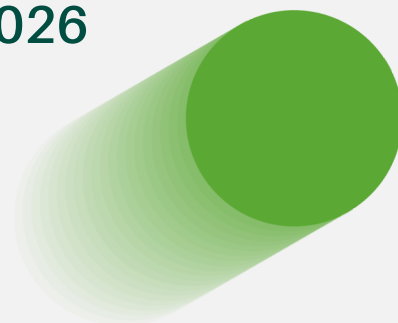




PLAYING SYSTEM

ITTF World Team Table Tennis Championships
Finals - London 2026



ITTF WORLD TEAM TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS FINALS - London 2026

COMPETITION DETAILS

1. STRUCTURE

- 1.1 There will be a total of 64 teams of each gender, with 16 Groups of 4 teams in Stage 1, separated as follows into Stage 1a and Stage 1b, followed by a Preliminary Round and the Main Draw.

2. PLAYING SYSTEM

- 2.1 The playing system will be as follows:
Each group of 4 teams shall play a complete round robin competition (3 matches per team).

Stage 1a

The top 7 ranked teams plus the host (8 teams total) will be drawn into 2 groups (Group 1 and Group 2) using a modified snake system, 2 at a time. The purpose of this Stage is to determine seedings for the Main Draw, and all teams from this Stage will progress to the Main Draw.

Stage 1b

The remaining 56 teams will be drawn into 14 groups (Groups 3 – 16) using a modified snake system, 3 or 4 at a time (see diagram below).

The order of play and the scheduling of the matches will be prepared in such a way as to avoid, whenever possible, the possibility of predetermining results. All final round matches must be significant for each competing team.

Stage 2

(see diagram below)

Following the completion of Stage 1a and Stage 1b, all teams from Stage 1a (8 teams) and the top team in each group from Stage 1b (14 teams) will progress directly to the Main Draw. Six (6) second-placed teams will also qualify directly to the Main Draw depending on their results from Stage 1b, with selection based on the best ratio of wins to losses first in team matches, then individual matches, then games and points, as far as is necessary to resolve the order. The remaining eight (8) second-placed teams from Stage 1b will play a single Preliminary Round knockout drawn at random (4 matches), with the 4 winners progressing to the Main Draw.

The teams from Stage 1a (8 teams) will be drawn into seeded positions - winner of Group 1 seeded 1st (position 1), winner of Group 2 seeded 2nd (position 32), second-placed teams drawn into positions 16 and 17, third-placed teams drawn into positions 9 and 24, fourth-placed teams drawn into positions 8 and 25.

The winners from Groups 3 - 10 will be drawn into remaining seeded positions 4, 5, 12, 13, 20, 21, 28 and 29. The winners of Groups 11-16 will then be drawn to positions 6, 11, 14, 19, 22 and 27. The second-placed teams who progressed to the Main Draw will be drawn into positions 2, 3, 7, 10, 15, 18, 23, 26, 30 and 31. Teams having played against each other in Stage 1b shall not meet again in the first round of the Main Draw.



3. SEEDING AND RANKING

- 3.1 Seeding shall be done as follows:
(see diagram below)

Stage 1a

- 3.1.1 Teams Ranked 1 and 2 shall be seeded as top of each group in number order.
- 3.1.2 Remaining teams will be drawn two-by-two using the modified snake system until all groups are complete.

Stage 1b

- 3.1.3 Teams Ranked 9 - 22 shall be seeded as top of each group in number order.
- 3.1.4 Teams ranked 23 - 26 shall be drawn in Groups 13 - 16,
- 3.1.5 Teams ranked 27 - 30 shall be drawn in Groups 9 - 12,
- 3.1.6 Teams ranked 31 - 33 shall be drawn in Groups 6 - 8,
- 3.1.7 Teams ranked 34 - 36 shall be drawn in Groups 3 - 5.
- 3.1.8 Remaining teams will be drawn similarly three or four at a time using the modified snake system until all groups are complete.

- 3.2 The WTR, which will be used for the for the draws shall be the last WTR before the draw.



