



## **SINGAPORE TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

### **SELECTION POLICY FOR JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT SQUAD (JDS) (with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018)**

#### **1 OBJECTIVE**

To select elite players below the age of 12 into STTA Junior Development Squad (JDS) for further grooming into champions of tomorrow.

#### **2 ELIGIBILITY**

- a. Athlete must be a Singapore Citizen,
- b. No previous suspension record with STTA,
- c. No outstanding dues with STTA

#### **3 DEFINITION**

Hereafter, the following definitions shall apply throughout the document.

- 8 years old refers to any child whose birth date falls between 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2010 and 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2010, start and end dates inclusive,
- 9 years old refers to any child whose birth date falls between 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2009 and 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2009, start and end dates inclusive,
- 10 years old refers to any child whose birth date falls between 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2008 and 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2008, start and end dates inclusive, and
- 11 years old refers to any child whose birth date falls between 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2007 and 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2007, start and end dates inclusive.
- JDS PUP refers to JDS Player under probation.
- ZTC refers to STTA Zone Training Centre and its Table Tennis training program.

## 4 PROGRESSION INTO JDS VIA ZTC

### 4.1 Selection of 9 years old ZTC players for Inter ZTC Selection Trial for progression into JDS.

**Objective:** To select the top 10 players of each gender from the 9 years old group for progression into JDS.

4.1.1 In addition to meeting the criteria as stated in paragraph 2, ZTC players must also adhere to the following criteria to be eligible to take part in the Inter ZTC Selection Trial:

- i) ZTC Player must be enrolled in the same STTA ZTC for at least **12** continuous months before the selection trial.
- ii) ZTC Players are required to train 3 times a week in the 6 months duration (1<sup>st</sup> February 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018) before the selection trial, and a minimum attendance of 80% have to be met. For example, in the 6 months of 24 weeks, players are expected to fulfil 20 weeks of 3 trainings per week.

4.1.2 Valid reasons of absence include medical leave, illness, injuries, school exams, overseas holiday and other reasons to be evaluated on a case by case basis. Relevant documents have to be submitted to coaches within 30 days of absence. STTA's decision on whether to accept the reason as valid shall be final.

4.1.3 The timeline for the Inter ZTC Selection Trial for progression into JDS for 9 years old is as follows:

Month	Details	Format of Play	Remarks
August	<b>Round 1</b>  All eligible 9 years old players from the STTA ZTCs will be invited to participate in the selection trial within their ZTC.	The selection trial will be played in round-robin format, and all games will be played to the best of 5.	Results and scores will be tabulated and will be taken into consideration for the final score
September/ October	<b>Round 2</b>  All eligible 9 years old players from the STTA ZTCs will be	The selection trial will be played in round-robin format, and all games will	Results and scores from Round 1 and Round 2 will be tabulated.

	invited to participate in the selection trials across different ZTCs.	be played to the best of 5	The top 16 boys and 16 girls will be invited to the final round.
November/ December	<b>Final round</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Top 16 players,</li> <li>- JDS PUP of 9 years old and younger age group will compete in the final round.</li> </ul>	The selection trial will be played in round-robin format, and all games will be played to the best of 5	<p>The top 10 male and 10 female players will be invited to JDS as full-fledged player.</p> <p>JDS PUP who fails to reach top 10 in <u>this</u> Final Round has to leave the JDS squad by the end of the month. The player may choose to re-join his/her respective ZTC.</p>

#### 4.2 Selection Criteria for 10 years old ZTC players for Inter ZTC Selection Trial for progression into JDS

**Objective:** To select the top 2 from each gender of the 10 years old ZTC players for progression into JDS.

4.2.1 In addition to meeting the criteria as stated in paragraph 2, the ZTC players must also adhere to the following criteria:

- i) ZTC Player, except JDS PUP players who re-join ZTC after failing to qualify as JDS full-fledged player in the immediate previous year, must be enrolled in the same STTA ZTC for at least 12 continuous months immediately before the selection trial.

- ii) ZTC Players are required to train 3 times a week in the 6 months duration (1<sup>st</sup> February 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018) before the selection trial, and a minimum attendance of 80% have to be met. For example, in the 6 months of 24 weeks, players are expected to fulfil 20 weeks of 3 trainings per week.

4.2.2 Valid reasons of absence include medical leave, illness, injuries, school exams, overseas holiday and other reasons to be evaluated on a case by case basis. Relevant documents have to be submitted to coaches within 30 days of absence. STTA's decision on whether to accept the reason as valid shall be final.

4.2.3 The timeline for the Inter ZTC Selection Trial for progression into JDS for 10 years old is as follows:

Month	Details	Format of Play	Remarks
May to June	<p><b>Round 1</b></p> <p>Eligible 10 years old players will be invited via SMS or/and email to the internal selection trial within their ZTC.</p>	The selection trial will be played in round-robin format, and all games will be played to the best of 5	Players who achieved Top 2 from each ZTC will qualify for the final round.
July to August:	<p><b>Final Round</b></p> <p>The Top 2 from each ZTCs will join the JDS PUP from the 10 years old age group.</p>	The selection trial will be played in the round-robin format, and all games will be played to the best of 5.	<p>Only the final top 2 will be selected into the JDS as full-fledged player.</p> <p>JDS PUP who fails to reach top 2 in <u>this</u> Final Round has to leave the JDS squad by the end of the month. The player may choose to re-join his/her respective ZTC.</p>

