



# OFFICIAL MEDIA GUIDE

### THE 2022 CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### Official Championship Website

- April 8-10, Round Rock, Texas at the Round Rock Sports Center
- Athletes The 250+ top college table tennis players in the US and Canada, representing 50 and more of the top college teams; qualifying through divisional and regional play
- An annual event since 1993
- This year's competition will include international players attending college in the United States that represented Brazil, Canada, China, Japan, Bulgaria, India, New Zealand, Vietnam, Mexico, Taiwan and Hong Kong just to name a few
- Defending champions:
  - o Men's/Coed Team: Texas Wesleyan University
  - o Women's Team: Texas Wesleyan University
  - o Men's Singles: **Jishan Liang, Texas Wesleyan**
  - o Women's Singles: Qiao Jiao, Ohlone College
  - o Men's Doubles: Jishan Liang/Jinxin Wang, Texas Wesleyan
  - o Women's Doubles: Angela Guan/Ying Wang, California

#### **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

#### Friday, April 8

9:00 am	Men's/Coed and Women's Teams, qualifying rounds
3:30 pm	Men's and Women's Doubles Main Draw
4:30 pm	Women's Singles Preliminary Rounds
6:00 pm	Men's Singles Preliminary Rounds
9:00 pm	End of competition day

#### Saturday, April 9

9:00 am	Men's Singles, qualifying rounds continued
10:00 am	Men's/Coed and Women's Teams main draw
4:00 pm	Men's/Coed and Women's Teams, Finals
7:00 pm	End of competition day

#### Sunday, April 10

9:00 am	Men's and Women's Singles, knockout rounds
1:00 pm	Men's and Women's Singles, semifinals and finals
5:00 pm	End of competition day



### THE SPORT OF TABLE TENNIS

- Started as an upper class parlor game in 19th century England
- Developed into a competitive sport in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century; the first World Championships of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) was held in 1926
- An Olympic sport since 1988
- The second most played sport in the world after soccer
- Professional table tennis leagues exist in many countries; the most prominent are in China, Germany, Japan, Russia
- The top table tennis players in the world earn ~\$1 million including endorsements
- The table is 9 feet long, 5 feet wide, 2.5 feet high; the net is 6 inches high; the court space is 1000 square feet minimum
- The ball is 40mm in diameter and 2.7 grams in weight, traveling nearly 100mph and spinning at nearly 10,000rpm
- Matches consist of the best 4 out of 7 games (singles semifinals and finals) or best 3 out of 5 games (doubles events, early rounds of singles events, or team events). Games are first to 11 points, alternating serve every two points.

## NCTTA COLLEGE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE



- The National Collegiate Table Tennis Association (NCTTA) is the governing body for college table tennis in the US and Canada
- A non-profit organization, run purely by volunteers
- The Championships is the culmination of the 2021-2022 NCTTA League
- Over 140 participating colleges, competing in 6 regions, subdivided into 25 divisions, played in fall and spring academic semesters or quarters.
- NCTTA offers college scholarships, and some colleges offer their own table tennis scholarships
- Many international student-athletes
- Primary competition format is teams: 4 singles plus 1 doubles
- Categories are Men's/Coed Teams and Women's Teams; women may play in both
- NCTTA Official Website
- NCTTA Official Facebook Page
- NCTTA Official TwineSocial Page



### PARTICIPATING TEAMS

A total of 24 Men's/Coed teams & 16 Women's teams qualified through regional events

### Men's/Coed teams

**New York University** (New York, NY) – 2019 NYC Division Team winners, 2019 Northeast Regional Champions and 2018 National Champion Team winners, features USA Table Tennis National team star, Tom Feng and Canadian Team star, Jeremy Hazin. Coach Yan Jun Gao is former NCTTA 2010 Men's Singles Champion

**Rutgers University** (New Brunswick, NJ) – 2022 Northeast Regional Champion, 2022 New York City Downtown Division Champion, features former junior star, Kaden Xu as well as highly rated chopper, Yuxiang Jin



