. The host country, as with the world championships and Paralympic Games, is guaranteed 4 wild cards (on each in men and women standing and sitting classes).

On this basis, several players were not considered particularly as they had not met the eligibility requirement. In some instances, several attempts were made to encourage new countries to respond to the invitation to apply for wild cards but to no avail.

Context: prior to the selection process, the qualification slots accepted by countries were reflected as follows:

Continent	Countries	Slots
Africa	3	11
Americas	6	26
Asia-Oceania	12	56
Europe	29	180
Total	50	273

The total number of slots available for the world championships was 304.

Selections: the host country wild cards were allocated first from the total of 95 applications received. There were 31 wild card slots available in total. All selections were checked for eligibility in terms of the tournament credit and that an application for a wild card has been submitted where the motivation was considered.

A special request was considered from Libya for wild cards to be allocated but as they had not met the tournament credit requirement (as was the case with other countries and players), the request was not supported.

Women

Class	Slots	Selected player	Rationale	
SF1-2	1	Lee, Young Mi KOR	Host country	
SF3	2	Chan, Siu Ching HKG	Team added	
		Cakir, Kezban TUR	Team added, potential	
SF4	2	Almeida, Alicia RSA	Universality, team added	
		Riese, Rosabelle RSA		
SF5	1	Konwea, Philomena NGR	Universality	
SF6	1	Drakonaki, Irini GRE	Universality (first player)	
SF7	1	Na, Yu Rim KOR	Team added, 1 st alternate	
SF8	1	Kim, Sung Ok KOR	Host country	
SF9	1	Lazzaro, Sarah AUS	Team added, universality, potential	
SF10	1	Lee, Wol Soon KOR	First alternate	

Men

Class	Slots	Selected player	Rationale	
SM1	1	Sales, Francisco Eugenio BRA	Universality	
SM2*	2	Segrest, James USA	Universality	
SM3	3	Gomez Sanchez, Edson VEN	Universality (first players selected	
		Quijada Orozco, Roberto VEN	from VEN)	
		Kim, Jung Seok KOR	Host country	
SM4	2	Nakade, Masao JPN	Team added	
		Turan, Nesin TUR	Team added	
SM5	2	Rodriquez Ochoa, Daniel Ernesto	1 st alternate, universality	
		ARG	Team added, 2 nd alternate	
		Tsai, Ching Chin TPE		
SM6	2	Chen, Chao CHN	Team added, 1 st alternate, potential	
		Gofer, Assaf ISR	2 nd alternate, potential, universality	
SM7	2	Hamzah, Mohd Nazizul MAS	Universality, potential	
		Lima, Christovan BRA	Team added, 2 nd alternate	
SM8	2	Kim, Kwang Jin KOR	Host country	
		Khuzwayo, Zakhele RSA	Universality, potential	
SM9	1	Hasan Balah, Saber JOR	Universality, potential	
		Karlsson, Linus SWE	1 st alternate, team added	
SM10	2	Bereczki, Zsolt HUN	1 st alternate, team added	
		Pagnotta, Julian GER	Team added	

SM2: due to players not being eligible, only one selection was made and an approach would be made to the association of the next player on the ranking list with a back up in place.

Teams: consideration was also given to splitting combined team events where possible as in women's sitting and standing team's events. However, the men's team 1-2 and the men's team 6-7 would remain combined. The teams, as a significant consideration, were selected as follows although associations have still to confirm these selections.

Women's team classes	Number of teams	Men's team classes	Number of teams
TF1-3	6	TM1-2	6
TF4	6	TM3	7
TF5	6	TM4	10
TF6-8	6	TM5	10
TF9-10	8	TM6-7	12
		TM8	7
		TM9	6
		TM10	9

Conclusion: in the final analysis, the allocations by continent were:

Continent	Countries	%	Slots	%
Africa	3	6%	15	5%
Americas	6	13%	32	10%
Asia-Oceania	9	20%	69	23%
Europe	28	61%	188	62%
Total	46		304	

Recommendations:

- 1. At least 2 tournaments should be included in the tournament credit for the 2012 Paralympic Games which should be set at 70 and should include the regional championships.
- 2. Associations should consider developing teams as this is an important part of the selection process.
- 3. The PTT Division review the ranking factor system to reduce the value for the World Championships and Paralympic Games.
- 4. The PTT Division, in cooperation with the continental associations, promote more tournaments outside Europe to ensure greater universality.

Selection Committee/

7 March 2010

Nico Verspeelt Selection Officer