



## 2008 U.S. Olympic/National Team Trials & Qualifying Tournament

### PROSPECTUS

#### DATE and PLACE

The tournament will be held from January 10 to January 13, 2008.

Drexel University Campus,  
John A. Daskalakis Athletic Center  
Philadelphia, PA.

#### EVENTS

- Men's singles
- Women's singles

#### SCHEDULE:

The Hall will be open for practice starting January 9, 2008 evening. The exact time will be posted on USATT webpage in due time.

#### *January 10, 2008 – Qualifying tournament*

Playing format & schedule TBD\* based on the final number of entries.

\* If there are five or fewer entrants per gender, a round robin group will be held. The top two finishers will advance.

\* If there are 6-8 entries per gender, two round robin groups with crossovers will be held. The winners of crossover matches will advance.

\* If there are nine or more entrants per gender, a Single Elimination event will be conducted. The finalists will advance.

*Each match will be played best of seven games.*

#### *January 11-13, 2008 – US Trials*

Giant round robin competition of 12 athletes/ gender in which each athlete will compete against every other athlete.

#### *Tentative playing schedule:*

##### *January 11, 2008*

- 10:00 AM - Women's singles 1<sup>st</sup> round
- 10:45 AM - Men's singles 1<sup>st</sup> round
- 11:30 AM - Women's singles 2<sup>nd</sup> round
- 12:15 PM - Men's singles 2<sup>nd</sup> round
- 4:00 PM - Women's singles 3<sup>rd</sup> round
- 4:45 PM - Men's singles 3<sup>rd</sup> round
- 5:30 PM - Women's singles 4<sup>th</sup> round
- 6:15 PM - Men's singles 4<sup>th</sup> round

##### *January 12, 2008*

- 10:00 AM - Women's singles 5<sup>th</sup> round
- 10:45 AM - Men's singles 5<sup>th</sup> round
- 11:30 AM - Women's singles 6<sup>th</sup> round

- 12:15 PM - Men's singles 6<sup>th</sup> round
- 4:00 PM - Women's singles 7<sup>th</sup> round
- 4:45 PM- Men's singles 7<sup>th</sup> round
- 5:30 PM- Women's singles 8<sup>th</sup> round
- 6:15 PM- Men's singles 8<sup>th</sup> round
  
- *January 13, 2008*
- 9:30 AM - Women's singles 9<sup>th</sup> round
- 10:15AM- Men's singles 9<sup>th</sup> round
- 11:00 AM - Women's singles 10<sup>th</sup> round
- 11:45 AM - Men's singles 10<sup>th</sup> round
- 12:30 PM - Women's singles 11<sup>th</sup> round
- 1:15 PM - Men's singles 11<sup>th</sup> round

*Each match will be played best of seven games.*

**RULES:** The tournament will be conducted in accordance with ITTF Rules and Regulations.

**EQUIPMENT:**

The following equipment will be used:

Tables: **JOOLA**

Balls: **Nittaku (white)**

Floor: **wooden/floor mat**

**ELIGIBILITY:**

?? Athletes must be citizens of the United States and eligible under the international rules of the IOC.

Proof of Citizenship

If any of the athletes, male or female, are not U.S. citizens as of December 1, 2007, they may petition USATT in writing by December 10, 2007, to be considered for participation in the 2008 U.S. Trials or the 2008 U.S. Trial Qualifying Tournament (notification must be received by USATT National Office by December 10, 2007). The notification must include copies of official documentation that demonstrates the petitioner's initiation of the USA citizenship process as well as a timeline of the anticipated "swearing in" date.

The athletes will be notified in writing by December 20, 2007, of their pre-approval for invitation to participate in the 2008 U.S. Trials or the 2008 U.S. Trials Qualifying Tournament and consideration for nomination to the 2008 Olympic Team, or their denial of such.

Final approval of an athlete's request to compete in the 2008 U.S. Trials or the 2008 U.S. Trials Qualifying Tournament will be contingent upon his/her proof of U.S. citizenship by the date of the Official Draw, which will occur three days prior to the commencement of the 2008 U.S. Trials or the 2008 U.S. Trials Qualifying Tournament.

?? Athletes must be members of USA Table Tennis (USATT).

**FEES:** - \$200/athlete (refundable to the top 4 finishers/gender at 2008 US Trials).

The entries will be accepted only if include:

- Player's name, address, telephone number, entry fee, signed waiver and proof of citizenship.

**SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES:** Entries must be received at the USATT office by and no later than **December 22, 2007**.

Mail entry form, proof of citizenship, entry fee and signed waiver to:

**USA Table Tennis  
ATTN: Joyce Grooms  
1 Olympic Plaza  
Colorado Springs, CO- 80909**

**RATINGS:**

For seeding and draw purpose most current USATT ratings as of the date of the draw will be used.

Note: The January 1, 2008 USATT Ranking will be used to invite the top 10 players/gender at the US Trials.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Taxi vouchers will be given to all players flying in for the event. Parking will be provided to all players arriving by car.

**CANCELLATION:**

Reimbursement of cancellation will be done upon request only if the cancellation has been announced before December 31, 2007.

**OFFICIAL HOTEL\***

**Sheraton University City** – 0.1 mile to the venue  
36<sup>th</sup> & Chestnut Streets  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

*\* Top 10 athletes /gender qualified to the Trials + top 2 finishers/gender at the Qualifying tournament will receive free accommodation for 4 nights.*

**ORGANIZERS:**

**USATT & Drexel University**

**TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN:**

Bob Fox  
2008 Olympic Games Team Leader

**TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR:**

Richard Lee  
North American Table Tennis President

**TOURNAMENT MANAGER:**

Dan Simmons  
Assistant Athletic Director, Drexel University

**TOURNAMENT REFEREE:**

Larry Kesler

**2008 U.S. Trials**

- The top ten USATT ranked male and female athletes as of January 1, 2008 will be invited to the U.S. Trials.
- The top two finishers per gender at the 2008 U.S. Olympic Qualification Tournament will qualify for the remaining two spots per gender at the 2008 U.S. Trials.

**Qualifying to the North American Trials**

The top four finishers/gender at the 2008 US Trials will participate at the North American Trials to be held April 4-6, 2008 in Vancouver, Canada.

**Qualifying to the 2008 World Team Championships**

The Worlds' Teams will be selected based on the following criteria/order:

- Players qualified to the 2008 Olympics through the 2007 Pan Am Games.
- Athletes qualified to the 2008 Olympics through the January 2008 ITTF World Ranking.

- Top finishers at the 2008 US Trials.

The size of the team will be 5 (five) athletes/gender. USATT will fully fund 4 athletes/gender and the 5<sup>th</sup> athlete/gender will be responsible for his/her own expenses.

## **Qualifying to the 2008 Olympic Games**

### **Men's and Women's singles- Maximum 3 athletes/gender/NOC**

An athlete may qualify as a member of the 2008 Olympic team through the following criteria/events listed in priority order, until the U.S. fills all eligible slots, up to 3 athletes per gender:

- 1) Automatic qualification for the Gold Medalist in Men's and Women's Singles from the 2007 Pan American Games.
- 2) Automatic qualification for the top 20 players in the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) World Ranking published January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 with a maximum of 2 players/gender/NOC per ITTF Qualification criteria. If there are more than two USATT top 20 ranked athletes, the two eligible, highest ranked per gender will earn the automatic qualification.
- 3) Qualification through the 2008 North American Trials, to be held April 4-6, 2008 in Vancouver, Canada. Top four finishers/gender at the 2008 US Trials will participate at the 2008 North American Trials.
- 4) Qualification through the ITTF World Qualification Tournament – 8-11 May 2008, Budapest, Hungary. Per ITTF Qualification Criteria the USA may be entitled to enter athletes in singles events to compete at the World Qualification Tournament. If USATT has remaining slots available, they will select the number of athletes allowed to participate in the World Qualification Tournament in rank order from the NA Trials (first priority) then proceeding to selection from the U.S Trials in rank order (second priority.) Athletes will be required to pay all expenses associated with attending the World Qualification Tournament.

If the USA fills its maximum number of entries through qualifying as the Gold Medalist at the 2007 Pan Am Games, and the ITTF World Ranking and/or through the NA Trials, the USA will not be eligible to nominate athletes to participate at the ITTF World Qualification Tournament.

### **Men's and Women's Team- Maximum one team/gender/NOC**

Athletes qualified in singles will form the US Team according to ITTF Qualification Criteria.

If the USA qualifies less than 3 athletes/per gender in Singles events, and if the U.S. qualifies for the Team event, the team may be formed with athletes who are already qualified in Singles plus the next athlete(s) per gender, according to the finishing order at the NA Trials.