

# NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



# Performance table tennis

with University of Nottingham Sport



University of Nottingham Sport

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- world-class training venue
- bespoke table tennis salle in the £40m David Ross Sports Village
- spar with top-ranked stars
- strength and conditioning support in our High Performance Zone
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- lifestyle and academic mentoring



[nottingham.ac.uk/sport/performance-table-tennis](https://nottingham.ac.uk/sport/performance-table-tennis)



## WELCOME

Welcome to the 2024 Mark Bates Ltd Senior National Championships.

This is our flagship event and, over three days of competition, you will see some superb action involving the best players in the country as they compete to lift a coveted national title.

Everywhere you look, there will be top-class play in women's and men's competitions at under-21 and senior levels, in singles and doubles and in para and able-bodied categories.

Established stars including defending champions Tom Jarvis and Tin-Tin Ho, Commonwealth Games gold medallists Paul Drinkhall and Jack Hunter-Spivey and Paralympic medallists Megan Shackleton, Aaron McKibbin and Ross Wilson will all be competing - and all of them will also have an eye on qualifying for the Olympics or Paralympics in Paris this summer.

Perhaps we may also see major medallists of the future among those who have earned their place here via the rankings, by coming through



the qualifying tournament or being awarded a wildcard.

This is my first Senior Nationals since being appointed Chair of Table Tennis England and I am very much looking forward to meeting many of the players, coaches, officials, supporters and others who ensure this event is not just an exhibition of table tennis but also a wonderful social occasion.

I would like to thank our sponsors Mark Bates Ltd and China Taiping. We are very lucky to have such committed and passionate partners helping us to deliver a first-class event.

I would like to thank our hosts here at the University of Nottingham and the David Ross Sports Village, and I also extend my appreciation to our Official Equipment Supplier, Tees Sport.

Thanks to Stuart Sherlock and the refereeing and umpiring team, to the team of volunteers who underpin the event, to the Table Tennis England staff and, last but not least, to all the players, coaches and to you, the supporters.

I hope you all enjoy the weekend.

**Nick Donald**  
Chair, Table Tennis England

The University of Nottingham is incredibly excited to be hosting the 2024 Mark Bates Ltd Senior National Championships here at David Ross Sports Village.

On behalf of the university, may I welcome all the players, coaches, support staff and spectators to the David Ross Sports Village and wish you all a successful tournament and visit to Nottingham.

Here at University of Nottingham Sport, we are very proud of our sector-leading table tennis performance programme and world-class competition facilities and it is an honour to be chosen once again as the 2024 venue by Table Tennis England. More recently, the University of Nottingham swept the board at the British Universities & Colleges Sport table tennis championships, with athletes in the green and gold taking all five golds and several minor medals.

The chance to watch the country's top players in action at the Mark Bates Ltd Senior National Championships is hugely inspirational and our community of staff and students will be supporting the wealth of talent that will arrive from all over the country.

At Nottingham, our heritage of outstanding table tennis alumni includes the legendary Olympic champion Deng Yaping, with whom we have a strong



ongoing partnership that provides excellent program opportunities for our students. It has also been wonderful to see the development and success of those students in the British University programme this year with success at both Team and Individual level.

We have a great partnership with Table Tennis England and are very grateful for their continued support. Moreover we'd like to express our thanks to Mark Bates Ltd, who are an integral part of making this event a success and whose support extends to all three National Championships, including Senior (and qualifying), Cadet, U17 & Junior and U10-U13 tournaments.

**Dan Tilley**  
Director of Sport, University of Nottingham



# Celebrating the 95th Anniversary of China Taiping

价值成长 共享太平

CHINA TAIPING INSURANCE GROUP LTD.

 **Mark Bates Ltd**  
Insurance you can trust

Dear Friends, it is with immense pleasure and excitement that I welcome you to the 2024 Senior National Table Tennis Championships, hosted once again at the prestigious University of Nottingham.

As the headline sponsor of this exhilarating event, we, alongside our esteemed partners, are thrilled to share this moment with you and enjoy the exceptional skills and talent on display throughout the competition.

This year is particularly special for us as we celebrate a significant milestone – our 30th year in business. Our journey over the past three decades has been incredibly rewarding, and it is an honour to share this momentous occasion with the table tennis community.

In line with our celebration, we are delighted to introduce an exciting innovation – the launch of our new mobile application, Insura App. Our app is designed to revolutionise the way you manage your insurance needs, providing a seamless platform for organising all your policies, documents, and key dates conveniently in one place.

We encourage you to visit our trade stand in the Fan Zone during the Championships. It's the perfect opportunity to discover more about Insura App, explore our insurance offerings, and participate in entertaining competitions with the chance to win fabulous prizes.

We take immense pride in our partnership with Table Tennis England, united in our ambition to nurture the sport's development, enhance its visibility, and inspire new generations to embrace table tennis. This collaboration is a testament to our shared dedication to



advancing the sport and ensuring its thriving future.

Here's to an electrifying 2024 Senior National Table Tennis Championships! I eagerly anticipate the opportunity to meet many of you and wish all competitors and attendees an unforgettable experience.

**With warmest regards,  
Mark Bates**

China Taiping Insurance (UK) Co Ltd welcomes you to the 2024 Senior National Championships – the biggest and most exhilarating event of the Table Tennis England calendar!

We are honoured to be the headline sponsors of this year's Senior National Championships, together with our partners Mark Bates Ltd.

We hope that our partnership with Table Tennis England will enhance the profile of the competition globally and benefit the table tennis community in England.



As a subsidiary of China Taiping Insurance Group, a Fortune Global 500 company, celebrating its 95th anniversary, we provide a wide range of insurance products and services to our customers through our well-established business network in the UK.

Please feel free to visit the FanZone, where you will have the opportunity to meet with our lovely colleagues, as well as take part in various fun activities.

We look forward to meeting with you at the event and wish the best of luck to all the players!

**President:** Jill Parker MBE  
**Hon Past President:** Doreen Stannard  
**Chair:** Nick Donald  
**Chief Executive:** Adrian Christy  
**Board members:** Kwadjo Adjepong, Richard Ayers, Mark Boote, Sally Hughes, Ray James, Jos Kelly, Steve Kemish, Don Parker, Ritchie Venner

## Tournament organisation

**Tournament Director:** Neil Rogers  
**Event Operations Manager:** Mark Pinder  
**Technical Operations Manager:** Chris Newton  
**Referee:** Stuart Sherlock (IR)  
**Deputy Referee:** Dan Bullen  
**Referee's Assistant:** Matthew Pryke (TR)  
**Umpire Manager:** Karen Tonge OBE (IU, IR)  
**Competition Manager:** Mohamed Eldawlatly  
**Field of Play & Equipment Managers:** Brian Jackson, Bernie Leach, Bob Whitaker  
**Back of House-Field of Play Liaison:** Henry Arthur  
**Accreditation/Registration Co-ordinators:** Martin Haxton, Linda Savage  
**Volunteering Co-ordinator:** Demi-Chante Reid  
**FanZone Co-ordinator:** Kevin Taylor  
**Sports Presentation Co-ordinators:** Kate Nixon, Debbie Oram, Sophie Storey  
**Master of Ceremonies (Sunday):** Andy Ashworth  
**Communications Lead:** Paul Stimpson  
**Social Media Lead:** Jack Ramful  
**Lead Commentator (Sunday):** Colin Wilson  
**Official Event Photographer:** Alan Man

## Umpires

Nico Caltabiano, David Edwards, Lyndon Griffiths, Oliver Ingram, Harry Jutle, Jim Kenny, Kim Mudge, Beate Nichol, Paul Nichols, Jackie O'Shea, James Pettigrew, Tom Purcell, Lynda Reid, Vladimir Shadrinov, Lester Smith, Alan Thomas, Sheila Walshe, Gary Whyman.

## Ball Crew/Mascots

Adele Brown, Bella Chevalier-Williams, Finn Chevalier-

Williams, Zach Chevalier-Williams, Louie Crampton, Thomas Ellis, Stanley Haber, Jack Hooley, Jessica Larkin, Joseph Pugh, Seren Pugh, Bobby Short, Daniel Short

## Volunteers

Firdaus Adeshina, Wasiu Adeshina, Tajudeen Alao, Arzaan Ali Nathani, Elena Bajada, Yashi Bansal, Gill Bevington, Rhoda Boadu, Howard Brialey, Ian Care, Patrick Caunt, Paul Dicken, Tim Elmer, Antony Hamilton, Jacqui Hansell, Mario Ioakim, Gaurav Jadhav, Sandeep Khadotra, Susan Laffey, Bill Mackie, Andrew David Malcolm, Gemma McKay, Thomas Moffitt, Noel Olajide, Maggie Pang, Mary Pang, Grace Qiu, Keshav Rathi, James Rawson, Alex Rees, Robert Ridge, Neel Savla, Jongha Seo, Christopher Sheldon BEM, El-Monsor Shobowale-Bakre, Anne Stone, Yuting Su, Graham Taylor, Stephen Taylor, Doddie Victorino



• Anyone with safeguarding concerns can contact our Safeguarding Manager, Judy Rogers, on 07507 860034.

• By purchasing a ticket, spectators have agreed

that they may appear in event photography and/or TV broadcasting. If anyone feels uncomfortable about this, or wishes to report any concerns, please speak to your nearest volunteer or staff member.

