

## 2019 ITTF TEAM WORLD CUP PLAYING SYSTEM AND QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

### 1. **NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING TEAMS AND INVITATIONS:**

Number of teams:  
12 per gender

Invitations per gender (\*see Annex 1 for reference):

- 5 continental teams (winner at the last Continental Team Championships)
  - Africa: 2018 African Championships
  - Asia: 2019 Asian Championships
  - Europe: 2019 European Championships
  - Oceania: 2018 Oceania Championships
  - Pan America: 2018 Pan American Championships
- 1 Host Association team
- Runner-up at the Pan Am Championships plus 5 teams, not selected as the continental team or the host, which finished in the highest position at the 2018 World Team Table Tennis Championships (WTTTC).
- For teams which finished equal at the 2018 WTTTC the selection will be decided based on the higher position on the Team World Ranking based on the TWR September 2019.

### 2. **NUMBER OF DAYS:**

- 5 competition days

### 3. **PLAYING SYSTEM:**

- There will be a total 38 matches (19 men + 19 women)
- The seeding for the teams will be based on the latest available Team World Ranking List on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019, 08:00 (GMT +9).
- In the 1st stage the teams will be divided into 4 equal groups, with all the members of a group playing each other, and in the 2nd stage the group winners and runners-up will compete in a knockout.
- For the 1st stage, the highest-ranked team will be placed in Group A, the 2nd highest in Group B, the 3rd highest in Group C and the 4th highest in Group D; the remaining teams will be drawn into the groups 2 at a time in ranking order.
- For the 2nd stage, the winners of Groups A and B will be placed in positions 1 and 8 respectively and the winners of groups C and D will be drawn between positions 4 and 5; the runners-up will be drawn into the remaining places, in opposite halves from the winners of the same groups.
- In the semi-finals, the winner of the 1st quarterfinal will play the winner of the 2nd and the winner of the 3rd will play the winner of the 4th; the winners of the semi-finals will play each other in the final.

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- The tournament will be played in accordance with the Laws of Table Tennis and the Regulations for International Competitions.
- All team matches shall be played on the new **Olympic Playing System** with a maximum of 4 singles and 1 doubles. Order of matches: BC vs YZ; A vs X; C vs Z; A vs Y; B vs X
- All individual matches of a team match shall be the best of 5 games.

#### 4. **SUBSTITUTIONS:**

- Substitutions before the entry closing date shall be as per entry regulations.
- If the Continental Champion is not available or withdraws, the runner-up team of the Continental Championships shall be invited.
- If the host team is not available or withdraws, they shall be replaced by the next highest ranked team of the 2018 WTTTC.
- If any other team is not available or withdraws, they shall be replaced by the next highest ranked team of the 2018 WTTTC.
- Substitutions after the entry closing date shall be decided by the ITTF.

**Zena Sim**  
Head of World Cups  
& ITTF Challenge

**Graeme Ireland**  
ITTF Technical Commissioner

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### Annex 1

No.	Qualifying as
1	Continental Championships Winner (Africa)
2	Continental Championships Winner (Asia)
3	Continental Championships Winner (Europe)
4	Continental Championships Winner (Oceania)
5	Continental Championships Winner (Pan America)
6	Continental Championships Runner-up (Pan America)
7	Host Association team / Highest finisher at 2018 WTTC
8	Highest finisher at 2018 WTTC
9	Highest finisher at 2018 WTTC
10	Highest finisher at 2018 WTTC
11	Highest finisher at 2018 WTTC
12	Highest finisher at 2018 WTTC