



ATHENS 2004™



Table Tennis

Explanatory Book



TM ©

Table Tennis

Dear friends,

In August 2004 the Olympic Games, the most celebrated event in the world, is going to take place in Athens, a city of historical and cultural significance.

The Games will be returning to Greece, the country where they were born over 2,500 years ago and where they were revived in 1896.

The Organising Committee for the Olympic Games ATHENS 2004 is dedicated to achieving technical excellence and bringing forth all of the qualities, which are integral to the Olympic Games: history, culture, peace, human scale and Olympic values.

Through this publication, the Sports Division aims to provide you with detailed technical information on every sport to be held during the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games.

For the first time, this publication is in electronic format, so as to meet the need for quick, thorough and accurate information.

On behalf of the Sports Division, we hope that this e-book will be a valuable tool for your participation in the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad.



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Facts about Athens

Athens population: 3,192,606 (according to the 2001 census)

Athens is the capital city of Greece. It is situated at the Southeastern tip of Greece's mainland, in the Attica region.

The city of Athens has a rich and long history. Architectural examples of that history can be seen throughout the Athens Historical Centre and include the Panathinaiko Stadium (ancient marble stadium), the ancient marketplace known as the 'Agora' and the ancient Odeon of Herodus Atticus. The Acropolis, upon which the Parthenon temple was built in the 5th century BC, is also situated in the downtown area. Visitors have the chance to see how the past and the present, combined, shape the city's contemporary identity. Most importantly, they can see first-hand how the country known as the birthplace of democracy and Western civilisation is also the birthplace of the ancient and modern Olympic Games.

In preparation for the 2004 Games, Athens is changing. Development and infrastructure projects are progressing throughout the greater Attica region. A new city will welcome the world in August 2004.

Sports competition will take place in 38 venues of Olympic standards. Existing sport venues are being completely renovated and new ones are being built, in order to provide athletes with the best possible conditions for competition.

Santiago Calatrava, the renowned Spanish architect, is redesigning the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OCO), the venue that will host the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, as well as Aquatics, Athletics, Cycling, Gymnastics Artistic and Trampoline, Tennis and the Basketball finals.

The city's infrastructure and transport systems are being upgraded and improved. Some of the major projects that have been completed or are scheduled to be ready before 2004 are:

- Europe's most modern international airport, 'Eleftherios Venizelos', which has been operating since 2001 and is to be linked to the Historical City Centre by the new suburban rail network.
- 100km of new highways and 90km of upgraded highways.
- New suburban and light rail networks (a completely new 23km tram network).
- Europe's newest metro system, combining the latest in transport technology with stations featuring small museums and art exhibits.
- New sports and recreational complexes throughout the country.
- Landscaped pedestrian walkways, unifying Athens' archaeological and major cultural sites.
- Sidewalks and a modern transportation system that will provide easy access to people with disabilities.

The ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games give Greece the opportunity to open up to the world and show its contemporary character and modern image to athletes, visitors and viewers from around the globe.



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Facts about Greece

Capital: Athens

Government: Greece is a parliamentary democracy.

Population: 10,964,080 (according to the 2001 census).

Language: Greek. The Greek language has a history of over 4,000 years and it has been essential for the development of many Western languages.

Currency: Until December 2001, the Greek currency was the Drachma. It has changed to the Euro as of January 2002.

Local time: 2 hours ahead of GMT (Greenwich Mean Time).

Weather: During August the weather in Greece is clear, warm and dry.

ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games

Unique Games on a Human Scale

In 2004, the Olympic Games will return to their homeland and athletes from all nations will unite in Greece to engage in noble competition. The ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games will combine history, culture and peace with sports and Olympism. The people of Greece will host a unique Games on a human scale, inspiring the world to celebrate Olympic values.

The Olympic Games were first documented in 776 BC. They were held every four years in ancient Olympia. The prize for Olympic champions was an olive wreath, the 'kotinos' (no awards were given to second or third place athletes).

The importance of the ancient Olympic Games was such, that warring states would cease their conflicts in order to honour the ceremonies – a concept that has been carried forward throughout the history of the Games, known as the Olympic Truce.

The Olympic Games were revived in Athens in 1896, after the combined efforts of the French Baron Pierre de Coubertin and the Greek scholar Dimitrios Vikelas. Both men believed deeply in the universal and noble competition of sport and the 'ethos' (noble character) of the ancient Olympic ideals. The celebration of the Olympic spirit and Olympic values has been uniting countries around the world ever since, with each host country adding its own aura to the Games.

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A Unique Olympic Experience

The ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games will combine, for the first time since the revival of the Games, the very best in sport with a unique historical setting. Athletes, visitors and spectators, the Olympic Family and the entire world will enjoy a once in a lifetime experience.

Marathon runners will have the opportunity to follow the original Marathon course, first run in 490 BC. They will start from the town of Marathonas and finish at the Panathinaiko Stadium, the ancient marble stadium in the centre of Athens, where the first modern Olympic Games were held in 1896. Archers will let their arrows fly across the Panathinaiko Stadium as well. Road cyclists will tour the Athens Historical Centre, in the shadow of the Acropolis.

