

Extracts from the Olympic Explanatory Book

General Information

- **Currency**

Renminbi (RMB) is the country's legal currency. The notes are divided into 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 yuan. The fractional currency is jiao and fen. One yuan is composed of 10 jiao and one jiao is composed of 10 fen. Currency exchange services are available at most banks and hotels throughout the country.

- **Beijing Time**

China has adopted the time of the 8th Time Zone East as its standard national time, which is called the Beijing Time. Beijing Time is 8 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. Please visit www.gov.cn for more information.

- **Climate**

Beijing features a temperate and semi-humid climate, with four distinctive seasons, short spring and autumn and long winter and summer. The average annual temperature is 13°C (55.40°F). January is the coldest month with an average temperature of -3.7°C (25.34°F) and July is the hottest with an average temperature of 25.2°C (77.36°F). The average annual precipitation is 507.7 mm. In August, the average temperature is 24.9°C (76.82°F); its extreme maximum temperature is 36.1°C (96.98°F); the average relative humidity is 77percent, and the average precipitation is 159.7 mm.

Beijing 2008 Olympic Games in Brief

- **Athletes and Visitors**

There will be 10,500 athletes competing in 302 events of 28 sports. Large groups of people from the mass media, Olympic Family and sponsor institutions, plus a large number of visitors, will gather in China for the Games and sightseeing.

Sport-Specific Information

Olympic Table Tennis Competition

The Olympic table tennis competition will include four events: men's singles, women's singles, men's teams and women's teams.

Singles

Singles events will be played in knock-out and play-off. The winner of each match will advance to the next round. And the loser will be eliminated. The winners of the two semi-final matches will advance to the gold medal match. The losers of the two semi-final matches will compete for the bronze medal.

All matches shall be the best of seven games, each game with 11 points. There is an interval of up to 1 minute between successive games of an individual match; a player may claim one time-out period of up to 1 minute during an individual match. Players may receive advice from coach during the intervals between games or during other authorized suspension of the play.

Teams

The teams' competition will be held in 2 stages. The first stage is group round robin; the second stage is knock-out. In the first stage, the 16 participating teams will be divided into 4 groups of 4 teams (Groups A-D). The 4 highest ranked teams will go to Group A to D respectively. The remaining teams will be drawn in ranking order, 2 at a time into Groups A, B, C and D. The group round robin system will be used to decide the places in each group.

In the second stage, the winning teams of each group shall play-off, in a knockout semi-final format for the Gold and Silver Medals. The second placed teams of each group and the semi-final contest losers shall play-off for the Bronze medal.

A team match at the Olympic competition is called a "contest". Each contest consists of 4 Singles matches and 1 Doubles match. All Singles matches and Doubles match in a contest are the best of 5, with no other differences from Men's and Women's Singles Event. Two teams in a contest play in the following order:

Order Type ABC team XYZ team

1 S A X

2 S B Y

Captain chooses DBL pair & 5 minutes break

3 DBL C+A or C+B Z+X or Z+Y

5-minutes break

4 S A or B (non-playing DBL) Z

5 S C X or Y (non-playing DBL)

Qualification

Please have a look at the PDF file Qualification System (English Version) on

http://www.ittf.com/competitions/competitions2.asp?Competition_ID=1665&category=OG.

Competition Schedule

Please have a look at the pages 21 to 24 of the full booklet under the following link:

http://www.ittf.com/World_Events/Olympic_games_2008/Table_Tennis_en_2007_10_10.pdf

Competition Venue

The Olympic table tennis competition will be held in the Peking University Gymnasium, which is 8km (5 miles) from the Olympic Village. The venue will have a total capacity of approximately 8,000 seats during the Games.

Field of Play

The field of play is situated at the center of the Peking University Gymnasium. It will hold eight tables, enclosed by playing area surrounds; each court will measure 16X8m. During the first 2 days of the teams' competition, the contests will be played on 8 tables at the same time. In the remaining days the number of tables used at the same time will change from four to two and one respectively.