• Flash photography and live streaming are NOT permitted but please to share your photos and short videos on social media - please tag @TableTennisENG and use the hashtag #MarkBatesNationals24

## Friday March 22

9.00-11.00	Under-21 Men's Singles groups; Under-21 Women's Singles groups	T1-6
11.15-13.00	Under-21 Men's Singles quarter-finals & semi-finals Under-21 Women's Singles quarter-finals & semi-finals	T1-4
13.15	Under-21 Women's Singles final <i>followed by medal ceremony</i>	T1
13.50	Under-21 Men's Singles final <i>followed by medal ceremony</i>	T1
14.30-18.30	Men's Singles groups; Women's Singles groups	T1-6
18.40-21.00	Mixed Doubles round of 16, quarter-finals & semi-finals	T1-6

## Saturday March 23

9.30-11.00	Men's Doubles first round Women's Doubles first round Para Class 2-5 & Class 6-10 groups	T1-6
11.00-12.00	Men's Doubles quarter-finals Women's Doubles quarter-finals Para Class 2-5 & Class 6-10 groups	T1-6
12.15	Mixed Doubles final <i>followed by medal ceremony</i>	T1
13.00-15.15	Women's Singles first round Men's Singles first round Para Class 2-5 & Class 6-10 groups	T1-6
15.15	Women's Doubles semi-finals Para Class 2-5 & Class 6-10 groups	T1-4
15.45	Men's Doubles semi-finals	T1-2
16.15	Showcase Para Class 2-5 Doubles	T1
16.45-18.15	Women's Singles quarter-finals Men's Singles quarter-finals	T1-2
18.15	Showcase Para Class 6-10 Doubles	T1
18.45-20.15	Women's Singles quarter-finals Men's Singles quarter-finals	T1-2

## Sunday March 24\*

9.30-12.30	Women's Singles semi-finals; Men's Singles semi-finals	T1
13.00	Para Class 2-5 final <i>followed by medal ceremony</i>	T1
13.50 (not before 13.40)	Women's Doubles final <i>followed by medal ceremony</i>	T1
14.40 (not before 14.20)	Men's Doubles final <i>followed by medal ceremony</i>	T1
15.30 (not before 15.00)	Para Class 6-10 final <i>followed by medal ceremony</i>	T1
16.20 (not before 15.40)	Women's Singles final <i>followed by medal ceremony</i>	T1
17.10 (not before 16.20)	Men's Singles final <i>followed by medal ceremony</i>	T1

*\*rolling programme from 9.30am and from 1pm - each match immediately follows the preceding medal ceremony*

*Matches may be moved to alternative tables at the referee's discretion. For full details of the draw and schedule for each competition, please see Pages 20-28. Follow live results on the Table Tennis England website and on the screens around the venue.*

# PLAYERS: Men's Singles

## Seeds



**Paul Drinkhall**  
Age: 34, From: Loftus  
Ranked: 2



**Tom Jarvis**  
24, Skegness  
Ranked: 3



**Sam Walker**  
28, Worksop  
Ranked: 4



**David McBeath**  
32, Southampton  
Ranked: 5



**Chris Doran**  
32, Cogenhoe  
Ranked: 6



**Connor Green**  
17, Nottingham  
Ranked: 8



**Darius Knight**  
34, Battersea  
Ranked: -



**Shayan Siraj**  
22, Leeds  
Ranked: 9

## Seeds



**Tin-Tin Ho**  
25, Paddington  
Ranked: 1



**Emily Bolton**  
26, Askam-in-Furness  
Ranked: 2



**Tianer Yu**  
16, Shoreditch  
Ranked: 4



**Mari Baldwin**  
19, Okehampton  
Ranked: 5



**Jasmin Wong**  
20, Hull  
Ranked: 6



**Sophie Earley**  
17, Nottingham  
Ranked: 7



**Lois Peake**  
27, Chichester  
Ranked: 8



**Scarlett Anders**  
18, Barnet  
Ranked: 10

**Toby Ellis**  
18, Morecambe  
Invited  
Ranked: 10

**Sam Mabey**  
26, Leicester  
Invited  
Ranked: 11

**Larry Trumpauskas**  
16, Bermondsey  
Qualified  
Ranked: 12

**Ralph Pattison**  
16, Harlow  
Qualified  
Ranked: 13

**Josh Bennett**  
24, Eastbourne  
Invited  
Ranked: 14

**Shaquille Webb-Dixon**  
25, Rotherhithe  
Qualified  
Ranked: 15

**Lorestan Trumpauskas**  
54, Bermondsey  
Invited  
Ranked: 16

**Felix Thomis**  
18, Reading  
Invited  
Ranked: 17

**Nahom Asgedom**  
20, Tooting  
Qualified  
Ranked: 18

**Ismaila Akindiya**  
37, Nottingham  
Wildcard  
Ranked: 19

**Louis Price**  
19, Bristol  
Wildcard  
Ranked: 20

**Joseph Hunter**  
17, Muswell Hill  
Invited  
Ranked: 21

**Maxim Stevens**  
20, Nottingham  
Qualified  
Ranked: 22

**Ben Piggott**  
18, Stockton-on-Tees  
Qualified  
Ranked: 23

**Joseph Langham-Ferreira**  
27, Wandsworth  
Qualified  
Ranked: 24

**Jakub Piowar**  
16, Torquay  
Qualified  
Ranked: 28

**Joe Sawyer**  
20, Sheffield  
Qualified  
Ranked: 30

**Rohan Dani**  
15, Nottingham  
Qualified  
Ranked: 31

**Graeme Barella**  
30, Newcastle  
Qualified  
Ranked: 36

**Isaac Kingham**  
15, Ipswich  
Qualified  
Ranked: 45

**Aaron McKibbin**  
32, Wandsworth  
Qualified  
Ranked: 47

**Artur Veeck Caltabiano**  
23, Derby  
Qualified  
Ranked: 50

**Ashley Facey**  
29, Leytonstone  
Qualified  
Ranked: 55

**Bryan Kwan**  
29, Clerkenwell  
Qualified  
Ranked: -

**Ella Pashley**  
15, Guisborough  
Invited  
Ranked: 12

**Sienna Jetha**  
14, Watford  
Qualified  
Ranked: 12

**Erin Green**  
19, Nottingham  
Qualified  
Ranked: 14

**Anna Green**  
17, Nottingham  
Invited  
Ranked: 15

**Letitia McMullan**  
25, Fareham  
Invited  
Ranked: 17

**Millie Rogove**  
19, Totteridge  
Qualified  
Ranked: 18

**Anaya Patel**  
20, Basingstoke  
Qualified  
Ranked: 19

**Mabel Shute**  
17, Loughton  
Qualified  
Ranked: 20

**Amy Marriott**  
19, Rotherham  
Invited  
Ranked: 21

**Xiaoman Ji**  
54, Beckenham  
Qualified  
Ranked: 26

**Bethany Ellis**  
16, Morecambe  
Qualified  
Ranked: 27

**Saskia Key**  
17, Sevenoaks  
Qualified  
Ranked: 28

**Rebecca Savage**  
18, Northallerton  
Qualified  
Ranked: 32

**Mia Lakhani**  
15, Pinner  
Qualified  
Ranked: 36

**Rachael Iles**  
16, Chalfont St Peter  
Qualified  
Ranked: 37

**Sally Hughes**  
33, Brighton  
Qualified  
Ranked: 38

**Mya Sultan**  
23, Edgware  
Wildcard  
Ranked: 39

**Ella Barnard**  
19, Great Yarmouth  
Qualified  
Ranked: 45

**Parrmis Ahsani**  
16, Marylebone  
Qualified  
Ranked: 47

**Eva Eccles**  
15, Norwich  
Qualified  
Ranked: 51

**Sophie Ackred**  
15, Askam-in-Furness  
Qualified  
Ranked: 55

**Luna Archard**  
15, Marylebone  
Qualified  
Ranked: 67

**Anna Piercy**  
17, Maidenhead  
Qualified  
Ranked: 75

**Brooke Morris**  
15, Bolton  
Qualified  
Ranked: 78

# PLAYERS: Para

## Class 6-10



**Ross Wilson**  
Age: 28 From: Minster



**Aaron McKibbin**  
32, Wandsworth

**Billy Shilton**  
25, Stonehouse

**Ashley Facey**  
29, Leytonstone

**Theo Bishop**  
20, Rawtenstall

**Max Flint**  
20, Guildford

• Classes 1-5 are for physical impairment (sitting), class 1 being the most severely affected and class 5 having the most physical functionality. Classes 6-10 are for physical impairment (standing), class 6 being the most severe and class 10 the least. Class 11 is for those with an intellectual disability. These are set by the International Paralympic Committee.

## Class 2-5



**Jack Hunter-Spivey**  
Age: 28 From: Liverpool



**Megan Shackleton**  
24, Todmorden

**Simon Heaps**  
68, Lymington

**Chris Ryan**  
32, Welwyn Garden City

**Romain Simon**  
34, Chigwell

**Andrew Green (TBC)**  
24, Billingham

## Showcase doubles

### Class 6-10

Ashley Facey & Theo Bishop  
Billy Shilton & Aaron McKibbin

### Class 2-5

Jack Hunter-Spivey & Megan Shackleton  
Romain Simon & Chris Ryan

# PLAYERS: Doubles & Under-21s

## Men's Doubles

Paul Drinkhall & Sam Walker  
Tom Jarvis & David McBeath  
Chris Doran & Ralph Pattison  
Connor Green & Ben Piggott  
Shayan Siraj & Josh Bennett  
Toby Ellis & Nahom Asgedom  
Sam Mabey & Felix Thomis  
Larry Trumpauskas & Joseph Hunter  
Shaquille Webb-Dixon & Joseph Langham Ferreira  
Ismaila Akindiya & Maxim Stevens  
Louis Price & Tom Maynard  
Olly Cornish & Jakub Piwowar  
Rohan Dani & Isaac Kingham  
Joe Sawyer & Owen Brown  
Graeme Barella & Abraham Sellado  
Aaron McKibbin & Billy Shilton

## Women's Doubles

Tin-Tin Ho & Emily Bolton  
Mari Baldwin & Jasmin Wong  
Tianer Yu & Scarlett Anders  
Lois Peake & Letitia McMullan  
Erin Green & Anna Green  
Ella Pashley & Mabel Shute  
Sienna Jetha & Saskia Key  
Millie Rogove & Anaya Patel  
Amy Marriott & Rebecca Savage  
Xiaoman Ji & Maliha Baig  
Mia Lakhani & Rachael Iles  
Sally Hughes & Eva Eccles  
Parrmis Ahsani & Luna Archard  
Ella Barnard & Anna Piercey  
Sophie Ackred & Brooke Morris

**Draws: pages 20-28**

## Mixed Doubles

Sam Walker & Tin-Tin Ho  
Chris Doran & Emily Bolton  
Shaquille Webb-Dixon & Tianer Yu  
Shayan Siraj & Jasmin Wong  
Toby Ellis & Sophie Earley  
Connor Green & Anna Green  
Larry Trumpauskas & Sienna Jetha  
Joseph Hunter & Scarlett Anders  
Gabriel Achampong & Lois Peake  
Ben Piggott & Ella Pashley  
Josh Bennett & Letitia McMullan  
Felix Thomis & Mabel Shute  
Olly Cornish & Millie Rogove  
Artur Veeck Caltabiano & Erin Green  
Robert Pelc & Anaya Patel  
Adam Dennison & Saskia Key

