



Rio 2016 Olympic Games
TABLE TENNIS

COMPETITION FORMAT
AND SPECIFIC REGULATIONS



COMPETITION FORMAT AND SPECIFIC REGULATIONS TABLE TENNIS – RIO 2016 OLYMPIC GAMES

1 Olympic competition format

1.1 Events

1.1.1 The Table Tennis Olympic competition will consist of four events: men's singles, women's singles, men's teams and women's teams.

1.2 Singles Events

1.2.1 In each of the men's and the women's singles events there will be a maximum of 70 players, with not more than two players from the same National Olympic Committee (NOC)

1.2.1.1 If the number of qualified players exceeds 64, a preliminary round will take place to reduce the number of players to 64.

1.2.2 Men's singles and women's singles will follow a knockout (single elimination) format. The entries ranked 1 to 16 will qualify directly to the third round, the entries ranked 17 to 32 to the second round and the entries ranked 33 to the total number of participants will qualify to the first or preliminary rounds following Annex 1 chart and explanations.

1.2.2.1 The losers of semi-finals will play-off for the Bronze medal.

1.2.3 All matches shall be the best of seven games.

1.3 Team Events

1.3.1 In both men's and women's team events there will be a maximum of 16 teams entered, each team representing an NOC.

1.3.2 A team consists of three players but a team of two players is allowed to participate in the team match if the third player is absent due to injury, illness or disqualification. If a player is not able to play a match due to injury or illness he or she will forfeit the match but he or she can participate in his or her subsequent matches of the team match. If a player is not able to play, the team may continue the competition with two players. If an NOC has a "P" athlete accreditation, a player can be replaced if the process of replacement is completed (see Appendix 1, Replacements: procedures and deadlines) at least 2 hours before the next team match. "P" athlete accreditation does NOT apply for replacing disqualified players.

1.3.3 Each team match consists of five individual matches and ends when one team has won a majority of the possible individual matches. Each individual match is the best of five games.

1.3.4 A team match consists of two singles matches followed by a doubles match, followed, if necessary, by one or two singles matches, until a team wins three matches.

1.3.5 For each team match, the captain will nominate the players who will play the first two singles matches. The third player will play in the doubles match (match number 3) with either of the two players who played the first two matches, selected by the captain after the second singles match is completed. The remaining matches (if necessary) will be set in a way to ensure that each player plays a maximum of two matches according to the



following system:

Order	Type	ABC team	XYZ team
1	Singles	A	X
2	Singles	B	Y
Captain chooses DBL pair. 5 minutes break			
3	Doubles	C + A or B	Z + X or Y
5 minutes break			
4	Singles	A or B (non-playing Doubles)	Z
5	Singles	C	X or Y (non playing Doubles)

- 1.3.5.1 Before the start of the match, the team that wins the toss shall choose to be either the ABC team or the XYZ team.
- 1.3.5.2 After choosing ABC or XYZ team, the captain nominates players in position A, B, C or X, Y, Z.
- 1.3.5.3 After the captain hands over the nomination sheet for doubles (once the 2 first singles matches have been played), the match order of the 4th and 5th matches is automatically decided.
- 1.3.5.4 There will be a 5-minute break prior to and following the doubles match.
- 1.3.6 The team competition will follow a knockout (single elimination) format.
- 1.3.6.1 The losers of semi-finals will play-off for the Bronze medal.

1.4 Procedure when a team has only 2 players.

- 1.4.1 A team of two players is allowed to participate in the team matches if the third player of the team is injured, sick or disqualified and no alternate player is available (in the case of injury of illness; no replacement is allowed for a disqualified player).
- 1.4.2 Before the start of the match, the team winning the toss chooses either to be the ABC team or the XYZ team and the two team captains decide the order of players. The team with the injured, ill or disqualified player will lose the match/es supposed to be played by this player automatically by walkover following the established order of matches. The final result of the team match will be the played matches scored plus walkover matches scored.

