

WORLD TEAM CUP 2020

Selection Policy

Venue: Portugal

Competition dates: 4th – 10th May 2020

Aim

The stated aims of the WTWCP for the World Team Cup are:

- To achieve medals in a minimum of 2 of the divisions
- To qualify prospective players for Tokyo 2020
- To support optimal preparation for Tokyo 2020 performances

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION FOR REPRESENTING GREAT BRITAIN

1. Introduction

The International Tennis Federation (the **ITF**) offers up to 4 places for each of the men's, women's, quad and junior teams (juniors must be 18 or under on 31.12.2020) at the World Team Cup 2020 (the **WTC**).

The LTA will be selecting up to 4 players for each of the divisions **and** we are invited to enter teams based on the Selection Criteria set out below.

All players on the Wheelchair Tennis World Class Programme (the **WTWCP**) and the Support Programme should be available for selection and the talent programme players will also be considered for the team.

2. Selection Timeline

11 th February 2020	LTA Selection Panel to convene to decide which players shall be selected for the WTC.
14 th February 2020	Players will be informed of selection in writing by 3pm. Should a player wish to appeal the decision of the LTA Selection Panel, he/she must follow the Selection Appeals Procedure (attached).

Please note that the above dates are subject to change.

3. WTC Selection Panel

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

- a) Rob Cross – Head Coach
- b) Cain Berry – Performance Support Lead (Chair)
- c) Martyn Whait – Performance Coach
- d) Marc McCarroll – Performance and Talent Coach

The WTC Selection Panel will meet on 11th February 2020 to determine which players meet the Essential Eligibility Criteria at clause 5 and the Specific Selection Criteria at clause 6 (together the **Selection Criteria**),

and who will be selected for the WTC. In making these decisions the WTC Selection Panel will assess players eligible for consideration against the Specific Selection Criteria. The WTC Selection Panel will use its expert knowledge of both the sport and elite performance sport to make such decisions.

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.

The Selection Panel reserves the right not to select as many players as there may be places available if it is felt it is in the best interests of the team achieving the stated aims.

4. Selection Meeting

- The meeting will be minuted.
- All possible efforts will be made to hold the meeting in person, but other formats may be acceptable where necessary.
- The Selection Panel may consult specialists including the programme physiotherapists, psychologist, medical practitioners and coaches as appropriate.
- Where such specialist input is obtained, the advice and/or recommendations will be minuted.
- Where there is an even number of people on the panel and a resulting split decision, the Head Coach will have the casting vote.

5. 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 Lawn Tennis Association Limited (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 Programme Doctor or a physiotherapist appointed by the LTA
- Have no pending or outstanding anti-doping violations.

6. Specific Selection Criteria

Players will be selected taking into consideration the factors below.

- Being a member of the Great Britain Wheelchair Tennis World Class Programme.
- Performances in singles and doubles on the ITF Wheelchair Tennis Tour over the previous 12 months.
- Track record of performance representing Great Britain.
- Potential for selection for the Paralympic Games in 2020 and 2024.
- Additional factors including potential GB doubles pairings, seedings, court surface, team goals and team cohesion.
- Adherence to the Code of Conduct.
- Exceptional circumstances, including those related to a player's individual performance needs, which are relevant to the player's suitability for selection.
- Positive progression in training and competition performance indicators evidenced from coach reports, athlete reviews and objective test results, including content in IDPs

7. Communication of Selection



Players will be notified of their nomination (or, in some instances, otherwise) by 3pm on 14th February 2020. The LTA will endeavour to contact all players in contention for selection to communicate the decision of the LTA 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.

8. 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 or once information has been made public by the LTA.

9. Changes to the Selection Process

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

10. Appeals

Should a player wish to appeal against the LTA selection decision, the player must do so in writing or by email within 7 working days of receiving written notice of the decision to the Performance Director of the LTA at the National Tennis Centre, 100 Priory Lane, Roehampton, London, SW15 5JQ, email address simon.timson@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).

11. De-selection

In the circumstances listed below, the LTA 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 Programme Doctor or LTA physiotherapist. The criteria for this will be made available. In the event of an injury or illness following selection, the player (and any coach or member of staff working with the team) must pass a medical examination and/or fitness test prior to travelling.
- **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**
Any breach of discipline under the Performance Player Code of Conduct and the applicable Rules of the LTA or ITF and non-adherence to the conditions of the WCP 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 WTC 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 WTC 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.

12. Replacements/Reserves

Should a selected athlete be unable to compete, the Selection Panel reserves the right to nominate a replacement. A replacement player must meet all the published eligibility criteria at the date of the selection meeting.

13. Force Majeure

The LTA reserve the right to withdraw the team or change the selection policy in response to abnormal situations beyond the control of the sport including but not limited to terrorist threat or environmental disaster.

14. General

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

15. Ultimate Authority

The Selection Panel has ultimate authority in the final selection decisions relating to the selection of players, coaches and support staff for the 2020 WTC

Schedule 1

Selection Appeals Procedure

1. If a player wishes to appeal against any decision taken, they must do so in writing to the Performance Director of the LTA within 7 working days of receiving written notice of the decision. The player must set out the reasons for the appeal in writing.
2. After receiving the written appeal, the Performance Director of the LTA, or a person nominated by the Performance Director of the LTA to hear the appeal, shall write to the player inviting them to attend an appeal meeting. The player will be given at least 5 working days' notice of this meeting where possible and is required to make every effort to attend.
3. The player may be accompanied by another person to the appeal meeting (subject to that person not being implicated in the matter). The identity of the player's companion must be communicated to the Performance Director of the LTA (or their nominee) prior to the meeting so that the Performance Director of the LTA (or their nominee) can confirm their attendance. The Performance Director of the LTA (or their nominee) shall be accompanied at the meeting by a nominated individual to take notes of the meeting.
4. All evidence which was taken into account in making the initial decision will be put before the appeal meeting and will be provided to the player in advance of the appeal meeting. Where new evidence arises in the course of the appeal, the player, or their representative, will be given the opportunity to comment before any action is taken. Where appropriate, it may be necessary to adjourn the appeal meeting in order to undertake further investigation or consideration. If the player intends to rely on new evidence coming to light in the appeal meeting they should, where possible, provide a copy of such evidence to the Performance Director of the LTA (or their nominee) in advance of the appeal meeting.
5. The Player will be informed in writing of the decision of the Performance Director of the LTA (or their nominee) and their reasons. The Performance Director of the LTA (or their nominee) may change the decision of the Selection Panel.
6. The decision of the Performance Director of the LTA (or their nominee) following the appeal hearing is final and there is no further right of appeal.