

## 2016 RIO PARALYMPIC GAMES TABLE TENNIS

**Introduction:** the Selection Committee met in La Louvière, Belgium from 19 to 21 February 2016.

The Selection Committee was chaired by the Selection Officer, Nico Verspeelt, and comprised:

- Georgios Seliniotakis (Technical Delegate),
- Petra Sörling (ITTF Executive Vice-President),
- Jose Manuel Ruiz (Athletes Representative),
- Emese Barsai (ITTF Staff Program Coordinator)

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

- a) Eligibility: in terms of the qualification guide, a tournament credit was set at 110 (Africa and Oceania), 210 (Asia and Americas), 250 (Europe) including the regional championships.
- b) Increasing the number of teams: this was considered in terms of ensuring maximum benefit for players at the Paralympic Games i.e. that they can, where possible, play both singles and team events.
- 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 Paralympic Games.
- f) Guaranteed host Bipartite requests: the host country is guaranteed 4 Bipartites (one each in men and women standing and sitting classes and at the discretion of the Selection Committee).

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 the Paralympic table tennis competition to respond to the invitation to apply for Bipartite Invitation slots through the IPC Entry & Bipartite System (EBS)

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

Continent	Countries	Slots	% slots
Africa	3	9	3,7%
Americas	7	22	9%
Asia	9	68	27,8%
Europe	24	141	57,5%
Oceania	2	5	2%
Total	42	244	100%

The total number of slots available for the Paralympic Games is 276 with 245 slots being accepted in the pre-selection process (9 players were replaced as a result of their NPCs declining the slots). This left 31 EBS slots to be allocated against 134 applications.

**Selections:** the host country Bipartite were allocated first (women's sitting and standing, men's sitting and standing classes). All selections were checked for eligibility in terms of the tournament credit, classification and ranking and that a Bipartite application had been submitted where the motivation was considered.

## Women

Class	Slots	Selected player	Rationale		
SF1-2	1	BRIL Chagit Yona	Bipartite – 3 <sup>rd</sup> class 1 player – 25% from 12		
			slots		
SF3	2	FRAGA SEVERO Thais	Bipartite – host country		
		FONTAINE Pamela Bipartite – first alternate			
SF4	1	LU Pi-Chun	Bipartite – first alternate		
SF5	1	RODEN Merewalesi	Bipartite - universality		
SF6	1	LEE KunWoo	Bipartite – winner Asia Championships		
SF7	1	WANG Rui	Bipartite – winner Asia Championships		
SF8	1	LITVINENKO Elena	Bipartite – first only alternate		
SF9	1	MARQUES PARINOS	Bipartite – host country		
		Jennyfer			
SF10	1	Mc DONNELL Andrea Bipartite – universality + team possibility			
SF11	1	NG Mui Wui	Bipartite – first alternate		

## Men

Class	Slots	Selected player	Rationale
SM1	1	KELLER Silvio	Bipartite – universality
SM2	2	MARCIO DA COSTA	Bipartite – host country
		Guilherme	
		VELLA Giuseppe	Bipartite – team possibility
SM3	2	SJÖQVIST Victor	Bipartite – team possibility
		GLINBANCHUEN Yuttajak	Bipartite – team possibility
SM4	2	NICK Emmanuel Chinedu	Bipartite – team possibility
		WYNDHAM George	Bipartite – universality

SM5	2	EL BAQQUALI Bilal	Bipartite – first alternate team possibility	
		DEPERGOLA Mauro	Bipartite - universality	
SM6	2	DETTONI Cristian	Bipartite – team possibility	
		JENSEN Michal Spicker	Bipartite – team possibility	
SM7	2	HORUT Daniel	Bipartite – team possibility – first	
			alternate	
		JAMBOR Miroslav	Bipartite – team possibility	
SM8	2	LOICQ Mathieu	Bipartite – first alternate – team	
		SKRZYNECKI Marcin	Bipartite – second alternate - team	
SM9	2	MIETTINEN Esa	Bipartite – universality	
		MOREIRA Diego	Bipartite – host country	
SM10	2	HERGELINK Bas	Bipartite – first alternate - team	
		BAKAR Mohamad Azwar	Bipartite – second alternate -	
			universality	
SM11	1	MARTINEZ Denisos	Bipartite – universality	

**Teams:** the combination of classes in team events is due to the total number of medal events predicted for the Paralympic Games

Women's team classes	Number of teams proposed	Men's team classes	Number of teams proposed
TF1-3	6	TM1-2	6
TF4-5	11	TM3	8
TF6-10	11	TM4-5	10
		TM6-8	15
		TM9-10	9

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

Continent	Countries	%	Slots	%
Africa	3	6,3	11	4,1
Americas	7	14,6	30	10,8
Asia	10	20,8	77	27,9
Europe	26	54,1	152	55,0
Oceania	2	4,2	6	2,2
Total	48	100	276	100

The number of countries is increased regarding London 2012 – we have now 48 countries represented instead of 47 in London.

**NICO VERSPEELT** Selection Officer

21 February 2016