



ENGLISH SCHOOLS' TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

History of the English Schools' Table Tennis Association Competitions - 1968/2008

The English Schools' Table Tennis Association was formed in 1968 to give structure to competitive school table tennis which was on the increase throughout the country.

Today, ESTTA supports school team competitions at under 11, under 13, under 16 and under 19 levels for boys and girls. All schools, primary and secondary, whether in the public or private sector of education are eligible to play.

Each of the 50 counties organise events to select their champion school teams in all 8 categories. The winning teams compete in zone finals. Subsequently winners from these events compete at 4 regional finals, and again the winners go forward to the **Butterfly National School Team Championships.**

This competition is unique as it is the only event in table tennis in which school teams throughout the country may participate.

ESTTA also organises an individual competition. Again the 50 counties organise events in the same

8 sections - their 8 winners compete in the **Butterfly National Individual School Championships.** **This is the largest 1 day event in the table tennis calendar in this country.**

It is estimated that some 10,000 players play at some stage in the above competitions.

The Association is also involved in **International Competitions** at under 11, under 14, under 16 and under 18 levels. Representative teams from English Schools take part in annual quadrangular events with teams from Guernsey, Ireland, Isle of Man, Scotland and Wales. Selection takes place following the above Team and Individual Championships.

ESTTA has a key involvement in the promotion of **World Schools' Table Tennis** organised by the International School Sport Federation. The Association sends both **Champion School Teams** and **Nationally Selected Teams** to these biennial events for both boys and girls. Competitions have been held in Israel, Belgium, Portugal, France, Slovak Republic, Germany, China and Malta.

Teams from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales are selected to participate in the annual UK School Games - an event to showcase school aged talent.



'MORE SCHOOLS' PROJECT