

1. PARTICIPANTS

- 1.1. There shall be twenty (20) players qualified for the World Cup*.
- 1.2. The current World Champion shall be automatically qualified.
- 1.3. Seventeen (17) additional players shall qualify through the Continental Cups and via the ITTF World Ranking if all qualification events are not held.
- 1.4. If no players qualify from the host association through items 1.2 or 1.3 above, then a host association player shall be nominated by his or her association.
- 1.5. If a host association player is already qualified through items 1.2 or 1.3 above, then an additional player shall be added from the Continental Cups and via the ITTF World Ranking if all qualification events are not held.
- 1.6. The ITTF shall select a Wild Card direct entry to complete the field of twenty (20) players*.
- 1.7. There shall not be more than 2 players from an Association.

2. CONTINENTAL QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

- 2.1. Each continent shall have a Continental Cup (or equivalent type of event) at least two (2) months prior to the World Cup date.
- 2.2. The winner of each Continental Cup, plus the second (2nd) and third (3rd) highest finishers from Asia and Europe and the second (2nd) highest finisher from Pan America shall qualify, for a total of ten (10) players.
- 2.3. Seven (7) additional players shall be selected from the Continental Cups based on their order of finishing and their World Ranking:
 - 2.3.1. The highest ranked player amongst players finishing second (2nd) in Africa and Oceania, third (3rd) in Pan America, and fourth (4th) in Asia and Europe, shall be selected.
 - 2.3.2. The highest ranked next player from the remaining players in the topmost place on the qualifying positions from each Continental Cup, shall be selected, and so on, until the seven (7) players are selected, or eight (8) players if the host association player has already qualified.
- 2.4. The Continental Cups (or their equivalent) should play-off all positions in order if possible, or at least the top four (4) positions in Africa, Pan America and Oceania, as well as the top eight (8) positions in Asia and Europe. All players in Continental Cups are eligible to be selected according to their order of finish.
- 2.5. If all positions are not played off, or at least as indicated in item 2.4 above, then for equal positions, beyond the played-off positions, the highest ranked player shall be selected (example 5-8 positions, 9-10, 9-12, 13-16, 9-16, etc.).
- 2.6. The latest available World Ranking on the date of publication of the initial invitations shall be used for selecting the qualified players.
- 2.7. Due to the uncertainty that COVID-19 has caused, the Asian and Oceania Cups have been postponed until further notice. In the event that the Asian and/or Oceania Cups have not been completed before 31 August 2020 or two months before the respective World Cups, whichever is closer to the event, the below qualification method will apply for the remaining 17 players (other than 1.2, 1.4 and 1.6):
 - 2.7.1 The top 3 ranked players from the Asian Cup players list published on the 2020 Asian Cup [prospectus](#), with respect to the limit of 2 players per Association, according to the latest available ITTF World Ranking will qualify, for a total of 3 players. Should the relevant event be completed the winner of the Asian Cup, plus the second (2nd) and third (3rd) highest finishers shall qualify, for a total of 3 players.

- 2.7.2. The winner of the Europe Cup, plus the second (2nd) and third (3rd) highest finishers shall qualify, for a total of 3 players.
- 2.7.3. The winner of the Pan America Cup, plus the second (2nd) highest finisher shall qualify, for a total of 2 players.
- 2.7.4. The winner of the Africa Cup shall qualify, a total of 1 player.
- 2.7.5. The top ranked player from Oceania according to the latest available ITTF World Ranking will qualify, for a total of 1 player. Should the relevant event be completed the winner of the Oceania Cup will qualify, for a total of 1 player.
- 2.7.6. The remaining seven (7) players, or eight (8) players if the host association player has already qualified, shall be selected among players from all continents from the players in the topmost place on the qualifying positions from each Continental Cup and for the continents where the Continental Cup did not take place based on the WR (for Asia only considering the Asian Cup players list). The selection will apply with respect to the limit of 2 players per Association and points 2.4, 2.5, 2.6. There shall be a limitation of not more than 4 (if 7 spots) or 5 (if 8 spots) players from the same continent.