## Under-21 Men

**Connor Green (Seed #1)**  
17, Nottingham  
**Toby Ellis (#2)**  
18, Morecambe  
**Larry Trumpauskas (#3)**  
16, Bermondsey  
**Ralph Pattison (#4)**  
16, Harlow  
**Joseph Hunter**  
17, Muswell Hill  
**Felix Thomis**  
18, Reading  
**Louis Price**  
19, Bristol  
**Ben Piggott**  
18, Stockton-on-Tees  
**Maxim Stevens**  
20, Nottingham  
**Nahom Asgedom**  
20, Tooting  
**Joe Sawyer**  
20, Sheffield  
**Jakub Piwowar**  
16, Torquay  
**Olly Cornish**  
19, Plymouth  
**Rohan Dani**  
15, Nottingham  
**Adam Dennison**  
18, Morecambe  
**Isaac Kingham**  
15, Ipswich

## Under-21 Women

**Tianer Yu (Seed #1)**  
16, Shoreditch  
**Mari Baldwin (#2)**  
19, Okehampton  
**Jasmin Wong (#3)**  
20, Hull  
**Scarlett Anders (#4)**  
18, Barnet  
**Sienna Jetha**  
14, Watford  
**Ella Pashley**  
15, Guisborough  
**Erin Green**  
19, Nottingham  
**Anna Green**  
17, Nottingham  
**Anaya Patel**  
20, Basingstoke  
**Amy Marriott**  
19, Rotherham  
**Millie Rogove**  
19, Totteridge  
**Megan Jones**  
17, Telford  
**Mabel Shute**  
17, Loughton  
**Saskia Key**  
17, Sevenoaks  
**Bethany Ellis**  
16, Morecambe  
**Rebecca Savage**  
18, Northallerton

# Event formats

## Men's Singles and Women's Singles

The top 16 players in the December 2023 ranking list were invited to compete, joining 14 players who had come through the Qualifying Competition, plus two wildcards, making a maximum of 32 in each competition. If any players decline their invitation, their places are offered to those who finished in 15th to 32nd positions at the Qualifying Tournament and, if there are still spaces available, to the highest ranked players who have not already got a place.



## Draws on pages 20-28

**Competition format:** Top 8 seeds have a bye to last 16; group stage - best of 5, top player qualifies; knockout stage - best of 7.

### Para competitions

Competitors are selected by British Para Table Tennis. Matches are best of 5.

### Under-21 singles competitions

Players are invited on the basis of their rankings on the February 2024 list, up to a maximum of 16 in each competition.

**Competition format:** Top 4 seeds have a bye to quarter-finals; group stage - best of 5, top player qualifies; knockout stage - best of 5.

### Doubles competitions

A player who has secured a place in any singles competition can also apply to enter any doubles competition for which they are eligible. Their partner does not have to have a singles place. There is a maximum of 16 pairs in each category

**Competition format:** Knockout stage - best of 5.

• *Tournament seedings are based on the March 2024 ranking list. All information correct at time of printing.*

We are LIVE on TTE.TV at this event - you can watch the action on three tables, or catch up on demand after the event.

Don't forget to tune in to our Rewind highlights show, which will be released a few days after the end of the Nationals.

Remember, TTE.TV is FREE to Table Tennis England members



and is the place to watch all the best action, including Senior British League Premier Division and selected international events, live and on demand.

And don't miss our other super content, including the TT Insider



series - simply scan the QR code above to go to TTE.TV!



# Drinkhall's not ready to call time on 20-year England career

**P**icture the scene: Hundreds of fans packed into a tight venue, a key European League match poised at 2-2 with one match to play. You are playing the deciding match. It is your Senior England debut. That was the occasion facing Paul Drinkhall – and he rose to it magnificently with a 3-1 victory.

What is more remarkable is that Drinkhall was just 14 years old at the time. And this year marks the 20th anniversary of that dream debut against the Netherlands in Barrow.

We all know players who remember everything about their careers. From local league to international arenas there are those who recall scores, opponents, venues, everything, going back years. Drinkhall is probably not among their number.

It's not that he doesn't remember or appreciate all that his career has given him. Far from it, he appreciates every minute. It's more that the detail takes second place to the emotion – how he felt at the time. That, and his ability to live very much in the present tense.

When I sat down with him at the recent WTT Feeder Manchester to talk about approaching 20 years as a Senior international, he admitted: "I hadn't thought about it. When was it, 2004? I was 14 . . . was I really 14 in that match? December, yeah I was – almost 15.

**Paul Drinkhall in action at the recent World Team Championships and on his England debut in 2004. Below: How Table Tennis News covered his debut appearance**

"I think it was a fairly small place, 500 people packed in and we won 3-2. So, yeah, it was brilliant and a good memory."

When I pointed out he was being modest, given his contribution, he replied: "The team is the team and we won as a team, which is good."

"At the time, it was a very tough match and good to win obviously at 2-2, under pressure. I can't remember how we got the other points and I can't even remember exactly who played, but it was a good match."

For the record, Drinkhall's team-mates were Alan Cooke and Andrew Rushton and each recorded a victory. Drinkhall's opponent in that final match was Barry Wijers and he won 3-1 (11-4, 11-7, 6-11, 11-7).

As an outstanding Junior player, who in the two or three years which followed went on to win multiple individual and team medals at European and world level, it is not a surprise that Drinkhall's Senior debut came so young.

"I guess probably at the time I was one of the best

youth players in Europe in the world, so it was probably coming," he said. "But we also had decent seniors as well at that time. Again, I didn't really think whether or not it was coming, I just kept training, kept playing and it just happened."

"Obviously it was a proud moment for me and it's nice remembering it now. Probably it was nice for my parents as they used to drive me around and take me everywhere, so for them it paid off as well."

There have been many highlights in England colours – the world and European junior medals, World Team Cup bronze in London in 2018, and two Men's Doubles Commonwealth Golds alongside Liam Pitchford among them. Drinkhall also identifies his first Senior national title and the Spanish Open victory in 2014 as key moments in his career.

"I think winning my first national title was good and it was sort of a stepping stone and a good thing to achieve," he said.

"And then winning the European junior singles title, the doubles with Darius (Knight) and mixed doubles with a girl from Russia (Ekaterina Kolodyazhnaya), all in the same year. That's when I felt like I could maybe do something in the sport."

"I think also winning the Pro Tour in Spain, because that was my first one. I won Serbia afterwards, so they were both special, but I think the first one because I had not long had a hip operation and I genuinely thought after the operation, coming back, that that could be

**Continued on page 14**



**Winning the Commonwealth Games Mixed Doubles gold with Jo in 2014 and mobbed by team-mates after securing a World Team Championships bronze in 2016**



From page 13

it because I'd played quite a few tournaments and struggled, and was struggling in training. Winning that spurred me on to keep going."

But there are two achievements which stand above the rest in his memory banks – the Commonwealth Games Mixed Doubles gold with his wife Jo at Glasgow in 2014 and the World Team Championships bronze in Kuala Lumpur two years later, where he won the match which clinched the medal.

"I think the gold at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games, with Jo, that's probably the memory that I would always take from table tennis whenever that stops," he said.

"The other fairly obvious one, the bronze medal in the World Teams in Kuala Lumpur. Again, the feeling of doing that. The achievement itself is amazing, but how it was in the match against France, it was just so all over the joint. We're thinking we're going to win, and then it's gone and they've got match points, then we win, a proper rollercoaster match.

"Those feelings and emotions that I remember from that moment are special and obviously that medal that came with it was a bonus."

The medals are very much second to the memories, as Drinkhall explains: "The memories are always going to be there. With trophies and stuff . . . some people are very much 'we have to keep them', but the memory in the moment is what was the special thing.

"The medal's nice but even if we lost that and it's gone, nobody's stolen your place on the podium, that's the way I feel about it."

So with the 20-year milestone ahead, how much further can Drinkhall extend his England career? As you might expect, his focus remains on the present.

"I'm still wanting to achieve certain things," he said. "I'm not probably at the stage where I'm consistently getting to the top end of my game, with family and different priorities, but I also know my game's still there, my body is still there to, if I'm clever with it, pick and choose when to try and peak. I think I've still got a lot to offer."

PAUL STIMPSON



From left: Alan Cooke, coach Steen Hansen, Paul Drinkhall and Andrew Rushton in Barrow in 2004



When GB wheelchair rugby team captain Chris Ryan swapped the rugby ball for a table tennis bat after leading his team to a historic Paralympic gold medal in Tokyo, he described his new sporting challenge as "like a constant Rubik's Cube".

Less than 12 months after making his international debut the 32-year-old has already shown an aptitude for puzzles, reaching his first singles final and winning his first gold medal in doubles at the ITTF Brazilian Para Open last month.

"Brazil has been hugely motivating," he said. "I felt that in time I was going to get some good wins, but I didn't know when they were going to come. There are such a variety of shots in table tennis, and it is really satisfying when you can execute the good ideas that you might have.

"It is just that journey from having the clever ideas and then being able to execute the difficult shots that is so hard, and the top guys can do it consistently."

Ryan was heading for a career as a professional golfer when a car accident on the way home from an inter-collegiate tournament left him with a spinal injury that changed his life at the age of 17. Wheelchair rugby gave him a purpose and a new sporting career that took him to two Paralympic Games and that experience has proved invaluable in adapting to the numerous challenges posed by Para table tennis.

"It is hard from a technical standpoint," he acknowledged last summer, "but mentally for me it is easier because when I'm training my main concern is table tennis. I know how to be an elite athlete, but I don't know how to play table tennis."

Aided by his work-ethic and drive to succeed, Ryan is proving to be a quick learner and, having performed with credit at last year's European Championships, he made a major breakthrough in Brazil when beating the former five-time Para PanAmerican champion Iranildo Conceicao

# New recruit Ryan solving 'Rubik's Cube' of table tennis

Espindola and the world No 10 Guilherme Marcio Da Costa to take silver in the men's class 2 singles.

"I think my level is definitely getting there," he said, "and I'm trying to play with more consistency - trying to keep the ball on the table while doing something with it because I think in the past when I've been trying to stay consistent, I've been playing too safe.

"But I think that week in Brazil was the best I've balanced those two things – consistency with threat. I gained a huge amount of belief from that but I'm also very aware that it doesn't mean I'm at that level because I've beaten a top-10 player in five sets. Another day he could beat me 3-0 as he did two weeks earlier – so I'm very aware that my next good win may not be around the corner, but at the same time it might be.

"I didn't know I'd be doing three sports in my life but I'm grateful for that opportunity now it's arisen. It can be frustrating because I've been at a high level in my other sports, but starting again and trying to get the results now is something I've had to mentally deal with, and I know they don't just happen. You have to trust in the work that you are doing.

"Table tennis is one of those sports where



Chris Ryan in action at last year's Nationals and (above left) with the wheelchair rugby team at the Tokyo Paralympics

perfection is so far away from us all, I think, although obviously some are a lot closer to it. It is one of those sports where you never stop learning, and I'm loving it."