FIGURE 1: JEREMY HAZIN DURING OLYMPICS, PHOTO CREDIT TO ITTF

**Texas Wesleyan University** (Forth Worth, TX) – 13 time men's/coed team; 2019 Champion; led by a powerful women's duo of Zhen Deng and Jiaqi Lin. Texas Wesleyan Women's team has 9 women's team titles. They are currently the only scholarship school in the competition. https://ramsports.net/sports/tt

**Indiana University** (Bloomington, IN) – 2022 Upper Midwest Division and 2022 Midwest Regional Champions. Featuring the New Jersey-based Alguetti brother duo of Sharon and Gal Alguetti. Sharon is undefeated in NCTTA in 2 years and has been a member of the US National Team. Gal Alguetti also a member of the US National Team

**Northwestern University** (Chicago, IL) - Led by former US Junior phenom, Jack Wang and #5 seed in Men's Singles. Northwestern finished 2nd in Division and Regional play to Indiana University.

**University of California, Berkeley** (Berkeley, CA) – 2017, 2018 West Region Men's/Coed Champions, led by US National team players, Nikhil Kumar and Angela Guan (chopper). Kumar represented the USA in the Olympics in 2020 Tokyo.

**University of Southern California** (Los Angeles, CA) – Led by US National Team member, Kai Zhang and current #2 seed in Men's Singles

**University of Texas at Austin** (Austin, TX) – Finished 2nd to Table Tennis Giant, Texas Wesleyan in Division and Regional play for several years; led by a collection of young talent, Zixiang Meng, #8 seed in Men's singles



FIGURE 2: KAI ZHANG, PIC CREDIT TO KAI ZHANG



**University of Washington** (Seattle, WA) - Led by former junior US champion, Sahil Puri and former UC Berkeley standout, Michael Whitmeyer. University of Washington finished 2nd place in 2022 West Regionals

**University of Maryland** (College Park, MD) – UMD are champs of DC Division and MidAtlantic Regionals and are led by the brother duo of LeTuanKhoi and LeTuanKhoi Dinh

**Columbia University** (New York City, NY) – Finished in 1st in the NYC Division this year. Led by Newman Cheng former US Doubles champion and National Team member

**Yale University** (New Haven, CT) - 4th place in 2022 Northeast Regional Championships, led by Freshmen, Texas native, Tia Hsieh

**University of Michigan** (Ann Arbor, MI) – Undefeated this year in the 2022 Division campaign; 2nd place in the 2022 Great Lakes Regional, led by Michigan State Champion, NCTTA World University Games Team and US junior team member, Eliel Sosis

University of Texas at Dallas (Dallas, TX) – 3rd place in 2022 NCTTA South Regional Championships

**University of California at Irvine** (Irvine, CA) – 2019 West Region Champion; Led by #1 player, William Bai, from the ICC club in Northern California

**Texas A&M University** (College Station, TX) – #1 player and Alabama state champion, Benjamin Hartwiger

**University of North Carolina at Charlotte** (Charlotte, NC) – 1<sup>st</sup> time appearance at the National Championships

**Carnegie Mellon University** (Pittsburgh, PA) – 1<sup>st</sup> time appearance at the National Championships

**Harvard University (**Cambridge, MA) – Led by #1 player Tianming Xie who consequently is a National Master in Chess! Harvard was Upper New England Division Champions by going undefeated

**University of Massachusetts at Amherst** (Amherst, MA) – By far one of the most passionate schools in NCTTA, 2020 Northeast Regional Champions, qualified this year by Wildcard

**Washington University in St. Louis** (St Louis, MO) – Led by former USA Cadet Boys team member, Shawn Fong



FIGURE 3: BEN HARTWIGER; (PHOTO BY GRANT BERGMANN)



FIGURE 4: UMASS AMHERST (PICTURE BY DENNIS YANGA)



