

Special Olympics Great Britain Table Tennis Development Plan 2025 - 2027

Introduction

This Table Tennis Development Plan (2025 - 2027) sets out a clear framework for the structured growth of the sport within SOGB. It focuses on expanding inclusive and accessible participation opportunities, strengthening athlete pathways from local to international levels, and deepening collaboration with National Governing Bodies to enhance opportunities for people with Intellectual and Learning disabilities (ID and LD) across GB. The plan outlines our priorities and the objectives and impact we aim to achieve across sport for development, competition delivery, coaching, and partnerships over the 2025 - 2027 period.



National Governing Bodies



Table Tennis
Scotland



TABLE TENNIS
WALES

National Sports Advisors (NSAs)



Dennis Beach



Peter Millar

Objectives 2025 - 2027



Sport for Development

1

-  **Increased accessibility** to meaningful sporting opportunities for individuals with ID and LD, particularly in underserved areas.
-  **Reduction of social isolation and loneliness** by fostering connection, belonging, and community through regular club and competition engagement.
-  **Improved personal development and life skills**, including confidence, communication, teamwork, and leadership, particularly through opportunities in coaching, officiating, and volunteer roles.
-  **Enhanced employability** by supporting athletes and volunteers to gain transferable skills and experience through structured involvement in the sport.
-  **Contribute to wider societal change**, by promoting a more inclusive society that values and includes people with ID/LD through visible and accessible participation in mainstream table tennis environments and events.

2

Partnerships

-  Strengthen alignment between the Table Tennis England and SOGB systems including closer connections between SOGB clubs and Table Tennis England.
-  Table Tennis England and SOGB will conduct a pilot with local clubs to test and learn a partnership approach.
-  Develop closer relationships with Table Tennis Wales and Table Tennis Scotland, exploring cross working relationships.



Competition Development

3

-  Map out competitions for people with ID and LD within Table Tennis England and SOGB structures to identify gaps and opportunities for collaboration.
-  Work towards ensuring that SOGB accredited clubs gain access to the Table Tennis England competition pathway where appropriate.
-  Connect opportunities to high profile SOGB and Table Tennis England national and world championships to increase awareness.
-  Create opportunities for talented athletes through a clear Paralympic and Virtus pathway.
-  Produce a comprehensive SOGB Table Tennis Competition Guide to support consistent, high-quality competition delivery across the country.

4

Workforce and Coach Development

-  Develop an SOGB Umpire Training offer ensuring it aligns to Table Tennis England training.
-  Ensure SOGB coaches gain access to Table Tennis England upskilling and development opportunities.
-  SOGB supporting Table Tennis England affiliated clubs and coaches to upskill them in delivering inclusive and appropriate sessions for players with ID.
-  Both organisations agree to adapt the existing SOGB and Mencap's Learning Disability in Sport Workshop to target table tennis coaches and volunteers within Table Tennis England.
-  Jointly create a co-branded document outlining the coaching and volunteer development pathways across both organisations.

5

Communication

-  Develop a joined up communication strategy between Table Tennis England and other Home Country NGBs/SGBs, amplifying LD table tennis.
-  Maximise impact by aligning communications with key events and International Day observances related to ID and LD.