FRANCESCA BULLOCK



# Earley to rise!

Sophie targets the world's top 50 as she makes Nationals debut

**S**ophie Earley has already come a long way in table tennis – and she knows exactly where she wants to get to.

“It’s quite black and white – I want to get top 50 in the world,” said the 17-year-old. “I’m playing full time and I want to continue doing that. I want to go to the Olympics.”

“I want to be a world-class table tennis player – but above all that I want to be the best version of myself.”

Talking to Earley, who this weekend plays her first Senior Nationals since her switch for Ireland to England was confirmed last July, it is clear this is a hard-working athlete who is both ambitious and grounded.

Her formative years in the sport came at the Ormeau club in Belfast, where she followed her twin older brothers, Zak and Thomas, on to the tables at the age of around six.

The boys were seven years older, but Sophie set about closing the ability and experience gap.

“I saw my two brothers playing and that made me want to want to play because anything they did, I wanted to do as well,” she said.

“I don’t think at that age I wanted to be better than them but, and I think saying this would really annoy them,” she adds with a twinkle in her eye, “I wanted to push to greater boundaries and greater aspirations than my brothers, because I started beating them when I was maybe 11 or 12.”

It was in 2017 that it became clear to Earley that she could achieve great things in the sport, when she went to the Euro Minis when she was a year younger than most of the competitors.

She finished eighth, losing in the quarter-finals to Veranika Varabyova of Belarus, who went on to lose in the final to Wales’ Anna Hursey. It was the same year, incidentally, that France’s Felix Lebrun, now world No 6, won the boys’ event.

“I think I was more recognised after that competition and then I started getting invitations to ETTU camps and World Hopes camps,” said Earley.

“I was really dedicated to those and I remember I qualified for the World Cadet Challenge, in a team of four under-11s and that pushed me to train hard because it was quite a prestigious event for that age group at the time and everybody wanted to play in it.”

Further success followed on the international stage – notably at the 2021 European Youth Championships in which she won singles bronze, losing to champion Annett Kaufmann of Germany in the semi-finals, and doubles bronze alongside Silvia Coll of Spain.

Everything up to this point had been in Irish colours – she also represented Northern Ireland at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham – but a major change was in the offing as the Earley family moved from Belfast to Nottingham.

She will have to wait until 2028 to be eligible



Sophie Earley in action at the WTT Feeder Manchester (above and left); Below: Competing for Ireland at the Euro Mini Championships



to represent England at the World and European Championships, but her British passport means she can play at this event – and she is eligible for selection for Team GB.

She currently plays for Nimes-Montpellier in the French league and has already had a taste of competing in front of a big crowd in her adopted country, at the WTT Feeder Manchester last month.

There, she had one of her biggest victories as she beat world No 42 Britt Eerland, at the time ranked more than 250 places above her.

It was a pulsating match which saw Earley miss a match point in the fourth and finally take her sixth

chance to win, 14-12 in the fifth. She admits her level head was tested in that moment, but says beating world No 31 Linda Bergstrom in a French league match in January had given her the belief she could get over the line against Eerland.

“I think that really opened my eyes to how I can play,” said Earley, “so I just wanted to go in and have a good attitude and make sure that everything I did that was in my control was good.”

“I knew that if I reacted badly (to missing match points), and potentially have lost that much, I wouldn’t forgive myself for that. In terms of how I was thinking and how I was acting, I did everything right.”

“I just try to take pressure off myself by having a bigger perspective on things in general. Okay, it’s not very nice to lose a match, but actually I’m really grateful for a lot of things in my life.”

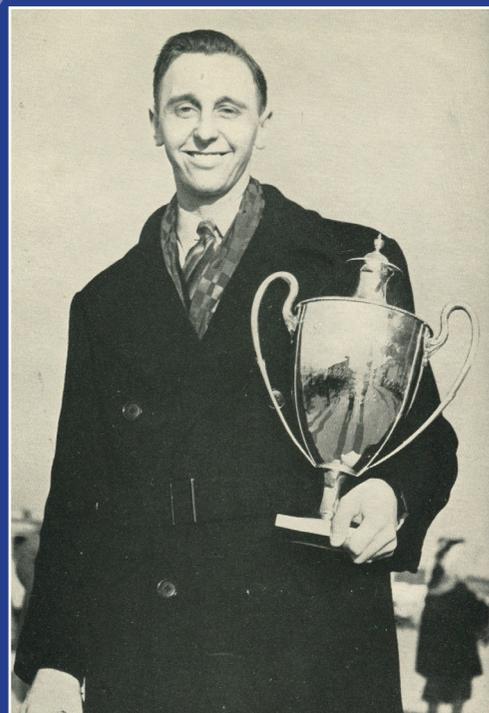
“I’m playing table tennis because I really enjoy it and if I do well then that’s just a bonus.”

On her first Nationals, she adds: “I’m feeling really excited about it because I’ve watched it twice and it looks really cool the way they present it.”

“I’ll definitely be nervous for it because I want to do well, like everyone wants to do well. I want to take each match at a time and not think about the end result. I want to try to play well in every match. And if that happens then I’ll get rewarded.”

PAUL STIMPSON

# London ready to invite the world to play once again!



The 2026 Centenary World Team Championships are coming to Wembley!

Delegates at the ITTF's Annual Meeting last August voted for London to host the event - 100 years after our capital also staged the first ever World Championships in 1926. Scan the QR code below to watch our bid video which helped us secure the vote.



While you are at this event, why not visit the FanZone to find out more about England's rich history in the World Championships and talk to Diane Webb, the Chair of our Archives, Museum and Records Committee about some of our fascinating memorabilia.

You can also have a go at our prize quiz and sign up to receive ticket alerts for the greatest table tennis show on Earth in 2026!



## Crack our Worlds quiz and win a signed shirt!

Visit the archive exhibition in the FanZone and find all the answers to the questions below - then scan the QR code at the exhibit to enter your answers and go into the prize draw to win an England shirt signed by some of the squad!

1) Who won silver medals in Women's Singles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles in Stockholm in 1957?

2) England's team bronze in 2016 was the first World Championships medal since which year?

3) Who was England's first ever World champion?

4) When did England last host the World Championships and in which city?

5) In which two cities did Johnny Leach win his two Men's Singles titles?

6) Which pair won Mixed Doubles bronze for England in 1969?

7) How many doubles World Championships medals (of any colour) did Diane and Rosalind Rowe win AS A PAIR?

8) How many times has London hosted the World Championships?

9) Who was England's first female champion and in what year?

10) In 1939 how long did the longest point ever in a World Championships last?



England World Championships medallists (clockwise from top left) Johnny Leach; Diane and Rosalind Rowe; Wendy Woodhead with her Hungarian doubles partner Laszlo Bellak; the 2016 team bronze medallists Alan Cooke, Sam Walker, Paul Drinkhall and Liam Pitchford; Fred Perry