Groups

Stage 1a		Stage 1b													
G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6	G7	G8	G9	G10	G11	G12	G13	G14	G15	G16
1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
(4 , 3)		(36, 35, 34)			(33, 32, 31)			(30, 29, 28, 27)				(26, 25, 24, 23)			
(5 , 6)		(37, 38, 39)			(40, 41, 42)			(43, 44, 45, 46)				(47, 48, 49, 50)			
(8 , 7)		(64, 63, 62)			(61, 60, 59)			(58, 57, 56, 55)				(54, 53, 52, 51)			

Preliminary Round

1	Second G3-G16
2	Second G3-G16
3	Second G3-G16
4	Second G3-G16

Main Draw

1	Winner G1
2	2nd G3-G16
3	2nd G3-G16
4	1st G3-G10
5	1st G3-G10
6	1st G11-G16
7	2nd G3-G16
8	4th G1/G2
9	3rd G1/G2
10	2nd G3-G16
11	1st G11-G16
12	1st G3-G10
13	1st G3-G10
14	1st G11-G16
15	2nd G3-G16
16	2nd G1/G2
17	2nd G1/G2
18	2nd G3-G16
19	1st G11-G16
20	1st G3-G10
21	1st G3-G10
22	1st G11-G16
23	2nd G3-G16
24	3rd G1/G2
25	4th G1/G2
26	2nd G3-G16
27	1st G11-G16
28	1st G3-G10
29	1st G3-G10
30	2nd G3-G16
31	2nd G3-G16
32	Winner G2

Matches Summary

MT WT

Copper Box

Grps	84	84		168	176
Prel	4	4		8	
Wembley					
Seed	12	12		24	86
R32	16	16		32	
R16	8	8		16	
QF	4	4		8	
SF	2	2		4	
Final	1	1		2	
Total Matches					262



Apr 28 - May 1 @ Copper Box

Copper Box

28-Apr-26 29-Apr-26 30-Apr-26	10:00	12 tables	MT/WT Stage 1b groups
	13:00	12 tables	MT/WT Stage 1b groups
	17:00	12 tables	MT/WT Stage 1b groups
	20:00	12 tables	MT/WT Stage 1b groups
01-May-26	10:00	12 tables	MT/WT Stage 1b groups
	13:00	12 tables	WT Stage 1b groups
	17:00	4 tables	MT Preliminary Round
	20:00	4 tables	WT Preliminary Round

May 2 - May 10 @ Wembley Arena

Wembley Arena

02-May-26	10:00	4 tables	MT/WT Stage 1a Groups - R1
	13:00	4 tables	MT/WT Stage 1a Groups - R1
	17:00	4 tables	MT/WT Stage 1a Groups R2
	20:00	4 tables	MT/WT Stage 1a Groups R2
03-May-26	10:00	4 tables	MT/WT Stage 1a Groups R3
	13:00	4 tables	MT/WT Stage 1a Groups R3
04-May-26	10:00	4 tables	MT/WT - R32
	13:00	4 tables	MT/WT - R32
	17:00	4 tables	MT/WT - R32
	20:00	4 tables	MT/WT - R32
05-May-26	10:00	4 tables	MT/WT - R32
	13:00	4 tables	MT/WT - R32
	17:00	4 tables	MT/WT - R32
	20:00	4 tables	MT/WT - R32
06-May-26	10:00	4 tables	MT/WT - R16
	13:00	4 tables	MT/WT - R16
	17:00	4 tables	MT/WT - R16
	20:00	4 tables	MT/WT - R16
07-May-26	10:00	2 tables	MT/WT - QF
	13:00	2 tables	MT/WT - QF
	17:00	1 table	WT - QF
	20:00	1 table	WT - QF
08-May-26	10:00	1 table	MT - QF
	13:00	1 table	MT - QF
	17:00	1 table	WT - SF
	20:00	1 table	WT - SF
09-May-26	10:00	1 table	MT - SF
	13:00	1 table	WT - F
	17:00	1 table	MT - SF
10-May-26	13:00	1 table	MT - F

The event order is to be confirmed with the London Organizing Committee!



DISCLAIMER

Users acknowledge and accept that, while the document represents the current position of ITTF on such matters, information may evolve as a result of policy, operational, regulatory, technological, and other changes.

ITTF reserves the right to amend or supplement the document from time to time, as ITTF may consider to be in the best interests of the WTTTC Finals, and users agree to implement any such changes made and notified by ITTF in this regard.

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