## 5 Selection Criteria for 11 years old players for progression into JDS

**Objective:** To select the top 2 from each gender of the 11 years old ZTC players for progression into JDS.

### 5.1 Selection Criteria and Process for 11 years old ZTC players

- i) ZTC Player, except JDS PUP players who re-join ZTC after failing to qualify as JDS full-fledged player in the immediate previous year, must be enrolled in the same STTA ZTC for at least **12** continuous months immediately before the selection trial.
- ii) ZTC Players are required to train 3 times a week in the 6 months duration (1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017) before the selection trial, and a minimum attendance of 80% have to be met. For example, in the 6 months of 24 weeks, players are expected to fulfil 20 weeks of 3 trainings per week.
- iii) Valid reasons of absence include medical leave, illness, injuries, school exams, overseas holiday and other reasons to be evaluated on a case by case basis. Relevant documents have to be submitted to coaches within 30 days of absence. STTA's decision on whether to accept the reason as valid shall be final.
- iv) The timeline for the Inter ZTC Selection Trial for progression into JDS for 11 years old is as follows:

Month	Details	Format of Play	Remarks
Jan to Feb	Eligible 11 years old players from ZTC will be invited via SMS or/and email.	The selection trial will be played in round-robin format, and all games will be played to the best of 5.	The top 2 will be selected into the JDS as full-fledged player.

- 5.2 In addition to meeting the criteria as stated in paragraph 2, 11 years old players who achieved Top 4 in the Under-12 Singles category in the following STTA co-organised tournaments in the same year will be invited to the JDS as full-fledged player:.

Tournaments:

- i) SAFRA-STTA Table Tennis Championships
- ii) Dr. Ng Eng Hen – STTA Table Tennis Championships
- iii) Dr. Lee Bee Wah Cup – STTA Table Tennis Championships

## **6 PROGRESSION INTO JDS VIA CHAR YONG NATIONAL YOUTH TOP 10 TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT 2018**

- 6.1 The Champion of the Char Yong National Youth Top 10 Table Tennis Tournament 2018 (9 and Under category) will be invited to the JDS team as a full-pledged player with effect from-January 2019.
- 6.2 A ZTC player who emerges second in the Char Yong National Youth Top 10 Table Tennis Tournament 2018 (9 and Under category) will be invited to the JDS team with effect from January 2019 as a JDS player under probation (JDS PUP).
- 6.3 A non-ZTC player who emerges second in the Char Yong National Youth Top 10 Table Tennis Tournament 2018 (9 and Under category) will only be eligible to be invited for their respective age group Inter ZTC Selection Trial for progression into JDS in the year 2019 .

## **7 JDS PLAYER UNDER PROBATION (JDS PUP) PROGRESSION TO FULL-FLEDGED PLAYER**

**Objective: To set down the criteria for JDS PUP for progression into JDS as full-fledged player**

- 7.1 In addition to meeting the criteria as stated in paragraph 2, JDS PUP need to fulfil a minimum of required sessions of training a week when they are selected into the squad. They are required to maintain their attendance before the selection trials unless with valid reasons, as stated in the Terms & Conditions for JDS (refer to paragraph 2.3).
- 7.2 All JDS PUP aged 9 or younger are required to participate in the Final Round of the Inter ZTC Selection Trial to be scheduled in November/December. If the player reaches top 10 in the Final Round of the selection trial, he/she will be invited to join JDS as a full-fledged player. If the player fails to reach top 10 in the Final Round of the selection trial, he/she will be required to leave JDS by the end of the month. The player may choose to re-join his/her respective ZTC.
- 7.3 All JDS PUP aged 10 are required to participate in the final round of the Inter ZTC Selection Trial to be scheduled in July/August. If the player reaches top 2 in the Final Round of this selection trial, he/she will be invited to join JDS as full-fledged player. If the player fails to reach top 2 in the Final Round of this selection trial, he/she will be required to leave JDS by the end of the month. The player may choose to re-join his/her respective ZTC.

## **8 SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE INTER ZTC SELECTION TRIAL FOR PROGRESSION INTO JDS**

- 8.1 Players who are late for more than 15 minutes from the stipulated time for the selection trials will not be allowed to play the selection trials.
- 8.2 Any player who deliberately loses in any game so that another player can qualify will be immediately disqualified from the selection trials. All players involved will also be referred to the STTA Disciplinary Committee (DC) for investigation and face further action, including expulsion if warranted.
- 8.3 Players who exhibit unsporting behavior (e.g. using vulgar/abusive language during matches, verbal abuse of tournament officials or opponents) will be instantly disqualified from competing in the selection trials.
- 8.4 Players must comply with the rules and regulations of the selection trials, or be disqualified from the selection trials.
- 8.5 Absenteeism for any match in the selection trials shall be deemed as a

walk-over. There will be no re-match for any reasons, including but not limited to medical leave, examinations, etc. The results of the selection trials will be final.

8.6 The STTA has the absolute right and sole discretion to make any revisions of the terms and conditions at any time.

8.7 All information will be considered to have been communicated to all relevant parties when STTA posts the information on the STTA website and/or sends the information via email. STTA will not be responsible for any consequences if the information is not received or acknowledged by the relevant party.

## **9 OTHER CONDITIONS**

9.1 By taking part in the STTA JDS Selection, the parent(s) and legal guardian(s) for and on behalf of the athlete irrevocably agree to:

- Grant STTA permission to use their child's images for promotional or publicities purposes,
- Grant STTA permission to publish their child's name and results on STTA website and other form of media,
- Indemnify STTA against all loss of property or personal injury or death,
- Accept that STTA has the absolute right and sole discretion to make any revision to the Selection Policy without prior notice,
- Accept that all decisions of STTA are final, and
- Accept and will abide by the terms and conditions of the JDS programme

*Approved by the STTA Management Committee on 12 September 2017*