



2005 Australian Deaflympic Team

20th Deaflympic Games - Melbourne 2005

Table Tennis Fact Sheet

1. MELBOURNE 2005 DEAFLYMPIC GAMES

The Deaflympic Games, under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee, is the second oldest multi sport and cultural festival on earth with a long and proud history since the Inaugural Games in Paris in 1924. Held every four years, the Deaflympics are recognised as the major sporting and cultural event within the worldwide deaf community.

Deaf Sports Australia (DSA) will host the 20th Deaflympic Games in Melbourne. To be held between 5th and 16th January 2005, arrival and lighting of the Official Deaflympic torch will set the scene for 12 days of elite sports and cultural events.

2. DSA TABLE TENNIS PROGRAM

Melbourne will signify the first time Australia has participated in the Table Tennis competition at the Deaflympics. It is expected that the team will be inexperienced, however the opportunity to represent Australia will encourage a fighting spirit to be competitive against the strong Asian countries.

3. COMPETITION VENUE

The Table Tennis competition will take place at the "Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre" (MSAC). MSAC is situated within the beautiful parklands of Albert Park, only a 10 minutes tram ride from the heart of Melbourne's CBD. The centre will host eight of the sports participating at the Games.

For Table Tennis, MSAC has 15 international courts, plus three tables in the show court, with a seating capacity of 2000 people.

4. TRAINING VENUES

The training venue is the same as the competition venue. Other stadiums may also be available for training.

5. EQUIPMENT & REGULATIONS

All equipment and competition regulations will comply with the ITTF Rules.

6. EVENTS

The 20th Deaflympic Games competition will consist of the following events:

- Men's and Women's Teams
- Men's and Women's Singles
- Men's and Women's Doubles
- Mixed Doubles

7. SCHEDULE

The preliminary competition schedule is based on the number of participants in the previous Deaflympic Games. The final competition schedule is subject to change according to the number of entered athletes for each event. The schedule will consist of preliminary matches and finals in a knockout format. The exact size of the draw will depend on final entries. Information will be given at the technical meeting prior to the competition start.

8. SELECTION

8.1. Eligibility:

All athletes at the Deaflympic Games that represent Australia are required to (i) Be an Australian citizen, and, (ii) have a hearing loss of a minimum of 55 dB in the best ear, and, (iii) have meet the requirements as stated in the Table Tennis Nomination Criteria.

8.2. Team Size:

Australia may enter a maximum number of four (4) men and four (4) women for the Table Tennis competitions

8.3. EOI, Nomination and Selection:

8.3.1. Expression of Interest (EOI): Anyone who is interested in being selected in the Table Tennis team are advised to make an initial Expressions of Interest (EOI) on a form that can be obtained from the DSA Office and/or website. EOIs made by prospective athletes to DSA can be made up until approximately 12 months prior to the date of the Games' opening.

8.3.2. Nomination: DSA will invite selected athletes to participate in its selection programs. DSA will then nominate a Shadow Squad from which the Australian Table Tennis Team will be selected. Athletes can be removed and added from the Squad at anytime due to performance or due to any other reasonable circumstance.

8.3.3. Selection: Final selection will be made at the sole and absolute discretion of DSA. Selection will depend on whether the athlete has met all eligibility points for selection.