1.5 Procedure when both teams have only 2 players.

- 1.5.1 The competition format will be as follows:

Order	Type	ABC team	XYZ team
1	Singles	A	X
5 minutes break			
2	Doubles	AB	XY
5 minutes break			
3	Singles	B	Y

- 1.5.2 If both teams have only two players participating in the team match, the team match will end when one team has won a majority of the possible matches and this team will be declared the winner of this team match (2:0 or 2:1).



1.6 Replacement of a player in a table tennis team

- 1.6.1. An NOC can replace a player if it has a "P" athlete accreditation available and the process of replacement is completed (see Appendix 1, Replacements: procedures and deadlines) at least 2 hours before the next team match.
- 1.6.2. In case of replacement, the accreditation of the player replaced will be cancelled.
- 1.6.3. The "P" athlete can only activate the new accreditation and compete in the team events once the accreditation of the player being replaced has been cancelled. The "P" alternate athlete accreditation is used to replace an athlete who can no longer compete due to medical conditions following the sports entries deadline by name.

2 Draws

2.1 For singles events

- 2.1.1 The draw for singles events will take place in a public session on 3rd August 2016 at 12:00 hours and will be based on the ITTF World Ranking list issued on 1 August 2016.
- 2.1.2 The top sixteen ranked players will be seeded and drawn directly into the third round of play. The next sixteen (players ranked 17 to 32 by their World Ranking) will be drawn directly into the second round of play. The next sixteen players (33 up to 48) will be drawn into the first round of play. The remaining players (49 up to a maximum of 70 by their World Ranking) will be drawn into the first and preliminary round of play. The full procedure is shown in the diagram attached as Annex 1.

2.2 For team events

- 2.2.1 The draw for team events will take place in a public session on 3rd August 2016, following the singles events draws.
- 2.2.2 The draw will be conducted according to 3.6 of the ITTF Handbook: "Draw for knock-out competitions" and following the specific team ranking list issued by ITTF on 1 August 2016.

3 Ranking lists

3.1 Team ranking lists

- 3.1.1 A special team ranking list taking into consideration only the players qualified for each team will be produced on 1 August 2016, taking the individual Ranking List 1 August 2016 as a basis, to establish the seeding order for the team events.

4 Special rules for disqualification during the Olympic Games

4.1 Disqualification: general principles

- 4.1.1 The referee has the power to disqualify a player from a match, a team match, an event or a competition for seriously unfair or offensive behaviour, whether reported by the umpire or not; as the referee does so he or she will hold up a red card.
- 4.1.2 If a player is disqualified from 2 matches of the team event, he or she will automatically be disqualified from that team event.



- 4.1.3 The referee may disqualify for the remainder of a competition anyone who has been sent away twice from the playing area during that competition.

4.2 Disqualification of a player

- 4.2.1 If a member of a team is found to have committed a violation of the ITTF Anti-Doping Rules the team will be disqualified from the event and any title, medal, points and prize will be withdrawn.
- 4.2.2 Except for anti-doping violations if a player is disqualified from:
- 4.2.2.1 a match of a team match, he or she will forfeit the match but can participate in his or her subsequent matches of the team match. The final result of the forfeited match should be n:3. (Note: n refers to the games already gained by the disqualified player.)
- 4.2.2.2 a team match, he or she will forfeit all the matches scheduled for him or her to play in the team match but is allowed to participate in the subsequent team matches of his or her team.
- 4.2.2.3 two team matches or from the event, he or she will not be allowed to participate in the subsequent team matches of his or her team, but the other two players of the team are entitled to continue the competition.
- 4.2.2.4 the competition, he or she is no longer considered a member of the team. The team may continue the competition with two players. The player will not be allowed to participate in any event of the tournament.