The Olympic flame will be lit in ancient Olympia and, for the first time, the Olympic torch will travel to all five continents, before returning to the country of its birth for the Opening Ceremony of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games.

International Olympic Committee

Contact Details

Château de Vidy
1007, Lausanne
Switzerland
T +41 21 621 61 11
F +41 21 621 62 16
www.olympic.org

IOC President: Jacques Rogge

Olympic Games Executive Director: Gilbert Felli

Department of Sports, Olympic Games Coordination and IF Relations Director: TBA

Olympic Solidarity and NOC Relations Director: Pere Miró

During the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) offices will be located at the Athens Hilton Hotel. Olympic Solidarity and the IOC Medical Commission will be located at the Divani Caravel Hotel.



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Contact Details

Iolkou 8 & Filikis Eterias
142 34 Nea Ionia
Greece
T +30 210 2004 000
F +30 210 2004 004
e-mail: info@athens2004.com
www.athens2004.com

Athens was selected as the host city of the 2004 Olympic Games in Lausanne, Switzerland, on 5 September 1997. On that same day, the Host City Contract for the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad was signed. This was the beginning of a unique journey in the history of Olympism that will culminate in Greece from 13 to 29 August 2004.

ATHENS 2004 S.A. was established by Law 2598/1998 as the Organising Committee for the 2004 Olympic Games. ATHENS 2004 exercises all powers and authorities conferred to it by the Olympic Charter and the Host City Contract signed on 5 September 1997.

President: Gianna Angelopoulos-Daskalaki

Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer: Marton Simitsek

Executive Director and Deputy Chief Operating Officer: Spyros Capralos

Sports General Manager: Makis Assimakopoulos

The ATHENS 2004 Mission

- To organise a technically excellent Olympic Games.
- To provide athletes, spectators, viewers and volunteers with a unique Olympic experience, thus leaving a legacy for the Olympic Movement.
- To present and promote the Olympic ideals in a contemporary manner, through their traditional Greek symbols.
- To promote and implement the Olympic Truce through the Torch Relay.
- To control the commercial aspect of the Olympic Games.
- To reposition and promote the cultural and natural heritage of Greece to the eyes of the world.
- To showcase the achievements of modern Greece and its potential for the future.
- To protect and enhance the natural environment and promote environmental awareness.
- To promote the benefits of the Games throughout the country.

Table Tennis



Table Tennis Competition Management

ITTF Technical Delegates

Neil Harwood

Yao Zhenxu

ATHOC Competition Management

Competition Manager, Georgios Seliniotakis

Technical Operations Manager, TBA

Administration Manager, Maria Mitakidou

Georgios Seliniotakis has been a member of the Executive Board of the Hellenic Table Tennis Federation since 1982 and chairman of the Technical Committee of the National Federation since 1985. He studied Mathematics in the University of Patras. Over the last years, he has been working as a Computer Software Engineer for several organisations. Since 1984, he has been working in the Peace and Friendship Stadium, having the overall responsibility for Management and Computerisation.

Georgios is particularly fond of Table Tennis, for the development of which he has worked very hard. He has been an athlete himself, as well as a Table Tennis Umpire since 1973.

Since 1982, he has been responsible for the organisation of all the Balkan Games and the international Table Tennis events that took place in Greece, as Technical Director. He has been named International Umpire since 1989, and International Referee since 1997. He has participated as an Umpire in a large number of International Tournaments, in three World Championships and in four European Championships. He was appointed Deputy Referee for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

Georgios was selected as Table Tennis Competition Manager for the Organising Committee for the Olympic Games ATHENS 2004 in June 2000 and he participated in the ATHENS 2004 Observation Programme for the Olympic and Paralympic Games of Sydney.

Olympic Table Tennis Competition

The Olympic Table Tennis competition will be held from 14 to 23 August 2004 (Days 1-10), at the Galatsi Olympic Hall.

The maximum number of athletes who may take part in the Table Tennis competition at the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games is 172 (86 men and 86 women).



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Rules of Table Tennis

Competition

The Table Tennis competition at the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games will be held in accordance with the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Rules and with the Olympic Charter; in force at the time of the 2004 Games.

Pursuant to the Olympic Charter, ITTF assumes the responsibility for the technical control and direction of its sport at the Olympic Games.

Jury

The Jury will consist of a Chairman (an ITTF Executive Committee member appointed by the ITTF President), the Referees, two (2) Technical Delegates and one representative from each Continent (appointed by the respective Continental Federation).

Referees

ITTF will appoint two referees and two deputy referees. One of the referees will be from Greece and at least one of the others will be from a different continent.

Umpires

ITTF will appoint 24 umpires.

Protests and Appeals

Appeals will be decided in accordance with Section 3.3.3 of the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions.

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Table Tennis Competition Format

Events

The Olympic Table Tennis competition will include men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles and women's doubles.