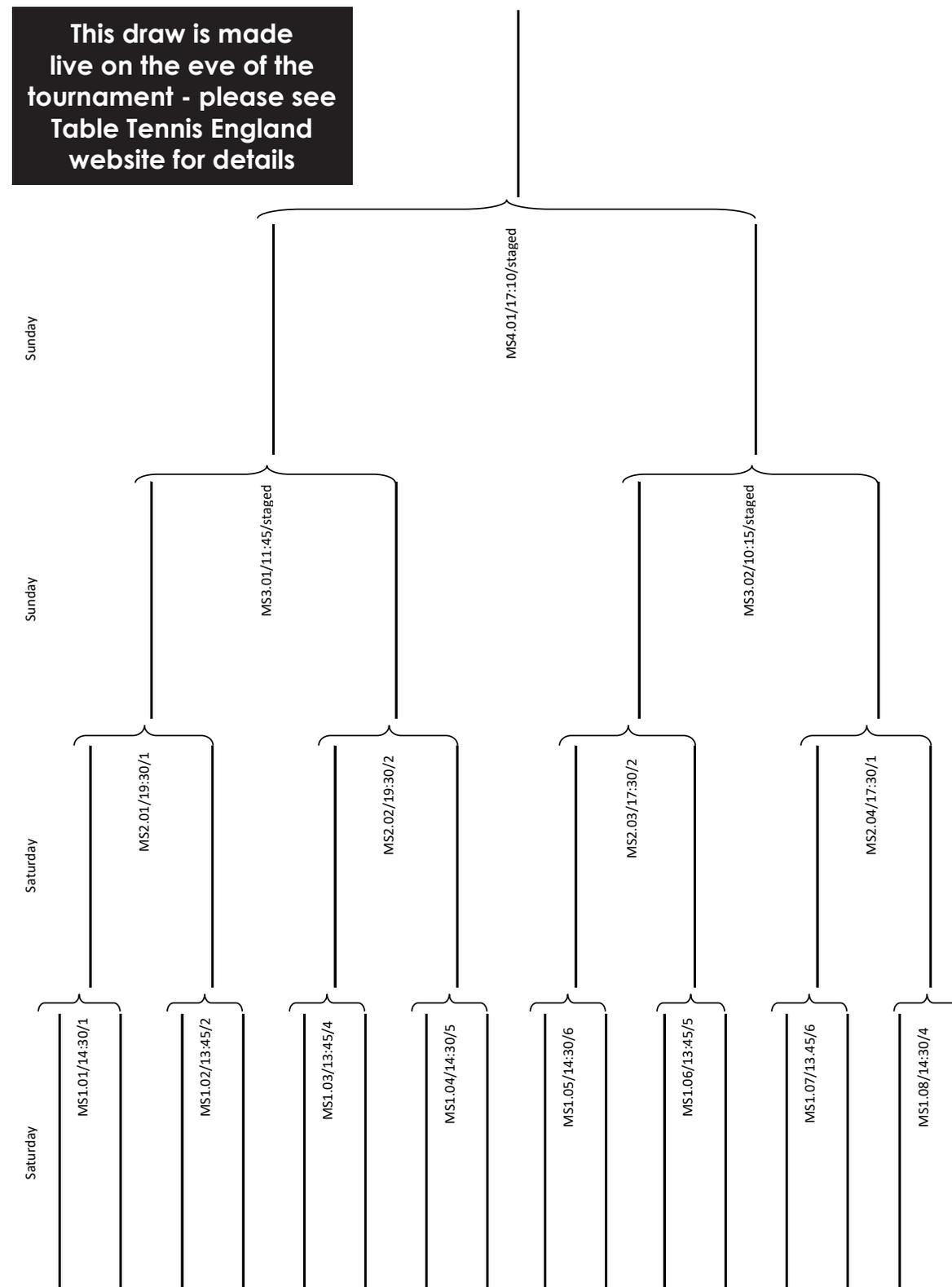
# DRAW: Men's Singles groups

Group 1		Group 2		Group 3	
A	Toby Ellis (La)	A	Sam Mabey (Le)	A	Larry Trumpauskas (K)
B	Bryan Kwan (Mi)	B	Joseph Langham-Ferreira (Sy)	B	Benjamin Piggott (Cv)
C	Jakub Piowar (Dv)	C	Joe Sawyer (Ys)	C	Rohan Dani (Ng)
<b>Playing order</b>		<b>Playing order</b>		<b>Playing order</b>	
14:30: B vs C (T2)		14:30: B vs C (T4)		15:00: B vs C (T1)	
16:00: A vs C (T3)		16:00: A vs C (T1)		16:00: A vs C (T5)	
17:00: A vs B (T5)		17:00: A vs B (T6)		17:00: A vs B (T3)	
Group 4		Group 5		Group 6	
A	Ralph Pattison (E)	A	Joshua Bennett (Sx)	A	Shaquille Webb-Dixon (Sy)
B	Maxim Stevens (Ng)	B	Joseph Hunter (Mi)	B	Louis Price (Av)
C	Graeme Barella (Nd)	C	Isaac Kingham (Sf)	C	Ashley Facey (Mi)
<b>Playing order</b>		<b>Playing order</b>		<b>Playing order</b>	
15:00: B vs C (T3)		15:30: B vs C (T5)		15:30: B vs C (T6)	
16:00: A vs C (T6)		16:30: A vs C (T2)		16:30: A vs C (T4)	
17:00: A vs B (T1)		17:30: A vs B (T3)		17:30: A vs B (T2)	
Group 7		Group 8		<p><b>Follow live results on the Table Tennis England website and the screens around the venue</b></p>	
A	Lorestas Trumpauskas (K)	A	Felix Thomis (Mi)		
B	Ismaila Akindiya (Ng)	B	Nahom Asgedom (Sy)		
C	Aaron McKibbin (Sy)	C	Artur Veeck Caltabiano (Dy)		
<b>Playing order</b>		<b>Playing order</b>			
15:30: B vs C (T2)		15:30: B vs C (T4)			
17:00: A vs C (T4)		17:00: A vs C (T2)			
18:00: A vs B (T5)		18:00: A vs B (T6)			

# DRAW: Women's Singles groups

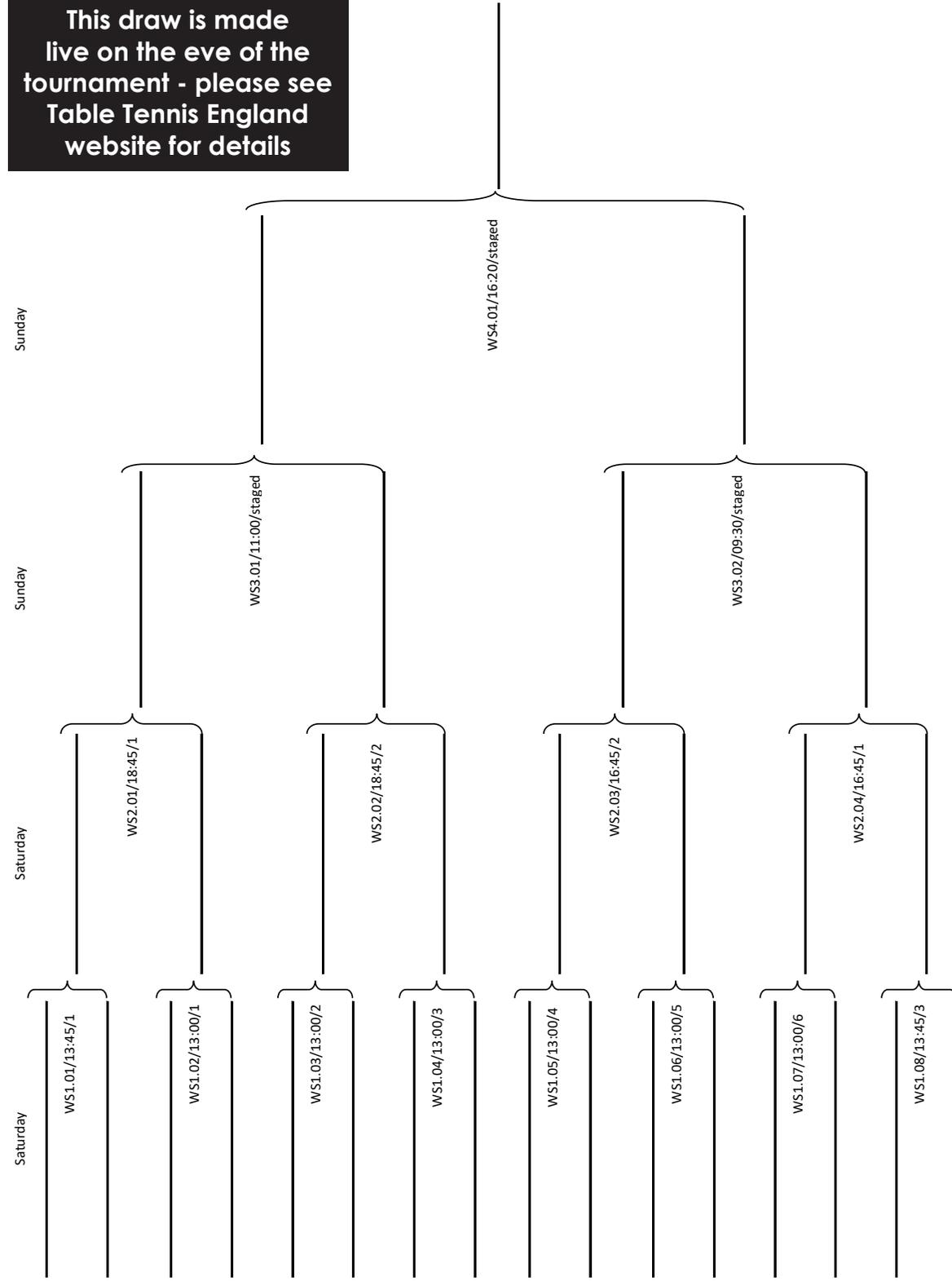
Group 1		Group 2		Group 3	
A	Ella Pashley (Cv)	A	Sienna Jetha (He)	A	Erin Green (Ng)
B	Sally Hughes (Sx)	B	Rachael Iles (Bu)	B	Mia Lakhani (Mi)
C	Mya Sultan (Mi)	C	Ella Barnard (Nk)	C	Eva Eccles (Nk)
<b>Playing order</b>		<b>Playing order</b>		<b>Playing order</b>	
14:30: B vs C (T1)		14:30: B vs C (T3)		14:30: B vs C (T5)	
16:00: A vs C (T4)		16:00: A vs C (T2)		15:30: A vs C (T1)	
17:30: A vs B (T5)		17:30: A vs B (T6)		17:30: A vs B (T4)	
Group 4		Group 5		Group 6	
A	Anna Green (Ng)	A	Letitia McMullan (Ha)	A	Millie Rogove (Mi)
B	Rebecca Savage (Du)	B	Saskia Key (K)	B	Bethany Ellis (La)
C	Parrmis Ahsani (Mi)	C	Sophie Ackred (Cu)	C	Anna Piercey (Bu)
<b>Playing order</b>		<b>Playing order</b>		<b>Playing order</b>	
14:30: B vs C (T6)		15:00: B vs C (T2)		15:00: B vs C (T4)	
15:30: A vs C (T3)		16:30: A vs C (T5)		16:30: A vs C (T6)	
17:30: A vs B (T1)		18:00: A vs B (T4)		18:00: A vs B (T1)	
Group 7		Group 8		<p><b>Follow live results on the Table Tennis England website and the screens around the venue</b></p>	
A	Anaya Patel (Bk)	A	Mabel Shute (E)		
B	Xiaoman Ji (K)	B	Amy Marriott (Ys)		
C	Luna Archard (Mi)	C	Brooke Morris (La)		
<b>Playing order</b>		<b>Playing order</b>			
15:00: B vs C (T5)		15:00: B vs C (T6)			
16:30: A vs C (T1)		16:30: A vs C (T3)			
18:00: A vs B (T3)		18:00: A vs B (T2)			