4.3 Specific rules for team events: Withdrawal of a team

- 4.3.1 The team will be considered as withdrawn from the team match, if it does not start the first match of a team match (walkover).
- 4.3.2 If a team is disqualified or withdraws after the draw but before the start of the competition: the team will not be replaced.
- 4.3.3 If a team is disqualified or withdraws during or after the competition:
- 4.3.3.1 *during a scheduled team match.* The opposing team will advance to the next round.
- 4.3.3.2 *after the results of a team match have been approved.* The team will lose the last team match by forfeit. The team disqualified will not be ranked, the ranks of the remaining teams will be adjusted accordingly, and the ranks of the teams that have already finished the competition will be shifted up.
- 4.3.3 The public statistics presented for the above mentioned situations shall be handled according to the system described in the "Exceptional Situations Handling" section of the Olympic Results and Information System (ORIS) document.

5 Mixed zone and Press conferences

5.1 Mixed zone

- 5.1.1 All players and coaches must leave the field of play through the mixed zone.



5.2 Press conferences

- 5.2.1 All players must attend press conferences to be held at the Competition Venue after each medal event or as warranted by an outstanding performance or at the request of an NOC, Rio 2016 or ITTF.
- 5.2.1.1 If a player does not want to take part in a press conference, this will be considered as unsporting behaviour.

6 Clothing and equipment

- 6.1 Clothing and equipment worn or used by table tennis players and other participants in the Olympic Table Tennis competition must comply with ITTF Rules, with the By-Law to Rule 50 of the Olympic Charter and with the IOC Manufacture Trademarks Guidelines for the Games of the XXXI Olympiad in Rio.
- 6.2 For the Olympic Games, each player must have with him or her at least two pairs of shirts in different colours. The players participating in team events must have at least two pairs of shirts in different colours but all the players of the team must be dressed uniformly with the same colours of clothing. The name of the player and the three letter code of his or her NOC must be printed on the back of each shirt and it is optional on the front of the shirt.



Legend: Front of the shirt:

- The only "sponsor" logo allowed is the manufacturer's logo which has to comply with the size requirements of the IOC and it can be on either side of the shirt but this should be checked with the NOC
- The name of the player and NOC code is optional on the front but must be put on the back of the shirt
- The size of the player's name and NOC code should be no more than 1/3rd of the shirt's width – the same for the manufacturer's logo – on the front
- The font used is at the discretion of the NOC
- Minimum 3.8cm indicates there should be a space between the seam edge of the shirt and the first logo to appear



Legend: Back of the shirt:

- The name of the player and NOC code must be put on the back of the shirt
- The size of the player's name and NOC code should be no more than 1/3rd of the shirt's width
- The font used is at the discretion of the NOC
- Minimum 3.8cm indicates there should be a space between the seam edge of the shirt and the first logo to appear
- The format of the player's name can be according to national custom (2 examples are provided)



- 6.3 Each player must have with him or her at least two pairs of shirts in different colours during the clothing rehearsal to be held in the Rule 50 Room at a date and time to be announced in due course.

7 Jury

7.1 Composition of the Jury

The Jury will consist of a Chair, the Referee, the two Technical Delegates and one representative from each Continent (proposed by the respective Continental Federation) appointed by the ITTF Olympic and Paralympic Commission.

7.2 Protests and appeals

Appeals will be decided according to section 3.3.3 of the ITTF Handbook, Regulations for International Competitions.

7.3 Scope of responsibility and line of authority

7.3.1 Jury Chair

7.3.1.1 The Jury Chair will chair the meetings of the Jury and will schedule the duty roster of the Jury members.

7.3.1.2 The Chair of the Jury shall not have a vote at Jury meetings. In case of a tied vote, the Chair shall have the deciding vote.

7.3.1.3 The Chair of the Jury shall report all Jury decisions to the ITTF Executive Committee (EC). In turn, the ITTF EC, through its Director of Operations and Olympic Games, shall report any sanctions to the IOC Executive Board.

7.3.2 Jury Members

7.3.2.1 At least two Jury members shall be on duty at all sessions of the table tennis competition.

7.3.2.2 The attendance roster shall be scheduled by the Jury Chair with the assistance of the ITTF Director of Operations and Olympic Games and the Rio 2016 Table Tennis Manager.