Access to the field of play

It is restricted to the athletes who will compete according to the schedule and the appointed coaches, match officials on duty and management members. Before entering the field of play, players should accept the check procedure according to Rule 53 and the Bye-Law to Rule 53 of

Olympic Chapter, they will be summoned from warming-up area to the register room adjacent to the field of play, and then be led to enter the field of play by competition coordinator.

Warm-up Area

There will be a warm-up area of approximately 1,600m² with sixteen (16) courts, each of them measuring 14X7m, in basement 2 of the competition venue.

Mixed Zone

The mixed zone is an area where accredited media will be allowed to conduct short interviews, immediately after athletes have competed. Athletes must pass through the mixed zone to exit the field of play and they are requested to cooperate and to speak with the press or broadcasters.

Athletes' and Team Officials' Lounge

A lounge will be available for athletes and team officials at the competition venue. It will be open during all training and competition sessions with refreshments available.

Racket Preparation Area

A racket preparation area with a well-ventilated system will be available for players near the training and competition area.

Racket Testing Control

A racket control room will be available near the competition area.

Equipment and Clothing

Equipment used or clothing worn by athletes and other participants in the Olympic table tennis competition must comply with the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions, with the ITTF Specific regulations for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, with the Bye-Law to Rule 53 of the Olympic Charter and with the IOC "General Guidelines Concerning Identification of the Manufacturer on Clothing, Equipment, Accessories" for the Games of XXIX Olympiad, Beijing 2008.

Equipment

The following equipment will be used for the table tennis competition.

Table: DHS (Shanghai, China)

Net: DHS (Shanghai, China)

Ball: Double Fish (Guangzhou, China)

Court Mat: Gerflor (France)

Clothing

Each player must have with him/her at least two (2) sets of shirts and shorts in different colors. The name of the player and the three-letter code of his/her NOC must be printed on the back of each shirt and it is optional on the front of the shirt covering a total area of no more than 40cm².

Medals

The medals and diplomas for the table tennis competition will be awarded in accordance with Rule 59 of the Olympic Charter.

First prize will be a silver gilt medal and a diploma. Second prize will be a silver medal and a diploma. Third prize will be a bronze medal and a diploma. Competitors placing fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth will receive their diplomas. Additionally, all participants in the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games will receive commemorative medals and diplomas.

Doping Control

With the guidance of IOC, BOCOG will be responsible for implementing the Doping Control Program during the Olympic Games, in compliance with the International Olympic Committee Anti-Doping Rules applicable to the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing in 2008, the World Anti-doping Code and its relevant International Standards. Doping Control Stations will be set up at all competition venues and also at the polyclinic in the Olympic Village. All in-competition testing will be conducted in the above Doping Control Stations. The Testing Distribution Plan and criteria for athlete selection for each sport will comply with the Doping Control Protocol signed by IOC, IFs and BOCOG.

The taskforce formed by IOC, WADA and BOCOG will be responsible for implementing the pre-competition testing starting from the opening of the Olympic Village.

BOCOG's Doping Control Procedure, which is ISO9001:2000 certified, will be stipulated and implemented according to the International Standard for Testing. Sample analysis will be performed in the WADA accredited Laboratory of Beijing.

Sport Information Service

Sport Information Desks

All sport-specific information for table tennis competition will be available from two information desks. They will be located at the competition venue, which is the Peking University Gymnasium, and at the Sport Information Center (SIC), which is in the Olympic Village. Both desks will provide information such as competition schedules, training schedules, results/start lists, sport technical information and communications between ITTF and NOCs. Moreover, the SIC will provide information on transport, etc.

The sport information desk at the Peking University Gymnasium will be open on each training and competition day, starting from August 8, 2008.

The sport information desk at the SIC in the Olympic Village will be open daily from July 27, 2008, when the Olympic Village Opens, until the end of the Olympic Games. Opening hours will be 07:00 - 23:00.