# DRAW: Men's Singles knockout

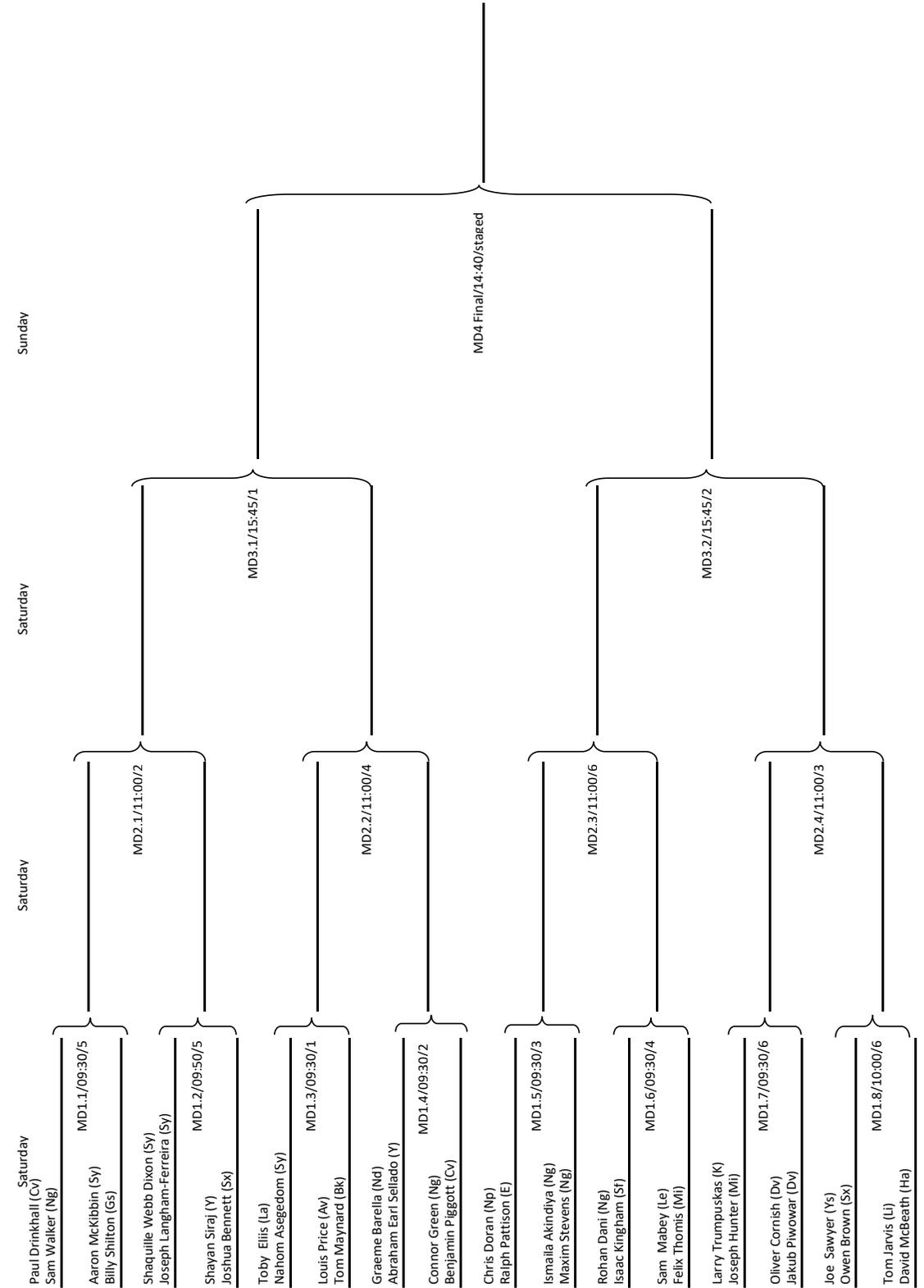


# DRAW: Women's Singles knockout

This draw is made live on the eve of the tournament - please see Table Tennis England website for details

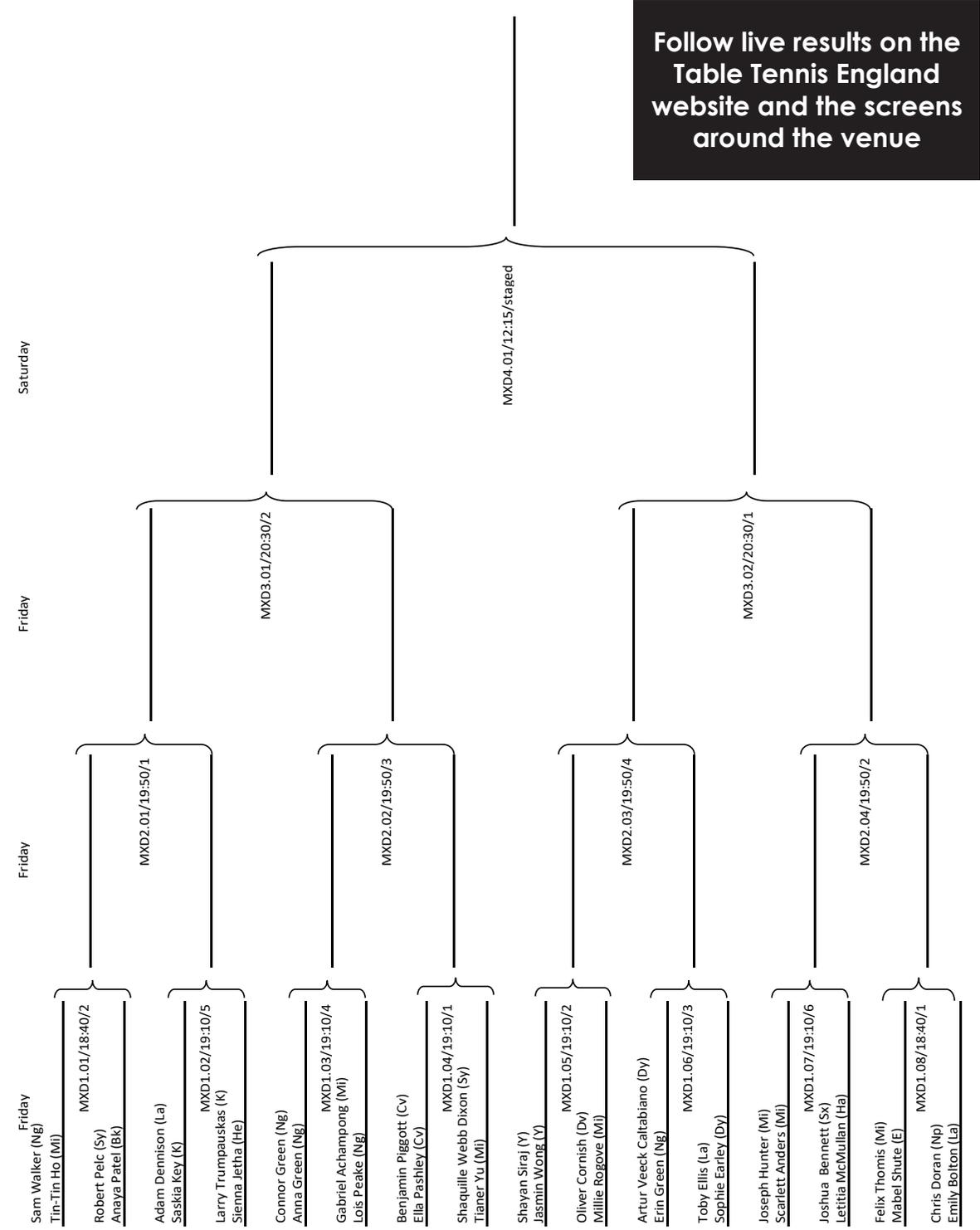
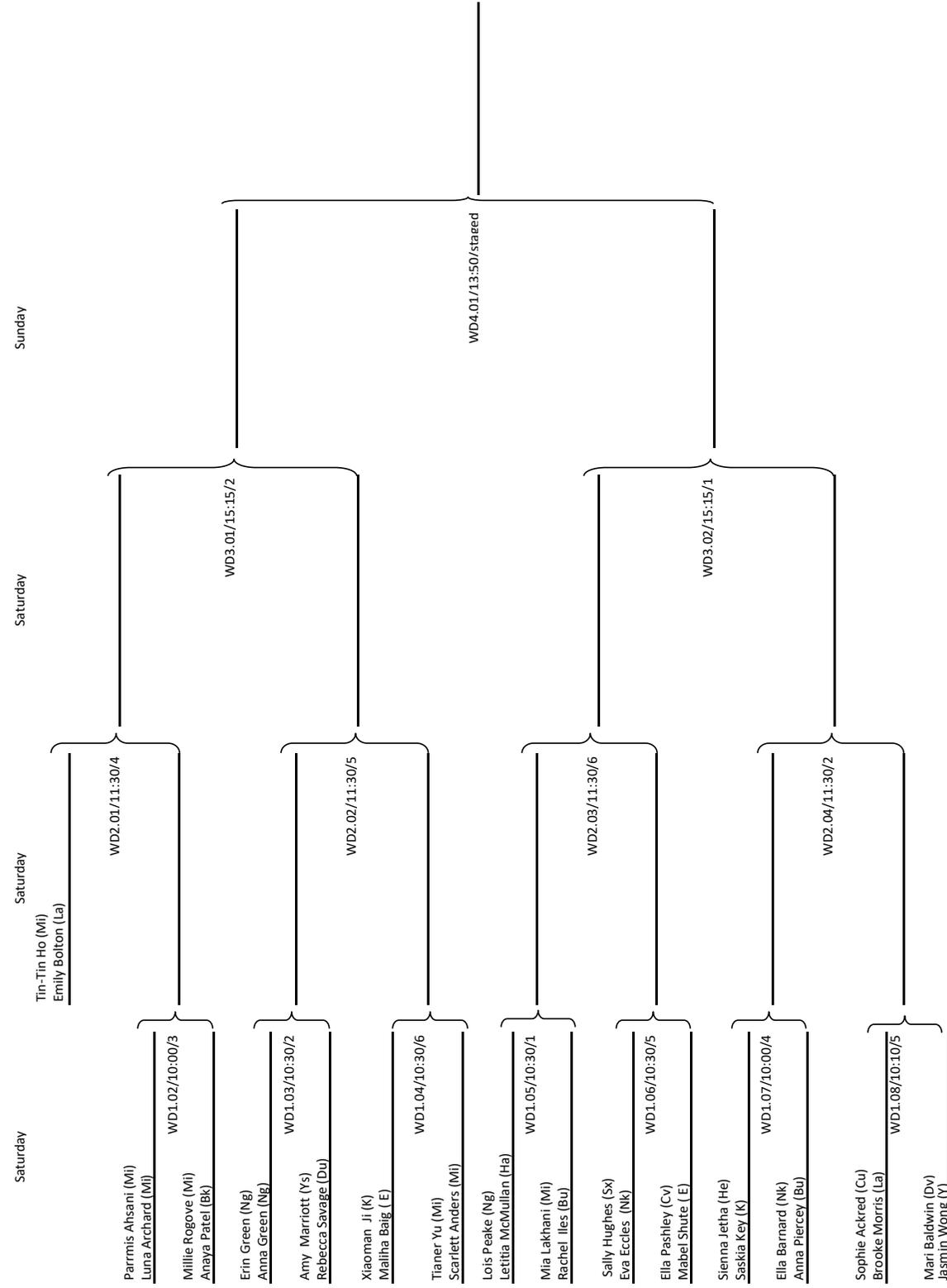


