

## **ITTF Merit Awards**

### **Procedure**

The ITTF Merit Awards recognise individuals who have rendered distinguished service to table tennis. The awards aim to acknowledge distinguished service to the sport; reinforce ITTF values and institutional memory; promote excellence, inclusion, and integrity within the table tennis community.

### **Periodicity**

The Merit Awards will be awarded annually.

### **Number of Awards**

A maximum of three (3) Merit Awards may be granted per year, unless otherwise approved by the Executive Board, at their discretion. Where nominations do not meet the required standard, the Selection Panel may recommend that no award be conferred.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

An individual may be nominated if they have demonstrated distinguished service to table tennis; and have contributed significantly to at least one of the following:

- sport development;
- athletes' interests and welfare;
- governance and institutional strengthening;
- promotion and visibility of table tennis;
- leadership and integrity.

Current members of the Executive Board are not eligible for nomination during their term of office. Members of the Selection Panel are not eligible for nomination during the cycle in which they serve.

### **Authority to submit Nominations**

Nominations may be submitted by ITTF Member Associations and/or the ITTF Executive Board.

### **Nomination Process**

#### **1. Submission**

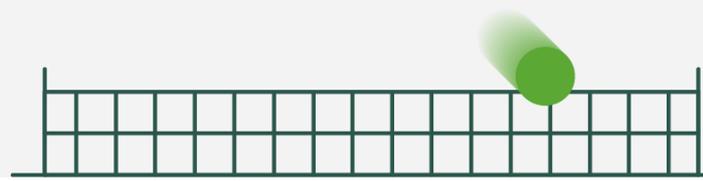
Nominations must be submitted to the ITTF Secretariat at [secretariat@ittf.com](mailto:secretariat@ittf.com) using the official nomination form and must include:

- a statement of justification noting the nominee's contributions (max. 1,000 words);
- the nominee's contact details; and
- supporting evidence (where available).

#### **2. Timeline**

The timeline for the Merit Awards shall be determined annually at the discretion of the Executive Board and communicated in due course. For the 2026 cycle, the applicable timeline is set out below:

- Publication of procedure: 10 March
- Nomination window: 10 March – 24 March
- Review and recommendation by Selection Panel: by April 4



## **Selection Panel**

The ITTF Merit Awards Selection Panel (“the ‘Selection Panel’, or ‘the Panel’”) is established by decision of the ITTF Executive Board pursuant to the ITTF Statutes and in accordance with the ITTF Merit Awards Procedure.

### **1. Composition**

The Selection Panel shall consist of:

- the President (Chair);
- the EVP responsible for Marketing / Public Relations / Protocol;
- the Secretary General; and
- the Chief of Staff.

The Chair shall convene and preside over Panel meetings; ensure orderly, fair, and impartial deliberations; ensure compliance with the ITTF Merit Awards Procedure and applicable ITTF policies.

The ITTF Secretary General shall appoint a Secretary to the Panel (with no voting rights) who shall provide administrative and procedural support to the Panel; record minutes and decisions; and act as liaison between the Panel and the Executive Board.

### **2. Role**

The Selection Panel shall review all eligible nominations submitted within the prescribed timeline; assess eligible nominations against the criteria; and make a reasoned recommendation to the Executive Board. The Panel shall not consider incomplete or late nominations, except where expressly authorized by the Executive Board.

### **3. Conflicts of Interest**

All Panel members must comply with the ITTF Conflict of Interest Policy. Any member with an actual or perceived conflict must declare it immediately; and recuse themselves from discussion and decision-making on the relevant nomination.

### **4. Assessment Criteria**

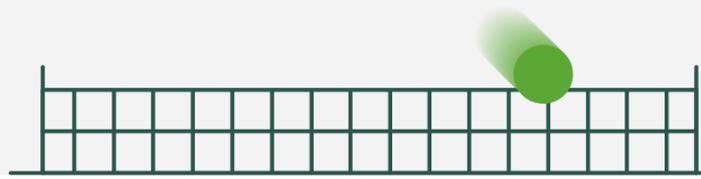
The Panel shall assess nominations against:

- the significance and impact of the nominee’s contribution;
- duration of service;
- alignment with ITTF values, principles, and objectives;
- ethical leadership and integrity; and/or
- contribution to table tennis.

### **5. Decision-Making**

The Panel may meet in person or remotely. A minimum of one meeting is required per award cycle. Quorum shall be a simple majority of voting members. Members who have declared a conflict of interest and are recused shall not be counted for quorum in relation to the relevant nomination.

Decisions shall be made by consensus where possible. Where a vote is required, a simple majority applies. In the event of a tie, the Chair shall have a casting vote. Decisions are final and not subject to appeal.



All nomination materials, deliberations, and decisions on the Merit Awards are confidential until officially announced. Panel members shall not disclose information to third parties unless authorized.

#### **6. Recommendation**

The Panel shall submit a written report to the Executive Board summarizing the process followed; the number of nominations reviewed; and the recommended awardees (or confirmation that no award is recommended).

#### **Award and Presentation**

Awardees shall receive an official ITTF Merit Award medal. The award may be presented at the ITTF Summit, a major ITTF event, or another suitable official occasion.

Travel and accommodation costs, where applicable, are borne by the ITTF, subject to budget availability.

#### **Publicity**

Awardees will be announced following the final decision. The Secretariat shall maintain records of nominations and decisions.

#### **Review**

The ITTF Executive Board may review this procedure from time to time.