7.3.2.3 Jury members shall attend meetings called by the Jury Chair, examine appeals, determine sanctions and have the right to vote. They may use video recording of any TV match in their deliberations.

7.3.2.4 The quorum for the Jury shall be six Jury members in attendance, not counting the Chair (in case of a tied vote, the Chair shall have the deciding vote).

7.3.2.5 The Referee shall have the right to speak but not to vote.

7.3.3 Rio 2016 Table Tennis Manager

7.3.3.1 The Rio 2016 Table Tennis Manager is responsible for all organisational and logistical matters of the table tennis competition including the field of play.

7.3.4 Referees and Deputy Referees

The responsibilities of the Referee and the Deputy Referees are according to ITTF regulations.

7.3.5 Technical Delegates

7.3.5.1 The Technical Delegates shall advise and assist the Rio 2016 Table Tennis Manager and the Referee in all their functions.



7.3.5.2 The Technical Delegates shall attend the Jury meeting and have the right to vote.

7.3.5.3 The Technical Delegates shall supervise the draws and sign-off the final version of the draw and schedule.

8 Racket control procedure

8.1 Racket tests will be conducted according to ITTF procedures.

9 Clarifications

9.1 To avoid doubt, the Referee shall not be a member of the Jury if a decision under appeal was made by the Referee. The Referee shall explain the case to the Jury, but the Jury's deliberations shall take place without the presence of the Referee.

9.2 An appeal of a decision made by the Referee can only be made after the completion of a match and within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the match.

9.3 The Jury Chair cannot be in attendance at all times. Therefore, he will assign the responsibility to the two Jury members on duty to receive any protest or appeal. The Jury members on duty will then contact the Jury Chair, all members of the Jury (using ITTF or Rio 2016 staff) and convene the Jury meeting. The Jury meeting will start when both the Jury Chair and a quorum are present.

9.4 Information regarding a sanction or disqualification of a player shall not be given to the media until the decision is final and ready for transmission to the IOC Executive Board.

9.5 In the case that a matter is not covered by this document, then the necessary procedure will be implemented by consensus between the Technical Delegates, the Rio 2016 Table Tennis Manager, the Jury Chair and the ITTF President (or his designate).



APPENDIX 1: REPLACEMENTS: PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES

Late Athlete Replacement:

After 18th July, a LAR can be accepted if the process is completed and approved by Rio 2016 and IOC no later 13:00 hours on 11th August; time and date of the Jury Meeting for the Team Events. This includes both the submission of all relevant documentation by the NOC, AND the verification and approval by Rio 2016 and IOC. LAR applies to team quota players and to "P" players. The entire process has to be completed before 13:00 hours on 11th August.

Late Reallocation:

After 18th July, a Late Reallocation will be in place if a qualified player or a tripartite commission quota player is injured. The reallocation will go to the next available eligible player on the May 2016 World Ranking and will be possible until midnight on 2nd August (00:00 h on 3rd August). In case the injured player belongs to an NOC participating in the team event on the same gender, his/her NOC can:

- compete with three players if the substitute of the injured player is eventually from the same NOC
- compete with three players if the NOC has a "P" athlete available and the NOC applies for the replacement
- compete with two players if none of the two above mentioned options occur

Replacement of an injured player by a "P" athlete:

At any time from 00:00 h on 3rd August, if a player competing in the team event becomes injured, their NOC can apply for a "P" athlete replacement but it should be noted that:

1. As requested by IOC, ITTF shall not only acknowledge the receipt of the NOC medical certification but also review the injury. If the ITTF Medical Officer has a doubt, he may request the verification by a member of the Rio 2016 Sport Entries team on site to facilitate the process and raise it to the appropriate decision maker. This could be the Rio 2016 medical doctor or the IOC Medical & Scientific Director.
2. NOCs should note that the replacement of an athlete by a "P" athlete has to be COMPLETED at least two hours before the next match is scheduled to start.