INFO2008

Sport-specific information will also be available at the INFO2008 system which provides services for the Olympic Family. The INFO2008 system will be operational from the official opening of the Main Press Center to the closing of the Olympic Games.

INFO2008 is a dedicated IT system for the Beijing Olympic Games that provides various Olympic related information, including Games results, Games news, athletes' biographies, medal standings, world records, competition schedule, transportation and weather. All information on INFO2008 will be available in three languages: English, French and Chinese. All members of the Olympic Family and accredited media will be allowed access to INFO2008 system. The INFO2008 terminals will be allocated to all the competition venues and some of non-competition venues, such as the International Broadcast Centre and the Olympic Village.

Technology Helpdesk

Technology Helpdesk provides technical supports and services for members of the Olympic Family, including the IOC, IFs, NOCs, athletes, media, broadcasters, and BOCOG functional areas. The services consist of all technical systems and products provided by BOCOG, including rate card products. A dedicated Technology Helpdesk will be established to provide a single point of contact for all customers of competition and non-competition venues, except the Olympic Village and venues outside of Beijing (these venues may have their own local helpdesk to support users). Customers may submit their request for technology services by dialling service number or sending emails. The requests will be handled in specific cases through Technology Helpdesk by means of phones, emails and on-site support.

Training Venues

Peking University Gymnasium

Training Site Category Warm-up area
Opening Dates August 9-August 23, 2008
Operating Hours 09:00 - 21:00 (Training will be allocated by the table tennis competition management team during the Games)
Length of Training Sessions 90 min
Distance from the Olympic Village 8km
Training Site Category Competition Venue
Opening Dates August 9-August 12, 2008
Operating Hours 09:00—21:00 (August 9-August 11)
09:00—19:00 (August 12)
Length of Training Sessions 60-90min
Distance from the Olympic Village 8km
Supporting Facilities

Haidian Gymnasium

Training Site Category Stand-alone Training Site
Opening Dates July 27-August 20, 2008
Operating Hours 09:00—21:00 (Training will be allocated by the table tennis competition management team during the Games)
Length of Training Sessions 90 minutes
Distance from the Olympic Village 8km

The training schedule will be provided to each NOC participating in the sport on arrival at the Olympic Village.

Other Information

Only training on the competition tables of the Peking University Gymnasium will be open to media; training in the warm-up area of the Peking University Gymnasium and in the Haidian Gymnasium will be closed to media. All training related information will be available on INFO2008

Accreditation

The closing date for applications, in paper or electronic format, is 24:00 of April 15, 2008 (Beijing Time). BOCOG will send a report upon the completion of the pre-valid accreditation cards to the responsible organizations. The responsible organizations (e.g. NOCs) must confirm the accuracy of this report before the date sent by BOCOG.

Transport

BOCOG Transport Department provides transport services for athletes and team officials to/from the airport, Olympic Village, and training and competition venues. The services will commence on July 27, 2008, 12 days prior to the Opening Ceremony, and conclude on August 27, 2008, 3 days after the Closing Ceremony.

Arrival / Departure

During the periods of arrival and departure, dedicated shuttle buses will be provided on demand for athletes and team officials arriving collectively while shared shuttle buses will be provided for those arriving individually.

Transport to the Competition Venue

In accordance with the competition schedule, shuttle buses will be provided for athletes and team officials from the Olympic Village to the Peking University Gymnasium.

Transport to the Training Venues

In accordance with the training schedule, shuttle buses will be provided for athletes and team officials from the Olympic Village to the Peking University Gymnasium and Haidian Gymnasium. Transport services for training will cease at 13:00 on the day of the Opening Ceremony. For those who still require training, it is requested to use the allocated vehicles to their delegation to the training venue.

Transport for Spectating Athletes and Team Officials

Shuttle bus services will be provided for spectating athletes and team officials.

Accommodation

Please have a look at the pages 34 to 36 of the full booklet under the following link:

http://www.ittf.com/World_Events/Olympic_games_2008/Table_Tennis_en_2007_10_10.pdf