Competition System

Men's and Women's Singles

The knock-out (single elimination) system will be used. There will be 64 entries, with a maximum of three players from the same NOC. All matches will be decided by the best of seven games (4 out of 7). There will be 16 seeded players (bye in 1st and 2nd round) and 16 placed players (bye in 1st round).

Seeding will be made in accordance with ITTF regulations, by ranking, as per the latest current World Ranking list available at the date of the draw, and separating players from the same NOC as per ITTF regulation for that purpose.

Men's and Women's Doubles

The knock-out (single elimination) system will be used. All matches will be decided by the best of seven games (4 out of 7). There will be a maximum of 43 entries and a minimum of 22 entries. A maximum of two doubles pairs per NOC, drawn on the same half of the draw, may be entered.

Seeding will be made in accordance with ITTF special regulations, based on the list produced for that purpose by the ITTF Ranking Committee.

The following system will apply for seeded and placed pairs in both doubles events:

For 32 or fewer pairs, there will be three stages for the draw: The top eight pairs will be seeded and drawn directly into Round 3, the next eight ranked pairs (9 to 16) will be drawn directly into Round 2 and the remaining pairs will be drawn into Round 1.

For more than 32 pairs, there will be four stages for the draw: The top eight pairs will be seeded and drawn directly into Round 4, the next eight ranked pairs (9 to 16) will be drawn directly into Round 3, the next five to 15 pairs (depending on the number of pairs over 32 that are entered in the event) will be drawn directly into Round 2 and the remaining pairs will be drawn into Round 1.

Draw

The Technical Delegates, in close cooperation with the Referee, will conduct the draw for the competition on 12 August 2004, at the Galatsi Olympic Hall.



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Table Tennis Olympic Venue

The Galatsi Olympic Hall, where all events of the Olympic Table Tennis competition will be held, is located at the Municipality of Galatsi, 15km from the Olympic Village. For the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, the venue for Table Tennis will have a total capacity of approximately 6,000 seats.

Facilities at the Galatsi Olympic Hall

Field of Play

The field of play is situated at the centre of the Galatsi Olympic Hall. It will hold four tables, enclosed by playing area surrounds; each field of play will measure 16x8m. During the competition, the number of tables will be reduced. Quarterfinals, semifinals and medal matches will be played on a single table.

Warm-up Area

There will be a warm-up area of approximately 1,000m² with eight courts, each of them measuring 14x7m, adjacent to the field of play, for athlete preparation.

Training Area

There will be a training area of approximately 1,000m² with eight courts, each of them measuring 14x7m, adjacent to the field of play, for athlete training.

Change Rooms

Four change rooms for male and female athletes will be provided with facilities including showers, toilets, saunas, changing areas and massage tables.

Mixed Zone

The mixed zone is an area where accredited media will be allowed to conduct short interviews, immediately after athletes have competed. Athletes must pass through the mixed zone to exit the field of play and they are requested to cooperate and to speak with press or broadcasters.

Athletes' and Team Officials' Lounge

A lounge will be available for athletes and Team Officials at the Galatsi Olympic Hall. It will be open during all training and competition sessions and will have refreshments available, including bottled water.

Racket Preparation Area

A racket preparation area with a well-ventilated system will be available for players near the training and competition areas.

Racket Testing Control

A racket control room will be available near the competition area.

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Table Tennis Competition Schedule (Version 2.1)

Day 1	Sat (14/08)	
Session TT01	Start: 11:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Women's Doubles First Round	
	Men's Doubles First Round	
	Women's Singles First Round	
	Women's Singles First Round	
	Men's Single First Round	
	Men's Single First Round	
Session TT02	Start: 18:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Women's Singles First Round	
	Women's Singles First Round	
	Men's Single First Round	
	Men's Single First Round	
Day 2	Sun (15/08)	
Session TT03	Start: 11:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Women's Doubles Second Round	
	Women's Doubles Second Round	
	Men's Doubles Second Round	
	Men's Doubles Second Round	
	Women's Singles Second Round	
	Women's Singles Second Round	
Session TT04	Start: 18:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Men's Singles Second Round	
	Men's Singles Second Round	
	Women's Singles Second Round	
	Women's Singles Second Round	
Day 3	Mon (16/08)	
Session TT05	Start: 11:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Men's Doubles Third Round	
	Men's Doubles Third Round	
	Women's Doubles Third Round	
	Women's Doubles Third Round	
Session TT06	Start: 18:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Men's Singles Second Round	
	Men's Singles Second Round	
	Women's Doubles Fourth Round	
	Women's Doubles Fourth Round	
Day 4	Tue (17/08)	
Session TT07	Start: 11:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Men's Singles Third Round	
	Men's Singles Third Round	
	Women's Singles Third Round	
	Women's Singles Third Round	
Session TT08	Start: 18:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Men's Singles Third Round	
	Men's Singles Third Round	
	Women's Singles Third Round	
	Women's Singles Third Round	
Day 5	Wed (18/08)	
Session TT09	Start: 11:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall



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	Women's Doubles Quarterfinals	
	Men's Doubles Fourth Round	
	Men's Doubles Fourth Round	
Session TTI0	Start: 18:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Women's Singles Fourth Round	
	Women's Singles Fourth Round	
	Men's Singles Fourth Round	
	Men's Singles Fourth Round	
Day 6	Thu (19/08)	
Session TTI1	Start: 11:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Women's Doubles Semifinals	
	Men's Doubles Quarterfinals	
Session TTI2	Start: 18:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Women's Singles Quarterfinals	
Day 7	Fri (20/08)	
Session TTI3	Start: 11:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Men's Doubles Semifinals	
	Women's Doubles Bronze Medal Match	
	Women's Doubles Gold Medal Match	
	Women's Doubles Medal Ceremony	
Session TTI4	Start: 18:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Men's Singles Quarterfinals	
Day 8	Sat (21/08)	
Session TTI5	Start: 11:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Women's Singles Semifinals	
	Men's Doubles Bronze Medal Match	
	Men's Doubles Gold Medal Match	
	Men's Doubles Medal Ceremony	
Day 9	Sun (22/08)	
Session TTI6	Start: 11:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Men's Singles Semifinals	
	Women's Singles Bronze Medal Match	
	Women's Singles Gold Medal Match	
	Women's Singles Medal Ceremony	
Day 10	Mon (23/08)	
Session TTI7	Start: 13:00	Galatsi Olympic Hall
	Men's Singles Bronze Medal Match	
	Men's Singles Gold Medal Match	
	Men's Singles Medal Ceremony	

Prior to Semifinals, all times are indicative only. From Semifinals onwards matches will not take place prior to the scheduled times.

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Clothing and Equipment

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 61 of the Olympic Charter and with the IOC Manufacture Trademarks Guidelines for the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens.

Each player must have with him/her at least two pairs of shirts and shorts in different colours. The name of the player and the three-letter code of his/her NOC must be printed on the back of each shirt and it is optional on the front of the shirt covering a total area of 40 cm².

All training equipment available will be approved by ITTF and compliant with Rule 61 of the Olympic Charter:

Floor surface:	Gerflor-Taraflex
Tables:	Joola blue
Balls:	Double Happiness white, 3 star
Nets:	Joola

Participation

Only NOCs recognised by IOC may enter competitors in the Olympic Games. NOCs may only send to the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games competitors who have qualified through the system established by ITTF and IOC.

Eligibility

To be eligible for participation in the Olympic Games, a competitor must comply with the Olympic Charter, as well as with the rules of the International Table Tennis Federation and must be entered by his/her NOC.

Nationality of Competitors

Any competitor in the Olympic Games must be a national of the country of the NOC that is entering him/her.

A competitor's nationality is determined according to Rule 46 and the By-Law to Rule 46 of the Olympic Charter.

The maximum number of athletes per NOC shall be 3 men and 3 women in the individual events, and a maximum of 2 men's pairs and 2 women's pairs in the doubles event.

Qualification System

Singles

Sixty-four (64) athletes for each of the men's singles and women's singles events will qualify as follows:



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20	ITTF World Ranking, with a maximum of two (2) players per NOC
40	Continental qualification system
1	Host nation direct entry
2	World Qualification Event
1	Tripartite Commission Invitation
64	Total - with a maximum of three (3) players from the same NOC

Continental Qualification

Players will be qualified through continental qualification events, held between June 2003 and 15 April 2004, according to the following distribution:

6	Africa
11	Asia
11	Europe
6	Latin America
3	North America
3	Oceania
40	Total

The maximum number of entries per NOC in the continental qualification events shall be limited to the maximum number of places available to the respective NOC, following qualification through the ITTF World Ranking of May 2003.

Host Nation

The host nation shall directly qualify 1 place in each individual event.

World Qualification

The top 2 players at the World Qualification Tournament will qualify for the Olympic Games. Entries to the World Qualification Tournament will be limited to players who have otherwise not qualified by the ITTF World Ranking or by Continental Qualification. NOCs may only enter a maximum number of athletes if they have remaining qualification places below the maximum number of 3 per NOC.

The number of qualification places from this competition may be increased if the Continental Qualification allocation of 40 players is not reached.

Tripartite Commission

NOCs may apply for Tripartite Commission Invitation places in accordance with the identified timeline.

The deadline for NOCs to submit their requests for Tripartite Commission Invitation places is 15 November 2003. The Tripartite Commission will confirm, in writing, a preliminary allocation of Invitation places to the NOCs by 31 January 2004. The allocation of remaining Invitation places will be confirmed, in writing, to the NOCs by July 2004. ITTF will invite a limited number of Invitation place applicants to compete in the World Qualification Tournament, and 1 Invitation place will be allocated based on the results of the Invitation place applicants at this event.

Doubles

In addition to the players qualified for singles, 22 men and 22 women will qualify for the doubles event.

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The 22 additional players will be selected by each of ITTF's Continental Federations according to the following distribution:

3	Africa
6	Asia
6	Europe (including a direct entry for the host nation)
3	Latin America
2	North America
2	Oceania
22	Total Players

- It is recommended that each Continental Federation form the maximum number of doubles pairs using the total number of players who have qualified through singles, plus the above allocation.
- Players in each doubles pair must be from the same NOC.
- It is acceptable that both players in a doubles pair not be entered in the singles event.
- A maximum of 2 doubles pair(s) per NOC may be entered.
- In each doubles event, the host nation is guaranteed 1 entry from the European quota, in case no doubles pair from the host nation qualifies through the European qualification system.