3. SUBSTITUTIONS

- 3.1. Substitutions before the entry closing date shall be as per entry regulations.
- 3.2. If the World Champion is not available or withdraws, he or she shall be replaced by the next eligible player from the reserve players list.
- 3.3. If the host association player is not available or withdraws, he or she shall be replaced by another host association player nominated by the host association.
- 3.4. If the Wild Card player is not available or withdraws, he or she shall be replaced by another Wild Card player selected by the ITTF.
- 3.5. If any other player is not available or withdraws, he or she shall be replaced by the next eligible player from the reserve players list.
- 3.6. Substitutions after the entry closing date shall be decided by the ITTF with no requirement to participate at the Continental Cups.

If the Men's and/or Women's World Cups are postponed due to COVID-19, or have to take place with certain restrictions, the qualification system will be subject to further changes.

Zena Sim

Head of World Cups & ITTF Challenge

Graeme Ireland

Technical Commissioner

****Update as per EC meeting on 20th September:***

The ITTF Executive Committee decided to allow more flexibility for the entry procedure, increasing the quota to 21 players per event, due to the timelines afforded to the players to enter the events and certain changes to the conditions of the event series, as well as last-minute changes to some league matches.

No.	Qualifying as
1	World Champion
2	Africa Cup Winner
3	Asian Cup Winner
4	Europe Cup Winner
5	Pan America Cup Winner
6	Oceania Cup Winner
7	Asian Cup 2 nd Place
8	Asian Cup 3 rd Place
9	Europe Cup 2 nd Place
10	Europe Cup 3 rd Place
11	Pan America Cup 2 nd Place
12	Continental Cups' order of finishing & World Ranking
13	Continental Cups' order of finishing & World Ranking
14	Continental Cups' order of finishing & World Ranking
15	Continental Cups' order of finishing & World Ranking
16	Continental Cups' order of finishing & World Ranking
17	Continental Cups' order of finishing & World Ranking
18	Continental Cups' order of finishing & World Ranking
19	Host Association OR Continental Cups' order of finishing & World Ranking
20	Wild Card

Notes:

- **Table:** This is just a brief summary of how the 20 positions are filled. Details in the qualification methods are described in point 1 and 2.
- **Continental Cups' order of finishing & World Ranking:** Details of method as described under point 2.
- **Host Association:** if already qualified otherwise the position is filled by the Continental Cups' order of finishing & World Ranking.
- **Number of players from the same Association:** There shall not be more than 2 players from the same Association.

In the event that the Asian and/or Oceania Cup have not been held before 31 August 2020 or two months before the respective World Cups, whichever is closer to the event, the below qualification method will apply:

No.	Qualifying as
1	World Champion
2	Africa Cup Winner
3	Europe Cup Winner
4	Pan America Cup Winner
5	World Ranking - Highest Ranked Oceania Player 1
6	World Ranking - Highest Ranked Asia Player 1 from the Asian Cup Players List
7	World Ranking - Highest Ranked Asia Player 2 from the Asian Cup Players List
8	World Ranking - Highest Ranked Asia Player 3 from the Asian Cup Players List
9	Europe Cup 2 nd Place
10	Europe Cup 3 rd Place
11	Pan America Cup 2 nd Place
12	Continental Cups' order of finishing and/or World Ranking
13	Continental Cups' order of finishing and/or World Ranking
14	Continental Cups' order of finishing and/or World Ranking
15	Continental Cups' order of finishing and/or World Ranking
16	Continental Cups' order of finishing and/or World Ranking
17	Continental Cups' order of finishing and/or World Ranking
18	Continental Cups' order of finishing and/or World Ranking
19	Host Association OR Continental Cups' order of finishing and/or World Ranking
20	Wild Card

Notes:

- **Table:** This is just a brief summary of how the 20 positions are filled. Details in the qualification methods are described in point 1 and 2.
- **World Ranking:** Details of method as described under point 2.
- **Host Association:** if already qualified otherwise then the position is filled by the Continental Cups' order of finishing & World Ranking.
- **Number of players from the same Association:** There shall not be more than 2 players from the same Association

If the Men's and/or Women's World Cups are being postponed for long time due to COVID-19 or have to take place with certain restrictions, the qualification system will be subject to further changes.

Update as per EC meeting on 20th September:

The ITTF Executive Committee decided to allow more flexibility for the entry procedure, increasing the quota to 21 players per event, due to the timelines



afforded to the players to enter the events and certain changes to the conditions of the event series, as well as last-minute changes to some league matches.