# DRAW: Men's Doubles



# DRAW: Women's Doubles

# DRAW: Mixed Doubles

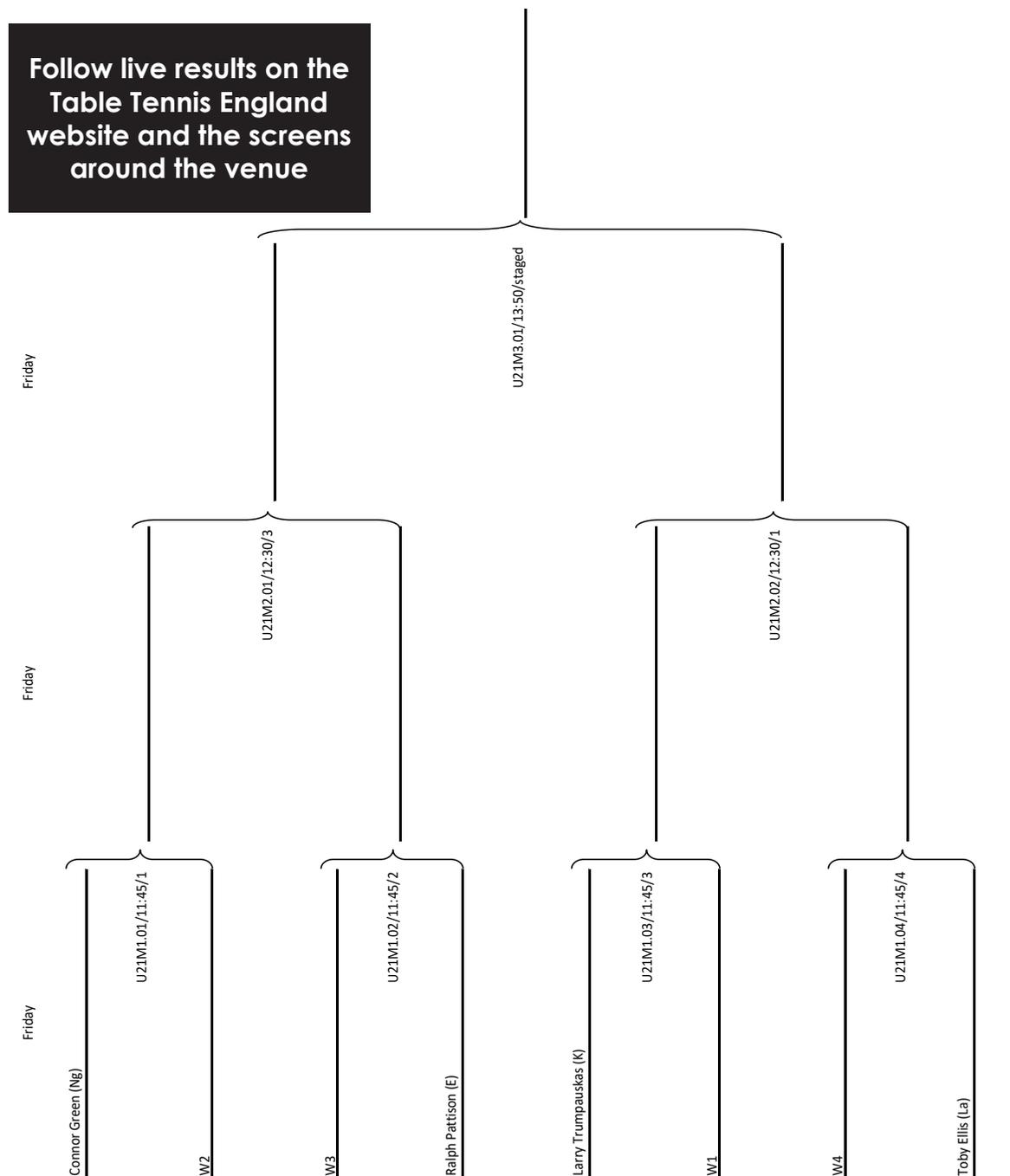


Follow live results on the Table Tennis England website and the screens around the venue

# DRAW: Under-21 Men

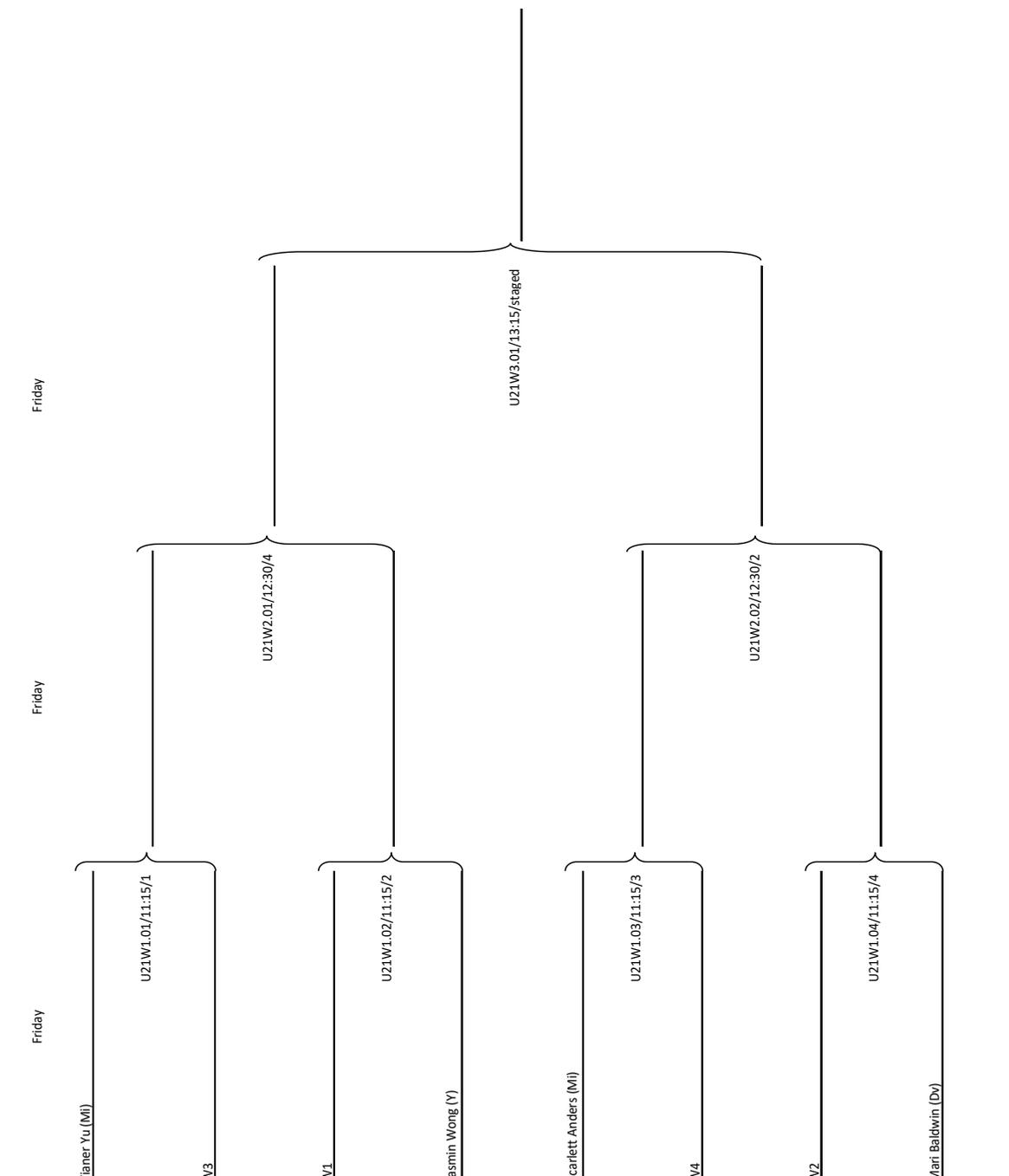
Men's Under-21 Qualification Groups											
Group 1			Group 2			Group 3			Group 4		
A	Felix Thomis (Mi)		A	Nahom Asgedom (Sy)		A	Louis Price (Av)		A	Joseph Hunter (Mi)	
B	Jakub Piwowar (Dv)		B	Oliver Cornish (Dv)		B	Benjamin Piggott (Cv)		B	Maxim Stevens (Ng)	
C	Joe Sawyer (Ys)		C	Rohan Dani (Ng)		C	Adam Dennison (La)		C	Isaac Kingham (Sf)	
<b>Playing order</b> 9am: B vs C (T4) 10am: A vs C (T5) 10.30am: A vs B (T1)			<b>Playing order</b> 9am: B vs C (T2) 10am: A vs C (T6) 10.30am: A vs B (T3)			<b>Playing order</b> 9.30am: B vs C (T3) 10am: A vs C (T2) 10.30am: A vs B (T5)			<b>Playing order</b> 9.30am: B vs C (T1) 10am: A vs C (T4) 10.30am: A vs B (T6)		

Follow live results on the Table Tennis England website and the screens around the venue



# DRAW: Under-21 Women

Women's Under-21 Qualification Groups											
Group 1			Group 2			Group 3			Group 4		
A	Sienna Jetha (He)		A	Ella Pashley (Cv)		A	Erin Green (Ng)		A	Anna Green (Ng)	
B	Amy Marriott (Ys)		B	Mabel Shute (E)		B	Anaya Patel (Bk)		B	Millie Rogove (Mi)	
C	Megan Jones (Sp)		C	Bethany Ellis (La)		C	Saskia Key (K)		C	Rebecca Savage (Du)	
<b>Playing order</b> 9am: B vs C (T1) 9.30am: A vs C (T5) 10.30am: A vs B (T4)			<b>Playing order</b> 9am: B vs C (T3) 9.30am: A vs C (T6) 10.30am: A vs B (T2)			<b>Playing order</b> 9am: B vs C (T5) 9.30am: A vs C (T2) 10am: A vs B (T3)			<b>Playing order</b> 9am: B vs C (T6) 9.30am: A vs C (T4) 10am: A vs B (T1)		





# Pride of Table Tennis



## Meet our amazing

As well as crowning our national champions here this weekend, we will also once again be giving our volunteers pride of place, as we honour the sport's unsung heroes at the Table Tennis England Pride of Table Tennis Awards.

Volunteers play a vital role in various aspects of the sport. They are involved in setting up and organising tournaments, managing facilities, coaching players, officiating matches, handling administrative tasks such as registrations and finances, promoting the sport in local communities and creating a welcoming environment for participants.

Without the dedication and contributions of volunteers, table tennis clubs and leagues would struggle to thrive and provide opportunities for players of all levels to enjoy and excel in the sport.

We have received more than 70 nominations to the Pride of Table Tennis Awards, which celebrate and honour the fantastic contributions that have been made.

Johnathon Driscoll, who leads the Pride of Table Tennis Awards at Table Tennis England, said: "The nominations we received are inspiring and highlight the crucial role of volunteers and young volunteers in our sport.

"Everyone in the table tennis family fully appreciates their dedication and contributions to the sport and we would like to thank them for their exceptional efforts by recognising and honouring them through the Pride of Table Tennis Awards."

The Pride of Table Tennis Awards are celebrated at local and national level. Those nominated at local level are awarded a certificate to recognise and celebrate their achievements.

They were also considered by the national award panel,

who decided on the following shortlist. The national winners will be revealed during these Championships.

### Male Volunteer of the Year

To recognise a person over 25 years of age for their dedication, commitment, or impact in/on table tennis on a voluntary basis over the past 12 months. This may take place at a club, local community, league, county, schools county, area or national level.

**Tajudeen Alao (TJ TTC)**

*Nominated by Gareth Spencer*

**Rob Cook (Leeds Parky PING!)**

*Nominated by Hillary West*

**Gary Kenton (Hollingbury TTC)**

*Nominated by Matthew Porter*

### Female Volunteer of the Year

To recognise a person over 25 years of age for their dedication, commitment, or impact in/on table tennis on a voluntary basis over the past 12 months. This may take place at a club, local community, league, county, schools county, area or national level.