Reallocation of Unused Quota Positions

Singles

ITTF World Ranking List

If a player qualified from the ITTF World Ranking list is not entered by his/her NOC, the unused quota place will be reallocated to the next highest ranked player from the ITTF World Ranking list.

Continental Qualification Tournaments / Final World Qualification Tournaments

Any vacant spot created between the Continental Qualification Tournaments and the Final World Qualification Tournament will be filled by the next eligible player from the Continental Qualification lists. If the Continental quotas are not filled before the Final World Qualification Tournament, the vacant spots will be filled by increasing the number of qualifiers from the Final World Qualification Tournament.

Cancellations of Entries Following 21 July 2004

If a vacant spot is created in singles, due to injury or other uncontrollable reasons at the Games period between 21 July 2004 (date of final entries) and the day prior to the draw, then the player entered only in doubles with the highest singles ranking may be entered in the singles event.

Doubles

Unused quota places for the doubles events will be allocated to the next eligible pair available from the respective doubles Continental Qualification list from where the vacancy has been created, in relation to the quota available (1 or 2 places). If a Continent cannot present a new double, the vacant position will be granted to the player/s not already qualified for the doubles having finished in the highest position in the Final World Qualification Tournament and having the possibility to form a pair with a player already qualified for singles.



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Qualification Timeline

31 December 2002	ITTF to confirm the dates and sites of continental qualification events
May 2003	ITTF World Ranking list published following the 2003 World Championship
June 2003 - 15 April 2004 6 - 16 October 2003	Period for holding the continental qualification events Africa continental qualification event, singles and doubles, Abuja (NGR)
15 November 2003	Deadline for the submission of requests for Tripartite Commission Invitation places by all NOCs
27 - 30 November 2003 31 January 2004	Europe continental singles qualification event, Luxembourg The Tripartite Commission will inform, in writing, a preliminary allocation of Invitation places to NOCs
14 - 15 February 2004	North America continental singles qualification event, Vancouver (CAN)
14 - 20 February 2004	Latin America continental qualification event, Valdivia (CHI)
3 - 4 April 2004	North America continental doubles qualification event (USA)
9 - 13 April 2004	Asia continental qualification event (CHN)
12 - 15 April 2004	Oceania continental qualification event, Melbourne (AUS)
30 April 2004	Notification of qualified players and pairs by Continental Federations to the ITTF Headquarters
May 2004	Final World Qualification Tournament for singles, site to be confirmed
30 May 2004	ITTF to confirm to NFs/NOCs the names of all qualified players and pairs
15 June 2004	NOCs to confirm to ITTF the entry of participating players and pairs
30 June 2004	ITTF to confirm the final allocation of all quota places
21 July 2004	Deadline for the ATHENS 2004 Organising Committee to receive entry forms submitted by NOCs

Publication of Qualifiers

The list of qualified athletes and pairs will be published by ITTF and notified to IOC, NOC and Member Associations by no later than 15 June 2004. ITTF will also confirm allocation of final quota places no later than 30 June 2004.

NB: Please refer to the Qualification System released in December 2002 and regularly updated by IOC, for the full official text of the qualification system.

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Entries

The Olympic Entries and Qualification System has been developed into a two-part process, so as to manage the official registration of athletes for the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games.

The first phase is Qualification Verification. This began in May 2003 and will run through until the end of the qualification period. ITTF has to send to ATHOC by 30 May 2004 the list of qualified players.

The second phase is Final Entries, where NOCs have to submit the names of all their qualified athletes who will be competing in the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games. ATHOC must receive Sport Entry forms and Eligibility Conditions forms from participating NOCs by midnight (Greek time), on 21 July 2004, with a copy forwarded to ITTF.

Team Managers are asked to give the Technical Delegate written notification of any amendments to the content of the Sport Entry forms, prior to the pre-tournament briefing meeting, after which no further amendments will be accepted.

Medals

The medals and diplomas for the Table Tennis competition will be awarded in accordance with Rule 70 and the By-Law to Rule 70 of the Olympic Charter:

First Place

First prize will be a silver gilt medal and a diploma.

Second Place

Second prize will be a silver medal and a diploma.

Third Place

Third prize will be a bronze medal and a diploma.

Fourth to Eighth Places

Competitors placing fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth will receive a diploma.

Additionally, all participants in the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games will receive a commemorative medal and a diploma.



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Training

Introduction

Training is the second most important activity after competition. The aim of ATHOC is to provide sport facilities that meet all Olympic training requirements.

The training venues of Table Tennis will meet all ITTF requirements and will be accommodated at the Olympic Hall located in Galatsi and in one (1) Independent Training Venue that is located near the Olympic Village.