**University of California Los Angeles** (Los Angeles, CA)

**Michigan State University** (East Lansing, MI) - 3rd place in 2022 Great Lakes Regional

**Stanford University** (Stanford, CA) - A wildcard to the Championships, led by USA Para star, Eric Pattison



## WOMEN'S TEAMS

**Texas Wesleyan University** (Forth Worth, TX) – 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022 South Region Women's Champion; 8 time championship winners; #1 seed in 2022

**University of California, Berkeley** (Berkeley, CA) –2018, 2019 West Region Women's Champions; Led by US National team member Angela Guan

**Duke University** (Durham, NC) – 2022 Carolina Division and MidAtlantic Regional Women's Champion

**University of Maryland** (College Park, MD) - 2022 DC Division Champions; 2nd place in 2022 Mid Atlantic Regional Team Championships

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology** (Boston, MA) – 2022 Northeast Region Women's Team Champions, led by Columbian International, Maria Castillo

**New York University** (New York, NY) – 2022 NYC downtown division champion

Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY) – Led by Rachel Yang

**University of Washington** (Seattle, WA)- Coached by UW Alum, Utako Kase

**Columbia University** (New York City, NY) - Led by Brazilian International, Daniela Yano

**University of Texas at Austin** (Austin, TX) - Finished 2nd to Texas Wesleyan in Division and Regional competitions, led by UT San Antonio transfer Eden Qi

**Texas A&M University** (College Station, TX)



FIGURE 5: MARA CASTILLO (PICTURE BY DENNIS YANGA)



FIGURE 6: DANIELA YANO, (PICTURE BY DENNIS YANGA)



**University of California at Davis** (Davis, CA) - Led by former NCTTA Scholarship winner, Teresa Chan

Michigan State University (East Lansing, MI)

**Boston University** (Boston, MA)

**University of Texas at Dallas** (Dallas, TX)

Brown University (Providence, RI)

## TEAMS AND PLAYERS OF NOTE

## TEXAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY (FORT WORTH, TX)

- 13-time Men's/Coed Team Champion; 8 time Women's Team Champion
- 2019 Men's/Coed and 2019 Women's Team Champion
- 2nd place in Men's/Coed Teams at the 2015, 2018 College Table Tennis Championships
- 2022 South Region Champion – and 2022 South Region Team Champion in Women's



- Coached by Jasna Rather Olympic bronze medalist (Yugoslavia) and Doru Gheorge (former Romanian International)
- Offers table tennis scholarships
- **Jiaqi Lin** (Undergraduate)
  - 2020, 2022 NCTTA South Regional Women's Champion & Runner up
- Eduardo Tomoike (Undergraduate)
  - o 2022 Men's Regional Singles Champions



FIGURE 7: PHOTO COURTESY OF GRANT BERGMANN



FIGURE 8: PHOTO COURTESY OF GRANT BERGMANN



## NEW YORK UNIVERSITY (NEW YORK CITY, NY)



- 2019 Northeast Region Championship (Men's/Coed Team)
- 2018 NCTTA Men's/Coed Team Champions

## Tom Feng (Graduate)

- o 2016, 2020 Olympic USA Team member;
- o NCTTA Male Player of the Year in 2018



### Mudit Dani (Sophomore)

 Indian international, Top 10 standing in ITTF World Junior Circuit; has his own TED Talk





## INDIANA UNIVERSITY (BLOOMINGTON, IN)



- 2022 Upper Midwest Division and 2022 Midwest Regional Champions.
- Featuring the New Jersey-based Alguetti brother duo of Sharon and Gal Alguetti.
- Sharon is undefeated in NCTTA in 2 years and has been a member of the US National Team.
- Gal Alguetti also a member of the US National Team
- Indiana University's first trip to National Championships since 2003

#### **Sharon Alguetti** (Undergraduate)

- o USA National Team member
- o 2017 US Natinal Men's Doubles champion with brother (Gal Alguetti)
- o 2022 Midwest Regional Men's Singles Champion



(Photo: Ian Marshall, ITTF)



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## **CONTACTS**

Willy Leparulo, Tournament Director Tae Kim, Technical Delegate president@nctta.org
vp.internal@nctta.org