**Christine Burke**

*Nominated by Karen Henry*

**Clare Flynn (Durham TTA/ Brandon TTC/ NETT)**

*Nominated by Lauren Evans*

**Karen Smith (Knighton Park Table Tennis Club)**

*Nominated by Mike Smith*

**Megan Bollen (Derby Community Table Tennis Club)**

*Nominated by Jonny Beasley*

### Young Male Volunteer of the Year

To recognise a person under 25 years of age for their dedication, commitment or impact in/on table tennis on



Last year's Pride of Table Tennis winners with their awards and (left) on court during Finals Day

## 2024 Pride finalists



Scan this QR code to read more about all of our national nominees

a voluntary basis over the past 12 months. This may take place at a club, local community, league, county, schools county, area or national level and includes those young people involved in coaching and/or officiating.

**Alain Shibu (Horsham TTC)**

*Nominated by Ian Ford*

**Aleks Belskis (Bradford Grammar School Table Tennis Club)**

*Nominated by Andrew Crabtree*

**Bailey Page (Joola Plymouth)**

*Nominated by Paul Whiting*

### Young Female Volunteer of the Year

To recognise a person under 25 years of age for their dedication, commitment or impact in/on table tennis on a voluntary basis over the past 12 months. This may take place at a club, local community, league, county, schools county, area or national level and includes those young people involved in coaching and/or officiating.

**Heilam Tse (Kingfisher Table Tennis Club)**

*Nominated by Raj Patel*

**Maddy Lyons (Halton TTC)**

*Nominated by Karen Tonge OBE*

### Lifetime Achievement Award

To recognise a person whose long service of an exceptional and outstanding standard over more than 30 years has made a real and significant difference to table tennis in a club, league county or area.

**Colin French (Waterside Table Tennis Club)**

*Nominated by Albert Davies*

**John Waters (Bury St Edmunds TTC)**

*Nominated by Paul Seabrook*

**David Wiles (Portsmouth & District TTA)**

*Nominated by William Moody*

### Contribution to Table Tennis

To recognise the outstanding contribution to table tennis this person gives through their time and talents which enables others to participate and succeed – it is open to any age but must be for a recognition of at least 10 years' service but no more 30 years in a club, league, county or area.

**Bob Baker (Kent TTA)**

*Nominated by Claire Moore*

**Ian Wu (Newbury & District TTA)**

*Nominated by Ian Langley*

# 2023 Roll of Honour

## Men's Singles

Tom Jarvis

## Women's Singles

Tin-Tin Ho

## Men's Doubles

Liam Pitchford &  
Paul Drinkhall

## Women's Doubles

Tin-Tin Ho & Emily Bolton

## Mixed Doubles

Ismaila Akindiya &  
Mollie Patterson

## Para class 2-5

Jack Hunter-Spivey

## Para class 6-10

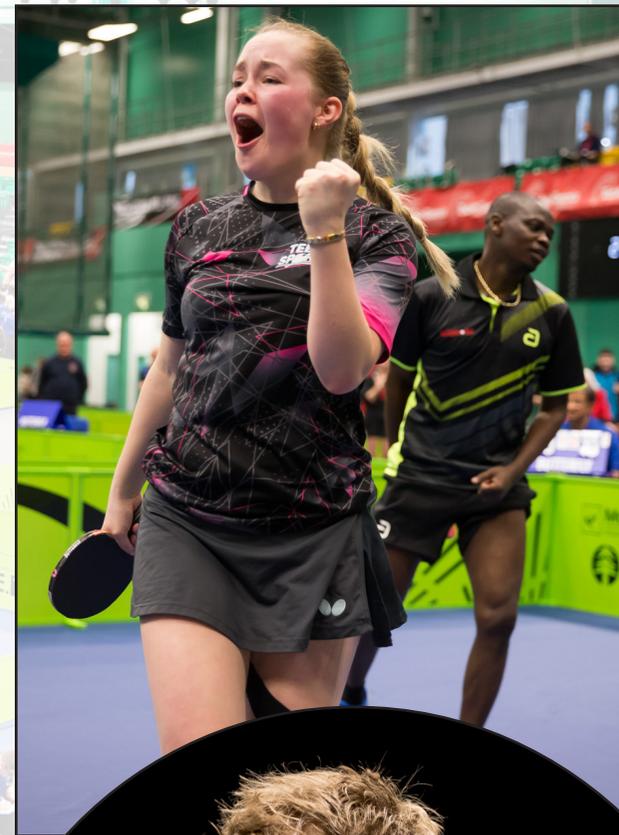
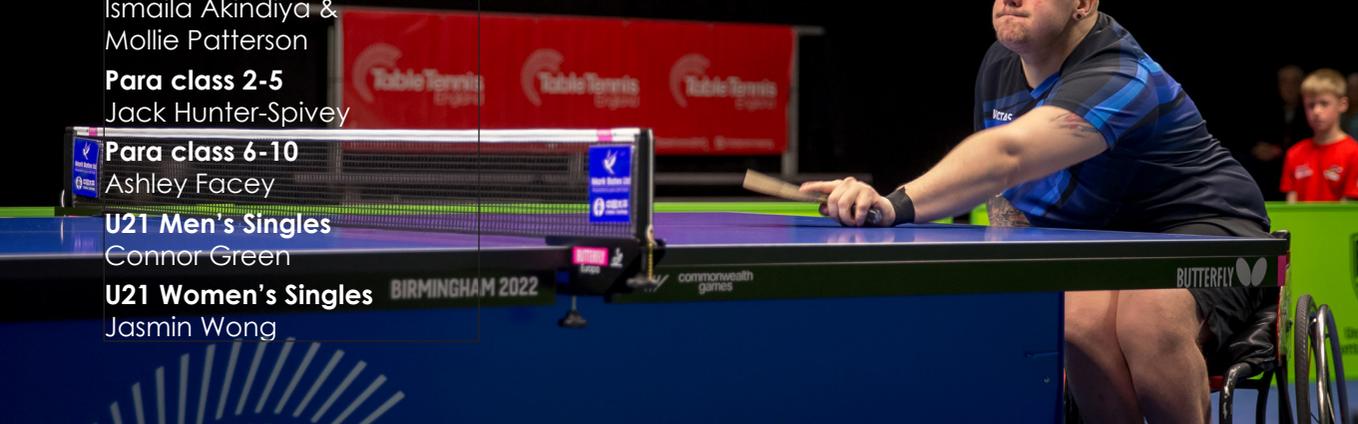
Ashley Facey

## U21 Men's Singles

Connor Green

## U21 Women's Singles

Jasmin Wong



## NATIONALS REWIND '23

Scan this QR  
code to watch  
last year's Mark  
Bates Ltd National  
Championships  
Rewind show on  
TTE.TV!



Clockwise from top left: Jack Hunter-Spivey;  
Mollie Patterson & Ismaila Akindiya; Tin-Tin  
Ho; Jasmin Wong; Connor Green; Tom Jarvis;  
Tin-Tin Ho & Emily Bolton; Liam Pitchford & Paul  
Drinkhall; Ashley Facey

# BUTTERFLY

## Centrefold Rollaway 25

- Selected for European Para Championships, Sheffield 2023
- Selected for Mark Bates National Championships 2023



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During these Championships, the Mike Watts Achievement Award will be presented to Parmis Ahsani (above) and Kacper Piwowar (below) for the 2022/23 season.

The award is given annually to the girl and boy with the greatest improvements in ratings points between August 1 and July 31 each year.

The award, first presented in 2003, is in memory of Mike Watts, who held roles from local league to international levels, including ETTA Events Manager. His major roles included Office Manager at the World

Championships in Birmingham in 1977 and Director for the World Championships in Manchester in 1997 and the World Veteran Championships the following year.

He was an international umpire and national referee, a qualified coach and led the formation of Veterans English Table Tennis Society (VETTS) in 1984, becoming the General Secretary and later the President.

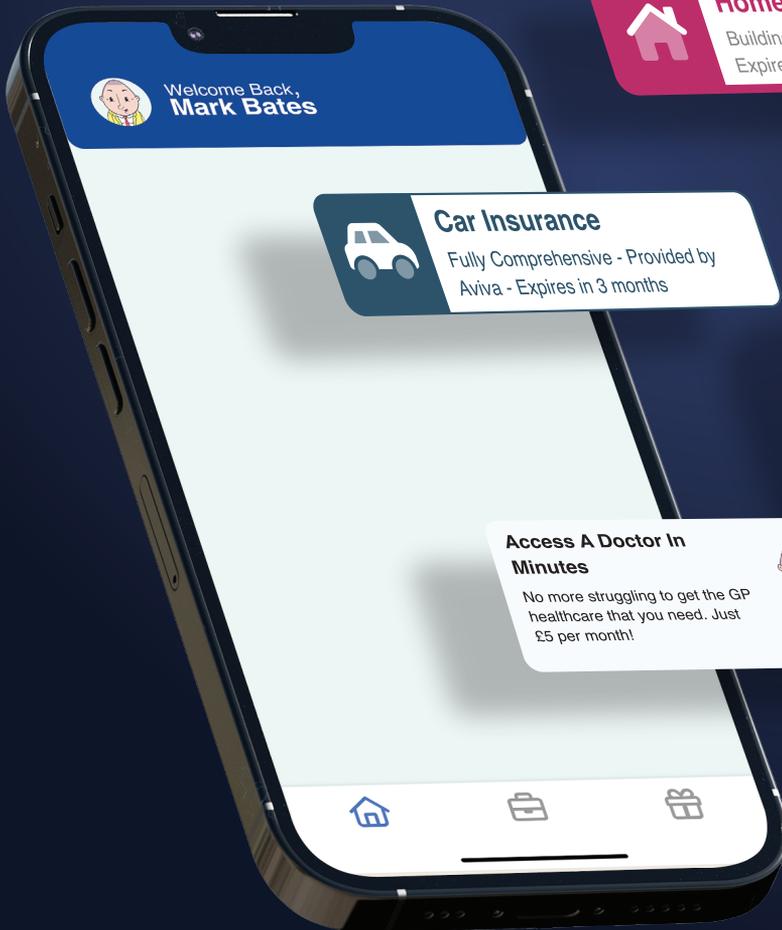
An ETTA Vice-President, recipient of the Ivor Montagu Award and Malcolm Scott Award, he was nominated to become an Honorary Life Member but sadly died before it could be presented.



# Insura App

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