Training Venues Description

Galatsi Olympic Hall (Training & Warm-up Hall)

Training Site Category	Competition Venue
Operating Hours	10:00 - 22:00
Dates	30 July - 23 August 2004
Training Sessions	120 minutes
Distance from Olympic Village	15km
Travel Time from Olympic Village	16min

Supporting Facilities

Change rooms	Separate change rooms for men and women will be available
Showers	Showers will be included in each change room
Medical Facility	Medical services will be provided
Athletes' Lounge	Athletes' lounge will be available

Arsakeio Indoor Hall 1& 2

Training Site Category	Independent Training Site
Operating Hours	10:00 - 22:00
Dates	30 July - 22 August 2004
Training Sessions	120 minutes
Distance from Olympic Village	14km
Travel Time from Olympic Village	19min

All equipment to be used at the Training Sites will be the same as for the Competition Venue

Supporting Facilities

Change rooms	Separate change rooms for men and women will be available
Showers	Showers will be included in each change room
Medical Facility	Medical services will be provided
Athletes Lounge	Athletes lounge will be available

Competition Venue

Galatsi Olympic Hall

Official Training Dates	10 - 13 August 2004
Length of Training Sessions	60 minutes for each NOC

Table Tennis**Booking Details**

Competition Management will provide NOCs with the Training Request Form in May 2004. The Form with requests for training sessions must be submitted to Competition Management by June 2004, indicating when they will arrive at the Olympic Village.

Training sessions at the Training Sites will be allocated by Competition Management, according to requests, on a rotational basis.

The Training Schedule will be provided to each NOC participating in the sport, on arrival at the Olympic Village.

NOCs must confirm their training sessions at the Sports Information Centre (SIC), when they enter the Olympic Village.

Change requests can be made in the Sports Information Centre (SIC) until 17:00, one day before the training session occurs. If NOCs do not confirm their sessions by 17:00 one day before, the training session will be made available to other teams.

Training Information

All training sessions will be closed to media, unless the NOC is training on the competition tables ONLY.

All training-related information will be available at all INFO 2004 stations. The Olympic Village Sport Complex, located in the Northern part of the Olympic Village, will provide facilities for fitness and jogging, as well as recreation.



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Sports Information Desks

Sport-specific information for Table Tennis will be available from two information desks. One will be located at the Galatsi Olympic Hall. The other will be placed at the Sports Information Centre (SIC), within the Olympic Village. Both desks will provide information such as competition schedules, training schedules, results, sport technical information and ITTF/ATHOC communications. The SIC will also provide information on scheduling and confirmation of transport and entries verification.

The Sport Information Desk at the Galatsi Olympic Hall will be operational between 08:00 and 22:00 on each training and competition day.

The SIC at the Olympic Village will be operational from 23 July until the end of the Olympic Games, from 07:00-22:00.

Additionally, one information point will be available at the Arsakeio Indoor Hall Training Site. This point will operate daily between 08:00 and 22:00, from 30 July to 22 August.

In addition to the aforementioned Sport Information Desks, sport-specific information will also be available at all INFO 2004 stations, namely, information points providing all members of the Olympic Family access to the Information Diffusion System. INFO 2004 stations will be operational from 27 July until the end of the Olympic Games.

Medical Services

A First Aid and Emergency Medical Service will be provided during the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games to everyone requiring medical assistance while at Olympic venues, including non-competition venues.

Olympic Village

The Polyclinic, the medical facility within the Residential Zone of the Olympic Village, will provide residents of the Village with a comprehensive range of services including Sports Medicine and physiotherapy, podiatry, radiology, dental and eye services, general medicine, consulting services, a pharmacy, and a 24-hour Emergency Service with Ambulance service for transportation to the dedicated Olympic Hospitals. The Polyclinic will also be supported by a Health Care Interpreter Service. A dedicated First Aid Station will operate at the International Zone of the Olympic Village, to provide emergency and first aid support to all persons who do not have access to the Polyclinic in the Residential Zone.

In addition to these services, the Health Services Programme will ensure the provision of a public health service, monitoring food safety, storage and handling, sanitation, infectious disease notification and other environmental health issues.

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Olympic Hospitals

Designated members of the Olympic Family will receive free emergency medical treatment from 30 July to 1 September 2004, within designated Olympic Hospitals in Attica and in the other Olympic Cities.

Gender Verification

Gender Verification may be required by the IOC Medical Commission in accordance with its guidelines and IF rules.

Medical Services at the Galatsi Olympic Hall

The Health Service Programme will provide two different services at this venue. A dedicated back of house service comprising doctors, physiotherapists and back of house ambulance will support the athletes, TOs and all back of house staff. A separate service will be provided by doctors, nurses and first aid officers to all front of house areas (spectators, media). An additional onsite ambulance will support these services and provide transport, where required, to a designated Olympic Hospital.

Medical Services at Training Venues

Physiotherapist, nurse and onsite ambulance will be provided at all training venues. Doctors will be present depending on the risk of the sport and the IF regulation.

