

## **NTA Policy Regarding Men's/Women's Player Selection**

The NTA has established a player selection process necessary for the establishment of Men's and Women's Tennis Teams for ITF and IOC affiliated international events. This policy is designed to ensure that the best of tennis players represent the Nepal Tennis Association for a chance at bringing home as many championship accolades as possible. The NTA strives to provide a very fair process so that the most deserving candidates are selected, for which the national rankings established using NTA sanctioned tournaments, is used as the base. The **NTA Competitions Department** recommends the following **Player Selection Policy and Regulations** for NTA Board Consideration and immediate adoption for public release.

**Player Selection Policy:** *"In order to promote the growth in tennis and strive to make Nepal's tennis a powerhouse in the world, NTA will participate in as many international competition events as possible. Team formation for such events will be carried out ensuring a fair process in which recognized international tennis rankings and the Nepal Tennis Association national ranking system is used to the extent possible."*

1. The NTA Competition Department will formally establish a **Player Selection Committee** to conduct the player selection process, establish rules associated with the selection matches, and create a pool of eight players for selection matches, as well as enlist Protected Players based on the regulations established under "NTA Player Protection Policy" (Protected Pro - ATP/WTA/ITF Pro Ranked Player ranked above 2000; and 1 Nepal # 1 ranked players).
2. The committee will announce the date of the selection matches, as well as the mandatory camp dates, participation expectations and rules for the entire team event, starting from the selection matches to the end of the event travel and return.
3. A total of 12 spots will be available for selection matches, of which 8 are reserved for the NTA ranking system and 4 (Protected Select) from the players outside the ranking system who are actively pursuing tennis but were unavailable to play NTA tournaments. The four spots will be based on the players' interest of participation by self-nomination emailed to the NTA, followed by a rigorous selection process based on set selection Committee established criterion.
4. In the case of top 8 ranked players not showing up at the time of sign-in, next ranked player will be allowed to join the selection matches, provided he/she is present at the time of sign-in.
5. Based on the number of Protected Pro Players, who are not required to undergo the selection process, the spots for team formation will be announced after the sign in deadline. The 12 candidates will need to fight for the announced number of spots with round-robin style matches through which players with the most number of matches won will be prioritized for team formation. In the case of a two-way tie, head to head will first be accounted. In the case of a three-way tie, percentage of games will be used for prioritization.
6. Despite the case of any Protected Pro Player/s being included in the team, 12 players will still be selected to fight for the remaining spots.
7. In order to ensure 12 players are included in the selection process, all interested players will be required to sign in at the registration desk at the designated date, time, and place.
8. All players accepted for the selection process will be required to play a minimum of two matches per day, for a total of 11 matches unless number of registered players is less than 12.
9. International events where more than 2 players are to be included in the team, the selection matches will be conducted
10. Any injury related retirement, walkover will be considered having forfeited the selection process and the matches held with players in the past will also be disregarded in the calculation.

11. All selection participants will be required to sign a Code-of-Conduct agreeing to abide by all regulations established by the **Player Selection Committee** at time of sign-in.
12. All candidates need to be in good-standing with the ITF and NTA regulations regarding ITF-International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) obligations for players.
13. All selected players are required to attend the 3 week mandatory camp (or as determined by the committee) and also follow the discipline required during the camp duration.
14. In the case of disciplinary action or inability to meet fitness and playing expectations from the Team Captains, the selected player can be eliminated from the team and replaced by the next potential candidate in priority from the selection matches.
15. The selection committee will initiate the entire process at least 3 months prior to the event departure date starting with the candidate selection to team departure in the following manner:
  - a) 12 weeks prior – Candidate Selection (Protected Players-Already in Team, Top 8 NTA Players, 4 Additional Protected Players Abroad (for selection players’ group)
  - b) 11 weeks prior - Selection Matches Announcement
  - c) 8 weeks prior - Selection Matches Sign-In and Matches Start;
  - d) 7 Weeks Prior - Selection Process Complete
  - e) 6 Weeks Prior - Send Names for Visa and Player Name Submission and Administrative Processes
  - f) 3-5 Weeks - Camp (Duration to be finalized by the committee before player selection process is initiated)