Doping Control

Doping Controls for Table Tennis will be conducted according to the World Anti-Doping Code in force at the time of the Games and the list of Prohibited Substances and Methods valid at the time. Urine tests will be conducted exclusively, while the exact tests distribution, regarding both the in- and out-of-competition testing, will be agreed by ITTF, the IOC Medical Commission and ATHOC, in independent protocol.

All Doping Control Services provided by ATHOC will be ISO9001/2000 certified and developed according to the revised version of the International Standard for Doping Control.

All samples will be analysed at the IOC-accredited and ISO17025 certified Doping Control Laboratory of Athens, which is situated within the premises of the Athens Olympic Sports Complex. A 24-hour reporting system for negative results and a 36-hour reporting system for positive results has been set.

**Table Tennis**

Accreditation

ATHOC will operate according to the IOC Accreditation guidelines and will follow the procedures outlined in the most recent IOC Accreditation and Entries Users' Guide. Copies of the Users' Guide have been sent to all NOCs.

Deadlines

The closing date for applications, in paper or electronic format, is 28 April 2004 at 17:00 (Greek time), 3½ months before the Games. ATHOC will send back a report and the responsible organisations (NOCs, IOC) must confirm the accuracy of this report by May/June 2004.

Accreditation Process

The combined Olympic Identity and Accreditation Card process will be followed. Eligible athletes and Team Officials who submit, via their NOCs, acceptable applications for accreditation, including a photograph, prior to the deadline, will receive an Olympic Identity and Accreditation Card (with photograph).

The Olympic Identity and Accreditation Card establishes the identity of its holder and constitutes a document that, together with the passport or other official travel document of the holder, authorises entry into Greece.

The Olympic Identity and Accreditation Card must be validated upon arrival in Athens.

E-Accreditation will be the primary Accreditation tool. Paper forms will be saved as backup.

Accreditation Centres

Five Accreditation Centres are scheduled for the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games:

- Olympic Family Accreditation Centre: in one of the Official Hotels, the Athens Hilton.
- Athletes' Delegation Accreditation Centre: at the Olympic Village perimeter.
- Media Accreditation Centre: near the International Broadcasting Centre and the Main Press Centre.
- Workforce Accreditation Centre: will be used to distribute uniforms to Technical Officials and to accredit them as well.
- Primary Centres outside Athens area: in Heraklio, Patras, Thessaloniki, Volos.

Additionally, there will be one validation (only) centre in the Athens Airport.

Accreditation Categories

For categories, population and access entitlements, please refer to the NOC section of the Accreditation Chart of the IOC Accreditation and Entries at the Olympic Games Users' Guide.

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Accredited Seating

Athletes will be one of the accredited groups eligible to access the Accredited Seating Area. Each venue will provide a dedicated seating area for athletes and Team Officials. This area will consist of two stands. These are the:

- a. Athletes' stand (A), for athletes and Team Officials of the same sport and
- b. Different sport Athletes' stand (DsA), for athletes and Team Officials of different sports.

Access to the A stand will be granted with the Accreditation Card. Access to the DsA stand will be gained by a combination of accreditation and ticket that will have already been distributed to athletes and Team Officials from their Chef de Mission. The ingress and egress points will be to/from back of house areas (i.e. not accessible to spectators).

Transportation

The ATHENS 2004 transport service will commence on 30 July 2004. Athletes and Team Officials arriving at the Athens International Airport 'Eleftherios Venizelos' will be transported via a 24-hour shuttle bus service to the Olympic Village on a designated Olympic route.

Athletes and Team Officials holding a T4 accreditation will be eligible for an 18-hour service in dedicated coaches. They will be transported through a custom-made client system, according to the Table Tennis training and competition schedule. Competition will take place at the Galatsi Olympic Hall, 15km from the Olympic Village. Athletes will be transported to the competition venue via a sport-specific shuttle bus service. The ATHOC Transport Division will provide all athletes and Team Officials with the relevant transport information through the transport desk located at the airport and through the SIC at the Olympic Village.

Bus services for spectating athletes will operate from the Olympic Village to Olympic competition venues during competition times.

Transportation to Training Sites

The ATHOC transport service for the Table Tennis training site will commence on 30 July 2004. The distance between the Olympic Village and the Arsakeio Indoor Hall training site is 14km. The distance between the Olympic Village and the Galatsi Olympic Hall training and competition site is 15km.

Athletes will be transported from the Olympic Village Transport Mall to the Galatsi Olympic Hall and the Arsakeio Indoor Hall via sport-specific shuttle bus services.



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Accommodation

During the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, all athletes and Team Officials will reside in the Olympic Village. The Olympic Village is located at the foot of the Parnitha Mountain, which is situated in the Municipality of Acharnes. It is 20.4km away from the centre of Athens and covers an area of 1,240,000m².

The Olympic Village will open on 30 July 2004 at 08:00 and will close on 1 September 2004 at 17:00. It will feature two secure zones, the Residential and the International, with controlled access to both areas. Access to the Residential Zone will be restricted to athletes, officials and accredited Village staff. Athletes and Team Officials will be accommodated on a twin-share basis. Each Chef de Mission will be allocated a single room.

Residential Area

Facilities in this area include a number of Resident Centres, each providing a front desk operation and a common area for leisure. The Centres will also provide information on tourism and travel opportunities around Athens, as well as general Village information for residents and guests, including the Village newspaper. Central Laundry facilities will also be provided.

Other facilities include a library, video viewing and reading rooms, an outdoor cinema, an evening club and additional recreational areas, located within the Olympic Village Sport Complex. A Religious Services Centre will be open to all faith groups, with specific facilities for the following: Christianity, Buddhism, Judaism, Islam and Hinduism. A 24-hour Polyclinic will provide sports medical care and emergency medical services as required.

Two dining facilities, the Main dining and the Casual dining, will operate in the Village. The Main dining facility in the Residential Zone will operate 24 hours a day and seat 5,000 people. The Casual dining facility will be located at a different area of the Residential Zone; it will feature outdoor seating, offering an alternative dining solution and will operate from 10:00 to 01:00.

The Sports Information Centre (SIC) will also be located in the Residential Zone. Each sport will have a Sport Information Desk within the SIC.

International Zone

The International Zone includes the main entrance, shopping centres and commercial facilities, such as a bank and a postal service. In this Zone, opportunities for various entertainment and recreational activities will be provided. An internal transit system will operate 24 hours a day in the Olympic Village, connecting all residential quarters, dining halls, the International Zone and the bus interchange via a continuous loop route.

Visitors of the Village, including media and approved NOC guests, will be allowed access to the International Zone of the Village by means of a visitor's pass. NOC Delegations have a daily (limited) quota of visitor passes.

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Weather Conditions

Weather Conditions in Athens

Weather in August: mean daily max/min temperature: 33.2°C / 20.7°C

Weather in September: mean daily max/min temperature: 29.2°C / 17.3°C

Athens is mainly located on the Attica plain. High surface temperatures are often observed in the Athens urban basin during the summer time. Generally, in Attica, the distribution of temperature presents a large spatial variability, due to the existence of urban areas and the proximity of water bodies. Gentle sea breezes contribute to more comfortable temperatures near the coasts, while within the urban centre the surface temperature is much higher. However, the discomfort index has a low value because of the low humidity.

The Ultra Violet (UV) index is at its most intense from 11:00 to 17:00 (local time). The levels of UV index in the Athens area are similar to those occurring generally in Southern Europe or Central USA during the summer and in Sydney during September to October.

During the summer, the Aegean Sea is influenced by strong Northern winds, called the Etesians (Meltemia). Although these local winds affect mainly the Aegean Sea and the islands, they also affect the Athens area. At the East part of Attica, the sea breeze blows from SE to NE directions, while at the West part, the wind conditions are more complicated, as the sea breeze generally blows from S-SW directions.

Summer showers or thunderstorms can occur due to excessive ground heating, often in combination with upper level disturbances and pool of cold air.

There are, on average, two days of showers or thunderstorms during August and four days during September.

Contact Information

Please address any questions on the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games and the Olympic Table Tennis competition primarily to the National Olympic Committee (NOC) in your country; then contact ATHOC at:

NOC Relations & Services

Iolkou 8 & Filikis Eterias
142 34 Nea Ionia
Greece
T +30 210 2004 046
F +30 210 2004 150
e-mail: noc-relations@athens2004.com

Sports Division

Competition Manager; Georgios Seliniotakis
e-mail: GSelino@athens2004.com



Table Tennis

International Federation

International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)

The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) was founded in 1926 and the first World Championships took place in December of the same year. Today, there are more than 190 National Federations - members of ITTF. Some of the objectives of ITTF are the establishment of the rules of Table Tennis, the development and promotion of the sport and the supervision of World and Olympic title competitions.

President: Adham Sharara

Executive Director: Jordi Serra

Contact Details

ITTF Headquarters

Avenue Mon Repos 30

1005 Lausanne

Switzerland

T +41 21 340 7090

F +41 21 340 7099

e-mail: jserra@ittf.com

www.ittf.com

Contact Person: Jordi Serra

e-mail: jserra@ittf.com

National Federation

Hellenic Table Tennis Federation (HTTF)

The National Athletics Federation originally promoted the sport of Table Tennis in Greece during the 1930's. The Hellenic Table Tennis Federation (HTTF) was founded in 1956. Today, the federation counts more than 500 clubs and 21,000 athletes among its members. HTTF has staged such events as the European Youth Championships (1987), the Mediterranean Games (1991), the Olympic Qualification Tournament (1999) and more than ten Balkan Championships.

President: Christos Christodoulatos

Secretary General: Manolis Kolimbadis

Contact Details

Ag. Konstantinou St. 12

104 31 Athens, Greece

T +30 210 5227 103, +30 210 5225 879

F +30 210 5223 455

e-mail: info@httf.gr

www.httf.gr

Sports Division

**Organising Committee
for the Olympic Games
ATHENS 2004
Iolkou 8 & Filikis Eterias
142 34 Nea Ionia, Greece**

**T+30 210 2004 000
F+30 210 2004 004
www.athens2004.com**